


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

Meeting Name:	Board Meeting		
Meeting Date:	October 3, 2014		
Meeting Time:	2:18 P.M.		
Venue:	Conference Call	City:	Halifax
Attendees			
Primary and Secondary Delegates:	Scott Byrne (Vice President College Affairs/Kingstec NSCCSA), James Patriquin (President/SMUSA), Liam Murphy (ASU), Callie Lathem (ASU), Amali Armony (SMUSA), Sarah Hines (CBUSU), Katie Flynn (ASTSU-partial), Ramz Aziz (Vice President Administration/DSU-partial).		
Other attendees:	Jonathan Williams (Executive Director), Rachel Potter (Director of Engagement)		
Absent:	Vishwa Patel (DAGS), Alicia Cox (ASTSU), Jacqueline Skiptunis (DSU), Brandon Ellis (CBUSU), Benjamin Gunn-Doerge (StFXSU), Alicia Silliker (Vice President University Affairs/StFXSU), Brandon Hamilton (StFXSU), Bennett McNutt (CBUSU), Alexander Elderkin (Kingstec NSCCSA), Benjamin Gunn-Doerge (StFXSU).		
Quorum (50% of Members represented?): YES			

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Roll Call (4:55 on recording)
- 3) Approval of **agenda** (5:50 on recording)

Amended agenda approved **by general consent**

- 4) Approval of Minutes (7:45 on recording)
 - a. August 6, 2014
 - b. August 26, 2014

Moved by Kingstec-NSCCSA
Seconded by SMUSA

Abstention by ASTSU for not reading the minutes

Minutes **approved by general consent**

- 5) Timing for March (11:10 on the recording)

Overview: In the context of the Farewell to Nova Scotia campaign and the MOU negotiations, StudentsNS' Board prioritized a March in the annual plan. We are still seeking to finalize timing for a March, with board members identifying various possible dates via a doodle: <http://doodle.com/dzpn762euu62ms8m>.

Decision items: Select a date for StudentsNS' Farewell to Nova Scotia/MOU March.

Attachments: None.

Motion moved by ASU to set the date for Farewell to Nova Scotia/MOU March for November 6th 2014
ASTSU seconds
Motion passes by general consent

- 6) Participation in Memorandum of Understanding Consultation Process and November Student-Government Roundtable (16:40 on recording)

Overview: The Provincial Government notified student organizations on September 18 of their decision to exclude students from the table for direct negotiations with the universities for the creation of the 2015-18 MOU. In 2011, students sat as observers at the MOU Steering Committee table with university presidents and government. Instead, the Province will be pursuing a broad consultation process in advance of this MOU, meeting with students at the student-government roundtable, and meeting with universities at the partnership table. A draft version of the MOU will be prepared based on the feedback received in consultations and presented to students for feedback at a February Student-Government Roundtable, while the November Student-Government Roundtable will give students an opportunity to hear about the results of the consultations and provide feedback. Importantly, cabinet will almost certainly decide upon the total funding envelope and the funding distribution formula in December, as the universities must be informed of operating grant amounts by that month.

Decision items: (1) Whether to participate in the November and February Student-Government roundtables, (2) whether to participate in the MOU consultation process, (3) whether to encourage students to participate in the MOU consultation process.

Attachments: Description of consultation process provided by Department of Labour and Advanced Education.

Motion moved by ASU for Students Nova Scotia to participate Memorandum of Understanding Consultation Process in the fullest extent that we are allowed SMUSA seconds

Motion passes by general consent

7) Amendment to Governing Policies (49:20 on recording)

Overview: Currently there is no requirement for the VP Administration to present regular financial updates to the Board of Directors, which weakens the organization's financial accountability to the Board of Directors, as well as the organization's tracking of expenses relative to the budget. As well, regular performance reports are frequently circulated outside meetings by email and it is questionable whether they are read under these circumstances as much as would be wished.

Decision Items: Whether to amend Governing Policy 30 to add sub-clause f: *deliver a quarterly financial update to the Board of Directors at the beginning of July, October, January and April, which must be ratified by ordinary resolution and published on the StudentsNS website.* The Board of Directors could also choose to remove the VP Administration's regular reporting item from Board Meeting agendas in favour of the quarterly reports.

Attachments: Governing policies with proposed addition in track changes.

Motion moved by DSU to amend Governing Policy 30 to add sub-clause f: *deliver a quarterly financial update to the Board of Directors at the beginning of July, October, January and April, which must be ratified by ordinary resolution and published on the StudentsNS website.*

ASU seconds

Motion passes by general consent

8) Amendment to Board-Executive Director Relationship Policies (56:20 on the recording)

Overview: Presently, the Executive Director is required to submit monthly performance reports to the Board of Directors outlining the organization's activities and results. However, these reports have not been prepared since May, both because they are highly work intensive and also it is questionable whether they are being read.

Decision Items: Whether to amend Board-Executive Director Relationship Policies clause 5g to: *prepare quarterly reports to the Board of Directors in July, October, January and April regarding activities pursued and results obtained by Students Nova Scotia and assist with annual reporting, which must be ratified by Ordinary Resolution and published on the StudentsNS website;*

Attachments: Board-Executive Director Relationship Policies with proposed changes in track changes.

Motion moved by DSU to amend Board-Executive Director Relationship Policies clause 5g to: prepare quarterly reports to the Board of Directors in July, October, January and April regarding activities pursued and results obtained by Students Nova Scotia and assist with annual reporting, which must be ratified by Ordinary Resolution and published on the StudentsNS website;
SMUSA seconds
Motion passes by general consent

9) Appointment of student to Employer Award Steering Committee (01:00 on recording)

Overview: The Youth Employer Award Program is a priority in StudentsNS' Annual Plan, with a board member's participation on the Steering Committee identified as a measure of success. The Youth Employer Award seeks to recognize employers who are leaders in hiring and developing young employees here in Nova Scotia based on clear criteria. We are pursuing the project in partnership with Labour and Advanced Education, Fusion Halifax, the Greater Halifax Partnership, the Halifax Chamber of Commerce, and Nova Scotia Business Inc.

Decision Items: To appoint a Member of the Board of Directors to the Steering Committee of the Youth Employer Award.

Attachments: Description of the Youth Employer Award.

Motion moved by SMUSA to table the appointment of the Board of Directors to the Steering Committee of the Youth Employer Award.
Seconded by Kingstec-NSCCSA
Motion passes by general consent

10) Partnership with Digital Bridge Scholarship (1:04 on the recording)

Overview: Currently, students may take computer science as an optional credit, at some schools in Nova Scotia, but not to fulfill their requirements for math and science credits. Many students do not have an opportunity to learn about computer science or how it may be an option for them in university. Meanwhile, computer science is one area that may help students to work and live in Nova Scotia after graduation. The Digital Bridge Scholarship provides young Nova Scotians an opportunity to pursue courses in computer science while in high school, with the support of mentors across the province and private sector funding. More information on this program is available at <http://torusoft.com/blog/nova-scotia-digital-bridge-scholarship-proposal> or <https://bridgescholarship.ca/>. StudentsNS has been invited to be a marketing sponsor for this project, basically agreeing to endorse the program and support it through our social media. In exchange, we will receive recognition on the Digital Bridge website, with a sponsor profile page.

Decision Items: Whether to agree to be a Marketing Sponsor for the Digital Bridge Scholarship.

Attachments: None.

Motion moved by Kingstec-NSCCSA to agree to have Students Nova Scotia be a Marketing Sponsor for the Digital Bridge Scholarship.

ASU seconds

Motion passes by general consent

REPORTS (01:08:40 on recording)

Reports of the Officers

- President
- Vice President Administration

Reports of the Staff (01:12:20 on recording)

- Executive Director

Reports of the Members (01:18:20 on recording)

- ASTSU
- ASU
- CBUSU
- DSU
- Kingstec NSCCSA
- SFXUSU
- SMUSA

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT