



Athabasca University Students' Union

Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 6:00pm MDT

Council:	President Naju Syed (chair), Vice President Finance and Administration Chantel Bradley, Vice President Community and Wellness Natalia Iwanek, Councillor Cilhane Ahmed, Councillor Blake Collett, Councillor Eva Embree, Councillor Anli He, Councillor Amber McDuffe, Councillor Allie Wojtaszek
Staff:	Executive Director Jodi Campbell, Governance and Advocacy Coordinator Duncan Wojtaszek, Voice Magazine Managing Editor Karl Low, Communications and Member Services Coordinator Ashley Janes
Regrets:	Vice President External Manmeet Kaur, Indigenous Circle Council Voice Rylee Feschuk, Councillor Karen Fletcher

Agenda and Minutes

1.0	Announcement of Accessibility Officer	N. Syed
2.0	Land Acknowledgement 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.	N. Syed
3.0	Call for Attendance	N. Syed
4.0	Welcome and Member-At-Large Input	N. Syed
5.0	Approval of Agenda	N. Syed

Motion: BIRT AUSU Council approves the August 17, 2023 meeting agenda.

- A friendly amendment was made to add "Executive Compensation Review Committee Appointments" to the agenda.

2023-08-17 Council Agenda

N. Syed / C. Ahmed (Carried)

6.0 Approval of Minutes N. Syed

Motion: BIRT AUSU Council approves the June 15, 2023 minutes.

2023-06-15 Council Minutes

B. Collett / E. Embree (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.

New Business

8.0 AUSU Budget C. Bradley

2023-2024 AUSU Draft Budget

Motion: BIRT AUSU Council approve the 2023-2024 AUSU Budget as recommended by the Finance Committee.

N. Syed / A. Wojtaszek (Carried)

9.0 Executive Workplans N. Syed

2023-2024 AUSU Executive Workplans

Motion: BIRT AUSU Council approve the AUSU 2023-2024 Executive Workplans as presented.

N. Syed / C. Ahmed (Carried)

10.0 Policy Updates C. Bradley

Note: The following copies of Policy 2.19 Students' Council Meetings
Policy 2.20 Equitable Access and Inclusion for 2SLGBTQIA+ Students
Policy 2.21 Accessibility and Accommodations were approved by the Policy Committee as a part of an informal review.

Policy 2.19 Students' Council Meetings

Policy 2.20 Equitable Access and Inclusion for 2SLGBTQIA+ Students

Policy 2.21 Accessibility and Accommodations

11.0 Awards Overbudget C. Bradley

Motion: BIRT AUSU Council approve the additional allocation of \$1,200 to the Emergency Bursary fund from the awards reserve for the remainder of the 2023 fiscal year.

A. McDuffe / C. Bradley (Carried)

Motion: BIRT AUSU Council approve the additional allocation of \$3,000 to the Travel Bursary fund from the awards reserve for the remainder of the 2023 fiscal year.

- A friendly amendment was made to increase the amount of the Travel Bursary fund to \$3,000 from \$1,000.

N. Syed / C. Bradley (Carried)

12.0 Ratification of E-Mail Votes

N. Syed

Motion: BIRT AUSU Council ratify the email motion that was passed on June 23, 2023 that states "AUSU Council appoints Deidra Mahabal to the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee." The motion was moved by N. Iwanek and seconded by M. Kaur.

K. Fletcher / A. Wojtaszek (Carried)

Motion: BIRT AUSU Council ratify the email motion that was passed on June 23, 2023 that states "BIRT AUSU Council appoints Desmond Devnich to the MEC Committee for the 2023-2024 term, as recommended by the Executive Committee." The motion was moved by N. Iwanek and seconded by C. Bradley.

A. McDuffe / B. Collett (Carried)

13.0 Executive Compensation Review Committee Appointments

J. Campbell

Motion: BIRT AUSU Council appoints Blake Collett, Karen Fletcher, and Allie Wojtaszek to the Executive Compensation Review Committee.

N. Syed / C. Bradley (Carried)

Reports

14.0 Reports for the Months of June and July 2023

14.1 President's Report

N. Syed

2023-06 President Report

2023-07 President Report

14.2 Vice President External's Report

M. Kaur

2023-07 VP External Report

14.3 Vice-President Finance and Administration's Report

C. Bradley

2023-07 VP Finance and Administration Report

14.4 Vice President Community and Wellness' Report

N. Iwanek

2023-06 VP Community and Wellness Report

2023-07 VP Community and Wellness Report

14.5 Finance Committee Report

C. Bradley

2023-06 Finance Committee Report

2023-07 Finance Committee Report

14.6 Awards Committee Report 2023-06 Awards Committee Report 2023-07 Awards Committee Report	C. Bradley
14.7 Member Engagement and Communication Committee Report 2023-06 MEC Committee Report 2023-07 MEC Committee Report	N. Iwanek
14.8 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee Report 2023-06 EDI Committee Report 2023-07 EDI Committee Report	N. Iwanek
14.9 Policy Committee Report 2023-06 Policy Committee Report 2023-07 Policy Committee Report	C. Bradley
14.10 Indigenous Circle at AUSU Report	R. Feschuk
14.11 Executive Director's Report 2023-06 Executive Director Report 2023-07 Executive Director Report	J. Campbell
14.12 Communication and Member Services Coordinator's Report 2023-07 CMSC Report	A. Janes

Recognition and Acknowledgements

15.0	Recognition and Acknowledgements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N. Syed thanked the individuals who worked on the AUGSA conference and abstract review. B. Collett thanked all who have been working on exam invigilation improvements. C. Bradley thanked the Finance Committee for their work on the budget. 	All
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Question and Answer Period

16.0	Question & Answer Period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A question was asked about the proposed fee increase in the budget, C. Bradley added that it currently is planned for \$0.75. A question was asked about the increase to staff benefits, J. Campbell added that it was due to an increase in health plan premiums. 	All
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Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting of AUSU Council will be: September 21, 2023
Motion to Adjourn

Summary of Action Items

Action Item	Name	Status	Deadline
Inquire with Alberta Blue Cross the costs and coverage of providing a health and dental plan for students at Athabasca University.	J. Campbell	Completed	April 2023