



## Students' Representative Council Meeting Minutes

August 2, 2016

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**Attendance:** Roy Karam, Brandon MacDonald, Matt Shallo, Taylor Burton, Charlotte Denny, Jacob Daley, Julia Ellsworth

**Regrets:** Cyril MacDonald, Amanda Cameron, Jon Patterson, and Libby Morrison

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### 1.0) Call to Order/Roll Call

- The meeting was called to order at 5:14 p.m. and attendance was taken.

### 2.0) Approval of Agenda

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MOTION {080216.01} M. Shallo/B. MacDonald  
BIMT the SRC approve the agenda.  
All in favour  
MOTION CARRIED

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### 3.0) Approval of Minutes- June 29, 2016

Roy- Suggested that the minutes not be approved as there are a number of discrepancies and inaccuracies in the minutes. He stated that he takes some responsibility as he didn't have the opportunity to meet with Cyril to review the format prior. The group discussed this in further detail.

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MOTION {080216.02} R. Karam/M. Shallo  
BIMT the SRC table the minutes of June 29, 2016.  
All in favour  
MOTION CARRIED

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#### 4.0) Speaking Rights

Roy- Informed the group that Gallivan & Associates, the dental plan provider, wanted to present to Council on a mental health program called My Wellness. He stated that there are currently no programs of this kin in place on-campus for students with the exception of one clinical social worker. He informed the members that they need to grant the G&A representatives speaking rights in order to proceed.

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MOTION {080216.03}

M. Shallo/B. MacDonald

BIMT the SRC grant speaking rights to Cory and Adam of Gallivan and Associates.

All in favour

MOTION CARRIED

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#### 5.0) My Wellness

Roy- Informed Cory and Adam that their email was previously distributed to council members. He gave them the floor.

Cory- Provided a bit of background on Gallivan & Associates and how My Wellness was established at the request of clients. He mentioned that he researched various programs for a year in order to properly implement the new program, and decided on an internet-based program run through Feeling Better Now. He added that the program is approved by the College for Family Physicians of Canada. He explained that the student completes an assessment to bring to their physician to help guide them on how to be properly treated. He added that it's a great tool for RA's as well. He remarked that they want to work with CBU to establish the program here on-campus and promote existing CBU services that are available to students as well. He opened the floor to questions.

Roy- Thanked Cory for his presentation. He spoke to the cost implications and asked Cory to speak to the reserve CBU has built.

Cory- Explained that the cost of the dental plan is a little higher than the actual cost, so CBU has been building up a reserve with Gallivan. The cost to run My Wellness would be \$4.88 per student, based on the dental plan numbers. He mentioned that the reserve will be approximately \$53,000 by the end of the year. There would be no cost implication to the SU or the students. He added that My Wellness would be available to every student whether they're on the dental plan or not and would cost about \$3000 total for the year.

Roy- Asked Cory to speak to how well the program is utilized at other schools.

Cory- Replied that most of their schools see usage at 13-17%. He commented that the program has helped with triage at health centres at various schools. He

suggested that if Council wants to move forward with the program they could start promoting after Frosh Week when things start to slow down. He mentioned that the SU would be provided with detailed reports so we are aware of what issues are facing our students. He added that if it's needed they could adjust the plan to be more accommodating to our students. He encouraged cross promoting the program at events such as Healthy Living Week.

Roy- Asked if the program could be setup for late September or early October if they were to make a decision today.

Cory- Replied that it could definitely work. They could send out materials in time for September 1<sup>st</sup>, and then work on a development plan. He added that NSCC is involved in the program and they have a representative there that could help us get setup and help promote the program.

Roy- Asked if they could have more time to decide.

Cory- Replied that the longer they wait the harder it would be to set it up on time, but they would work toward it. He commented that the goal is to work out a development plan, which is the most time consuming.

Roy- Asked the group if they have any questions for Cory or Adam.

Charlotte- Asked if assessments could be completed more than once.

Cory- Replied that students can do a re-assessment that checks against their first assessment. He stated that counsellors have told them that students have done a re-assessment to check on their progress after counselling. The group discussed managing exam stress as well.

Roy- Stated that they'll end the discussion and SRC will speak privately about their decision tonight and get back to Gallivan in the morning.

Cory- Thanked the group for their time and let them know if they have questions that they can call them back.

### ***Presentation Concluded***

Roy- Asked the group if they had any questions or feedback. The group discussed this further.

Taylor- Explained how the reserves are setup for Gallivan and how it works in more detail.

Roy- Asked the group if they're interested in making a decision tonight. The group agreed they were comfortable with voting.

Taylor- Guided the group through the process of the assessment and explained it in detail. He talked about how it will give students important information throughout the assessment if they give answers that are considered red flags. He added that any student, staff, and faculty member are eligible to use the program.

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MOTION {080216.04} J. Ellsworth/M. Shallo  
BIMT the SRC approve to adopt the My Wellness program at a cost of \$4.98 per student out of the dental plan reserve.  
All in favour  
MOTION CARRIED

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## 6.0) Correspondence

- None

## 7.0) Executive Reports

### 7.1) President's Report

Roy- Previously distributed his report to the members. He commented that he will be bringing the faculty layoff situation to the council at a later date as this is a very contentious topic. He added that he has spent a lot of time preparing for the Board of Governors meeting. He commented that they asked the board to come up with some alternative solutions to bring back to the next meeting. He stated that they will be deciding on layoffs at the September meeting, but there will be further discussions with the SRC on this topic.

He commented that ATM services are now the Students' Union and it is a revenue driver. Typically, the university handles this but they met with Gordon MacInnis and they agreed to let the SU take them over.

Jacob- Asked what the fees are on the ATM's.

Roy- Replied that it would be a typical charge depending on whether or not you're a member of that bank.

He stated that they are in the final stages of negotiating their partnership with the Sydney Credit Union. He commented that between the golf sponsorship and Frosh Week, the Credit Union gave the SU \$3,800.

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MOTION {080216.05}

M. Shallo/B. MacDonald

BIMT the SRC approve the President's report.

Yeas- 1

Nays- 0

Abstentions- 1 (R. Karam)

Majority in favour

MOTION CARRIED

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### **7.2) Executive Vice President**

Brandon- Previously distributed his written report to the members. He informed the group that he worked with Matt to book laser tag for Frosh Week and everything seems to be coming along smoothly. He opened the floor to questions.

Roy- Asked Brandon if he'd be willing to give an update to the members on Places 4 Students.

Brandon- Reported that Places 4 Students is a website designed for off-campus housing where students can search for apartments or houses for rent. He commented that they get paid in advertising and Jon has set it up on the website and the TV's in the Cafeteria. He commented that we will collect a small fee from the advertising and that will come in as postings are made.

Roy- Mentioned that the university had a change in staff so the SU agreed to take this on to help students who may not want to live on residence.

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MOTION {080216.06}

M. Shallo/J. Ellsworth

BIMT the SRC approve the Executive Vice President's report.

Yeas- 6

Nays- 0

Abstentions- 1 (B. MacDonald)

Majority in favour

MOTION CARRIED

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### **7.3) VP Finance & Operations**

Taylor- Previously distributed his written report to the members and opened the floor to questions.

Roy- Asked for an update on how the SU is doing financially.

Taylor- Replied that the financial statements he distributed were for June which is the beginning of the fiscal year, so it is difficult to predict the outlook based on the first month, but overall the SU has been doing well. He added that last year in June, Caper Convenience came out at a loss, but this year we made a profit. He commented that last year as well, they had very little money for Frosh Week, and this year they received a grant from Student Services for \$19,000 to put towards Frosh Week, and they were also able to secure sponsorship money that gave them the ability to offer more events this year. He stated that there's definitely room for improvement, but he feels very good about where the Union stands right now.

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MOTION {080216.07} J. Daley/B. MacDonald  
BIMT the SRC approve the VP Finance & Operation's report.  
Yeas- 6  
Nays- 1  
Abstentions- 1 (T. Burton)  
Majority in favour  
MOTION CARRIED

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Taylor- Added that he wanted to commend Matt on doing a fantastic job of organizing Frosh Week.

#### **7.4) VP Promotions**

Matt- Previously distributed his written report. He commented that Frosh Week is coming along quite well. He mentioned that there was a bit of a hiccup with the venue for the concert, but everything worked itself out. He updated the SRC on events he's working on and told the SRC that they're bringing in Pretty Archie and Jordan Musycsyn for Frosh Week, and encouraged the group to help promote the event. He stated that he's been meeting weekly with Jennifer Billard, the universities events planner to work together on planning events.

Jacob- Asked about the concert and the type of music they play. The group discussed this a bit further.

Roy- Commented that the concert is open to the community and they hope to have a great turnout. The group discussed promotion in detail.

Matt- Remarked that he's working with 902 Promotions to see if we could piggyback with this company to help promote both CHC and Frosh Week events. He added there's a few changes to the schedule but expects it to

be more welcoming. He informed the members that if they have anything they want promoted during Frosh Week to feel free to discuss this with him.

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MOTION {080216.08}      B. MacDonald/J. Ellsworth  
BIMT the SRC approve the VP Promotions' report.  
Yeas- 6  
Nays- 0  
Abstentions- 1 (M. Shallo)  
Majority in favour  
MOTION CARRIED

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**8.0) CFS-NS Update**

Roy- Reported that it was recommended by legal counsel to become members in good standing with CFS. He stated that on July 9<sup>th</sup> he attended their provincial meeting in Halifax and learned a lot about their different campaigns. He commented that he just ordered promotional materials to have here at the school. He distributed information on the various campaigns they offer and asked for feedback from the group on what they should promote here at CBU. He added that they'll be receiving stickers, buttons, tattoos, water bottles and posters, free of charge.

He mentioned that CFS will also be hosting a Skills Symposium around the end of Frosh Week and the SU can take 5 representatives to this event free of charge. He commented that he'd like to have a few SRC members attend.

**9.0) SNS Update**

Roy- Stated that the Executive recently attended the Board Education Retreat for Students NS. They also were able to participate in the Pride Parade and represent CBU along with SNS and SMU which was the highlight of the weekend. He commented that they'll also participate in the Pride Parade this weekend in Sydney and it will be great to put the Union van in the parade and be part of such an important event.

He reported as well that he did tell Students NS that CBU will be going to referendum to leave their organization. He explained to them, while he thinks they're a diplomatic organization with some great campaigns, he has a fiduciary duty to the SU. and right now CBU can't afford to be part of two organizations. He commented that he brought this up to them to be transparent and they were talking about being financially sustainable at the time. He did mention to the group that SNS stated that they feel if they were to lose a member school that they would not be able to sustain themselves financially. He added that, even knowing that, CBU cannot put themselves in financial harm to save SNS. He

remarked that he'll be working very closely with the Executive Director of SNS to look at alternatives to help sustain the organization. He informed the group that in past years, SNS had offered a discounted rate for the same level of service. He's hoping they might be willing to do this again for us so we can maintain our membership. He talked about the fairness to other members on the board. He commented that this may go to referendum and he'll keep the group updated. He mentioned that he's still working with them as we are still members. He opened the floor to questions.

Brandon- Informed the group that he attended the Minister's Roundtable with other SNS members. He stated that the discussion focused on university auxiliary and ancillary fees. He commented that they also discussed tuition fee caps but they don't seem to be making much progress in this area. He added that they also discussed incentives to bring out-of-province students to NS. He briefly discussed the conversation that took place with Minister Reagan regarding the income agreements in the MOU and whether or not this would be upheld. He added that students don't feel they will be upheld. The group discussed this further. He commented that there is a contingency plan in place if they don't follow through.

#### **10.0) Bus Pass- CBRM Update**

Roy- Reported that the Executive have had the opportunity to meet with Mike MacKeigan from the Utility and Review Board as to whether or not the SU would continue to sell bus passes this year. The SU will continue to sell bus passes for students this Fall, but the rate may go up slightly for CBU students. He stated that the commission they will make off of bus passes will cover their costs for producing them.

#### **11.0) Frosh Week Update**

Matt- Reminded the group that he gave his Frosh Week update during his Executive report but asked if there were any further questions.

Roy- Mentioned that the Student Events Coordinator recommended a high school theme night where people can wear their high school colours. He stated that they're open to the idea but still taking recommendations. The group discussed various ideas and what type of entertainment to expect during the week. He commented that they're going to try to stay away from DJ Majestic this year as students have requested a change.

Matt- Mentioned that they have been busy working on the Scavenger Hunt as well which is expected to be a big event.

Charlotte- Recommended the band Black and Grey and stated they're very popular within the native community.

Matt- Asked her to send along more information on this band.

### **12.0) Pokemon Go**

Brandon- Commented that they're hosting an event for this on August 27<sup>th</sup> in partnership with the university. CBU will help promote it. There will be Pokemon themed drinks and trivia hosted by Taylor. He gave some details. He's looking into hosting an old Nintendo 64 Pokemon Stadium tournament. He and Taylor will work on this project. He added that there's a \$5 cover and guests are encouraged to dress in their team colours.

Matt- Thanked Brandon and Taylor for taking the lead on this project. He commented there's a lot of positive feedback coming in for this event.

Roy- Stated that CBU is the first university to host this type of event and it reflects well on the SU.

Brandon- Mentioned that they're looking into possible prizes for the trivia as well.

Taylor- Commented that the event is all ages and the drinks can be made with or without alcohol.

### **13.0) Member Reports/Feedback**

Roy- Explained to the group that member reports give individual council members the opportunity to bring important issues back to the SRC. He stated it could be something they've heard from a student, or from their own constituency that warrants discussion at the SRC level. He encouraged members to put it in a written report to the Council. He also mentioned that if the group has recommendations for changes to how the meetings are run, he'd like to get feedback from the members.

Matt- Added that like their My Wellness vote today, there will be some votes on very important issues throughout the year. He stated that there will be lots of times throughout the year that they will have healthy debates, but this is the purpose of the committee.

### **14.0) Question Period**

Charlotte- Opened the floor to questions.

Jacob- Commented on referendums and online voting. He stated that online voting would increase voter turnout. He asked the Executive if this is something they've ever considered.

Roy- Replied that he has actually looked into this recently and has had an Ontario-based company reach out to him on this idea for CBU. The company hosts online

voting for student associations across the country. He remarked that he has been exploring online voting with IT Services here on-campus as well because they might be able to do it for us at no cost. He added that they already run the Valedictorian vote for us at no cost, so he's looking into the logistics of holding the other two elections as well. He explained that the Ontario company offers 3 month or 6 month subscriptions that are renewable. He informed the group that the cost is approximately \$2700. He mentioned that he knows this may eliminate some student jobs, but poll clerks get paid minimum wage to sit in the Cafeteria from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. He stated that there are timeframes throughout the days where nobody is voting, so it is a bit of a drain on resources during this time. The group talked about this in detail. He commented that there are still a few things to look into regarding cost and logistics but he will continue to do so and report back to Council.

Brandon- Mentioned that last year Acadia moved to online voting and they had a 40% turnout.

Roy- Mentioned that CBU usually gets around 20% which is low. He stated that it is better than some schools, like St.FX, but there is definitely room for improvement. He added that 40% is a better depiction of what the students really want instead of just passing quorum. The group discussed this further and Roy told the group that he and Taylor will be sitting down soon to work on it more.

He informed the group that he is also currently looking to appoint a Chief Returning Office to oversee the election. He told the members if they know of anyone who might be interested to send them to see him. He added that no one on SRC could hold this position.

Jacob- Asked if a Coordinator could be the CRO.

Roy- Replied that he was unsure but could look into this for him.

## **15.0) Other Business**

### **15.1) Election Act & AP&P Revisions Committees**

Brandon- Suggested that they strike a committee to have at least the Elections Act Revisions Committee in place to update policies in time for the by-election.

Matt- Expressed concern with them not having a full council.

Roy- Informed the group that they have already struck this committee and voted members to these committees at their first SRC meeting back in May. He took responsibility for putting this on the back burner but

explained it has been a very busy summer. He stated that it is difficult to get people to meet during the summer months and felt it would be fine to have the committees meet in September or October. He asked the members if they wanted him to make it his priority now, or would they be okay with focusing on Frosh Week first and then reviewing the policies. The group discussed this further and agreed that it could wait until after Frosh Week.

**16.0) Date of Next Meeting**

- The Chair agreed to send out a doodle poll as early as possible to the members to schedule the next meeting.

**17.0) Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.