

# Dalhousie Student Union – Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

6:00 PM – Council Chambers

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## CALL TO ORDER at 6:01PM

### 1. ROLL CALL

#### COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Chris Abraham (he/him)	Chair
Abir Ayoub	Recording Secretary (non-voting)
Amina Abawajy (she/her)	President
Masuma Khan (she/her)	Vice-President (Academic and External)
Chantal Khoury (she/her)	Vice-President (Finance and Operations)
Cory Larsen (he/him)	Vice-President (Student Life)
Alex Hughes (she/her)	Vice-President (Internal)
Jeremy Ryant (he/him)	BOG Representative
Kati George-Jim (she/her)	BOG Representative
Mary Macdonald (she/her)	Students with Disabilities Community
Ashley Farrell (she/her)	Arts and Social Sciences Representative
Katie Douglas (she/her)	Women Students Community
Arazoo Hoseyni (she/her)	Computer Science Representative
Yazan Khader (he/him)	Engineering Representative
Rys Macdonald	Graduate Students Representative
Chelsea Cox (she/her)	Law Representative
Kamryn Findlay (she/her)	Agriculture Campus Representative

#### COUNCILLORS ABSENT WITH REGRETS

Ali Baranby (Aboriginal Students Community Representative), Katie MacLellan (Science Representative), Kate Rumoldt (Dentistry Representative) and Chad LeClair (Medicine Representative) sent their regrets.

#### COUNCILLORS ABSENT

Mary Macdonald and Rys Macdonald left at 7:10pm. Jeremy Ryant left the meeting at 7:40pm. Katie George-Jim left at 8:09pm.

#### OTHERS PRESENT

### 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

#### MOTION 2018-02-07: A01

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the agenda be adopted as circulated.

**Moved:** Hughes **Seconded:** Khoury

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**MOTION 2018-02-07: A01 CARRIED**

**MOTION 2018-02-07: A02**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the agenda be amended to appoint the Health Representative in the next meeting (February 21, 2018) therefore to remove this appointment from the agenda.

**MOTION 2018-02-07: A02 CARRIED**

**MOTION 2018-02-07: A03**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the agenda be accepted as amended.

**MOTION 2018-02-07: A03 CARRIED**

## 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

**MOTION 2018-02-07: M01**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the January 10, 2018 council meeting minutes be approved as circulated.

**Moved:** Larsen **Seconded:** Khoury

**MOTION 2018-02-07: M01 CARRIED**

**MOTION 2018-02-07: M02**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the agenda be amended to alter the spelling of Ashley Farell's name, by adding an extra 'L' to her last name.

**MOTION 2018-02-07: M02 CARRIED**

**MOTION 2018-02-07: M03**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the agenda be accepted as amended.

**MOTION 2018-02-07: M03 CARRIED**

## 4. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

### A. Regrets

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Ali Baranby (Aboriginal Students Community Representative), Katie MacLellan (Science Representative), Kate Rumoldt (Dentistry Representative) and Chad LeClair (Medicine Representative) sent their regrets.

## 5. APPOINTMENTS

### A. Block Appointment of Representative

#### MOTION 2018--02-07: N01

Nominations:

1. Management Representative
  - a. Alexandra Erb
2. International Students Representative
  - a. Nikunj Kachhadiya
3. LGBTQ2+ Representative
  - a. Liam Finnegan

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Alexandra Erb be appointed as the Management Representative, Nikunj Kachhadiya be appointed as the International Students Representative and Liam Finnegan be appointed as the LGBTQ2+ Representative

**Moved:** Khan **Seconded:** George-Jim

#### MOTION 2018-02-07: N01 CARRIED

## 6. PRESENTATIONS

## 7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

### A. Board Caucus

Abawajy said that the board will be meeting next week. In their next meeting, the committee will be putting forward a motion related to divestment, on how to have a full conversation about divestment at the board level. The Board Caucus have been working closely with Divest Dal to put together a divestment package.

George-Jim mentioned that the motion is not to vote on divestment. The purpose of the motion is to investigate the potential impacts of divestment on Dalhousie's different community stakeholders from investors, faculty members to students. The motion refers to the investigative work to committee levels. The Board's goal is to have a more in-depth look into what divestment could mean for Dalhousie. George-Jim encourages people to attend the Board meetings as the meetings

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are open to the public and students are welcome to attend. The Board meetings are on Tuesday at 3pm at the Macdonald Library located in the Macdonald Building.

## **B. Senate Caucus**

Khan said that senate has not meet and will meet the coming Monday. The meeting will have Senate Cauc us this coming Sunday to talk about the package and to look at the bylaw changes that is happening to the committee. Senate sub committees will be meeting.

Khan responds to a question from George-Jim on how many seats on Senate that are generally elected. Khan mentions that there are eleven seats in total. Four of the seats are mandated and non-negotiable which are in the Senate policy; the DSU President, DSU VP Academic and External, a graduate student and an agricultural representative represent the four seats. The rest of seats are open as the Caucus is supposed to be composed of all faculty seats. The Caucus needs to ensure that all of their community members' voices are expressed and represented on Senate.

## **C. Society Review**

Hughes said that there is not much to report. So far there are 312 societies. The committee didn't meet as there was not any new application submitted however, they will be planning to meet next week to start working at the Society Space allocation for May.

## **D. Grants and Sponsorship**

Khoury said that the committee didn't find a neutral meeting time in the past week but they will be meeting shortly. Khoury highly encourages folks to reach out to their constituents to apply for grants and sponsorships as the committee are reaching capacity of their budget.

## **E. Elections Committee**

The election committee did not have a report to present.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Motion to Discipline**

*WHEREAS, Mary MacDonald, Students with Disabilities Community Representative on Council, has breached terms 1 and 2 of the Statement of Office;*

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*AND WHEREAS, this Councillor has shown and continues to show a pattern of disrespect, as outlined in the attached Statement of Reasons (Appendix A), for the Statement of Office and procedures of Council;*

*BE IT RESOLVED, Mary MacDonald take the following actions to restore her standing in good faith with the Dalhousie Student Union:*

- 1. Submit a letter to Arig Al Shaibah (Vice-Provost, Student Affairs) and Davis (Academic Advisor – accommodations/professional faculties) indicating it was inappropriate to suggest severing Accessibility Services working relationship with the DSU.*
- 2. Submit a letter to Dr. Richard Florizone (President), Dr. Kevin Hewitt (Chair of Senate), and Lawrence Stordy (Chair, Board of Governors) admitting that she breached the Statement of Office and the inappropriateness of her approach in expressing discontent with Council decisions.*
- 3. Submit a written apology to members of the Council.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the above conditions are not met, Council will exert its right to remove this councillor from her position and the Equity and Accessibility Office will reach out to the Student with Disabilities Community in order to recommend an appointment to Council.*

## **MOTION 2018-02-07: P01**

Mary Macdonald and Hughes discuss and debate the Motion.

## **MOTION 2018-02-07: P02**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council takes a five-minute recess.

**Moved:** Mary Macdonald **Seconded:** Douglas

## **MOTION 2018-02-07: P02 CARRIED**

During the five-minute recess, Mary Macdonald submitted a resignation letter at 7:10pm for her position on Council as the Students with Disabilities Community Representative.

**Therefore, Council will stop with the consideration of the motion, as Council cannot discipline a non-council member.**

## **B. Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) Motion**

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*Whereas* the Budget Advisory Committee December 15, 2017 report, recommended a 3% increase in tuition fees, international differential fees, and auxiliary fees, as well as a 1.8% cut for all faculty budgets;

*Whereas* tuition hikes and budget cuts negatively impact the accessibility and quality of education;

*Whereas* the Dalhousie Faculty Association is currently negotiating a collective agreement with the University in which it demands increased funding for faculties to lower the workload upon faculty, and improve the University's comparability; therefore

**Be it resolved** that the Dalhousie Student Union oppose any proposed tuition fee hikes and any proposed faculty budget cuts, both for this year and any future year;

**Be it further resolved** that the DSU support the complete elimination of tuition fees, international differential fees, and auxiliary fees;

**Be it further resolved** that the Dalhousie Student Union express support for the Dalhousie Faculty Association's demand for adequate faculty funding, lower workload, and improved comparability;

**Be it further resolved** that the DSU's External Committee work to mobilize Members to oppose any proposed tuition hikes or faculty budget cuts, and to support the Dalhousie Faculty Association's demand for adequate faculty funding, lower workload, and improved comparability.

## **MOTION 2018-02-07: P03**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** to forward this Dalhousie Faculty Association Motion

**Moved:** Khader **Seconded:** Abawajy

## **MOTION 2018-02-07: P03 CARRIED**

## **C. Elections**

### **MOTION 2018-02-07: P04**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Election committee wants to put forward some suggestions to Council to look at in particular the referendum question, and to have a conversation at Council to determine when referendum questions should be brought towards Council.

### **MOTION 2018-02-07: P05**

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**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** council move into camera to have the conversation mentioned in Motion P04

**Moved:** Abawajy **Seconded:** Khoury

**MOTION 2018-02-07: P05 CARRIED**

**MOTION 2018-02-07: P06**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** council move out of camera

**Moved:** Khoury **Seconded:** Larsen

**MOTION 2018-02-07: P06 CARRIED**

**MOTION 2018-02-07: P07**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** council puts forward a Motion to outline a referendum process for societies

*Whereas, societies must submit documentation as outlined in the bylaws to Council to support referendum questions. Be it resolved that all societies have until February 16, 2018 to provide all documentation related to the referenda in question to the elections committee.*

*Be it further resolved that all verification of documentation be completed by the elections committee and sent to the chair of Council before February 20, 2018 at 12:00pm.*

**Moved:** Abawajy **Seconded:** Larsen

**MOTION 2018-02-07: P07 CARRIED**

**MOTION 2018-02-07: P04 CARRIED**

## 9. OLD BUSINESS

## 10. BUSINESS OF THE EXECUTIVE

### A. President

Abawajy circulated her written report in the Council package.

### B. Vice-President (Internal)

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Hughes circulated her written report in the Council package.

## **C. Vice-President (Financial and Operations)**

Khoury circulated her written report in the Council package. The Budget Students committee needs a non-councillor since Liam Finnegan cannot fulfill the position as he is elected as the LGBTQ2+ Council Representative. Khoury advises all council members to reach out to their constituents. Also Khoury advises members to apply for grants and sponsorships.

## **D. Vice-President (Academic and External)**

Khan circulated her written report in the Council package.

## **E. Vice-President (Student Life)**

Larsen circulated his written report in the Council package.

## **11. NOTICES OF MOTION**

Abawajy mentions that there is Motion from the Bylaw Review Committee for the amendments to the society policy, which will be circulated in the upcoming meeting (February 21, 2018).

## **12. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Corey mentions that the nominations for the Impact Awards close on Friday February 16, 2018.
2. The Racial Justice Symposium (RGS) is happening Friday February 9 and Saturday February 10. Khan advises members to share this announcement with their constituents.
3. The Next Council Meeting is February 20, 2018

## **13. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION 2018-02-07: A04**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the meeting of Council be adjourned.

**MOTION 2018-02-07: A04 CARRIED**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm**