



August 19, 2020 Students' Council Meeting - Audio Recording Transcript

Speaker Key:

CH	Chairperson
VPA	Vice President Academic
VPO	Vice President Operations and Finance
VPS	Vice President Student Life
DOP	Director of Programs
UM	Unknown male speaker
TRA	Councilor Tran
PRE	President
VPE	Vice President External
BGR	Board of Governors Student Representative
CAM	Councilor Campbell
JOH	Councilor Johnston
STR	Councilor Strayer
DYK	Councilor Dykes
YAN	Councilor Yanish

00:00:00

CH Just before we get started with item number 1, if you haven't done so already, I just ask that you please change your name on Zoom here to your councilor title or the title of your position, please. That would be much appreciated, thank you. So, we'll start with item one, Treaty Six Land Recognition.

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 (Cree). This is the traditional home of the Nehiyaw (Cree) and Michif (Métis), and meeting place for many Indigenous peoples including the Nakawe (Saulteaux), Siksika (Blackfoot), Nakota Sioux (Stoney) and other nations..

Item 2, Approvals, 2.1, we have a motion. Can I get someone to make that motion, please?



Vice President Academic.

VPA Thank you, Chair. I move to approve the agenda for August 19th, 2020.

00:01:11

CH Thank you, and can I get a second? Councilor Unera, thank you. It has been moved and seconded to approve the agenda for August 19th, 2020. Is there any debate? So, I'm just going to make an amendment.

VPO Yes, I've put in the chat... Sorry about that. I would like to amend the agenda to replace the substitute submitted annual report document with the updated amended version that I sent out to all of EC yesterday.

CH Thank you. So, perhaps, Vice President, what we'll do is your motion to amend item 7.1 to read annual report as amended, to add the words as amended. Does that work for you?

VPO Yes, thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. Okay, so, we've got a motion to amend item 7.1 to add the words as amended. So, the motion would read to approve the SAMU 2019/2020 annual report as amended. Can we get a second for the amendment, please? Vice President Academic, thank you. So, it has been moved and seconded to amend item 7.1 to add the words as amended to the end of the motion. Is there any debate?

00:02:45

So, the question is on the adoption of the motion to amend on the amendment only. Is there anyone in disagreement? If you are, speak now please. The motion carries. So, we're back to the main motion to approve the agenda for August 19th, 2020. Is there any additional debate? I think there was supposed to be another amendment, Vice President.

VPO Yes. Yes, thank you, Chair. The motion is to amend the agenda to add item 6.1 and 7.2 honorary membership.

CH Okay, thank you. So, we have another motion to amend, to add item 6.1 honorary membership and 7.2 honorary membership. So, I presume there will be a motion there. Can I get a second for the amendment, please? Councilor Dykes. So, it has been moved and seconded to amend the motion to add items 6.1 and 7.2, both titled honorary membership. Is there any debate?

00:04:01

So, the question is on the adoption of the motion to amend, to add items 6.1 and 7.2 honorary membership. Is there anyone opposed? Please speak now. That motion carries. So, we're back to the main motion, as twice amended, to approve the agenda for August 19th, 2020. Is there any additional debate?

So, the question is on the adoption of the motion to approve the agenda for August 19th, 2020 as amended. Is there anyone opposed? Please speak now. Motion carries. Item 2.2, we have a motion. Can I get someone to read that motion, please, make the motion? Vice



President Operations and Finance.

VPO I move to approve the minutes of July 15th, 2020.

CH Thank you, and can I get a second? Vice President Student Life. It has been moved and seconded to approve the minutes of July 15th, 2020. Is there any debate? The question is on the adoption of the motion as read. Is there anyone opposed? Please speak now. That motion carries.

00:05:21

Item 3, presentations, 3.1, SAMU reopening. I don't know who to direct this to. Who would like the floor? I have the Director of Programs and I can't see the rest of your title. So, Director of Programs, go ahead.

DOP Hi to everybody. Sorry, I just had to unmute myself. So, I'm just going to be going through a couple of the items that the senior leadership team put together for the reopening of SAMU, obviously due to COVID-19 and the pandemic. So, I'm just going to go over some kind of high-end stuff here to let you know what the building's going to look like, and if you have any questions after that please let me know.

One second here, I've just got to get my notes. So, we had a soft reopen of the building on August 4th, which wasn't marketed out to anyone, and we slowly started bringing staff to work. We have been out of the office officially since about the 16th of March, based on MacEwan's advice. So, the building will officially reopen on Monday, August 31st.

That is to coincide with MacEwan as well because they're currently in a soft open as well. Our office hours will remain eight-thirty to four-thirty, but we will be staggering staff in between 8 AM and 10 AM every morning, to make sure that we don't have too many people in one place or coming in at the same time.

00:06:55

SAMU is officially now operating on a hybrid model of working from home and in the office. So, this is to ensure staff safety, and we'll be operating off of two rotating schedules, schedule A and schedule B, and keeping staff capacity at no more than 75% on any given day. Most days range from about 50 to 65% staff capacity, and this is to lower contact between large groups of people.

We did begin these schedules, these rotational schedules, on Monday, August 10th. That has also allowed staff to slowly incorporate back in at their own comfort level as they have been working from home for over four months now. So, in cooperation with MacEwan's university reentry strategic team, it's called the MRST, the senior leadership team has done hazard assessments that have been completed in all open spaces in the buildings.

So, this includes closures, bathrooms, directional floor signage for anyone who hasn't been in there yet, barriers, personal protective equipment needs and some cleaning supplies as well, and every department is now mandated to complete hazard assessments for their specific events, programs, initiatives and services.



00:08:12

DOP So, these have to be completed prior to commencing and must be approved at the directors' level to ensure that all hazards and PPE concerns have been addressed for the safety of staff and students. So, some of the changes to the SAMU building that you'll see when or if you haven't been in there yet.

The student lounge, we removed all microwaves because they're too high-touch points and they can't be cleaned regularly enough. The vendors' alley, so right by our vendors, all those tall cafeteria seating has been separated and spread around. In the bathrooms, every second staff and middle sinks have been closed indefinitely.

The student group meeting rooms, a max capacity of two to three people, depending on the room. The innovation hub in student groups is a max of four, and the student groups multimedia room is closed indefinitely because there's not enough space to keep people separate. That one might cause some issues but...

So, the part-time staff office we have also separated the staff and shifted their desks around to make sure that there's enough space between them, and then our elevators or elevator is now one person at a time. So, changes that are happening because of COVID-19, peer support has gone online.

00:09:46

So, it will be online Monday to Thursday nine to five and Friday nine to four, our regular hours, but we have incorporated a new online chat feature that we'll be utilizing. So, the support hub itself will be closed, which is down the back hallway. The pantry is by set up of appointments only on Thursdays and Fridays, and then Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday they'll be packing hampers.

Events are mainly going virtual. So, you will see those announcements of our events coming up in September, and we are working with anywhere from eight western schools for one event and then upwards of 28 Canadian schools for a concert in September.

Our breakfast club is going mobile once a week, on Wednesdays. So, it will be walked around the campus so that we aren't bringing large crowds together. The student group hours will actually change. They will be Monday to Friday, 10 AM to 3 PM, until October and then they will be reevaluated. If we don't have a lot of people utilizing that space, we aren't keeping it open as long because it takes a lot to clean it.

Our student groups training is now virtual, which will be happening at the end of August and then mid-September, and unfortunately Safe Walk will not open for the fall semester. The building has been rearranged and furniture has been spread out appropriately, and all other furniture has been stored.

So, we do have an internal manual where we have one component that I would like to read because it is related to staff, executives and student council, and we do very much want everyone to hear this message and it be consistent across the board. So, I am actually just going to read it to you straight from the manual.



00:11:49

DOP So, the SAMU building will remain open for all students to use, however, the purpose of the building has shifted to become a large study area for students. As we return to work and school, everyone needs to be aware of the changes that have been made through the building. Cleaning of public and high-touch areas have been increased to a pandemic level with Bee-Clean, our cleaning company, and we all need to understand our movements through the building.

Everywhere we go and everything that we touch and everyone that we encounter increases our risk. Facilities will be cleaning and disinfecting the following areas: public and common use areas, so quarters, lobbies, washrooms, stairs and elevators, twice daily; individual and open office areas will be cleaned and disinfected weekly, but staff are cleaning them twice a day. High-touch points includes door handles and levers, light switches, toilet handles, faucets and taps, elevator buttons and railings twice daily.

And we are putting into practice many new processes to lessen the risk to staff's health and safety, and we require everyone's assistance. So, please lessen your contact points with people and places while in the building. If you are not required in a specific area for a purpose, please avoid going there. If you can call or message someone instead of going into the person [overtalking].

00:13:13

VPO Just a point of personal privilege.

CH Sure, go ahead.

VPO I see that there's someone not on mute.

CH Councilor Waddingham, can you mute yourself please?

VPO No, it's not, it's someone that's with the name [overtalking].

CH Oh, there we go. Muted, and can you please rename yourself, because I don't think you've named yourself appropriately. Okay.

DOP Do I need to repeat that or was it okay? Did everyone get it?

UM Can you please repeat that? I'm so sorry.

DOP That's quite alright. I will do the final part for sure. One second, I've just got to pull that up again. So, sorry, you get to hear me reading again. So, cleaning of public and high-touch areas have been increased to a pandemic level, which MacEwan is also doing, and we all need to understand our movements through the building. Everywhere we go, everything we touch and everyone we encounter increases our risk.

Facilities will be cleaning and disinfecting the following areas: public and common use areas, so quarters, lobbies, washrooms, stairs, and elevators, twice daily; individual and open office areas will be cleaned and disinfected weekly, but staff are cleaning them twice daily. High-touch points will be done twice daily, and we are putting into practice many



new processes to lessen the risk to staff and students' health and safety, and we require everyone's assistance.

00:14: 47

DOP Please lessen your contact points, that's people and places, while in the building. If you are not required in a specific area for a specific purpose, other than the open study areas, please avoid going there. If you can call or message someone instead of going into personal workspaces or service areas, please do.

So, that is our blurb from our manual, and my last points do affect student councilors. So, no person other than SAMU staff are allowed in the office space. This is restricted space for the health and safety of staff. All meetings taking place must be in a meeting room, whether formal or informal.

No meetings with external guests, and we consider student councilors external guests, can take place in someone's office. There are no exceptions to that rule. No guests can enter SAMU office space past the front desk without a SAMU staff escorting them. Again, no exceptions to that rule.

All guests must complete a COVID-19 self-assessment upon entering the SAMU office. These can be found on the table located at the front of our office. This will remain with you at all times during your visit and be completed and dropped off at the front desk prior to exiting.

00:16:08

All meetings, whether formal or informal, must be documented on the boardroom meeting logs, which are now found on the interior wall of every meeting room. It allows us to keep accurate personal contact reports of all individuals in our meeting room and with staff. And all meeting rooms must be cleaned upon entering and leaving.

The executive know that. They've been doing that for the last week and a bit. And, our building, masks are required. If you are not wearing a mask, you will be asked to leave. I know it's not nice information to pass along, but these are the processes that we have put in place to ensure the safety of staff and students. Questions, comments, concerns?

CH So, I'll open the floor for questions. So, if you just have a question, you can just direct it to the Director. You don't need to raise your hand. Go ahead, Councilor Tran.

TRA I'm not sure if you mentioned this, but I was just wondering if the ablution rooms would be closed?

DOP No, they're still open.

TRA Okay, that sounds good. Is there going to be like, how is that going to work, like for example, I were to use it and then I leave? Do I have to wipe it down? Like, what are the protocols?

00:17:20



DOP So, we don't have any protocols for the ablution stations because we do have Bee-Clean cleaning those as well. So, that just follows the same practice as our bathrooms.

TRA Great, thank you.

CH Any other questions? No? Okay. Thank you. We'll move on to the next item. Item 4, for information. So, just one quick note: if you just joined the Zoom call, your name is listed as Sean Waddingham, and he's already here. So, you should change your name. Okay, item 4, for information, 4.1 Reports, 4.1.1 President, any oral supplements?

PRE Thank you, Chair. Just two oral supplements briefly, the first one being that the Gray Gallery negotiation that's mentioned in my report had, I would say, a conclusion meeting today. So, we had a few meetings with MacEwan and the last of which on that matter was today, and so that's kind of progressed past the point that it was written about in my report.

And then, actually, the details of that are in the written response to the first written question. So, that's all in there. The other thing I wanted to say is that, since my report, I went to Edmonton City Council, and today I got to speak on behalf of students who are concerned about not having an alternative to the U-Pass for this fall semester, and so did our Vice President External, and I thought that was important enough to mention as a verbal supplement. So, thank you, that's all.

CH Thank you. Forward to Vice President Academic. Any oral supplements?

00:19:24

VPA Yes, just a couple. Thank you, Chair. Last Friday, I had a meeting with, my monthly meeting for August, with the provost. So, you had heard about my other one in my report, but I just had another one, which is awesome. Very fruitful conversation. And then, more recently, we, all of SC had a meeting with Dr. Annette Trimbee, our new MacEwan president, and that was also very nice as well, just to do introductions and see where we are at with SAMU.

And then I also got to have a meeting with my VPA counterparts. So, I had organized and took the initiative to arrange a meeting with the other VP academics, part of our council of university students, and we met for a couple of hours a day to, again, also do a similar introduction, see where we're all at and talk about our roles and respective institutions. Yes, that's all. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. 4.1.3, Vice President External, any oral supplements?

VPE Yes, thank you, Chair. I'll actually use this opportunity just to elaborate on the hot button topic at the moment, which is the U-Pass negotiations. We have both been working very hard on the fall semester. Since the U-Pass has been suspended, this has been mentioned in previous reports and everything, we have been trying to negotiate with Edmonton Transit for a fall alternative system, which would be available to all students.

00:21:06



VPE Today that came to a conclusion with the item that our president mentioned, being the city council meeting. A full, official statement from SAMU will be coming in the probably next couple of days, since this is now concluded, and the two big options on the table that we would really encourage students to make use of, if they're able to: the Youth Pass, which is as compared to the U-Pass, which was \$45 a month, the Youth Pass is \$72.50 a month.

So, it is a significant mark-up in price, but it is now being made available to all students, regardless of their age. So, the distribution of that will be announced once again. I just want to give kind of an overview. And the other option that we really want to encourage students to use if they are eligible is the Ride Transit Program. So, we will be sharing links to all this information.

I'm pretty sure it's in a couple of our past reports, but the Ride Transit system is made available to students from low income backgrounds. In this case, it's actually been clarified to us, I guess, is one way of putting it, that despite the official website saying that income is assessed on a household basis, ETS has publicly stated to city council that they are reading this to mean on an individual basis.

00:22:40

So, when you go to the link and you see the various requirements for your income level, that is you as an individual being assessed, and if anyone from ETS tells you differently, please let the execs know because that's now publicly available. Yes, in general, super wrapped up in the U-Pass stuff.

We've now formally begun the overarching negotiations for the U-Pass contract when it comes back into force after all of the kind of COVID circumstances have died down a little bit. But, yes, I just thought that super significant. Happened at the end of the day today, so it was worth updating everyone on. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. 4.1.4, Vice President Operations and Finance, any oral supplements?

VPO Yes, please, Chair. So, the quick thing is that the reason I didn't put this in my report is because I wanted to emphasize it, in case somebody didn't have time to read it in my report. So, basically, we had misplaced the town hall stats once we moved into the new building. I have been working with Andrea and with marketing to try and find those and, unfortunately, we were unable to find them. So, we are looking at new methods to record future data to reduce this risk. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. 4.1.5, Vice President Student Life, any oral supplements?

VPS As presented. Thank you, Chair.

00:24:23

CH Thank you. 4.1.6, Board of Governors Student Representative. Do we have that individual with us, and are there any oral supplements?

BGR No other supplements, Chair. Thanks so much.



CH Thank you. 4.2, Executive Committee minutes of July 10th, 15th and 29th, 2020, are provided for you in your package, for your information. Item 5, 5.1, Written Questions are in your package for your information. 5.2, Oral Questions, so, I'll open the floor for questions now. If you have a question, please just type question in the chat and I will recognize you in the order in which I see those notes in the chat. Councilor Campbell.

CAM Thank you, Chair. Just a quick question to the VP External about the Ride Transit Program. I know it's a part, the application is the same as the leisure access program through the city of Edmonton, and I know for that it asks details about if you're a fulltime student, and I know for the leisure access before it didn't allow... You couldn't apply for the program if you were a fulltime student. So, I just wanted to make sure that students are going to be able to access the Ride Transit Program if they do apply for it.

CH Thank you, Councilor. Vice President?

VPE Yes, thank you so much, Chair. Councilor Campbell, you are absolutely right. In the past, a clause in the U-Pass agreement is that students are not eligible for any other passes. So, while the U-Pass agreement is in force, then absolutely you're correct. You would not be able to apply. Given the current circumstances, because we exercise the force majeure clause to suspend the U-Pass fee for the fall semester, that agreement is not currently in force upon the students.

Yes, so that agreement is not in force, so students will be able to access it, and I will also say that, because once again this is public information and I think council has a right to know, it was reiterated many times by representatives of ETS and various city councilors that this program will be approached with a mindset of inclusion, that we've already identified two major gaps.

00:26:57

I'll tell you right now this is not the solution that was ideal from the Student Association's point of view. Two gaps, which will hopefully be addressed in the coming weeks, council has promised to be responsive, are people who happen to be of age 17, because they still would be considered dependents and will be unable to apply for this themselves, and also international students, which was a really troubling gap for us, and council was made very aware of that.

Multiple city councilors brought this up as one of the biggest reservations about the solution that we provided or that we were provided. So, there are gaps in the coverage, but where there are gaps, please, collect testimonials, send emails. You know, get that information to either EC or to city council directly because if they know that these gaps exist, they've promised to be responsive in the coming weeks, and to address them as they come up.

00:28:00

VPE So, really, like make a lot of noise where people are not getting access, because this was the solution for students. Again, thank you for your question, and thank you, Chair.

CH Vice President, Councilor Campbell, anything further?



CAM Yes, just a follow-up to the VP External. I'm just wondering how much data was lost from the town hall information, or how many years, sorry.

CH Thank you, Councilor. I think that's directed to the VP Operations and Finance. Okay, go ahead Vice President.

VPO So, it's just the last town hall meeting that we had back in February. All the previous data has already been reported to SC in previous years. So, I know Andrea had put it in her report that the town hall went well, and she did a little bit of stabs in there. As for the actual physical sheets of paper, we cannot find them anywhere. So, I apologize for that.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councilor Campbell, anything further?

CAM No further questions. Thank you, Chair.

00:29:01

CH Thank you. Okay, Councilor Johnston, I think you had a, you wanted to supplement a written answer. Perhaps, for the benefit of the council, you can just summarize perhaps the question first and then go into whatever it is you would like to say after that?

JOH Absolutely. Thank you, Chair. So, the VPA had a direct question to me about why council has not received the July quarterly report and whether there was anything to report. I just wanted to say, first off, thank you for your question. I apologize for not submitting a written answer by the deadline.

As far as why we have not submitted a July quarterly report, as of July I had been freshly made the chair. We had some membership changes to the committee and nothing major to notify council of, so the report got overlooked, but I will be sure to submit a report for our next council meeting. Thank you.

CH Thank you, Councilor Johnston. Just for the benefit of the minutes, which committee are you referring to?

JOH My apologies. The audit committee.

CH Thank you. Excellent. Other questions? Vice President Academic.

VPA Thank you, Chair. I just have a final question for Councilor Johnston. I was curious as to if they have a date plan to review the quarterly financials for SAMU and statements. Thank you.

00:30:36

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councilor?

JOH I do not have a specific date. I don't know if anybody else from the committee wants to correct me on that, but I will be sure to have a report submitted for the next council meeting, if that works. Thank you.

CH Thank you, Councilor. Vice President Academic, anything further?

VPA No. I just was curious. Thank you so much.



CH Thank you. Other questions? Last call for questions. Okay. Oh, Councilor Strayer.

STR Sorry, my apologies for the late submission. So, I'm curious about the Gray Gallery. I appreciate the President's response, very comprehensive. I don't mean to be overly specific about the syntax of the signed piece of paper we got. Is it to surrender all pieces of SAMU occupation, or is it limited to the things like the SAMU offices, SAM Centre, peer support center and former space in Allard Hall? Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Councilor. I'm assuming that's directed at the President, correct? Yes?

STR Yes, thank you.

PRE Yes, thank you, Chair, and thank you Councilor Strayer for that question. The way that I understand the lease and the way it's written is that the clause says that we are to surrender all space, and they have then those verbs, you know, all spaces occupied and leased whatever by SAMU.

I think, with the language of surrendering all space occupied by us, it applies to, you know, even spaces that we had occupied that didn't have a lease associated with them. It becomes really comprehensive as soon as you use that language, and it includes all space that we have that isn't the SAMU building.

00:32:45

And so, when they go on to list then all the other spaces, they didn't add the Gray Gallery to that list, which is why there was never like a plan, I don't think, because it wasn't explicitly mentioned in the list. But the catchall term of like all space occupied before the list means that it effectively is, I think, legally required that we give it up, because the list is not, you know, including and limited to, but it's more of an including and not limited to the offices at SAM Centre, the Allard Hall space and the peer support room.

But, I mean, like I said in my answer, like it's not quite like our other space, because it was connected to a donation that we have on record that we gave that \$1.3 million in the construction of the building that held the Robbins Health Learning Centre. And so that's why I think MacEwan is more willing to meet with us on this and negotiate and we were able to have a bit more of a back and forth on it, because it is different from the rest of our spaces.

00:33:46

PRE But I think, I mean, I'm not a lawyer, but strictly, legally, I would assume that we are required to give it back regardless of what happens, and MacEwan is negotiating with us out of good faith because they want to reciprocate something for the big donation that we gave, because 1.3 million is a lot of money.

CH Thank you, President. Councilor Strayer, anything further?

STR Yes, thank you, Chair. As the president said, \$1.3 million is a very sizeable amount of money. Do we have access to this document, as councilors, that we signed? Thank you, Chair.



CH Thank you, Councilor. I'll direct that, I guess, to the president.

PRE Can I just ask a clarifying question?

CH Sure.

PRE Do you mean the contract, like the lease?

STR Yes, the lease agreement that you have quoted here, ... surrender ... MacEwan premises, so on and so forth. Do we have access to that specific document?

CH Go ahead, President.

00:34:49

PRE Thank you, Chair. I would love it if we could have councilors look at it. So, I can check with our director of building operations, and he's the one who is holding onto it right now, and I can ask. Alan, our governance advisor, is on the line. He might know. I don't know if he is permitted to comment at this time, but I'll definitely check with our director of building operations and see, because it would be good if I could show you the whole thing in its entirety.

CH Thank you, President. I think a commitment to follow up is good enough. Councilor Strayer, anything further?

STR No, I'm semi happy, so long as we don't give up that Gray Gallery or we get something back in return. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. Other questions? Last call for questions. Okay, we'll move on to item 6, In Camera Period. We have a motion. So, Vice President Operations and Finance.

VPO Thank you, Chair. I move to go into camera.

CH Thank you. And a second, please. Councilor Dykes. It has been moved and seconded to move into camera. Is there any debate? Questions on the adoption of motion to move in camera, is there anyone opposed? Speak now, please. That motion carries. So, I think there's a separate link for the in-camera meeting. So, I'll ask you to leave this meeting and rejoin that other meeting, please.

00:36:25

[Intermittent background noise]

00:43:27

CH Is there anyone missing? This reminds me of that saying when one door closes another opens, you know, but these are rooms. It's like the virtual saying. That was a dad joke. I'm getting better at them. I've had more experience. Okay, I think that's everyone. Is anyone missing? No? Back to my agenda here. Okay, we'll move on to item...

Oh, Councilor Tesfay. Let's wait for the connect. Okay, great. Item 7, Motions and Business Orders of the Day. Item 7.1, SAMU 2019/2020 Annual Report. Vice President Operations and Finance.



VPO Thank you, Chair. I move to approve the SAMU 2019/2020 Annual Report as amended.

CH Okay, thank you. And a second, please? Vice President External. It has been moved and seconded to approve the SAMU 2019/2020 Annual Report as amended. Vice President Operations and Finance, did you want to say anything before I open the floor to debate?

00:45:02

VPO I guess, real quick, it's pretty straightforward, it's something that we have to do every year, but the reason that we had to amend it is because of the short notice. We were still missing information from some directors, so we got the information last minute, and that's why I've had to amend it. I've also asked marketing to include a comparison data for the previous year, and I think that's very valuable for our members to be able to see. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. Is there any debate? If you would like to debate, please indicate such in the chat. Last call for debate on this motion. Okay, the question is on the adoption of the motion to approve the SAMU 2019/2020 Annual Report as amended. Is there anyone opposed? Please speak now. Thank you, motion carries. Item 7.2, Honorary Membership, Vice President Operations and Finance.

VPO Thank you, Chair. I move to grant John McGrath honorary membership.

CH [Unclear] okay, thank you. And a second? Councilor Dykes. It has been moved and seconded to grant John McGrath honorary membership. Is there any debate? Last call for debate. The question is on the adoption of the motion to grant John McGrath honorary membership. Is there anyone opposed? Please speak now. Motion carries.

Item 8, Consultation, 8.1 Consultation on Reporting Mechanisms from Non-elected Representatives, Councilor Strayer, the floor is yours.

00:47:13

STR Thank you, Chair. I'll make this as brief as I can. What I'm going to do is I'm going to give two examples, one of a for profit organization and then one as an example as a nonprofit organization, very much like SAMU is. I'm also going to cite one small section from Robert's Rule of Order, just for the sake of argument.

I'm going to try and present this in a completely nonpartisan point of view and then I'm going to let student council have at it. So, most recently, in the last meeting, we approved the Bylaws and Policies motion to amend all sorts of different situations, one of which is subsection 6.2, which in my consultation submitted here is that a manager will submit written quarterly reports, notwithstanding the removal [?], and that's completely cool.

So, I'll give you first the not-for-profit example, which is MacEwan's very own board of governors. Under 4.3, Responsibilities of the Board, subsection D, Monitor the Achievements of University Goals. Very reasonable. Subsection J, To Approve the Allocation of Resources Consistent with the Achievement of University's Objectives.

Another example from a for-profit example, Tesla. Nice and easy. Their directors and



governors, their directors give reports every quarterly to their board of governors and directors. Robert's Rule of Order, if we find on page 480, line 15, reports of other officers. Other officers as may be prescribed in bylaws, such as a historian or librarian, keep in mind, this is written in, what is then, 1850, may also have an occasion to report to the assembly.

These reports are usually made annually and for the purpose of information only. So, Robert's Rule of Order gives precedence of reports from other officers. Officers can be defined as all sorts of things, but we can define it internally however we see fit at student council.

00:49:31

So, the purpose of this consultation is specifically on whether we, as student councilors, find information that's given to us from our general manager useful. It is important to note that the general manager is the highest paid nonelected official at SAMU. It is also important to note that they are the highest position that is nonelected at SAMU.

So, if you see in the consultation, there are two, three questions that I have submitted for your pondering, and I'm very much curious what are all councilors' opinion on this. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. So, if you have a contribution, just indicate a comment in the chat. Councilor Dykes.

DYK Thank you so much, Chair. Firstly, I'd like to say there is quite a difference between the board of governors and students' council. Legally, the board of governors at MacEwan is a public agency by the Alberta government. So, it does have a higher scrutiny of governance over it and a different level of oversight. So, I'd just like to point that out.

00:50:51

DYK To what extent does students' council find information provided by the general manager useful? I find it to be quite useful in knowing the ongoings of the organization SAMU, however, we do get that provided to us through the executive committee reports, and we can always ask follow-up questions on reports given in by EC.

So, moving on to the second one, can the information provided by the general manager and students' council as well be formatted in a manner to avoid its potential operational nature? I don't know if it can be formatted differently, given that the role of the general manager is basically operational. It's primarily focused around that, so I don't know if you can separate or format in a different way that would allow for that.

And, as for the last one, I'm not exactly sure what Councilor Strayer is referring to by the equitable adjustment in reporting timelines. But that's all. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Councilor. Perhaps, Councilor Strayer, if you'd like to clarify the last, the third question?

STR Yes, absolutely.



CH Thank you.

STR That's a great question there, Councilor Dykes. An equitable adjustment in reporting timelines, my intention with that question was based off of the previous policies syntax, which was every quarterly that the general manager would be reporting. For instance, from Robert's Rule of Order, and I quote, the reports are usually made annually and for the purpose of information only.

This is the reports of other officers, see page 480, line 15, as per the Robert's Rule of Order book again. So, it's just a matter of timelines, what we expect, if we did want a report from a general manager. Thank you, Chair.

00:52:40

CH Thank you. Vice President Operations and Finance.

VPO Yes, thank you, Chair. So, I have a couple of points here. The main one, first one being that if this is something that you want to look into, just keep in mind that that would mean that we would have to change our whole recording process and our bylaws, which means it could take over a year to do.

The second thing as well is that the general manager does report to EC and can read the reports in the minutes of the EC meetings, as well as, if you have any questions, you can ask EC for any information. We are open. We're not trying to hide anything, and I'm not assuming that that's what you're thinking, but I just wanted to state that the general manager works between directors and EC.

00:53:45

VPO So, it's basically the same thing as what EC is doing. They wouldn't have much more to add on. So, if you have any questions, EC is here to answer. If you're looking for a report, I would say annually at the most, in my opinion. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. Vice President Academic.

VPA Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilor Strayer, for bringing this forward. I know it's been something that you have been thinking about for some time with like in the Bylaws and Policies Committee, so I appreciate you bringing it forward here today as to get a sense of what councilors think about this topic because of that change that was made to that policy.

And I think it's valuable for Council to think about this, think about our roles and what information we believe is best to presented to help us in these positions. I guess I am now in EC, but speaking from when I was a students' councilor, I can appreciate that. To answer some of the questions and give my feedback, as still a member of Council, I'd like to reiterate some of the points actually already stated and to approve them by Councilor Dykes and our VP Operations.

So, under your question of to what extent does student council, the first question around how useful the information is, just so I'm not rereading them every time, is yes, I think it's probably useful. I think I would find it useful as a councilor as well, however, I would hope



that I would be included in the EC reports and, as mentioned, that would be a result in the bylaw change if students' council decided to go that route.

We could do that and that would require, as mentioned, some other mechanisms and a bit more time and thought, but if that was a mechanism that they wanted to do, that could be possible. But I don't think that's the best option right now. I think, right now, we do have EC and, as stated, the EC reports, the general manager, specifically the President's role to students' council. So, there's already that line of communication.

00:56:09

We also have, as you saw today, the annual report. So, if we wanted to have an annual report from the general manager, I would imagine it would be very similar, if not the same, as what our annual report looks like, when it comes to the day to day and the bit more operational information that students' council receives.

So, I'm not sure how effective the general manager reporting, given our structure and give the mandate that student council has, would be in that situation. So, although it's nice to have information, you should already be receiving it, and if there is a question of whether EC is doing their part in reporting properly what's talked about with the general manager, then I think that can be looked into the rules and responsibilities of us as executive members, instead of adding another report for council to see.

Yes, I think that addresses that second question of I think there is a different mechanism through executive committee that the general manager's report could be formatted to avoid of that operational nature, and also to address any of the concerns that council has.

00:57:21

VPA And I guess that answers the last question as well around I think there's already an annual report, which I'd hope the students' councilors read and take into consideration and do ask questions if they ever have anything that's of particular interest. Maybe there are things that we could report on for future, like what are plans for the future, so that the students' council is more up to date on those kinds of things.

But, again, I think that can be done through Executive Committee and the structures that we have in place and maybe doing those more fulsome, and I'd be open to hearing councilors' opinions on that. But, yes, hopefully that makes sense, and thank you.

CH Thank you. Other comments? Please indicate so in the chat. Vice President External.

VPE Thank you, Chair. Yes, I think this is maybe just a slightly more, I guess, like a compact and targeted question. I will preface by saying I do appreciate that Councilor Strayer has brought this forward in consultation format. I think it does deserve a dedicated discussion. I would just ask if there is a particular gap in Councilor's knowledge that he has kind of identified as an area that the general manager would be better predisposed to speaking to, and I'll just kind of leave it there. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Other comments? Last call for comments. Okay, Councilor Strayer, I think you have been... Oh, response to come. Go ahead, Councilor Strayer. What



were you going to say?

STR Sorry. I kept on getting autocorrected from vPE [?] my phone. My apologies. Yes, so this is stemming from situations like in December when we didn't necessarily get clear information about the building opening, or metrics on how often peer support gets used. These are good things that help us approve budgets when those come in April, or when we get the annual report.

01:00:10

The annual report is going to all students, not necessarily to students' council in order to help us make decisions. Historically, if you look through the past three years that at least I have been on council, the agendas have not included even quarterly, even though it was mandated within policy, any sort of reporting from the general manager.

I had to look back to 2018, September of 2018, to find any report from the general manager. So, that's where I'm stemming this from, to answer the VPE's question. Thank you, Chair.

CH Sorry, Vice President, I took that more as a statement rather than a question. So, I apologize for that. Are there any other comments?

STR I have been consulted. Thank you, Chair.

01:01:04

CH Thank you, Councilor. Item 9, Evaluation, 9.1, the link is there for you.

My naked child just walked in, so thankfully you didn't see that. That was funny.

I think we're waiting for one more. Councilor Hassan, if you want to mute yourself please, that would be good. Okay, I think we've got them all in. I can never tell if you're still filling out the form or if you're downloading that new track WOP [?] on the Napster. But, anyway, we'll come back to the meeting.

Item 10, Recognition. If you have Recognition, please indicate so in the chat. Vice President Operations and Finance.

VPO Thank you, Chair. I have been following the Facebook live event and I've seen that we had four viewers. So, I just wanted to recognize our four viewers and thank them for popping in and joining us this evening.

CH Thank you. Other recognition? Vice President Academic.

VPA Thank you. Sorry about that. I just had to find my picture so I could unmute myself. I would like to recognize our Vice President External for working hard on the U-Pass negotiations and also for our president for tuning in to the council today and also working on his birthday on Monday and trying to figure all of that out. So, I wanted to give him some recognition.

I would also like to really recognize Councilor Dykes for being active on our Slack communication channels and responding to our questions and always being very



responsive to those kinds of things. So, it's very much appreciated. Thanks.

01:08:29

CH Thank you. Other recognition? Councilor Yanish.

YAN Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to recognize Councilor Strayer. I appreciate him bringing the issue with regards to the quarterly reports to consultation. I find, both because of the contributions from Kent and also the responses from Councilor Dykes, that that really helped me inform my own opinion on the subject. So, thank you for that. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. Other recognition? Last call for recognition. Okay. Good meeting today, councilors. We'll get done a little bit earlier and you can enjoy the sun and the nice weather. At 11, adjournment. Do I have a motion? Vice President Operations and Finance.

VPO I move to adjourn.

CH Thank you. This motion only requires one mover and is not debatable. Is anyone opposed to the motion? Speak now. Motion carries. This meeting is adjourned. Good night, everyone.

01:09:52