



*University of Alberta Students' Union*  
**ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
 AND RECONCILIATION  
 COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, January 30, 2019  
 1:00pm  
 SUB 6-06**

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT	SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN FEEDBACK (IF ABSENT)
<b>Standing Committee Members</b>			
Nathan Sunday (Chair)		Y	
Katherine Belcourt		Y	
Akanksha Bhatnagar		Y	
Mpoe Mogale		Y	
Ariyanna Callihoo		Y	
Shuaa Rizvi		Y	
Andre Bourgeois		Y	
Colin Mulholland (Vice-President (External), NSSA)		Y	

**MINUTES (ARRC-2018-18)**

**2018-18/1     INTRODUCTION**

**2018-18/1a    Call to Order**

SUNDAY: Called the meeting to order at 1:02pm.

**2018-18/1b Prayer/Smudging Ceremony**

**2018-18/1c Approval of Agenda**  
**RIZVI/BELCOURT MOVED** to approve the agenda.  
6/0/0 - CARRIED

**2018-18/1d Approval of Minutes**  
**MULHOLLAND/BELCOURT MOVED** to approve the minutes of *ARRC-2018-16-M*  
6/0/0 - CARRIED

**2018-18/1e Chair's Business**

SUNDAY: Noted that he is continuing to meet with relevant stakeholders on redeveloping the territorial acknowledgment. Determined to meet with Chelsea Vowel. Considered that returning members may practice chairing a meeting of ARRC in future. Determined to send an email to Council with the offer.

**2018-18/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

**2018-18/2a Mission, Vision, and Values**

SUNDAY: Suggested that the Committee work to complete a draft for the next meeting.

BHATNAGAR: Proposed that the Committee present its draft mission, vision, and value statement to Council.

SUNDAY: Expressed concern at further engaging Council when councillors were already were invited to participate in the ARRC meetings and had the opportunity to attend a Town Hall. Suggested that the mission, vision, values, and recommendations should remain private until release.

BHATNAGAR: Considered that new councillors may not have been aware of these opportunities for engaging with ARRC. Proposed, alternatively, requesting councillor feedback via email.

BHATNAGAR: Inquired into the timeline for the project.

SUNDAY: Responded that he plans to have councillor feedback and a finalised mission, vision, and values by February 6th.

BHATNAGAR: Proposed finalising the mission, vision, and values by February 6, discussing the proposal on February 14th. Proposed setting a deadline of March 11 for the completion of the Report with the Marketing Department, reviewing the Report on March 13, and presenting to Council on March 26.

SUNDAY: Proposed including a joint-statement from Larsen and Belcourt as the beginning of the Report.

BOURGEOIS: Noted that the Committee needs to resolve issues relating to the use of the terms 'dynamic', 'amplify', and 'empower' in the mission, vision, and values.

BELCOURT: Proposed using both the terms 'amplify' and 'empower'.

BHATNAGAR: Suggested that the education pillar reference educating the community.

BOURGEOIS: Expressed concern that the term 'dynamic' is an empty buzzword. Suggested using the term 'flourishing'. Considered that the term 'thriving' is not as strong as 'flourishing'.

SUNDAY: Expressed concern that the term 'budding' is too naturey.

MULHOLLAND: Inquired into how the Campus community is defined.

MOGALE: Responded that the mission, vision, and values defines the community as all persons on or connected to Campus.

CALLIHOO: Defined the term 'flourishing' as growing or developing in a healthy or vigorous way, especially as a result of a particularly favorable environment.

BHATNAGAR: Proposed using the phrase "cultivating a flourishing Campus community" as the Campus is not an ideal environment, but it can be made to become one.

SUNDAY: Proposed using the phrase "our vision to cultivate a flourishing Campus community rooted in positive relationships"

BELCOURT: Proposed that the mission, vision, and values recognize diversity on Campus.

BOURGEOIS: Expressed concern at the use of action verbs in the mission statement. Clarified that the vision should be a statement of an ideal Campus while the mission could include the specific actions relating to realising it.

CALLIHOO: Supported the proposed phrasing insofar as it is related to the earth and acknowledges the Indigenous connection to the land and with nature.

BOURGEOIS: Proposed amending one of the pillars to include an action statement related to cultivating relationships and removing that phrase from the vision statement.

BELCOURT: Proposed an acknowledgement of diversity in the vision.

RIZVI: Proposed the use of the phrase "a diverse Campus community".

BHATNAGAR: Proposed beginning the vision statement with the phrase “our vision is of a Campus where all students are flourishing in a community rooted in positive relationships”.

MULHOLLAND: Proposed using words from a language other than English to explain the spirit and intent of the vision.

SUNDAY: Considered that they could use the Cree phrase of having or possessing good relations. Requested members confirm whether the mission should be “our mission is to empower and amplify the voices of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit voices to positively impact the lives of all students”.

BELCOURT: Dissented to the proposal. Suggested further improvements can be made.

BOURGEOIS: Emphasised the importance of using the pillars to outline how the mission is achieved. Recognised the importance of relationship building. Proposed that each member develop draft changes for the committee to consider and select at the next meeting.

CALLIHOO: Proposed translating the mission, vision, and values into an Indigenous language.

SUNDAY: Expressed concern at the cost of translations in the context of the ARRC budget.

CALLIHOO: Noted that they have contacts who would support translating free of charge.

**2018-18/2b** CAUS Letter

SUNDAY: Established that Council had concern over the proposed indigenisation initiative by the Council of Alberta University Students. Proposed sending a letter, with recommendations, to advise the CAUS executive.

BHATNAGAR: Supported the proposal. Noted that CAUS has reconsidered their initiative after receiving initial feedback from Council. Suggested that the letter include one substantial recommendation. Noted that, through this means, the Committee can keep CAUS accountable and have its recommendations advanced by the Vice-President External. Proposed that the letter support hiring researcher who is Indigenous to complete the indigenisation initiative.

BELCOURT: Noted that CAUS only has one part-time researcher to support all of their activities. Recognised the importance of having a competent Indigenous researcher

MULHOLLAND: Recognised that the University of Alberta has hired a researcher to refine and understand the Indigenous territorial acknowledgment. Proposed creating a listing of Indigenous researchers to support indigenisation initiatives.

CALLIHOO: Emphasised that the researcher needs to have community connections in addition to relevant research skills.

MOGALE: Expressed concern that CAUS has an unclear goal and vision for its indigenisation initiative. Expressed concern that they have not created a research question.

BHATNAGAR: Expressed concern that CAUS, as a provincial advocacy organisation, did not have an ask associated with its indigenisation initiative.

SUNDAY: Emphasised that CAUS needs to show how the project relates to and supports Indigenous persons.

BELCOURT: Expressed concern that the proposed indigenisation initiative may use students to advance the goals of CAUS without supporting their interests.

RIZVI: Proposed including a timeline or requests for updates as part of the letter. Noted that the Committee can receive updates via its two CAUS representatives.

MULHOLLAND: Suggested that CAUS backtrack and first determine that which it intends to achieve in its indigenisation initiative.

SUNDAY: Determined to draft a letter for further discussion at the next meeting.

**2018-18/3**     **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**2018-18/4**     **INFORMATION ITEMS**

**2018-18/4a**     *ARRC-2018-17, Meeting Minutes - January 16, 2019.*

*Agenda will be updated with the completed ARRC-2018-17 document by 2019/01/29.*

**2018-18/4b**     *ARRC-2018-16, Meeting Minutes - November 28, 2018.*

See ARRC-2018-18.02.

**2018-18/5**     **ADJOURNMENT**

SUNDAY: Adjourned the meeting at 1:56pm.

**2018-18/5a**     **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, February 6, 2019 @ 1:00PM in SUB 6-06.

**SUMMARY OF MOTIONS**

<b>MOTION</b>	<b>VOTES</b>
<b>RIZVI/BELCOURT MOVED</b> to approve the agenda.	6/0/0 - CARRIED
<b>MULHOLLAND/BELCOURT MOVED</b> to approve the minutes of <i>ARRC-2018-16-M</i>	6/0/0 - CARRIED