

Minutes of the Meeting of the Student Union of Confederation College Inc. Board of Directors – April 11, 2022

Call to Order

Vignesh Viswanathan called the meeting to order at 7:03pm on April 11, 2022. The meeting was held virtually on MS Teams and in person (Shuniah BR A219) because of availability.

Board Members Present

Ronnie Kasana, President

Vitasta Ganjoo, Vice President (online)

Isabel Delaney, Senator of Business, Hospitality and Media Arts

Sunena Shetty, Director of Social Events (online)

Darla Oja, OASA Representative

Maricor Ballaret, Director of Wellness & Diversity (online)

Robin Gathercole, Director of Athletics & Campus Recreation (8:03)

Vignesh Viswanathan, Chief Justice (e.o.)

Kiran Ramesh, Past President (e.o)

Alyssa Veneruzzo, Administrator, Accounting and Payroll (Recorder)

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

Lynne Savela, Executive Director (e.o.) (online)

Regrets

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

Nathan Smallwood, Senator of Engineering, Technology & Trades

Guests

Andrei Rosario, Incoming Director of Social Events

Adoption of the Agenda

“On a motion made by Isabel and seconded by Darla that the agenda be adopted.

6/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting – March 21, 2022

“On a motion made by Darla and seconded by Isabel that the minutes of the meeting from March 21, 2022, be accepted as presented.

6/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

Declaration of Possible Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest declared.

Human Rights Policy – 4.9

“On a motion made by Darla and seconded by Isabel that the Human Rights Policy – 4.9 be approved.

6/0/0 MOTION APPROVED

Accessibility & Accommodation Policy – 4.23

“On a motion made by Darla and seconded by Isabel that the Accessibility & Accommodation Policy – 4.23 be approved.

6/0/0 MOTION APPROVED

Presentation of 22-23 SUCCI Operating Budgets

Lynne presented the proposed budgets for the 2022-23 academic year (June-May). No major changes were noted from the current budget year and conservative enrollment projections are being used for the budget as the college continues to recover from the pandemic. The SUCCI SUCCI Mandatory Fees remain unchanged with the exception of the Domestic Student Health Plan and the Universal Bus Pass Fee. There will be significant savings this budget year with the retirement of the current Executive Director, as well as a fulltime admin staff going off on Parental Leave. Both positions will be filled in August for fall start up.

SUCCI Wellness Centre – Obligation for payment

Lynne noted that SUCCI has an obligation to make payments to Confederation College for the build of the Wellness Centre. This is the first year that the student capital fees collected will not cover the full annual loan commitment of \$440,399. It is short in the amount of \$85,692.04. There is a legal agreement between Confederation College and SUCCI. The original loan was established in 2017 with a projection, that student fees would cover the cost of the loan payments over a 25-year period. It was forecast that in the earlier years there could be a shortfall. With declining enrollment this year due to the pandemic, the funds collected are not sufficient. The interest rate on savings is extremely low during this time so it is recommended to use the SUCCI retained earnings rather than incur additional costs for interest. With declining enrollment it is anticipated that it may be a few years until enrollment recovers to pre-pandemic enrollment levels. The student capital fee does increase by \$4 each year.

It is anticipated that the collected capital fees will surpass the minimum loan amounts and the funds will accumulate to pay off the full loan over the 25-year period. Capital fees will likely exceed the minimal loan commitment in the next few years depending on enrollment. At that time, the SUCCI reserve fund can be replenished. SUCCI has the option to choose to secure a loan from the college or on its own. With the interest rate being low on the current SUCCI retained earnings, it is recommended to use existing savings from SUCCI at this time. The Board can review this annually.

Approval for payment to Confederation College for Wellness Centre Loan

“On a motion made by Ronnie and seconded by Darla that the balance of the payment owing of \$85,692.04 for the 21-22 Wellness Centre loan be approved and taken from the SUCCI retained earnings.

7/0/0 MOTION APPROVED

Appointment of Senator of Business

“On a motion made by Ronnie and seconded by Isabel that the Appointment of Senator of Business Amay Patel be approved.

7/0/0 MOTION APPROVED

Appointment of Senator of Aviation

“On a motion made by Ronnie and seconded by Vitasta that the Appointment of Senator of Aviation Jesse Klyn-Hesselink be approved.

7/0/0 MOTION APPROVED

Partnership with LU around Gym Facility Usage

Ronnie discussed a potential partnership with LUSU, Lakehead University, SUCCI and the College with respect to allowing both student bodies to use both facilities. This would be beneficial to our students, specifically the usage of their updated track and pool facilities. Our current Wellness Centre work out space is also much nicer. Ronnie is speaking with Kathleen Lynch as well as LUSU president, in hopes they can facilitate a plan for rolling this out, if approved by all involved. Darla did express concerns over the amount of LUSU students to use our facilities, although overall this is a great idea for our students. Kiran inquired about an alumni or recent graduate rate and Ronnie will look into this with Paul. If the parties can all agree and there is no additional costs to anyone it could be put in place for a trial basis.

Provincial Advocacy

Ronnie and Lynne attended a meeting in Toronto this past week (April 4) with an invite from Colleges Ontario to discuss future options for provincial student advocacy. SUCCI voted to leave the CSA last year, and the need for student representation and advocacy is still desired and important. Options are being explored by the various provincial student associations. A CSA representative was there as well, although their speaking points to stay with the organization were very poor. Ronnie plans to meet further with other association presidents and teams, to discuss options going forward for SUCCI. A follow up meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 25th. It is hoped that collectively Student Associations can agree on something for provincial advocacy and fees to support it.

New Business/Question Period

Good News story – Darla noted many students are very appreciative of the new water filling stations on campus.

Next/Final Board Meeting – Monday, April 18 at 7:00pm

The meeting will be held in person and photo to be taken.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Vignesh Viswanathan adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm