

Minutes of the Meeting of the Student Union of Confederation College Inc. Board of Directors – November 29th, 2023

WELCOME

Call to Order

Vig called the meeting to order at 8:32pm on November 29th, 2023.

ATTENDEES

Board Members Present

Robin Gathercole, President **Virtual*

Kai Fucile Ladouceur, Vice- President

Nazrin Navas, Director of Wellness & Diversity

Krushit Shah, Director of Athletics & Campus Recreation

Lizzie González, Director of Social Events

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 **Virtual*

Kendall Williams, Executive Director (Recorder)

Vignesh Viswanathan, Chief Justice (e.o.)

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

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

Regrets

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

TBD, OASA Representative

AGENDA

Adoption of the Agenda

Kai requested to add 'Townhalls' to items for discussion.

"On a motion made by Grail and seconded by Krushit that the agenda be adopted with the requested changes."

10/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

"On a motion made by Krushit and seconded by Prithi that the agenda be adopted as presented."

10/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

CONFLICTS

Declaration of Possible Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts to declare.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Thought of the Presentation

Nazrin shared a presentation for an idea she has for a new initiative called "Thought of the Week". It will be a way for SUCCI to share a positive and motivational thought at the beginning of each week with the student body through a podcast or short video on social media.

It was mentioned that SUCCI spotlights have not been active this past year, and this could be a way to bring it back with some little adjustments. It was clarified that this would be more of a short video reel rather than a podcast, but could easily be done with a mobile device and would require minimal editing and equipment if done this way. If we find the "Thought of the Week" is an effective way to engage students we could invest in equipment or software if needed.

It was also discussed that these videos could be expanded in the future where we interview students in different programs and get their thoughts, and put white boards in the different buildings where students could share a quote or positive thought.

"Thought of the Week" has already been brought to the programming committee and a plan has been put in place to try the first one in January.

Scholarships

Several students have said they were unaware of the scholarships and bursaries that are available to them. The board shared that they found the process to be very long and not user-friendly. There were challenges if you tried to do it on a mobile device, or you could not save it to go back to later, and if you hit back or an error occurred you lost all your responses and had to start again. It was suggested that SUCCI could meet with financial aid to share these concerns and work together to help promote it to students to ensure students know about them and the funds are getting distributed.

Board Positions

After the discussion at the last board meeting about board composition, and after some research of other student associations and discussions with board members, some potential changes were presented. There seems to be a lot of overlap between the Director of Wellness and Diversity, and the Director of Social Events, and it might make sense to combine these two positions into one called Director of Events and Wellness and add a new position of Director of Student Engagement. The full job description was attached to the board package. Director of Events and Wellness would largely stay the same but will expand to include diversity and wellness into the

portfolio. The Director of Student Engagement would largely be responsible for communications and engagement with students, student feedback and data assessment, and working on advocacy campaigns throughout the year. It is not uncommon for board compositions to change sometimes to meet student needs and fill any current gaps. After discussion, it was added that the Director of Student Engagement should have a strong connection with Student Residence, and based on other schools we may want to consider still including diversity in the title of the Events and Wellness position and not just in the job description.

Office Hours

Kai discussed how board members could most effectively use their office hours based on what he is noticing and what he has tried. He shared the benefits of sitting in the front of the office near the staff, and not in the back room when doing office hours. This helps give board members more visibility but also the opportunity to engage with students as they come in. Kai also mentioned that there is a second desk in the VP office and that any board members are welcome to use. It might be worthwhile to look at the number of office hours board members need to complete and if it is possible to have more flexibility around these hours. This might help board members engage more with students as they could fit their hours around events and other activities where students may be. We will add this to a future discussion to look further into and make a decision on.

Town Hall

Three town halls will be taking place the following week, one in Shuniah, one in McIntyre, and one at the ACE. It will be an opportunity to provide an update to the students, seek feedback, and to engage with those students. Lunch or a light snack will also be provided at each town hall. A standard presentation has been created for each town hall. Kai walked through the presentation to ensure all board members were comfortable with the content, a final copy of it will be sent out this week.

Professional Development Opportunities

Deferred until the next board meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS/UPDATES

Food Service Meeting

The first food service committee meeting took place early today. Sodexo provided an update on some of the changes they are making including value-priced meals, selling smaller portions for a more reasonable price, and incorporating more international foods. They also shared that they are always open to trying new menu items, if students have ideas or recipes, they are encouraged to share them with Sodexo. It was also discussed about extending the hours at ACE to be open in the morning, we will explore options for that with them. The next meeting will take place in January.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

December 13th at 8:30 pm

ADJOURNMENT

“On a motion made by Krushit and seconded by Lizzie that the board meeting be adjourned at 9:58 pm.”

10/0/0 MOTION CARRIED