

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

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

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

University of Winnipeg Students' Association Board of Directors
OPEN Session Meeting Minutes, July 28, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.
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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. Olaley 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.

Olaley shares that the government extended it till November 2021.

5. Consent Agenda

a. Reports

i. Executive Reports

a) Kirt H.

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

- 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

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

c) Reza H.

- Senate appeals committee, as well as weekly Senate Sub-Committee 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.

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

- 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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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)

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

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 Péroquin, 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 Péroquin, Bavleen Kaur**
- **Finance & Operations Committee**

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

- **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

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

(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.

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

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, Dagen 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.

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

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.

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

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.