

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

6:00 PM

SUB 6-06

ATTENDANCE

| NAME | PROXY | PRESENT |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| Delane Howie (<i>Interim Chair</i>) | | Y |
| Brandon Christensen | | Y |
| Alexander (Sandy) Brophy | | Y |
| Brandon Prochnau | | Y |
| Eilish McKinlay | | Y |
| Reed Larsen | <i>On leave</i> | N |
| Robyn Paches | Fahim Rahman | Y |

MINUTES (BC 2016-17)

2016-17/1 INTRODUCTION

2016-17/1a Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 18:06 (6:06 PM) by HOWIE.

2016-17/1b Approval of Agenda

BROPHY/RAHMAN MOVE to approve the agenda.

6/0/0

CARRIED

2016-17/1c Approval of Minutes

BROPHY/MCKINLAY MOVE to approve the minutes.

6/0/0

CARRIED

2016-17/1d Chair's Business

2016-17/1d Attendance

Attendance was taken. Proxies in attendance were noted above.
Councillor Sunday was also in attendance.

2016-17/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2016-17/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

**2016-17/3a Bill #13 – Implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation
Committee Implementation Committee - *First Reading***

ORIGINAL VERSION:

First Principles

1. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) was a fundamental component of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. The mandate of the TRC was to inform all Canadians of the atrocities which took place in Indian Residential Schools. Residential Schools were government-sponsored boarding schools established in the mid 19th century, with the sole purpose of the acculturation and complete assimilation of Aboriginal children. As Residential Schools were compulsory, children were forcibly taken from their parents and frequently subjected to physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. The TRC's main goal was to guide both Aboriginal Peoples and Canada-at-large along the path towards reconciliation and healing. In its final report, the TRC listed a set of *Calls for Action*, a set of principles to guide in the journey of reconciliation.
2. The purpose of this committee will be to foster healthy, respectful relationships with Aboriginal students on Campus. Moreover, in further implementing elements of the TRC, Students' Council creates both accountability to Aboriginal students and in carrying the spirit of reconciliation. As many Aboriginal students do not feel the Students' Union

represents—or is for—them, the creation and work of this committee would be an effective first-step in assuaging these hesitations.

3. The Truth and Reconciliation Implementation Committee will have the following mandate:
 - a. Shall make recommendations to Students' Council on the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action;
 - b. Shall ensure adequate consultation is completed by Students' Council in regards to Aboriginal students on Campus;
 - c. Assist, after consultation, Students' Council in identifying Aboriginal priorities;
 - d. Develop strategies on the respectful implementation of Indigenous knowledges and teachings;
 - e. Foster collaboration between the Students' Council and Aboriginal communities;
 - f. Review Students' Council Standing Committees and report on their progress in implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's *Calls to Action* and how, if they have, represented and consulted Aboriginal Students.
 - g. Periodically review the Executive Committee of the Students' Union in relation to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and the Truth and Reconciliation Political Policy.
 - h. Facilitate, if necessary, cultural sensitivity training for Students' Council.
4. Membership of this committee will be eight (8).
 - a. Five (5) members of Students' Council;
 - b. The Vice-President (Academic);
 - c. The Vice-President (Student Life);
 - d. An Executive member of the Aboriginal Student Council as a non-voting member.
5. Bylaw 100 shall be amended to implement the above changes, including general committee requirements as required for all committees.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:

HOWIE:

Councilor Sunday, what's your main goal with this bill?

SUNDAY:

It's the creation of a standing committee that will look into improving relations with aboriginal students on campus.

HOWIE:

The debate at Council was about whether this should be a standing committee, an ad-hoc committee, a working group, or a task force. President Rahman, can you go through your comments?

RAHMAN:

I agree with Councilor Sunday about the intention of this bill. There is a difference between implementing the Students' Union's (SU's) political policy and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). I also want to clarify whether we're bringing indigenous teaching to the Students' Council or to the curriculum in courses. Regarding 3-f, we don't usually have standing committees reporting to each other. If we do, the Council Administration Committee (CAC) deals with reporting from other committees. It would be better to work with standing committees instead of reviewing. The same argument applies to the Executive Committee. Finally, it would be better to have 2 undefined members of the Executive Committee as opposed to 2 defined ones.

HOWIE:

First, we should decide what type of committee this should be. I personally believe that a standing committee is the way to move forward. On that note, I believe we may want to amend the name to better reflect the mandate as the TRC is only one segment of improving relations with aboriginal students.

SUNDAY:

Yes.

BROPHY:

We want a name showing the actual mandate so as it'll be an entity which will last. "Indigenous Student Outreach Committee" would be a better name in my opinion.

MCKINLAY:

I'm supportive of a standing committee.

RAHMAN:

My preference is for an ad-hoc committee at first. We can get the mandate of the standing committee right if we didn't have the committee first. However, I'm not picky.

HOWIE:

A standing committee's mandate can be amended in the future can't it?

RAHMAN:

Yes.

CHRISTENSEN:

If the mandate is properly defined for the long term, a standing committee is fine. But, if the focus is on the TRC, an ad-hoc committee will be best.

MCKINLAY:

I believe we should go all the way now and create a standing committee.

HOWIE:

OK I agree.

BROPHY:

Yes.

SUNDAY:

This is what I had in my mind too. I also want to stress that implementing the TRC would not be quick or easy. It may even take longer than 5-10 years. I do agree with changing the name.

RAHMAN:

“Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Committee”.

SUNDAY:

I don’t agree with the word “indigenous” as it’s a broad term. The word “aboriginal” is a better term. As such, we should have “Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Committee”.

HOWIE:

That’s good then. How do you feel about the proposals brought forward by President Rahman?

MCKINLAY:

I agree with most of the items.

SUNDAY:

I still believe that they should periodically review the Executive Committee. Native Studies Students’ Association (NSSA) and the Aboriginal Students’ Council (ASC) agree with me.

RAHMAN:

I believe “work with” should be a better term.

MCKINLAY:

I thought this committee was about the relationship with aboriginal students in general, and not just about the TRC.

BROPHY:

This point is specifically about its relationship to other committees. This should make sure consultations are made, instead of making sure that there are aboriginal students on the committees at all times.

SUNDAY:

Yes, consultation is paramount.

HOWIE:

I don’t see how this fits a committee like the Audit Committee.

MCKINLAY:

We should term it as “where appropriate”.

SUNDAY:

That’s too vague. I’d rather have it set in stone.

BROPHY:

Usually, bylaws are written in good faith.

MCKINLAY:

We can say “all committees except Audit”.

HOWIE:

What if there’s a new standing committee with a mandate similar to the Audit Committee.

CHRISTENSEN:

We can be imprecise in first principles.

HOWIE:

I’d be hesitant to name the committees.

SUNDAY:

Even though this is about aboriginal students, you’re leaving it up to the institution to decide what is appropriate. I’d be wary about leaving it up to good faith.

HOWIE:

We can remove the “where applicable” part. If we need to make a change, it can happen during the second reading.

SUNDAY:

ASC wants full consultation, and not just be consulted. The word “consult” is too vague.

HOWIE:

I agree that it’s important. However, what consultation needs to look like should be done during the second reading.

RAHMAN:

For 3g, I'd like to have a similar wording as with the Students' Council. Instead of "reviewing", "working with" is a better term.

SUNDAY:

I want a periodic review. The groups that I talked with don't believe that the SU is accountable with respect to the aboriginal students. They want the oversight.

RAHMAN:

My preference is for the report to be about all of Students' Council. Historically, a majority of the conflict has been at the Council level. Other councilors have previously made inappropriate comments.

HOWIE:

I think it would be proactive to include the Executive Committee separately.

RAHMAN:

I disagree. Right now, the Executive Committee reports to all of Council. However, it's Council's decision.

MCKINLAY:

It's about accountability and transparency.

BROPHY:

It's about a certain subset of issues which relate to aboriginal students.

SUNDAY:

The Executive Committee has the most reach. There should be external advocacy about issues pertaining to aboriginal students. I have heard some disappointing comments from a candidate in this election.

HOWIE:

Reporting on Students' Council inherently includes the Executive Committee right?

RAHMAN:

Yes.

BROPHY:

It will still be nice to reiterate the Executive Committee as they are influential.

CHRISTENSEN:

I like the explicit mention of the Executive Committee.

SUNDAY:

I would like a report every trimester, so that they can be implemented during the following trimester.

RAHMAN:

One of the main issues here is trust. As two groups which have a strained relationship, it's better to work together rather than one party review and report on the other. That's why I'm pushing hard against the report. The Executive Committee does all it can to represent the students. The onus should be partly shared by councilors.

HOWIE:

I tend to agree with that.

SUNDAY:

This is a committee to improve the relationship between aboriginal students, and if the aboriginal students are saying that they want this report. Therefore, if you don't include the report, this committee has no purpose.

HOWIE:

That's not what we're saying. I totally agree that the report should be there. The only issue is regarding the executives. A report on Council would inherently include a significant section about the executives.

RAHMAN:

If the documents are separate, the Council report would not get much attention.

SUNDAY:

At the end of the day, I believe they should be separate because it's the Executive Committee that does the lobbying. As I said before, I was disappointed when I talked with a candidate.

RAHMAN:

That person hasn't been elected yet. People change their opinions after going through transition.

SUNDAY:

There should be aboriginal students in this committee instead of having only non-aboriginal students giving input.

HOWIE:

Can we have outside members on our standing committees?

MCKINLAY:

We can have non-voting members.

SUNDAY:

ASC stated clearly that they wanted to be a voting member.

CHRISTENSEN:

Any standing committee can appoint non-voting members if they see fit. However, the voting members should be elected representatives of Students' Council.

HOWIE:

I'd argue that it is a special circumstance. Native Studies only has one councilor.

SUNDAY:

That doesn't guarantee an aboriginal student either. 40% of my faculty is non-native. If the ASC was in the committee as a non-voting member, it'll be seen as a way for the SU to save face.

MCKINLAY:

This should be an opportunity to not repeat history. It should go to CAC.

SUNDAY:

The other thing which was brought up was to have an elder. However, the SU will have to pay an honorarium. It'll be an insult not to.

HOWIE:

Can we come back to that? I'm not knowledgeable about providing honorariums.

RAHMAN:

It's unlikely this will be resolved today. I believe we should go for an ad-hoc committee, and not worry about the different rules. With an ad-hoc committee we can give people voting powers without amending our bylaws. After a certain time, this ad-hoc committee would give its recommendations, and a standing committee would be formed. We only have 1 aboriginal voice right now. It'll be beneficial to have more.

MCKINLAY:

Is there a way to ensure that a standing committee comes out after the ad-hoc committee ends?

PROCHNAU:

I agree that there should be an ad-hoc committee. We can write in the mandate that a standing committee must be formed at the conclusion. If I was an aboriginal student, I'd want to elect these people instead of them having being appointed by the NSSA.

SUNDAY:

It doesn't mention the NSSA here. ASC is composed of exclusively aboriginal students. I believe this should be a standing committee, and should not be delayed. We shouldn't be bogged down. The committee should be created first, and we can change it later. It's not about the SU being comfortable or not. The status quo should change.

CHRISTENSEN:

We can either rush through this and make mistakes or create an ad-hoc committee and iron out the issues properly next year.

BROPHY:

It's inappropriate for us to make such big decisions. It may even result in the bylaw getting voted down. It's a good idea to create an ad-hoc committee so that we can get the structure right later on.

RAHMAN:

We have the opportunity to do something important here. We have to do it right.

HOWIE:

After listening to the comments, I'm now more in favor of having an ad-hoc committee with a firm deadline of creating a standing committee.

SUNDAY:

I didn't think of this on the spot myself. I have consulted with multiple groups and numerous aboriginal students. If this was an ad-hoc committee, the executives wouldn't be as accountable. How much was done about aboriginal students before the Native Studies seat was filled? That's why I'm a bit worried.

MCKINLAY:

Not much. I agree. When would the ad-hoc committee members be appointed?

HOWIE:

As soon as we create it.

CHRISTENSEN:

The Bylaw Committee isn't usually required to create an ad-hoc committee. It can be done as a general order, but given this situation I think it makes sense that we recommend council do so in the form of 1 single motion. President Rahman, clarify that it would only require 1 motion of Council?

RAHMAN:

Yes, it's a single motion at Students' Council.

BROPHY:

With an ad-hoc committee, it'll still be doing all the work, but it will not have the final membership. We can't make exceptions to the rule as the Bylaw Committee right now. The ad-hoc committee can finalize the composition.

MCKINLAY:

Even though we can create a standing committee right now, it won't be proper. We just can't decide on things like honorariums. I get it that you are tired of waiting. But, it's the best way. It should be mandated that there would be an actual standing committee at the end.

BROPHY:

The mandate would pretty much be the same for an ad-hoc committee. However, it will recreate itself at the end of its term.

RAHMAN:

You would have the committee set up quicker if we go with an ad-hoc committee.

SUNDAY:

Obviously, I have to take this back to my community. But, with an ad-hoc committee, we'll have to wait for another year till the finer details are sorted.

MCKINLAY:

Do we have to wait a year? Can't the term of the ad-hoc committee be shorter?

BROPHY:

Reopening the question of the membership is not guaranteed with the standing committee, whereas it's mandated with an ad-hoc committee.

MCKINLAY:

You can mandate that the ad-hoc committee look into appointing an elder, and giving a voting position to the ASC. No matter who gets in, they have to do that.

HOWIE:

We can always look at shortening the time frame.

BROPHY:

We can have the ad-hoc committee conclude after Summer.

HOWIE:

That'd be better.

RAHMAN:

Will ASC members be able to do this during Summer?

SUNDAY:

I'm not sure.

RAHMAN:

Therefore, I believe December would be a better compromise.

SUNDAY:

I don't agree with that. We should not delay this further. The sooner the standing committee gets established, the better.

HOWIE:

Even though the timeline is unacceptable, we can't guarantee the membership you require if we move ahead now with a standing committee.

RAHMAN:

We can recommend that the ad-hoc committee conclude their mandate by August, but just to be on the safe side, we can have the end date during December. Otherwise, we can have a situation where we move into September when the ad-hoc committee terminates with no clear plan or consensus.

HOWIE:

That makes sense. Councilor Sunday, are you comfortable with moving ahead with an ad-hoc committee? Or, do you want to push for a standing

committee, but with the risk of not having the right people? Aboriginal students and SU people should be at the table with equal voting power.

RAHMAN:

If we have a standing committee, only the Students' Council members will vote on the report. Conversely, in an ad-hoc committee, all members will vote.

HOWIE:

That will increase accountability.

SUNDAY:

It seems to me that the issues mainly relate to internal SU matters.

HOWIE:

As the Bylaw Committee, we just don't have the authority to appoint a non-elected person as a voting member in a standing committee.

MCKINLAY:

Even though we have been discussing for a long time, we have barely touched the surface. There will be other contentious things.

CHRISTENSEN:

At this point, the whole motion has been referred to the Bylaw Committee. Therefore, it's up to the Bylaw Committee to decide on the Bill, while considering Councilor Sunday's input.

HOWIE:

I will choose whatever Councilor Sunday prefers.

BROPHY:

I'll do the same thing.

SUNDAY:

I'm unclear how to move forward. It's a hard decision. I don't really see the motion failing though.

RAHMAN:

If we move ahead with an ad-hoc committee, we will only require points 3 and 4.

SUNDAY:

If we're going forward as an ad-hoc committee, I'd prefer the Bylaw Committee to recommend it instead of myself. I can't have my name there as it's contrary to what my constituents and community wanted. Personally, I can see how an ad-hoc committee would be the best.

MCKINLAY:

Is there anything else in your consultation that you'd like to add here Councilor Sunday?

SUNDAY:

We should have 2 voting members from the ASC. In addition, there should be some training about aboriginal affairs to the SU members of this committee.

MCKINLAY:

Was there any training about aboriginal relations in *GovCamp*?

RAHMAN:

No. However, it's on Rebecca Taylor's radar.

HOWIE:

Who will provide that training?

RAHMAN:

We can find somebody. It's usually a staff member.

SUNDAY:

In my consultations, they wanted someone from the Dean of Students and the Provost office. I'm not sure if it's possible or not.

HOWIE:

It's a separate organization.

RAHMAN:

It's better to keep the separation between the different entities.

A straw poll was conducted, and all 6 members were in preference of moving ahead with an ad-hoc committee.

HOWIE:

Great, do we need a new bill?

RAHMAN:

No. It's not a bylaw change.

CHRISTENSEN:

We should defer Bill #13 indefinitely before we proceed.

MOTION:

HOWIE/BROPHY MOVE to indefinitely defer the first reading of Bill #13 as listed above.

6/0/0

CARRIED

2016-17/3b *Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Ad hoc Committee – General Order*

1. Mandate: The Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Committee
 - a. Shall make recommendations to Students' Council on the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action;
 - b. Shall ensure adequate consultation, as defined by this committee, is completed by Students' Council in regards to Aboriginal students at the University of Alberta;
 - c. Shall assist, after consultation, Students' Council in identifying Aboriginal priorities;
 - d. Shall develop strategies on the respectful implementation of Indigenous knowledges and teachings;
 - e. Shall foster collaboration between the Students' Council and Aboriginal communities;

- f. Shall work with Students' Council Standing Committees in implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and representing and consulting Aboriginal students.
 - g. Shall work with the Executive Committee of the Students' Union in implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Political Policy and representing and consulting Aboriginal students.
 - h. Shall facilitate cultural sensitivity training for Students' Council, if necessary.
 - i. Shall compile a report on the representation and consultation of Aboriginal students as well as relevant advocacy work done by Students' Council, including the Executive Committee.
 - j. Shall establish the framework for a Standing Committee that, in addition to the above mandate, will make recommendations on the following, by September 1, 2017:
 - i. Committee Membership: voting and non-voting;
 - ii. Addition of an Elder(s) and Oskapew to this Committee;
 - iii. Compilation of all relevant work done by Students' Council directly affecting Aboriginal students over the past 10 years;
 - iv. Requirement for Committee members to be trained in Aboriginal cultural sensitivity and inclusivity.
 - k. Shall expire when the above Standing Committee is established by Students' Council.
2. Membership of this committee will be nine (9).
- a. Five (5) members of Students' Council;
 - b. Two (2) members of the Executive Committee, as appointed by the Executive Committee;
 - c. Two (2) executive members of the Aboriginal Student Council as voting members.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:

BROPHY:

There will not be an elder in the ad-hoc committee, but one of their mandates is to work with relevant parties to ensure that the resultant standing committee has an elder. It's definitely a thing that should happen.

SUNDAY:

I got some responses. They agree with an ad-hoc committee as long as there are 2 ASC voting members, and the ad-hoc committee concludes after Summer.

HOWIE:

So, would you like to move it in Council?

SUNDAY:

Yes.

MCKINLAY:

When we put "adequate consultation", what does it mean?

SUNDAY:

Would they be able to go to Augustana and consult aboriginal students there?

CHRISTENSEN:

Right now, we're solely creating the framework.

SUNDAY:

Would it include students who are studying abroad? When you say "at the University of Alberta", do you mean students who are physically here, or the students studying here?

MCKINLAY:

I'd say it refers to students studying here.

RAHMAN:

Getting back, we should say "adequate consultation as defined by the

committee”.

HOWIE:

I’d say the term “foster collaboration” is a bit vague.

SUNDAY:

There are outreach events in different communities. I wanted it to be vague so that it’s generalized. I don’t want it to mean aboriginal communities just on campus.

HOWIE:

I don’t think we need trimesterly reports anymore because they’ll only exist for the Summer.

BROPHY:

We want to add a point saying that a framework for a standing committee is created before the ad-hoc committee’s termination.

HOWIE:

I don’t think it’ll be fair for us to ask this committee to compile 2 reports in addition to all these things in 4 months over the Summer.

SUNDAY:

I’d like the ad-hoc committee to compile a list of all motions relevant to aboriginal students. It should be possible.

MCKINLAY:

That’s a lot of minutes to go through.

HOWIE:

I think it’s a yearlong task. We have to remember that these people are volunteers.

SUNDAY:

I also recommend that there should be 2 elders, male and female.

MCKINLAY:

Are there elders who already visit campus?

SUNDAY:

Yes, there are many.

RAHMAN:

Can we put “as recommended by the executive committee” regarding the appointment of 2 executives?

BROPHY:

Most other committees specify who the 2 executive members are.

RAHMAN:

I like it to be flexible as there may be changes in requirement over time.

SUNDAY:

Regarding the elders, it may be good to include an oskapew as well. He/she is basically an elder’s helper. We also need to add the timeline.

RAHMAN:

You should also add that the ad-hoc committee expires after the standing committee is formed?

MCKINLAY:

What happens if the ad-hoc committee doesn’t follow its mandate?

RAHMAN:

Council has to take care of the issue.

HOWIE:

The term “affecting aboriginal students” is too vague. We should say “directly affecting”.

SUNDAY:

I would like it to say aboriginal cultural sensitivity instead of inclusivity. Can the executives review themselves when the report is compiled?

HOWIE:

It’s inevitable. There would be a report about Council, and everybody would cross-review each other.

MOTION:

HOWIE/CHRISTENSEN MOVE to recommend Students' Council create the Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation ad hoc committee with the following terms of reference:

5/0/0

CARRIED

2016-17/4 INFORMATION ITEMS

2016-17/5 ADJOURNMENT

2016-17/5a **Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 5, 2017 @ 6:00 PM at Earls Kitchen + Bar on Campus.**

2016-17/5b **BROPHY/MCKINLAY MOVE to adjourn at 8:45 PM.**

5/0/0

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 20:45 (8:45 PM).

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS

| MOTION | VOTES |
|---|------------------|
| BROPHY/RAHMAN MOVE to approve the agenda. | 6/0/0 CARRIED |
| BROPHY/MCKINLAY MOVE to approve the minutes. | 6/0/0 CARRIED |
| HOWIE/BROPHY MOVE to indefinitely defer the first reading of Bill #13 as listed above. | 6/0/0 CARRIED |
| HOWIE/CHRISTENSEN MOVE to recommend Students' Council create the Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation ad hoc committee with the following terms of reference: | 5/0/0 CARRIED |
| BROPHY/MCKINLAY MOVE to adjourn at 8:45 PM. | 5/0/0 CARRIED |