# Student Union Representative Council Minutes from october 15th, 2017.

**Student Union Council Meeting**

**Council Chambers**

**October 15th, 2017**

**Call to Order: 3:04PM**

**Roll Call:**

Present: Jessica Fullerton, Melissa Grant, Emma Crilly, Pheerawich Chitnelawong, Tiffany MacLennan, Zakariya Chatur, Rebecca Mesay, Annie Sirois, Patrick Panet-Raymond, William Gatchell, Sean Hopkins, Bry Crabbe, Sydney Pagan, Sasha Paul, Sarah Elliott, Kashya Young, Marcia English, Sean Ryan, Amy Bobyn

Absent with regrets: Tanaka Chikwavaire, Lucas Middleton, Marcia English

Late with Regrets: Alex Corrigan (Vote proxy to Sydney Pagan)

**Opening Remarks of the Chair**

I would like to welcome you to the meeting. Please talk slowly for the deputy chair to be able to take minutes throughout the meeting. I cannot stress enough how important it is that your council reports are in on time.

**Mi’kmaq Acknowledgment**

**Approval of Minutes**

Bry moves to approve the agenda, seconded by Annie (12-0-0)

**Approval of the Agenda**

Patrick moves to approve the agenda, Second by Bry (12-0-0)

**Constituency Reports**
Sarah Elliott - First Year Representative
Since the last meeting, I’ve been trying to discuss with first year students about what they want for the year to be able to build off of what we started and carry it into next year. Take back the night was great and very well done! There was a very good first year attendance at this. I sat on the Budget and Finance committee. Some of the ideas I have ideas for constituency. 1) Freshmen dance (dry) at the end of the semester. The theme for the dance is Party like it’s 1999, as many people in the constituency are born in 1999. 2) Time capsule – Set aside a day that the first years can write themselves a letter so that they can open on their X-Ring day. 3.) Put an envelope in each building to allow students to bring up comments or concerns that occur throughout the year in an anonymous form.

Amy Bobyn - Science Representative

Busy week for science! Attended Take back the night, the event was great and there was a good turnout. I also attended the senate training session last week which was really good and so I’m excited to see how senate goes. As senate members, we got to look at what we’re going to cover over the year. I only got to the end of the senate meeting. Held a meeting with the presidents of the science societies on campus; had really good feedback from each of these people. Planning events for first and second years as well as third and fourth years. Overall, very productive meeting and we’re hoping to meet monthly to ensure that we are all on the same page at all times.

Emma Crilly - Business Representative

It’s been a busy week. Applications for advisory board were put out under Brad Long’s office (academic advisor of the board). As a new rule, we’re making it 10 positions for the board which includes the International Business Project. I sat on By-Law and Policy and will be spoken about in committee reports.

Bry Crabbe - Graduate Student Representative

BIG WEEK!! We had grad orientation day, approximately 20 people showed for the event. Nice to see students outside of their labs and research. Happy to report some of the graduate students have received their X-Ring eligibility!

Sydney Pagan - Board of Governor’s Representative

Since the last meeting, we had buildings and grounds committee meeting on September 27th. Mulroney Hall is on schedule and on budget. The Xaverian Commons project is meant to encourage students to get outside and to be a green space for students. Nicholson Tower renovation is a challenge budget wise as we are going to have to do a lot of work to it because it’s very old. Temporary classrooms have received a lot of positive feedback. The Tramble rooms are being moved to the library and there was concerns about losing study space. However, they are being moved to an area of the Library that is not commonly used for studying so study space will not be affected. West Street apartments were demolished and the observatory was put up for physics and earth science students. Lighting Energy saving is almost complete and it projected to have $800,000 in savings for years ahead. The Board of Governors Meet and Greet is happening! Will be sending out more information shortly.

Melissa Grant - Education Student Representative

Attended take back the night – great turnout and crowd got bigger as we went. The education students had dry events based around homecoming. Personal Development day that happened on Friday went very well and I’m happy with the results of the day. Sat on hiring panels for House Council Coordinator and Off Campus Leader. Over Halloween weekend, the BEd program will be hosting some joint events with StFX for SAFE (society) at the Inn. The Society Review Committee met via email to approve the ratifications of societies. Had our first senate meeting and senate training; it’s exciting to see the full process.

Pheerawich Chitnelawong - International Student Representative

A lot has happened in three weeks. Mid-Autumn festival on behalf of Chinese Student Association went well as well as the Antigonish Community Potluck. The trip to Halifax happened last weekend for the international students. We sold all of the tickets for this event and people wanted more, so would like to make more space for next year. We have the friendship café that happens every week, each week there is an international student who is talking about their home, this happens every Thursday from 4:30-6:30 at the town library. International Student bowling happened on Friday, however it was not well attended as we are in the middle of midterm season. Meet with the internationalization representative. International society is not actually a society so must touch base with the society president and Sarah (Societies Coordinator). As weather gets colder, International Students may struggle more as some of them may not be used to that type of weather. I’m looking into finding resources to getting warmer clothing/cold weather wear. International study hall has had great attendance as it is midterm season, however it would be nice to have peer student study groups.

Q (Annie): Do you know if monthly games night will be happening again this year?

A (Sasha): Yes, they will be!

Sasha Paul - Equity Representative

Since the last meeting, I’ve met with the advisors of the office that I work with, all of these meetings were very productive. The African Descent Student Advisor will be having a meet and greet event at the end of the month which I am helping to plan. Able to attend the HIVE lecture, which focused on people with disabilities and was great to learn more about that constituency. Had a discussion with a student who went through the blue prints for Mulroney Hall and they are concerned about accessibility as the ramps in the buildings all lead to stairs. When Mount Saint Bernard was renovated, there was assurance that it would be accessible but it really wasn’t. Our Pride at X is happening tomorrow night at O’Regan Hall and got to attend the international student event that happened over thanksgiving weekend.

Comment (Annie): We can meet 1 on 1. I’m sitting on this committee and can assure that accessibility is a key thing for this building.

Comment (Andrew Beckett): The building will be accessible to all students.

Comment (Patrick): Do you plan on meeting with the Equity and Human rights advisor in the near future?

A (Sasha): I have already!

Kashaya Young – Aboriginal Student Representative

My constituency report has a few things that have happened since the last meeting. I attended a talking circle. October 3rd was the X-project orientation, there was a lot of people there which was great to see. X-Project is growing each year! On October 5th, there was another talking circle with Doreen, not a large turnout but great nonetheless. On October 11th there was painting night, it was good to have hands on learning. I’ve been in contact with the Xaverian Weekly in regard to have an indigenous history month edition. I’ve reached out to both indigenous and non-indigenous students to strengthen unity between indigenous and non-indigenous students.

**Business Arising**

Sydney adds to new business

**Executive Reports**

President, Ms. Annie Sirois

I’d like to start off by addressing X-Ring Committee. We got a lot of appeals from many grad students, including students from Master of Science, Masters of Adult Education and accelerated nursing. Accelerated nursing has the issue that they are graduating on December 2nd, 2018 and so they wouldn’t get their X-rings before their graduations so they will get them for the duration of their graduation ceremonies and have to give them back for X-Ring Day. MSc will be ensuring that most people are eligible to get their X-Ring at that time. 98% of the appeals were fixed. Both X-ring store and Cameron’s extended their deadline for these students. The committee will continue to meet regularly to pick speakers, and candle bearers. The Sustainability Committee was created with Campus Planning committee. All applications for Students at Large have gone out. All chairs and Co-chairs have to choose a date as a deadline for people to pick their students at large for the committees. StudentsNS had a variety of meetings talking about executive pay and especially the Acadia vs StFX allocations. We are taking a non-partisan stand because there does need to be an amendment to the by-laws. StFX looks like it’s in a good financial position, however the money that is usually coming in from donors is for a specific thing on campus and not actually towards the general operating costs of the university.

Vice President Academic, Mr. Patrick Panet-Raymond

Hello everyone! Take back the night was well attended by StFX students and community members. Sat in on the senate meeting on October 2nd. Meeting by-weekly for now with the Student Enrollment committee, we’re looking at students in first year staying longer. We would like to see the number of students who come here in first year, stay for the entirety of their degree. The Sexual Violence Prevention committee met recently. Bringing in The Bystander training happened today for society presidents and BITB have planned to have meetings with houses and athletes. Sat on hiring for the Off Campus Leader. Met with Institutional Analytics Office to get students to fill out more online surveys. Since moving to online surveys, there has been an increase in the quality of answers but decrease in the amount of answered submitted.

Q (Sasha) What Athletes?
A (Patrick): All of them!

VP Finance and Operations, Mr. William Gatchell

Had meeting with MacKinnon’s Pharmasave to talk about our contract and other things that were hanging us up. We’ve come to a verbal agreement and looking to sign contract soon. We had to make changes with office space because of the increase of the marketing office. With this, we had to talk with Apple to get computers for these offices. Currently working with Sean Hopkins (VP A&E) to get Frost Week acts boked. The Open House was good, and ran very smoothly, especially since this was the first time that it has happened. Spent time during the Open House in the Council Chambers to talk about the Students’ Union. We didn’t get too many students in the Council Chambers but got to talk to many students in the MacKay Room and simply around campus. The first Budget and Finance meeting happened, it was nice to have a formal sit-down meeting to ensure that we were on top of things. Met with the Xaverian Weekly about a conference that they would like to attend so we are able to send more of their members. The Student Food Resource Centre (SFRC) received a generous donation from enterprise holdings. Also, hoping to do a photo with Sodexo as they matched everything that was grown at the SFRC garden over the summer months. The SFRC is run for students by students and their work really benefits the students using it. Sat on the Campus Store Committee, which is a very fun committee; looking to get feedback from students. If you have anything that you would like to see in the store, or changes about the store please come to me. Had a financial update meeting with Sean Ryan (GM), Sean Hopkins (VP A&E) and Cody McGregor (Bar Manager) which was good, we are on target with everything that we wanted financially.

VP Activities and Events, Mr. Sean Hopkins

Hi everyone. I’m happy to answer any questions about my executive report. The Open house was yesterday! I sat on the steering committee for this event. For the first open house, it was definitely a tremendous success, more than 370 prospective students and their families attended. Society Review Committee met to talk about the societies being ratified today. X-Talks being planned for November themed around Movember. The Movember Facebook page is up and running now, so please like and share it. In the middle of planning Frost week, which is very exciting! Gave ERC training to society presidents who missed the first training date. SmartStFX looking to be postponed to second semester because it didn’t seem like it was going to be completely successful if the process was rushed and wanted to take more time to perfect it. siting on the committee for Movember, Bry and Sean are also on this committee. There is a lot planned and it will be great! Meeting weekly with Cody, Sean and Marketing Team to talk about inn events and promote events; there are good events coming up. As for Homecoming weekend, the Inn did very well. There was a lot of people attending events and the band we brought in was great – looking forward to having them again! Thanks!

VP Residence Affairs, Ms. Rebecca Mesay

It’s been a busy few weeks. Hiring for House Council Coordinator and Off Campus Leader positions happened and both were successfully hired. Now looking to do house council training as soon as possible. Sat in the House Hockey Cup committee meeting and MacIsaac Hall committee. Talked about MacIsaac hall town house as well as the preparation for its reopening. Had a conversation with HP/VPs to talk about restorative justice in residence. Met with RLCs and it was put out that some of the HP/Vps can attend East Coast Student Leadership Conference and we are looking for sponsors. Campus Affairs committee met and are meeting again this coming week. Having meeting with House Council Coordinator and VP External Affairs about Trick or Eat. Met Kelsey Jones, Student of African Descent Advisor. Had check ins with HP/VPs as the need came up and formal check ins will be happening in November. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to ask.

Vice President External Affairs, Mr. Zakariya Chatur

I’m going to keep this short and sweet. Annie covered a lot of StudentsNS things. As for CASA, we are almost done of the hiring process for fulltime staff which is GREAT. Currently Restructuring the national advocacy team to fill positions of people that have resigned since we started. Sat on House Council Coordinator hiring panel. Meeting with the Student Food Resource Centre tomorrow morning about Trick or Eat. The Round table that happened was great, didn’t have a very large turnout but the questions brought up were good. A lot of them were about student summer jobs, and how changes will affect the future of students. I was happy to see the Chair of Council and Arts Representative there. Any questions about my executive report can be answered.

**Faculty Representative’s Remarks**

Absent

**Student Union General Manager Report**

Just a couple of things 1) Opt out of the Health Plan with smoothly this year. Health care RFP is on track. We should hit the timeline of November 1st timeline. Community meetings are getting started are behind on a couple of things but these committees will be starting soon. I was a part of open house – a lot of the students were already coming to StFX and were excited to hear about opportunities within the Students’ Union. We looked at the financials of the Inn – things are great. We are going to be shooting first commercial for Maritime Bus as it’s a part of our sponsorship contract. I’ll be out next week, I’ll be in Sydney so if I don’t’ get back to you right away, that is why.

**Committee Reports**

*By-Law and Policy*

Emma: There was just a quick meeting to talk about changing the date around the Annual General Meeting (AGM) by-laws. There needs to be sufficient time for promotion to be able to host the event later in the year. So, we are proposing to move the date from October 15th of each year to October 31st of each year.

Sean R: The financial audit is presented during the AGM as well and the auditors need a lot of time to pull this report together. So, it’s good that this will be moved.

*Budget and Finance Committee*

Sarah: We talked about the people who submitted things for council initiatives. Including a group of students aiming to launch brand of supplements. X-Market was looking for funding for their paper. Xaverian Review for an arts section and another group to host a large talent show. There is $5000.00 able to be given as council initiatives for the year, so we talked about how this should be divided over the duration of the year.

Q (Annie): When will council initiatives come to council?

A (William): We will be meeting with each of these groups, and after that they will be brought to council.

*Society Review Committee*

Mel: We couldn’t meet in person this week, but we met via email and will be looking to ratify a handful of societies at today’s meeting. There is one society that will not be ratified today and the societies coordinator will be meeting with the presidents of this society to talk further about this.

**Special Reports to Council**

**Financial Presentation – Andrew Beckett**

Andrew Beckett: Good afternoon everybody. I come to the SU twice a year to talk about finances. This time is more of an update on how we did on the last fiscal year and as well as a projection for this fiscal year. I will talk about things like capital projects while here and I’m happy to answer any questions.

2016-17 had a budget of $736,700 budgeted deficit. However, we are looking towards moving towards a balanced budget. We ended the year with a $1.4 million deficit. We now have a 15-million-dollar cumulative deficit. This year, we are projecting a deficit that is about 2-3 million dollars. This is because our enrollment is slightly decreasing. Our direct – from – high school enrollment is down by about 100 students, therefore there are about 85-90 students less living within residence which is a big loss. There are currently 370 empty rooms on campus, which is why MacIsaac Hall is closed this year, it was a good way to save money. Closing MacIsaac Hall also maximizes residence experience in other buildings as they’re fuller. Other things contributing to this deficit are repairs and maintenance. There is not enough money being put towards these older buildings, which are costlier to fix.

Q (Sean): Are there any plans set in stone to make up for this deficit?

A (Andrew): Our revenues are basically set for us; our student enrollment is done almost the year before. About 80% of our expenses are from staff and faculty salaries. We would not look into lay-offs; however, we do lay off on hiring where possible. We look at other expenditures like heating costs. There is not a lot we can do in one year for expenses.

Q (Zakaryia): Should students be expecting an increase in ancillary fees?

A (Andrew): I am concerned about this. I think we are at the high end of ancillary fees and we don’t have much capacity to increase them. They may increase by about 1.5-2% increase, however that is the same as usual.

Q (Mel): is there data from other schools to see what our deficits look like compared to other schools?

A (Andrew): StFX’s financial situation is not unique to this university, it is happening at a lot of other universities. We only have so much space to increase things like tuition.

Andrew: The elimination of mandatory retirement made faculty members stay long beyond the age of 65, therefore there are a lot of faculty at the higher end of the pay spectrum staying longer which is using a lot of the money that is being brought into the school.

Q (William): If 80% of our funding goes towards paying salaries, what is this like in other universities?

A (Andrew): It’s very similar all across the board.

A (Annie): Cuts have been made where they can be made. StFX has made good strives towards cutting things where they need to be cut and the money we have is what we have. Met with a lot of Board of Governors members and some of the cuts made have been negatively impacted the student experience. There are now programs that are no longer able to be offered.

Andrew: We are currently working with the province to increase the operating grant fund. This has been looked at further since the announcement that Acadia has been receiving millions of dollars where we have not. If we were getting the same treatment as Acadia, we would have 5 million dollars more than what we do. If we had of been treated like Acadia for the last 10 years, we would have 53 million more dollars. Our students deserve the same amount of funding as Acadia students. The other area that we have an opportunity is by increased our fundraising including our endowment fund. We give away about 3.5-4 million in scholarships each year, endowment is about 3 million, we pay about 1.5 million and this could be covered by endowment, putting money back into our budget.

Q (Pheerawich): As we all know, there is a low % of international students at StFX. I was wondering what is the international student fee? Where does it go?

A (Andrew): We do have low international students, only 3-5% of student population. International students pay double the tuition because the province only covers domestic students and therefore the doubling comes from what is what would be covered by the provincial or federal government.

Q (Annie): Is this funding from the government domestic to Nova Scotia or domestic Canada?
A (Andrew): Canada wide.

Andrew: The Xaverian Commons is a project that has 4 components. 1.) Mulroney Hall; completion June 1st 2019, totally paid for by private donations and government funding. By the end of this march, the building will be enclosed. It will be a very active site. 2.) Nicholson Tower; this project will involve re-skinning the building, new windows and elevators, overhaul of the interior. Looking to sign a contract towards January 2018. Looking at a one year project but people would have to be moved out of the building. 3.) Centre for Innovation in Health; a new academic building to be built where Lane Hall is currently standing. 4.) Landscaping component; will change the face of the upper part of campus. Looking to hire landscaping architect to discuss this further. We are looking to make more green space on campus for students. The total cost of the project is 100 million dollars with no deficit projected.

Q (Emma): Why was the deadline for Mulroney Hall extended?

A (Andrew): Simply because of how long it took to start the project. There were many more components to the demolition of Nicholson Hall than was expected so it was a longer process.

Q (Rebecca): When will Lane Hall be closing?

A (Andrew): There is a high likelihood that Lane Hall will be closed at the end of this year.

Q (Annie): Did the province extend their funding to accommodate the extending of the deadline for the Mulroney Centre?

A (Andrew): Yes, they did.

Andrew: October 27th is the current date for the moving of the Tramble rooms. More than 14% of our students use these services. As we discussed, the best way to control costs is to have less buildings. International house, Coady McNeil and 42 West Street may be demolished in the coming years and West St, Lane and the Annex will definitely be demolished in due time.

Q (Pheerawich): What is the international house?

A (Andrew): Was used by Coady students but they have since been moved to Sommers and Powers Hall.

Q (Zakaryia): As professors retire, are you offering the same amount of tenure positons?

A (Andrew): Not necessarily, when a position becomes vacant, we reassess these positions and their needs. For example, for the B.A.Sc. program, we will need to reassign and move faculty to teach these courses.

Q (Emma): Is there a correlation with pricing of residence and enrollment?

A (Andrew): I don’t really know. The 18-20-year age group has decreased significantly over the last few years. We are one of the highest tuitions in the province and across Canada. Residence occupancy is interesting to see from year to year.

Q (Annie): Isn’t governors always full?

A (Andrew): Yes, it is. So, I don’t know if there is a correlation. It is just about the fact that there are less from high school students.

Q (Pheerawich): Is the budget accessible and open to the public?

A: Yes, it is on the website.

Q (Pheerawich): We heard there was a budget cut for the office of internationalization? Is this affecting hiring?

A (Andrew): We haven’t found someone suitable yet for the director of Internationalization yet, but we are working towards it.

End of special presentation.

**Oland Centre Referendum: Andrew Beckett, Wendy Langley and Murray Kyte**

Andrew Beckett: Thanks very much. We had the opportunity over the summer to meet with the Students Union to look at the Oland Centre(OC). The OC is an aging building, it was built in the 60s and had very little work done since then. It is a “patch work” building, meaning that there are areas that have not been touched at all and areas that have only received the fixes that they require. The fitness center is too small for our needs, it’s approximately less than ½ of the size that it should be for our population. We are not meeting the needs for demands of recreational space for the students of our campus. We have looked at it to see what could be done; to talk about renovation or tearing it down. The tearing down option wasn’t applicable because of how often the building is used. So then, the question is “what can be done at a reasonable cost to make the building more functional for the building?” We looked to use about 30 million dollars because after that amount of money, we would be better off just tearing it down.

We have broken the upgrades into phases: 1) gym floor and seating within the gymnasium. This is done now and looks incredible, if you have the opportunity to do so, you should check it out. 2) Getting underway with in March – Replacement of the stadium seating which will be torn out, getting a replacement and looking at what is under the stadium bleachers and looking to do a refurbishment of locker rooms for student athletes. We would like to have all of the stadium seating before the Special Olympics happen. This project is looking at about 4 million dollars, 1.5 million was covered and there was some private funding made. Some things like replacement of locked in the public areas as well and do things like sand blasting the stairs on the inside. 3) Complete re-alignment of the main change areas and bathrooms, etc., as we are no longer up to the standards. Above these change areas are two classrooms and we would like to turn these into the new fitness centre. Which is why this project cannot happen right at this moment. This fitness centre would be 2.5 times bigger than the current. 4.) Expansion of the auxillary gym, we would like to shift the alignment of the floor and be allowed to have 2 floors side by side. 5) Want to look at general upgrades in the building such as lighting, bathrooms, etc. The timeline and the extent is dependent on the funding that is received.

All in all, we would like to raise 5 million dollars for this project as donations from students.

Murray Kyte: Hi everyone, I’m the Vice President of Advancement for StFX, which is made of 3 components, however today I’m just going to be talking about the development/fundraising side of advancement.

4:42 PM – ALEX JOINS

Murray: StFX needs to step up their game in fundraising. Fundraising is very important and when we are reaching out to external parties, it’s really important to know what the inside is doing including the projects that we are doing. For examples, the Xaverian fund – we want to raise 50 million dollars; we are now past the half way point for this project. We always say that the BoG have payed 100% towards this fund because “This is so important that all of these key groups are behind this project”. So, when we are looking for funding for the OC project, we want the student support for this project to be able to reach out for funding from external sources. With expansions of these areas, there would be student growth in these areas. The government would not likely support this project as they contributed so much to the Mulroney Centre so there is a high amount of need for external funding. Every university has hosted a referendum for projects like this, so this is not new and for example, the KMC had its own referendum. If there is not this student support, it would handcuff us and the project.

Murray: We need the endorsement of our student leaders to be able to make this project a success.

Q (Sydney): What are we looking at as an ask from each student?

A (Andrew): In a 5-year project, about $250 year. In a 10-year project, about $125.

A (Murray): The shorter the project, the more money would need to be done upfront.

Q (Emma): The ask is 250 per student?

A (Andrew): Yes, for a 5-year project.

Q (Sean): Because this space is used by students AND the community, will this pitch be given to the town?

A (Andrew): This is a great point. This is an active discussion. Our ask to the town and county is on the operating funding. Pools and Rinks lose money and the KMC and OC are losing about 1 million dollars annually. We would like the town and county to pay for this deficit like in Pictou county, so we are preparing this presentation now.

Q (Annie): Will the people who use the building more pay more than people who will not see this project?

A (Andrew): The answer to this is difficult. However, if this fee started by 2018-2019, we would be able to have the new fitness centre done the year afterwards and naming the fitness centre would be focused around the fact that the students of this year made the project possible.

Q (Alex): Why is 11.1M projected for the Auxiliary Gym expansion, why is this the most amount of money?

A (Andrew): Expansion is expensive; there’s foundation, roofing, etc. However, these are currently just magnitude projections for this project.

Q (Sasha): If this project can only begin once the Mulroney Hall is done, when would this referendum be started?

A (Andrew): The sooner the better. If we started now the money would be put into an account and be saved. This would also be a charitable donation that could be claimed with income taxes for students.

Q (Emma): Are you going to look at all types of students for this referendum? (Part Time, Masters, etc.)

A (Andrew): It would be based on how much schooling is occurring, like the student union fee. This would be something that needs to be looked at. We pro-rate the fee.

Q (Amy): Once the project that is complete, would the Human Kintetics program be moved out of the OC completely?

A (Andrew): No, it will not be fully out of the Oland Centre because skills would still need to happen there. There would be 2 classrooms remaining in the Oland Centre. A lot of the class stuff would be moved to the Centre of Innovation and Health.

Q (Sasha): Would this pro-rate be a thing for International students?

A (Andrew): Likely no, the facility will be of equal use by international students as well.

Q (Annie): So, the benefits can be seen by current students?

A (Andrew): You already can, look at the gymnasium!

Comment (Annie): a pro-rated fee could be set for distance students, as they are not physically here to use the facilities.

Q (Patrick): Is the selling of seats in the Oland Centre going towards this project? If so, where?
A (Andrew): Yes, the money is going towards phase one of the project.

Comment (Emma): There is a lot of push back from students who will be graduating in the next year or two, so it will have to be pitched so that those students do see that the benefit of this donation.

Q (Sean): If this is a Student Union referendum, there would have to be a Terms of Reference for this.

A (Annie): No, this would be a student fee on behalf of the university.

5:03PM – Sarah leaves

Q (Amy): What is the timeline of the fee?

A (Andrew): Starting next year, lasting 5 years and then would cease.

Q (Alex): What would happen if in 4 years, the 5 million dollars was raised, would the referendum stop?

A (Andrew): Yes, that would be in the Terms of Reference.

Q (Alex): With the renovation of the gym, would the construction be done while students aren’t here?

A: No, this would be our hardest renovation up to date because we would be doing this renovation while the building is operational. We would be directing traffic throughout the building in different ways.

Comment (Alex): Students may be hesitant to pay this fee to be losing the facility.

A (Andrew): They wouldn’t be losing the facility.

Q (Sean): What would happen to the health and fitness facilities?
A (Andrew): A handful of options that would be worked out.

Q (Annie): How open is the university to allowing the Students Union to change things around this referendum? For things like creating gender neutral bathrooms around campus.

A (Andrew): We would like to keep this money directly towards the Oland Centre.

Q (Jessica): Would you look into creating things like private change rooms for people who do not identify with male or female gender?

A (Andrew): That is the problem with our change rooms now, they are male or female. This construction would allow the construction of family washrooms which would be gender neutral.

Q (Annie): When do you want the SU to make a decision on this?

A (Andrew): We would like to bring this to referendum as soon as possible.

Q (Sean): Are councilors supposed to be neutral to a referendum?
A (Annie): We have to be neutral when informing people about the referendum. Council would have to support to HAVE the referendum. We would have to vote to go to referendum, and vote to support the referendum. Because we can support going to referendum but not support actually supporting the referendum. Keeping consistent with the Xaverian referendum.

Q (Emma): If this did go through, would you be open to the having immediate wins like adding a small piece of equipment to the gym?
A (Andrew): This already is a thing, the gym floor, the stadium seating, so each phase will see it’s wins.

Q: What are the chances you proceed if the referendum fails?

A: We would cut the scope of the project because the students do not think it is very important.

Pheerawich: Point of order.

Q (Amy): If the students decide against the referendum, would there be potential to continue the 5-year plan of construction but expand the payment deadline to 10 years.
A (Andrew): We will not undertake construction until a fair amount of money is accumulated for the project.

A (Annie): So, this is done to avoid bad debt?
A (Andrew): Yes. The BoG would not have approved this project if this was going to create a massive amount of bad debt.

Q: Would the option to students would be able to vote: no I don’t support, yes I support 5 years or yes I support 10 years

A (Andrew): We would need to keep it as a simple as possible. It would have to be a yes, no and all of the additional negations would be done between the university administration and the Students Union.

Q (Patrick): Was the KMC donation from students also 5 million dollars? When did this payment start?
A (Andrew): It was only 1 million dollars, it started as $15, and was increased. There is no documentation on the actual specifics of these donations.

End of presentation

**Giving Tuesday – Alexa Zarins**

Alexa: I’m sure you know about Black Friday and Cyber Monday so giving Tuesday was made in the same light. After all of the money you spent on these two days, it’s looking towards giving back on the Tuesday. This year is the first year that StFX will be participating in Giving Tuesday.

\*The StFX Giving Tuesday video was shown.

We hope that you have seen this video already before today. We would be the first Atlantic university to do a giving day and we are looking forward to seeing how it works. We would be doing another video in October, and another in November before the giving Tuesday.

We are looking for your support through social media to communicate Giving Tuesday. We are not asking for students to donate but are asking students to be aware/appreciate the contributions of alumni to the university.

On giving Tuesday on campus, we will be setting up tables throughout campus with photobooths for students to take photos, give away stickers and small competitions that will create awareness and buzz around the event. There are donators who will be matching dollar per dollar, but also social media contests that you can win money (that has already been donated by an external party) to donate to an initiative that you care about at StFX.

This initiative has a direct impact on students and every dollar that is raised goes directly to financial aid.

We are looking for your support to get the word out and get involved. This is a way to get people attached to their donations, by showing people how something like a $20 donation will affect a student.

Q (Alex): Is there a hashtag that we should be using for this event?

A: #OurStFX

Q (Pheerawich): Financial aid is broad, but can you be more specific on who will receive the funding?

A: It would go into a general account and then is distributed to students who demonstrate financial need.

Q (Kashaya): So, will you be using Instagram, twitter and Facebook?

A: Yes, and also linked in, but more as a sharing point rather than a contest/fun account. Contests/etc. will be ran through the alumni accounts.

Q (William): Would you be willing to do something deeper with students that show more of a student impact? Example, showing donors what students are actively doing.
A: Seems like a great initiative, would be willing to have steering group for this.

Q (Alex): In alumni council, it came up for a blue and white day, are we going to do that?

A: Doing a contest on even grad year vs odd grad year. Even grad year are blue, odd grad years are white to get people involved and having lots of fun.

Q (Alex): Do you think you could do a competition to different alumni chapters? For example, for the chapter that raises the most, they could get a prize?

A: We are looking into doing something like this!

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

\*Sasha left 5:45PM

*Motion to amend the Annual General Meeting By-Laws*

Jessica: The proposed change to the Annual General Meeting By-Law is a change in date. The original date was October 15th and is proposed to be moved to October 31st.

Comment (Alex): Should have things to be changed to state that anything presented at the AGM should be publically released.

A (Sean): An AGM is not the same as a council meeting. The point of the AGM is to present the budget, usually a presentation by the president, by-laws CAN be changed but the AGM is not meant to be presentation heavy.

Annie calls to question, seconded by Bry (10-0-0 Motion passes), Mel moves to amend the Annual General Meeting date requirement from October 15th to October 31st, seconded by Kashya. Motion passes (10-0-0 Motion passes).

*Ratification of House Council Coordinator and Off Campus Leader*.

Mel moves to ratify Carl Miller as the incoming House Council Coordinator, seconded by Amy.

Mel: We had a couple of candidates and Carl was our successful candidate, he’s very organized and shows strong leadership qualities. He recognizes that he needs to support the HP/VPs. The interview panel was Mel, Zakaryia, Rebecca, Lucas and Alex. It was a unanimous decision.

Emma calls to question, seconded by Bry (10-0-0, call to question passes), all in favour (10-0-0 Motion passes).

Sydney moves to ratify Carrie Macquire as the Off-Campus Leader, Seconded by Emma.

Sydney: The voting panel consistent of myself, Alyssa (Senior OCL), Zakaryia, Rebecca and others. The vote was unanimous. We’re looking for someone who could create pride in off campus students, the candidate was very prepared and had a great attitude towards the position.

Annie calls to question, seconded by Patrick, (10-0-0 Call to Question Passes), all in favour (10-0-0 Motion Passes).

Ratification of Societies

Q (Kashya): When is the next BITB training for society presidents and how will it be announced?

A (Sean): We are working on a date that works with presidents and vice presidents.

Q (Alex): Are we allowed to withhold the ability to withhold society allocation until they receive this training?

A: No.

Melissa moves to ratify the societies omnibus with the exception of the deeper life connection society, seconded by Alex.

Mel: The deeper life connection had some red flags in their constitution along their requirements so it doesn’t overly meet the guidelines with that the Students’ Union agrees with. There are also sections around discipline and did not seem in accordance with the Student Union values.

Annie: This does that not mean that they will not be ratified, they just won’t be ratified right now.

Kashya calls to question, seconded by Bry, (10-0-0 call to question passes) all in favour (10-0-0 motion passes).

Discussion of 4th Floor Study Space

Alex: It is important to discuss the changes surrounding this space so that we are able to properly inform our constituency appropriately.

Annie: Nothing has made any head way in the project and this doesn’t need to be passed by council. The first thing we have to do is get a working group started to be able to present to council along the ways. Feedback will be taken from students via survey or something of the sort for this project. We would like to have proposal done by December.

Q: Isn’t there something like this made for the Mulroney centre?

A (Annie): Yes, but this is going to be an immediate win.

Q (Alex): Will the computer and access to printers on fourth floor still be accessible?

A (Annie): Yes

Comment (Sydney): This is sought after study space because the building stays open longer, it is more comfortable, etc.

A (Annie): this is such a small amount of study space that it should not make a significant difference.

Q (Amy): So, would we be opening second floor as study space?

A (Sean): In the preliminary discussions, the 4th floor is turned into a lounge and then the building will be able to stay open later and in a perfect world, to a 24-hour building. This space is ideal because it is out of the way and it is smaller.

A (Annie): This would be able to have things like games night happening up here and wouldn’t be able to take away study space.

Q (Pheerawich): Does the refurbishment include the alumni lounge?

A (Annie): No

Q (Alex): What was the student outreach for this? How many students provided input?

A: This has been done kind of in inverse to the normal practices, the feedback has come though complaints made throughout the years. We needed to find a space for students to have fun and hangout. We tried for other spaces like the café, etc., but we didn’t have the support to do so.

Sean: O-Week helped to book spaces for O-crew as well as for off campus students and one piece of feedback is that after o-week, these students were not able to meet in the 4th floor any longer because it is consistently used as a study space.

Annie: Student feedback will be happening.

Q (Amy): The people who do use this space as a study space are very territorial around their study space. How do we approach this to make it seem nice?

A: Make them aware that there are other spaces available on campus.

**Closing Remarks of the Chair**

I commend you all on a really great council meeting. It went very well. Before we go, Kashya wanted me to share with you some events coming up: Lunch and Learn 11am-1pm in Alumni Lounge on October 16th, on October 26th there is a keynote speaker, Gerald Glade. On October 27th at 5:50pm there will be a water walk at the landing as well as well as a film screening of the Colonization Road.

Please remind everyone to go to the AGM, there is PIZZA FOR THE YEAR.

**Adjournment**

Annie moves to adjourn, Emma seconded, all in favour (10-0-0)

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:33PM.**