

Date: Friday November 24th, 2023.

Time: 2:00pm

Online: [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, Dënesųliné (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	Attendance	Proxy or Written Submission
Voting Members		
Jillian Aisenstat (Chair)	Y	
Damon Atwood	Y	
Levi Flaman	Y	
Noor Abdelwahab	N	
Stephen Raitz	N	
Non-Voting Members & Guests		
Name	Position or Affiliation	
Marc Dumouchel	N/A	
Courtney Graham	N/A	
Aseel Atia	N/A	

Minutes (Bylaw-2023-13)

2023-13/1 INTRODUCTION

2023-13/1a Call to Order

AISENSTAT called the meeting to order at 2:04pm.

- Land Acknowledgement
- Attendance

2023-13/1b Approval of Agenda

COMMITTEE MOVED TO approve the agenda
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2023-13/1c Approval of Minutes

COMMITTEE MOVED TO approve [BC-2023-11-M](#) and [BC-2023-12-M](#)
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2023-13/1d Chair's Business

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2023-13/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2023-13/2a [Article II Reorganization](#)- Damon

ATWOOD: Once the document is complete, changes will be reflected on a Word Document outlining redline changes. Notes that the definitions have been moved to the definitions sections of Article 1. The goal was to shift things around and not to make substantive changes.

DUMOUCHEL: Only thing of note from the Article II Reorganization document is to allocate between regulations and bylaw.

ATWOOD: Notes that the COMMITTEE have already concluded that they are all to stay Bylaws.

Notes that there will need to be an amendment to the document regarding the definitions as a consequence of restructuring.

Ask the COMMITTEE for future clarification on which regulations need to be removed.

2023-13/2b Fee Governance First Principles support -

DUMOUCHEL: The previous year's Finance Committee had met to discuss Fee Governance and DUMOUCHEL and FLAMAN wanted to remove the details and place them into regulations in order to ensure clarity. Discusses an overview of Fee Governance First Principles.

Principle 1: Type of Fees, outlines four types of fees which include Students' Union Base Membership fees, Special Purpose Fee's which are fees that are managed by the Students' Union and are for specific purposes such as The Access Fund or the SCF. Another type of fee would include a Dedicated Fee Unit, and notes that the previous Finance Committee recommended that a student group would be required to initiate a DFU however this would not be feasible, as for example The Campus Food Bank and Student Legal Services are not student groups. The last fee type would be Student Representative Association Membership Fees (FAMFS).

For Principle 2: Fee Creation, the details of how the council manages Fee Creation would be a regulation. Key principles include that new fees must be approved by referendum and that referendums for Special Purpose Fees can be initiated by Students' Council, which allows for Council to address identified needs. Reiterates an existing rule laid out by DIE Board noting that 15% of Student Union Members must sign-on to a petition for a required referendum for new DFUs. DUMOUCHEL notes that new or existing DFU's may not require a 15% petition, however Students' Council is not obliged to approve this application. DFUs cannot hold more than two plebiscites or referendums in a three-year period. Referendum questions must all be in neutral terms as well.

Noted that they believe that the referendum bylaw needs to be modified to address referendums that pose threats to the Students' Union ability to fulfill the mandate set by the Post Secondary Learning Act.

Principle 3: Fee Modification, Review and Renewal notes that Special Purpose Fees are to be reviewed by Students' Council every five years.

Principle 4: Fee Administration seeks to ensure that accountability measures are more robust and provide security and stability to partner groups. This principle proposes that how this is managed is governed by a Fee Agreement. Notes that any existing DFUs and SRAMFS must establish an agreement 15 months after the Bylaw is passed.

Encourages the COMMITTEE to take their own time to look through the details, provisions and conditions outlined in the document as well give their feedback.

AISENSTAT: Would need time to read over the document thoroughly before giving feedback.

2023-13/2c CJSR Question - Levi

FLAMAN: Reworded CJSR's initial purpose into a more neutral and summarized statement. Notes the conditions of the CJSR DFU's.

AISENSTAT: States that the COMMITTEE has generally approached the DFU questions in a similar format. Asks the COMMITTEE if the format should be essentialized before or after approval.

FLAMAN: Does not believe it is necessary to create the changes before approval so long as the changes are strictly editorial. Notes that they can create a standardized template moving forward.

ATWOOD: Asks the COMMITTEE if mandating the size of board in their conditions would be affected by student participation and if it is necessary. Asks COMMITTEE if they could add a condition requiring a Students' Council member on their board instead.

FLAMAN: Notes that the conditions indicating board size came directly from CJSR.

ATWOOD: Suggests moving this into a condition in order to abide by bylaw and further clarify its purpose.

FLAMAN: Notes that the COMMITTEE should only put one Students' Council member as a requirement into their conditions due to previous concerns of councillor attendance.

2023-13/2d [The Landing Plebiscite Question](#) - Stephen

AISENSTAT: Asks COMMITTEE if any members have any critiques with the purpose statement besides moving the section regarding board membership into the statement.

GRAHAM: Suggests further clarification regarding The Landing's goals in order to clarify who is responsible for acting upon the mentioned goal.

COMMITTEE: Agrees.

AISENSTAT: Asks COMMITTEE if section three should be moved into the purpose statement.

GRAHAM: Notes to the COMMITTEE that if specified that an Executive member must sit on the board, it will be chosen by the Executive Committee unless designated to go to Students' Council. If unspecified, any Students' Council member or Executive can be chosen.

AISENSTAT: States that the COMMITTEE has re-arranged information. Does not think it is necessary to specify whether it is an Executive member that is required to be on the board.

AISENSTAT/ATWOOD MOVE TO extend the meeting by 15 minutes.
CARRIED

AISENSTAT: Asks FLAMAN to clarify The Landing's second condition.

ATWOOD: Asks FLAMAN if The Landing is currently funded by the Students' Union.

FLAMAN: Notes that The Landing is mostly funded by DFU's, but is managed by Students' Union employees.

ATWOOD: Asks if the COMMITTEE should clarify Bylaw 6.100 in the conditions.

2023-13/2e FLAMAN: Thinks the term independent is sufficient.

[ISU DFU Question- Rough Draft](#) - Noor

FLAMAN: The purpose states this is a DFU renewal. However, this would mean it would be a plebiscite and not a referendum. Notes that the proposal does have missing information and that they do not believe they can pass this today.

AISENSTAT: Asks GRAHAM if another meeting could be arranged with adequate time for a response from the ISU.

GRAHAM: Will set up a meeting for the Bylaw Committee. Notes that GRIFFITHS is the best point of contact for the ISU.

Notes to also ask ISU if they are increasing their fees because it would create a distinction between a plebiscite or referendum.

AISENSTAT: Things to include when reaching out to ISU: whether they are looking to include Augustana students, if it is a plebiscite or referendum, the length of their term, additional information on board composition and if they are a facility or a service.

GRAHAM: Can send an email regarding those questions today.

AISENSTAT: Will send an email to GRIFFITHS highlighting its urgency.

FLAMAN: Suggests also making ISU aware that CPI increases \$1 to \$1.08, and that the COMMITTEE can change this to reflect that they do not lose funding.

2023-13/2f [Gateway DFU Question](#) - Jill

AISENSTAT: Did reduce their mission statement located in their purpose as they will have the time to explain themselves during the presentation. Included a section regarding The Gateway becoming independent.

FLAMAN: Notes that they do not need to add that because they are not a Students' Union service due to a DIE Board ruling.

AISENSTAT: Asks FLAMAN if they still wanted to change the name from "The Gateway Dedicated Fee Unit" to the "The Gateway Student Journalism Fund."

AISENSTAT/ATWOOD MOVE TO extend the meeting to 3:45pm.
CARRIED

FLAMAN: Is ambivalent, but expresses that it has historically been referred to as "The Gateway Student Journalism Fund"

ATWOOD: Suggests asking The Gateway on their opinion.

AISENSTAT: Will change the name to The Gateway Student Journalism Fund.

2023-13/3 **OLD BUSINESS**

2023-13/3a •

2023-13/3 **NEW BUSINESS**

- 2023-13/3a**
- Voting on Second Principles of Article 2
 - Voting on all of the DFU questions
 - CJSR
 - Landing
 - ISU
 - Gateway

2023-13/4 **WRAP-UP**

2023-13/4a **Action Items / To-Do List**

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2023-13/4b Next Scheduled Meeting

- Friday, December 7th, 2-3pm.

2023-13/5 Adjournment

- AISENSTAT adjourned the meeting at 3:47pm.
- Closing Attendance