



**MINUTES FOR THE 1<sup>st</sup> MEETING OF THE WINTER 2021 STUDENT COUNCIL  
TUESDAY MARCH 30<sup>th</sup> 2021 7:00 PM (ZOOM CONFERENCE)**

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**Present:**

Kevin Contant-Holowatyj (Chairperson)

Alexandra Cardona (Deputy Chairperson)

Noah Lemaire (Treasurer)

Danahe Orduna Martinez (Director of Mobilization & Communications)

Valeria Sygal (Director of External Affairs)

Leana Ramirez (Director of Internal Affairs & Advocacy)

Nicole Vega Rivas (Director of Student Life)

Amelie Chornet (Director of Clubs & Services)

Inès Lamothe-Katrapani (Councillor for Sciences)

Adelka Felcarek-Hope (Councillor for Sciences)

Yimaj Baharun (Councillor for Social Sciences)

Christina Koikaran (Councillor for Social Sciences)

Yves-Jusslin Maniratanga (Councillor for Social Sciences)

Mojisola Adamson (Councillor for Social Sciences)

Oriana Valentina Buchszer Sanchez (Councillor for Creative & Applied Arts)

Nathan McDonald (Councillor for Technical Programs)

Andreanne Dussault (Councillor for Technical Programs)

Daniela Jimena Diaz Jimenez (Councillor for Technical Programs)

Shirin Hinojosa Violante (Councillor for Francophone students)

Jordan Jerome-Pitre (Councillor for Indigenous students)

Arwyn Regimbal (Councillor for Queer students)

Mia Scroggins-Hadley (Councillor for racialized students)

Fernando Belote (Councillor for students with disabilities)

**Visitors:**

Callum Bulley

**Regrets:**

Sarah Bensemana (Director of Sustainability)

**The Chairperson presided over the meeting. The Deputy Chairperson recorded the minutes.**



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## AGENDA

1. **Adoption of the agenda**
  
2. **Reports**
  - 2.1 Chairperson
  - 2.2 Deputy Chairperson
  - 2.3 Treasurer
  - 2.4 Director of Mobilization & Communications
  - 2.5 Director of External Affairs
  - 2.6 Director of Internal Affairs & Advocacy
  - 2.7 Director of Clubs & Services
  - 2.8 Director of Student Life
  - 2.9 Director of Sustainability
  
3. **New Business**
  - 3.1 Setting Student Council meeting schedule
  - 3.2 Appointment of Continuing Education Councillor vacancies
  - 3.3 Appointment of Board of Governors representative for technical programs
  - 3.4 Appointment of Senate representative for Continuing Education
  - 3.5 Appointment for Dawson College Foundation student representative
  - 3.6 Appointment for College Committee on Student Contributions to the Dawson College Foundation
  - 3.7 Appointment of student representatives for Communications Branding Committee

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## MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:22 pm

1. **Adoption of the agenda**
  - Ines moves to amend the agenda to add point 3.2 regarding responsibilities of the Student Council  
Seconded by Nathan
  
  - Oriana moves that the proposed amendment proceed to a vote

**Amendment adopted by simple majority**



- Fernando moves that the agenda be adopted with the proposed modifications  
Seconded by Arwyn

### **Agenda adopted by unanimous consent**

## **2. Reports**

### **2.1 Chairperson**

- The internal governance of the union is in the process of being entirely revised, including a newly drafted constitution that will be presented to the membership at the upcoming General Assembly. This year's Executive Committee has shown commitment to restructuring the union's governance to ensure better functioning of operations in the future.
- The Safer Space policy, Clubs policy and Sustainability policy are being revised as well.
- The protocol agreement negotiations between the union and Dawson College have been ongoing throughout the 2020-2021 mandate. Currently, the union's legal counsel are continuing the negotiations on behalf of the executive.
- The Internal Affairs committee have been working on initiatives at the administrative level to introduce more student advocacy. Specifically, resolutions and points of discussion put forth at Senate and the Board of Governors concerning a proposed Bylaw 3 revision to increase student representatives. Furthermore, student senators passed a motion to commence a revision process for ISEP, in particular Section V on Academic Grievances and Appeals.
- Student Care Insurance: five hundred Dawson students have completed a survey regarding their preferences for student health insurance coverage to be implemented by the DSU for Winter 2022.
- The upcoming Winter General Assembly will include the presentation of the constitutional amendments, financial statements, and the election of the auditor.
- The upcoming DSU website will feature easier access to information with an emphasis on clarity and transparency. The new website project has been in the works since the beginning of the mandate.
- The union's Human Resources needs have changed over the course of the pandemic. Current plans anticipate that an Executive Manager will need to be hired to ensure the smooth transition of the union's operations following the end of the current mandate.

### **2.2 Deputy Chairperson**

- The office spaces at the college are being updated and the paper file cabinets are being digitized by an external firm so that union records can become accessible in a digital format.
- Governance documents have been uploaded on the main website for the first time in DSU's history.
- The digitization project and other re-organization of the office spaces will allow the union to complete the carbon neutral certification.
- The DSU has publicly announced its solidarity with the strike efforts of the DSSU, ADP and DTU.



### **2.3 Treasurer**

- Applications for Special Project Funding have been launched on the main website. This initiative allows for student groups to apply for financial support if they lack the necessary funds to start new projects that will benefit students of Dawson.
- A new digital format to replace the cheque requisition forms is now available on the main website. This will allow for a simplified reimbursement process for students or student groups.
- The financial statements are being prepared by the auditing firm and will be presented at the Winter General Assembly.
- The union's insurance & liability policy for Director and Officers has been finalized.

### **2.4 Director of Mobilization & Communications**

- This year's social media engagement strategy has focused on transparency and access to information. Including frequent updates on the executive committee's ongoing initiatives or events and opportunities for student involvement.
- The union's online platforms have been updated to feature more streamlined information and a user-friendly aesthetic to enable clear communications for the students.
- The 2020-2021 Executive Committee was the first cohort in over two years to include a Director of Mobilization & Communications. As such, the communications and mobilization aspects of the union was in much need of an overhaul and a new direction to engage students.

### **2.5 Director of External Affairs**

- The Coalition of Anglophone Student Associations of Quebec hold meetings on a bi-weekly basis to share ideas on student life and governance across the province.
- End-of-year events are being planned both in-person and online at various colleges.
- Trivia event with anglophone cegeps coming up

### **2.6 Director of Internal Affairs & Advocacy**

- Working towards strengthening and growing the student advocacy opportunities at Dawson with a goal of empowering the student body in the face of faculty and the college administration.
- Currently attends « La Comite de la Défense Académiques » formed by La Fédération des Étudiants Collégial du Québec.
- In the process of drafting the Safer Space Policy which will create a necessary foundation for the creation of a Sexual Violence Awareness Centre at Dawson.

### **2.7 Director of Clubs & Services**

- The Clubs Policy is being revised and the amendments will be presented at the Winter General Assembly
- The union currently has fifteen active student clubs. New clubs that have been inaugurated this year:
  - KDrop
  - Dawson Freedom Alliance



### **2.8 Director of Student Life**

- Podcast project in the works with student volunteers.
- Collaborations with the department of Campus Life & Leadership.
- Egg hunt will take place on campus for Easter celebrations.
- Councillor for Indigenous Students Instagram takeover coming up next week.

### **2.9 Director of Sustainability\***

- The major sustainability project throughout the current mandate is the Carbon Neutral Certification.
- Monthly virtual workshops on various sustainability topics are ongoing throughout the winter semester.
- Dawson Dining services will be re-launched this month.
- The union's Sustainability policy will be updated for the end of the mandate.

*\*(Note: This report was presented by the Chairperson as proxy for the Director of Sustainability who could not attend)*

## **3. New Business**

### **3.1 Setting Student Council meeting schedule**

- Arwyn moves that the Student Council schedule its meetings on Wednesdays at 7 pm.  
Seconded by Jordan

**Motion passed by majority consent**

### **3.2 Responsibilities for Student Council**

- This point was discussed and no action was taken.

### **3.3 Appointment of Continuing Education Councillor vacancies**

- Nathan moves the following resolution  
Seconded by Jordan:

Be it resolved that Callum Bulley and Ahmad Shaker Noori be appointed as Councillors for Continuing Education for the Winter 2021 mandate.

**Motion passed by unanimous consent**



### **3.4 Appointment of Board of Governors representative for technical programs**

- Jordan moves the following resolution  
Seconded by Nathan:

Be it resolved that Nathan McDonald be recommended as Board of Governors student representative for technical programs.

**Motion passed by unanimous consent**

### **3.5 Appointment of Senate representative for Continuing Education**

- Jordan moves the following resolution  
Seconded by Nathan:

Be it resolved that Ahmad Shaker Noori be recommended as Senate student representative for Continuing Education

**Motion passed by majority consent**

### **3.6 Appointment for Dawson College Foundation student representative**

- Fernando moves to remove this point  
Seconded by Jordan

**Motion passed by majority consent**

### **3.7 Appointment for College Committee on Student Contributions to the Dawson College Foundation**

- Fernando moves to remove this point  
Seconded by Jordan

**Motion passed by majority consent**

### **3.8 Appointment of student representatives for Communications Branding Committee**

- Ines moves the following resolution  
Seconded by Callum:

Be it resolved that Oriana Valentina Buchszer Sanchez be recommended as student representative for the Communications Branding Committee



Motion passed by majority consent

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 pm

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NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup> 2021 7:00 PM

*Alexandra Cardona*

Deputy Chairperson

21/04/2021

Date