



# Athabasca University Students' Union

## Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 6:00pm MST

**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 Jessica Anderson, Councillor Blake Collett, Councillor Eva Embree, Councillor Karen Fletcher, Councillor Anli He, Councillor Amber McDuffe, Councillor Allie Wojtaszek

**Staff:** Voice Magazine Managing Editor Karl Low

**Guests:** Ajané Adams, Daniele Amato

### Agenda and Minutes

- |            |   |         |
|------------|---|---------|
| <b>1.0</b> | <b>Announcement of Accessibility Officer</b>  | N. Syed |
| <b>2.0</b> | <b>Land Acknowledgement</b><br>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 |
| <b>3.0</b> | <b>Call for Attendance</b>  | N. Syed |
| <b>4.0</b> | <b>Welcome and Member-At-Large Input</b>  | N. Syed |
| <b>5.0</b> | <b>Approval of Agenda</b><br><br><b>Motion:</b> BIRT AUSU Council approves the November 16, 2023 meeting agenda.<br><br><i>2023-11-16 Council Agenda</i><br><br><b>N. Syed / N. Iwanek (Carried)</b>  | N. Syed |
| <b>6.0</b> | <b>Approval of Minutes</b><br><br><b>Motion:</b> BIRT AUSU Council approves the October 19, 2023 minutes.<br><br><i>2023-10-19 Council Minutes</i><br><br><b>N. Syed / C. Bradley (Carried)</b>   | N. Syed |

Old Business		
7.0	Review of Action Items	All
	<b>Note:</b> The status of action items can be found at the bottom of the agenda.	
8.0	Strategic Plan	N. Syed
	<i>AUSU Strategic Plan DRAFT</i>	
	<b>Motion:</b> BIRT AUSU Council approve the Strategic Plan for 2023-2026 as presented.	
	<b>K. Fletcher / J. Anderson (Carried)</b>	
	<b>Note:</b> This agenda item was the second reading of the strategic plan approval in accordance with the bylaws section 1.01 e) “Special Resolution.” The first reading passed at the October 19, 2023 Council meeting. Both readings of the strategic plan passed with a greater than 2/3 majority vote.	
9.0	Policy Updates	
	9.1 Policy 6.04 Travel and Related Expenses	C. Bradley
	<b>Motion:</b> BIRT AUSU Council approve the changes to Policy 6.04 Travel and Related Expenses as presented.	
	<i>Policy 6.04 Travel and Related Expenses</i>	
	<b>C. Bradley / N. Iwanek (Carried)</b>	
New Business		
10.0	EDI Audit	N. Iwanek
	<i>AUSU EDI Audit Report</i>	
	<b>Motion:</b> BIRT AUSU Council accepts the 2023 equity, diversity, and inclusion audit as presented by EDI Connect.	
	<b>K. Fletcher / A. Wojtaszek (Carried)</b>	
11.0	Policy Updates	
	9.1 Policy 7.02 Scholarships, Awards, and Bursaries Program	C. Bradley
	<b>Motion:</b> BIRT AUSU Council approve the changes to Policy 7.02 Scholarships, Awards, and Bursaries Program as presented.	
	<b>K. Fletcher / M. Kaur (Tabled)</b>	

**Note:** The following copies of Policy 2.03 Responsibilities of Executive Councillors, Policy 2.06 Student Representation on AU Committees, and Policy 2.11 Committee Governance were approved by the Policy Committee as a part of an informal review.

*Policy 2.03 Responsibilities of Executive Councillors*  
*Policy 2.06 Student Representation on AU Committees*  
*Policy 2.11 Committee Governance*

#### 11.0 Ratification of E-Mail Vote

N. Syed

**Proposed Motion:** BIRT AUSU Council ratify the email motion that was passed on November 9, 2023 that states “BIRT Council approves the allocation of \$1,000 from the Projects Reserve to the 2023-2024 Contests Budget line for the purpose of topping up the Annual Survey prize allocation.” The motion was moved by N. Syed and seconded by N. Iwanek.

**N. Syed / C. Bradley (Carried)**

### Reports

#### 11.0 Reports for the Months of October 2023

##### 11.1 President’s Report

N. Syed

##### 11.2 Vice President External’s Report *2023-10 VP External Report*

M. Kaur

##### 11.3 Vice-President Finance and Administration’s Report *2023-10 VP Finance and Administration Report*

C. Bradley

##### 11.4 Vice President Community and Wellness’ Report *2023-10 VP Community and Wellness Report*

N. Iwanek

##### 11.5 Indigenous Circle at AUSU Report *2023-10 Indigenous Circle at AUSU Report*

J. Anderson

##### 11.6 Executive Compensation Review Committee Report *2023-10 ECRC Report*

A. Wojtaszek

##### 11.7 Executive Director’s Report *2023-10 Executive Director Report*

J. Campbell

### Recognition and Acknowledgements

#### 12.0 Recognition and Acknowledgements

All

- N. Syed thanked A. Wojtaszek, K. Fletcher, and B. Collett for their work on the Executive Compensation Review Committee.
- C. Cilhane thanked C. Bradley for inviting her to represent AUSU in Calgary and thanked N. Iwanek for informing Council about Indigenous Week.
- N. Iwanek thanked to J. Anderson and A. Leeman for their work on the Indigenous Circle.

**Question and Answer Period**

**13.0      Question & Answer Period** All

**Next Meeting and Adjournment**

The next meeting of AUSU Council will be January 18, 2024  
Motion to Adjourn

**Summary of Action Items**

Action Item	Status	
	Name	Deadline