


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

Meeting Name:	Board Meeting		
Meeting Date:	November 7, 2014		
Meeting Time:	2:19 P.M.		
Venue:	Conference Call	City:	Halifax
Attendees			
Primary Delegates:	Scott Byrne (VP College Affairs/Kingstec NSCCSA), James Patriquin (President/SMUSA), Liam Murphy (ASU), Callie Lathem (ASU) Jacqueline Skiptunis (DSU), Hamid Dhaduk (SMUSA), Brandon Hamilton (StFXSU), Alicia Silliker (Vice President University Affairs/StFXSU), Alexander Elderkin (Kingstec NSCCSA), Amali Armory (SMUSA - Partial), Benjamin Gunn-Doerge (StFXSU).		
Other attendees:	Jonathan Williams (Executive Director)		
Absent:	Alicia Cox (ASTSU), Brandon Ellis (CBUSU), Ramz Aziz (Regrets/Vice President Administration/DSU), Sarah Hines (CBUSU), Gorba Bhandari (SMUSA), Katie Flynn (ASTSU).		
Quorum (50% of Members represented?): YES			

- 1) Roll Call (5:00 on recording)
- 2) Call to order (6:10 on recording)
- 3) Approval of agenda (6:50 on recording)

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL

- 4) Recommendation to Postpone Farewell to Nova Scotia March indefinitely and postpone the alternative consultation student assemblies until the month of January (8:37 on recording)

Overview: At the previous meeting, the Board of Directors postponed the proposed March until November 28. Considering member commitment, feasibility, and changes in StudentsNS resources, however, we are recommending that the Board of Directors delay the march indefinitely and explore alternative, smaller-scale actions to bring attention to the GRR elimination and the MOU process. We are also recommending that the Board of Directors move the proposed alternative MOU consultations with students to January, in light of students' busy schedules at the end of November, and resource constraints at StudentsNS.

Decision items: (1) To cancel the proposed November 28 Farewell to Nova Scotia March, (2) to postpone the alternative consultations until January.

Attachments: None

Motion moved by StFXSU to postpone Farewell to Nova Scotia March indefinitely and postpone the alternative consultation student assemblies until the month of January

Seconded by Kingstec-NSCCSA

Motion passes unanimously

- 5) Co-author Editorial calling on the government to end cuts to university operating grants in partnership with President David Wheeler of CBU (23:35 on recording)

Overview: The Province has informed us that the decision on growth in university operating grants will be made by December and apply for multiple years. Every indication is that the grants will increase by 1% per year, which is inferior to inflation. We are recommending formally that the Board of Directors allow StudentsNS to release an Op-Ed in cooperation with David Wheeler of CBU, calling on the Province to end four consecutive years of real cuts to university operating grants and at least match inflation in funding.

Decision items: Whether staff and the President may work on an Opinion-Editorial in partnership with David Wheeler, calling on the Province to end its four consecutive years of real cuts to university operating grants.

Attachments: None.

Motion moved by StFXSU to allow staff and the President to work on an Opinion-Editorial in partnership with David Wheeler, calling on the Province to end its four consecutive years of real cuts to university operating grants.

Seconded by ASU.

DSU abstains – I can't see us having an interest in working with David Wheeler considering the state of his university right now and the positions he has taken on university-related issues in the past.

Motion passes

- 6) Appointment of student to Employer Award Steering Committee (31:50 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 StFXSU to appoint Hamed Dadouk (SMUSA) to the Board of Directors to the Steering Committee of the Youth Employer Award.

Seconded by Kingstec.

Motion passes unanimously.

- 7) Governing Policies: Amendments to clarify rules around Board Member absences (33:45 on recording)

Overview: Current Governing Policies 20, 21 and 22 require that the President pursue different actions in response to Members' repeated absences from Board of Directors Meetings. Suggested changes would clarify the policies and create a distinction between absences with or without regrets, and create greater space for members who send regrets to be absent from meetings without the President notably contacting the Chair of their association's council.

Decision items: Whether to amend the Governing Policies as indicated in the suggested track changes.

Attachments: Governing Policies with proposed amendments in track changes.

Motion moved by Kingstec to amend the Governing Policies as indicated in the suggested track changes.

Seconded by StFX.

Motion passes unanimously.

- 8) Quarterly Financial Report from the Vice President Administration. (45:25 on recording)

Overview: The Governing Policies require that the Vice President Administration prepare a quarterly financial update for the Board of Directors at the beginning of October. The Quarterly Financial Report projects a position of surplus and that the organisation is generally on budget to date, with some significant variability imminent as a result of staffing changes.

Decision items: Whether (1) to amend and/or approve the Vice President Administration's Quarterly Financial Report and (2) whether to publish the Report to the StudentsNS website in whole or in part.

Attachments: Draft Quarterly Financial Report.

Motion moved by StFXSU to table Quarterly Financial Report from the Vice President Administration until next meeting.

Seconded by Kingstec.

9) Update on Board Survey (46:50 on recording)

Overview: The Board of Directors has been provided an opportunity to provide feedback on the organisation's progress and operations to date. Ben Gunn-Doerge is responsible for collecting that feedback.

Decision items: None

Attachments: None.

REPORTS (58:35 on recording)

Reports of the Officers

- President
- Vice President Administration

Reports of the Staff (1:01:40 on recording)

- Executive Director

Reports of the Members (1:16:00 on recording)

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

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT