

# Athabasca University Students' Union

# Council Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 5:31 MDT

Council: President Naju Syed (chair), Vice President External Manmeet Kaur, Vice President

Finance and Administration Chantel Bradley, Vice President Community and Wellness Natalia Iwanek, Councillor Cilhane Ahmed, Councillor Blake Collett, Councillor Eva Embree, Councillor Karen Fletcher, Councillor Anli He, Councillor Amber McDuffe,

Councillor Allie Wojtaszek, Councillor Rebecca Wuebbolt

Staff: Executive Director Jodi Campbell, Governance and Advocacy Coordinator Duncan

Wojtaszek, Voice Magazine Managing Editor Karl Low

Guests: Jana Menard

Regrets: Indigenous Circle Council Voice Rylee Feschuk, Outgoing Indigenous Circle

Representative Trishtina Godoy-Contois

# Agenda and Minutes

#### 1.0 Announcement of Accessibility Officer

K. Fletcher

#### 2.0 Land Acknowledgement

K. Fletcher

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.

3.0 Call for Attendance K. Fletcher

4.0 Welcome and Member-At-Large Input K. Fletcher

5.0 Approval of Agenda K. Fletcher

Motion: BIRT AUSU Council approves the April 20, 2023 meeting agenda.

2023-04-20 Council Agenda

C. Ahmed / N. Iwanek (Carried)

**6.0** Approval of Minutes K. Fletcher

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council approves the March 16, 2023 and March 31, 2023 minutes.

2023-03-16 Council Minutes 2023-03-31 Executive Election Minutes

#### K. Fletcher / C. Ahmed (Carried)

# 7.0 Review of Action Items All

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

#### **New Business**

#### 8.0 By-Election Results

J. Campbell

The results of the 2023 By-Election for two vacancies on Council was held on March 16-21, 2023 and Manmeet Kaur and Chantel Bradley were elected to complete the 2022-2024 Council Term. Congratulations!

#### 9.0 Executive Election Results

J. Campbell

The results of the 2023 Executive Committee Election, held on March 31, 2023 in accordance with AUSU Policy 3.02: Election of Executive Councillors, are hereby announced.

The AUSU Executive Councillors are Naju Syed as President, Manmeet Kaur as Vice President External, Chantel Bradley as Vice President Finance and Administration, and Natalia Iwanek as Vice President Community and Wellness. Congratulations!

#### 10.0 Bylaws - First Reading

D. Syed

AUSU Bylaws, May 17, 2023

**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, May 17, 2023". This document represents the only official bylaws of the Athabasca University Students' Union and hereby replaces any prior versions or copies.

#### N. Syed / A. He (Carried, 12 in favour, 0 opposed)

#### 11.0 Policies

11.1 Policy 8.14 Policy Committee Terms of Reference and Policy 1.01 Policy Creation, Format, Maintenance & Review

N. Syed

Policy 8.14 Policy Committee Terms of Reference Policy 1.01 Policy Creation, Format, Maintenance & Review

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council approve Policy 8.14 Policy Committee Terms of Reference and the changes to Policy 1.01 Policy Creation, Format, Maintenance & Review.

# K. Fletcher / R. Weubbolt(Carried)

# 11.2 Policy 3.02 Election of Executive Councillors

N. Syed

Policy 3.02 Election of Executive Councillors

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council approve the changes to Policy 3.02 Election of Executive Councillors.

# A. McDuffe / N. Syed (Carried)

Reports			
12.0	Reports for the Months of March 2023  12.1 President's Report  2023-03 President Report	K. Fletcher	
	12.2 Vice President External's Report	T. Godoy-Contois	
	12.3 Vice-President Finance and Administration's Report 2023-03 VP Finance and Administration Report	N. Syed	
	12.4 Vice President Community and Wellness' Report 2023-03 VP Community and Wellness Report	N. Iwanek	
	12.5 Finance Committee Report 2023-03 Finance Committee Report	N. Syed	
	12.6 Awards Committee Report 2023-03 Awards Committee Report	N. Syed	
	<b>12.7 Member Engagement and Communication Committee Report</b> 2023-03 MEC Committee Report	N. Iwanek	
	12.8 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee Report 2023-03 EDI Committee Report	N. Iwanek	
	12.9 Indigenous Circle at AUSU Report	T. Godoy-Contois	
	12.10 Executive Director's Report 2023-03 Executive Director Report	J. Campbell	

# Council Changeover

### 13.0 New Councillors Oath of Office

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President Naju Syed welcomed Chantel Bradley and Manmeet Kaur and led them in reciting the Oath of Office.

2022-01 Councillor Oath

# 14.0 Appointment of the Indigenous Circle at AUSU

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council re-appoint Jessica Anderson, Sasha Chiefbody, Rylee Feschuk, Janis Gullion, Kate Hamshere, Amanda Leeman, Jennifer Nabess, Juanita

# 2023-04-20 Council Minutes

Powder, Joni Roy, Sonya Stuffco-McGee, and Brianna Johnson to the Indigenous Circle at AUSU.

# N. Syed / A. McDuffe (Carried)

**Note:** Marley Curtis, Trishtina Godoy-Contois, and Amanda Tobin were elected by Indigenous Members to serve a two-year term until 2024 and will also remain Indigenous Circle members for 2023-2024.

#### 15.0 Appointment of AUSU Committees

#### 15.1 Awards Committee

C. Bradley

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council appoint Cilhane Ahmed, Karen Fletcher, Eva Embree, Amber McDuffe as voting members of the Awards Committee.

#### B. Collett / A. He (Carried)

# 15.2 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee

N. Iwanek

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council appoint Allie Wojtaszek, Cilhane Ahmed, Karen Fletcher, Rylee Feschuk, Amber McDuffe, and Amanda Leeman as voting members of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee.

#### N. Iwanek / A. He (Carried)

#### 15.3 Finance Committee

C. Bradley

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council appoint Blake Collett, Amber McDuffe, Allie Wojtaszek, Karen Fletcher, and Jessica Anderson as voting members of the Finance Committee.

# N. Iwanek / A. He (Carried)

# **15.4 Member Engagement and Communications Committee**

N. Iwanek

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council appoint Amber McDuffe, Karen Fletcher, Allie Wojtaszek, and Lorie Tran as voting members of the Member Engagement and Communications Committee.

#### N. Syed / A. Wojtaszek (Carried)

#### 15.5 Policy Committee

C. Bradley

**Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council appoint Naju Syed, Amber McDuffe, Natalia Iwanek, and Rylee Feschuk as voting members of the Policy Committee.

#### N. Syed / K. Fletcher (Carried)

### **Recognition and Acknowledgements**

# 16.0 Recognition and Acknowledgements

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 N. Syed thanked everyone who put their names forward to sit on committees.

- K. Fletcher appreciated the work that B. Collett has done on ProctorU and alternatives for proctoring.
- K. Fletcher thanked N. Syed for stepping up as President.
- J. Campbell, N. Syed, and N. Iwanek thanked the outgoing Executive Committee for their hard work, and offered congratulations to the incoming Executive Committee.
- A. McDuffe thanked Council for advocating for the Recommendations for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and has pushed that forward at the Health Sciences Association of Alberta.

# **Question and Answer Period**

# 13.0 Question & Answer Period

ΑII

# **Next Meeting and Adjournment**

The next meeting of AUSU Council will be: May 17, 2023 Motion to Adjourn

Summary of Action Items			
Action Item		Status	
	Name	Deadline	
Develop the terms of reference for a Policy Committee.		Completed	
	N. Syed	April 2023	
Inquire with Alberta Blue Cross the costs and coverage of providing a plan for students at Athabasca University.	health and dental	Ongoing	
	J. Campbell	April 2023	