


Students Nova Scotia	Members	students 
	<i>Meeting Minutes</i>	

Meeting Name:	Annual General Meeting		
Meeting Date:	July 15, 2013		
Meeting Time:	1:15 PM, AST		
Venue:	Tatamagouche Centre	City:	Tatamagouche, NS
Attendees			
Primary and Secondary Delegates:	Darcy Shea (ASU), Matt Rios (ASU/Vice Chair), Matt Latimer (CBUSU/Incoming Treasurer), Jared Perry (SMUSA/Incoming Chair), Sager Jha (DSU), Aaron Beale (DSU), Amy Brierley (SFXUSU), Ben Gunn-Doerge (SFXUSU), Patrick Carruthers (SFXUSU/Outgoing Treasurer), Kyle Power (ASU/Outgoing Chair)		
Other attendees:	Amin Al-Turkistani (CBUSU), Jonathan Williams (Executive Director), Brian Foster (Communications)		
Absent:			
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 August 14, 2012 AGM Minutes

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL

5) Approval of Annual Report

KP (Outgoing Chair): tabled report and mentioned five major focuses outlined in the report: 1) Rebranding (including all intellectual and digital infrastructure) was successful; 2) Advocacy: had a strong 2012-2013 year; 3) Research and policy: released a number of policy papers and great research that is getting a lot of recognition; 4) Engagement: SMUSA is full member, well-run campaign by BF (Comms.) and others, who have done a good job at getting out to people; 5) Strategic Plan: this was completed. Floor opened to questions.

PC (Outgoing Treasurer): Where do you see the long term direction and how do you imagine us getting there?

KP (Outgoing Chair): Next provincial election means there may be new or current government and new financial picture as the economy rebounds. This will bring new money and energy to portfolios, including PSE. Remain focused on Advocacy. I think we need to focus tightly on a few things, rather than trying to do too much, so do a few things well and build on those. In a few years we'll have a policy basis moving forward. It's important to make sure the things we do we do well. Three things well rather than ten things. In the future, it's important to manage resources around these fewer more tightly organized goals.

AB (DSU): What do you see as our role in the Provincial Elections, what are the strategies specifically.

KP (Incoming Chair): We're in a good spot in that the election will happen during the school year. There are students in almost every district and we can make it relevant to all MLAs by bringing it to them. But perhaps more importantly we can speak to our students and ask them what they want. Let's not just focus on MLAs in our own district, but hit on every riding. Let's make PSE a broader issue with MLAs and the public. I've been on this board for four years and want to say I really appreciate the people I've worked with and think we've made a real difference. We're bigger, doing more; we've built this organization so it is constructive and stronger. For this organization, trust is the only currency our organization we have. We need to make sure that StudentsNS is a priority and prioritize what it does. We get out of it what we put in. So long as we're happy with the staff output alone, that is what we'll get. I thank the board for their indulgence and turn the floor over to someone younger and better looking than me moving forward.

MR (Vice-Chair): On behalf of the board we'd like to thank you for all your effort and say that we're all better off for it. We should be sure that you meet up with us when you return. Motion to approve annual report of chair?

Darcy Shea (ASU) **moved** and Jared Perry (SMUSA) **seconded the motion: Be it resolved** that the Board approves the Annual Report of the Chair.

Vote:

ASU – Yes

DSU - Yes

SMUSA – Yes

SFXUSU – Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

6) Approval of Financial Report

PC (Outgoing Treasurer): These are unaudited statements. Did a review engagement rather than an audit. Front page states that accountant has looked at our statements. 2012 are audited numbers. Our cash position improved over last year by \$27,000. See report for summary. We have \$8500 to play with. Cash flow statement in 2012: we had \$1200 available in net assets and a net loss of \$8,400. This year we ended up with an excess of revenue leaving us with \$10,000-\$11,000.

BG-D (SFXUSU): Requested clarification regarding the difference between restricted and unrestricted funds.

PC (Outgoing Treasurer): New statement of operations shows full breakout by member. There is more money and more responsibility. Expenditures: majority of expense was for website. Noted our banking expenses are higher substantially. Noted major concern moving forward is meeting expenditure. Must make sure we meet payroll. \$11,594 surplus on the year.

DS (ASU): Are there any recurring costs for the website?

BF (Comms.): About \$600-\$1000 a year for maintenance.

MR (Vice-Chair): Where should money be allocated to see strength?

PC (Outgoing Treasurer): Professional development and spending money meeting with people would both be areas I would see growth and good returns. Statement of cash flows: at beginning of year we started with \$8,500 and finished with over \$36,000. A good job was done by management. The only restriction is the contingency fund worth \$500.

KP (Outgoing Chair): I think the financials look strong. We've been holding our collective breath on the election.

SJ (DSU): What is in the office that's not rent? (printing, computers)

PC (Outgoing Treasurer): Overall expenses are fairly good.

SJ (DSU): I see the two major expenses are student assemblies and advertising (website).

PC (Outgoing Treasurer): The board felt that we were weak on the site: \$15,000 plus HST for the full rebrand. Regarding Student Assemblies: it was felt that they were important moving forward. The Student Assemblies funding came largely from auxiliary funding.

JW (ED): The student assembly also acts as a catchall that we should, as a category, improve next year.

MR (Vice-Chair): These assemblies are a major way of engaging students. We should likely put more onto it.

B G-D (SFXUSU): Are we doing anything to further our membership?

KP (Outgoing Chair): CASA has a specific member outreach line. We've been speaking with NSCCSAs. In NS, there is a finite number of potential members. We generally do what we do and don't focus too much on recruitment.

SJ (DSU): What's the prospect for external funding this year?

JW (ED): very good. We should be able to secure additional funding through D250 and through the province for sex assault study. The other thing on table is potential funding for employment partnerships and from province for various studies. Our strategic plan goal of 10% will be met or perhaps substantially exceeded.

Jared Perry (SMUSA) **moved** and Darcy Shea (ASU) **seconded the motion: Be it resolved** that the Board approves the Financial Report.

Vote:

ASU – Yes

DSU - Yes

SMUSA – Yes

SFXUSU – Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

7) Appointment of auditors for 2013-2014

PC (Outgoing Treasurer): Bluenose specializes in non-profits. They know our stuff, are very affordable and know our stuff. I recommend we maintain our relationship with them. Any questions about Bluenose? (*No.*)

BF (Comms.): I recommend staying with them. There is not a lot of risk with the organization. If the board sees fit to do an audit that is their discretion. We should keep with a review.

Ben Gunn-Doerge (SFXUSU) **moved** and Darcy Shea (ASU) **seconded the motion: Be it resolved** that Bluenose Accounting be appointed the 2014-15 fiscal year for a review engagement report.

Vote:

ASU – Yes

DSU - Yes

SMUSA – Yes

SFXUSU – Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

8) Appointment of Board of Directors for 2013-14 retroactive to May 1, 2013

JW (ED): Noted importance of listing members for Registry of Joint Stocks.

ASU: Matthew Rios and Darcy Shea

ASTSU: Anne Hoganson, Rachel Campbell and Jonathan LeBlanc

CBUSU: Matthew Latimer and Brennan Boudreau

DASA: Robyn McCallum

DSU: Sagar Jha, Aaron Beale and Patrick Visintini

SFXUSU: Benjamin Gunn-Doerge and Amy Brierley

SMUSA: Jared Perry and Michael MacDonell

9) Appointment of Chair

Aaron Beale (DSU) **moved** and Jared Perry (SMUSA) **seconded the motion** that the meeting be recessed until CBUSU's arrival to appoint a Chair.

Motion passed by general consent.

Recess.

Out of recess 3:00pm. (*CBUSU joining.*)

MR (Vice-Chair): Explained rules of nomination and elections. Chair reminded members that he cannot and would not run for chair position. Floor open for nominations for chair.

B G-D (SFXUSU): Nominated Jared Perry (SMUSA) for the position of Chair.

JP (SMUSA): Accepted the nomination.

AB (DSU): Seconded nomination of JP.

MR (Vice-Chair): Noted support for nomination of JP. Asked 3 more times for nominations.

JP (SMUSA): Thank you for the nominations. I've grown closer to this organization over the last year. Looking forward to engaging with staff and moving major items in strategic plan forward.

MR (Vice-Chair): Floor is opened for questions

B G-D (SFXUSU): What are your three top priorities for the year?

JP (SMUSA): Elections, making sure that student issues are being engaged. Second would be memberships, including talks with NSCC. General engagement and check-ins with members to see that their issues are being dealt with. Managing staff changes moving forward.

AB (SFXUSU): What is your plan for engaging with the individual associations?

JP (SMUSA): Campus visits. Regular meetings with staff and nurturing relations.

MR (Vice-Chair): Any other questions for JP?

DS (ASU): Called the question.

Vote:

ASU – Yes

CBUSU – Yes

DSU – Yes

SMUSA – Abstains

SFXUSU – Yes

Motion passed.

(Vice-Chair steps down as acting chair of Meeting. Jared Perry (Chair) assumes chair.)

10) Appointment of Treasurer

JP (Chair): Called for nominations.

ML (CBUSU): Nominated himself for the position of Treasurer.

SJ (DSU): Seconded nomination of ML (CBUSU).

JP (Chair): Called 3 times for further nominations. Heard none. Asked if ML would like to speak to his qualifications.

ML (CBUSU): Told board of his previous experience as a treasurer in other organizations.

JP (Chair): Called the vote.

Vote:

ASU – Yes

CBUSU – Abstains

DSU – Yes

SMUSA – Yes (by proxy via ASU)

SFXUSU – Yes

Motion passed.

11) Confirmation of appointment of Matthew Rios as Vice Chair, post-dated to May 16 2013

DS (ASU): Called the question.

Darcy Shea (ASU) **moved** and Aaron Beale (DSU) **seconded the motion: Be it resolved** that the Board confirms the appointment of Matthew Rios (ASU) as Vice Chair of Students NS for 2013-2014, post-dated to May 16th, 2013.

Vote:

ASU – Yes

CBUSU – Yes

DSU – Yes

SMUSA – Yes (by proxy via ASU)

SFXUSU – Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

Sagar Jha (DSU) **moved** and Darcy Shea (as proxy for SMUSA) **seconded the motion to adjourn.**

Motion passed by general consent.

ADJOURNMENT