

Council Meeting  
Agenda  
Monday, November 28, 2022  
19:30 PM – 20:30 PM  
Council Chambers

- 5.1 Call to Order
- 5.2 Acceptance of the Agenda
- 5.3 Acceptance of Minutes
- 5.4 Reports
  - 5.4.1 Executive Director's Report - *Yael Z.*
- 5.5 Old Business
  - 5.5.1 Executive Update - *Executive Team*
- 5.6 New Business
  - 5.6.1 2022- 2023 Councillor Selection Report - *Executive Team*
  - 5.6.2 EXT-7- International Student Tuition - *Nolan N.*
- 5.7 Open Forum
- 5.8 Reminders
  - 5.8.1 Next Council Meeting: 2023-01-09 @ 17:30 in Council Chambers
  - 5.8.2 Winter Fest: 2022-11-29, 10:00 – 18:00 in The Great Hall
- 5.9 Meeting Adjournment

*Please refer to attached materials.*

**Council Meeting**  
**Monday, November 28, 2022**  
**Minutes**

**Executives:** Mo Baydoun – Chair, School of Computing and Academic Studies  
Mia Bui – VP Finance and Administration  
Tanya Fuchs – VP Student Experience  
Liam Lauren – President  
Celine Lorient – Chair, School of Health Sciences  
Nolan Nordwall – VP External  
Sally Poon – Chair, Downtown Campus  
Cody Pallin – Chair, School of Transportation, Construction, and the Environment  
Vrishank Prabhu – Chair, School of Energy  
Theo Robson – Chair, Aerospace Technology Campus  
Amanda MacKearney – VP Equity & Sustainability  
Joshua Luu – Chair, School of Business+Media  
Ashley Obeck - BMC Satellite Councillor

**Staff:** Yael Zachs – Executive Director  
Minnu Bennichan – Administrative Coordinator

**Councillors:**

Erik Zhao	Dan Minster
Cailin Shires	Crystal Man
Daniel Mah	Matthew Puyat
Catherine Lam	Dennis Phan
Alyssa Ilich	Ruby Hsu
Andrew Warren	Laurel Kinahan
Shelby Woida	Yasmin Gardy
Gareth Moon	Owen Rains
Sharon Madavana Govindan	Karandeep Singh Kullar
Andrew Pham	Alyssa Ilich

**Regrets:** Sha Gilani  
Lata Kumari  
Nicolas Johnson  
Laurie Solkoski  
Carrie Liang  
Anmol Sidhu  
Ashley Le

**Student:** Stewart McGillivray

**5.1 Meeting Called to Order**

The Chair, Liam, calls the meeting to order at 20:00 (33 voting members, including the Chair).

## 5.2 Acceptance of the Agenda

**Motion:**

Be it resolved that the agenda be accepted as distributed.

*Moved by: Dan Minster*

*Seconded by: Nolan Nordwall*

**Unanimous**

**Carried**

## 5.3 Acceptance of the minutes

**Motion:**

Be it resolved that the Council Meeting minutes from 2022-11-14 be accepted as distributed.

*Moved by: Cody Pallin*

*Seconded by: Amanda MacKearney*

33/0/0

**Carried**

**Discussion:**

- Corrections to change the secondary motion of 4.7.1 Ext Policy Update as *“Be it resolved that the proposed changes be accepted as amended.”* and to add the changes to the minutes.
- Stewart will be added to the attendance as a student and Nicholas as the staff member.

## 5.4 Reports

### 5.4.1 Executive Directors Report

- As submitted.
- Staffing announcement
- Pavilion will continue to be open for the evening hours
- Sales are going up for the pub.
- Upcoming Events: Winter Fest and Hackathon
- BCIT SA student elections are coming.

## 5.5 Old Business

### 5.5.1 Executive Update

- As submitted.
- Hackathon tickets are fully sold out.
- Mia mentioned that they have registered with the CRA to hold the Tax Clinic.
- The movie night conducted by Vrishank went well.

- The mental health dinner conducted by Joshua and Celine last Thursday turned out to be great.

## 5.6 New Business

### 5.6.1 2022-2023 Councillor Selection Report

- As submitted.

#### Discussion:

- Since the new motion for councillor allocation is effective now, should we add more councillors?
  - It is up to the Chair. If interested, they can bring that up in the Executive meeting.

### 5.6.2 EXT-7- International Student Tuition

- As submitted.

#### Motion:

Be it resolved that the proposed external policy "EXT-17- International Tuition" be adopted.

*Moved by: Nolan Nordwall*  
33/0/0

*Seconded by: Advocacy & Policy Committee*

**Carried**

## 5.7 Open Forum

- Nolan provided verbal notice for the new External Policy for Student Housing. The motion will be proposed at the next council meeting.

## 5.8 Reminders

### 5.8.1 Next Council Meeting: 2022-11-28 at 17:30 in Council Chambers

## 4.9 Meeting Adjournment

It was moved by Owen Rains and seconded by Laurel Kinahan that the meeting be adjourned.

**Unanimous Carried**

The meeting was adjourned at 20.24.

**Executive Director Report  
November 28, 2022**

**Student Services:**

Demand for **Career** and **Entrepreneurship Services** remains low when compared with previous years. Workshop attendance is low for all departments, while one on one appointments are on-par with 2018-19 service levels. In January, the teams will engage in more tabling and awareness activities to ensure services are visible.

**Student Initiative Fund:** To date this academic year (September and October intakes) 34 applications have been approved for funding, and close to \$8000 will be reimbursed to students. We anticipate distributing another \$5000 in November. To learn more about the Student Initiative Fund, please visit our [website](#).

**Food Pantry:** The Food Pantry continues to serve a growing number of students. There were 510 visits in October, compared to 264 in September.

**Food & Retail:**

**Pavilion:** For the month of November to-date, the store made close to **\$79,000** in net sales. For the comparable period in November 2021, the store made \$71,750 in net sales, which is a 10% increase from last year. The budget for November is \$149,700, so we made 53% of the November budget so far. If we look at the budget prorated to 13 business days, then we are on track to make 85% of the budget this month. For the first 18 days in November, we served over 12,000 customers compared to just over 11,300 customers last year. We continue offering evening hours until 7pm, Monday-Thursday. Currently, our average patronage is 60 clients and \$390 in sales during these three evening hours.

**Stand South:** For the month of November to-date, the store made over **\$31,000** in net sales. For the comparable period in November 2021, the store made \$31,600 in net sales, which is 99% this month-to-date, compared to last year. It is important to consider that last year we were open in the evenings in Stand South, and during November 1-18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 made \$5,000 in sales after 4pm. Because we are not open after 4pm this year, our performance in the remaining hours is still surpassing last year. The budget for November was \$70,000, so we have made 45% of the November budget so far. If we look at the budget prorated to 13 business days, then we are on track to make 72% of the budget this month. For the first 18 days in November, we served over 5,750 customers compared to nearly 6,300 customers last year. It is worth mentioning that 900 of these customers were served after 4pm last year, during November 1-18<sup>th</sup> period.

**Stand Central:** For the month of November to-date, the store made over **\$23,000** in net sales. For the comparable period in November 2021, the store made \$19,000 in net sales, which is a 21% increase from last year. The budget for November is \$46,200, so we have made 50% of the November budget so far. If we look at the budget prorated to 13 business days, then we are on track to make 80% of the budget this month. For the first 18 days in November, the store served over 4,600 customers compared to just over 4,000 customers last year.

**Geared Up:** For the month of November to-date, the store made over **\$17,500** in net sales. For the comparable period in November 2021, the store made \$16,600 in net sales, which is a 5% increase from last year. The budget for November is \$29,000, so we have made 60% of the November budget so far. If we look at the budget prorated to 13 business days, then we are on track to make 97% of the budget this month.

**Habitat Pub:** Sales for the month of November are up \$8,000 from the same period last year. We have seen an increase in business on Thursdays and Fridays. This Saturday we have an event booked in the pub with approximately 300 people and an estimated revenue of \$10,000 for the night.

**Marketing, Communications, Events and Publications:**

The team has been busy promoting Career Fairs as well as preparing for Winter Fest and the AGM. The events department has been supporting Clubs through what has been a large influx of event requests. This is great to see, as Club events were significantly impacted by the pandemic. Hackathon registration has reached 75. The Publications team is preparing a special elections issue for Link magazine in the new year.

## 2022 2023 Executive Objectives

	Position	#	Objective	Objective Update	Next Steps	Position Update
Liam Lauren	President	1	To make a charity campaign that will run in April to support the Food Support Hub through various fundraising events.			
Mia Bui	VP Finance & Administration	1	Advocate for accurate, transparent and timely information passed by BCIT to international students regarding Co-op program (with heavy focus on Accounting students this year).	Got no reply from Jennifer Kerr, will email the International Student Centre next week asking about the number of hours limited for students to work next year and there Co-op term availability for next year, will CC'ed Jennifer Kerr with that email.	Conduct a survey re opinions of Intl' students about the Work term in Bachelor; survey will be sent out after finals or in early January since most of the students are very busy with finals now and probably will not pay too much attention on other things.	
		2	Collaborate with BCIT Wellness and BCIT Accounting Association (and/or other parties if applicable) to host an annual BCIT Tax Clinic.	Submitted a Tax Clinic registration form to CRA on November 25th. Volunteer recruitment should begin in late January.	Next Steps: Wait for the CRA to get back on the registration, and start with volunteer recruitment - through Hala, Tax instructor.	
Tanya Fuchs	VP Student Experience	1	Increase student engagement with the BCITSA by planning and executing a year-end block party by May 2023.	Helping out with the preparation of Winter Fest. Spreading the word to as many people as possible	See how the event goes on Tuesday!	
		2	Support Wellness and Clubs staff in organizing and hosting the "Food Fight" food drive contest to support the Food Pantry program.	Working on an event proposal for Marcom to be submitted in December	Meet with the Marcom team to discuss hpw to distribute messaging to clubs.	
		3	Perform an SKU analysis for the Stand stores and make recommendations for product offerings.	n/a	n/a	
Amanda MacKearney	VP Equity & Sustainability	1	Work with BCIT on curriculum updates for diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, as well as cultural safety training.			
		2	Have available for free disposable menstruation products in all BCIT washrooms by year-end.			
		3	Work on the development of a program that collects the leftover food products of students leaving residence and redistributes it to students in need.			
		4	Continuing the previous VP equity and sustainability objective of adding a fall reading break for programs one year in length or longer.			
Nolan Nordwall	VP External	1	Increase the percentage of students who take part in the BCITSA general election from 2% to 7% by next election, Spring of 2023, using student outreach programs and student services to get more students involved in the Student Association	I've had to cancel the food handout for this term because of the staffing changes within the SA. Until catering is able to handle the request and we have Wellness support to source the food from donors, it wont be feasible.	Re-asses the possibl programs at the beginning of next term. I may look into working with Cody to hit trades students in particular, and look for initiatives that rely less on staff.	I went to Victoria a few weeks ago with the BCFS. While there, we lobbied for provincial grants, international student tuition security, trades counsellor training, greater funding for post secondary institutes.
		2	Advocate to retain the current level of Canada Student Grants at their current level by next federal budget review in summer of 2023 by building strong relationships with student advocacy groups and effectively lobbying to members of parliament.	I've scheduled the trip to Ottawa for federal lobbying. I'll be going December 16th to sixteenth. Currently we've sent out 35 meeting requests, and already have four scheduled. We'll keep working on sending requests out every day. The chair of BCFS will be joining us on the trip at their expense, and we're looking for others who are interested in coming along so that we can have as meaningful an impact as possible.	Keep scheduling meetings and go on the lobbying trip. Do as much policy research as possible between now and then to ensure effective lobbying	
Joshua Luu	Chair, School of Business + Media	1	Further develop and promote a Discord server aimed at students of the SOB+M and to achieve 500+ members in the server and to act as a resource for information for students			Spoke to external parties about future funding of 'mental health dinner' if the data from the pilot is robust, increased Jack.org support, and access to key notes speakers that have lived experience with mental illness. Céline is aware.
		2	Investigate and improve the sucess of the set-rep program with the goal to have set-reps and instructors informed about the role and resources of being a set-rep.			
		3	Improve students' mental health by hosting fun ongoing social events where students can destress, build a sense of connection to BCIT, and feel comfortable accessing services that address their concerns (joint objective w/Céline).		Promote event.	
		1	Reach out to at least 6 full time programs starting in Winter 2023 about useful info for new students (such as SA benefits, peer tutoring, advocacy, dealing with instructor issues, etc.)	Received an update from the school, there are only three programs in the SoE that start in the winter - instead, we will focus on this objective to be executed during Fall 2023 and do all the planning next semester.	Organize merch, reach out to program administrators/program heads and plan what information we want to relay to students	

Vrishank Prabhu	Chair, School of Energy	2	Gather data from 50 students about common and reoccurring academic issues to resolve problems and/or pass on to future chairs	So the Link magazine article about the SoE took a different direction than anticipated, but I'm creating an article for the intramural sports teams at BCIT (not entirely SoE related). Hopefully for the next edition we can get a sort of Q&A article going!	Find ways better than having students fill out surveys for information - possibly approach students in labs or classrooms offering SA stuff or prizes (gift cards)	Had a successful set rep meeting and working with councillors to plan the movie night and orientation outreach
		3	Assist in planning and promoting at least 2 networking events organized by SA and work towards reviving clubs in the School of Energy (such as IEEE)	Had a meeting with Marko, the business development manager for the SoE. Summary - loves clubs (passionate about WEC and happy about ESS), would like to come to a set rep meeting next semester. Got in contact with Gila, Phillip's successor. Will stay in communication for future events planned for SoE. Robotics club is up and running, plans to work with ESS and IEEE. Movie night planned for Nov 24 - more details to come, but hoping everyone can come! It will be in SE6-233 (Telus Theatre) from 6PM-9PM	Plan and promote the movie night, work with more SoE clubs and stay in contact with Marko for future events. Organize a meeting with Gila once they are settled into the position a little more.	
Mo Baydoun	Chair, School of Computing & Academic Studies	1	Promote the physical health and wellness of Computing students who suffer from the effects of a sedentary lifestyle through tabling and events (Joint objective with Céline).			
		2	Find a way to include the 'Academic Studies' portion of my constituents in the Set Rep program as well as establish a line of communication with their program head.			
		3	Improve student engagement & relieve stress through a LAN party.			
Céline Lorient	Chair, School of Health Sciences	1	Improve students' mental health by hosting fun ongoing social events where students can destress, build a sense of connection to BCIT, and feel comfortable accessing services that address their concerns (joint objective w/Josh).	Marcom has completed our designs. Mike confirmed catering!	Continue marketing up until <b>November 24</b> .	I have been helping mediate student concerns across different programs within the School of Health Sciences. I also sent mass emails reminders (3-weeks advance notice) to my set reps and students within the School of Nursing to register for the AGM on <b>November 28</b> .
		2	Promote the health and wellness of students by hosting two sports day competitions in <b>Spring 2023</b> (joint objective w/Mo).	Mo is conducting a feasibility report.	Begin planning during <b>Winter break</b> .	Confirmed three industry professionals for my Mental Health Panel on <b>December 1</b> . I will edit my tentative agenda that will be disbursed one week before the meeting. Extended invite to Josh as mental health initiatives are our shared objective
		3	Strengthen the health sciences family at BCIT by hosting a social event at Habitat to boost morale. I aim to have health science trivia games, and door prizes.	Tabled until January. Hopefully staffing improves.	Plan for January in collaboration with Josh and Andrew.	I provided student feedback on the bargaining of the BC nurses' collective agreement.
Cody Pallin	Chair, Schools of Transportation, Construction & Environment	1	Compile the feasibility and interest into a report of implementing the Set Rep program to the considered "Trades" courses under the School of Construction and the Environment	Had a great meeting with School of Transportation Dean, Steve Perry but still have to meet with Associate Dean, Eric Fry whom has a long term history with the School of Transportation. Steve gave a great perspective about Set Reps at Annacis Island and also offered a room for the SA to have/use/furnish at AIC. Will have to continue the conversation with that.	Meet with Eric Fry, remeet with Steve Perry after my Finals and possibly join him on tours to the Specialty Campuses	Further investigation and communication about Specialty Campus amenity needs such as pursuing to determine who owns the DTC parking spaces and the ability to instal squat racks in DTC's gym
		2	Develop a feasibility and interest report of forming an Aerospace Marine Annacis Chair position from the existing Aerospace Technology Campus Chair position while also clarifying the Transportation, Construction & Environment Chair position to be strictly BCIT Burnaby Campus based.	Package is ready to be presented for the AGM	Present package at AGM	Air Quality of SW3 3660: Assocaita Dean put the issue back on to BCIT FCD. Communicating with John Di Bella and giving Set Rep accounts along with my own experience to get them to reopen the room air quality case
		3	[ended]			
		4	[ended]			Visited DTC, deteremined with near full certainty that there is a room for the SA to furnish and maintain. Also identified a good poster space near the SA office on 4th floor.
Sally Poon	Chair, Downtown Campus	1	Increase the visibility of SA services at DTC by hosting in-person office hours at the Student Lounge with snacks, monthly.	DTC Staff and myself have submitted tabling request approved by Events to start tabling this month! Hosted my first tabling event Nov 15. Met some students and chatted with them, asked for some input, casually, about DTC event. It went well!	Effectively, this objective has ended as we will be tabling consistently. I will work with Amy to submit a new tabling schedule in January, but we're set for the rest of the term! Will listen, also, to some feedback from staff about the effectiveness.	Working on speaking with people about Event planning. Aside from that, I spent the past month working on questions and initiatives from set reps. Including addressing student-instructor concerns, looking into community fridge possibilities, bringing chargers to the library, and speaking with advocacy about accessibility services. Happy to say that I'm prepared for our upcoming set rep meeting Nov 23rd, with follow-ups to everything set reps brought up last meeting!
		2	Gain a better understanding of DTC Student Service needs by forming a quick survey that can be used to collect student interest throughout the year.	Waiting to hear back from MarCom about what the survey is used for and if we can access data to the feedback form to know if it's tracking useful information on DTC students.	End of objective.	
		3	Develop a planned, new DTC Student event for the Winter term.	Met with Kirk, Councillors, and Amy. We talked about fesability of different ideas. We will lean towards a de-stress game and chill event with food and games, free for students to stop by and participate in! Spoke also with BCIT Student Life and Women in Computing to collaborate for the event.	Get Events approval, look into feasibility of bringing different types of games to dtc	
Theo Robson	Chair, Aerospace Campus	1	Create and host a 'Campus Flag' contest as well as a grand flag raising ceremony to community build and increase SA presence on campus.	Five Students were selected as finalists, final designs being created.	Once final designs get created, a vote will be coordinated for ATC Students.	
		2	Develop an indepth analysis of current Diversity + Inclusion environment at ATC to be used to weave such values into the school's culture moving forward.	No update at this time.		



		<b>3</b>	Develop a feasibility report of creating an AMA Chair (Aerospace-Marine-Annacis) to have all satellite students (excluding DTC) represented on the board by a satellite chair.	Chair of Specialized Transport Motion comes before Council at the AGM.	Pending Motion Result.	
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## Student Leader Reports

Name	Position	Report	Optional - Other Notes
Ashley Obeck	BMC Satellite Councillor		
TBD	AIC Satellite Councillor		

## Committee Reports

Committee	Report by	Last Meeting	Next Meeting	Optional - Other Notes
Finance	Mia Bui	Meeting on Oct. 20	Meeting on Nov. 17	
Student Spaces	Cody Pallin	November 9th	November 23rd	Decide on the presented possibilities for student space development.
Bylaw	Mia Bui	Meeting on Nov. 3		The committee has reviewed the Bylaws and propose a 17-page amendments to the Bylaws for the AGM.
Advocacy & Policy	Nolan Nordwall	Nov 17th	Schedule being decided after the break	Propose the new EXT-7 on International Student Tuition to council Council has also agreed to propose EXT-8 on affordable housing, which we'll give verbal notice for at the next meeting.
Clubs	Tanya Fuchs	Met on November 22. Bringing the BCIT Lifiting club application to Council. Approved \$3000 in event funding.	January, date TBD.	TBD.
Board of Governors	Liam Lauren			
Education Council	Tanya Fuchs	November 16	February 1, 2023	
Alumni Board	Nolan Nordwall	Nov 15th	Dec 7th	Continue working with the Association on their objectives
Equity & Sustainability	Amanda MacKearney			

# Councillor Appointment Report 2022-2023

VP Student Experience – Tanya Fuchs	
Total # of Councillors to appoint: 1	
Current # of Vacancies: 0	<b>Appointed</b>
<i>Housing Councillor:</i>	Yes
<b>Comments:</b> An email advertisement was sent to the housing office to distribute to all students living in BCIT Housing on September 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2021. Notice that the position was open and was also spread through word of mouth. I received three applications for the role and held interviews both in person and online until September 21. The successful applicant is a great fit for the role with an inclusive personality, and they were appointed on September 21, 2022.	

VP Equity & Sustainability – Mandy MacKearney	
Total # of Councillors to appoint: 3	
Current # of Vacancies: 0	<b>Appointed?</b>
<i>Indigenous Councillor:</i>	2
<i>International Councillor:</i>	1
<b>Comments:</b>  <b>Applications:</b> I received a total of nine applications for the International Councillor seat, five of which applied prior to September 15 <sup>th</sup> , the date for which the SA has final student numbers. My deadline for appointing representatives was prior to the first training session, scheduled on September 22, 2022. Several people were emailed for interviews and did not respond. One person I was in contact with was not given an interview once I determined they were not available on Monday evenings for meetings. Of the nine applications received I was able to schedule three interviews.  I received three applications, all from returning Councillors for the two Indigenous seats. All three were interviewed and the two chosen were informed of Councillor responsibilities.  <b>Selection Criteria:</b> The applicants were interviewed for their experience of leadership skills, involvement in the community, and traits. I was also looking for characteristics and motivations that were in line with and complimentary to the executives and who would support the committee and SAs goals for this year.  The international Councillor was chosen based on their extensive knowledge of being an international student, as well as being someone familiar with the Canadian immigration process.  I chose the Indigenous Councillors based on their commitment to the Indigenous community, BCITs Indigenous Initiatives, and our Reconciliation commitment. One of the councillors was chosen based on their involvement in the Indigenous community and the need to have Indigenous women represented on the council.	

**Selection Process:**

I held both in-person and virtual interviews with all applicants.

**Student Representation:**

All three councillors are aware of the importance of their roles and being a representative of the International and Indigenous communities and I encouraged their participation in taking initiatives and actions aligning their concerns with support from myself and the resources available to them. I encouraged all three of them to get involved further by joining one of the council committees where they could help with funding and policy decisions, research, discussions, and other topics.

Chair, School of Business – Joshua Luu

Total # of Councillors to appoint: 7

Current # Vacancies: 0

**Appointed?**

1<sup>st</sup> year:

2<sup>nd</sup> year: Yes

3<sup>rd</sup> year:

4<sup>th</sup> year:

Other:

Comments:

**Generating Awareness:**

Similar to last year, outreach was generated through the SA on clubs' day, SA website/advertisements, and students reaching out to connect.

**Selection Process and Criteria:**

Interviews were offered to all interested parties, which were conducted online or in person, at the preference of the student being interviewed

The success of candidates was determined through the interview with different points in mind for the SOB+M councillors. Appointments were confirmed only after all interviews were conducted.

Listed in no specific order:

- Commitment
- Enthusiasm
- Knowledge
- Skill/Experience
- Personality
- Background
- Perception

**Student Representation:**

In this year's representation, programs directly represented are Accounting, Business fundamentals, BBA, HR, and Business Operations. While unfortunately there were no students who applied for Media, one of the BBA Councillors graduated from a Media program. To note, a majority of this year's applicants were 2nd or 3rd years. Communicating with set reps will be the primary way to hear

representation for councillors. For part-time students' representation, they can seek inquiries with the Chair directly.

**Chair, School of Health Sciences – Celine Lorient**

Total # of Councillors to appoint: 3

Current # Vacancies: 0

**Appointed?**

1<sup>st</sup> year: Yes

2<sup>nd</sup> year: Yes

3<sup>rd</sup> year: Yes

4<sup>th</sup> year: -

Other: -

Programs Represented: Nursing and Medical Laboratory Science

Comments:

**Selection Process:**

One Councillor was appointed based on a genuine interest in being a student leader. They want to give back to the school through their life experience and knowledge and to provide representation for a small program within the School of Health Sciences.

One returning Councillor was appointed and recommended by the previous chair for work in advocacy and policy. Returning Councillors not only bring relevant experience but can better gauge the board's performance and keep us accountable.

One Councillor recommended based on previous merits as a set rep. This candidate is known to advocate for and has shown initiative in voicing student concerns and working with community partners to boost student engagement.

The methodology for finding Councillors this year was based on recommendations/diversity/and formal applications for the role. Formal applications increased from 1 to 6 since last year, indicating an increase in student engagement with councillor applications.

**Chair, School of Energy – Vrishank Prabhu**

Total # of Councillors to appoint: 4

Current # Vacancies: 0

**Appointed?**

1<sup>st</sup> year: No

2<sup>nd</sup> year: Yes

3<sup>rd</sup> year: Yes

4<sup>th</sup> year: Yes

Other: -

Programs Represented: Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Industrial Network Cybersecurity

Comments:

**Generating Awareness:**

I reached out to previous set reps and former councillors inquiring about their interest to become a councillor this year.

**Selection Criteria:**

I looked for councillors to have previous experience in similar leadership roles, and other experience with the SA (being a Set Rep or councillor in the past for example, or even utilizing SA services). I also observed how well councillors could communicate and how effective their teamwork/teambuilding skills were, since working together with me and the other councillors as well as having strong communication will be essential this year.

Selection Process: I hosted in-person as well as virtual interviews (for those that couldn't meet in person). I followed the councillor interview questions posted on SharePoint slightly, but mainly kept the interviews conversational so I could get a better feel of how potential councillors would mesh.

**Student Representation:**

I aimed to get councillors from different programs and different years to best represent the School of Energy. Mechanical and Electrical make some of the largest programs in the SoE, so there is good representation from those programs with the chosen councillors. I chose two of the councillors from last year as well, which can help with continuity and building off the things that Aman, the previous chair worked on last year. I also have a councillor from INCS, which is a program that I do not hear much from or about during my experience as a student; hopefully, Andrew (INCS Councillor) will be able to communicate with INCS and provide his experience.

**Chair, School of Transportation, Construction, and the Environment – Cody Pallin**

Total # of Councillors to appoint: 5

Current # Vacancies: 1	Appointed?
1 <sup>st</sup> year:	1
2 <sup>nd</sup> year:	2
3 <sup>rd</sup> year:	0
4 <sup>th</sup> year:	1
Other:	-

Programs Represented:

Comments:

As the chair TCE position covers relatively three schools (Transportation, Construction, and the Environment), I sought to engage students from each. These schools have an unfortunate history of councillors that drop out, so I looked for students that have the personality and history of engaging with BCIT extracurriculars. I did so by signing up to volunteer for multiple BCIT functions and searching out students from the targeted schools.

I met Sharon volunteering at BCIT Kickstart, and he has a history of working with advocacy for his peers. His program does not have a Set Rep program due to its organization, but he established the position naturally.

I met Owen when he participated in the Wellness Bench Competition Club. He is a Set Rep and wishes to further his engagement with BCIT and the BCITSA.

I met Gary recently, but he has served as a councillor before and has a history of being a Set Rep. I chose him despite being in a similar program to Owen because he will bring experience to the board and may be able to guide Owen through the year due their similar studies.

Karan is a classmate of mine and applied without my encouragement. He is great friends with Nic Johnson, whom I trust and know will be a strong support. Karan is known to voice his concerns in a

professional matter and will provide a distinct perspective to mine. He also comes from a diverse background in employment.

Erica, unfortunately, had to withdraw her application after a reassessment of her time commitment abilities. She comes from the Ecological Restoration Masters Program and wants to bring a sustainability advocate voice to the board. I met her at a volunteer field trip at the BCIT Logan Lake wetland restoration project.

There is one other application pending that could fill the fifth position, however, I am still searching for a student from the environmental programs of BCIT. I have established a connection with Program Head, Eric Anderson, and am working with him to find a new potential councillor.

I interviewed each councillor in person and asked the following questions among other casual conversations about my objectives and how the SA and the position work.

The main questions that I asked them were:

Q. Why do you want to be a councillor?

Q. What did you enjoy about being a councillor last year and what do you wish to continue?

Q. Are you available to meet Monday bi-weekly for the council meetings?

Q. Are you willing to be a committee member?

Q. If they had any questions for me.

#### Chair, School of Computing and Academic Studies – Mo Baydoun

Total # of Councillors to appoint: 1

Current # Vacancies: 0	Appointed?
1 <sup>st</sup> year:	Yes
2 <sup>nd</sup> year:	-
3 <sup>rd</sup> year:	-
4 <sup>th</sup> year:	-
Other:	-

Programs Represented: CST, BTECH

Comments:

#### **Selection Process:**

I reviewed the written applications and then held virtual interviews. My choice was based on who I felt was most passionate about the role and had the best ideas on how to improve student life.

#### **Generating Awareness:**

I advertised the opportunity during the orientations I went to, and I also sent out advertising material to my set reps to share among their sets.

#### **Selection Criteria:**

Since I only have 1 councillor seat, it was important to make sure whoever was appointed actually cared. I asked questions during the interview that tried to bring out answers centered around helping students and the councillor's passion for the role. It was also important to me to make sure that the councillor would get something out of the role personally (some sort of personal development).

**Student Representation:**

I am happy to say that I *tried* including more than the CST and BTECH programs. SoCaS includes a few straggler programs that lack representation, and I was able to directly promote this role to them. Unfortunately, there wasn't any interest in the role (no one applied). Other than that, I believe I got a ton more councillor applications than there was last time, so I think I did a good job of generating awareness.

**Chair, Downtown Campus – Sally Poon**

Total # of Councillors to appoint: 3

Current # Vacancies: 0	Appointed?
1 <sup>st</sup> year:	2
2 <sup>nd</sup> year:	
3 <sup>rd</sup> year:	1
4 <sup>th</sup> year:	-
Other:	-

Programs Represented: Computer Information Technology, Computer Systems Technology, Professional Accounting

Comments:

**Generating Awareness**

I joined councillor recruitment along with set rep recruitment by presenting the call for councillors at orientations alongside set rep information and posting in the Set Rep Discord server. Aside from the initial post, I also sent out a reminder for submissions before the end of the application acceptance. In the future, it could be pertinent to see if it's possible to contact the two different schools for a Learning Hub blast for greater exposure. Ex. Contacting Rahul in SoCAS etc.

**Selection Process**

After reviewing applications, I scheduled to have interviews with every applicant to get to know them better. I set up my interviews in casual spaces—such as in the hallway lounge chairs, at a coffee shop, or in my office by the round table. I did not want to impose any type of business aspect to the interview, but more so a get-to-know-you type of context in a casual way since it's important that Councillors are approachable.

**Selection Criteria**

I ended up selecting councillors who were the most impassioned about communicating with students and those who seem to have experience working with people—including displaying empathy.

**Approaching Previous Councillors**

I had the most trouble with SoB+M recruitment. I had next to no students interested in becoming a councillor. Luckily, we have Erik, who was a councillor last year. It feels as though BCITSA may have very little engagement with SoB+M in DTC.

Chair, Aerospace Technology Campus – Theo Robson

Total # of Councillors to appoint: 1

Current # Vacancies: 0

**Appointed?**

*1<sup>st</sup> year:* Yes

*2<sup>nd</sup> year:* No

*3<sup>rd</sup> year:* N/A

*4<sup>th</sup> year:* N/A

*Other:* -

Programs Represented: Avionics

Comments:

At the beginning of the year, there was a sizable challenge in engaging students without a functioning Set Rep Program. There was no interest in the position shown as a result.

The 2021/2022 ATC Counselor had been a pleasure to work with during my election and onboarding process. They expressed interest in returning to the role this year, an offer that was accepted and confirmed shortly thereafter. I am pleased with the experience they bring to the role as well as the voice of a different program than myself within the ATC Team.



## DECISION NOTE

November 23, 2022

<b>PREPARED FOR:</b>	BCITSA Council
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Nolan Nordwall and Stewart McGillivray
<b>ISSUE:</b>	Adopting a policy on international tuition

### RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt the proposed new External Policy Position *EXT-7 International Tuition* in accordance with the requirements found in Bylaw 24.3.

#### MOTION:

*Be it resolved that proposed external policy position “EXT-7 International Tuition” be adopted.*

(needs 2/3 majority) (notice provided at November 14th, 2022 Council meeting)

### BACKGROUND

Council has the authority to adopt External Policy Positions ([link](#)), and VP External and the Advocacy & Policy Committee take the lead on studying and proposing new policy positions for consideration by Council. This process was introduced in late 2020 and six External Policy Positions have been adopted since that time.

At its initial meetings in fall 2022, the Committee reviewed various draft external policy positions and will be periodically bringing them forward for a formal decision from Council. This proposed policy, EXT-7, is the first in this series and addresses the Association’s current gap in any formalized policy stance on the government’s approach to tuition increases for international students. The government’s policies, in turn, affect the decision-making processes and the choices taken by post-secondary institutions such as BCIT.

The formal rationale for adopting EXT-7 is included below, as part of the policy document that would appear on our website. The Association has often taken informal stances and lobbied government regarding the regulation of international tuition and the Committee felt that this would be beneficial to formalize via an external policy position.

By adopting this proposed policy, the VP External and staff would be able to continue advocating to government as to how international tuition could be better regulated, advancing the important cause of fairness for international students in British Columbia. This stance would also inform the Association’s views on any proposals from the Institute, as well as advocacy relating to the Government’s soon-to-be-published guidelines on international tuition transparency.

<b>Subject:</b> International Tuition	<b>Policy Number:</b> EXT-7	<b>Last reviewed:</b> 2022 Nov. 28
<b>Approved by:</b> [ _____ ]	<b>Managed by:</b> Advocacy & Policy Committee	<b>Next review:</b> 2024 Nov. 30

**Policy Rationale:**

In contrast with their peers, international students in Canada face additional pressures that can make it far more challenging to access a post-secondary education. For example, many lack any genuine predictability with respect to year-over-year increases, in addition to the substantial differential between the rates charged to international students and those charged to domestic students. While the provincial government limits annual increases in domestic tuition at 2%, no such regulations exist for students paying international tuition rates. As a result, international tuition rates have increased almost tenfold in the past thirty years, from \$3,991 in 1991 to \$30,903 in 2021; during much of this period, domestic tuition has been subject to a freeze or to the 2% cap on increases.<sup>1</sup>

As government funding stagnates and post-secondary institutions face budgetary shortfalls, disturbing patterns are developing whereby international tuition hikes are used to balance the books. This trend, combined with the unpredictability of these students’ tuition hikes, leaves many in a vulnerable and uncertain position as they try to plan their academic future.

The numerous contributions made by international students to British Columbia should not be understated. Society is made more diverse by their involvement in communities across the province, and domestic students’ education is more enriching thanks to their presence. Economically, a recent study shows that they spend almost \$5 billion each year and help to create over 45,000 jobs in BC.<sup>2</sup> Finally, many will ultimately choose to settle in Canada: a 2021 study by the Canadian Bureau for International Education shows that over 70% plan to apply for the post-graduate work permit and 60% intend to seek permanent residency in Canada.<sup>3</sup>

**External Policy Position:**

1. The Student Association supports:
  - A. The implementation by the Province of British Columbia of a binding cap on annual increases to international tuition, similar to the existing *Tuition Limit Policy*;
  - B. The provision by post-secondary institutions of world-class student services that recognize the unique needs of international students and their significant financial contribution to their own education, to the local economy, and to government’s tax revenues; and

<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada, table 477-0077 *Canadian and international tuition fees by level of study annual (dollars)*. Supplemented by data in the Canadian Association of University Teachers’ *Almanac of Post-secondary education in Canada* ([link](#)).

<sup>2</sup> Government of Canada, *Economic Impact of International Education in Canada* (2020 update), produced for Global Affairs Canada by Canmac Economic Limited ([link](#)).

<sup>3</sup> CBIE International Student Survey, 2021 ([link](#)).

- C. The creation by government of a proper international education strategy that:
- i. Is co-developed in partnership with international students, student association, post-secondary institutions, and other stakeholders;
  - ii. Is based not solely on enrolment numbers but also addresses the financial and social challenges faced by international students; and
  - iii. Recognizes the inherent value that international students contribute to post-secondary education in BC, above and beyond their economic impact.
2. The Student Association opposes:
- A. The provincial government's ongoing refusal to regulate international tuition fee increases;
  - B. Any unfair or unreasonable increases in international tuition, especially in excess of inflation;
  - C. The growing tendency by post-secondary institutions to rely on international tuition increases to balance their budgets, and the resulting financial dependence on these enrolments; and
  - D. Unpredictable increases in international tuition, especially in relation to any student who has already paid their commitment fee or commenced their studies.