

Students Nova Scotia		Board of Directors		students 
		<i>Meeting Minutes</i>		
Meeting Name:	Board Meeting			
Meeting Date:	March 27, 2015			
Meeting Time:	10:30 A.M.			
Venue:	Conference Call	City:	NA	
Attendees				
Primary and Secondary Delegates:	Callie Lathem (Vice President University Affairs/ASU-partial), Liam Murphy (ASU-Partial), Brandon Ellis (Vice President Administration/CBUSU), Scott Byrne (VP College Affairs/Kingstec NSCCSA), Alexander Elderkin (Kingstec NSCCSA), Benjamin Gunn-Doerge (StFXSU), Brandon Hamilton (President/StFXSU), Amali Armony (SMUSA), Hamid Dhaduk (SMUSA).			
Other attendees:	Jonathan Williams (Executive Director)			
Absent:	Katie Flynn (ASTSU), Alicia Cox (ASTSU), Sarah Hines (CBUSU), Liam Shannon (CBUSU).			
Quorum (50% of Members represented?): YES				

- Roll Call (0:00 on recording)
- Call to Order (0:41 on recording)
- Approval of Agenda (0:41 on recording)
- Approval of the Minutes (2:00 on recording)

- January 17-18, 2015 – Audio file corrupted
- January 30, 2015

### **Amendment to absences of NSCCSA delegates**

### **Motion to approve January 17-18, 2015 minutes**

**ASU moves**

**SMUSA seconds**

### **Motion to approve January 30, 2015**

**Kingstec NSCCSA moves**

**StFXSU seconds**

**Approved by unanimous consent**

## **DISCUSSION & APPROVAL**

### 1. StudentsNS Finances (4:30 on recording)

Overview: The disaffiliation of the Dalhousie Student Union will remove approximately \$92,000 from StudentsNS' 2015-16 base operating budget. We are projecting a 45% drop in member contributions. At the Board's March 14 meeting the members committed to seeking 27% more funding to support StudentsNS for 2015-16, as a stop-gap, and allow the organization to maintain its core staff complement (three full-time staff and the office manager). Members are encouraged to provide an update.

Decision items: None.

Attachments: Budget with proposed changes noted.

### **No Decision Item.**

### 2. Hiring of new Executive Director (9:20 on recording) (continued on 0:00 on recording 2)

Overview: The Board of Directors did not choose to hire from the initial pool of candidates for the Executive Director position. The Executive Director was asked to investigate the cost of posting the job with Charity Village and Career Beacon and whether we could get a deal given our first call for applications was not successful – Charity Village is providing a voucher so that we can repost the job for free, Career Beacon will charge us the full cost. In terms of funding, we may do well to submit a proposal for Graduate to Opportunities funding to support the Executive Director's salary.

Decision items: Ratify Kayti Baur as interim Executive Director upon the departure of Jonathan Williams, extend the contract for Jonathan Williams to April 24 (contract ends April 8), and decide whether to issue a call for applications for the Executive Director

position and on what timeline. Also need to briefly discuss renewal of contract for Kayti Baur.

Attachments: Executive Director job description, previous hiring plan.

**Motion to move into camera**

**ASU moves**

**SMUSA seconds**

**Approved by unanimous consent**

**Moved out of camera**

**Motion to ratify Kayti Baur as interim Executive Director for one year upon the departure of Jonathan Williams**

**CBUSU Moves**

**ASU Seconds**

**Approved by unanimous consent**

**Motion to extend the contract for Jonathan Williams to April 24 (contract ends April 8)**

**Kingstec NSCCSA moves**

**StFXSU seconds**

**Approved by unanimous consent**

### 3. Governing Policy Amendments

Overview: The Governing Policies regulate the operations of the Board of Directors and the organization more generally. The Executive Director, in consultation with the Officers, has prepared proposals to clarify the voting process at the Board, strengthen the role of the Board Secretary, better address travel expenses associated with board meetings and change the process of policy renewal. With respect to voting, the proposed change would clarify that the Board will seek consensus, first asking whether motions have unanimous support before, if unanimity is not indicated, entering into discussions that would precede a vote. For travel costs, it has been suggested that StudentsNS develop a travel fund that members may choose to opt in to and have their costs of participation in board meetings covered. Finally, the last proposal would extend the validity period for position papers from three years to five, removing the necessity for StudentsNS to renew its policies on funding and accountability, funding and fees, and international students in 2015-16.

Decision items: Whether to approve the proposed Governing Policies amendments indicated in track changes in the attached document.

Attachments: Governing Policies with proposed amendments in track changes.

Possible Preparation Questions:

- Can we afford to establish the travel fund given StudentsNS' current financial difficulties?

- Would the Board be comfortable extending the period of application of position papers from three years to five, given that otherwise StudentsNS staff may have to dedicate significant time to position paper renewal in 2015-16?

### **Discussion tabled until next meeting**

#### 4. Seeking corporate support for Employer Award Program (4:15 on recording 2)

*Overview:* We are seeking private sector sponsors for the Employer Award Program, in partnership with the program's other partners, since the Province has indicated that it will not continue to fund the program moving forward. To date we have secured \$1,000 from Credit Union Atlantic. Staff are seeking guidance from the Board as to whether we can consider the sponsors for this program as sponsors for the program and not necessarily partners of StudentsNS. One possible sponsor could be RBC, who StudentsNS opposed in 2013 over their policies around temporary foreign workers.

*Decision items:* Whether (1) to consider any youth employer award sponsors as supporters of the award and not necessarily partners of StudentsNS and (2) depending on this decision, whether staff may approach RBC about supporting the youth employer award.

*Links:* [RBC press release](#) (the Board discussion preceding the release was in-camera).

**No Formal Decision Item.**

## **REPORTS**

### **Reports of the Officers** (15:00 on recording 2)

- President
- Vice President Administration

### **Reports of the Staff** (18:20 on recording 2)

- Executive Director

### **Reports of the Members** (24:10 on recording 2)

- ASTSU
- ASU
- CBUSU

### **Motion to move into camera**

**CBUSU moves**

**SMUSA seconds**

**Approved by unanimous consent**

**Moved out of camera**

- Kingstec NSCCSA
- SFXUSU
- SMUSA

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**ADJOURNMENT**