



University of Alberta Students' Union

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

March 13th, 2023

5:00 P.M.

Location: Zoom

The University of Alberta and the University of Alberta Students' Union occupy Indigenous land in amiskwaciswaskahikan (Beaver Hills House), on Treaty 6 territory. From time immemorial, the banks along the river valley have been known as the Pehonan, a meeting place for the nêhiyawak (Cree), the Niitsitapi (Blackfoot), Métis, Dënesųłiné (Dene), Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and others. The University, the Students' Union and much of the city are located on the unlawfully stolen land of the forcibly removed Papaschase Cree.

We acknowledge that sharing this land gives each of us the responsibility to research the historic contexts of Treaty 6, to reflect on our personal relationships to the land, the Nations we've named, and to our roles in upholding justice on this territory. Since they began, the Students' Union and the University have benefited from historic and ongoing dispossession of land and resources from Indigenous Peoples. As a result, it is our responsibility to seek the restitution of this land and its resources. Finally, we seek to do better by working to make our learning, research, and governance align with the histories, languages, teachings, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples in the land presently occupied by the Canadian state.

We encourage critical reflection by asking the following question. In relation to the territory on which you are situated, what role do you play in strengthening the resistance and resurgence of Indigenous students within your communities?

ATTENDANCE

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT
Chantel Akinneah (Chair)		YES
Rebeca Avila		
Daniela Carbajal Velez		YES
Susana Dokiburra (SAL)		
Ayanna Fata (SAL)		
Gurleen Kaur		YES
Joannie Fogue		
Levi (don't know the last name)		YES
Gloria Kannumkulabil (SAL)		

Malijha Moyan		YES
Julia Viloso		NO
Courtney Graham		N/A
Collette Cullen		

MINUTES (ARRC-2022-09-M)

2022-09/1 INTRODUCTION

2022-09/1a **Call to Order**

AKINNEAH called the meeting for order at 5:05 P.M.

2022-09/1b **Approval of Agenda**

TABLED

2022-09/1c **Approval of Minutes**

TABLED

2022-09/1d **Chair's Business**

2022-09/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2022-09/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

KAUR: Has been working on the Indigenous Students' 2nd Principles and is looking for feedback from ARRC. Is in the middle of consulting with all the relevant groups, and the final draft will be sent out to ARRC for a last look at the Principles. Walked ARRC through the document and how it will support Indigenous students and parties at the University.

Not sure about the smudging guideline, and the SU will be approaching the federal government to increase the funding Indigenous students receive.

MOYAN: The inclusivity of the language of "Indigenous and self-identified Indigenous" in the document is understood, but MOYAN is concerned with students who are not Indigenous but are choosing to self-identify for financial benefit. As the document includes ways for Indigenous students to gain more access to bursaries and scholarships, there is a possibility for non-Indigenous students to self-identify to gain access to these financial resources.

AKKINEAH: The definition of Indigenous people is valid, especially as the University has a good program for verifying self-identified Indigenous

people. Because the verification system is good, the language of self-identification should remain.

A smudging policy should be created so that smudging ceremonies can occur in the future. LEVI can assist KAUR in writing this section of the policy.

2022-09/3a [Daniela Carbajal Velez's ARRC Report](#) **REVISED**

2022-09/4 **Information Items**

2022-09/4a [ARRC Recommendations 2022-2023](#)

2022-09/4b [Daniela Carbajal Velez's ARRC Report](#)

2022-09/4c [ARRC Standing Orders](#)

2022-09/5 **ADJOURNMENT**

AKKINEAH adjourned the meeting at 5:54 P.M.

2022-09/5a Next Meeting: