

Council Meeting Minutes**Monday, May 27, 2024****Council Chambers**

Executives: Jimmy Wang – President
Cora Bell – VP External
Shelby Woida – VP, Equity and Sustainability
Matthew Puyat – Chair, Downtown Campus
Mia Bui – VP, Finance and Administration
Justin Saint – Chair, School of Computing and Academic Studies
Daniel Wong – Chair, Specialized Transport Campuses
Simran Anand – Chair, Business + Media
Megan Jewell – Chair, School of Health Sciences
Vrishank Prabhu – Chair, School of Energy

Staff: Roland Gagel – Director of Finance, Interim Executive Director
Tanya Fuchs – Executive Assistant and Board Liaison
Sameer Ismail – Elections Administrator

Councillors:	Alexander Bridgeman	Fahad Ahmed Doza	Muhannad Ahmad
	Andrea Obnamia	Fiona Wong	Parisa Saqib
	Andrew Pham	Jasmine Yang	Quoc "Minh" Nguyen
	Aruzhan Basbulat	Jaspreet Bhuller	Su Yamin Tun
	Bobby Davidson	Monika Monika	Xavier Delaney
	Daniel Mah	Owen Rains	

Guests: Moksh Garg – Incoming VP, Equity and Sustainability
Russell Moy – Incoming Chair, School of Energy

Regrets: Joshua Luu – VP, Student Experience
Abdul Aziz Ansari – Chair, School of Transportation, Construction, & the Environment

Councillors:
Andrea Martin, Dennis Phan, Edward John Gatchalian,
Elaine Huang, Ho Yin Cheng (Pedro), Jadon Matthias, Kobie Smith, Kyla Cruz, Morgan Peltier, Matt Kilpatrick, Will Ondrik

22.1 Meeting Called to Order

The Chair, Jimmy Wang, calls the meeting to order at 5:43pm (26 voting members, including the Chair).

22.2 Territory Acknowledgement

Matthew Puyat read the territory acknowledgement.

22.3 Acceptance of the Agenda

Motion: Be it resolved that the agenda be accepted as distributed.

Moved by: Aruzhan Basbulat Seconded by: Matthew Puyat

Unanimous Carried

22.4 Acceptance of the Minutes: May 6, 2024

Motion: Be it resolved that the Council Meeting minutes from May 6, 2024, be accepted as distributed.

Moved by: Matthew Puyat.

Seconded by: Aruzhan Basbulat

Yes: 20 No: 1 Abstain: 1 Carried

22.5 Reports

22.5.1 Executive Director's Report

- As submitted.
- Budget was submitted; the end of the fiscal year is a busy time for everyone.
- We did not get any CSJ positions, so the departments are re-evaluating summer projects.
- The Director of People and Culture is leaving at the end June. The People and Culture Specialist is also leaving this week. All efforts are being made to hire a new Specialist as soon as possible to hire for all the other roles that need to be filled.
- The Food Pantry will operate all Summer.
A couple of Career Specialists are also moving on. We have hired one replacement and are in the process of hiring another one soon.
- Childcare is doing as well as usual, they are always full. At the start of the school year (September), they will have a few spots for the children of students. If the spots are not filled, they will be offered to the public.
- MarCom is planning their events and campaigns for next year. They have asked that students fill out the year-end survey which can be found by scanning the QR code in the Executive Director's report.
- Business has been slowing down on campus with finals coming to an end.



22.5.2 Executives Updates

- As submitted.
- Daniel: On May 24 there was a Car Meet held at ATC. There were 20 registered participants, but due to the poor weather only 6 cars and 7 people were able to make it.

Discussion:

- Do you have pictures?
 - A few were taken.
- Matthew: Shelby and he have reviewed the Club's Policy, updated titles, such as VP Student Experience, and added information on the Club's Guide for next years Club's Committee to review and implement.
- Matthew: Created a draft Set Rep Policy and sent it to the Clubs Committee, hopefully the next Board will implement these suggestions.

Discussion:

- Jimmy received a version of Club's Policy not too long ago, is this the same version?
 - Yes.
- Can you send the draft Set Rep Policy to those that would like to see it?
 - Yes, after the meeting.
- Justin: The Alumni Association received the finalized Hackathon report for this year. Fiona, the incoming Chair of SOCAS will receive the last 3 Hackathon reports from the predecessors.

22.5.3 Executive Transition Documents

- This year's transition documents can be found by clicking the link that was sent in the email with the meeting package.
- Jimmy wants to standardize the format of the 12 documents, so that all new Executives start out on the same footing as their colleagues.

22.6 New Business

22.6.1 Ratification of the By-Elections Results

- As submitted.
- The Election's Committee would like more time to put together their final report about the elections process this year. The report will be submitted to Council in September.
- There are no appeals this time.

Motion: Be it resolved that Council ratifies the results of the 2024 BCITSA Spring By-Elections and that the following members of the Association are declared elected to the following offices for a term beginning June 1st, 2024 and ending May 31st, 2025:

Vice-President, Equity and Sustainability: Moksh Garg
Chair of the School of Energy: Russell Moy
Chair of the School of Health Sciences: Megan Jewell

Moved by: Jimmy Wang *Seconded by: Bobby Davidson*
Yes: 16 No: 5 Abstain: 4 Carried

21.6.2 Review of Executive Honorariums and Councillor Meeting Fees

- As submitted.
- The Director of Finance / Interim Executive Director is not recommending any changes to the payment amounts for both Executives and Councillors but is informing Council that they can do so if they wish.
- The honorarium is paid monthly and is not the same as being paid a set wage for a job.

Discussion:

- The Councillor fee should stay at \$50; the jump is quite steep considering it went up by \$10 last year.
- Inflation increase for Executives seems fair, but Councillor fees seem like a bit much, however, increasing by a few dollars feels a bit awkward.
- The Councillor fee should stay the same
- Is there a reason why the Councillor Meeting Fees should increase?
 - Raising the Executive's honorarium and not raising Council seems unfair.
 - The quality of the food at meetings has improved this year which is, so \$50 per meeting seems fair.
 - Executives don't always know that there is an honorarium when they are elected.
 - Raising by inflation makes sense. Although its not a job, it does take a lot of time. For every year you don't raise it, the money is worth less. Making a small increase now will result in such a big jump later down the road. Increase it across the board. Its not that much money compared to the overall budget for the year.
 - Two separate motions should be made, one regarding the Executives honorarium and the other regarding Councillor Meeting Fees.



Motion: Be it resolved that the Student Association increase the Executive Monthly Honorariums of \$770 per month, by: \$30 per month, for a total of \$800 per month for the 2024-25 fiscal year.

Moved by: Owen Rains Seconded by: Matthew Puyat
Yes: 7 No: 10 Abstain: 5 Failed

Motion: Be it resolved that the Student Association increase the Councillor Meeting fee of \$50 by: \$5 per meeting for a total of: \$55 per meeting attended for the 2024-25 fiscal year.

Moved by: Matthew Puyat Seconded by: Owen Rains
Yes: 10 No: 10 Abstain: 2 Failed

Motion: Be it resolved that the Student Association increase the Specialty Councillors Monthly Honorariums of \$300 per month, by: \$10 per month, for a total of \$310 per month.

Moved by: Daniel Wong Seconded by: Aruzhan Basbulat

Discussion:

- What do Specialty Councillors do?
 - In the summer they attend the Executive Committee meetings and Council meetings during the school year. They are responsible for the Set Rep program at their campuses. There is more work involved than a normal Councillor and in turn they are paid more.
- It is not mandatory that they attend every meeting.
- How many positions are there?
 - Two, one for BMC and one for AIC.
- Councillors want Specialty Councillors want to be more included, raising their honorarium could entice more students to apply and fill the positions.
- The amount seems right for work they put into their campuses.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Student Association increase the Specialty Councillors Monthly Honorariums of \$300 per month, by: \$10 per month, for a total of \$310 per month.

Moved by: Daniel Wong Seconded by: Aruzhan Basbulat
Yes: 14 No: 8 Abstain: 2 Carried

21.6.3 2024-2025 Budget

- As presented.
- Page 6 summarizes the net changes from last year.
- Page 10 shows the impact of each department on the cash analysis at the end of the year.
- Student fees have increased this year due to an increase in enrollment but and the 10% fee adjustment from the referendum that was passed last year.
- As per usual, wages account for the majority of the SA’s budgets.

Discussion:

- Is the plan to present a budget surplus in the coming years?
 - Paying off the loans will largely contribute to getting us out of the deficit. We need to continue to balance the services Council and membership want and how much they cost.
- Is there still a positive balance in the Medical Fund?
 - Yes, shy of 1.5 million
- Is the entire Medical Fund being used to fund the Events Department?
 - No, only \$250,000 of the \$1,500,000 in the fund.

Motion: Be it resolved that the Student Association of BCIT transfers \$250,000 from the internally restricted Medical Insurance Fund to the Operating Fund for the purpose of funding the newly created Events Department.

Moved by: Fiona Wong Seconded by: Aruzhan Basbulat
Yes: 14 No: 5 Abstain: 2 Carried

Motion: Be it resolved that the Student Association of BCIT accepts the 2024-2025 capital and operating budget as presented and distributed.

Moved by: Matthew Puyat Seconded by: Owen Rains
Yes: 17 No: 3 Abstain: 1 Carried

22.7 In camera - None

22.8 Open Forum

- The Interim Executive Director/ Director of Finance presented the 2024 SA Champion Awards and 2024 Distinguished Set Rep Awards. Congratulations to all the recipients!
SA Champions
 - Aerospace Technology Campus: Heather Joann Eldridge
 - Downtown Campus: Matthew Puyat
 - Burnaby Campus: Alexander Bridgeman
 - Burnaby Campus: Justin Saint

Distinguished Set Reps

- School of Business and Media: Cindy Chow
 - School of Computing and Academic Studies: Tushar Dhingra
 - School of Energy: Nicholas Scott
 - Schools of Transportation, Construction, and the Environment: Sharon Madavana Govindan
 - Downtown Campus: Fiona Wong
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- Owen: Thank you to everyone on Council for the experience, he recommends it to anyone who reads the minutes.
 - Bobby: Bobby is pleased to announce that he's serving on BCIT's Board of Governors and asks everyone direct any questions to him, about BOG or Education Council. Tomorrow is the first BOG meeting. June 24 is the next BOG meeting. The next EdCo meeting is June 5. He can be reached via email or social media platforms. Congratulations to everyone serving on Council in the coming year!
 - Jimmy: Thank you to Tanya and Margarita for taking minutes and setting up meetings. A special thank you to Roland for doing two jobs and working overtime for a year. Thank you to everyone who is here at the meeting today. Asking questions and Councils' diligence is much appreciated.

22.9 Meeting Adjournment

It was moved by Daniel Wong and seconded by Aruzhan Basbulat that the meeting be adjourned.

Yes: 20 No: 1 Abstain: 0 Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09pm