# Concordia Student Union - Council of Representatives 

CSU Regular Council Meeting - Agenda<br>Wednesday, June $8^{\text {th }}, 2016$<br>H-427, 18h30, S.G.W Campus


#### Abstract

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 19h47

## 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), Rami Yahia (Internal Affairs), Adrian Longinotti (Finance Coordinator)

Councillors present for the duration of the meeting consisted of Robert Young (Arts \& Science), Alexander Milton (Arts \& Science), Thomas David-Bashore (Arts \& Science), Jason Poirier-Lavoie (Arts \& Science), Veronika Rydzewski (Arts \& Science), Armani Martel (Arts \& Science), Artem Mikhalitsin (ENCS), Mikaela ClarkGardner (Fine Arts), Marie-Maxime Gelinas-Delisle (JMSB)
3. Approval of the Agenda
R. Young moves to approve the Agenda \& the Consent Agenda. Seconded by A. Milton
In Favour: $8 \quad$ Opposed: $0 \quad$ Abstentions: 0

## 4. Consent Agenda

a) Approval of the Minutes - May $11^{\text {th }}$ (RCM)
b) Reports from Committees
c) Executive Reports
d) Chairperson's Report

## 5. Presentations \& Guest Speakers

None

## 6. Appointments

a) University Senate
S. Sahrane discusses how councillors are needed for the undergraduate portfolio for the Senate.
L. Galbraith and L. Marshall-Kiparissis mentions how the University Senate is a wonderful way for students who desire to be active with involvement, but note the necessary time commitment.

The chair adds to the discussion floor as to how any student is available to be a member of the Senate.
R. Young moves to nominate himself to the Senate. Seconded by A. Milton. He believes that his wide academic range by being both a Liberal Arts and Cultural Studies student qualifies himself to be a Senate member. To add, he states his past experience with ASFA and appreciate the open forum dialogue at meetings.
A. Milton moves to nominate himself to the Senate. Seconded by R. Young. A. Milton states his purpose as to why the council should nominate himself to the Senate. Firstly, he mentions how he is a student of two facilities, helped a Concordia professor, as well as is familiar with Robert Rules of Order.
A. Martel moves to nominate himself to the Senate. Seconded by J. Poirier Lavoie. A. Martel acknowledges his lack of experience, but makes up for it by stating that he appreciates the academic foundation of his fellow council members as to himself. He believes that being a third-year Political Science Honours student gives him creditability to be a viable candidate.
N. Fabre moves to nominate herself to the Senate. Seconded by A. Milton.
$N$. Fabre had sent a letter to the C. Robinson detailing her motivations as for the nomination to the University Senate. She aspires to bring passion and the drive to learn more about the organizational structure of Concordia University as well as continues to be the voice for students in all bodies relevant to their success.
R. Young advocates for gender parity to the council when making the final nominating decisions for the Senate.
L. Marshall-Kiparissis appreciates the candidates for putting themselves forward for the nomination. She credits the candidates for their experience as well as the value they can bring for the University Senate.

Through a roll call vote, A. Martel and N. Fabre have been selected as the representatives for the University Senate.
b) Concordia Council on Student Life
R. Gauthier discusses the available membership on the council. She mentions that the council approves projects in and around Concordia University. A. Longinotti provides some more information to the council about the CCSL's mandate such as the power over Students' Services budget, administrative affairs towards student's success and university life. He concludes by stating that there is an honorarium of 6 credits available.
L. Marshall-Kiparissis acknowledges that there isn't really a rush to appoint all the necessary people to the committee seeing as there is a lack of people due to the current summer season.
R. Gauthier moves to nominate herself to the Concordia Council on Student Life. Seconded by T. David-Bashore.
R. Gauthier, per her mandate as the Student Life Coordinator, believes it is a perfect fit and believes that it help and assist her accomplish her goals and aspirations for the upcoming academic year.
R. Yahia moves to nominate himself to the Concordia Council on Student Life. Seconded by A. Martel.
R. Yahia states his past experience on the committee the previous year and values the input he can bring for the upcoming academic year.
M. Peters moves to nominate R. Gauthier and R. Yahia to the Concordia Council on Student Life. Seconded by R. Young.

For: 9
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 0
c) Library Services Fund Committee
A. Muller states that the committee is utilized for students and mentions the available membership is open to four students. He recommends that the council should nominate 3 people as well as the time commitment of meeting four (4) times a year.
A. Muller moves to nominate himself to the Library Services Fund Committee. Seconded by R. Young.
A. Muller states his past experience as being on the committee the previous academic year.
L. Galbraith moves to nominate herself to the Library Services Fund Committee. Seconded by R. Young.

She believes that her mandate, per being the Sustainability Coordinator, allows for her to be a perfect fit seeing as it enhances the required sociability for her role.
R. Young moves for an omnibus vote for both nominees to the Library Services Fund Committee. Seconded by T. David-Bashore.
For: $9 \quad$ Opposed: $0 \quad$ Abstentions: 0
d) Loyola Committee (1 spot)
M. Peters, as the Loyola Coordinator, asks upon the council to nominate someone to the committee. He provides information as to the committee's mandate towards current projects to improve the Loyola space for events such as Orientation. He concludes that he is open for more input for more activities.
e) Sustainability Committee ( 2 spots)

Two spots are open for the committee, due to a resignation. L. Galbraith provides information about the mandate of the committee. The financial spending power of the committee rests on the foods and Special Projects Fund. She mentions that she is working on some plans to present and for the committee in the upcoming year.
A. Mikhalitsin moves to nominate himself to the Sustainability Committee. Seconded by R. Young.

He believes that his dedication to special causes such as feminism and environmentalism validates his candidacy for the committee.
R. Young moves for A. Mikhalitsin to be nominated to the Sustainability Committee. Seconded by A. Martel.

For: $9 \quad$ Opposed: $0 \quad$ Abstentions: 0
f) SSAELC Fund Committee
M. Peters discusses the mandate of the committee. He mentions that the time commitment is not that heavy. He finds it a great opportunity. There is one council representative seat open for the committee.
M.-M. Gelinas-Delisle moves to nominate herself to the SSAELC Fund Committee. Seconded by R. Young.

She's states herself as organized and committed for the cause and open to learn about the present organizational structure to help students at Concordia University.

## A. Mikhalitsin moves to nominate himself to the SSAELC Fund Committee. Seconded by R. Young.

A. Mikhalitsin believes that his commitment will make up for his lack of general experience.
M.-M. Gelinas-Delisle is approved as the council's representation on the SSAELC committee.

## 7. New Business - Informational

a) AVEQ
A. Muller discusses the association's mandate, goals and aspirations as a representative union for Anglophone student interest.
L. Marshall-Kiparissis provides some insight into this association and states her past experience and applauds the CSU's efforts to being a part of this project.

## 8. New Business - Substantive

a) Annual Campaign (Seconded by R. Young)

Whereas Climate change is a global issue that affects us all, and proactive steps have to be taken to address it;
Whereas the consumption of fossil fuels is a significant factor in the global increase of the temperature of the planet, and according to 350. org an estimated $80 \%$ of the known reserves should be kept in the ground in order to prevent a dramatic increase in global temperature;
Whereas the extraction of fossil fuels, the development of pipelines, of the tar sands and of fracking disproportionately impacts negatively indigenous communities;
Whereas Concordia University holds undisclosed amounts invested in fossil fuels industries;
Whereas we believe that academia has a moral responsibility towards society;
Whereas it is reasonable to believe that investment in fossil fuels industries are not
financially sustainable on the medium to long term;
Whereas Divest Concordia and Sustainable Concordia are campaigning for Concordia University to fully divests its investment from fossil fuels industries;
Whereas the CSU has the following positions:

- "That the CSU oppose the Energy East and Line 9 pipelines as well as any form of tar sands development. [Adopted during the March General Election, 2016]
- That our society transition towards being fossil fuels free by 2050. [Adopted October

8, 2014]

- That our university system be transformed to help in the transition towards a post fossil fuel economy. [Adopted October 8, 2014]
- That the pipeline projects in Quebec be blocked, with the intention to stopping tar sands exportation. [Adopted October 8, 2014]
- That fossil fuel exploration and extraction projects on the territory of Quebec stop.
[Adopted October 8, 2014]
- That the emission of dangerous levels of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere be recognized as a crime against our environment, and against humanity. [Adopted October 8, 2014]
- That the CSU favor the removal of Federal and Provincial subsidies to the fossil fuel industry and resource exploitation activity in Quebec's Plan Nord. [Adopted April 8, 2015]"

Be it resolved that the annual campaign of the CSU for the year 2016-17
be to inform and mobilize the Concordia undergraduate students on environmental and climate justice issues, with a special focus on divestment;

Be it further resolved that this campaign emphasises the impact of climate change on indigenous peoples and other front line communities, and reinforces the centrality of their perspectives and actions in environmental justice;

Be it further resolved that CSU demands that Concordia university divests the entirety of its investments from fossil fuel industries;

Be it further resolved that for the purpose of this campaign, the CSU works in collaboration with Divest Concordia and Sustainable Concordia.
A. Muller and M. Peters present a PowerPoint detailing the positions taken with this motion. Both of them explain the motivations behind this divestment action by stating that nearly 12 million of Concordia's Endowment Fund is invested in the fossil fuel industry. The campaign's demands are for negative screening of select companies and alternative investing into socially-aware industries. So far, the campaign has been primary been the project of Divest Concordia with the help of Sustainable Concordia.
A. Martel questions and ponders at campaign itself in terms of actual progress with the movement. L. Marshall-Kiparissis answers that an ad hoc committee has been formed, but believes that the university administration has taken more of a PR approach towards the cause rather than actively and directly changing positions.

For: 9
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 0
b) Minimum Wage Position (Seconded by R. Young)

Whereas the current minimum wage in Quebec for the year 2016 is 10.75\$ per hours; Whereas according to the Institut de recherche et d'informations socioéconomiques (IRIS) research report "Les conditions d'un salaire viable au Québec en 2016?" (April, 2016) the median living wage in the province of Quebec would be 15.11\$ per hour for a person working fulltime
(37.5 hours a week);

Whereas organizations such as the Féderation des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec (FTQ), the Confédération des Syndicats Nationaux (CSN), and l'Association pour une Solidarité Syndicale Étudiante (ASSÉ) are campaigning for a $15 \$$ per hour minimum wage;

Whereas the CSU has the following positions, which a living wage would support:

- "That the CSU support high quality, universally accessible postsecondary education as a human right. [Adopted during the November Byelection, 2015]
- That the CSU call for the elimination of all financial barriers to a high quality Postsecondary education, and advocate for a progressive reduction and elimination of all tuition fees and obligatory institutional fees (FIOs) for all students, whether Quebec
resident, out of province, or International. [Adopted during the November Byelection, 2015]";
Be it resolved that the CSU supports the adoption by the Quebec national assembly of at least a $15 \$$ hourly minimum wage across all provincial sectors of labour.
A. Muller explains the distinction between minimum wage and living wage. He advocates for the motion as a method to help students afford for university studies.

For: 9
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 0
c) Approval of Budget (Seconded by A. Mikhalitsin)
A. Longinotti details the budget (indexed with the minutes). He explains the current draft was constructed with the CSU General Manager, the outgoing Finance Coordinator and himself as the current Coordinator. Some budget lines have been removed and modified. Any increases from the previous academic year, he adds, have been indexed through the living cost in the City of Montreal. Any committee budget lines are to be further itemized.
M. Peters moves to amend the motion the budget by adding $1000 \$$ from the projected surplus budget line to budget line 7871 (as referenced in CSU Draft Budget 2016-2017). Seconded by R. Young.
M. Peters believes that since there is a surplus, the additional money can be utilized for the Hive Café with unexpected expenses due administrative affairs such as booking.

For: 9
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 0
d) Street Closure (Seconded by R. Young)
R. Gauthier explains the motion as in that it allows for students to familiarize with the new and current clubs and associations at the university and be sociable with making new friends.
e) UQAM Tribunals (Seconded by R. Young)

Whereas several UQAM students were recently charged under the UQAM disciplinary code by the UQAM administration for their participation in the democratically voted strike of the spring 2015;

Whereas the CSU adopted the following position on April 8, 2015: "That the CSU oppose the use of internal university judicial means against students to solve questions of a political nature.";

Be it resolved that the CSU reiterates its position to oppose the use of internal university judicial means against students to solve questions of a political nature;

Be it further resolved that the CSU stands in solidarity with the UQAM students targeted by their university's administration through the use of disciplinary procedures for their participation in the spring 2015 strike;

Be it further resolved that the CSU donates up to $3,000 \$$ to the Comité Légal de l'ASSE, in order to contribute to the legal costs involved in the defence of these students.
A. Muller explains the reasoning behind the motion as in per the student protests that were held at UQAM a year ago.
R. Young moves to amend the motion by adding that the money be taken from budget line 6700 (as referenced in CSU Draft Budget 2016-2017). Seconded by A. Mikhalitsin

Motion passes by a friendly vote.
A.Martel believes that the money will benefit for the students at UQAM stating from past experience.
A. Mikhalitsin wonders if the CSU has given money in such fashion. Adrian answers that the CSU has done so through similar avenues.

For: 8
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 0
f) External Committee Report
A. Muller moves to approve the report. Seconded by R. Young.

## For: 7

Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 2
g) Reform Motions

## I) Resolution concerning the Facilitation of Member-Based Governance

Be it resolved, that the CSU shall facilitate the collective-decisionmaking of member-based student associations on campus by purchasing, and making freely available, projectors, screens, parliamentary guides, and any other equipment and technology that may be required for the hosting of general assemblies.

Be it further resolved, that the CSU shall make available student spaces for general assemblies, and work to make these spaces more accessible by removing time/cost constraints and any other policy impediments.

## the following points il, ili, iv Are referred to policy committee

II) Resolution concerning the Electronic Voting and Elections Accessibility (Already Done by Gene) Be it resolved, that a feasibility study shall be carried out by the executive officers, under the direction of the general coordinator, concerning the use of electronic polling for student elections. This study shall include the available service providers, the risk associated with each, a comparison of methods other universities use to carry out their elections and any other relevant information that may be required by council to decide on how to proceed. A report, with the study's findings and recommendations, shall be presented to council for review.

## III) Resolution concerning Executive Officer and Board Member Training Program

Be it resolved, that a feasibility study shall be carried out by the executive officers, under the direction of the general coordinator, concerning the creation of a training program directed at newly elected executive officers of students associations on campus. This program may be a written manual or can be an experiential learning workshop, and shall address university governance, event planning and budgeting, decision-making, member-based governance and any other skill required to manage a nonprofit organization. A report, with the study's findings and recommendations, shall be presented to council for review.

## IV) Resolution concerning Parliamentary Officer (Chairperson) Training Program

Be it resolved, that a feasibility study shall be carried out by the executive officers, under the direction of the general coordinator, concerning the creation of a training program directed at chairing general assemblies and teaching interested members at large about collective decision-making. This program can be a written manual or can be an experiential learning workshop, and shall address parliamentary procedure, member-based governance, and any other skill required to manage a general assembly. A report, with the study's findings and recommendations, shall be presented to council for review.
J. Poirier Lavoie moves to commit motions 2, 3, 4 to the Policy Committee. Seconded by A. Martel
L. Marshall-Kiparissis discusses how the online voting has already been talked about back in 2014 with the Academic Researcher.
A.Milton questions at the motion in which he believes it is not an effective way in enforcing Roberts' Rules of Order in the proposed idea. R. Young has similar sentiments.
L. Marshall-Kiparissis states that the policy committee at interest for any reform proposal.

## 9. Question Period \& Business Arising

J. Poirier Lavoie nominates himself to the CCSL. Seconded by T. David-Bashore.
J. Poirier Lavoie states that he has been active in student politics pertaining to administration and finance and desires for a new learning experience.
A.Martel nominates himself to the CCSL. Seconded by A. Mikhalitsin.
A.Martel wants to bring his past experience from the CSU to the CCSL.

Moves for an omnibus vote motion for both nominees to the CCSL. Seconded R. Young. For: 5

Opposed: 1
Abstentions: 1
10. Announcements
M. Peters mentions that the Executive Retreat is this weekend.
L. Galbraith mentions that the Executive Office Hours are now posted CSU website.
R. Gauthier asks for the council to be with Orientation with meeting new students.

A few council members discuss the current and open job opportunities available on the CSU website.

## 11. Adjournment

M. Peters moves to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by R. Young.

Motion passes unanimously.
Meeting ends at 22h23.
Wednesday, June 10th, 2015 - Regular Council Meeting Minutes





