



# UWSA

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG  
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## Open Session Package

August 25, 2021 Meeting of the  
UWSA Board of Directors

This package contains minutes and  
motions duly submitted to the Chair  
of the UWSA Board of Directors

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# **University of Winnipeg Students' Association Board of Directors**

**OPEN Session Meeting Minutes, July 28, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.**

**Virtual Meeting due to the COVID – 19 Pandemic**

## **Board in Attendance:**

Chair of the Board: Anjola Aderinto

President: Kiratveer Singh Hayer

Vice-President External Affairs: Jonathan Henderson

Vice-President Student Affairs: Reza Saker

Accessibility Director: Sarah Anderson

Arts Director: Umar Awan

Business and Economics Director: Bedel Shafe'a

Community Liaison Director: Shawna Péloquin

Emerging Leader Director – 2 Year Term: Faith Marcial

Emerging Leader Director - 1 Year Term: Chhavi Dhir

Environmental Ethics Co-Director: Adhiraj Majumder

Environmental Ethics Co-Director: Navdeep Singh

International Students' Co-Director: Priyanshu Setia

Part-Time/Mature Students' Director: Clifford Stornel

Urban and Inner-City Director: Dagen Perrott

Science Director: Bavleen Kaur

## **Board Absent:**

International Students Co-Director: Riya Katia

Recreation & Athletics Co-Director: Will Sass

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Recreation & Athletics Director: Ripanjot Kaur Gill

Student Living Director: Ifeoma S. Onyekwelu

Women, Trans & Non-Binary Co-Director: Gursimran Kaur

Women, Trans & Non-Binary Co-Director: Mansi K. Joshi

## **Guest:**

Alizeh, Student

## **Staff in Attendance:**

Karolya Vargscarr, Chief Operating Officer

Olayemi Olaleye, Chief Financial Officer

Thomas Hanan, Admin Assistant: Interim Secretary

## **Open Session**

### **1. Call to Order**

The regular monthly meeting of the University of Winnipeg Students' Association Board of Directors was held on Wednesday July 28, 2021 via a virtual meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. Following the confirmation of quorum, the house continued to the agenda.

### **2. Introduction Circle**

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Chair leads a circle of introductions of everyone attending.

## **3. Approval of the Order of Business**

**Dagen P. moves to add “Reallocate UWSA space at the Merchant Corner Building” to 7.d**

**Jonathan H. moves to add “VPEA Conflict of Interest”, to 9.a**

**Shawna P. moves to approve amended agenda.**

**Motion carries.**

## **4. Special Business**

### **a. Quarterly Financial Report**

Chair calls on O. Olaleye to speak and give an overview of the Financial report for the first quarter.

Bedel S. asks when the Daycare subsidy that is being received will expire, and O. Olaleye shares that the government extended it till November 2021.

## **5. Consent Agenda**

### **a. Reports**

#### **i. Executive Reports**

**a) Kirt H.**

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- Meeting with the minister of Post-Secondary education, invited him to campus for a meal sometime.
- Met with Will Shelling from strategic planning.
- Met with Sarah and Dagen to discuss promoting transit subsidy and alternatives.
- Working on a ride exchange program, and linking people together. Had a conversation with the University about flex parking which is being implemented.
- Met with library about open source textbooks.
- Looking into MAPSS moving a motion today.
- Attended Election Reform consultation sessions

b) Jonathan H.

- Getting IAC organized and ready for the fall
- Working on Roll Call; Organizing a 5 Day reconciliation event in the fall.
- Attended Pride Committee meeting
- Helping with CKUW reopening
- Posters came in for healthcare for all, and will be doing some postering.
- Big success for a meeting with the Minister, and hopefully the start of more open communication

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c) Reza H.

- Senate appeals committee, as well as weekly Senate Subcommittee meetings.
- Started an online meeting where students can book easy meeting with him about academic misconduct, housing ect.
- Met with Minister and brought up International Student vaccine cards, and he said he would work on building awareness that immunization records are valid for entry into businesses.
- Met with Chris Minaker from the University

ii. Director Reports

a) Sarah A.

- Met with Kirt and Dagen about promoting transit subsidy and ways to make things accessible.
- Had discussion with Special Projects, and Paige and her team about More than a Door. Working on awareness of what doors are accessible.
- Met with K. Vargscarr about approving and working on Accessibility training, with proper consultation.

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- Ongoing communication with students and working on Access Lounge for the fall so students will have work stations in the fall.

b) Umar A.

- Been researching and brainstorming ideas for students in the Arts for the fall.

c) Bedel S.

- Had meeting with Accounting Association, and Business Administration Student Association (BASA) and learning about issues they are having and working on solutions.

- Had Finance and Operations meeting

d) Shawna P.

- Attended Campaign and External Relations meet and greet.

- Still staying outside the Legislative with the Sacred Fire

e) Faith M.

- Student Life Committee meeting, and hearing about Roll Call plans.

f) Adhiraj M.

- Finance and Operations meeting.

- Him and Co-Director, Navdeep S. attended CERC

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g) Priyanshu S.

- Working on the Health Care bursary, and waiting for support from some of the foundations.

h) Cliff S.

- Went to SLC, good plans for Roll Call
- By-Law and Policy has some things down the line.

i) Dagen P.

- The election consultations and makes an open call for any other directors to connect with him if they did not attend
- Working on changes to Merchants' Corner

j) Bavleen K.

- Was not here last week, but is going to join a committee.

k) Chhavi D.

- Hearing from students that they some issues with the Info Booth in the past regarding photocopying being unavailable often.

b. Minutes

- i. BOD 210630 OPEN
- ii. F&O 210721 OPEN
- iii. SLC 210712 OPEN

**Bedel S. moves to approve entire consent agenda omnibus**

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**Motion carries.**

## **6. Communications**

## **7. New Business**

- a. Co-Chair Letter

**Dagen P. moves to make Kirt H. chair temporarily for agenda item 7.a**

**Motion Carries.**

Alizeh F. reads her letter.

Greetings Board,

First things first, I would like to acknowledge everyone in the room. Thank you all for being here and the work all of you do. As many of you already know, last year was incredibly tough for everyone involved. Not only were we faced with a harmful reality of what was going on but there were members of the institute who were harmed. Being a member of the Board last year, it was my responsibility to create major change in a very short time, which is not something I take lightly.

This year Anjola and I decided to split the role of the chair into a co-directorship. This decision was taken with due consideration of a number of factors that will be explained below. This decision was not taken overnight, but rather, it came to be after ongoing conversations with the staff. The co-chairing idea is to allow for flexibility to

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accommodate the dynamic needs of this board now and in the future. It will also ensure that the chair has enough support that may be required in functions such as agenda creation, by-law and policy support. Furthermore, it will ensure an eventual smooth transition in the near future if need be. Co-chairing also ensures a second perspective on managing the board. As an outgoing director, this allows me to relate to current directors, support their projects and the work they do but also, become a source for new directors if/when any questions or concerns arise. We also decided to split roles within this position. The structure of the Board meetings will remain the same, as Anjola will chair them. However, the committee meetings will be chaired by me. Although this is what we know so far, there is room to grow.

When I was first appointed to the Board as the Menno Simons College Director in the summer, I was shown incredible support by all directors and the staff. One of those individuals was the interim chair. By having someone who had previous experience, expertise and knowledge, a kind demeanor and the willingness to help people; I was able to learn so much. The interim chair was also incredibly knowledgeable about the bylaws which really helped during pivotal conversations. Flash forward to joining the Bylaws and Policy Committee and the hard work that was done on that committee. Being on that committee really allowed me to bring change that was urgently needed but also, take accountability of my own actions and how it might impact the Board.

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Having previous experience on this Board, I do think that I qualify for this role. Firstly, I feel extremely accountable to the work that was done last year. I wouldn't be here if it weren't for last year's Board and the amazing work each of them were able to do (shoutout to you, you know who you are- Thank you!). With that being said, I acknowledge that there are cracks in the system and therefore, I am choosing to continue the work and learn from all of you. Secondly, I am also willing to facilitate tough conversations that I may not be comfortable with. Personally, chairing for me is uncomfortable as I don't have that experience but I am willing to put myself in that situation. I am willing to stretch myself if it means doing the right thing. Lastly, this allows me to view the role of the chair from a completely different perspective. I was oblivious to the magnitude of the role and the responsibilities it entails. Being aware that the chair needs to run every single meeting no matter how tough it is, makes me appreciate this role, and more importantly, the individual even more.

I really hope this letter finds you well. I understand that co-chairing is very foreign and that we don't have all the answers. But if you do have any questions and concerns, please let me know and I'll do my best to answer. I really hope that we are able to work together on the Board this year and that I am able to learn from each one of you.

With Love and Gratitude,

Alizeh Faran (she/her)

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The Board share their support and excitement to work with Alizeh F.

**Shawna P. moves to approve Alizeh Faran as Co-Chair.**

**Motion carries.**

b. Sub-Committee Appointments

T. Hanan speaks to this, letting directors who have not yet joined a committee do so.

**Dagen P. moves:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the UWSA strike the committees of the board with the following director appointments:**

- **By-Law & Policy**
  - Clifford Stornel, Dagen Perrott, Shawna Péloquin, Kiratveer Hayer
- **Student Life Committee**
  - Clifford Stornel, Faith Marcial, Ifoema Onyekwelu, Priyanshu Setia & Riya Katia
- **Campaign and External Relations Committee**
  - Adhiraj S. Majumder & Navdeep Singh, Chhavi Dhir, Shawna Péloquin, Bavleen Kaur
- **Finance & Operations Committee**

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- **Adhiraj S. Majumder & Navdeep Singh, Bedel Shafe'a, Dagen**

**Perrott, Umar Awan**

- **Executive Committee**

- **Bedel Shafe'a & Sarah Anderson**

**Motion carries.**

## **c. MAPSS Membership**

**Kirt H. moves:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the UWSA joins MAPSS as a member organization.**

Kirt H. explains that Manitoba Alliance of Post-Secondary Students (MAPSS) is a provincial student advocacy group and would like the UWSA to join. Their membership includes; The University of Manitoba Students Union (UMSU), the Red River College Students' Association (RRCSA), and the University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association (UMGSA). The board address their question to

Kirt H.:

The Board question sections of the MAPSS constitution: Article 4.2 (f) "Shall contribute financially where applicable, pursuant to the member union, association, or council expense approval procedures," and Article 4.5 "...the member or observer must provide written notice to the board no less than thirty

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(30) days and no more than ninety (90) days before the effective date of its withdrawal. The effective date of withdrawal is May 1 of the operating cycle which follows the receipt of the written notice.” Are there fixed contributions that need to be made? Would we be locked into a certain term with them?

Kirt H. explains that there is no set membership fee, it is for if they have a type of campaign that needs support but they cannot force money from us. As for leaving the membership, does not seem like May was much of a commitment, as long as notice is given.

The board asks how MAPSS is different from CFS? Why are we not already a member? Were we approached in the past?

Kirt H. says he attended one meeting and seemed similar to CFS, Red River is a part of it and having second opinion could be helpful. The president of UMSU reached out to him about joining.

Some directors were open to the idea of joining by being an observer member, to not ask for fees. Wouldn't this be a referendum question, rather than a board decision? How is the leadership elected?

There are no fees being levied by the students, the fees are subject to our approval and up to our board. For elections, the director on MAPSS would be chosen by the UWSA.

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Shawna P. does not think we have enough information, and thinks a representative from MAPSS should come in to speak to get that information before making the decision.

**Dagen P. moves to table the motion to the next board meeting**

**Motion carries.**

**d. Reallocate UWSA space at the Merchant Corner Building**

Dagen P. speaks to the motion. Both UWSA and Merchants Corner are in favor. Following some questions from the board Dagen P. clarifies that he has been to the second floor, which was meant for students but is not being used. Shawna P. brings up an accessibility issue; you have to contact the administration in order to use the elevator, Degan P. will look into this now that he is aware. Sarah A. offers her assistance with that, and thanks Shawna for bringing it up, she did not know.

Jonathan H. encourages people to go check out the space and support the restaurant.

**Dagen P. moves:**

**WHEREAS: Merchant Corner Inc (MCI) and the UWSA agreed that MCI would provide 150-250 Square feet of office space to the UWSA rent free in the Merchants Corner building at 541 Selkirk Ave.**

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**AND WHEREAS:** The contract specifies that if the operation needs of the University of Winnipeg should change, that MCI agree to provide equivalent space.

**AND WHEREAS:** The Urban and Inner-City Studies Department (UIC), located in the MCI building, is expanding its on-site faculty presence and has requested the office space currently occupied by the Urban and Inner-City Studies Student Association (UICSA) (on behalf of the UWSA).

**AND WHEREAS:** UIC has agreed to cover the costs of furnishing an office on the second floor for the UWSA, as well as providing an in-kind donation of chairs to furnish a common space on the second floor.

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the UWSA relocate to a slightly larger office on the second floor.

**Motion carries.**

**Abstentions:** Shawna P.

**Bedel S. moves to go into closed session and take a 10 minute break until 7:15 p.m.**

**Motion carries.**

**Sarah A. moves to invite Alizeh F., T. Hanan and O. Olaleye into closed session.**

**Motion carries.**

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**Closed Session**

**8. Consent Agenda**

- a. Minutes
  - i. BOD 210730 CLOSED
  - ii. F&O 210721 CLOSED

**9. Communication**

**10. New Business**

**11. Other Business**

- a. Next meeting of the board – August 25, 5:30 p.m.

**12. Adjournment**

**Quorum lost at 7:50 P.M.**

# **By-Law and Policy Committee – Open Session**

## **Minutes**

**August 9, 2021**

**Virtual Meeting due to Covid-19 Pandemic**



In attendance:

Chair – Anjola Aderinto, Chair of the Board of Directors

Member – Cliff Stornel, Part-Time/Mature Students Director

Member – Dagen Perrott, Urban and Inner-City Campus Director

Member – Kirt Hayer, President

Member – Shawna Peloquin, Community Liaison

Staff in attendance:

Jennifer Black, General Manager

Scribe – Thomas Hanan, Administrative Assistant

1) The chair calls the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. following the confirmation of quorum.

2) New Business

a. Election By-Law Amendments

Jennifer B. reminds the committee that they must decide on what changes they want to the By-Laws at this meeting so they can be posted before the deadline, Wednesday, August 11 at 5:30 pm.

After some discussion, the committee decides that their priorities are changing the Election Accountability Board (EAB) By-Laws so they will be able to meet, as well as campaign rules so candidates are less restricted.

Shawna P. inquires if we can just reduce the membership of the EAB? The committee decides to keep the whole board as members of EAB but reduce the quorum to 5 directors. They intend to revisit this By-Law after the By-Election when the timeline is less tight.

**Shawna P. moves to reduce the quorum of the EAB to 5 members.**

**Motion carries.**

The committee moves on to discuss campaign opportunities. When the idea of removing that section entirely comes up, Shawna P. expresses that this By-Law was made to avoid issues from the past where intimidation was used to stop people from getting the same opportunities. Dagen P. shares that the issue this previous election is that there were no campaign opportunities due to restrictions. Cliff S. suggests having the candidates report to the Election

# **By-Law and Policy Committee – Open Session**

## **Minutes**

**August 9, 2021**

**Virtual Meeting due to Covid-19 Pandemic**



Campaign Facilitator (ECF) and not having approval necessary. Kirt H. wants the By-Laws to allow for more spur of the moment campaigning that having to notify 24 hours in advance would restrict. The committee decides in the interest of time to revisit this discussion in future meetings. Cliff S. recommends that candidates who are competing for the same position should also be notified of campaign opportunities.

**Dagen P. moves to amend By-law 5.35 Campaign Opportunities to:**

- 1. Strike the by-laws requiring that candidates for the same position have equal access to the same campaign opportunities;**
- 2. Change the by-laws that require the ECFs to *approve* campaign opportunities to a requirement that ECFs *and opposing candidates* are *notified* of campaign opportunities at least 24 hours in advance;**
- 3. Strike restrictions on candidates organizing independent campaign opportunities and specifically put the onus on the ECFs to support candidates who need extra help to arrange campaign opportunities.**

**Motion carries**

**Cliff S. moves to adjourn at 12:56**

**Motion carries.**

# **Executive Committee – Open Session Minutes**

**August 9, 2021**

Virtual Meeting due to Covid-19 Pandemic



In attendance:

Chair – Kirt Hayer, President

Member – Jonathan Henderson, Vice President of External Affairs

Member – Sarah Anderson, Accessibility Director

Member – Bedel Shafe'a, Business and Economics Director

Staff in attendance:

Scribe – Thomas Hanan, Admin Assistant

## **1) Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 2:33 P.M. following the confirmation of quorum.

## **2) Approval of the Order of Business**

**Jonathan H. moves to approve order of business**

**Motion carries**

## **3) New Business**

### **a. Striking of Secretary Hiring committee**

Following questions from the committee, T. Hanan clarifies that the secretary role is an honourarium position for a student. Application date has closed so the hiring committee needs to be struck to review and bring forward a recommendation.

**Sarah A. moves to appoint Bedel S. and Jonathan H. to the hiring committee, alongside the General Manager and Chair.**

**Motion carries.**

### **b. Board Committee Check-in**

Bedel S. inquires if there are any Board committees that have not met, as it is in Executive Committee's portfolio to manage outstanding business. The executive spends some time informing everyone which committees have met.

## **4) Adjournment**

**Bedel S. moves to adjourn at 2:48 pm**

**Motion carries**

# **Executive Committee – Open Session Minutes**

**August 18, 2021**

Virtual Meeting due to Covid-19 Pandemic



In attendance:

Chair – Kirt Hayer, President

Member – Reza Saker Hossain, Vice President Student Affairs

Member – Sarah Anderson, Accessibility Director

Member – Bedel Shafe'a, Business and Economics Director

Staff in attendance:

Scribe – Jennifer Black, General Manager

Absent:

Member – Jonathan Henderson, Vice President of External Affairs

## 1) Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 12:31 P.M. following the confirmation of quorum.

## 2) Nimbus Learning

Reza presents information on Nimbus Learning, a Tutoring App that connects students with local tutors, providing tutoring, mentorship, study sessions for groups, and workshops. The app is integrated with Zoom for online sessions, and in-person sessions can also be arranged. The company first contacted the UWSA last year, it was discussed at F&O and the board and sent back to committee for further research.

Tutors through the app work as independent contractors, they set their own hourly rate, and students can book sessions with them through the app. Students can then rate the tutors. Because the tutors are contractors, the UWSA does not hold legal liability for issues that happens between tutors and students but we are still accountable to students and want to mitigate risk. University of Manitoba and Red River have partnered with Nimbus.

- The app costs \$150 per student per year – around \$15,000 for the UWSA
- It costs an additional \$0.50 per student per year for Nimbus to recruit the tutors.

The price may be negotiable, and Reza has been connecting directly with William Liu, Nimbus Learning CEO and Co-Founder.

Bedel expresses concern over the high price. Sarah points out that Zoom itself isn't user-friendly for people with vision impairments and asks how usable the app will be for the disabled community. Kirt suggests designated meeting spaces so that safety is encouraged. Sarah asks how recruitment will be managed and whether the market has been researched for comparable apps.

# **Executive Committee – Open Session Minutes**

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Reza states that recruitment management through Nimbus will likely be more cost effective overall, since we would have to dedicate staff time and resources to a recruitment process. Reza has not found a better app for a similar price on the market. University of Calgary offers a similar service run entirely in house, but we may not have the resources for that.

J. Black ask where cuts can be made in the operating budget to finance the app, expresses concern about maintaining social responsibility, and inquires whether the University has been consulted about this project. Sarah flags that collaborating with the university may end up giving students less options. Kirt expresses that the Peer Tutoring Centre does provide a good service already, but the app may be more accessible with students who are more shy or have less time. Bedel inquires whether a committee can be struck to investigate our options further.

Reza will connect with Yemi about the annual expense, will flag the social responsibility concern with William, and will bring the question to Chris Minaker to see whether there are opportunities to partner with the University. Reza states that going through an ad-hoc committee may be more timely and result in the same people doing the work anyway, and suggests that we instead follow up on all the questions raised today and then bring the proposal back to F&O to potentially prepare a recommendation for the September board meeting.

**Reza moves that executive bring the committee's questions to Yemi, the University, our legal team, and Nimbus Learning and bring the issue back to the Finance & Operations Committee.**

**Reza further moves that Nimbus Learning is invited to speak at said meeting of the Finance & Operations Committee and all members of the board are invited to that meeting to hear from Nimbus Learning.**

**Motion carries**

- 3) Adjournment

**Bedel moves to adjourn at 1:22 p.m.**

**Motion carries**

## MOTION TO THE UWSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS: MAPSS MEMBERSHIP

**DATE: JULY 28, 2021**

**MOVED BY: KIRT HAYER**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Alliance of Post-Secondary Students (MAPSS) is a partnership between the University of Manitoba Students Union (UMSU), the Red River College Students' Association (RRCSA), and the University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association (UMGSA).

**AND WHEREAS** the mission and vision of MAPSS is as follows:

### **Mission**

To improve the accessibility, affordability, and quality of post-secondary education in Manitoba, and ensure all students receive fair and equitable treatment. MAPSS will fulfil its mission by advocating the Provincial Government and other relevant stakeholders by:

- Conducting research on issues concerning post-secondary students in Manitoba, including consultation with students province-wide.
- Developing policy briefs, formulating recommendations, and delivering ideas in a manner that prioritizes healthy dialogue.
- Organizing provincial educational and advocacy campaigns.

### **Vision**

MAPSS will strive to be the gold standard for collaborative, professional student advocacy in the province of Manitoba, becoming a key stakeholder in consultations that impact post-secondary students.

MAPSS envisions a Manitoba where students are treated equitably, are provided numerous experiential learning opportunities, and experience barrier-free access to high-quality post-secondary education and supports.

**AND WHEREAS** the mission and vision of MAPSS aligns with the mission, vision, and values of the UWSA.

**AND WHEREAS** membership in MAPSS will allow the UWSA to build stronger relationships with other provincial student associations and increase students' collective capacity for advocacy and lobbying at the provincial level.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the UWSA joins MAPSS as a member organization.

**TO: Board of Directors, 2021-22**

**FROM: Ted Turner, Special Projects Manager**

**DATE: August 16, 2021**

**RE: Transit Subsidy Update:**

This partnered initiative with UWinnipeg Awards and Financial Aid provides financial support to students who apply, have purchased a post-secondary (term) transit pass and meet the needs based criteria. Successful applicants receive an \$83 rebate toward the \$283 cost of the transit pass, this works out to a rough equivalent cost (\$200) of what a U-Pass would be if the program was active. We had approved 25K for this initiative in the Spring of 2020 this was matched by UWinnipeg to offer 50K collectively.

The uptake for the initiative was as follows:

Total winter 2021 term awards: \$5,146 (62 students awarded)

Total fall 2020 term awards: \$4,914 (63 students awarded)

Total awarded in fiscal year: \$10,060

Applications for the fund are presently active again for the Fall term. The rate of a post-secondary transit pass will increase again in January 2022. The increase last year was from \$273 to \$283. We should project a similar increase. If 50K was allocated in awards of \$83 per student, it would amount to 602 students receiving the bursary, we would estimate slightly downward of this number to account for the projected increase.

Regards,

TT

[t.turner@theuwsa.ca](mailto:t.turner@theuwsa.ca)



# UWSA

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG  
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## By-law Amendment Proposal

August 11, 2021

Jennifer Black – General Manager

## ELECTION REFORM AMENDMENTS

In February 2021, the UWSA piloted significant electoral reform. The intent of the reform was to prevent harms previously experienced by election participants, to integrate professional feedback provided by Catalyst Research & Communications, and to create an electoral system that is in line with the values of the union. In July, the By-law and Policy Committee engaged open consultations with 2021 General Election participants to gather feedback on the reform.

Participants in the consultations reported a generally negative experience in the 2021 General Election. Participants felt over-surveilled and policed. Their training was unsatisfactory and collaborative campaign building was not engaged. Supplemental rules and campaign by-laws unfairly restricted campaigning and negatively impacted voter engagement. The Election Accountability Board (EAB) was unable to meet and could not provide meaningful support to the election management team. Failures in communication from the election management team constituted a significant portion of the participant complaints.

Participants reported that the sense of community built among candidates was a positive part of the 2021 General Election. They also reported that it was a good learning experience.

This package contains a modest set of by-law amendments to address core problems with relatively simple solutions in time for the 2021 By-Election. The committee is planning a longer student engagement process to guide further reforms for the 2022 General Election. Outside of the scope of policy and by-law, the committee recommends renewed focus on year-round student engagement, democratic culture building, and better training for the election management team.

## AMENDMENT SUMMARY

### Campaign Opportunities

This section of the by-laws was found to be needlessly restrictive and prevented candidates from engaging meaningfully with voters. In these amendments, campaign opportunities are still planned collectively during Week 3, however, candidates can arrange for additional campaign opportunities without needing ECF approval – they need only to give notice to the ECFs and any candidates running for the same position. The amendments also allow the ECFs to assist candidates who may be less experienced with campaigning to arrange additional campaign opportunities.

### Election Accountability Board (EAB)

The EAB was unable to meet during the 2021 General Election because the membership, and therefore quorum, was so large. In these amendments, the membership of the EAB does not change, however, quorum is reduced from  $50\% + 1$  to five (5) voting members. Keeping the

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membership large but the quorum low has a high chance of ensuring that the EAB can meet quickly to deal with conflicts as they arise.

### Chairing Housekeeping

When the UWSA instituted the UWSA Rules of Order, it removed the ability of the Chair to utilize a tie-breaker vote; however, two instances of this former rule were missed when these changes were made. These final amendments remove the contradictory clauses to ensure the UWSA Rules of Order are respected. Removing these clauses ensures that there is no confusion – the Chair of the Board is a non-voting member of the EAB and does not count toward quorum.

## MOTION RECOMMENDATIONS

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** By-law 5.25.iii Election Campaign Facilitators Powers and Duties is amended to remove the words in red below to read:

“The ECFs shall organize ~~all~~ campaign opportunities for candidates and volunteers including debates, forums, classroom presentations, meetings with student groups, and any other campaign opportunity targeting ten (10) or more voting members.”

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** By-law 5.35 Campaign Opportunities is amended to remove the words in red and add the words in purple below to read:

“i. Campaign opportunities shall be any promotional engagement for candidates targeted at classrooms, student groups, or any group of ten (10) or more students, table bookings or campaign displays (not including posters or banners), debates, forums, and any other publicly promoted engagements.

~~ii. All campaign opportunities shall be approved or arranged by the ECFs.~~

~~ii. Planning for~~ Campaign opportunities shall be ~~done~~ collaboratively ~~planned~~ by all candidates during the All-Candidates’ Campaign Preparation Week (Week 3).

iii. During Campaigning (Weeks 4 and 5), candidates may independently arrange campaign opportunities additional to those developed collaboratively during Week 3. In these instances, candidates shall notify the ECFs and any other candidate contesting for the same position of the additionally planned campaign opportunities no less than 24 hours in advance of said opportunity.

iv. During Campaigning (Weeks 4 and 5), the ECFs shall provide support by request to candidates who require additional guidance arranging campaign opportunities.

~~iv. All candidates contesting for the same position shall have equal access to the same campaign opportunities.~~

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- v. ~~Candidates found to have arranged for private campaign opportunities shall be in violation of these by-laws and subject to consequences in accordance with the Election Complaints Policy.~~
  - v. Classroom presentations may only be made with instructor permission and must follow any restrictions imposed by the instructor within their classroom, subject to compliance with these by-laws.
  - vi. The ECFs, in coordination with the UWSA Communications Department, shall arrange for the purchase of ad space in the Uniter to feature UWSA Election Campaign promotions and/or candidate bios.”

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT By-law 5.48.iv Election Accountability Board (EAB) is amended to remove the words in red and add the words in purple below to read:**

“Quorum for a meeting of the Election Accountability Board shall be ~~50% + 1 of the membership of the EAB minus any members in a conflict of interest or three (3) voting members, whichever is more.~~ five (5) voting members of the EAB. At least three (3) UWSA Directors must be present at a meeting of the EAB in order for it to meet quorum.”

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 7.14.iii (Voting and Decisions at Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees) is removed in its entirety:**

~~“The Chair of a Committee does not vote on any motion except to break a vote that is tied.”~~

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT By-law 6.7.viii (Duties of the Chair of the Board of Directors) is removed in its entirety:**

~~“The Chair or acting Chair may vote on any motion upon which there is an equality of votes.”~~