

Council Meeting Agenda – 29 July 2020

Date: Wednesday, 29 July 2020

Chair: Cody Waite

Time: 5:30 pm

Recording Secretary: Krista Harris

Location: 'Zoom' Meeting – Link in email

1. Call to Order @ 5:33
2. Roll Call/Call for Quorum – yes.
3. Wolastoq Acknowledgement – The Graduate Student Association at the University of New Brunswick recognises and honours the Wolastoq Nation and their unceded territories where we have gathered today.
4. Adoption of Agenda - Moved by VP External and seconded by History. All in favor, none opposed.
5. Approval of minutes – June meeting minutes – Moved by the President and seconded by Biology. All in favor, none opposed.
6. Summary of Executive Activities (All Executive Members) – Please see website for reports.

Reports by:

VP Academic

VP Administration

VP Societies & Events

VP External

President

7. New Business

7A. ● Update on Health and Dental

Motion to go 'in camera' by President, seconded by VP External.

Motion to go 'out of camera' by President, seconded by VP External.

Motion 1 – WHEREAS the price provided by the current GSA Health and Dental Insurance provider is significantly higher than other competitive quotes,

BIRT the GSA work with a provider different from the current one for the 2020-21 year.

Moved by VP External, seconded by Biology. 22 votes in favor; zero against. Motion passes.

Motion to go 'in camera' by President, seconded by VP External.

Motion to go 'out of camera' by President, seconded by VP External.

Motion 2 – WHEREAS We Speak Student provided the GSA with the lowest cost plan. And,
WHEREAS We Speak Student has a proven track record in working with other student bodies at UNB.
BIRT the GSA Council adopt We Speak Student and its proposed Health and Dental Insurance plan for the 2020-21 year.

Moved by President, seconded by Mechanical Engineering. 22 votes in favor; zero against. Motion passes.

President sincerely thanks the council and executive for their hard work over the last 8 months.

Motion 3 – WHEREAS the price for the 2020-21 GSA insurance plan was set in February for \$605.00.
And,

WHEREAS the set price is higher than the quotes given by the competitors. And,

WHEREAS the GSA terminated the contract with the current provider early, there will be associated costs incurred.

BIRT the difference between the cost of the H&D insurance plan for the year 2020-21 and the price billed to students be collected and put into a specific account to use towards costs incurred due to early termination of the contract. And,

BIFRT any leftover funds from this money collected be used, in consultation with the GSA Council at the time, for direct student benefit programs.

History -- can the GSA use the leftover money to establish an Emergency Financial Aid Fund for students?

Mechanical Engineering -- offers a point for discussion. Suggest that the GSA put the money in a separate account and then over the next two or three years they could pay the GSA fee for students. Chair reminds that this would be challenging as this is specifically the money that would be remaining after incurred costs are paid and this may take several years.

President -- the way I look at the path going forward, not 1-2 months, but rather it may take a year or more.

Chat question from History, can we invite members to contribute ideas at the next meeting?

Chair -- the Council at the time, when the leftover funds becomes available, will best decide how to use the money in the interests of the membership.

Moved by History, seconded by Education; 22 votes in favor; zero against. Motion passes.

7B ● Update on Orientation by Shravani. Orientation this year is going to be online. Guide book instead of Google. Please see report in Drive for ideas and further information.

7C ● August meeting date – Aug. 19th (1) VP External (2) VP Societies and Events

8. Announcements – none.

9. Adjournment @ 7:21 moved by Interdisciplinary and seconded by Mechanical Engineering.

*Note to Students: PLEASE SEND any inquiries or questions you have regarding these agenda items (prior to the meeting!) to the appropriate GSA Executive and please cc Krista Harris (office@unbgsa.ca) in your email.