



Concordia Student Union - Council Of Representatives

CSU Regular Council Meeting

Wednesday, October 25, 2023 H-711 OR via Zoom,

18h30

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
- 4. CONSENT AGENDA**
  - a) Approval of Previous Minutes
  - b) Ratification of Committee Reports
- 5. PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST SPEAKERS**
  - a) Orientation Post-Mortem Presentation
- 6. APPOINTMENTS**
  - a) Appointments Committee (1)
  - a) BIPOC Committee (3)
  - b) Clubs & Spaces Committee (1)
  - c) External Committee (1)
  - d) Fee Levy Review Committee (1)
  - e) Finance Committee (2)
  - f) Loyola Committee (2)
  - g) Mental Health Committee (3)
  - h) Policy Committee (1)
  - i) Student Life Committee (2)
  - j) Sustainability Committee (3)
  - k) Sustainability Action Fund (1)
- 7. NEW BUSINESS – SUBSTANTIVE**

a) Appointments Committee Recommendations

b) Review of BoG Report

**8. NEW BUSINESS – INFORMATIONAL**

**9. QUESTION PERIOD & BUSINESS ARISING**

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**



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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson calls meeting to order at 18h39

**We would like to begin by acknowledging that Concordia University is located on unceded Indigenous lands. The Kanien'kehá:ka Nation is recognized as the custodians of the lands and waters on which we gather today.**

**TiohEá:ke/Montreal is historically known as a gathering place for many First Nations. Today, it is home to a diverse population of Indigenous and other peoples. We respect the continued connections with the past, present, and future in our ongoing relationships with Indigenous and other peoples within the Montreal community.**

## 2. ROLL CALL

**Chairperson:** Michelle Lam

**Council Minute Keeper:** Kyla Jallow

**Executives present for the meeting were:** Harley Martin (General Coordinator), Alexandrah Cardona (Academic & Advocacy Coordinator), Tanou Bah (Student Life Coordinator), Hannah Jackson (External Affairs & Mobilization Coordinator), Talya Diner (Loyola Coordinator), Christian Taboada (Internal Affairs Coordinator)

**Councillors present for this meeting were:** Adam Mills (Arts & Science), Michael Lecchino (John Molson School of Business), Kareem Abdeen (Independent), Nassim Boutalbi (John Molson)

**Executives absent for this meeting were:** Kareem Rahaman (Finance Coordinator), Talya Diner (Loyola Coordinator), Maria Chitiroaga (Sustainability Coordinator)

**Councillors absent for this meeting were:** Yanira Margarita Coulson (Arts & Science), Haru Noda (John Molson School of Business), Salma Bannani Khir (Arts & Science), Sona T Sadio (Arts & Science), Riley Cooke (Arts & Science), Moad Alhjoog (Arts & Science)

Harley Martin motions to excuse Maria Chitiroaga  
Seconded by Adam Mills

Harley Martin motions to excuse Talya Diner  
Seconded by Tanou Bah

Harley Martin motions to excuse Riley Cooke  
**Seconded by Tanou Bah**

**Harley Martin motions to excuse Kareem Rahaman**

**Seconded by Tanou Bah**

**Motions pass**

### **3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Harley Martin** motions to approve the agenda

Seconded by Tanou Bah

Motions passes

### **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

a) Approval of Previous Minutes

**Christian Taboada:** It has been brought to my attention that a few of the motions from clubs and spaces committee of September 22 were just written wrong as passed unanimously, when they were discussed but were not actually passed. So, I will modify that and resubmit it.

**Chairperson:** If you can send me the updated one, I can redistribute that to all of council, so they have the correct records.

b) Ratification of Committee Reports

**Harley Martin** motions to approve all items under the consent agenda

Seconded by Tanou Bah

Motion passes

### **5. PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST SPEAKERS**

## a) Orientation Post-Mortem Presentation

### Tanou Bah presents: Student Life Orientation Report

Orientation was probably one of the hardest things I've taken up since I've come to university, but I had the best time and I generally enjoyed it and probably was the highlight of my undergraduate time. I would not have been able to do it without Keza, who was my orientation coordinator without the executives. Thank you to all of you for coming out every time and Eddie from the DOS team that helped throughout the entire process. Every year the CSU hosts some series of events in the beginning that welcomed the students and introduced them to what, like awaits them at Concordia this year, we did a total of nine events, and they were all essentially very different. And we tried to make it like super diverse so that there's like, they could attract different types of students.

#### Why We Outside:

This year the theme that we or I chose for orientation it was called the outside. And essentially this is because there weren't any online activities this year. And even more so like we were actually on the streets doing things. And so, if anything, that represents how outside we were.

#### Merch:

We had totes, playing cards, water bottles, chap sticks, hats, safety cup covers, and I believe that was it. I just tried to get things that were practical and students would like, but also spent time with our designers to make sure that there were nice cool designs on them so students would wear it. I see a lot of students wearing our merch and overall so many students have come by the office since orientation has been done to ask for things and so the response seems very positive.

#### Staff:

I hired one orientation coordinator, and I hired Keza right in the beginning. So, the second week of June I put her in place and essentially what happened is I gave Keza most of the street closing project. This is because most of the project was done in French, and I am anglophone. And so, Keza helped with drafting the documents, translating the documents, and when we're having meetings with the city to discuss just what we needed to do for the street closure, Keza pretty much was spearheading those meetings. I also gave Keza a bunch of events to pretty much organize on her own, and I did events as well. I am pretty sure she worked 24 hours a week for the months of June, July and August and then had 30-hour weeks during the first weeks of September during orientation. Overall, I would recommend an orientation coordinator as soon as you get in.

For orientation staff, I hired a lot of staff. I hired 13 people. This was because on our days of clubs and service fair on the street, we essentially had to have people help set us to help set up tables. And so, I hired as many people as possible so that could get done. Just because you never realize how many little tasks there are going to be and how many people need to pick up on that.

Events:

So, for coffee kiosks, essentially this is when we served coffee and gave up merch in the mornings for orientation week it spanned from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM and we did a couple of locations downtown and a couple of locations at Loyola. And so, I believe on the 5th, the 6th and the 7th we did downtown and Loyola at the same time. And then on the 11th we did just Loyola. In terms of attendance, I would say like ranging between like 50 to 200 students that just walk past every day like I mean during the morning on their way to grab go to class. We pretty much just booked the spaces in the beginning of the summer and decided that we wanted to do one in EV, one in John Molson, one at the bottom of Hall. We targeted all the different faculties. At Loyola we did one in the SP building and one in front of the library. I highly recommend doing this event next year. It's a great way to talk with new students in the beginning of the year. If anything, I would say just pester the hive a bit more in the beginning or find another alternative for coffee.

The next event that we did, it was a paint and sip. This was an event that took place on Reggie's the first day of orientation as well. And it was from 5:00 to 8:00 PM. We had paint supplies out; students had like 2 drink tickets. It was a free event, and it essentially was like good music playing, get to know new people while also painting and being creative and hosting an event at Reggie's, which is always good. The event was sold out, we had a little over 50 people attend. We just contacted Reggie's during summer saying that we wanted to host an event. On Amazon I got some paint supplies, got some canvases, tablecloths, brushes, and yeah, placed that order. We just set up some of the tables they already had in there, covered them in the tablecloths and put out the paint supplies. I would recommend doing this again 100%. So many students wanted to attend that just like it ended up just not having enough space for that.

Okay, next is clubs and community fair. Well, probably the hardest things I've ever done. It was incredibly stressful, but these were the two fairs that took place on the street. Essentially it was clubs and services that signed up that are part of the Concordia community and under CSU that just tabled and promoted their club or service to new students or students that weren't around for the day on the street. We have been working on the street closure project for the entirety of summer like it started when Keza came on. But Harley started that process a bit beforehand, and we got the confirmation that the street was closed, I believe August 22nd. We came there the day of, there were cars on the street. So, we had to get a towing company to come tow the cars. And then we had to order tables for this event because the university does not supply tables if it's not on campus. We put up tents because it was like one of the hottest days ever. We dealt with some like hardships with this one for sure though, because like the fire department wasn't having with our tents and told us that they weren't fire safe. I recommend to always do a clubs and community fair.

The next event that we did was a climb with CSU. This was a bouldering ring bouldering event that took place at Cafe Block. The whole point of this event was that like there would be some active events that like some students could attend. This was just like a day where students could go to Cafe Block. We had 50 registrants, but I believe approximately 30 people showed up on the day of and the process to set it up was straightforward. I reached out to a couple of bouldering gyms early in the summer and then fully got in contact with Cafe Block and they said that they would supply like people to look over the climbers and give shoes and the pricing wasn't bad. I got some great feedback. I would recommend doing it again because it wasn't that costly. It wasn't that hard to do, and people attended.

The next event that we did was a bike tour. So, this is a tour that led students from SGW to Loyola. It was a guided bike tour and it led to a different event that was happening afterwards. This was a popular event in the sense that it's sold out super quickly and we partnered with Villa Quebec who led the tour and the Office of Sustainability. The tour also started with a presentation on how to use the new bike repair station. I believe on the day up only like 8 to 10 people showed up and so the engagement wasn't great even though people fully signed up for the event. And so, I don't know if I would recommend this for next year.

The last event was the BUYPOC fair, we partnered with BUYPOC which is a small business in Montreal, and it has a bunch of BIPOC businesses. Like we had some students that were selling the day of, and they talked about how this pop up was easy to like to be a part of and that the fact that they didn't have to pay a fee to be a part of the pop up made it accessible. And so, and like students that were able to buy products the day of also seemed happy because they were supporting like a small local business while also like getting some quality stuff super easy to set up. It was a super simple event, and I would recommend doing it next year for sure. Really attracted a diverse student body.

Finance:

So, the street fair, super expensive. Surprisingly, we had to pay for the tables that we rented. We also had to pay for the signage company to make an outline of how we were going to face, for example the no parking signs on the streets. And yeah, it was quite pricey, but worth it like the signage stuff that we had to do that was required to do the signalization plan that we had to get and that was required to do as well.

And the next thing on the budget is the CSU Fest. This is an event that I was really excited for, but unfortunately had to cancel because there weren't low ticket sales. It was originally supposed to happen at Riverside St. Henri. It was estimated for \$23,000 and \$10,000 would have been taken off if drinks were bought. We put a deposit down for \$5429.85 and so that was all that was initially spent. I have

contacted the owner of Riverside to see if we can use this deposit for an event on say like towards the end of my mandate, so it doesn't get completely lost.

Next for the bike tour we estimated to do about \$700.00 for maybe like gifts and a raffle prizes, but we didn't end up going through with that and so that money was never spent.

There was a Loyola BBQ that essentially the Loyola coordinator put together and it was estimated that CSU would contribute \$3000 towards that because this was a collaboration between CSU and the GSA, but in all we only had to contribute \$2000.

The bouldering event that took place at Cafe Block ended up being \$1121 flat and this was including like rental of the space and rental of shoes and that's what ended up coming out as.

Paint and sip was initially supposed to be \$2000 is what I was aiming for, and the actual amount was \$2462. This is because we sold more than ticket, or we handed out more tickets than we thought we would because we had extra people come in towards the end and then also the paint supplies were more was more expensive than I estimated.

Coffee kiosk I estimated for \$1200. Still haven't received an invoice from the Hive. I'm reaching back out to them this week so I can get that.

So, the expected amount I was looking at was 33,040.42 but I spent \$14,730.27.

In terms of merch, for totes it was \$9750. For the playing cards it was \$4050. Cover scrunchies were \$3000, the vintage hats were \$13950. The Nalgene were \$1337 which was more expensive, and I think this was because of like sales tax and shipping. The lip balms were \$2625, and the stickers were \$774 when I initially estimated them to be \$800. The total spent from merch is \$47,186 and I thought I would be spending \$46,591.

So, the total I spent in orientation was \$61,916.27 which is a bit less than what I anticipated because we cancelled that one event.

The orientation coordinator worked a total of 322 hours. It was \$19.00 an hour and I estimated that to be \$6118. They ended up working a little bit more than that because like during orientation week a lot of hours were worked. It was very tough and then I was estimating 20 hours per staff and 13 staff and I pay at \$17.00 an hour, which came out to be estimated as \$4,420. The maximum of hours a staff worked, I think



was 17 and so it never reached \$4000 but it said it was \$2575, which made the total for orientation staff \$9187.

Adam Mills motions to approve report

Seconded by Hannah Jackson

Motion passes

## 6. APPOINTMENTS

a) Appointments Committee (1)

Harley Martin Motions to table all items under appointments

Seconded by **Christian Tabaoda**

Motivation:

**Harley Martin:** We have less councillors present today and we have been going over this every meeting and have not gotten any nominations. So, I think we'll just return to the ones we have with the new set of councillors.

Motion passes unanimously

~~a) BIPOC Committee (3)~~

~~b) Clubs & Spaces Committee (1)~~

~~e) External Committee (1)~~

~~d) Fee Levy Review Committee (1)~~

~~e) Finance Committee (2)~~

~~f) Loyola Committee (2)~~

~~g) Mental Health Committee (3)~~

~~h) Policy Committee (1)~~

~~i) Student Life Committee (2)~~

~~j) Sustainability Committee (3)~~

~~k) Sustainability Action Fund (1)~~

## 7. NEW BUSINESS – SUBSTANTIVE

a) Appointments Committee Recommendations

Mental Health Committee

Harley Martin motions to appoint Scott Guy

Seconded by Adam Mills

We received one application for this committee and there was one available seat. The Appointments Committee chose to appoint Scott Guy. Scott has extensive experience working within student associations and has held numerous committee seats. Scott's experience and interest in the position suggest that they will be able to adequately carry out this role.

Motion passes

#### Judicial Board

Harley Martin motions to appoint Routh Sivagnanam

Seconded by Tanou Bah

We received two applications for the Judicial Board and there was one seat available. The Appointments Committee chose to appoint Routh Sivagnanam. Routh demonstrated a great deal of relevant experience and detailed why they were interested in serving on the Judicial Board. This applicant appears to have the interest and skills to carry out the work of the Judicial Board.

Motion passes

#### Concordia Council on Student Life (CCSL)

Harley Martin motions to appoint Charbel Hachem, Emma Girgis, and Victoria Gorman

Seconded by Adam Mills

We received five applications for this committee and there were three open seats. The Appointments Committee chose to appoint Charbel Hachem, Emma Girgis, and Victoria Gorman. All applicants detailed why they were interested in this position in particular, and all have relevant background experience that will help them succeed in this role.

Motion passes

#### University Senate

Harley Martin motions to appoint Deep Patel, Niraj Dayanandan, and Melissa Spiridigliozzi

Seconded by Tanou Bah

We received seven applications for this position and there were three open seats. The Appointments Committee chose to appoint Deep Patel, Niraj Dayanandan, and Melissa Spiridigliozzi. All have relevant experience, knowledge, interest, and skills that will aid them in succeeding in this role, and additionally, all demonstrated knowledge of the policies and procedures relevant to the Senate.

Motion Passes

#### Student Tribunal

Harley Martin appoints Mani Asadieraghi, Kiara Madison, Charbel Hachem, Aniket Galhotra, Yordanos Mengesha, and Valerie Baker

Seconded by Tanou Bah

We received six applications for this committee and there were sixteen seats available. The Appointments Committee chose to appoint Mani Asadieraghi, Kiara Madison, Charbel Hachem, Aniket Galhotra, Yordanos Mengesha, and Valerie Baker. Many of the applicants have relevant experience that will help them in this role, and those that do not demonstrated a willingness to learn and suggested they would be able to carry out the role with adequate training. As the Student Tribunal is meant to be a large pool of students to ensure that when needed there is always a sufficient number of students available.

b) Review of BoG Report

Board of Governors Report

September 28, 2023

Prepared by **Harley Martin**

Concordia's Board of Governors (BoG) convened the first meeting of the 2023-2024 academic year on September 28th. BoG is the senior governing body of the University and is responsible for establishing the legal and administrative framework for Concordia. It is composed of 25 voting members and one non-voting observer (this position is held by Council member Nassim. This alternate BoG seat can be held by a council member or student-at-large).

Concordia's President Graham Carr discussed a good start to the fall term with a great deal of student engagement. He also discussed the ongoing efforts the University is undertaking to ensure a favourable result in the revaluation of the University funding formula that is currently taking place, and Concordia's opposition to proposed changes to PEQ. The government had not yet announced the proposed increases in tuition which will affect out-of-province students (and in turn, international students) studying in the province, but I am aware that the University is in opposition to this proposal as well and I am sure we will be discussing this in upcoming BoG meetings.

We then discussed some internal changes regarding the delegation of authority to approve professional liability insurance for architects, and the approval of a borrowing plan to support capital projects from Financement-Quebec. Also presented were reports on compliance with environmental legislation and health and safety regulations and the annual report from Ombuds Office. The other two items were presented in closed session (and therefore cannot be discussed here), and the president made further comments on already discussed issues.

Lastly, as a member of BoG's executive committee, which is tasked with reviewing draft agendas and documentation for BoG meetings among other things, I met with fellow committee members on October 16th. We reviewed the agenda and supporting documentation for our upcoming BoG meeting to be held on October 26th.

If you have further questions about anything in this report, please let me know.

Harley motions to approve the report

Seconded by Tanou Bah

**Chairperson:** The Board of Governors report has been approved by council

## **8. NEW BUSINESS – INFORMATIONAL**

**Harley Martin:** We need people to run as councillors for elections. I sent a schedule for tabling so please sign up. If you need forms to hand out to people you know, they can come pick them up at our office. We need people and have until the end of the week to get more participation

**Adam Mills:** Maybe we could reach out to former councillors as well. The councillor's got a request from somebody at The Link to do an interview to talk about student engagement and the upcoming elections. So, I'm going to be sitting down with Miguel from The Link on Saturday to do that.

**Maria Cholokava (The Link):** Yes, it is from The Link. The next issue is coming out on Tuesday, but your interview might come out in a month.

## **9. QUESTION PERIOD & BUSINESS ARISING**

### **10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Harley Martin motions to adjourn meeting at 19h33**

**Seconded by Tanou Bah**