

If you'd like to submit a motion to the AGM, here are some simple steps!

A motion is an official and binding directive, voted on by representatives, or by the membership, of an organization. Any UWinnipeg student can submit a motion for consideration at the UWSA AGM. There are two types of clauses in a motion, a “Whereas” clause, and a “Be it Resolved That” (BIRT) clause.

Whereas clauses give the justification for the motion. Use these clauses to explain why the motion is important or necessary. Include relevant research or examples here.

BIRT clauses are the directives. When voting, members are only voting on the BIRT clauses, not on their justification in the Whereas clauses. BIRT clauses should not contain any additional explanation or validation, and should be clearly written.

When writing a motion, you want to remember these basic principles:

1. Be specific and concise. If you are directing the association to fund a project, specify the amount of funds. If you are proposing that the association take a stance on an issue, include the specific language with which the association should defend their stance.
2. Consider potential objections to the motion and include relevant justification in the Whereas clauses—this will help to avoid lengthy debate or amendment.
3. Ask for help! You can contact the UWSA Chair of the Board of Directors for guidance on drafting a motion. The Chair can help you navigate the by-laws and policies of the UWSA to ensure that your motion will not be ruled out of order! Contact the Chair at chair@theuwsa.ca