

2018-08-21 SC Meeting – Audio Recording

Speaker Key:

CH	Chair (Councillor Ruiz)
CY	Councillor Yanish
CS	Councillor Strayer
P	President
VPA	Vice President Academic
VPE	Vice President External
VPOF	Vice President Operations and Finance
VPSL	Vice President Student Life
CB	Councillor Bouwer
UM	Unidentified Male
CST	Councillor Stewart
CD	Councillor Drummond
CDY	Councillor Dykes
UF	Unidentified Female

00:00:00

CH Council we are just about to get started, in about 30 seconds we are going to be starting so please take all of your seats. If any of you guys want some more pizza, go ahead. I call the meeting to order at 6:05pm. Item one, treaty six, land recognition. We would like to acknowledge that this meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University is taking place on the traditional territories of the people of the treaty six region in central Alberta.

The Students' Association of MacEwan University is situated in the centre of what we call the city of Edmonton. Which is called Amiskwaciy Waskahikan or Beaver Hill House in Nehiyawewin. This is the traditional home of the Nehiyaw and Michif and meeting place for many Indigenous peoples including the Nakawe, Siksika, Nakota Sioux and other nations.

Item two, approvals. Can I get someone to move item 2.1? Councillor Yanish?

CY I'd like to move to approve the agenda for August 21st 2019.

CH Thank you Councillor Yanish. Can I get a second? Councillor Newton? It has been moved and seconded. Is there any debate? Saying none. All those in favour? Any opposed? Motion carries.

00:02:13

Motion 2.2 approvals of the minutes. Can I get a mover [?]? Thank you Councillor Strayer.

CS I move to approve the minutes of [unclear] 2019.

CH Thank you Councillor Strayer. And a second? Councillor Stewart. It has been moved and seconded. Is there any debate? Saying none. All those in favour? Any opposed? Motion carries.

Item three, presentations. We have no presentations. Item four, for you information, item 4.1, reports. 4.1 Madam President, do you have an oral supplement to your report?

P As presented, thank you Chair.

CH Thank you Madam President. Item 4.12, Vice President Academic. Mr Vice President do you have an oral supplement?

VPA Yes, just two things very quickly, thank you Chair. First I would just like to touch on the topic of committee recruitment because I've been working hard at trying to fill those spots. Unfortunately we did not get any applications in the winter semester so it's been a bit of a crunch to get them over the summer.

00:03:34

We're going to be okay for members but it would help if councillors, if you're interested, if there's one that jumps out to you and you want to apply, I just want to add that on. Because we did have Alicia [?], or sorry, Councillor Stewart apply to one that she had sat on last year, that's great. That kind of thing would be appreciated. I'll send out the link to everyone, I think, if that helps. It's on the SAMU website.

Just wanted to put that out there for committees, if you're interested in sitting on one you have a very good chance of being appointed if you find one you like.

Second thing really quick, nice and easy, just wanted refer back to that thing in my report from last meeting about the travel funding from MacEwan International for clubs. So I did touch base with MacEwan International this week, I had a meeting with Kimberly Howard [?] and I got a bit of clarification around that.

I don't want to get too into it right now so I'm just going to quickly say that they've only granted it to the one club that we mentioned before, the [unclear] club because of the way that they're approving it. They're approving it based on clubs that allow all students to participate and clubs that have associated learning outcome.

So our next steps seem like, okay, well where can we explain that other student groups also have learning outcomes and can also receive the same funding? And then we can make that argument to hopefully expand it to the rest. And we're waiting to see the results back on that so we're going to work on that the next little bit. So that's kind of the answer as to why it was the one club singled out. Because I know that was brought up. And that's everything.

00:05:03

CH Okay. Thank you Mr Vice President, I do have something to add too. I would like to encourage councillors to apply for the MacEwan committees. I have sat on a few of them throughout my years and it is a great experience. Or if not, try to tell some of your friends about it. They are great opportunities and that way we can help the Vice President Academic fill all of those spots.

So, item 4.13, Vice President External. Madam Vice President do you have an oral supplement?

VPE Thank you. Yes, I would like it noted that I attended the students' council trip to the Royal Alberta Museum and it was really amazing to get to know councillors outside of the council room or meeting room, I guess. And, yes, just partake in some relationship building and boost morale, it was great.

CH Perfect. Thank you so much Madam Vice President. Item 4.14 Vice President Operations and Finance. Madam Vice President do you have an oral supplement?

VPOF Yes I do. Thank you Chair. I recently was able to attend my first Facilities Advisor Committee meeting so that was really great. Second, we just got an update recently that the new student orientation for SAMU is moving to the multi-purpose room in the cafeteria so we have more room and more tables going on.

00:06:39

For [unclear] we will have health and dental, advocacy and develop the building. So it's a great opportunity for our student council members to come on down and give us a hand. Our CCs [?] will be doing the little speeches at the beginning of the morning at 9:30 till 9:50-ish. So if you guys are able to help SAMU with the tables set up as well that would be greatly appreciated.

I'll also be posting it on social media as well. And then we'll all come in and, yes, whatever time you can give would be great. And it's not just us, but you guys are putting yourselves out there more as well which is very important so thank you. Thank you Chair.

CH Thank you Madam Vice President. Item 4.15, Vice President Student Life. Madam Vice President do you have an oral supplement?

VPSL Yes, I do, thank you Chair, just one quick one. In the time since I assembled my report to council, I travelled to Ottawa to attend a conference on the student refugee program. This was a really great opportunity to meet other student leaders and with former SRP students to discuss their experience in the program. I learned a lot about how we can better support these students and I'm looking really forward to employing this knowledge in our remodelling of our Student Refugee Program Local Committee. Thank you.

CH Thank you Madam Vice President. Item 4.16 is Students' Council [unclear] committee. Now that committee is served by the Vice President External, so Madam Vice President do you have an oral supplement?

VPE As presented.

00:08:11

CH Thank you Madam Vice President. Item 4.17, [unclear] Committee. Now, as council know, I am the chair of that committee and I do have a small oral supplement so I will pass it on. I will let Councillor Strayer take the mantel of chair very briefly for my oral supplement.

CS Councillor Ruiz do you have an oral supplement?

CH Thank you Chair. I do have something to say and I want to congratulate Executive Committee for the way they have been submitting their reports so far, I am very impressed by it and I think the committee as a whole was, out of all of my years sitting in other committees, I think by far, those reports have been the very best. They are pretty clear and concise and they have everything that we, as a committee, will want to have to keep up with it. So I just wanted to say congratulations to Executive Committee. Thank you Chair.

So Item 4.2, Executive Committee minutes. So the minutes of July 10, 17, 24 and 31 2019 were provided for your information. Item five, question period. Item 5.1 written questions. There were no written questions. Item 5.2, oral questions. Do we have any oral questions? Yes, Councillor Bouwer?

CB Thank you Chair. This is a follow up question on one of the items in the Vice President External's report, regarding you attended Randy [unclear] barbeque. And mentioned the possibility of an all parties debate in the lead up to the federal election. I would love to know if you have any thoughts on how we should proceed with that, which committee might be responsible for it? I thought it was a good idea, thank you Chair.

00:10:25

CH Thank you Councillor Bouwer. Madam Vice President?

VPE Thank you. Yes I would also like it noted that I also talked to James Cumming who's also running as well. He also is interested in an all candidate debate. Currently our Get Out the Vote [?] planners slash advocacy coordinator... Is that Evan's title?

UM That sounds right.

VPE Sounds right. Is planning the Get Out the Vote conference so my role is the larger picture stuff and then Evan goes into the smaller stuff. Currently he has set aside two dates for the potential of the debate and lots of the folks that he's reached out to are very keen and interested, aside from the questions that I had asked in person to both of those folks.

So in terms of a committee doing it, there is no committee work as this is a Get Out the Vote campaign. But that is something that Evan, our advocacy coordinator is working on. So if you are interested or if any councillor is interested in discussing it further, you can approach myself later or you can talk to Evan. I'm sure that help would be much appreciated.

CH Thank you Madam Vice President. Councillor Bouwer, any follow up questions?

00:11:44

CB None, thank you Chair.

CH Thank you Councillor Bouwer. Any other questions? Councillor Stewart.

CST Thank you Chair. I have a question for our Vice President Operations and Finance, in regards to our building, in the report there was an update in regards to safety risk management or something along those lines. But I was wondering with fall approaching and with students coming back to school, I wonder if there's any dates or updates that we can provide to students in terms of the opening of the new building? Thank you Chair.

CH Thank you Councillor Stewart. Vice President?

VPOF We did have a reschedule for the [unclear] Committee for news and updates coming down the pipe. We were supposed to have it and then it turned out it had to be rescheduled due to vacations and so on so apologies on that end. And I kind of got the word on that last minute. So hopefully we will be able to have an update on that because we're anxious as well [unclear].

CH Thank you Madam Vice President. Councillor Stewart, any follow up questions?

CST Yes. Also just a quick comment, I just want to thank the Vice President for that update, I know sometimes it can be hard to get both [unclear] but I feel like those questions are going to be coming in from students.

00:13:04

I did have another question. I was wondering if Bi-laws and Policy Committee had any meetings and if there's any updates from them or what they were currently working on? I know with the reworking of committees and SAMU stuff, that might have been under their plate but I was just curious on any updates regards to BPC. Thank you Chair.

CH Thank you Councillor Stewart. Madam Vice President?

UF Yes and it was in the previous report that we did have a meeting and we did reframe our agenda for what we want to get done. And we had a number of action items and it required a lot of work for myself to come in contact with other counterparts and SCs [?] providing the information on some of those action items. The ones with regards to clubs and autonomy and banking.

Also the governance review project will be coming down the pipe. We have our final meeting with our consult on early September so then hopefully I can present that first work on it at BP [?]. And there was a third one but I apologise. Apologies. There was one other action item we had. But, yes, as soon as final governance review meeting, I would like to book another meeting for [unclear] because we have a lot of work ahead and we're very excited to [unclear].

CH Thank you Madam Vice President. Madam President, do you have anything to add to that answer?

00:14:47

P Yes, absolutely. Not to that answer but the question beforehand about the

building updates and when we'll be able to release more information. The next joint [unclear] committee is on Monday. From there we will have a definite answer and there's going to be an email being sent out by me to all students and faculties at MacEwan after Monday. Thank you.

CH Thank you Madam President. Councillor Stewart do you have any follow up questions?

CST I don't have any follow up questions but I do have more questions. If that's okay? Or we can open it up, whatever you'd like Chair.

CH Go ahead.

CST Okay. Thank you. I just had a question for our Student Council Review Committee, I just wanted to say thank you for their recommendation and I wish we had taken advantage of it for this meeting, I apologise. But I appreciate the recommendation for presenting the value of the written questions and as well as reminding us that we can ask other councillors as well as committees for those written questions. Because I think maybe that's not as known, I'm not sure.

But I was wondering if that committee would be depending on the turnout for written questions in upcoming meetings, I know that we've received this recommendation. I think we have been reminded in the past that these questions are important.

00:16:27

But I wonder if there is no uptake, necessarily, or improvement on getting written questions submitted, I wondered if the committee would look at maybe something that might be standing in the way for councillors asking those questions?

Or if there's something else that maybe needs to be looked at. Whether that be, just throwing things out there, like training or if we can change dates or something like that. I doubt that would be much of a possibility but if there's something standing in the way, rather than just the recommendation. But I think at this point it was the right move. Thank you Chair. There's a question in there somewhere.

CH Thank you Councillor Stewart. Madam Vice President External, do you wish to answer that?

VPE Sure, thank you. Yes, I'll speak on behalf of the committee. Yes, I would hope that we've cultivated a culture where if folks do have some barrier or hinderance to written questions they would come forward and I would view a written question as maybe an accommodation for accessibility for folks who don't feel comfortable with oral questions.

We also have training coming up for a new round of councillors in October, so maybe that's something to look at, maybe to improve, I know the President's planning that. So maybe that's something we can look at.

00:17:43

But if you do find written questions to be a barrier please come forward and talk to myself or anyone who's part of the Student Council Review Committee. That dialogue and transparency is extremely important and nothing can be done without that. Thank you.

CH Thank you Madam Vice President. Before I do go on, I want to make sure that Councillor Dykes and Councillor Drummond are hearing that they have no issues whatsoever. [Unclear]. What about you Councillor Drummond?

CD I have nothing to add at the time, thank you Chair.

CH I'm not sure if the Student Council Review Committee has something to add so I'll ask Councillor Yanish if he has something to add?

CY I have nothing to add.

CH Or Councillor Dykes, I know you are the one that created that report so do you have something to add to Councillor Stewart's question.

CDY Nothing to add to that, thank you. I'm trying to think. Vice President External summed it up well and, yes, just thank you so much Chair.

CH Thank you Councillor Dykes. And I myself have nothing to add to the Vice President External as the last member of that committee. So Councillor Stewart do you have any more questions?

00:19:11

CST Yes. Just one more, sorry. Just a quick one for either the Vice President of Student Life or I believe the Vice President Operations and Finance assists on this committee, but is there any updates for the Programs and Services Committee? And I believe that should be meeting every three months, I'm not sure if they have met during that time or if there are any updates for programs and services. Especially with the fall semester coming up here. Thank you Chair.

CH So, which Vice President would want to answer that?

UF I can speak to that. Yes, we have not met in the time and more updates to come, I guess.

CH Thank you Madam Vice President. Councillor Stewart?

CST No, I'm done, thank you.

CH Thank you Councillor Stewart. Do we have any more questions? Saying none. I call question period to a close. Item six, in camera [?] period. There is no in camera period. Item seven, motions and business. There is no motions. Item eight, consultation. There is no consultation. Item nine, evaluation. So, at this time I would like to invite all of our councillors to please submit a response to the meeting.

UM A point of order, I guess.

CH Go ahead.

00:20:52

UM I [unclear] five minutes ago and it says it's not currently accepting responses.

UF You should just click it because I'm there.

UM I repressed the page and it came.

UF That's so embarrassing for you.

UM Did you restart the forum? You turned it on? Oh that's why. Thanks [unclear].

UF Okay.

CH Anything else?

UM [Unclear].

CH Okay. [Unclear]. So is everybody else done filling out the evaluation or do we need some more time?

UM Couple more minutes.

CH Couple more minutes? Okay. So is everybody all good or do we still need an extra minute? Okay. So item 10, recognition. Do we have any recognition? Councillor Stewart?

CST I'd like to recognise the Chair, Councillor Ruiz, for being an excellent Chair today. That can be really tough, I can't imagine doing everything as well as they did today.

00:26:16

CH Any more recognition? Councillor Strayer.

CS I'd like to recognise the President. And I quote, the pancakes absolutely slapped. And then I continue this quote, eggs were weird consistency though.

UF Is this MSA [?]?

CS I thought that part was hilarious and I sat in Starbucks chuckling because of it. So, thank you.

CH Do we have any more recognition? Councillor Stewart?

CST Thanks Chair, but I think we can all recognise Councillor Drummond for fighting the wildfires so we're all [unclear] at the moment.

CH Any more? Madam President?

P I'll recognise Councillor Dykes for joining us at 1am from London. Thanks pal, God bless.

CH Anybody else? Okay. I do have a recognition. First of all, I want to recognise both Councillor Drummond and Councillor Dykes for phoning in. It really means a lot and it shows a lot of commitment so congratulations to the both of you. I also wish to thank both of our guests for having come to today's meeting. It really means a lot having some guests here to join us.

00:28:07

And also I do want to recognise all of you for also being here and as well to Leadership and Engagement Committee for having done such a great activity we had over the weekend. I, for one, had a lot of fun. Not sure about the rest of the members of EC or the other councillors.

And lastly, I do want to say that I want to wish all of you the best of luck in the upcoming Student Council elections. I hope all of you or most of you will be running. I think you guys have been great, I have been enjoying working with all of you for the last year or the last few years. And by all means, if people that are running do have any questions or anything feel free to use me as a resource as well. So if there's anything you think that I can do to help then by all means let me know and if I can then I will.

And lastly I do want to recognise everyone for having made sharing this pretty great two days, so thank you guys. And that's all.

And now, item 11, adjournment. Can I get someone? Councillor Bower.

CB [Unclear].

CH Thank you councillor. This motion does not require a second and it's also non debatable. All those in favour? Any opposed? Motion carries. Meeting is adjourned at 6:34pm.

00:30:20