



University of Alberta Students' Union

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE (SUSC)

Jan 25, 2024

2:00 P.M.

Zoom

The University of Alberta and the University of Alberta Students' Union occupy Indigenous land in amiskwacîswâskahikan (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 Niitsítapi (Blackfoot), Métis, Dënesųłíné (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	PROXY	PRESENT
Michael Griffiths		Y
Adrian Lam		Y
Megan Jones		N
Sophie Martel		N
Finn Thornley		Y
Damon Atwood		Y
Christian Fotang		N
Karina Afonya		Y

Courtney Graham		N/A
Aseel Atia		N/A
Jetro Dano		N/A

MINUTES (SUSC-2023-05-M)

2023-05/1 INTRODUCTION

2023-05/1a Call to Order

GRIFFITHS called the meeting to order at 2:06 PM

2023-05/1b Approval of Agenda

CARRIED, unanimously.

2023-05/1c Approval of Minutes

TABLED

2023-05/1d Chair's Business

GRIFFITHS: Mentions that there is one SAL that has been removed from the committee and the position will be opened. Adds that the Fall Semester Green Fund applications adjudication was conducted virtually and that all three applications have been awarded and are being processed.

2023-05/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2023-05/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2023-05/3a GRIFFITHS: Asks the committee's feedback on the Fall Green Fund adjudication process in order to understand everyone's sentiments about the process, identify positive aspects, pinpoint areas for improvement, and establish a plan for the upcoming semester.

LAM: Agrees with the adjudication process, expresses satisfaction with the use of the Google sheet as it shows adjudication scores, opinions, and the reasoning behind them. Furthermore, commends the inclusion of the e-vote as a great idea.

AFONYA: Suggests replacing the approval call in an email chain with voting through an anonymous survey. Adds that implementing this approach can be a measure to prevent groupthink. Agrees with the overall consensus on fund allocation, appreciates the well-written rubric, and finds the process efficient and effective, recommending its continuation for the next round of applications.

ATWOOD: Suggests that the evaluation process via email can be improved.

JONES: Agrees with using the form, noting that the second stage of the adjudication process is more effective in a round table setting.

GRIFFITHS: Mentions that there will be more rounds of adjudication to come this year and that the form is set to close on February 19th. Adds that the ideal timeframe to complete the adjudication process is by March.

JONES: Suggests adjudicating on a rolling basis to prevent getting overwhelmed during the exam season.

GRAHAM: Mentions that there are 6 SAL applications received in January and 5 during December.

GRIFFITHS: Will take a look at the Green Fund applications received and share them with the committee.

2023-05/4

INFORMATION ITEMS

2023-05/4a

[Winter Semester Green Fund Deadline is Feb 19th!](#)

2023-05/4b

[SAL Seats Open!](#)

2023-05/5

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting: February 8th at 2:00 P.M.

GRIFFITHS adjourned the meeting at 2:27 PM