



## May 19, 2021 Students' Council Meeting - Audio Recording Transcript

### Speaker Key:

CH	Chair	SE	Councilor Semotiuk
AB	Councilor Abboud	SI	Councilor Singh
SL	VP Student Life	TE	Councilor Tesfay
PR	President	TR	Councilor Tran
AC	VP Academic	OF	VP Operations and Finance
LL	Councilor Landberg-Llave	EX	VP External
MA	Councilor Mah	AH	Alan Honey

00:00:00

CH Okay, it's six o'clock, we'll call the meeting to order. Are we recording, Alan?

AH We are.

CH Perfect. Okay, So, Item 1. Treaty 6 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 6 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 (Cree). 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 2. Approvals. 2.1. We have a motion. Can I have someone introduce that motion, please? Someone? Councillor Williams, or Vice President Operations and Finance, sorry. Can I get you to read the motion, please?

00:01:07

OF Yes. I move to approve the agenda for May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

CH Thank you, and a second, please? Vice President Student Life, thank you. It has been moved and seconded to approve the agenda for May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Is there any debate? I'm just going to bring up the chat box here, sorry, I'm using a different computer today, and I don't quite know what I'm doing yet, here. Okay, the question is on the adoption of the motion to approve the agenda for May 19<sup>th</sup>,2021, is anyone in opposition? Motion is carried.



Item 2.2. We have a motion, can I have someone introduce that motion, please? Councillor Tran.

TR I move to approve the minutes of April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

CH Thank you Councillor, and a second, please? President. It has been moved and seconded to approve the minutes of April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Is there any debate? Question is on the adoption of the motion to approve the minutes of April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. Motion is carried.

Item 3. Presentations. Nothing there.

Item 4. For information. 4.1. Reports. 4.1.1. President, any oral supplements?

00:02:32

PR Yes, thank you, Chair. I just have one to add. This morning, I attended the Finance Property Investment Committee of the Board. At that one, we passed the five-year plan, which it did include the tuition increase for students.

However, just some highlights of that, it looks like they're investing 500 into scholarships and bursaries in the next two years, and a million into tech enhancements. 500K for work in integrated learning, another additional 200K for teaching and learning additions, and then more investments for tenure track faculty members. And that is all, thank you, Chair.

CH President. 4.1.2. Vice President Academic, any oral supplements?

AC No oral supplements, thank you, Chair.

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

EX No, thank you Chair, no oral supplements.

CH Thank you. Vice President, if I could just get you to change your name, that would be fantastic.

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

OF As presented, thank you, Chair.

00:03:35

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

SL As presented, thank you, Chair.

CH Sorry about that, I don't know what I did. I'm feeling really old right now, but I just maximised the screen with my face on it, and nobody wants to see that.

4.1.6. Students' Council Reinstatement Committee. That report was sent out afterwards for your information.

4.1.7. Appointment Advisory Committee. That report, as well, was sent out.



4.1.8. Q3 Financials. In your package for your information.

4.2 . Executive Committee minutes of April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 are provided in your package for your information.

Item 5. Question period. 5.1. Written questions. I don't think we had any there, this week, or this month.

5.2. Oral questions. We'll open the floor to questions now. If you have a question, you can do as Councillor Semotiuk has done, and type question in the chat, and I will recognize you in the order in which you appear. So, over to you, Councilor Semotiuk.

00:04:57

SE Yes, hi. Also, I'm in a new location, with very limited internet, can you guys hear me okay? Okay, good. If it cuts out, please just let me know. Yes, I just got a, and reset it there, question for Vice President Academic, just about the comment on Moodle, yes, the Moodle integration.

My question would be, it does say that Blackboard's being replaced by Moodle. I just wanted to clarify the timeline. I believe it's happening at the end of the next year's academic term, I was just curious on just the status of the transition and when that timeline is. Thank you.

CH Thank you, Councilor. Vice President?

AC Yes, absolutely, thank you for the question. So, I actually met with that committee today, the steering committee, and they're still finalizing the timeline a little bit, so it'll be finalized for September this year.

That being said, they're hoping to do a little bit more testing with it, having the implementations for the summer semester. Once that has gone through, again, they'll have the timeline set in stone for September. But yet, they're aiming, exactly as you said, to implement it for 2022, after the last final winter semester.

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

SE No, that's it, thank you.

00:06:14

CH Thank you. Councilor Tran?

TR Thank you, Chair. My question is also for the VP Academic. In your report you discussed, there was a Proctorio guided session, and that it would be implemented into Blackboard in a limited capacity. I'm just wondering, has there been additional discussion on potentially how it would be used and for what faculty it would be used, as well as the timeline?

CH Thank you, Councilor. Vice President?

AC Yes, absolutely. Thank you, again, for the question. So, there was quite a few issues that



came up with the Proctorio testing, so they've moved back the timeline on implemented that one. It was one of the various one that they wanted to test, but it didn't go over super well, during that testing period, and went over time by quite a bit.

That being said, it would only be used for a specific group of students, so it would be used mainly for School of Business, Faculty Arts and Sciences. And in that regard, it would only be used for students that had previous academic integrity violations, just understanding, and it would be based off of a consultation and a written agreement, through the student and the professor, when being applied.

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

TR That's all, thank you, Chair.

00:07:28

CH Thank you. Other questions? Councilor Semotiuk?

SE Yes, actually, just got another question just for Vice President Student Life. Just about your section on dedicated advocacy under restorative justice, and you mention that you've been looking at different ways that restorative justice has been used in NAIT. I'm just curious, in what kind of a situation would MacEwan, I guess, I don't know if it's as a faculty, or maybe within the individual communities within MacEwan, where would that kind of practice be used? I was just curious.

SL Yes.

CH Thank you, Councilor. Vice President?

SL Sorry for jumping the gun. Yes, I'm very happy to answer that question for you. The meeting that we had was specifically with NAIT's equivalent of what we would call the office of sexual violence prevention. So, the individual, Craig Witten, described how NAIT had used practices of restorative justice in cases of sexual assault, where it wouldn't necessarily be violent.

Restorative justice approaches are described as an approach that puts the survivor's needs first, so in some cases of sexual violence, it's important that we don't parade the survivor round a court room and have them cross-examined, because sometimes that can do more harm than good.

00:08:50

So, the way we'd be looking at potentially implementing a restorative justice practice would be in cases, it would be less aggressive cases of sexual violence, where the survivor wants to actually have the opportunity to work with the offender. To understand why the assault would have happened, and to remediate themselves, and to solve the problem on their own terms.

We have a whole committee dedicated to that, the Restorative Justice Subcommittee, here at MacEwan, so we're just exploring ways that we can improve the practices and bring that restorative justice approach to MacEwan. Because, it's found, often, when



universities adopt a restorative justice practice, the number of sexual assault reports actually increases. Now, this is not because the number of sexual assaults is increasing, but simply because more are being reported now, because, perhaps, this process is friendlier towards the survivor.

There are many reasons why this might be the case, so I think it's a really exciting committee to pay attention to all year. I hope that answered your question about how that could be implemented. The short of it is, in non-violent cases, where the survivor deems that it is the best choice for them and wants that sort of restorative and mediary practice between them and the offender.

00:10:06

SE Awesome, thank you for elaborating on that, that really gave me a lot of useful information. Thank you.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Thank you, Councilor Semotiuk. I'll just remind Councilors that you should be recognized by the Chair before you speak, so a timely reminder there.

SE I apologize.

CH That's okay. Other questions? Last call for questions.

Okay, we'll move onto Item 6. In camera period. We need a motion to move in camera. Can I have someone introduce that motion, please? Vice President Operations and Finance?

OF I move to go in camera.

CH Thank you, and a second, please? President, thank you. It has been moved and seconded to go in camera. Is there any debate? Question is on the adoption of the motion to go in camera. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. The motion is carried. I'll direct you to the link in your agenda package and see you on the flip side.

Okay. Item 7. Motions and Business Orders of the Day. 7.1. Councilor Reinstatement. Vice President Student Life, can I have you introduce the motion, please?

00:11:41

SL I move to reinstate Abby Abboud as Councilor, on the recommendation of Students' Council Reinstatement Committee.

CH Thank you, and a second, please? Councilor Singh, thank you. It has been moved and seconded to reinstate Abby Abboud as a Councilor, on the recommendation of the Students' Council Reinstatement Committee. Is there any debate? If there is, please type debate in the chat.

Question is on the adoption of the motion to reinstate Abby Abboud as a Councilor, on the recommendation of the Students' Council Reinstatement Committee. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. Motion is carried, welcome back to the party, Councilor Abboud.



Item 7.2. Chief Returning Officer. President, can I have you introduce the motion, please?

PR Yes, thank you, Chair. I move to appoint Monica Brzak as the Chief Returning Officer, for a term ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

CH Thank you, President, and a second, please? Vice President Operations and Finance, thank you. It is moved and seconded to appoint Monica Brzak as the Chief Returning Officer, for a term ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Is there any debate? Please type debate into the chat. Question is on the adoption of the motion to appoint Monica Brzak as the Chief Returning Officer, for a term ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. Motion is carried.

00:13:13

Item 7.3. Town Halls Policy. Vice President Operations and Finance?

OF I move to approve the Town Halls Policy on the recommendation of the Bylaws and Policy Committee.

CH Thank you, Vice President, and a second, please? Councilor Abboud, thank you. It has been moved and seconded to approve the Town Halls Policy on the recommendation of the Bylaws and Policy Committee. Vice President Operations and Finance, would you like to speak to the motion?

OF Yes, please, thank you, Chair. So, there are just a few little changes that we made to this policy. We have a few name changes for the sake of clarify. We stated that Town Halls, that are going to be held in person, should be held on the MacEwan University campus, and we added the clause requiring an online/virtual opportunity whenever possible. An inclusion of wherever possible, was made based on feedback from our events department, identifying that the style of the event would dictate whether or not an online option could be possible or not. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Is there any additional debate? Please type debate into the chat. Question is on the adoption of the motion to approve the Town Halls Policy on the recommendation of the Bylaws and Policy Committee. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. The motion is carried.

00:14:45

Item 7.4. Audit Committee. Alan, am I led to believe there were no advance nominees?

AH That is correct for all of them.

CH Okay, and so we've got three motions, three committee vacancies. So, we'll start with 7.4, the Audit Committee. For those of you who aren't familiar, or if you are familiar, I'll just reiterate the process. So, first we'll go through a period of nominations, and if you choose, you can either nominate yourself, or a colleague of yours.

If you nominate yourself, I will assume that you have accepted the nomination. If you nominate a colleague of yours on the Council, I will ask them if they accept the nomination or not. The way that you nominate someone or yourself, is to type nominate in the chat at



the appropriate time, and then I will recognize you at that time.

Once we have exhausted all of the nominees, then we'll move onto the speech portion of the show, where each nominee is given 30 seconds to plead their case for why they should be installed on that committee. The order in which we'll proceed through the speeches is the order in which the nominations were accepted, and after that, we will direct you to the online Google Form or link, I think that's a Google Form, where you can vote for the nominee. Are there any questions before we proceed?

00:16:10

We'll open the floor to nominations for the Audit Committee, one position is open. So, again, if you'd like to nominate yourself or a colleague, please type nominate in the chat. Last call for nominations.

Okay, we will move onto Item 7.5, the Bylaws and Policy Committee. We will open nominations for the one vacancy on the Bylaws and Policy Committee. Last call for nominations.

We'll move onto 7.6, the Leadership and Review Committee. We'll open the floor to nominations for the one vacancy on the Leadership and Review Committee. Last call for nominations on the Leadership Review Committee.

Okay, we will move onto Item 8, Consultation. Nothing there.

Item 9. Evaluation. I'll direct you to the link in the agenda to fill out the evaluation form. Waiting on one more. Whenever we're waiting for one more, I always look at everyone's little screen and wonder, who is it? Alan tells me we're good to go. I can never tell if you're filling out the form or if you're surfing Netscape, to find out how many times Winnipeg Jets have won the Stanley Cup. And the answer is zero, so I'll save you the time.

Moving onto Item 10. Recognition. If you have recognition, please type recognition in the chat. Anything for recognition? Councilor Semotiuk?

00:19:07

SE Yes, I just want to recognize all the new, incoming Executive Council members, and it was really fun to read your reports and I'm going to try to ask more questions moving forward and implemented things I learned from the refresher. So, excited to serve under you guys' leadership, and excited for what the future holds for what the [unclear] look like this coming next couple of months. So, yes, I'm excited to work with you guys.

CH Thank you, Councilor. Other recognition? President?

PR Yes, I just want to echo that, kind of, and I want to recognize the rest of EC. They've done amazing work so far, and I'm so excited for the year ahead, working with all these incredible individuals. And just a side note, it's part of the same recognition, but I want to recognize Matt again, for being elected Vice Chair of Cause.

CH Other recognition? Last call for recognition. Well Councilors, we dealt with a fair number of items today, and we did it in 38 minutes, which was good work, so congratulations on



that. So, we'll move onto Item 11, Adjournment. I need a motion. Councilor Singh? Can I have you read the motion, please?

SI Motion to adjourn the meeting for May 19<sup>th</sup>.

CH You move to adjourn? Okay, that motion doesn't require a seconder, and is not debatable. Is there anyone in opposition to adjourning the meeting? That motion is carried, the meeting is adjourned. Go Oilers. Night everyone.

SE Let's go, Oilers, bye.

00:21:13