

Thursday, November 14, 2019

5:00pm

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.

ATTENDANCE

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT	SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN FEEDBACK (IF ABSENT)
Permanent Members			
Nathan Sunday (chair)		Y	
Juan Vargas Alba	Akanksha Bhatnagar	Y	
Katherine Belcourt		Y	
Luke Statt		Y	
Adam Brown		Y	
Andrew Volk		Y	
Sean Gray		N	
Charles Blondin		Y	
Rowan Ley		Y	
Vaughn Beaulieu-Mercredi		Y	

MINUTES (ARRC-2019-12)

2019-12/1 INTRODUCTION

- 2019-12/1a Call to Order**
SUNDAY: Called the meeting to order at 5:04pm.
- 2019-12/1b Approval of Agenda**
BROWN/BELCOURT MOVED to approve the agenda.
CARRIED
- 2019-12/1c Approval of Minutes**
BROWN/BELCOURT MOVED to approve the minutes of ARRC-2019-11-M.
CARRIED
Ley abstains.

2019-12/1d Chair's Business

2019-12/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2019-12/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2019-12/3a Indigenous Representation on the Board of Governors.

LEY: Expressed concern that the Board, at present, has no Indigenous member. Clarified that the Board itself cannot add new members to its ranks. Proposed, as a measure to improve Indigenous representation, establishing a dedicated seat for an Indigenous student representative on the Board Learning, Research, & Student Experience Committee. Considered that this Committee is the best forum in which an Indigenous representative can advance the ARRC Recommendations. Noted, in addition, that they can the Recommendations via informal conversations with Board members at their retreats.

BHATNAGAR: Inquired into whether Ley has consulted in the Board Governance Committee on this proposal yet.

LEY: Responded that he has consulted Board members, including the chair of the Governance Committee. Noted that all the members to which he spoke were in favour.

BHATNAGAR: Considered that the Board as a whole may not support this proposal.

LEY: Suggested that that, among the different Board committees, the Students' Union has the best chance of getting an extra seat on the Board Learning, Research, & Student Experience Committee as it is larger and concerns issues of direct relevance to an Indigenous representative.

BELCOURT: Emphasised that the Indigenous representative must be prepared add component. Suggested that it is harder to earn respect and credibility as a student or Indigenous member of the Board.

LEY: Proposed that, if his Indigenous member proposal is implemented, the Students' Union provide special support to the Indigenous member and that the Executive work

closely with them.

STATT: Proposed that the Indigenous representative Committee spot be filled by members of the Aboriginal Student Council, as it is a student representative association can provide the representative with additional support.

BHATNAGAR: Suggested that the Students' Union would have continually support maintaining the Indigenous representative position as no seats on the Board are safe as they change annually.

LEY: Determined to bring forward a more detailed written proposal next meeting.

2019-12/3b Indigenous Consultation/Engagement Bylaw.

SUNDAY: Inquired into how the Committee would define consultation and engagement and what, if anything, differentiates them.

BLONDIN: Responded that engagement implies more a physical and informal consultation.

LEY: Responded that engagement implies a more active process and actionable follow-up.

STATT: Responded that engagement is continuous, long-term, and not specific whereas consultation is a subset of engagement and it is more specific.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that engagement is ongoing, iterative, reciprocal, and intentional.

VOLK: Responded that engagement does not involve pre-conceived notions.

SUNDAY: Inquired into why the Committee believes that the Students' Union has an obligation to consult Indigenous students.

BLONDIN: Responded that the duty arises from a need to rectify a long history of neglect and apathy.

LEY: Responded that the duty arises from a Students' Union mandate to represent all students.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the duty arises from an obligation to allow a sovereign people to represent themselves.

SUNDAY: Responded that the duty arises from the fact that the Students' Union exists on Treaty 6 land. Inquired into whether the Committee believes creating a bylaw is the best way to provide for proper Indigenous consultation in the Students' Union.

BLONDIN: Responded in the affirmative, noting that a bylaw is enduring.

STATT: Responded in the affirmative. Noted that consultation should extend beyond a bylaw as well.

BROWN: Responded in the affirmative, noting that it would provide direction in future years.

BHATNAGAR: Proposed creating an Indigenous engagement manual that is approved by the university and graduate student association.

SUNDAY: Identified that creating a bylaw is particularly useful as it binds the Students' Council, Students' Union operations, as well as those groups that have delegated authority from the Students' Union. Inquired into what terms the Committee believes should be found within the bylaw. Suggested that an Indigenous consultation bylaw should include the terms 'relationships', 'transparency', and 'timeliness'.

BLONDIN: Suggested that an Indigenous consultation bylaw should include the terms 'accountability' and 'trust'.

LEY: Suggested that an Indigenous consultation bylaw should include the terms 'binding' and 'empowering'.

BROWN: Suggested that an Indigenous consultation bylaw should include the terms 'progress', 'respectfulness', and 'understanding'.

BHATNAGAR: Suggested that an Indigenous consultation bylaw should include the terms 'recognition' and 'inclusion'.

BELCOURT: Suggested that an Indigenous consultation bylaw should include the terms 'history' and 'power'.

VAUGHT: Suggested that an Indigenous consultation bylaw should include the term 'nation-to-nation'.

2019-12/4 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

2019-12/4a ARRC Minutes (ARRC-2019-11-M) - Thursday, October 31, 2019.

Meeting was cancelled. Therefore, the minutes are not available.

2019-12/4b ARRC Minutes (ARRC-2019-10-M) - Thursday, October 16, 2019.

ARRC-2019-12.01.

2019-12/5 **ADJOURNMENT**

SUNDAY: Adjourned the meeting at 6:05pm.

2019-12/5a **Next Meeting:** Thursday, November 28, 2019 @ 5:00PM in SUB 6-06.