



University of Alberta Students' Union

**ABORIGINAL  
RELATIONS &  
RECONCILIATION  
COMMITTEE  
(ARRC)**

**26 November 2021  
4:00pm  
Google Meet/In-Person**

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
Simran Dhillon		Y
Christopher Beasley		Y
Serena Manansala Yabut		N
Latiya Northwest		N
Shailley Peacock		N
Danielle Lapatack		Y
Talia Dixon		Y
Malijha Moyan		Y
Vaughn Beaulieu Mercredi, chair		Y
Andrew Batyicki		N
Emily Kimani		N
Courtney Graham		N/A

**MINUTES (ARRC 2021-06)**

**2021-06/1**

**INTRODUCTION**

**2021-06/1a**

**Call to Order**

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

**2021-06/1b**

**Approval of Agenda**

**DIXON/BEASLEY MOVED** to approve the agenda.

CARRIED

**2021-06/1c**

**Approval of Minutes**

**DIXON/BEASLEY MOVED** to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

CARRIED

**2021-06/1d**

**Chair's Business**

**2021-06/2**

**QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

**Discussion on the Residential School Memorial**

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: There's been a lot of interest in the memorial, which will remain in the main quad until Sunday, November 28th.

KIMANI: Questions what will happen to the flags after the memorial is taken down.

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: States that the flags will be put in storage and save for future memorial events.

**2021-06/3**

**COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**2021-06/3a**

**SU Land Acknowledgement 1st Draft**

BEASLEY: Presents the 1st draft of the SU Land Acknowledgement. There is no current timeline for approval.

DIXON: The SU Land Acknowledgement takes two minutes to speak. The land acknowledgment is meant to be thorough but short. While there is no timeline for approval, the acknowledgement should be completed by the end of the academic year so next year's ARRC committee does not have to re-examine it.

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: Suggests that everything looks good regarding the land acknowledgement. Notes, however, that when Cree is romanized, it is not usually capitalized.

KIMANI: Has concerns about the use of, "bestows," in a spoken land acknowledgement. Suggests that it may not be familiar language for students.

MOYAN: Agrees.

BEASLEY: Proposes utilizing, "gives."

BEASLEY: Queries whether the correct nations are named during the land acknowledgement.

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: When naming nations, it is more a worry of inclusion rather than exclusion.

As long as there is, “and others,” within the land acknowledgement, every nation should be covered.

BEASLEY: Asks if any Cree should be capitalized.

MOYAN: Titles, perhaps, should be capitalized. Suggests that when the romanized names of Cree words are not capitalized, the importance of those words are lessened to English readers.

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: States that, within the land acknowledgement, both the romanized versions of Cree words as well as the syllabic version of Cree words should be included.

DIXON: A pronunciation guide and English translation for Cree words would be useful.

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: Questions if it would be feasible for there to be three versions of the land acknowledgement: a standard land acknowledgement, and two additional pieces that could be included at the reader’s discretion.

KIMANI: Is concerned that if a land acknowledgement is too long, people will not listen to it.

BEASLEY: Suggests creating both a standard long and short land acknowledgement for the SU.

COMMITTEE: Agrees.

BEASLEY: Queries if the land acknowledgment should take note of changing landscapes due to climate change.

DIXON: A land acknowledgment can’t include everything and some readers may not be aware of all nuances of a land acknowledgement (which is a particular concern for institutional land acknowledgments).

LAPATAACK: Readers can make land acknowledgements personal based on who they are and their knowledge level regarding land acknowledgements.

BEASLEY: Questions if the land acknowledgement should include an appendix.

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: States that making the land acknowledgement into a PDF document and posting it on the SU website would be ideal. As such, an appendix would make website document more cohesive and informative.

LAPATAACK: Agrees.

BEASLEY: Questions if the bylaws should include the land acknowledgement.

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: Suggests, yes and volunteers to consult the land acknowledgement before moving to change it in the bylaws.

KIMANI: Offers the same.

**2021-06/3b**

**UASU Governance Restructuring Task Force Recommendations**  
TABLED

**2021-06/4**

**ADJOURNMENT**

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: Adjourned the meeting at 4:51 P.M.