

Minutes of the Meeting of the Student Union of Confederation College Inc. Board of Directors – October 18th, 2023

WELCOME

Call to Order

Vignesh called the meeting to order at 8:34pm on October 18th, 2023.

ATTENDEES

Board Members Present

Kai Fucile Ladouceur, Vice- President

Nazrin Navas, Director of Wellness & Diversity

Krushit Shah, Director of Athletics & Campus Recreation

Kathryn Picard, Senator of Business, Hospitality and Media Arts

Grail Cancino, Senator of Aviation

Het Shah, Senator of Engineering, Technology & Trades

Prithi Anbalagan, Senator of Health, Negahneewin and Community Services

Tasha Wagner, Distance Education and Regional Representative

Vignesh Viswanathan, Chief Justice (e.o.)

Kiran Ramesh, Past President (e.o) (Chair)

Kendall Williams, Executive Director (Recorder)

Regrets

Robin Gathercole, President (**Voted by proxy for items for decision*)

Lizzie González, Director of Social Events

Catherine Hilgers, Support Staff Representative (e.o.)

Don Duclos, Admin. Staff Representative (e.o.)

TBD, OASA Representative

Guest

Rosy Brizi, Grant Thornton

Ryan Gabriele, Grant Thornton

Lynn Dyll, Associate Registrar, Confederation College

AGENDA

Adoption of the Agenda

“On a motion made by Kai and seconded by Nazrin that the agenda be adopted as presented.”

8/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

“On a motion made by Grail and seconded by Kai that the October 4th, 2023, minutes be accepted as presented.”

8/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

CONFLICTS

Declaration of Possible Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts to declare.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Draft Audited Financial Statements

Rosy Brizi and Ryan Gabriele from Grant Thornton presented the draft audited Financial Statements of May 31, 2023, to the board. Rosy explained this represents an independent auditor’s report which is an unbiased opinion and follows the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profits. Prior to the meeting, Grant Thornton met with management, and nothing came up that gave the auditors a reason for concern, and that SUCCI has a ‘clean’ audit that presents fairly. Rosy went through the audit with the board and explained each schedule to the board and highlighted any areas with significant change. With enrollment surpassing where it was pre-COVID, this has increased revenue and SUCCI is in excellent financial shape, and now would be a good time to build a contingency plan and look for potential capital improvement projects to benefit student life. There were no changes that were brought forward at the meeting, but the board will further review the financial statements and will approve the final draft at the next meeting on November 1st, 2023. Grant Thornton has said they would be available over the next two weeks to answer any other questions that might arise from the board. Ryan and Rosy left the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

Ancillary Fees for 24-25

Lynn Dyll joined the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Lynn is the Associated Registrar at Confederation College. The ancillary fee requests for 24-25 were presented to the Board, a summary of the proposed changes to the fees was circulated to the board as information, Lynn went through each of the proposed changes and the rationale.

UPASS

The Universal Bus Pass Fee is scheduled to *increase to \$268 for September 2024 for the full year UPass, a partial year UPass will be \$185*. This is in accordance with a new 3-year legal agreement with the City of Thunder Bay Transit that SUCCI is working on. Transit is implementing gradual increases until they meet a 68% discount on full-year rates. During this period SUCCI will also be working with Transit to try and establish an option for opt-out for those purchasing full-year parking passes.

SRP

A new *SRP ancillary fee of \$3 per year* is being proposed. The SRP program is the Student Refugee Program that Confederation College has been participating in for the last few years. This program supports 1 to 2 refugees a year to come to Canada and study at Confederation College by supporting the costs of tuition, accommodations, textbooks, food, transportation, health plans, and more. Up until now the college has been supporting 100% of the costs, but they are looking to implement a new ancillary fee that would see the program jointly supported by the college and the students.

Wellness Centre

The *Wellness Centre membership is to increase by \$3 per year* due to the inflationary costs required to operate the facilities. There is also a *\$4 per year increase for the Wellness Centre Capital Fee*. This Capital Fee increase is an annual increase and is a contractual obligation set out in the project agreements.

Student ID Card

A proposed *\$3 per year increase is proposed for the Student ID Card*. A new photo ID card system is being implemented with more features. The new system will allow students to use online photo capture and access digital ID cards. In addition, the cost of ID cards is increasing for both print and digital due to inflation.

Program Specific Fees

There are proposed mandatory program fees for the Practical Nursing and BScN program, they will have a mandatory fee added for textbooks. An agreement was negotiated with a third-party textbook supplier to bundle the cost of textbooks for all nursing students in order to get a bulk discount which will be significantly cheaper for students. This will give students digital copies of the necessary books. Some concerns were raised about students who prefer physical copies instead, how long students can access the digital version, if they are able to print it, and the limitations on students no longer being able to purchase used books to help save money.

There is also a scheduled fee increase of \$14.50 for Aviation Flight Management students for the Egress Training. This is strictly due to an increase in the cost of this training.

ITEMS FOR DECISION

Muslim Student Community

“On a motion made by Kai and seconded by Nazrin that the board approve the Muslim Student Community for 23-24 academic year.”

5/3/1 MOTION CARRIED

Hack Hub Hero Club

“On a motion made by Kai and seconded by Krushit that the board approve the Hack Hub Hero Club for 23-24 academic year.”

9/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS/UPDATES

Self Serve Coffee Machines

Grail said that the self-service coffee machines have been installed and are working. So far she has had great feedback and students are really liking it.

Residence

Krushit brought forward issues he has heard from students in residence. Students are having trouble accessing food. The cafeteria has limited hours, and there are not adequate facilities to cook in the Sibley Hall Residence. For example, there are only 3 rice cookers for all of residence. Kendall mentioned that Sibley Hall Residence will be doing some renovations and upgrades to the cooking areas, and she will get an update on the specifications and timelines of that project. In the meantime, we will see what can be done to help the current situation.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

November 1st at 8:30 pm

ADJOURNMENT

“On a motion made by Krushit and seconded by Grail that the board meeting be adjourned at 10:28pm.”

8/0/0 MOTION CARRIED