

Minutes of the Meeting of the Student Union of Confederation College Inc. Board of Directors – December 13th, 2023

WELCOME

Call to Order

Vignesh called the meeting to order at 8:38 pm on December 13th, 2023.

ATTENDEES

Board Members Present

Robin Gathercole, President (**Virtual*)

Kai Fucile Ladouceur, Vice- President

Lizzie González, Director of Social Events

Nazrin Navas, Director of Wellness & Diversity

Kathryn Picard, Senator of Business, Hospitality and Media Arts

Prithi Anbalagan, Senator of Health, Negahneewin and Community Services

Tasha Wagner, Distance Education and Regional Representative (**Virtual*)

Het Shah, Senator of Engineering, Technology & Trades (**joined at 8:54*)

Grail Cancino, Senator of Aviation (**joined virtually at 9:01*)

Vignesh Viswanathan, Chief Justice (e.o.) (Chair)

Kiran Ramesh, Past President (e.o)

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

Kendall Williams, Executive Director (Recorder)

Regrets

Krushit Shah, Director of Athletics & Campus Recreation

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

TBD, OASA Representative

AGENDA

Adoption of the Agenda

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

8/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

A proposed change was brought forward to add more detail to the section about scholarships. It should include 'SUCCI will discuss with financial aid about exploring other potential platforms.'

"On a motion made by Kai and seconded by Prithi that the November 29th, 2023, minutes be accepted with the proposed changes."

8/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

CONFLICTS

Declaration of Possible Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts to declare.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Ontario Student Voices Update

Ontario Student Voices (OSV) is working at creating unified statements on key issues, including housing, food insecurity, international student issues, mental health and OSAP/student debt. They are working to determine their messaging around this, but the goal is to have clear messaging on what they are advocating for when talking to the media. The reason is so that all members have one strong unified voice and are not speaking on their individual opinions. The board has worked very hard to set clear goals objectives and timelines around those for what they want to accomplish in the next 6 months.

Another big focus of OSV right now is training to make the board members as effective as possible in their roles and give them the tools and training they require. They are actively taking part in governance training, as well as communication and leadership development. Some of this may be helpful to do with the SUCCI board in the future.

Student Townhall Update

Townhalls took place in the Shuniah, McIntyre, and ACE buildings last week. In the Shuniah and McIntyre, the format was a presentation followed by discussion, and at ACE we handed out information along with food as the alternate format which worked better with the student's schedules at that time.

Not a lot of students attended the presentation, but several came to have a 1-on-1 discussion afterwards, and a lot of good conversation was happening. There were several students around listening in but not actively participating, which is still a good thing.

The townhalls are a good thing to keep doing, but the timing was not great. It would be better to hold them closer to the student success week, or perhaps change the location. The cafeteria was suggested as a good location as you already have a group of students there who have time to sit and listen. There was also a suggestion to do passive art at the same time. It helps draw students in if they have an activity to do, and they can listen to the townhall information at the same time. Vig suggested that it can also be part of existing events, take a few minutes before or

after to speak as you know you will have a captive audience. This format worked very well for him during his time as SUCCI president.

There were a lot of great ideas on how we can improve the townhalls moving forward, and we will look to implement some of these suggestions at the next one in the winter semester.

Professional Development

Kai shared the importance of professional development, and that it might be valuable to the board to schedule some opportunities in the next semester. The board discussed what topics would be helpful. Some of the ideas were: how to effectively engage with people, communication, and public speaking. We could plan a short session around one of the upcoming board meetings, but the board also felt it would be most beneficial to build this into the board orientation in the fall.

DE and Regional

Last year the board decided to expand the DE Representative position on the board to include regional, as they felt some of the challenges those students faced may be similar. The board voted to do this for one year to try it out. We are nearing the end of the year and they will need to decide if we will continue for one more year or not. It was also discussed that at the end of this academic year, an assessment needs to be done on this role of what worked, what didn't, and what changes we can make.

Elections

Elections for the 2024-2025 SUCCI board of directors are fast approaching. Kendall reminded the board that those members who are interested in running for the president position must express interest (via email) by December 31st, 2023. Those interested in the president position will need a vote of confidence from the board, they will present to the board at the first board meeting in January, it will be an in-camera session.

For all other positions, nominations will open on January 8th. Board members who are returning in the fall are welcome to run for any of those positions. The election timelines are as follows:

- Nominations open – January 8th
- Students will need to express of interest and complete a nomination package.
- Nominations close - January 26th
- Information meetings – January 10th, 17th, and 22nd (candidates must attend one)
- All candidate meeting- January 29th
- Campaigning Period - February 5th – 16th
- Candidates Roundtable - February 7th
- Online Voting/Election Week - February 20th to February 22nd

ITEMS FOR DECISION

Board Positions

“On a motion made by Robin and seconded by Kai that the board amalgamate the Director of Social Events and the Director of Wellness and Diversity into one position titled Director of Events and Wellness.”

9/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

“On a motion made by Robin and seconded by Het that the board add the Director of Student Life and Engagement to the board.”

9/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

“On a motion made by Robin and seconded by Lizzie that the Board continue to include regional in the DE Representative portfolio and remain as the DE and Regional Representative for the 24/25 academic year.”

9/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBD

ADJOURNMENT

“On a motion made by Robin and seconded by Lizzie that the board meeting be adjourned at 9:32 pm.”

9/0/0 MOTION CARRIED