



**POLICY
COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

5:00 PM

SUB 6-06

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)
Juan Vargas Alba (chair)		Y	
Abigail Isaac		N	
Amber Sayed		Y	
Phoebe Marinakis		N	
Samantha Tse		N	
Katie Kidd		Y	
Joel Agarwal		Y	
Adam Brown		Y	
Jared Larsen		Y	

MINUTES (PC 2019-14)

2019-14/1 INTRODUCTION

2019-14/1a Call to Order

VARGAS ALBA: Called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

2019-14/1b Approval of Agenda

BROWN/SAYED MOVED to approve the agenda.

CARRIED

2019-14/1c Approval of Minutes

LARSEN/BROWN MOVED to approve the agenda of PC-2019-13-M.
CARRIED

2019-14/1d **Chair's Business**

2019-14/2 **QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

2019-14/3 **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

2019-14/3a Sexual Violence Policy

LARSEN: Determined to consult Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation Committee on the Sexual Violence Policy Second Principles. Noted that, since First Principles, he added Facts 4 and 4.1 concerning the legacy of colonialism and the sexual exploitation of Aboriginal children. Noted that, since First Principles, he also added Fact 13 concerning the traumatising effect of de novo University Appeals Board hearings. Outlined that, since First Principles, he amended Resolutions 1, 4, and 15 calling on the University to further develop its policy. Outlined that, since First Principles, he added Resolutions 6, 8, 9, 18, 19, and 20 calling for reducing Aboriginal stereotypes, increasing support service funding, studying sexual violence in Alberta post-secondary campuses, reviewing disciplinary boards, eliminating de novo University Appeal Board hearings, and hiring a sexual assault coordinator, respectively. Outlined that he consulted Residence Services, Sexual Assault Centre, Dean of Students Office, First Peoples' House, ARRC, Council of Residence Associations, Landing Student Advisory Committee.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired into whether the Committee feels as though Fact 13 is within the spirit of the Policy's First Principles.

AGARWAL: Inquired into what differentiates a de novo appeal from a regular appeal.

LARSEN: Responded that the Appeals Board hears a case from the beginning (including argumentation and evidence) instead of relying upon pre existing evidence and argument from tribunal place where it first occurred. Expressed concern that this requires sexual assault survivors to retell their stories which can cause trauma.

KIDD: Inquired into which communities Fact 4 refers when it states 'In some communities, sexually exploited Aboriginal children and youth make up more than 90% of the visible sex trade, even where Aboriginal Peoples make up less than 10% of the population'.

LARSEN: Responded that Fact 4 refers to municipalities.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired into whether the University takes measures to prevent students involved in an alleged sexual assault occurred are not made to take a mandatory course together due to circumstance.

KIDD: Noted that this could also be a problem in University Residences.

LARSEN: Responded that the Dean of Students Office handles this issue on an individual basis and will provide accommodations.

AGARWAL: Inquired into the order of government Fact 8 refers when it states that the UASU will advocate the government to increase funding to improve sexual assault support services across all campuses.

BROWN: Proposed referring to all levels of government.

KIDD: Expressed concern that the University Augustana Campus does not have sufficient support services for handling sexual assaults.

BROWN: Proposed adding a fact concerning this issue in the Augustana Policy.

LARSEN/VARGAS ALBA MOVED to approve the Sexual Violence Policy Second Principles to be sent for review at Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation Committee.
CARRIED

2019-14/3b

Standing Order Change(s)

LARSEN: Expressed concern that Standing Orders require that members of the Committee who are executives are supposed to provide briefs on their advocacy efforts each meeting. Proposed removing this requirement given that the executive already reports this information to Council.

VARGAS ALBA: Proposed, in its place, allowing the chair of the Committee to request reports from members of the Committee who are executives when needed.

LARSEN: Proposed adding a Section 17 Appendix 2 template for policy drafting that sets out how to make changes to and create policy.

AGARWAL: Proposed adding a complete sample template within the Standing Orders.

AGARWAL: Inquired into whether the Committee intends that the creation of policy should always require consultation.

LARSEN: Responded in the affirmative.

KIDD: Noted that Councillor Sunday intends to create a bylaw requiring that Council consult Aboriginal people on any policy that affects their interests.

LARSEN: Noted that consultation takes different forms and involves varying degrees of work.

KIDD: Expressed concern that requiring onerous consultation may discourage some councillors from writing new policy. Proposed defining consultation within Standing Orders.

LARSEN: Proposed defining consultation as ‘including but not limited to meetings with relevant stakeholders, surveys, focus groups, and the gathering of feedback from various members of the community’.

VARGAS ALBA: Proposed qualifying the definition that ‘gathering of feedback from various members of the community it impacts’.

AGARWAL: Proposed clarifying that consultation need only occur where applicable.

LARSEN/AGARWAL MOVED to amend Standing Orders as per the document dated December 10 between 5:00pm and 5:49pm.
CARRIED

2019-14/3c Other Policy Renewal

VARGAS ALBA: Outlined that the Committee will have completed its scheduled renewal upon passing Second Principles for Sexual Violence, Transit, and Tuition.

2019-14/4 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

2019-14/4a Policy Committee Minutes (PC-2019-13-M) - Tuesday, November 26, 2019.
See PC-2019-14.01.

2019-14/5 **ADJOURNMENT**

VARGAS ALBA: Adjourned the meeting at 5:49pm.

2019-14/5a **Next Meeting:** TBD.

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS

MOTION	VOTES
BROWN/SAYED MOVED to approve the agenda.	CARRIED
LARSEN/BROWN MOVED to approve the agenda of PC-2019-13-M.	CARRIED
LARSEN/VARGAS ALBA MOVED to approve the Sexual Violence Policy Second Principles to be sent for review at Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation Committee.	CARRIED
LARSEN/AGARWAL MOVED to amend Standing Orders as per the document dated December 10 between 5:00pm and 5:49pm.	CARRIED

