

GENERAL ASSEMBLY



MINUTES

2nd MEETING OF 2021-2022

AUGUST 16, 2021 AT 6:00 PM

Meeting ID: 928 1812 2894

Passcode: 988385

THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE STUDENTS' UNION - 4401 UNIVERSITY DR - RM SU180 - LETHBRIDGE AB, T1K 3M4
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS - 17 VOTING MEMBERS (QUORUM IS 10 VOTING MEMBERS)

BRENNA SCOTT – CHAIR, **HOLLY KLETKE** - PRESIDENT, **MARK SEREBYANSKY** – VP OPERATIONS & FINANCE, **AMY MENDENHALL** - 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, **VACANT** – EDUCATION REP, **JOHN CARTER** - RESIDENCE REP, **ALEXANDRA DODD** – FINE ARTS REP, **VACANT**– HEALTH SCIENCES REP, **MITCHELL NIXON** – DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, **MICHELLE KILDAW** – DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS REP, **LIONEL MIGRINO** – CALGARY CAMPUS REP, **VACANT** - INDIGENOUS REP, **ARABA ADENU-MENSAH** – INTERNATIONAL REP, **VACANT** – 1ST YEAR REP.

ATTENDANCE: **JONATHAN DIAZ** – CHAIR, **HOLLY KLETKE** - PRESIDENT, **MARK SEREBYANSKY** – VP OPERATIONS & FINANCE, **AMY MENDENHALL** - 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, **JOHN CARTER** - RESIDENCE REP, **ALEXANDRA DODD** – FINE ARTS REP, **MITCHELL NIXON** – DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, **MICHELLE KILDAW** – DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS REP, **LIONEL MIGRINO** – CALGARY CAMPUS REP, **ARABA ADENU-MENSAH** – INTERNATIONAL REP.

ABSENT:

GUESTS: **MIKE MAHON, NANCY ALKER, ERASMUS OKINE, KATHY GREENWOOD, DENA MCMARTIN**

1. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** - *Jonathan*
Jon gave the Blackfoot land acknowledgement.

2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

2.1 **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

MOTION [22831EC]

MSC: M. Serebryansky/L. Migrino

BIMT the General Assembly adopts the agenda of August 16, 2021.

Carried

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION [22832EC]

MSC: M. Ali/R. Lindblad

BIMT the General Assembly approves the minutes of May 19, 2021.

Carried

4. CHAIR REMARKS - *Jonathan Diaz*

Glad to be Chairing tonight's meeting. I hope everyone is enjoying their summer. Goodluck to you for your year.

5. PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

5.1 PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Please welcome the President's Executive to our meeting. *Mike, Nancy, Kathy, Erasmus, Dena*

We want to acknowledge the great work done by the Students' Union. We all know it has not been easy. Student's mental health has been a challenge as well as food insecurity, along with many other challenges. Students have been tremendously resilient. We are working hard behind the scenes.

- We have been communicating over the summer. Facilities has been taking a staged approach to start opening up buildings and to make sure the university doesn't feel like an encampment. Our facilities have been working hard and have made some significant improvements. Their team has been working hard so that when we fully open, building practices, hand sanitizers etc. are all in place. On the academic front, we are looking at the best way to transition with the fall term. We have worked hard on cleaning and moving students from class to class. Mandatory masks are not mandated by the province, but we plan on having people wear masks on campus until the end of the term, and then we will evaluate as things move along.
- What is going on with vaccinations? We are in intense deliberations over it. I was hoping to tell you something concrete this evening but we have more work to do. We are working in collaboration with the U of A and hope to report within 24 hours.
- We are trying to be thoughtful and do our due diligence to ensure this is a good place to be. We work with the U of C and U of A on many levels.
- I'm very optimistic that we will be doing everything in our power to stay open this semester. We will have to take a critical look at events this year to ensure our population is safe and healthy. There will be the desire to be fully open but also nervousness amongst the campus population over different things.

Q&A

- Have you been given directions from the government over the vaccine mandate? We have not been given a specific mandate from the government. We have not received any information regarding outbreaks yet either, or any other direction from the provincial government on any direction from the fall.
- There is no mechanism in place that requires students to get vaccinated to return to campus. We are working hard within our conversations with U of C and U of A. We were hoping that it would have been sorted out before tonight but it wasn't
- What accommodation will be in place for immunocompromised or if they can work remotely? Yes, we have been working on technology to support this. There will be tech in place on how to train courses in the classroom, to be at the discretion of the instructor. We should remember that the instructor will be responsible for the delivery of the content. If students can't attend, the instructors will be sharing the content. YUJA technology has been put in place.
- We are aware that accommodations are in place.
- What are your thoughts on appointing students on committees? What are the thoughts on Senior Admin in relations of that committee? We have seen this as multi-prong. We continue to think about this as we move forward. What we try to do is to ensure folks are engaged and aware of the conversation. At no times are we trying to play games. We want to learn with the issues are. If you have thoughts on how we can do things better please let us know. We just did the terms of reference for the Health and Safety Advisory Committee. If you have ideas on how students can be represented, please let us know. We are trying to make sure this committee is more active. Please submit any recommendations so we can have a look at it.
- Have you looked into different models? We have looked into different models and primarily moving back to having classes in person. Most students want to do this but we didn't make the decision lightly. If we made the decision to go to a hybrid model, it would be a very expensive model and would have challenged the institution beyond our ability. The online experience has some negative aspects. The face-to-face construct is the best way to go and we decided that would be best for this university.
- The Accommodating Learning Centre was already over worked pre-COVID. Students will have mental health issues as they come back to campus that they didn't have before. Will you be able to support disable students as we open up? We recognize that the return to campus will not be perfect and we will have to assess where resources will be allocated. The transition will require a village. We will need to recognize where the challenges are and find support.
- What places will be accessible? Will we have to wear masks in units? You will still be required to wear masks if you are outside of your own residence but not in your own. Not sure about different buildings. We will also have isolation rooms for residence, we are at 95% booked. We have made arrangements with hotels so if people need to, they can go there. We have a very detailed FAQ but it hasn't gone out yet. It will come out within the next few days and it will provide more details on what you have asked.

- Will there be masks and social distancing in studio if everyone has been vaccinated? We have 10 pages of questions from Fine Arts and we are in conversation about these so please stay tuned. There will still be spaces within classes if they are doing online classes.
- In the event of a lockdown, what will happen to students in residence? We are hoping that we don't have to shut down residence.
- What protocols will be in place for contact tracing? Our team is still in deliberations, our plan is to contact trace even if the province moves away from it.
- How will proper masking be enforced? We know the situation and will have policy in place, it will be made very clear.
- Thanks for inviting us this evening. Keep reaching out if you have questions, we want to make sure you have all of the information. We are working through some important considerations. Thanks to my team for attending this meeting.

5.2 QIP – LAPTOPS FOR THE LIBRARY - Mark

Early start program and Library laptops.

Mark – I'm presenting on their behalf because they couldn't attend the meeting tonight. This is a proposal for MacBooks, the specs are all in the document. These machines see a lot of wear and tear and that's why we made the decisions to use MacBooks. \$4500 seems like a tall ask but the last time money was approved for laptops in the library from QIP was in 2010. Everyone can use these laptops. The amount in this proposal was from me suggesting to them about presenting a reasonable ask. We are suggesting they request funding more frequently but they can't have new laptops every year. They will handle all of the upkeep and we will just have a one-time purchase.

5.3 QIP – EARLY START MENTORING (Insert) – Shae

We are looking at what is reasonable and cost effective. The attached proposal has all of the information in there.

6. REPORTS (Insert 6)

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

6.1 VP OPERATIONS & FINANCE – Mark

A. Report

- We approved the Fresh Fest budget.
- Implemented Health and Dental changes.
- Attended CAUS Counterparts.
- GFC committee.
- Attended a Board meeting.
- Sizzling with Serebryansky on Zoom.
- ULSU revitalization plan.

B. Financial Update

- Things are slow but once we get traffic through the building it will pick up with revenue.
- QIP proposal for FF was approved by the University.
- The audit will be on the September GA meeting agenda.
- FF tickets are selling fast.

6.2 VP STUDENT AFFAIRS – Amy

- I've spent a lot of time in COCA meetings for campus events. I'm on the Board.
- Fresh Fest has taken up a lot of my time.
- Working with clubs and organizations getting them set up.
- Cleaned out the club rooms and they are ready for meetings.
- Organizing Club Rush Week, it will be spread out so Art clubs will be in the Arts building etc.
- There is a food bank fundraising at the Backstreet.
- Planning our NSO activities.
- Attended CAUS with the executive. It was fun.
- Tried to do Ahead of the Herd.
- If you have not completed your sexual violence forms, please send them to me.
- Clubs are starting to ratify very slowly.
- After Fresh Fest, my goal is to start working on the haunted house.
- Taking into consideration of different clubs, I've been asking them where they want to set up during Rush Week.

6.3 VP ACADEMIC – Becca

- We had a follow up meeting on questions that have been raised from students.
- Met with AUPE, GSA and ALF about returning to campus.
- Holly and I made a document for proposed information so that academic success isn't compromised when we return to campus.
- Attended CAUS counterparts in Lethbridge.
- Cayley and I met with the university about academic offences.
- Attended an Inclusive Practices Working Group Committee meeting.
- EC compiled an action plan.
- Met with Cayley to go over her initiatives.
- Working on an infographic for academic offences.
- Working on Mental Health.
- Created a survey for student's academic performance as they return to university in the fall.
- Created a couple of resource sheets so far, they are supposed to be a one-stop-shop for resources.
- Will be doing research on rights and responsibilities.
- Starting to think about Re-fresh.

6.4 VP EXTERNAL – Ryan

- Met with Demetrius about affordability and campus sexual violence. They will be creating a working group on how they deal with it and will largely be student led.
- Have been meeting with CAUS and began to work out our priorities.
- Met with CASA continually as well. Please review the priorities that I've sent out. The vote won't be until next week.
- Attended CAUS Counterparts in Lethbridge, it was great.
- We will be having a federal election within 34 days.
- Will be working on the Get out the Vote campaign.
 - We are trying to get students to vote.
 - I will be having a meeting to work on a document that goes along with the campus sexual violence policy.

6.5 PRESIDENT – Holly

- Attended CASA Poli Strat.
- Elected secretary on policy committee.
- Attended CAUS Counterparts.
- Hoping to discussing COVID plans for PSE.
- Representing students in Ottawa for dual Citizenship.
- Working with Becca on mandatory guidelines.
- Attended a Health and Safety Advisory Council meeting.
- Attended many meetings.
- Currently attended a leadership conference.
- Attended a bunch of training.
- Will be working on Get out the Vote with Ryan
- The recommendation that Becca and I drafted from the COVID survey will be endorsed by Kathleen Massy.
- We will be following up with the Learning Centre.

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

- Nothing to report.

6.7 DSOB - Mitchel or Michelle

- Mitchell has been doing a lot in the club but nothing for the ULSU yet. Michelle has been doing back-to-back classes.

6.8 FINE ARTS – Alexandra

- Gearing up for the year, student Fine Arts Council. Would like to establish more of a community within the department.

6.9 INTERNATIONAL – Araba

- Someone reached out to me about a virtual event and I will send you the link. I am thinking about how to spread the word.

6.10 RESIDENCE – John

- Working on the ORS Fresh Fest event. I will be meeting with Cheri to iron out some details so the event is as smooth as possible.

6.11 CALGARY CAMPUS – Lionel

- Campus re-open at August 30th
- Campus security is posted at the doors from 6:30 am – 6:30 pm and will ask to see your staff/student ID and will take your name and ID number down to keep track of who has been in the building.
- Mask in the classroom is a must for everyone
- Working with BVC to make the transition smooth

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

7.1 MAILBOX BALLOT

June 16, 2021

QIP - FRESH FEST

MSC: A. Mendenhall/H. Kletke

BIMT the General Assembly approves the maximum expenditure of \$50,000 to go towards Fresh Fest programming. Monies to come from *QIP - Student initiatives*.

Carried

NOTES:

As the VPSA, I am motioning to approve the QIP funding for Fresh Fest, which is why the number on the motion is smaller than the number in the budget. If you don't remember from transition weekend QIP (Quality Initiatives Programming) is the money that the University supplies to us to go towards large-scale student initiatives and events. The rest of the budget will be covered from a few different budget lines, sponsorships, reserves, and the money we make on liquor and ticket income from the event. If you have any questions, let myself or Holly know.

7.2 EXECUTIVE ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE - Holly

I will be striking the EAC today. The objective of this committee is to keep the Executive Council accountable. In the past they send out a survey but if you have a better idea then that could be implemented instead. Shae, Madi, Araba, Jennifer, Cayley, Elisha would like to be on the committee.

7.3 TRANSITION COMMITTEE – Becca

I will be striking up the Transition Committee. Looking for members to sit on the committee. If you need more information, please reach out to me or raise your hand if you are interested.

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

None at this time.

9. ITEMS FOR ACTION: ULSU BUSINESS

9.1 SPECIAL FUNDING BUDGET LINE - Holly

Unfortunately, we didn't get the grant money from Coca Cola this year because we didn't meet the sales quota as agreed upon in our contract with them. We brainstormed a solution. We have \$25,000 in a CIBC account that we have never used. We rarely dip into our reserves budget line, and we've only used it 3 times in the last 15 years. We are not the only organization who has had to do this, this year. We recommend transferring \$15,000 from this account into our special funding budget line.

Comments:

- We have more reserves than the \$25,000 but using it is precedent for times like this.
- We are still selling Coca Cola product but the funding is on pause this year. In two years, our contract will be up and at that time we can readdress the agreement we have with them.
- Think of it as a penalty from us not meeting the contract.
- Jim Booth is renegotiating their contract with them which will open it up to us as well.
- Would this be a good opportunity to look into Pepsi? Yes, that is an option.

MOTION [22833EC]

MSC: H. Kletke/M. Serebryansky

BIMT the General Assembly approve the transfer of funds from the rainy-day account in a CIBC account to our operational account to cover the loss of monies not received this year for special funding.

Carried

9.2 QIP – LIBRARY LAPTOPS – Mark

Comments:

- This is a great idea and would like to help out with the library, wondering why the university isn't helping them?
- The laptop is one service they use and we don't know what their policy is.

- What about up care costs?
- We don't have to worry about up care, they have other resources for that.

MOTION [22834EC]

MSC: M. Serebryansky/M. Kildaw

BIMT the General Assembly approve the maximum expenditure of \$4,500 to purchase 3 MacBooks for the U of L Library. Monies to come from QIP - Student Clubs and Organizations.

Carried

9.3 QIP - EARLY START PROGRAM – Shae

This will be the third year this program has been running.

MOTION [22835EC]

MSC: S. Dauncey/E. Wong

BIMT the General Assembly approve the maximum expenditure of \$1,220 to support the U of L Early Start Program. Monies to come from QIP - Student Clubs and Organizations.

Carried - Shae abstained

9.4 INDIGENOUS INCLUSION EVENT – Amy

There was a pow wow event planned but we are replacing the powwow and hiring a performer. The money is to pay for them and some contingency. We might not spend it all but if we don't spend it all we could donate it to the Blackfoot confederacy. We are on Blackfoot Territory and I wanted to acknowledge that and show appreciation. We want to bring in a touch of what Indigenous culture is all about. I will be making sure that everything is COVID safe for the artists who are coming. It will be out by the smoke stacks by Urban Market. There is no alcohol involved. I feel it's important for people to see that they can live their culture. Noah is a powerful voice and people will like hearing from him. I've been in constant communication with the Indigenous community to make sure I'm doing everything correctly.

MOTION [22836EC]

MSC: A. Mendenhall/M. Ali

BIMT the General Assembly approve the maximum expenditure of \$4180 for an Indigenous Inclusion Event at Fresh Fest. Monies to come from special funding.

Carried

9.5 ZOO A/V SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS – Mark

We have a sports bar and the TVs and A/V system isn't working properly. This will be a step forward to generate revenue. Shawn got these quotes for us.

Comments:

- We have the capacity to do karaoke but I don't know if we will be doing it. Please reach out to Shawn if he plans on doing it or not.
- What shape is the microphone in, is it an expense that we need to spend right now?
- We are still green lit to go this year, dirty bingo, karaoke and aside from microphones, these things have been neglected for a long time. We are welcoming people back to campus and feel things should be working properly.
- It would be nice if we could start using the ballrooms again for weddings and conferences.
- Clubs use the equipment all the time too.
- Most importantly, we have had such a problem with our equipment that we've had to use IT's equipment but it is no longer available for us to use.
- We had huge issues with A/V at CAUS counterparts, we had to hold up our laptops in order for people hear. It would help with our hosting abilities so we are professional.
- Think of this as saving money in the future. This has been a productive discussion. We want to rely on external funding when we can but only when we do long term planning. This particular case is something that we need to get approved within our own budget. Usual sponsorship goes toward something that is brand new, this motion is just for replacement items that is broken. This is a light drop in the bucket for the CRF.

MOTION [22837EC]

MSC: M. Serebryansky/S. Dauncey

BIMT the General Assembly approve the maximum expenditure of \$4,816.35 for improvements to the A/V system in the Zoo. Monies to come from CRF.

Carried

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Ryan – Get out the Vote is coming up. Please think about it and email me but is there anything that any of you would like to help with?

Mark – the September by-election is coming up, please put the word out.

11. NEXT MEETING

TBD

Our meetings will take place in a hybrid format. If you attend in the council chambers, please bring your masks.

12. ADJOURNMENT

12.1 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION [22838EC]

MSC: H. Kletke/J. Carter

BIMT the General Assembly adjourn the meeting of August 16, 2021.

Carried