

Students Nova Scotia	Board of Directors	students 
	<i>Meeting Minutes</i>	

Meeting Name:	Board Meeting		
Meeting Date:	July 9, 2013		
Meeting Time:	3:00 PM, AST		
Venue:	Call-in	City:	Halifax, NS
Attendees			
Primary and Secondary Delegates:	Darcy Shea (ASU), Matt Rios (ASU/Vice Chair), Matt Latimer (CBUSU), Brennan Boudreau (CBUSU), Jared Perry (SMUSA), Mike MacDonnel (SMUSA), Sagar Jha (DSU), Aaron Beale (DSU), Amy Brierley (SFXUSU)		
Other attendees:	Jonathan Williams (Executive Director), Brian Foster (Communications), Alexis Zederayko (Volunteer Recorder)		
Absent:	Ben Doerge (regrets), Kyle Power (Chair) (regrets)		
Quorum (50% of Members represented?): Yes			

- 1) Call to order
- 2) Roll call
- 3) Approval of Agenda  
Amended agenda **approved by general consent.**
- 4) Approval of June 19 Minutes

## DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL

BF (Comms.): Requests that the first item up for discussion (Alcohol Study) be moved to the last item.

MR (Vice-Chair): Is this a friendly amendment to the agenda? (*Yes.*) Therefore the first item shall become the fourth, the second the first, the third the second, and so on.

### 5) Discussion of election debate project

BF (Comms.): JW (ED) and I met with representatives from two parties. Hosting is something that we can push on, but it is not likely to happen. Likelihood of students leveraging in on it is slim.

MR (Vice-Chair): What are the opportunities for us to insert ourselves into the youth debate?

BF (Comms.): It will depend on who controls the elections. If CBC and media consortium hold debates, we will collaborate with them, and try to force our way in.

MR (Vice-Chair): Is satisfied with the process that staff has gone through.

AB (SFXUSU): Can BF expand on that process?

MR (Vice-Chair): Staff met with multiple parties. Commentary is that there is going to be only one debate.

AB (DSU): I spoke with my contact in the media, and discussed holding the debate. My contact echoed what BF said. I proposed exploring if there is some way to hold this debate down the road, but they never took us up on that.

MR (Vice-Chair): Can AB (DSU) please get in touch with BF regarding media contact? One of the topics covered at the Annual Planning Retreat (APR) will be about keeping in contact with politicians. Called for questions.

### 6) Possible StudentsNS employment campaign

BF (Comms.): We initially thought we'd raise issue by an ad buy. The idea evolved after extensive meetings with chamber of commerce and other groups. We are asking who wants to partner with StudentsNS on ads to raise the value of youth employment. We've talked to media consultants, and they say that targeted ads are better. Now, we're seeing who we can partner with. We want to lay some plans for the APR, but we also want to sketch a plan before moving forwards.

MR (Vice-Chair): Having spoken to JW (ED), I have heard some ideas from the staff, and they are excellent. Can BF come up with a summary to bring forward?

BF (Comms.): We want to bind onto a major discourse. We will have concrete examples for the APR.

MR (Vice-Chair): Does the Board feel that employment is still a main priority?

BF (Comms.): Noted that this is also following on a study that says that only 3% of employment growth is for people 45 years of age and under.

MM (SMUSA): Feels that it is important to stay positive, and stay provincial.

MR (Vice-Chair): It is a provincial campaign, and I'm not sure how to be positive about massive unemployment. This is about moving forward.

AB (DSU): Requested clarification regarding our specific policy ask.

MR (Vice-Chair): We identified it as our #3 policy initiative, and we hope to have a paper by the end of the year.

AB (DSU): Feels that we need to have a longer discussion regarding what we are asking for.

AB (SFXUSU): Noted agreement.

MR (Vice-Chair): APR is an excellent opportunity for those discussions to take place. Called for questions or further discussion. Heard none. Heard no dissent, so will direct staff to produce more tangible options and ideas to be reviewed at the APR. BF is comfortable with this? (*Yes*.)

7) Plans for Annual Planning Retreat for the subsequent week

MR (Vice-Chair): Requested that BR brief the Board on the topics to be discussed at this retreat.

BF (Comms.): I only know logistics. JW knows the agenda. Requested that Board members who have not yet confirmed attendance do so.

MR (Vice-Chair): There was frustration regarding attendance during planning/cancellation of LeaderLab. Attendance to this one is imperative. Will turn over the discussion of potential APR topics to the Board.

AB (SFXUSU): Are we thinking of moving forward with a lobbycon of our own?

AB (DSU): Reaching out to NSCC, maybe? (*Requested clarification: would you like and update, or to discuss potential consequences?*) I'd like to re-visit it as a strategy.

MR (Vice-Chair): Also, we could discuss it in terms of historical context.

ML (CBUSU): Legal issues for different SUs, and what StudentsNS can do to help out in the event of legal issues.

(*JW (ED) joined the meeting*)

MR (Vice-Chair): Perhaps the Board can keep providing ideas, then JW can add some that have been otherwise discussed. So far, we have discussed: hosting a lobbycon, reaching out to NSCC, and StudentsNS assisting SUs with legal matters. Called for further topics.

DS (ASU): Unpaid internships and provincial legislation surrounding them.

SJ (DSU): Closure on Mend the Gap, and more advocacy-oriented campaigns; what else can we mend?

AB (SFXUSU): An update from JW as to where we're moving forward with the sexual assault plan. (*That is the last item on today's agenda, originally the first item.*)

MR (Vice-Chair): An election strategy. Hearing no more, can JW please discuss some others that have been brought up in the past?

JW (ED): BF has access to the docs on my computer desktop. I unfortunately cannot access them at this moment, as I am in transit. Lots of what was mentioned was included. We're looking at substantial funding being available, so we should discuss what to do with that money. Also, internships, and general employment challenges. Something that would help staff is coming up with a definition of 'quality.' BF, can you please read any that I missed? (*You got them all.*)

MR (ASU): If there is anything that the Board wants to add, please send it to JW.

AB (DSU): Can a list of the topics be sent out? (*Yes.*)

JW (ED): Also to the added to that list: the funding we have for individuals on campus to help with student assemblies, and how those people will be recruited.

JP (SMUSA): Can we please add: Board expectations regarding attendance, etc.? (*Yes.*)

MR (Vice-Chair): I will call JW, and consolidate the list. I will have one sent out by Thursday or Friday.

8) Discussion of Alcohol Study best practices.

MR (Vice-Chair): Requested update.

JW (ED): I received confirmation on Friday that CBUSU and MSVUSU are on board. I still need amounts, but that is what the province wanted, since the DSU is not in. The province wanted the conference part out of the sexual assault proposal, and weren't thrilled that we took the training piece out. We're committed to fulfill study recommendations regarding training.

MR (Vice-Chair): Requested clarification.

JW (ED): It might be Right Serve, or some other form of training that is recommended, but we're committed to carry it out. \$25,000 has been allocated, and they've asked us to look for an additional funder.

MR (Vice Chair): Called for questions or comments.

BB (CBUSU): Why isn't the DSU on board?

SJ (DSU): We hold the liquor license for the entire university, and would have to get the whole university on board, which we are not willing to attempt.

MR (Vice-Chair): I would encourage the DSU again to work on this. There is lots of earnestness from the administration to work on this, and it is getting an endorsement from the universities. Is this correct, JW? (*Yes.*) Called for further questions. Heard none. Requested that staff circulate the information from FOIPOP regarding Liquor Board visits and infractions, as it is important for context; it contains data regarding how many visits, correlated with number of infractions. Maybe we can nail this down between now and April. Is that good with the Board? (*Yes.*)

## REPORTS

9) Reports of the Officers

a) Chair - Absent

b) Vice-Chair – Matthew Rios (ASU)

i) In contact with JW regarding the Annual Planning Retreat

ii) Was very disappointed about LeaderLab. It was great last year, and would love to reschedule it and discuss mutual expectations

iii) Election strategy is exciting

c) Treasurer - Absent

10) Reports of the staff

a) Executive Director – Jonathan Williams

i) Sent out monthly report last week

ii) Meeting with Elections Nova Scotia. Pursuing an interesting program to ensure that students can participate. Will discuss further at the APR.

iii) Interviewing co-op applicants

11) Reports of the members

a) ASU

- i) Working on our portfolio
- ii) Setting up meetings regarding unpaid internships
- iii) Setting plans for long-term projects like mental health

MR (Vice-Chair): SFXUSU and ASU are also having issues with unpaid internships and student loan interest mounting. We can discuss it further at the APR.

b) CBU

- i) Working on a couple of conferences. We sent 5 members to COCA; it was beneficial, and we learned a lot.
- ii) Wrapping up frosh week planning.
- iii) Meeting regarding CBU budget and financial results of last year
- iv) Mental Health campaign
- v) Boil orders abound on campus, although little explanation has been given for them

c) DSU

- i) Went to CASA
- ii) Peer support program
- iii) Coordinator positions
- iv) Advocacy review
- v) Orientation planning underway
- vi) Looking forward to building relationships with university administrators

d) SFXUSU

- i) CASA, COCA, and Campus Trust conferences
- ii) Wrapping up frosh week plans
- iii) Going through a search for a new university president. Big changes underway. Budget cuts. A crazy couple of months. Not as many classes available
- iv) Goal setting for strategic plans regarding mental health and sexual assault awareness

MR (Vice-Chair): Where are you with the tuition re-set? (*Will discuss further at APR.*)

e) SMUSA

- i) Campus will soon be tobacco-free. SMUSA is looking at campaigns to inform students
- ii) Family day
- iii) Meeting with Elections NS. They have lots of good things to say
- iv) Many good sponsorships and partnerships
- v) Marketing and events manager is resigning
- vi) An athlete from SMU passed away in Miami on Saturday

MR (Vice-Chair): The Board would like to convey its condolences.

Brennan Boudreau (CBUSU) **moved** and Darcy Shea (ASU) **seconded the motion to adjourn.**

**Motion passed by general consent.**

ADJOURNMENT