



Concordia Student Union – Council of Representatives

CSU Special Council Meeting

Thursday, August 9th, 2016

CSU Conference Room, 19h00, S.G.W Campus

We would like to acknowledge that Concordia University is on the traditional territory of the Kanien'keha:ka (Ga-niyen-gé-haa-ga), a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst nations. The Concordia Student Union recognizes, and respects the Kanien'keha:ka (Ga-niyen-gé-haa-ga) as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters on which we meet today.

1. Call to Order

Meeting is called to order at 19h28

2. Roll Call

Council Chairperson: Caitlin Robinson

Minute Keeper: Caleb Owusu-Acheaw

Executives present for the duration of the meeting consisted of: Marcus Peters (Loyola), Sophia Sahrane (Academic & Advocacy), Aloyse Muller (External & Mobilization), Lana Galbraith (Sustainability), Rachel Gauthier (Student Life), Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis (General), Adrian Longinotti (Finance)

Councillors present for the duration of the meeting consisted of: Robert Young (Arts & Science), Alexander Milton (Arts & Science), Jason Poirier-Lavoie (Arts & Science), Chloe Williams (Arts & Science), Christina Massaro (Arts & Science), Hayley Currier (Arts & Science), Artem Mikhalitsin (ENCS), Mugisha Joyce-Christiane Kakou (ENCS), Mikaela Clark-Gardner (Fine Arts)

3. Daycare

L. Marshall-Kiparissis states the following motion. Seconded by M. Joyce-Christiane Kakou.

MOTION: Student Parent Daycare

Re: Authorized Officers/Administrators

Whereas the CSU Daycare project has been approved and active since the 2015-16 academic year;

Whereas both the General Coordinator and Academic and Advocacy Coordinator are authorized officers/administrators of board;

Be it resolved that we replace the existing authorized officers with the current General Coordinator and Academic and Advocacy Coordinator.

L. Marshall-Kiparissis explains that the motion is purely administrative and procedural to ensure structure with the new and current signing officers from this academic year's CSU executives.

In Favour: 7

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

4. UTILE

A. Milton moves for a closed session. Seconded by M. Joyce-Christiane Kakou.

Vote: Unanimous

A. Longinotti states the following motion. Seconded by C. Williams.

MOTION: Student Housing Co-op

Re: Bridge Loan

Whereas the CSU has and continues to address student housing conditions and actively supports student cooperative housing as a student space initiative;

Whereas a Loan Agreement between the CSU (lender) and the Student Housing Innovation and Facilitation Taskforce/Unité de travail pour l'implantation de logement étudiant (borrower) of an amount of Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (CAD\$800,000.00) for the purchase of land which is to be used to build a Student Housing Cooperative was approved by Council on February 10th, 2016;

Whereas the loan term would begin on the closing date, now determined as August 19th, 2016 and to mature on December 31st, 2016;

Whereas the obligations of the borrower shall be secured by a first-ranking immovable hypothec on the immovable properties of Lot Number One Million Five Hundred and Sixty-Six Thousand Two Hundred and Eighty-Seven (1,566,287) and Lot Number One Million Five Hundred and SixtyEight Thousand and Forty-One (1,568,041);

Be it resolved in accordance with the Loan Agreement, that the CSU approves the disbursement of a Bridge Loan of the amount of CAD\$800,000.00 to the Student Housing Innovation and Facilitation Taskforce/Unité de travail pour l'implantation de logement étudiant upon settling the deed of hypothec on the closing date of August 19th, 2016 should it be required for the purchase.

J. Poirier Lavoie moves to amend the motion to have the specific fund location source be identified, subject to referred Special By-Law J Committee. Seconded by A.Milton.

In Favour: 8

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 1

In Favour: 9

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

5. Burritoville

L. Galbraith moves to give speaking rights to Jordan Lindsay in the still continued closed session. Seconded by A.Milton.

In Favour: 8

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 1

L. Galbraith states the following motion. Seconded by R.Young.

Whereas the Burritoville Solidarity Co-op is currently on the verge of bankruptcy;
Whereas the Burritoville Solidarity Co-op operations are currently closed and therefore has no source of income;
Whereas the Burritoville Solidarity Co-op currently has sizeable outstanding debt from the previous owners, the landlord of the Bishop location and food providers;
Whereas the position that the Concordia Student Union actively supports affordable, sustainable, and student-run food service initiatives on campus was adopted by all members of the CSU during the March General Election of 2013;
Whereas the CSU is a support member of the Burritoville Solidarity Co-op;
Be it resolved that the CSU secure \$6000 for the Burritoville Solidarity Co-op to be allocated from the operations budget to costs relating to bankruptcy and legal aid;
Be it further resolved that in order to access these secured funds, the Burritoville Solidarity Coop must provide the invoices for all costs to the Concordia Student Union prior to reimbursement.

In Favour: 9

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

J.Poirer-Lavoie moves to not have the specific amount of money specified in the motion to be made public until further notice. Seconded by M. Joyce-Christiane Kakou.

In Favour: 9

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

M. Joyce-Christiane Kakou moves to back in open session. Seconded by M.Clark-Gardner.

In Favour: 9

Opposed: 0

Abstentions:0

A.Milton moves to ratify the motions from the closed session. Seconded by M. Joyce-Christiane Kakou.

In Favour: 8

Opposed: 0

Abstentions:0

6. Positions Book

A. Muller states the following motion. Seconded by J. Poirier-Lavoie.

Whereas the post-secondary education sector has suffered repeated cuts notwithstanding under the Quebec Liberal government

Whereas regional universities have been harmed by these measures than metropolitan ones and attract less alternative funding. What the deregulation of tuition fees for international students further depends on regional universities to profit and are not subjected to redistribution mechanisms for these deregulated programs.

Whereas regional universities and CEGEPs are essential to the public mission in higher education in offering access to post-secondary education throughout the province of Quebec.

Whereas the CSU adopted these following positions in the 2015 by-elections that the CSU called for the public investment in post-secondary education from all levels of government

Be it resolved that the CSU demands that the Quebec government preserves and expands the public mission of higher education by selectively reinvesting in the post-secondary sectors throughout the province and in the regions in particular.

A.Muller explains the motivations behind the motion as not being solely on the basis for metropolitan universities like Concordia. The motion, for A.Muller, is to make sure that all affected voices are made aware for the government to take note especially in the countryside where they have been hit the hardest by these education sector cuts.

In Favour: 9

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

A. Muller states the following motion. Seconded by R.Young

Whereas six programs of study have been deregulated for international students by the Quebec government

Whereas the deregulation of these programs have among its consequences an decrease in standing for regional universities, an incentive for competition between Quebec universities in their approach for recruitment and an increase of tuition fees for international students

Whereas according to the government, the deregulation for the six programs would allow for evaluating a tax in the deregulation in the Quebec university network, and to evaluate the opportunity to broaden the deregulation to all the programs and study cycles

Whereas the CSU adopted the following positions in the 2016 general election that the CSU opposed the financial segregation of international students through the expansion of deregulated academic programs

Be it resolved that the CSU oppose the expansion of deregulated programs and calls for the Quebec government to abrogate the deregulation of the concerned six programs of study

Be it further resolved that the CSU demands from Concordia University that it does not increase tuition fees for international students beyond the corresponding regulated rates

A. Muller explains that the six concerned programs of study that are now deregulated for international students are in Business, Engineering, Computer Science, Mathematics and

Law. Therefore, the government has given the authority to universities to charge tuition rates for those programs. For Muller, this creates for more problems for not only international students, but for Quebec student as well seeing as they could be squeezed out as maximizing administrative financial wealth. The purpose of the motion is to stand in solidarity for international students against the government's actions.

In Favour: 9

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

A. Muller states the following motion. Seconded by M. Clark-Gardner.

Be it resolved that the CSU calls on the Quebec government to support the creation to publish, in French, the results of Quebec research.

The purpose of the motion is to give an equal edge for graduate students in Francophone universities in Quebec to publish their research results in conjunction with their Anglophone counterparts in Canada and the United States.

J. Poirier Lavoie wonders as to why this is isn't a priority for the government of Quebec. For him, it is quite surprising seeing the province's linguistic cultural identity in the world.

In Favour: 9

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

7. Divest Petition

A.Muller states that a group called Divest Concordia would like to circulate a petition for a referendum question to be called in a future by-election. According to the CSU By-Laws, any pertaining petition for a by-election referendum question can be presented by any undergraduate student to Council as an informative measure.

According to a sent petition document, two referendum questions were requested to be asked at the next scheduled 2016 by-election. However, since the student individual who brought up the petition left the meeting, A. Muller does not deemed it appropriate to fully discuss about it until his return or at a future meeting with better attendance.

J. Poirier-Lavoie wants a procedural and administrative clarification as to whether the CSU has already had a position on Divestment topic notwithstanding the presented petition. A. Muller replies that no specific referendum vote has been undertaken on the topic itself, but on similar topics revolving around energy and climate change.

L. Galbraith provides a clarification that the issue of Divestment is mostly concentrated on Concordia University's investment and contribution to climate change.

L. Marshall-Kiparissis states that since this topic is currently purely informational, the Council cannot do anything right now other than make comments and provide feedback

for the individual(s) involved with the petition. According to her, nobody on the council is not forced or mandated to make a decision right now.

8. Handbook

L. Marshall-Kiparissis states the following motion. Seconded by R.Young.

Whereas Katasoho will print the CSU agenda 2016-17 for a total cost of \$61,593.26\$;
Whereas 50% of this payment is due immediately, and the remaining 50% after delivery of the agendas;

Whereas expenses over \$10,000 have to be approved by the finance committee, as per regulation 154;

Whereas the finance committee is currently unable to reach quorum;

Be it resolved that Council approves the disbursement of \$30,796.63 to Katasoho from the Handbook budget line.

L. Marshall-Kiparissis explains that the motion already was in motion due to the timeline schedule to get the handbooks per her abilities to do so under her mandate as General Coordinator. She had to decree the motion as a direct acting representative in place of Council.

J. Poirier Lavoie wonders at the executive order taken via her role as General Coordinator. He also asks on whether this decree could have been prevented and be pushed to the next Council meeting. L. Marshall-Kiparissis states that her executive action could have been prevented if at least quorum was reached at the last Special Council meeting called for on August 3rd 2016. She dislikes using the decree powers, but it had to be done on the same of a reaching deadline for payment.

In the future, J. Poirier Lavoie requests that any future executive orders be made complete with a preamble stating the reasons and objectives for the decree/executive order.

In Favour: 9

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

9. Adjournment

J. Poirier-Lavoie moves to excuse R.Yahia from this current meeting notwithstanding Standing Regulation 392. Seconded by R.Young.

C. Robinson states that CSU executives are faced with a pay penalty for not attending Special Council or Regular Council. As the Chair, she states that it is Council's discretion for excusing R. Yahia from this meeting.

J. Poirier-Lavoie wants to inquire more into this pay penalty and let it refer to the Policy Committee per the necessity of having this penalty.

C. Robinson provides R. Yahia's excuse in which he was not expecting to be in the city for a Special Council meeting on this date, but rather for the one on August 3rd 2016. R. Yahia is helping his parents over a personal matter.

In Favour: 8

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

A.Milton moves to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by J. Poirier-Lavoie.

Vote: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 20h30

Meeting officially called by CSU President Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis as per By-Law 6.6.3