



ABORIGINAL RELATIONS AND RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE

Monday, February 10, 2020
6:00pm
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		Y	
Katherine Belcourt		Y	
Luke Statt		N	
Adam Brown		Y	
Andrew Volk		N	
Sean Gray		N	
Vaughn Beaulieu-Mercredi	Katie Kidd	Y	

MINUTES (ARRC-2019-15)

2019-15/1 INTRODUCTION

2019-15/1a **Call to Order**

SUNDAY: Called the meeting to order at 6:08pm.

2019-15/1b **Approval of Agenda**

SUNDAY/BROWN MOVED to approve the agenda with the addition of 2019-15/3a.
 CARRIED

2019-15/1c **Approval of Minutes**

VARGAS ALBA/BROWN MOVED to approve the minutes of ARRC-2019-15.01.

CARRIED

2019-15/1d Chair's Business

FMNI Specialist Position

SUNDAY: Noted that, last year, ARRC served part of the committee responsible for hiring the Students' Union FMNI Specialist. Expressed concern that, this year, the Committee was not involved.

BELCOURT: Expressed concern that Aboriginal Student Council was not consulted either.

BROWN: Noted that the outgoing FMNI Specialist served on the committee responsible for hiring her successor.

SUNDAY: Expressed concern that there is a dislocation between the governance and operations of the Students' Union and that neither Administration nor the Executive has taken action to correct it.

2019-15/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2019-15/2a Indigenous Student Political Policy

VARGAS ALBA: Proposed adding a new section to the Policy that would define terms that would be unclear for settlers.

SUNDAY: Proposed that the section define 'Aboriginal', 'FNMI' as well as 'bylaw', 'Students' Council', the 'University of Alberta'.

KIDD: Proposed defining 'settler' and 'smudging'.

BEASLEY: Inquired into whether the Bylaw should reference that there is an Aboriginal student residence, Musqua House, under development.

SUNDAY: Responded in the affirmative.

KIDD: Proposed linking the University of Alberta Indigenous Canada is a Massive Open Online Course as a further resource for individuals interested in learning about Aboriginal persons.

BEASLEY: Inquired into whether Vargas Alba, as chair of Policy Committee, will mention in the Policy Committee transition plan that the Committee must annually review its policies for broken links.

VARGAS ALBA: Responded in the affirmative.

SUNDAY: Requested that members of the Committee provide Andrew Volk with more feedback on his survey for his study of Métis Albertans' Barriers to Entering Healthcare Professions as discussed in ARRC 2019-13/2e.

VARGAS ALBA: Determined to continue to work on the Policy and bring it forward for review at a future meeting. Determined to create separate Facts sections for First Nations, Metis, and Inuit persons and create the Definitions section. Determined to increase Aboriginal engagement on the development of the Climate Policy.

KIDD: Proposed consulting students on the Policy's First Principles. Inquired as to whether the Committee has any questions concerning the Sexual Violence Policy, as found within the Policy Google Drive.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired into whether Aboriginal Student Council has proposed any changes to the Sexual Violence Policy.

KIDD: Responded that ASC proposed one wording changing, requested improved sourcing of Facts, and asked that ARRC be recognised for its contributions to creating the Policy.

SUNDAY: Proposed that the Policy make clear that the legacy of colonialism is 'ongoing'.

VARGAS ALBA: Proposed that the Policy define the legal term de novo.

2019-15/3 **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

2019-15/3a Aboriginal Consultation and Engagement Bylaw.

Outlined that the Bylaw will is composed of Principles (guiding tenets) and Directives (formal instructions which the SU must follow). Noted that one Principle is reconciliation. Noted that Directives include consulting Aboriginal students, consulting the ARRC chair, disclosing information, and reviewing bylaw and policy with Aboriginal stakeholders every two years. Clarified that the Bylaw does not apply to general SU advocacy and operations.

BEASLEY: Proposed that Sunday make provisions within the Bylaw to require the Students' Union to complete consultative review on all existing bylaws and policies. Noted that, otherwise, their review will not occur for two years.

BELCOURT: Expressed concern that the Bylaw states that the Students' Union does not have to consult Aboriginal students if they are not responsive to attempts at engagement.

KIDD: Proposed adding a provision clarifying that the Students' Union is permitted to proceed without consultation if and only if they first attempt consultation in many forms without success.

BROWN: Inquired as to why Sunday selected a two year review timeline (as opposed to another number). Recommended that Sunday also consult the General Manager on the Bylaw.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired as to what would occur if and when the Students' Union acts without consulting Aboriginal students.

SUNDAY: Responded that students could hold the Students' Union accountable at the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Board. Considered that the Bylaw will continue to protect the interests of Aboriginal students even if ARRC should cease to function.

BEASLEY: Inquired as to whether a DIE Board ruling can be appealed.

SUNDAY: Responded in the affirmative. Clarified that it is possible to appeal a DIE Board ruling once. Emphasised that the Bylaw, though specific to Aboriginal students, does not preclude any member of Council from writing their own general consultation bylaw. Determined to bring the Bylaw again for next discussion at the next meeting. Determined to consult the Native Studies Student Association.

2019-15/4 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

2019-15/4a ARRC Minutes (ARRC-2019-14-A) - Monday, December 12, 2019.
See ARRC-2019-15.01.

2019-15/5 **ADJOURNMENT**

SUNDAY: Adjourned the meeting at 6:49pm.

2019-15/5a **Next Meeting:** Monday, February 24, 2020 @ 6:00PM in SUB 6-06.

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS

MOTION	VOTES
SUNDAY/BROWN MOVED to approve the agenda with the addition of 2019-15/3a.	CARRIED
VARGAS ALBA/BROWN MOVED to approve the minutes of ARRC-2019-15.01.	CARRIED