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Dawson Executive Committee 2020-2021

The regular weekly meeting of the Dawson Student Union was held on Thursday the 8th of October 2020 at 20:00 by videoconference. The Chairperson presided over the meeting. The Deputy Chairperson recorded the minutes.

Present: Kevin Contant-Holowatyj, Alexandrah Cardona, Noah Lemaire, Danahe Orduna Martinez, Amelie Chornet, Nicole Vega Rivas, Leana Ramirez, Sarah Bensemana, Valeria Sygal

Absent : None

Guests : None

Agenda:

1. Roll Call

2. Reading and approval of minutes from the September 28th executive meeting

3. Director Reports

- a. Chairperson
- b. Deputy Chairperson
- c. Treasurer
- d. Director of Mobilization and Communication
- e. Director of Internal Affairs and Advocacy
- f. Director of External Affairs
- g. Director of Clubs and Services
- h. Director of Student Life
- i. Director of Sustainability

4. Special Committee on DSU Transition Report

5. New Business

5.1. Dismissal of the CEO:

Resolution proposed:

- Whereas the Chief Electoral Officer of the DSU (CEO) is the current “Voices” Editor on the Plant, the Union's official newspaper.
- Whereas the CEO is currently not respecting Bylaw 7, section 4.a by holding a position in the Union.



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- Whereas the CEO has been negligent of their duties and responsibilities which puts into question their fitness to run elections for the Union.
- Be it resolved that the Executive committee, effective immediately will dismiss the current Chief Electoral Officer and all active officers of the elections commission.
- Be it further resolved that the Executive Committee will begin immediately the search for a new CEO who will be proposed and appointed at the next general assembly.
- Be it further Resolved that the new CEO will have a mandate that will be renewable upon the start of the next Executive Committee on June 1st 2021.

5.2 Appointment of the Union's Lawyer

Resolution proposed:

- Whereas the union currently has no lawyer on retainer.
- Whereas the union urgently requires a lawyer's services to effectively review the governance of the union, to review the protocol agreement and to help prepare for the upcoming collective agreement negotiations.
- Be it resolved that Patrice Blais Ba LLB be hired as the permanent lawyer for all business of the union requiring legal services.

5.3 Director plans for the 2020-2021 mandate

5.4 HR Committee

Resolution proposed:

- Be it resolved that an HR committee be composed of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and Treasurer.
- Be it further resolved that the Chairperson will be the Chair of the committee.
- Be it further resolved that this committee would handle all matters concerning HR in the DSU.
- Be it further resolved that this Committee would stand until the end of the current mandate.

5.5 New platform for executive committee communications



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5.6 Fall general assembly 2021

5.7 Meeting with the DSU Staff

5.8 Meeting with the College Administration

5.9 General meeting with clubs

5.10 Introducing the new Executive Team (Social Media)

- Professional pictures from photography students
- Description of each executive

5.11 Team building activity

5.12 Training and organization session for online DSU google services

5.13 Communications (email) etiquette

Call to order at 20:04

- 1. Agenda was adopted by unanimous consent. No changes were made to the original agenda proposed.**
- 2. Roll Call**
 - All directors were present
- 3. Reading and approval of minutes from the September 28th executive meeting**
 - Kevin moved to postpone the reading and approval of minutes to the following regular executive committee meeting.
- 4. Director Reports (20:10)**
 - a. Chairperson**
 - Kevin outlined the changes to “REQ” and access to the union’s banking systems
 - Attended a small meeting with the college administration
 - Listed student representative nominations to the board of governors, college senate and subcommittees
 - In discussions regarding the protocol agreement with the college



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- Human resources: accessing employer services via Desjardins, meetings with staff (Patrick and Gus)
 - Meeting with Patrice Blais LL.B
 - Visiting the office and DSU spaces at the college
- b. Deputy Chairperson
- Assisted chairperson in their weekly meetings, internal or external discussions and other pertinent organizational duties
 - Participated in training sessions and meetings for human resources, finance and other legal matters of the union's transition
 - Nominated for a seat on the college senate and several of its subcommittees
 - In the process of taking on the secretarial duties of the union and learning about record keeping
- c. Treasurer
- Training with previous Treasurer of the union (Faith Kenner)
 - Contacted auditors and reviewed auditing reports from prior years
 - In the process of logging all expenses since the start of the mandate
 - Participated in the transition committee and assisted in matters of HR
- d. Director of Mobilization and Communication
- Gained access to Facebook and Instagram, access to Twitter pending
 - Organizing plans for Halloween
- e. Director of Internal Affairs and Advocacy
- Nominated for a seat on the senate and several subcommittees
 - Upcoming meeting with Gus
 - Requests that Director of External contact McGill or Concordia sexual resource centers
 - Upcoming discussion of the union's position regarding Bill 64
- f. Director of External Affairs
- Marianopolis student union reached out regarding Circle for Reconciliation
 - Could not get in contact with the Peace Centre or Indigenization certificate staff at Dawson
 - Will be in contact with Jennifer Smith regarding this matter
- g. Director of Clubs and Services
- DSU website has been updated with list of clubs



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- Information regarding club activities is pending, not all clubs seem to be operational
- Communicating with Patrick to compile information about clubs and receive all constitution documents
- All executives and clubs need to complete the consent workshop organized by Gus by early November
- Early planning stage for a virtual club fair
- Upcoming meeting with CLL

h. Director of Student Life

- Planning an online contest (DSU has concert tickets that must be drawn as prizes)

i. Director of Sustainability

- Met with Jennifer from Dawson's sustainability department
- Upcoming meeting with previous Sustainability Director (Kimberly Honing)

5. Special Committee on DSU Transition Report (20:35)

- Alexandrah summarized the transition timeline: the tentative "transition deadline" was set as October 10th, and the deadline has been met as such.
- Alexandrah introduces an unofficial timeline for the rest of the month of October leading up to the Fall 2020 General Assembly.
- Noah specifies that financial audits are due by November 30th 2020
- Noah reminds the executive committee that the remaining balance for merchandise purchased under the previous mandate must be paid
- Noah will commence the planning for the upcoming annual budget proposal to be presented at the Fall GA
- Kevin explains that DSU owes six thousand dollars (\$6000) to the Dawson College Foundation as part of the fifteen thousand dollars (\$15 000) donation made on behalf of the previous executive committee
- Kevin states that benefits for executives and staff of the union will be considered on a case-by-case basis prior to preparation of the official budget proposal

6. New Business (20:52)

6.1 Dismissal of the CEO:

- Kevin explained the following resolution presented twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting:

Resolution proposed:



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- Whereas the Chief Electoral Officer of the DSU (CEO) is the current “Voices” Editor on the Plant, the Union's official newspaper.
- Whereas the CEO is currently not respecting Bylaw 7, section 4.a by holding a position in the Union.
- Whereas the CEO has been negligent of their duties and responsibilities which puts into question their fitness to run elections for the Union.
- Be it resolved that the Executive committee, effective immediately will dismiss the current Chief Electoral Officer and all active officers of the elections commission.
- Be it further resolved that the Executive Committee will begin immediately the search for a new CEO who will be proposed and appointed at the next general assembly.
- Be it further Resolved that the new CEO will have a mandate that will be renewable upon the start of the next Executive Committee on June 1st 2021.

Resolution was adopted by unanimous vote.

6.2 Appointment of the Union’s Lawyer (21:04)

- Kevin explained that the union requires a lawyer on retainer and presented the following resolution twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.

Resolution proposed:

- Whereas the union currently has no lawyer on retainer.
- Whereas the union urgently requires a lawyer’s services to effectively review the governance of the union, to review the protocol agreement and to help prepare for the upcoming collective agreement negotiations.
- Be it resolved that Patrice Blais Ba LLB be hired as the permanent lawyer for all business of the union requiring legal services.

Resolution was adopted by unanimous vote.

6.3 Director plans for the 2020-2021 mandate (21:17)

- Alexandrah explains the following resolution that was presented and postponed at the September 28th regular executive committee meeting.

Resolution proposed:

- Be it resolved that all directors of the DSU executive committee develop a plan for the upcoming year regarding their respective mandates and that this plan be presented to the executive committee at the latest 2 weeks from the passing of this motion (Wednesday October 21st 2020)



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Resolution was adopted by unanimous vote.

6.4 HR Committee (21:31)

- Kevin explained the following resolution:

Resolution proposed:

- Be it resolved that an HR committee be composed of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and Treasurer.
- Be it further resolved that the Chairperson will be the Chair of the committee.
- Be it further resolved that this committee would handle all matters concerning HR in the DSU.
- Be it further resolved that this Committee would stand until the end of the current mandate.

Resolution adopted by unanimous vote.

6.5 New platform for executive committee communications

- Alexandrah explained that an alternative platform to Facebook messenger is required for the union's internal communications
- Alexandrah moved to postpone this point to the subsequent regular meeting.

Motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

6.6 Fall general assembly 2021

- Kevin moved to postpone this point to the subsequent regular meeting

Motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

6.7 Meeting with the DSU Staff

- Kevin suggested recurring bi-weekly meetings with DSU staff (Patrick and Gus).

6.8 Meeting with the College Administration

- Kevin confirmed the upcoming meeting with the college administration and the executive committee (Wednesday October 14th 2020) via videoconference (zoom).

6.9 General meeting with clubs

- Kevin suggested that Amelie find time slots for meetings between the executive committee and clubs.
- Amelie had no objection

6.10 Introducing the new Executive Team (Social Media)

- Alexandrah proposed that Danahe organize an unofficial committee for social media (“introduction posts”)
- Sarah, Valeria, Nicole and Alexandrah volunteered to participate in the unofficial committee

6.11 Team building activity

- Kevin explained that due to red-zone restrictions, any planning of team building activities are postponed to a subsequent meeting following the loosening of government restrictions.

6.12 Training and organization session for online DSU google services

- Kevin moved to postpone this point to the subsequent regular meeting

Motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

6.13 Communications (email) etiquette

- Kevin and Alexandrah explained that email communications should “CC” the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson as well as any other directors whose duties may pertain to any email communications.

Noah moved to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 21:58 pm

Next meeting: Thursday October 15th 2020 at 20h00



Deputy Chairperson

15/10/2020

Date



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