



# Athabasca University Students' Union

## Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 6:00pm MST

<b>Council:</b>	President Karen Fletcher (chair), Vice President Finance and Administration Dur-E-Najaf Syed, Vice President Community and Wellness Natalia Iwanek, Councillor Cilhane Ahmed, Councillor Blake Collett, Councillor Eva Embree, Councillor Anli He, Councillor Amber McDuffe
<b>Staff:</b>	Executive Director Jodi Campbell, Governance and Advocacy Coordinator Duncan Wojtaszek, Communications and Member Services Coordinator Ashley Janes, Voice Magazine Managing Editor Karl Low
<b>Guests:</b>	Jana Menard, Chad Knippel, Natalia Toth
<b>Regrets:</b>	Councillor Allie Wojtaszek, Councillor Rebecca Wuebbolt

### Agenda and Minutes

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Announcement of Accessibility Officer</b>	K. Fletcher
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Land Acknowledgement</b> Athabasca University Students' Union respectfully acknowledges that we are on and work on the traditional lands of the Indigenous Peoples (Inuit, First Nations, Métis) of Canada. We also recognize that our student members span across the lands we now know as Canada and abroad, and we acknowledge and celebrate these Indigenous histories, languages, and cultures. As an organization, AUSU is committed to decolonization, reconciliation, and conciliation efforts, acknowledging that there is much to unlearn. AUSU will continuously strive to build equitable relationships with Indigenous learners at AU, as well as Indigenous members and staff within AUSU, advocate with and for Indigenous learners through consultation, and create spaces that are inclusive, respectful, and equitable.	K. Fletcher
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Call for Attendance</b>	K. Fletcher
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Welcome and Member-At-Large Input</b>	K. Fletcher
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Approval of Agenda</b>	K. Fletcher

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council approves the January 19, 2023 meeting agenda with moving item 10.0 to immediately follow the approval of the agenda.

*2023-01-19 Council Agenda*

**D. Syed / N. Iwanek (Carried)**

New Business		
10.0	2022 Audited Financial Statements	J. Campbell

*2022 AUSU Audited Financial Statements*

*2022 AUSU Final Audit Findings Report*

- J. Campbell, C. Knippel, and N. Toth reported on the audit's findings.
- C. Knippel highlighted the vacation liability amount, and the strategies to reduce it.
- A. McDuffe inquired that Council is provided monthly financials to review and are sent out in emails, but not approved or discussed; C. Knippel replied that there is no common standard and with the review and approval by the Finance Committee on a quarterly basis could be sufficient and Council should figure out what works best for them.
- A. McDuffe inquired on if additional backup should be provided to Council or the Finance Committee for the quarterly financial statements; C. Knippel replied that the controls in place along with the checks and balances in policy meet the standards set for an organization of AUSU's size and backup is provided at the authorization level.

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council accepts the 2022 audited financial statements as presented by Kingston Ross Pasnak (KRP).

**K. Fletcher / D. Syed (Carried)**

Agenda and Minutes		
6.0	Approval of Minutes	K. Fletcher

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council approves the December 15, 2022 minutes.

*2022-12-15 Council Minutes*

**E. Embree / C. Ahmed (Carried)**

Old Business		
7.0	Review of Action Items	All

**Note:** The status of action items can be found at the bottom of the agenda.

**8.0 Policies**

**8.1 Policy 7.02 Awards**

D. Syed

*Policy 7.02 Awards*

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council approve the changes to Policy 7.02 Awards.

**C. Ahmed / D. Syed (Carried)**

## 8.2 Policy 2.22 Alternative Dispute Resolution

D. Syed

### *Policy 2.22 Alternative Dispute Resolution*

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council approve Policy 2.22 Alternative Dispute Resolution.

**R. Wuebbolt / B. Collett (Carried)**

## 8.3 Policy 6.05 Expenditures

### *Policy 6.05 Expenditures*

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council approve the changes to Policy 6.05 Expenditures.

**K. Fletcher / D. Syed (Carried)**

**Note:** The attached copy of Policy 1.01 Policy Creation, Format, Maintenance, and Review has been approved by the Executive Committee as a part of an informal review.

### *Policy 1.01 Policy Creation, Format, Maintenance, and Review*

## 9.0 Student Price Card

- J. Campbell provided an update that SPC is looking into if we can reduce the cost of a SPC student discount card for AU students and will bring the item back to Council following those conversations.

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council approves the SPC student discount card as a new service at AUSU.

**C. Ahmed / N. Iwanek (Tabled)**

## New Business

### 11.0 Selection of Auditors for 2023

J. Campbell

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council appoints Kingston Ross Pasnak (KRP) as AUSU's financial auditor for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

**C. Ahmed / N. Iwanek (Carried)**

### 12.0 Bylaws

D. Syed

#### *AUSU Bylaws, February 16, 2023*

- Council broadly discussed the proposed new bylaws and agreed that additional work would be needed and that D. Wojtaszek should set up a workshop for Councillors to work on the bylaws.

**Motion:** Whereas the Post-Secondary Learning Act gives authority to AUSU Council for the creation and amendment of its own bylaws, be it resolved that AUSU Council adopt the proposed changes to the AUSU Bylaws as presented in the attached document titled, "AUSU Bylaws, February 16, 2023". This document

represents the only official bylaws of the Athabasca University Students Union and hereby replaces any prior versions or copies.

**K. Fletcher / N. Iwanek (Tabled)**

Reports		
<b>13.0</b>	<b>Reports for the Months of December 2022</b>	
	<b>13.1 President's Report</b>	K. Fletcher
	<i>2022-12 President Report</i>	
	<b>13.2 Vice President External's Report</b>	T. Godoy-Contois
	<i>2022-12 VP External Report</i>	
	<b>13.3 Vice-President Finance and Administration's Report</b>	D. Syed
	<i>2022-12 VP Finance and Administration Report</i>	
	<b>13.4 Vice President Community and Wellness' Report</b>	N. Iwanek
	<i>2022-12 VP Community and Wellness Report</i>	
	<b>13.5 Finance Committee Report</b>	D. Syed
	<i>2022-12 Finance Committee Report</i>	
	<b>13.6 Awards Committee Report</b>	D. Syed
	<i>2022-12 Awards Committee Report</i>	
	<b>13.7 Member Engagement and Communication Committee Report</b>	N. Iwanek
	<i>2022-12 MEC Committee Report</i>	
	<b>13.8 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee Report</b>	N. Iwanek
	<i>2022-12 EDI Committee Report</i>	
	<b>13.9 Indigenous Circle at AUSU Report</b>	T. Godoy-Contois
	<i>2022-12 VP External Report</i>	
	<b>13.10 Executive Director's Report</b>	J. Campbell
	<i>2022-12 Executive Director Report</i>	
	<b>13.11 Communication and Member Services Coordinator's Report</b>	A. Janes
	<i>2022-12 CMSC Report</i>	
Recognition and Acknowledgements		
<b>14.0</b>	<b>Recognition and Acknowledgements</b>	All
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>J. Campbell highlighted the Council connection meeting with J. Menard coming up and thanked her for her interest.</li> </ul>	
Question and Answer Period		
<b>14.0</b>	<b>Question &amp; Answer Period</b>	All
Next Meeting and Adjournment		
The next meeting of AUSU Council will be: February 16, 2023		
Motion to Adjourn		

Summary of Action Items		
Action Item	Name	Status Deadline
Look at changing council and executive retreats for accessibility, efficacy, and cost.	K. Fletcher	Completed Jan. 19, 2023
Look at decisions being ratified at public meetings in bylaws.	D. Syed	Completed Jan. 19, 2023
Schedule a workshop for Councillors to review AUSU's bylaws in advance of being brought to Council.	D. Wojtaszek	Started March 2023
Develop the terms of reference for a Policy Committee.	D. Syed	Started March 2023