

UWSA Board Meeting
March 27 2017 – 6:00 PM
Room 2M70 – 515 Portage Avenue

Board In Attendance:

Chair of the Board: Shafagh Daneshfar

Secretary of the Board: Alexandria Ireland

President: Kevin Settee

Vice President External Affairs: Sadie-Phoenix Lavoie

Vice President of Student Affairs: Laura Garinger

Vice President Internal Affairs: David Fanhbulleh

Accessibility Director: Mohamed Behi

Arts Director: Adrienne Tessier

Business and Economics Director: Mitchell van Ineveld

Chief Elections Commissioner: Hollie Swart

Community Liaison Director: Andrew Vineberg

Environmental Ethics Director: Oladele Ojewole

LGBT* Director: Jacq Pelland

Part-Time/Mature Students' Co-Director: Hazim Ismail

Status of Women Director: Jade DeFehr

UWSA General Manager: Karolya Vargscarr

Number of Students in Attendance:

Madison Zienkiewicz

Board Absent:

Aboriginal Students' Co-Director: Lloyd McDougall

Aboriginal Students' Co-Director: Daphne Comegan

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Education Director: Allan Dunkeld

Science Director: Mohammad Abo Aoun

Part-Time/Mature Students' Co-Director: Laura Gurbhoo

University of Winnipeg Senate: David Wiebe

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The regular monthly meeting of the University of Winnipeg Student Association Board of Directors (UWSA BOD) was held on Monday, March 27, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 2M70. The President and Chair being present.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:09p.m. The Order of Business was moved by the LGBT* Director to add Walk Out under Communications; and to add Bike Lab, Budget, and Menno Simmons College to Items for Discussion. The motion was seconded by the President. The agenda passed unanimously.

Communications

Walkout

The Business and Economics Director presented on the April 18th UWinnipeg and UManitoba Rally Against Tuition Hikes. The event is to resist against the hike in tuition and will host a rally at the Ledge.

Consent Agenda

Reports

Executive Report

The President provided an oral report for the executive report. The president reported that the Daycare Expansion contribution was signed with \$420,000 in funding from the government. Bill 31 was put forward with negative impact for students including tuition hike subject to inflation. There are rallies in coordination to resist the hike in tuition fees. Divestment is in strategic planning moving forward into the spring. Faculty for Divestment wrote a supporting letter signed by 40 faculty members. There is a circulating survey on the Indigenous Course

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Requirement with feedback roundtables. Grass Routes was successful with a high turnout. RISE had a total of 80 students from the prairie provinces, with RISE organizing guides to be sent to students that attended.

It was moved by the Art's director and seconded by the Vice President of Student Affairs to approve the remaining reports as omnibus. The motion passed unanimously.

Open Session Minutes

It was moved by the Vice President of Student Affairs to approve all minutes as omnibus and seconded by the Status of Women. The motion passed unanimously.

Items for Discussion

CEC's Report

The CEC provided a reading and discussion on the Report of the Chief Elections Commissioner RE: 2017 UWSA General Election. The Environmental Ethics Director asked if it is necessary to advertise in the Uinter instead of the UWSA use the funds to print advertising materials independently. The Art's Director asked for more information on the push back from candidates on scrutineers. The CEC discussed that prior to email scrutineers were required incases candidates could not attend all candidates meetings and needed the meeting information. Scrutineers are for the benefit of the candidates but are not necessary.

Questions regarding appointing board members to unfilled positions for the summer with potential to be elected in the fall by-election were raised but discussion on the topic was postponed.

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The CEC highlighted the possibility of switching elections to an online platform as a way to increase participation and save on polling officer costs.

It was moved by the Art's Director and Seconded by the Environmental Ethics Director to ratify the election results. The motion passed unanimously.

Bike Lab

Student and Bike Lab volunteer Madison Zienkiewicz presented petitioning the UWSA to keep the Bike Lab remained open through the summer months:

“On February 27 it came to my attention that the UWSA was making the attempt to close the UWSA Bike Lab's doors during the summer months.

When this was learned, it was a large shock to the volunteers at the UWSA Bike Lab as that is the busiest time of the year for us. In the summer months, the Bike Lab can see upwards of 50 individuals a day with the most in one day being approximately 100 or more. This includes youth and adults who are University of Winnipeg Students and the public.

When the Bike Lab opens in the morning there is a consistent line up of approximately 10-20 individuals awaiting the help of the staff and having access to the proper tools to fix a bike and to learn how to maintenance the bike.

During the summer months, there are at least five volunteers a day that receive the training that they need to become a higher level of mechanic at the Bike Lab. This is crucial for the Bike Lab to ensure that the programs can keep running throughout the year. During the Fall and Winter terms at the University the Bike Lab runs a Mechanics Workshop to educate and train all those interested in becoming mechanics with the Bike Lab to ensure the Lab can be open as often as possible. The summer months provide the volunteer mechanics with the ability to train, learn and educate all those that enter the Bike Lab.

It is crucial that the UWSA Bike Lab remain open during the summer months on campus. By having the Lab open we are ensuring access to programming for youth, the opportunity to build bikes to be used for transportation purposes and to have access to a safe space.

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If the UWSA Bike Lab is to close for the summer months there is a lack of foresight into the future of accessibility to programs and services regarding the Bike Lab. The UWSA Bike Lab turns into a little Bike City during the spring and summer months and to lose that during the highest volume of clients per year would be a regretful decision the UWSA could make.

Myself as a volunteer at the UWSA Bike Lab would like to see this decision reviewed”

The Google survey created by Bike Lab had 44 responses in one week. Of the 44 responses 93.2% said they wanted the lab open in the summer with indication of those that wanted to volunteer and use the lab. The Vice President of External affairs explained that the Bike Lab was closed during the summer due to a past board decision under the 2015 – 2016 UWSA BOD and employee unionization. The UWSA General Manager noted it was possible during the budget approval to allocate funds to the Bike lab to cover summer operating costs and after the summer hold a referendum in the fall.

Budget

The Vice President of Internal Affairs and the General Manager of the UWSA provided a breakdown to the Operating Budget 2018 Package for the Board of Directors. They answered frequently answered questions and provided an introduction to commonly used terms. After going through the Auditor’s Report, ECOpia, Foodbank, Aboriginal Student Council, Women Trans-Spectrum Centre, Administration, Campaigns and Special Projects, Bike Lab, Handbook, Health Plan, Info Booth, International Students Coordinator, LGBT* Centre, Positive Space, Safewalk, Elections and Referendums, Index, Student Support Program, Events, and Summary the estimated deficit for the operating budget of 2018 was \$187,000.

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However, the auditor did not have any concerns on the financial position of the UWSA and the UWSA is in a healthy financial position.

It was moved by the Vice President of External Affairs to be it resolved that the UWSA Allocates up to \$10,000 for Spring and Summer programming for the Bike Lab affective May 1st into the bike lab budget. The motion was 2nd by the Environmental Ethics Director and passed unanimously. There was no further discussion and the board approved the operating budget.

Adjournment

It was moved by the Art's Director and seconded by the Environmental Ethics Director to adjourn due to loss of quorum. Adjournment was passed unanimously moved by the Art's Director and seconded by the Environmental Ethics Director. The regular monthly meeting of the UWSA BOD was adjourned at 8:24 p.m. due to loss of quorum.