

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES

10th MEETING OF 2021-2022



FEBRUARY 11 2022 AT 3:00PM

Meeting ID: 987 5668 3983

Passcode: 559000

THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE STUDENTS' UNION - 4401 UNIVERSITY DR - RM SU180 - LETHBRIDGE AB, T1K 3M4
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS - 21 VOTING MEMBERS (QUORUM IS 12 VOTING MEMBERS)

BRENNA SCOTT – CHAIR, **HOLLY KLETKE** - PRESIDENT, **MARK SEREBYANSKY** – VP OPERATIONS & FINANCE, **MITCHELL NIXON** - VP STUDENT AFFAIRS, **BECCA PARKKARI** - VP ACADEMIC, **RYAN LINDBLAD** – VP EXTERNAL, **MADI ING** - A & S REP, **ELISHA WONG** - A & S REP, **SHAE DAUNCEY** - A & S REP, **CAYLEY FLEISCHMAN** - A & S REP, **JENNIFER ESEONU** – A & S REP, **MADINA ALI** - A & S REP, **BLAINE BADIUK** – EDUCATION REP, **JOHN CARTER** - RESIDENCE REP, **ALEXANDRA DODD** – FINE ARTS REP, **ANNIE EBENMELU** - HEALTH SCIENCES REP, **CORAL SKIBA** - DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS REP, **MICHELLE KILDAW** – DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS REP, **LIONEL MIGRINO** – CALGARY CAMPUS REP, **NATHAN CROW** - INDIGENOUS REP, **ARABA ADENU-MENSAH** – INTERNATIONAL REP, **AMREET GILL** – FIRST YEAR REP.

ATTENDANCE: **HOLLY KLETKE** - PRESIDENT (CHAIR IN BRENNAS ABSENCE), **MARK SEREBYANSKY** – VP OPERATIONS & FINANCE, **MITCHELL NIXON** - VP STUDENT AFFAIRS, **BECCA PARKKARI** - VP ACADEMIC, **RYAN LINDBLAD** – VP EXTERNAL, **MADI ING** - A & S REP, **ELISHA WONG** - A & S REP, **SHAE DAUNCEY** - A & S REP, **CAYLEY FLEISCHMAN** - A & S REP, **JENNIFER ESEONU** – A & S REP, **MADINA ALI** - A & S REP, **BLAINE BADIUK** – EDUCATION REP, **JOHN CARTER** - RESIDENCE REP, **ALEXANDRA DODD** – FINE ARTS REP, , **CORAL SKIBA** - DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS REP, **MICHELLE KILDAW** – DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS REP, **LIONEL MIGRINO** – CALGARY CAMPUS REP, **NATHAN CROW** - INDIGENOUS REP, **ARABA ADENU-MENSAH** – INTERNATIONAL REP, **AMREET GILL** – FIRST YEAR REP, **CHERI POKARNEY** - GM, **TRACY MERRIFIELD** - OC, **MAX BARTLETT** - CC

ABSENT: Brenna Scott, Annie Ebenmelu

GUESTS: Andrew Gammack, Taylor Doyle, Ajamu Attard - Presentation to Council

1. MOTION TO APPROVE A SUBSTITUTE CHAIR

MOTION: [22909GA] MSC: B. Badiuk/M. Serebryansky
Carried

BIMT the General Assembly approve to elect Holly Kletke as chair for the February 11-2022 GA meeting, in the absence of our regular chair Brenna Scott. Holly will only be voting in the event that there may be a tie-vote.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - Holly

The Land Acknowledgement was given by Holly.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: [22910GA] MSC: J. Carter/R. Lindblad
Carried

BIMT the General Assembly adopts the agenda of February 11, 2022.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES (*Attachment 3.1*)

MOTION: [22911GA] MSC: B. Parkkari/M. Nixon
Motion Failed. BIMT the General Assembly approve the minutes of January 28, 2021.

- The GA had a discussion on several items in the minutes and there have been recommendations to amend some verbiage. Therefore the minutes will be tabled until the March GA meeting.

MOTION: [22912GA] MSC: M. Serebryanksy/B. Badiuk
Carried

BIMT the GA table the minutes from the January 28-2022 meeting for further review, to be approved at the March 2022 GA meeting.

5. CHAIR REMARKS -

Holly will only vote in the event of a tie.

6. PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

Referendum proposal - Student Support - Andrew Gammack, Taylor Doyle, Ajamu Attard

- Presentation for supporting student's health, wellness, and academics and empowering students to thrive.
- Many students have reported having financial and academic concerns.
- This program will allow affordable access to globally leading support services for the following apps: Udemy, Calm, Grammarly, Nimbus, and Aaptiv for \$17.56 per semester. The fee will not be charged to students over the summer months, but they will have access to it all year long.
- This student support initiative would have to go to a referendum, but students would have the ability to opt out if they did not want this service.
- Students need easier access to support services, and this program will provide those services at a much lower price than paying for usage for each individual app.

7. REPORTS (Insert 6)

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

7.1 VP OPERATIONS & FINANCE – Mark

- We had a Legislative Review Committee meeting two weeks ago; it was a very productive meeting. We will be presenting some additional suggested changes shortly. If anyone would like to attend these committee meetings as a guest, please feel free to participate.
- I had a productive meeting with Nancy Walker. We discussed Labour disruption and the financial situation of the U of L.
- Meeting with Shelley, our Health Plan Coordinator to discuss our current financial situation with the Health and Dental plan.
- One-on-one with Shawn from the Zoo.
- One-on-one with Denis, our accountant.
- Attended the BOG closed special meeting.
- Board Finance meeting.
- A Lot of time has been spent on the strike response strategy. The FAQ has been amended.
- The job action page has been updated regularly.
- We've received some comments on our instagram from our press release, we have tried to respond to those students to prevent misinformation.
- Working with Max on the job action information.
- GFC - with the change to online delivery and the fact that U of L is a destination university, it has resulted in a dip in enrolment. The good news is this won't affect the Students' Union as much as we had anticipated. We estimate about a 5-7% dip in the operating budget, but we are not going to feel it as an organization as much as the University would.
- Next week I will be working in the office in-person for a few days.
- Thank you to everyone for the approval of the professional development week.

7.2 VP STUDENT AFFAIRS – Mitch

- Struck two committees- the Awards Committee and the Transition Committee. If anyone has any interest in participating on these committees please let me know.
- We are trying to plan an in-person transition retreat this year.
- We've been in Canmore this week for our professional development week. It's been a very productive week. We've been working in particular on making transition more succinct and detailed for incoming council members. Also been working on Greek Life planning.
- Also worked on other relevant initiatives and planning for our roles for the rest of the semester.

7.3 VP ACADEMIC – Becca

- Since we last met I have attended three Campus Sexual Violence Project Workshops for research being conducted at the University of Saskatchewan.
- I attended meetings of the Education Faculty Council, Joint Campus Labour Council, General Faculties Council, Curriculum Coordinating Committee, ArtSci Council and Library Curriculum Coordinating Committee. A noteworthy update is that the library is open with slightly less staff and the study rooms on campus are open as well. These will remain open during job action.
- I attended three Black History Month working group meetings for planning and execution of our events. Unfortunately due to job action we decided to postpone some of our events, specifically those where faculty members from any institution were involved.
- Internally, I attended meetings of the Legislative Review Committee, the Indigenous

relations committee, the inclusive practices working group, and the awards committee.

- We have recommenced our meetings with Greek Life executive members. And this week we have been working on a Campus Sexual Violence Advocacy summary report with specific attention to the work we are doing with Greek Life Organizations that we will share with each of the organizations and our constituency to encapsulate the work that has been done so far on this topic. I have also been retroactively taking minutes from the meetings we had with KBG in the first semester from the audio recordings. This resource will be passed along to the next council to provide information and context to the work that was completed this year along with recommendations.
- EC met with Courtney to discuss safety on campus in relation to sexual violence as well as the recommendation put forward to mandate the moodle sexual violence training.
- EC had a meeting with Erasmus and Michelle, then I had another meeting with Michelle to go over student questions and concerns related to job action. More details will be discussed later on in the agenda.
- Holly Mark and I attended a meeting with Kathleen to discuss job action contingency plans and convey the compiled recommendations for student support and academic remediation. We will be meeting weekly with Kathleen going forward while job action is ongoing to make sure student voices are at the table throughout the decision making processes if academic scheduling changes are needed.
- EC also spent time discussing changes as a result of officially entering job action and potential demonstrative approaches we can take if there are major disruptions to students as a result of extended job action.
- I have been working on getting Mental Health Programming in place for the semester. There's a lovely group of GA members who will be working specifically on mental health programming for the rest of the semester. I also had a meeting with Jenn to discuss potential programming options.
- I have spent a lot of time on the Speaker Series which was sadly postponed until classes are back in session. There is also a group of GA members who is working to help organise the additional two speaker series events. One will be diversity in stem and the other will be relating to indigenization.
- This week I have also begun a transition catalogue for my successor with all the legacy initiatives that I think are important for this role to work on.
- I have been receiving and replying to many Student Emails on academic and job action concerns and questions.
- The final grade appeal deadline was on February 7th so this week I wrapped up with all the support I have been giving to students with their grade appeals.
- And finally, I have had a few student support meetings to address questions and concerns regarding continuation of Work Integrated Learning Placements and academic expectations during job action.
- Moving forward, I am planning a meeting of the mental health programming working group to finalize plans and start booking events. I will be reaching out to academics to invite them to speak at our series. I will continue attending committee meetings and working on the breakdown of student rights and responsibilities, the vpa legacy project document, greek life documents and research, and job action student support along with anything else that may come up throughout the next couple weeks. I would love to hear from you so please don't hesitate to reach out.

7.4 VP EXTERNAL – Ryan

- CASA Member Relations Committee - planning for CASA advocacy week.
- Holly and I will be meeting with several different members of parliament.
- Legislative Review Committee meeting.
- Meeting with MLA Neudorf regarding the budget announcement.
- Multiple CAUS meetings this week.
- CAUS organizational review - working on changes to bylaws and how to improve the organization for next year.
- Calgary Student Alliance meeting.
- ULFA meeting.
- Joint Worksite Committee meeting.
- Kappa Beta Gamma meeting.
- Met with the GSA to discuss the strike situation.
- Indigenous Relations Committee.
- We are currently at our professional development week in Canmore.
- Student awards meeting.
- GFC meeting.
- Greek Life discussion and deadline setting.
- Strike contingency planning meeting.
- Discussed demonstration ideas for the strike.
- Max and I will be going to the school on Monday to take pictures of the empty classrooms on campus to give a visual representation to what has been done to our post-secondary institutions.
- Greek Life meetings.
- Meeting with Courtney Smith.
- Completed our letter of recommendation for the Alberta budget.
- Transition planning; will be creating a transition document, and it will include some transition information on pandemic logistics.
- Arts and Science Council meeting.
- We've been busy doing a lot of planning regarding the strike.
- ULFA town hall.

7.5 PRESIDENT – Holly

- *she's sending me her report*

7.6 ARTS & SCIENCE - Cayley, Shae, Elisha, Madi, Jennifer or Madina

- Elisha - We've been attending a lot of meetings; Arts & Science Council meeting. Madina has been working on the Suicide Prevention Week. Will be scheduling a meeting with Mark Slomp. Madina met with Courtney Smith about the security response regarding sexual violence.

7.7 DSOB - Michelle, Coral

- Michelle - It's been a busy couple of weeks; attended the Inclusive Practices, Strategic Planning Committee meeting, one-one-one with Holly, GA meetings, meeting with Coral to discuss ideas of things we want to do this semester. Attended the emergency ULSU meeting and the Student Engagement Committee meeting. Some of our initiatives have been put on hold due to the strike such as our study sessions. Becca suggested that

perhaps the study sessions should still occur.

7.8 FINE ARTS – Alexandra

- Attended the Faculty of Fine Arts Council, the Building Revitalization Committee meeting, and the Student Engagement Committee. This month has been dedicated to students to answer as many questions as I can. Had a couple of meetings with professors in the Drama Department.

7.9 INTERNATIONAL – Araba

- Meeting with a potential successor as International Rep.

7.10 RESIDENCE – John

- Working through the massive changes going on. We are having a mandatory PD session regarding consent with Courtney Smith.

7.11 CALGARY CAMPUS – Lionel

- Met with the Bow valley Student Association to talk about EDI initiatives.
- Calgary Student Alliance meeting with Ryan.
- I hope everyone is staying safe during this difficult time. I want everyone to know that I'm proud to be working with everyone here, everyone is amazing.

7.12 INDIGENOUS – Nathan

- Indigenous Relations Committee meeting.
- Scheduled a meeting with Jody from iikassini - for support for Indigenous Awareness Week.
- Reached out to Michelle Hogue from the Indigenous Student Success Cohort to discuss the upcoming student election.
- Attended the Inclusive Practices Committee meeting.
- Actively promoting the upcoming Community Futures Treaty Seven Post-Secondary Employment Symposium from February 22nd to 24th.
- Answering questions from students about the strike.
- Ongoing support for Indigenous students regarding job action.
- Attended Indigenous Culture Centre operations and planning retreat.

7.13 EDUCATION – Blaine

- Hosted two town halls for the Education Students.
- I've been receiving and replying to continuous emails from our EUS members regarding the strike action.
- All the PSII internships have been allowed to continue.
- There has been a lot of misinformation regarding access to campus, so we are trying to stop that misinformation.
- EUS will be doing their annual elections.

7.14 HEALTH SCIENCES – Annie

- Absent.

7.15 1ST YEAR STUDENT – Amreet

- Attended GA meetings, Online Engagement meeting, Inclusive Practices meeting.
- In the last meeting I discussed doing focus groups for first-year student feedback, but unfortunately those focus groups will be postponed due to the strike. Hopefully we can do them after the reading week.

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

7.1 PUBLIC HEALTH RESTRICTIONS - *Blaine*

- I'm concerned and disappointed that the perception is that post-secondary institutions seem to think that they have more knowledge than governmental health professionals. This will most likely be an item for future discussion.

7.2 JOB ACTION UPDATES - *Mark*

MOTION: [22913GA] MSC: M. Serebryansky/M. Ali
Carried
BIMT the General Assembly move to in-camera.

MOTION: [22914GA] MSC: S. Dauncey/R. Lindblad
Carried
BIMT the General Assembly move to ex-camera.

Mark - We want to facilitate the GA feedback regarding our draft on job action. There is a board meeting next week for the public for a BOG sit-in on zoom

Madina - My worry is that people are going to say it's us blaming faculty. Students may think we are anti-faculty.

Blaine - I agree with Madina's point, worried that it would look like an attack on the faculty.

Lionel - I'm wondering if it's the best strategy, I'm worried about the dangers of misinterpretation.

Mark - We are cognizant of the danger of misinterpretation. Another option we discussed was a rally about getting back into class. But depending on location, we may blend into the faculty strike.

Lionel - Can we write a letter, or rally in front of our provincial government?

Ryan - There are things already in the works for political demonstrations about what the government has done to this sector. Thinking we should hold off until March because of the financial budget recommendations we've submitted. CAUS is working on a full day of action across the province in the beginning of March once the budget has been released in tandem with schools in Calgary and Edmonton.

Shae - How important is it for us to mobilize?

Mark - It seems that the narrative out there is that the SU isn't doing enough. I don't know what is typical at

other institutions during a strike, but perhaps we can look to see what other SU's have done during these situations. The point is to send a message that the SU is here for the students and also engage in general with the students.

Holly - I would like to continue this conversation and deliberations, so we would like the full consent of our board. I'd like to ask everyone to participate and engage on Slack.

Madi - If we are to advocate, we need to set a time to say that in two weeks if this doesn't happen we can plan a sit-in. We can show that we want students in the classroom, not outside. We need to do something timely and physical and something that includes all students.

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

None at this time.

9. ITEMS FOR ACTION: ULSU BUSINESS

9.1 REFERENDUM QUESTION - Holly

MOTION: [22915GA] MSC: M. Ali/R. Lindblad
Carried
Abstained:: Mark Serebryansky, Blaine Badiuk

BIMT the General Assembly approve a referendum question for Student Support for the 2022/23 election cycle..

10. OTHER BUSINESS

None at this time.

11. NEXT MEETINGS

Next meeting will be on March 4, 2022

12. ADJOURNMENT

12.1 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: [22916GA] MSC: M. Nixon/J. Carter
Carried
BIMT the General Assembly adjourns the meeting of February 11, 2022.