



**BYLAW  
COMMITTEE**

**Saturday, March 21, 2020**

**4:00 PM**

**Google Hangout**

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)
David Draper (Chair)		Y	
Amlan Bose		Y	
Luke Statt		Y	
Katie Kidd		Y	
Adarsh Badesha		Y	
Samir Esmail		Y	
Talia Dixon		Y	
Akanksha Bhatnagar		Y	

**MINUTES (BC 2019-18)**

**2019-18/1      INTRODUCTION**

**2019-18/1a    **Call to Order****

DRAPER: Called the meeting to order at 4:09pm.

**2019-18/1b    **Approval of Agenda****

**2019-18/1c    **Approval of Minutes****

**2019-18/1d    **Chair's Business****

**2019-18/2      QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

**2019-18/3**

**COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**2019-18/3a**

The Emergency Procedures Act (Bylaw)

DRAPER: Outlined that the Bylaw aims to give the Students' Union Executive greater discretionary power during periods of crisis in order to allow them to rapidly respond to and resolve emergent issues.

ESMAIL: Proposed revising the Bylaw to be more specific as to what legislative instruments it suspends (eg. individual bylaws, political policies, and operational policies).

DRAPER: Responded that the Committee will make the Bylaw more specific in Second Principles. Clarified that the Bylaw cannot override Bylaw 100 or Bylaw 1500, except in their mention of other bylaws, political policies, operational policies, or committees.

BADESHA: Inquired into why the Bylaw states that 'During the period where bylaw 9000 is active Students' Council can meet with as little as twelve (12) hours notice.'

DRAPER: Responded that that provision is designed to allow for a rapid response during a period of crisis.

KIDD: Expressed concern that the Bylaw is unclear as to how long emergency powers and protocols remain in effect before ending or requiring renewal at Council.

ESMAIL: Inquired into whether other student representative organisations in Canada have similar bylaws.

STATT: Responded that, in his knowledge, they do not.

BADESHA: Expressed concern that 3 months is too long a period to allow for emergency powers and protocols to remain in effect without review.

KIDD: Inquired into whether the Bylaw is a response to the ongoing COVID-19 Crisis or, on the other hand, was created to address a gap in the state of current bylaw which was identified as a result of the Crisis.

DRAPER: Responded that the Bylaw aims to address future crises.

STATT: Responded that the Bylaw will likely be used to deal with the ongoing COVID-19 Crisis.

[Gap in Meeting Recording]

DIXON: Concurred with Badesha that 3 months is too long a period to allow for emergency powers and protocols to remain in effect without review.

DRAPER: Clarified that, while 3 months is the maximum, Council could decide to initiate the Bylaw for a shorter period of time.

BOSE: Inquired into whether standard Council attendance regulations would apply for emergency meetings occurring as part of the Bylaw.

STATT: Responded in the affirmative. Clarified that meetings occurring as a result of the Bylaw are no different than standard meetings of Council, except that they can be called with shorter notice.

DIXON: Expressed concern at the optics of having the Bylaw referred to as Bylaw 9110 which could be read as Bylaw 9'11.

STATT: Proposed renumbering the bylaw as Bylaw 9000.

DIXON: Concurred with Statt.

KIDD: Expressed concern at the optics of having an emergency meeting to review the Bylaw and rushing its approval at Council.

BHATNAGAR: Anticipated that the Bylaw will not be enacted in her term as President of the Students' Union. Suggested that the Committee frame the Bylaw as a legislative instrument which is designed to deal with future, unanticipated crises.

**STATT/BADESHA MOVED** to approve Bylaw 9000 First Principles.  
CARRIED

**2019-18/4      INFORMATION ITEMS**

**2019-18/5      ADJOURNMENT**

DRAPER: Adjourned the meeting at 6:56pm.

**SUMMARY OF MOTIONS**

MOTION	VOTES
<b>STATT/BADESHA MOVED</b> to approve Bylaw 9000 First Principles.	CARRIED