



## Minutes

The fifth meeting of the 2018-19 session of the Students' Representative Council of the UNBSJ Inc. was held March 22, 2019 in the Hume Council Chamber.

Attendance:	Executive:	Samuel Palmer, President Austin Maillet, VP Finance Mackenzie Keir, VP Social
	Councillors:	Laura Palmer, Business Rep Angela Morris, DMNB Rep Allison Woodman, Disability/Accessibility Rep Connor DeMerchant, LGBTQ+ Rep Cassie Hall, SASE Rep
	Regrets:	Caitlin Grogan, VP External Jenna DeGooyer, Athletic Rep Alexander Allison, Member at Large Rep Ashley Cook, Nursing/Health Sciences Rep Hannah Ranni, Residence Rep
	Absent:	Adanna Ogunka, International Rep
	Guest:	Keshaun Skeir

### Meeting was called to order at 4:30PM

- 1.1 **Approval of Agenda** - Chair indicates quorum is met. **Motion: To Approve Agenda. Keir/Maillet 8/0/0. Motion Carried.**
- 1.2 **Approval of February 20, 2019 Minutes** - **Motion: To Approve Minutes. Hall/Woodman 8/0/0. Motion Carried.**
- 1.3 **President Report** - Sam met with the deans on campus to discuss the joint proposals of the repeated course policy and the extension of drop date. He indicates they were very receptive and hopefully the changes will be implemented in the fall. Federal Minister of Finance Bill Morneau was on campus yesterday and hosted a Town Hall. Sam and Mackenzie met with Dr. Mazerolle, the incoming UNB President. In closing, he states that Dr. Petra Hauf began her term as VP on March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 1.4 **VP Social** - Mackenzie indicates Mystery Bus will be held tonight and Scott Helman concert will take place on Monday evening. She provides an update on the smoking policy and indicates that the committee has decided to proceed with a designated smoking area on campus.
- 1.5 **VP Finance** - Austin has submitted the 2019-20 draft budget to the Board of Governors and will present at the next council meeting for approval. Further to an inquiry from the Engineering Society, he states he'll look into having a banquet for the clubs and societies.
- 1.6 **VP External** - Sam presents Caitlin's report as she's attending the CASA AGM in Halifax. The NBSA AGM was held on campus. The Federal and Provincial budgets were released this week. New

Brunswick will expand the Free Tuition Program and Tuition Relief for the Middle Class to part time students and students at private institutions. NB Tuition Tax Credit system will be revamped. The NBSA advocated against the Tax Credit system previously, as they feel it's not an effective debt relief strategy and program is costly. Government believes the program is a retention tool for graduates but a study indicates otherwise. There has been a decrease in experiential learning funding but don't know yet what programs this impacts. Two of CASA advocacy asks were noted in the federal budget: an increased proportion of research grants for students and the expansion of the work-integrated learning program to non-stem students. Other CASA wins to note are: 6 month interest free grace period, changes to PSE disability policy, PSSSP funding and the creation of an Arctic University.

**1.7 Other Business - By-Laws** - Sam indicates at last meeting they discussed a few By-Law changes.

Caitlin set up an Ad-Hoc Committee to review the changes and a meeting was held. Cassie was part of the committee and states that everyone was all on board with the changes and that there wasn't much discussion except for the Vacancy Position. Sam reviews the proposed following changes:

- **By-Law #39** - Add *Coordinate, organize and execute Orientation at UNB Saint John*
- **By-Law #43** - Addition of (a) *In the event of the removal of the Indigenous Representative, the removal process outlined shall be preceded by a talking circle, or some other means of mediation, organized by the Indigenous student community at the University of New Brunswick within seven (7) days of notice of removal to discuss the removal of the Representative and to select a new Indigenous Representative.*
- **By-Law #57** - Change (e) One (1) Disability/Accessibility Representative to now read (e) *One (1) Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Representative.*
- **By-Law #58** - Change There shall be a total of three (3) Councilor positions available as follows to read: *There shall be a total of four (4) Councilor positions available as follows: Also, addition of (d) One (1) Indigenous Student Representative as appointed by the Indigenous student community at the University of New Brunswick Saint John, by whatever method they deem appropriate. i. The Students' Representative Council agrees to provide any support necessary to facilitate the selection process by the Indigenous members of the Students' Representative Council, should such support be requested.*
- **By-Law #70** - Remove (c) *Orientation Week Chair.*
- **By-Law #71** - Remove in its entirety as Orientation Week Chair duties assigned to VP Social.
- **By-Law #71(new) - Addition of Vacancy Petition** - Following the by-election period for the Students' Representative Council the Chief Returning Officer shall create a Vacancy Petition form for all vacancies on the Students' Representative Council.
  - (a) The Vacancy Petition form, to be filled out by the candidate, shall include: signed acceptance of the petition by the candidate; and a signed letter for the candidate from their faculty confirming that they are in good academic standing under University regulations; and a list of nominators including the names and student identification numbers.
  - (b) In order for the petition to be declared valid, the candidate must collect a greater number of signatures from nominators than 25.
  - (c) The completed Vacancy Petition shall be submitted to the Students' Representative Council upon its completion for validation of nominators, if applicable.
  - (d) The first valid Vacancy Petition submitted for a given seat will trigger a seven (7) day period after which no other petitions will be received per vacant seat.
  - (e) If no other valid Vacancy Petitions are received within the seven (7) day period, the successful candidate shall be declared a Councilor for the vacant seat for the remainder of that term.
  - (f) If two or more candidates submit valid Vacancy Petitions for the same seat during the seven (7) day period outlined in (d), the candidate with the most signatures at the end of this period shall be the winner. Any candidate shall be allowed to retrieve their petition during the seven (7) day waiting period to collect

more signatures, so long as the final petition is re-submitted by 5:00pm on the last business day prior to the deadline.

(g) Individuals that are ineligible to submit Vacancy Petitions include:

- i. Any member of Students' Council; or
- ii. The Chair of Students' Council; or
- iii. The Chief Returning Officer; or
- iv. Any student who ran during the previous general election or by-election and lost to none of the above; or
- v. Any student who has previously used this mechanism in the last 365 days.

(h) The period for Vacancy Petitions to be submitted shall be from the first business day following the fall by-election to February 1 of the subsequent year.

Sam asks if anyone has any questions about the proposed changes. No one speaks up.

**Motion: To Approve Proposed By-Law Amendments. Keir/L. Palmer 8/0/0. Motion Carried. Second reading to take place at next meeting.**

**1.8 Meeting Adjourned. Motion: To Adjourn. Keir/Maillet 8/0/0. Motion Carried.**