

GENERAL ASSEMBLY



MINUTES

1st MEETING OF 2020-2021

May 7, 2020 AT 4:00 - 6:00 PM
ZOOM

THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE STUDENTS' UNION - 4401 UNIVERSITY DR - RM SU180 - LETHBRIDGE AB, T1K 3M4
PH: 403-329-2222, FAX: 403-329-2224 – WWW.ULSU.CA

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS - 20 VOTING MEMBERS (QUORUM IS 11 VOTING MEMBERS)

JONATHAN DIAZ - PRESIDENT, **ETHAN PULLAN** – VP OPERATIONS & FINANCE, **RICHARD LEE-THAI** - VP STUDENT AFFAIRS, **LIAM CONNELL** - VP ACADEMIC, **RYAN LINDBLAD** – VP EXTERNAL, **MADI ING** - A & S REP, **AMY LAMBERT** - A & S REP, **SHAE DAUNCEY** - A & S REP, **CAYLEY FLEISCHMAN** - A & S REP, **BECCA PARKKARI** – A & S REP, **SELENA BOUTILIER** - A & S REP, **KEELEY GILLESPIE** – EDUCATION REP, **MARK SEREBRYANSKY** - RESIDENCE REP, **HOLLY KLETKE** – FINE ARTS REP, **HALEY GRAY** – HEALTH SCIENCES REP, **ANDREW NOVELLO** – DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, **CAMILO TIQUE** – DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS REP, **MICHA BERMAS** – CALGARY CAMPUS REP, **TONI PASHE** - INDIGENOUS REP, **NICOLAS CRESPO** – INTERNATIONAL REP, **VACANT** – 1ST YEAR REP.

ATTENDANCE: **JONATHAN DIAZ** – PRESIDENT (CHAIR), **ETHAN PULLAN** – VP OPERATIONS & FINANCE, **RICHARD LEE-THAI** - VP STUDENT AFFAIRS, **LIAM CONNELL** - VP ACADEMIC, **RYAN LINDBLAD** – VP EXTERNAL, **MADI ING** - A & S REP, **AMY LAMBERT** - A & S REP, **SHAE DAUNCEY** - A & S REP, **CAYLEY FLEISCHMAN** - A & S REP, **BECCA PARKKARI** – A & S REP, **KEELEY GILLESPIE** – EDUCATION REP, **MARK SEREBRYANSKY** - RESIDENCE REP, **HOLLY KLETKE** – FINE ARTS REP, **HALEY GRAY** – HEALTH SCIENCES REP, **ANDREW NOVELLO** – DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, **CAMILO TIQUE** – DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS REP, **MICHA BERMAS** – CALGARY CAMPUS REP, **TONI PASHE** - INDIGENOUS REP, **NICOLAS CRESPO** – INTERNATIONAL REP.

ABSENT: **SELENA BOUTILIER** - A & S REP,

GUESTS: **NONE**

Jon gave Blackfoot acknowledgement.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION [22499GA]

MSC: E. Pullan/M. Serebryansky

BIMT the General Assembly adopt the agenda of May 7, 2020.

Carried

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None at this time - 1st meeting of the term.

3. CHAIR REMARKS

Jon will be sitting as chair for the summer until we find a chair for the year. Liam sent out a Robert's Rules primer. Feel free to ask Jon any questions about the process.

4. PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

None at this time.

5. REPORTS

Please read each report as posted on the ULSU website. Reports are due by the 5th of each month.

5.1 PRESIDENT – Jonathan

- Looking forward to working with all of you.
- Getting used to working and transitioning.
- I have been setting up a lot of meetings.
- Ryan and I will be attending online conferences.
- I have been in a few meetings with the advising working group. If you have any thoughts please let me know.
- Will have a meeting next week with senior admin.
- Attended GFC and faculty meetings.
- Met about marketing.
- This year will be something unique compared to previous years, due to COVID-19.

5.2 VP OPERATIONS & FINANCE – Ethan

Report & Financial Update

- Working on my first QIP proposal, I will be sending out a mailbox ballot.
- Changed my profile picture.
- Have been reading over notes from Jordan and terms of references.
- Working with Max on a style guide regarding fonts etc.

5.3 VP STUDENT AFFAIRS – Richard

- Looking forward to working with everyone this year.
- Shout outs on achievements, great job. Just wanted to recognize involvement.
- I am part of the students support working group for summer and fall semester.
- Working on Fresh Fest and indigenous initiatives.
- Have done research on other universities as to what they are doing for activities.
- If anyone is passionate about hosting anything please reach out to me.

5.4 VP ACADEMIC – Liam

- I have attended meetings this week. I'm on two working groups with Richard and Jon.
- Currently Jon and I are in separate sub groups for the advising working group.

- Last Lecture – with all of the social distancing, it's a unique opportunity to come at it from a different angle. It will be hosted online as a webinar.
- All students by August will be switched over to 365 so you can work with your professors.

5.5 VP EXTERNAL – Ryan

- Bailey and I are working on a summer campaign, "My Degree, My Future".
- Have been going over external policy statements to see which ones need to be edited. University affordability is needed.
- Jon and I are working on CAUS Change over.
- I will be attending CASA Foundations.
- I will be sending out letters to MLAs.
- Jon and I have meetings with CAUS and CASA, I will be sitting on a panel with Athabasca University.

5.6 GENERAL ASSEMBLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark – would like to approve more funds on social media since we are using it more and would like to see us have more exposure.

6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.1 INDIGENOUS RELATIONS TRAINING (Insert 6.1) - Richard & Toni

Please see the insert for details. We want to have a consistent engagement and support base. There is opportunity to collaborate with the university. The exact date of the training will be determined. Even just having a general understanding is beneficial.

- Cheri would like every staff member participate.
- Would this be open to all of the student body? Toni – would like to work things out first.

7. ITEMS FOR ACTION: CLUBS, GROUPS, AND INDIVIDUALS

None at this time.

8. ITEMS FOR ACTION: ULSU BUSINESS

8.1 ULSU OPERATING BUDGET (Insert 8.1) - Ethan

Ethan reviewed the budget, it's very similar to last year.

MOTION [22500GA]

MSC: E. Pullan/R. Lindblad

BIMT the General Assembly approve the 2020-2021 ULSU operating budget.

Carried

8.2 TRAVEL BUDGET – *Ethan*

This money is approved all at once so we can book flights and conferences ahead of time while it's less expensive.

MOTION [22501GA]

MSC: E. Pullan/R. Lindblad

BIMT the General Assembly approves \$37,400 for travel expenditures to be used in the 2020-2021 school year. Monies to come from the All Travel Conference/per diem budget line.

Carried

8.3 ULSU CALENDARS – *Ethan*

These books need to be ordered soon. The cost might be closer to \$4,500 but we don't know for certain yet. The advertisements in the book will pay for most of the cost.

MOTION [22502GA]

MSC: E. Pullan/ M. Serebryansky

BIMT the General Assembly approve the maximum expenditure of \$7,000 for 2500 Event Calendars. Monies to come from the handbook budget line.

Carried

8.4 HANDBOOK – *Cheri*

The handbook is a similar situation as the calendar. We will be selling advertising space to offset the cost of printing. We haven't discussed the contingency on the handbooks or calendars yet if we don't go back to class in the fall, but we will have to know by July because that is the cut off for printing.

MOTION [22503GA]

MSC: E. Pullan/B. Parkkari

BIMT the General Assembly approve the maximum expenditure of \$12,000 for 2500 agendas. Monies to come from the handbook budget line.

Carried

8.5 QIP - FRESH FEST (Insert 8.5) – *Richard*

There is a lot of uncertainty with the pandemic. Richard has had many meetings over Fresh Fest and have decided to bring this forward to the General Assembly. We have decided to scale things back if we do go forward with it and will cut down on staffing costs. Safety is our uttermost concern and we will follow our Governments recommendations. There is no concrete date on when the Government's stage two of re-opening will be moving forward. We would have to

reach Alberta's stage three before the event could be hosted. If this proposal gets passed, Richard will put out a call for people to hire the Fresh Fest planning committee. We are looking into a digital conference experience. If Fresh Fest is cancelled, Richard will be bringing it forward to the GA.

GA Comments:

- Since Riley has a position title, we should have that shown in the proposal.
- I struggle to approve the budget in its current form and feel it is bad governance practice. People have come out and said that they won't feel safe.
- Very good points. If we don't put forth this proposal then Fresh Fest doesn't happen, or we can put forth a mailbox ballot later.
- We can pass this proposed full budget and the moment we know that we can't move forward with it we can put forth a different motion.
- We will have to pay people on the committee and that will be thousands of dollars, we will be out that much money for the rest of the year. I would like to see Fresh Fest happen but it could leave us fully exposed.
- I understand the predicament that we are in. One thing we need to keep in mind is the way Fresh Fest will look. The money is what most people are thinking about but I'm more concerned about the elevated risk of alcohol consumption. Fresh Fest is four hours of letting loose.
- Besides the salary, we really won't lose a lot of other money. We could put a clause in each band contract that frees both parties from any liability. I don't feel it is risky.
- If we go ahead and advertise for it, there would be a lot of students not happy with our cancelling it.
- I don't feel we could fit 1300 people in the grove for four hours.
- We are responsible to the students but we are also board members. \$40,000 is a big risk. I'd be happy with a modified version.
- I really don't think the traditional Fresh Fest will happen, but the University wants us to carry on as usual. We could still use the Fresh Fest team to plan something.
- I think Fresh Fest should happen but not as it usually is. Once we pass this money then the money is passed, this is the moment to decide.
- A possible solution could be to approve the expense of hiring the committee and then move forward from there.
- Richard wants to mitigate the risk as much as possible. If there is still risk of the virus spreading then we will be taking that into consideration. At the Arts and Science Council on May 15th is when they will be deciding on classes. I do like Marks suggestion of approving the cost of only hiring the committee and then we can do a mailbox ballot closer to the event once we are more sure of the circumstances. I feel comfortable just approving the payroll.

The General Assembly approved to amend the motion of the full Fresh Fest budget to just approving the payroll costs of the Hiring Committee at this time.

MOTION [22504GA]

MSC: R. Lee-Thai/C. Fleischman

BIMT the General Assembly approve the maximum expenditure of \$9,700 for the Fresh Fest budget of the 2020-2021 year. Monies to come from QIP.

Carried

8.6 SWAG - Cheri

Council will make choices on what to order and this is our budget for it. There are a lot of choices to pick from and will be working with Tracy on it. Moving forward with promotion, this builds brand recognition.

MOTION [22505GA]

MSC: E. Pullan/C. Fleischman

BIMT the General Assembly approve the maximum expenditure of \$5,000 for ULSU swag. Monies to come from Council Promotions.

Carried

8.7 ULSU APPAREL - Cheri

This is an annual expense where each Council member and permanent staff receives \$40 toward a ULSU branded jacket or sweater to wear throughout the year. We would like to order these items so you have them for September. You can get your name and position embroidered on them if you want. Tracy will email everyone the link to the catalogue.

There are 22 Council members including the chair as well as 10 Staff members.

$\$40 \times 32 = \1280

10% contingency = \$128

Total = \$1408

MOTION [22506GA]

MSC: Mark/B. Parkkari

BIMT the General Assembly approve the maximum expenditure of \$1,408 for ULSU branded apparel at a maximum of \$40 each for each council member and permanent ULSU staff. Monies to come from Council Advertising and Promotions.

Carried

8.8 EXTRA SUMMER CLASS - ETHAN – Ethan

It is in the ULSU policies that the EC can only take one class but Ethan needs two classes to graduate and it is in policy to get GA approval to take an extra class.

MOTION [22507GA]

MSC: E. Pullan/R. Lindblad

BIMT the General Assembly approve VP Operations & Finance Ethan Pullan to enlist in one additional summer class for summer session one under Policy 5.1.4. *"Policy 5.1.4: The Executive Council Member may enroll in one (1) additional course per semester if approved by the General Assembly."*

Carried – Ethan abstained

8.9 EC & STAFF OFFICE ITEMS - COVID-19 – Ethan

Notes:

Given the extenuating circumstances some additional costs may be incurred to our permanent and Executive staff. Items such as a proper office chair or ergonomic desk may be required to effectively complete positions. This funding would allow each full-time staff member to expense up to \$250 each for similar items.

MOTION [22508GA]

MSC: E. Pullan/R. Lindblad

BIMT the General Assembly approve a maximum expenditure of \$2,400 to cover the expenses of Students' Union staff and Executive Council members to purchase necessary office supplies or equipment in order to effectively accommodate people to work remotely during the COVID-19 crisis. Monies to come from Special Funding.

Carried – EC abstain

8.10 EMERGENCY BURSARY FUND – Ethan

We had a mailbox ballot last year to approve funds to put into the ULSU Emergency Bursary fund and we see that we have extra funds in the budget line and would like to support more students with it.

MOTION [22509GA]

MSC: E. Pullan/C. Fleischman

BIMT General Assembly approve the expenditure of \$1880 to support the ULSU Emergency Bursary Fund with the intention of supporting undergraduate students through the financial uncertainty caused by COVID-19. Monies to come from Student Assistance Travel.

Carried

8.11 COCA MEMBERSHIP – Ethan

COCA stands for Canadian Organization of Campus Activities. We partner with other universities across Canada. We share resources and ideas, get in touch with artists etc.

MOTION [22510GA]	<u>MSC: E. Pullan/S. Dauncey</u> BIMT the General Assembly approve the maximum expenditure of \$400 for 2020-21 COCA membership. Monies to come from COCA Membership. Carried
------------------	---

8.12 INDIGENOUS RELATIONS AD HOC COMMITTEE (Insert 8.12) - Richard & Toni

This is an Ad Hoc committee and would like to have it as an annual standing committee. Please send Richard a message after the meeting if you are interested in sitting on the committee. This is a very important initiative.

Comments

- This is a great initiative but I feel this is a lot to put on Toni. To make this successful we need to engage with already standing committees within the university. This should be composed of the various indigenous groups on campus. We need to do our best to work together.
- This is more as a base for the Students' Union to be on the same page with the university.
- This is a first great step. A lot of us on the strategic planning committee didn't feel we had the tools to move forward with this. It would be great to work with the university and other groups.
- Suggest that you try to find one student-at-large.
- #notyourtoken
- Want to add value.

MOTION [22511GA]	<u>MSC: R. Lee-Thai/B. Parkkari</u> BIMT the General Assembly approve the creation of an Indigenous Relations Committee that will be active until April 30, 2021. Carried
------------------	---

9. OTHER BUSINESS

Ryan – any GA member who wants to be involved with the campaign I mentioned earlier on, please send me an email. ulsu.external@gmail.com.

Mark – with all of us being at home, I would like to invite more students to our GA meetings. I wonder if there would be an interest in having GA profiles as well as EC.

Ethan – we approved just over \$8,000. If you are interested in gaining more information on our budget please contact me.

Richard – if you are interested in helping me with planning and online program please email me. If you want to be involved, please send me a message about the indigenous information we have presented here tonight as well.

10. NEXT MEETING

TBD.

Jon will be collecting class schedules closer to the fall.

11. ADJOURNMENT

11.1 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION [22512GA]

MSC: Andrew/ M. Serebryansky

BIMT the General Assembly adjourn the meeting of May7, 2020.

Carried