

ULSU GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

MINUTES

September 25, 2023 | 6:00 PM MST

MEETING #5 | 2022-2023

IN-PERSON: RM SU 180 - 4401 University Dr. W, Lethbridge AB T1K 3M4

ZOOM: <https://ulsu-ca.zoom.us/j/84129390236?pwd=a21pUVFnNWZOYXBXMWpmS3JFbzZBdz09>

VOTING MEMBERS: PRESIDENT - **MALEEKA THOMAS** | VP OPERATIONS & FINANCE - **RIKIN PATEL** | VP STUDENT LIFE - **YEWOE SACKY-FORSON** | VP ACADEMIC - **BRITTANY ALLEN** | VP EXTERNAL - **RACHELE PRESTON** | ARTSCI REP - **ELISHA WONG** | ARTSCI REP - **WEZI MUTAMBO** | ARTSCI REP - **JUSTIN MA** | ARTSCI REP - **JONAH PICKLE** | ARTSCI REP - **RAVEN HUERY** | ARTSCI REP - **VIDHISHA WAGLE** | FINE ARTS REP - **MASON HILL** | HEALTH SCI REP - **LEO OCHIENG** | EDUCATION REP - **MARIA MONTESINOS** | DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS REP - **ANKIT MUKHERJEE** | DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS OF REP - **TAKREEM GHOURI** | CALGARY CAMPUS REP - **TEJASWANI KHURANA** | INDIGENOUS REP - **FOSTER WRIGHT** | INTERNATIONAL REP - **ANNIE EBENMELU** | RESIDENCE REP - **TYLER ANDERSEN** | FIRST-YEAR REP - **TBD - BY-ELECTION IN SEPTEMBER**

NON-VOTING MEMBERS: GENERAL MANAGER - **CHERI POKARNEY** | OPERATIONS COORDINATOR - **TRACY MERRIFIELD** | COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR - **MAX BARTLETT**

CHAIR: ROYAL ADKIN - **SCRIBE:** CHERI POKARNEY [-su.manager@uleth.ca](mailto:su.manager@uleth.ca)

ABSENT: Tejaswani Khurana, Tracy Merrifield

1. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** (2 minutes) - Royal Adkin

Oki and welcome to the 5th meeting of the ULSU General Assembly. Our University's Blackfoot name is Iniskim, meaning Sacred Buffalo Stone. The University is located in traditional Blackfoot Confederacy territory. We honour the Blackfoot people and their traditional ways of knowing and caring for this land, as well as all Indigenous peoples who have helped shape and continue to strengthen our university community.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** (1 minute)

2.1 **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

BIMT the General Assembly approves the agenda for September 25th, 2023.

MOTION: [23122]

MSC: J. Pickle/R. Huery

Carried

3 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (1 minute)

3.1 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

No minutes at this time.

4. CHAIR REMARKS (2 minutes) - *Royal*

Welcome back everyone. I'm happy to hear that the GA orientation went well, it's nice when everyone is on the same page and working with mutual respect. It's nice that you are all collaborating together as a team to get work done. For this year I will attempt to effectively move things along on the agenda during our meetings so that we will accomplish more, but in a reasonable timeline.

5. PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL (10 minutes)

5.1 ULSU BY-ELECTION - *Max*

Candidates spoke on their platforms and the GA made their selections by voting anonymously for our First-Year Rep. We had some amazing candidates and we would like to thank the students for their interest and participation in the SU election. The successful candidate is Emi Mundell. Congratulations Emi and welcome to the ULSU team!

6. REPORTS (30 minutes)

6.1 VP OPERATIONS & FINANCE - *Rikin*

- Emergency and Travel Grants over the last few weeks.
- Breakfast with the new president.
- GFC meeting and reception.
- Met with the Board of Governors Chair, Dean Gallimore.
- Volunteered for NSO.
- Worked and assisted with Fresh Fest.

6.2 VP STUDENT LIFE - *Yewoe*

- Fresh Fest was a success!
- GFC prep.
- Connections Cafe.
- Breakfast with the President.
- GA Orientation.
- Planning the hotdog eating contest.
- Planning the FF Recognition Dinner.
- Planning Halloween.
- Planning the first Clubs Council meeting.

6.3 VP ACADEMIC - Brittany

- Organized the Textbook-Broke campaign, over 2500 people submitted to the survey of the undergraduate population.
- Meeting with Deans and planning future one-on-one meetings.
- NSO.
- Fresh Fest.
- Organizing the Mental Health Week which will be from October 16-20th.
- Attended lots of committee meetings.

6.4 VP EXTERNAL - Rachele

- Working with CASA to prepare for the September E-Plenary meeting.
- Preparing for CASA Advo-Week in November.
- CAUS meetings.
- Talked with Kathleen Massey's office about the Sexual & Gender Violence Survey results.
- Meetings about the 45th general election in Canada.
- Attended numerous committee meetings.

6.5 PRESIDENT - Maleeka

- Attended numerous meetings.
- Rachele and I attended the Advanced Education School Administration meeting.
- Discussion with the student affairs office regarding the Sexual & Gender Violence Survey results.
- Working on CASA EDI.
- Working on a document on food insecurity.
- Creating an executive action plan.
- Internal advocacy meetings, such as mandatory non-instructional fees.

6.6 ARTS AND SCIENCE REPS - Elisha, Justin, Jonah, Wezi, Raven, Vidhisha

- Raven - Volunteered and worked FF, helped out with the Connections Cafe, meeting with the Arts & Science Dean and the Arts & Science Council meeting. Meeting with Brianna in Housing about creating a LGBTQ+ group.
- Wezi - FF volunteering, committee meetings, Arts & Science meeting, GA orientation, looking for additional support for combined degrees, would like to get the Club X Series started in November.
- Jonah - Dean's team meeting, Arts & Science Executive Committee meeting, volunteering at FF, working on getting my initiatives in order to propose to the EC. Would like to host a martial arts event, and perhaps ratify the club again.
- Justin - Attended the Arts & Science Curriculum Committee, meeting with the Dean's team, Arts & Science Council meeting, GA orientation, would like to collaborate with the other A & S Reps on events and initiatives.
- Vidhisha - attended the same meetings as the other A & S Reps, Mental Health Wellness Committee meeting,

6.7 FINE ARTS REP - Mason

- Helped with new student move-in.
- Interdepartmental collaborations on events.
- Working on a communications platform for my constituents.
- Attended six different meetings.
- Represented a student on an issue regarding safety.

6.8 HEALTH SCIENCE REP - Leo Ochieng

- Helped out at FF and Club Rush.
- GA Orientation.
- Faculty of Health Science meeting with the associate deans, and deans.
- GFC meeting.

6.9 EDUCATION REP - Maria Montesinos

- Attended several meetings including a transition meeting with Rachele.
- I spoke at NSO as the Education Rep.
- Meeting with the Dean of the Faculty of Education.
- Currently working at giving Lisa, the Education Faculty Dean, some feedback on the expanding horizon possibility commitment that will be coming out later this year.
- Attended the Community Bridge Lab Showcase where I got to hear a research project done by an education student on the queer experience of student teaching in Southern Alberta, so that student and I are currently working on meeting with the dean and assistant deans for her to present it. The end goal is for her to do a little PD session about it to the rest of the faculty.

6.10 DHILLON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS REP - Ankit, Takreem

- Ankit - DSB NSO, assisted with move-in, worked Fresh Fest, GFC, tabled at the career fair, DSB council, working on career fair specific to business students, GA Orientation.
- Takreem - *Absent*

6.11 CALGARY CAMPUS REP - Tejaswani

Absent

6.12 INDIGENOUS REP - Foster

- Working with Iikaiskini Indigenous Services and also the Gathering Place on hosting more events, Red Dress event is coming up.
- Sat in a First-Nations Health Committee meeting.
- Met with Jody Wilson-Raybould.
- All My Relations meeting.
- First Nation Health Authority (FNHA) Urban Development meeting.
- Iniskim Welcome Event
- Meeting with Kaleb Child.
- Meeting with Francis "Niinaisipistoo" First Charger

6.13 INTERNATIONAL REP - Annie

- Attended committee meetings, Senate Retreat, GFC, went to Waterton with Maleeka for the International Students Retreat, Administration Standard Committee meeting, worked FF, GA orientation, attended the International Students Dinner and participated in the panel for that event, Connections Cafe, tabled for the Career Fair.

6.14 RESIDENCE REP - Tyler

- Move-in went really well this year. We received so many compliments from both the parents and the students, and the team did an amazing job. Shoutout to the 2023/2024 ORS team for all the hard work they did.
- My first event, the Supersized Slip n Slide went really well. We had a large attendance of both residents and off campus guests.
- I got to help out with the first dirty bingo of the year which was a wonderful opportunity to get to form meaningful connections with some of my constituents and other SU members.
- Hard at work trying to track down bussing for the ORS Winter Formal in November, as well as working on other details related to that.
- Currently working on putting together a residence wide Smash Bros tournament and Stampeders game trip on October 13th.
- Attending a meeting with the Mental Health Committee.
- Excited to work with LPIRG to help deliver food they have donated to residence to each facility.

6.15 FIRST-YEAR REP - Emi

Emi was newly elected and will report at the next GA meeting.

7. ITEMS FOR ACTION: ULSU BUSINESS (10 minutes)

7.1 SUSPENDING BYLAW 19: 1.1 - Maleeka

- We are moving to suspend, bylaw 19: 1.1. Last year the EC did not strike up LRC to make the adequate changes.

BIMT the GA approve of the suspension for 1.2 and 1.1 on the agenda.

MOTION: [23123] MSC: R. Preston/B. Allen

Carried

7.2 CASA ADVO CONFERENCE - Rachele

BIMT the General Assembly approve \$8389.54 for Rachele Preston and Maleeka Thomas to attend the CASA ADVO Week in Ottawa in November from the 17th to the 26th. Monies to come from the Travel and Conference Budget line.

MOTION: [23124]

MSC: A. Ebenmelu/R. Patel

Carried

7.3 BY-ELECTION

BIMT the General Assembly vote for the First-Year Representative in the By-Election. Congratulations to Emi Mundell as our successful First-Year Rep for the remaining 2023-2024 academic year.

MOTION: [23125]

MSC: F. Wright/T. Andersen

Carried

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

9. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION (10 minutes)

9.1 FORMAL COMPLAINT COMMITTEE- Brittany

- Updating everyone on the committee. We had some formal conversations about this committee and I can now list the names of the members. The committee will consist of the following designates:

Maleeka
Rachele
Brittany
Foster
Raven
Cheri

Alternates: Rikin, Yewoe, Mason, Wezi, Tracy

BIMT the General Assembly approve of this committee to consist of only elected members, and no staff involvement.

MOTION: [23126]

MSC: J. Ma/W. Mutambo

Motion Failed

BIMT the General Assembly approve of this committee being open to all elected members of the General Assembly.

MOTION: [23127]

MSC: J. Ma/W. Mutambo

Motion Failed

- Tyler - It's important to make the numbers proportionate.
- Annie - Everyone was given a chance to say whether or not they wanted to be on this committee. Trying to add more students would potentially force more GA to feel like they have to participate in the committee.
- Rachele - We did have more people from the GA come forward than there were spots available on the committee, but that's how it operates for all committees.
- The capacity of people was placed appropriately. Not everyone gets selected as a primary delegate on a committee.

BIMT the General Assembly choose to end the voting on this matter; call to question.

MOTION: [23128] MSC: F. Wright/R. Preston

Carried

Noted - Jonah Pickle would've preferred to continue the discussion on this matter.

BIMT the General Assembly approve that non-executive General Assembly members hold at least 50% of the power on the Formal Complaint Committee.

MOTION: [23129] MSC: J. Ma/W. Mutambo

Motion Failed

Noted - Jonah Pickle and Justin Ma wish to have it noted that they are in favour of this motion.

9.2 TRC VOLUNTEERS FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION WEEK - *Foster*

- It's TRC week this week, it's an emotional time and the Iikaiskini Centre is wondering if ULSU members could walk to the center and meet face-to-face with the other members and offer to volunteer time.

9.3 TRANSITIONING ULSU TO AN INTEGRATED WORK SYSTEM - *Justin*

- It takes a lot of time to do the when-to-meet calendars and to constantly update schedules. I was wondering if we should perhaps use another integrated system for better tools for communication. We could do project management as well. Outlook and Teams would be a better option than utilizing Slack and Zoom. We need a better system.
- Rachele - suggested that Justin speak with Max for some reference.
- Maleeka - most of the office uses Teams, but for now not all of the GA utilize their calendars or use Microsoft.

- Tyler - I agree with Justin in that having communications on multiple platforms can be difficult, perhaps we should consider Discord as clubs are already using it as well as academics.
- Ankit - Having a centralized space to put all the initiatives and project management information for collaboration would be ideal.
- Mason - I agree that using a unified technology is ideal but I don't know if it's realistic for the whole team. There are different commitment levels and demand depending on everyone's organizational levels.
- Raven - Based on my experience, the biggest issue is that people have different preferences for what works for them.
- Maleeka - I'm open to moving to Teams but everyone has to be on board. Engagement is a big piece and we don't always get that.
- Rikin - At first I wasn't used to Slack, but then I got used to it. I think we need to fit ourselves into our roles and learn the programs that are being used. Also, we asked GA members to send their schedules, but only a few sent them in, so yes, engagement is an issue.
- Mason - Is it worth the time it takes on the GA to learn a new technology?
- Justin - Moving to Microsoft Tools makes it an easy transition since we are already using it for classes. On Teams if there is a group of people on chat, we can communicate better because things are more connected.
- Further conversations will continue on this matter.

9.4 CASA CAMPUS VISIT - *Maleeka*

- CASA does advocacy campus visits and they are coming October 16th. They will potentially have a booth set up to answer questions from our constituents. They will talk about priorities on a federal level and push forward the student movement.

10. IN-CAMERA - *(0-30 minutes)*

Any business discussed while in-camera is privileged and confidential. Any discussion will not be recorded, however, motions made in-camera will be noted. If you are attending virtually, please ensure you are in a private location or that you are using a headset that ensures privacy and confidentiality are maintained. No business discussed in-camera is to be discussed once the motion is passed to move ex-camera.

11. OTHER BUSINESS *(0-10 minutes)*

Rachele - If you don't have access to the GA google drive please let me know.

Maleeka - We will be striking up the GA Bonding Committee at the next meeting.

12. NEXT MEETING *(1 minute)*

The next GA meeting will be on October 16, 2023 at 6:00pm.

13. ADJOURNMENT *(1 minute)*

13.1 ADJOURNMENT

BIMT the General Assembly adjourns the meeting of September 25th, 2023.

MOTION: [23130]

Adjourned