

Students Nova Scotia		Board of Directors		students 
		<i>Meeting Minutes</i>		
Meeting Name:	Board Meeting			
Meeting Date:	January 30, 2015			
Meeting Time:	10:30 A.M.			
Venue:	Conference Call	City:	Halifax	
<i>Attendees</i>				
Primary and Secondary Delegates:	Brandon Hamilton (President), Callie Lathem (ASU), Jacqueline Skiptunis (DSU), Ramz Aziz (Vice President Administration/DSU), Amali Armony (SMUSA), Benjamin Gunn-Doerge (StFXSU), Scott Byrne (VP College Affairs/Kingstec NSCCSA), Evan Fairn (Kingstec NSCCSA)			
Other attendees:	Jonathan Williams (Executive Director)			
Absent:	Katie Flynn (ASTSU), Alicia Cox (ASTSU), Sarah Hines (CBUSU), Liam Murphy (ASU - regrets)			
Quorum (50% of Members represented?): YES				

- 1) Roll Call
- 2) Call to Order
- 3) Approval of Agenda
- 4) Approval of the Minutes

- Pending Preparation

DISCUSSION & APPROVAL

1. Student Union Independent Governance Review

Overview: The Student Union Independent Governance Review report has been approved by the Advisory Committee and submitted by the Consultant to the Steering Committee. The Officers and staff are simply checking with the Board as to whether the Steering Committee has the authority to decide on how and whether to publicize the review pursuant to the terms of reference released at the time of the request for proposals:

<http://studentsns.ca/2014/07/request-for-proposals-student-union-democratic-governance-review/>. It is not clear that these terms of reference were approved by the Board, but instead by the steering committee itself.

Decision items: Whether to allow the Steering Committee of the Student Union Independent Governance Review the authority as to how and whether to publicize the review pursuant to the publicized terms of reference.

Attachments: None.

Motion to allow the Steering Committee of the Student Union Independent Governance Review the authority as to how and whether to publicize the review pursuant to the publicized terms of reference.

Moved by ASU

Seconded by SMUSA

Approved by Unanimous Consent.

2. Pre-Budget Submission (4:45 on recording)

Overview: Each year, StudentsNS completes a pre-budget submission document that identifies priority initiatives to be funded through the Provincial budget. Since 2013, we have generally selected three policy priorities that were considered particularly feasible politically and financially for the Province. Recommendations have been implemented in each of the past two years, amounting to \$4.5 million in 2013 and \$3.7 million in 2014, although in 2014 the Province also eliminated the Graduate Retention Rebate. Staff have prepared a draft pre-budget submission pursuant directions from the Board of Directors at its January 17 meeting.

Decision items: Review, amend and/or approve the proposed pre-budget submission.

Attachments: Draft pre-budget submission.

Possible Preparation Questions:

- Is the pre-budget submission effective in communicating our asks to government?
- Does the pre-budget submission ask for the right policies? Consider concerns from Bob Parker (noted as Mark Coffin in track changes).

Table motion to an email vote.

3. Advocacy Week Planning (17:36 on recording)

Overview: StudentsNS now has confirmed meetings for advocacy week with six opposition MLAs, while we are waiting for confirmation of specific government MLAs but have reached agreement to host two separate sessions. All scheduled meetings are for February 11, except one meeting on February 6 with Lenore Zann.

Decision items: Whether to approve the proposed briefing notes and pursue meetings on themes suggested in the spreadsheet.

Attachments: Briefing notes on MSI for international students, students with disabilities, tuition and ancillary fees, youth employment strategy. Pending: Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners and Campus Sexual Violence's place in the provincial Sexual Violence Strategy. Spreadsheet with notes on MLAs and proposed priority themes for each meeting.

Possible Preparations:

- Are the briefing notes effective in communicating our asks to government?
- Do the briefing notes ask for the right policies?

Motion to approve the proposed briefing notes and pursue meetings on themes suggested in the spreadsheet.

Moved by StFXSU

Seconded by ASU

Approved by unanimous consent

4. Quarterly Report from the Executive Director. (32:06 on recording)

Overview: The Board-Executive Director Relationship Policies require that the Executive Director prepare a Quarterly Report to the Board on the organization's progress today relative to the goals and activities identified in the Annual Plan. The Board of Directors approved the January Quarterly report on January 17, but requested that the Executive Director adjust some wording in the report to avoid pessimism.

Decision items: Whether to publish the Report to the StudentsNS website in whole or in part, with the changes indicated in track changes.

Attachments: Draft Quarterly Report with proposed changes in track changes.

No decision.

5. Executive Director Hiring Update (39:15 on recording)

Overview: The call for applications for the Executive Director position closed on Sunday, January 25. The President will provide an initial update to the Board.

Decision items: Information item only.

Attachments: None.

No decision.

6. Dalhousie Student Union Membership (43:06 on recording)

Overview: The Dalhousie Student Union has provided notice that it may consider a motion on its membership status within Students Nova Scotia on February 25, 2015.

Decision items: Information item only.

Attachments: Letter from DSU President Ramz Aziz and VP Academic and External Jacqueline Skiptunis advising StudentsNS that the Dalhousie Student Union may consider a motion on its membership status on February 25, 2015.

No decision.

REPORTS

Reports of the Officers (45:43 on recording)

- President
- Vice President Administration

Reports of the Staff (47:28 on recording)

- Executive Director

Reports of the Members (52:30 on recording)

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

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT