



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

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

6:00pm

SUB 6-06

We would like to acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Dene, Cree, 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 continuing colonial violence and respect Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

ATTENDANCE

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT	SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN FEEDBACK (IF ABSENT)
Shane Scott		Y	
Ilya Ushakov		Y	
Haley Lefferson		Y	
Katherine Nguyen		Y	
James Thibaudeau		Y	
Mike Sandare		Y	
Emily Howell		Y	

MINUTES (ARRC-2017-00)

2017-00/1 INTRODUCTION

2017-00/1a Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:01 PM

2017-00/1b Approval of Agenda

MICHAEL/ILYA MOVES to approve the agenda

2017-00/1c Approval of Minutes

2017-00/1d Chair's Business

Introduction of members

Shane: Acting as interim chair, have to pick a chair for the committee today. We have a lot of space to create a change for the SU. It's exciting and good. I think the topic is very important.

2017-00/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

Shane: What does everyone hope to get out of moving forward with this group (for the committee). Any general thoughts?

Mike: Curious to know what the committee will do - direct report? Projects? Recommendations moved to council? Interested in seeing how this committee can play with things happening at BoG's level, how uni wants to increase indigenous enrolment, interested in their experience on campus so if there's a way to make things better. Excited to see things happen.

Emily: Interested in how we're going to engage w/ Aboriginal populations on campus, this committee should collab with students on campus and how we can engage with aboriginal students in creative. Thinks this committee shouldn't be an overseeing committee or for us to make decisions for aboriginal students.

Ilya: Interested in engagement, it's really valuable and to have consultations with aboriginal students and interactions they have w/ places and resources on campus. This committee shows there's inclusivity and diversity.

Haley: I'm excited also to see how we engage, good health changes made, and hopefully advocacy work in terms of this. Also, attending some aboriginal events.

Katherine: It would be interested to meet the needs of everyone in the area. People are going to want different things and it's going to be interesting to make everyone happy.

Scott: This committee is a good move and it's time that something has to be done. That's why I was personally interested in getting involved.

James: It's long overdue. One of the best functions of this committee would be to help ensure all SC is aware and to respectfully engage the indigenous population. And to properly educate the remaining population to help them understand the struggles. It's one of the best things that may come out of this committee.

2017-00/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2017-00/3a

Selection of a Chair

Shane: Is anyone interested in nominating or being nominated?

?: I would like to nominate Councillor Sunday. 10:52

SHANE MOVES TO VOTE Councillor Sunday for the new chair.

2017-00/3B

Confirmation of Spring/Summer Meeting Schedule

Shane: Nathan has requested that we meet every 2 weeks. In the mandate of this adhoc committee, there's a deadline of Sept 1 to create the Standing Committee that this adhoc committee is supposed to become. Thoughts?

Mike: I'm leaving from June 16-Aug 15, can come via telephone conference.

?: I'm going from July 30 - Aug 12, can call in or get a proxy. 12:35

?: I'm doing a lot of heavy classes through spring/summer. 13:00

Mike: Proxies for committee don't have to be councillors as long as the chair knows.

Shane: So if any of you at any point are overwhelmed then let Nathan know.

Katherine: Are you guys wanting 2 members from ASC to attend the meetings?

Shane: Yes, ideally.

Katherine: I know there are members in the city.

Mike: It's good to have outside perspective especially in the formation of the standing committee.

Members discuss meeting times/days.

Meeting set: **On-Council, Wednesdays at 6:00 PM** (bi-weekly until Sept 1 for Spring/Summer)

Mike: 19:42 What is the work month going to be like? How the next couple months are going to be played out.

Shane: Attached to the agenda was the adhoc committee mandate so I think the first, we're supposed to be doing A-I then those tasks are supposed to continue on into the standing committee that's supposed to be formed in September so we're going to have to create standing orders.

Mike: Consultation strategies.

Katherine: knowledge of teachings, are you guys wanting us to bring options.

Mike: That would be great

Shane: I know Nathan had some things in mind and how this was going to roll out. I don't know where the line is drawn over what needs to be done over the next 4 months and if we're creating the committee by September. He doesn't know the discussion about the tasks as he wasn't on SC last year.

?: I think there's going to be a lot of brainstorming, it's going to be interesting. I'm hoping I can share some knowledge and branch out. What do you guys want to bring?

Mike: For myself, all of us are bring in representative roles for diff students on campus. We can bring faculty knowledge and how something like this could affect diff members of faculty and how these students could perceive different actions. As VP External last year, it included advocacy included aboriginal initiatives so we worked with CASA, federal organization and it had to do with TRC. The President of the University is looking to increase indigenous enrolment so there would be conversations like that happening at the board.

?: We all have our different constituents re our representative status. Speaking on the action items but we do have the mandate and it's our responsibility to go through each point and see each actionables because some of them are self-explanatory, some are qualitative where we have to have a discussion. It's part of our tasks to find actionables for this committee for the year from my understanding.

Shane: Part of my platform was "recognizing diversity in the classroom" so looking to increase the types of demographics on campus because the university likes to make claims like racism is not an issue. In reality, we do have racial inequality and mistreatment of various gps of people. I want to have conversations about this with administrators to fix this. So looking at race, indigeneity, race, and gender to understand what the campus looks like and having true conversations. It was Nathan's initiative last year to propose this. He wanted to see more collaboration b/w various governance bodies, SU, SC, and committees to move towards reconciliation. A lot of these tasks are going to cause us to have conversations on our end. We also wanted to involved ASC to bring the 2 groups together. One thing that's important to me is to make sure we don't end up off-loading the work to you or deidra? We all take onus on addressing this issues and bringing to SC. We all have a role in this.

?: There's a lot of groups that try to do stuff in ASC and haven't made any progress.

?: I'm really excited to learn more. Aboriginal culture is a big part of how I was brought up.

?: I didn't know much about my culture until I came to the UA and I met so many people from my community and to learn so much about ceremonies.

2017-00/4 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

2017-00/4a Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Ad Hoc Committee Mandate

Please see ARRC 17-00.01

2017-00/5 **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 6:33 PM.

2017-00/5a **Next Meeting:** TBD