

10.1 Call to Order

10.2 Territory Acknowledgement

10.3 Acceptance of the Agenda

10.4 Acceptance of the Minutes:

10.4.1 Council Minutes: February 10, 2025

10.5 Reports:

10.5.1 Executive Directors' Report

- Roland G. & Sameer I.

10.5.2 Executive Updates

- Executives

10.6 Old Business – None

10.7 New Business:

10.7.1 Clubs Discussion Item

- Xavier D.

10.7.2 Clubs Committee Oversight & Training

- Jimmy W.

10.8 Open Forum

10.9 Adjournment

Reminders:

Next Council Meeting: March 17, 2025

General Election Nominations: February 21 – March 7, 2025

Executives: Jimmy Wang – President
Shervin Laghaie – VP, Finance & Administration - Interim
Cora Bell – VP, External
Xavier Delaney – VP, Student Experience
Moksh Garg – VP, Equity and Sustainability
Greyson Dubé – Chair, School of Business & Media
Adam Matthews-Kott – Chair, School of Transportation, Construction, & the Environment
Russell Moy – Chair, School of Energy
Jasmine Yang – Chair, School of Health Sciences
Eric Chau – Chair, Downtown Campus
Geoff Vinod Pittappillil – Chair, Specialized Transport Campuses

Councillors: Bobby Davidson, Ho Yin (Pedro) Cheng, Alliah Almendral, Isabela Patarroyo Singh, Zion Chan, Erik Aloyan, Meehika Chadha, Denzel Mohamed, Margaret Van Essen, Yan Yiu Li, Vikram Gill, Ja Mu Ku, Avra Parent, Yachana Jangra, Oceaan Pendharkar, Khushmeen Kaur, Tijana Radovic, Marisa Price, Monica Sanchez, Bella McKimmie

Staff: Roland Gagel – Director of Finance; Interim Co-Executive Director
Sameer Ismail – Senior Advisor, Strategic Policy; Interim Co-Executive Director
Adam Beggs – Executive Assistant & Board Liaison

Regrets (E.): None

Regrets (C.): Wasawat (Matt) Joongjai, Avneet Kaur, Harjot Barsa, Prabjot Sabharwal, Oscar Gutierrez, Tyler Gravenor, Inez Yoon, Sina Faraj Poor

Guests: Soomin Jeong – Member
Polina Omelyantseva – Member
Joseph Yuruk – Member
Fahad Doza – Member

10.1 Call to Order

The Chair, Jimmy Wang, calls the meeting to order at 17:42 (29 voting members). Meeting start delayed due to not achieving quorum.

10.2 Territory Acknowledgement

Adam Matthews-Kott acknowledged the territory the meeting was held on.

10.3 Acceptance of the Agenda

Motion:

Be it resolved that the agenda be accepted as distributed.

Moved by: Jimmy Wang

Seconded by: Greyson Dubé

23/2/4

CARRIED

10.4 Acceptance of the Minutes:

10.4.1 Council Minutes: February 10, 2025

Motion:

Be it resolved that the Council minutes from February 10, 2025, be accepted as distributed.

Moved by: Jimmy Wang

Seconded by: Moksh Garg

Amendment:

Move "Eric Chau – Chair, Downtown Campus" from present to regrets.

Moved by: Eric Chau

Seconded by: Xavier Delaney

Unanimous

CARRIED

Motion (amended):

Be it resolved that the Council minutes from February 10, 2025, be accepted as amended.

19/1/9

CARRIED

10.5 Reports:

10.5.1 Executive Directors' Report

- Roland G. & Sameer I.

The interim Co-Executive Directors provided a written report as submitted.

- The current waitlist for childcare is at 400.
- Link's next issue will contain a student leadership focus to encourage more students to run in the general election.
- February was slightly for retail than anticipated. Stand South continues to be the strongest location.
- New furniture has been ordered.
- De-escalation training for staff will be taking place during spring break.
- Nominations for the general election have opened and will end on March 7. This year there is a larger campaign for nominations, which will also help increase voter turn out.

10.5.2 Executives' Updates

- Executives

The Executives provided verbal reports.

Xavier Delaney – VP, Student Experience

- First draft of the new Clubs Policy has been completed.
- Clubs Forum is upcoming on March 11.

Moksh Garg – VP, Equity and Sustainability

- Clothing Swap event is being moved to SW1.
- Implementing an award/bursary for international students that will be merit based. The criteria and budget of the award is being determined. Since BCIT has a needs-based bursary for international students, this will provide additional support in a different avenue.

Adam Matthews-Kott – Chair, School of Transportation, Construction, & the Environment

- Student Spaces Development Committee has approved monies for replacing the chairs in Council Chambers. The piano replacement is close to being completed. The next project for the committee is upgrade the items in the student study spaces in SE2.

Zion Chan – Councillor joined the meeting at 18:00 (30 voting members).

Ho Yin (Pedro) Cheng – Councillor left the meeting at 18:01 (29 voting members).

Jasmine Yang – Chair, School of Health Sciences

- Shared her intent to resign by the end of this week and recommended Ja Mu as a potential interim.
 - If no interim is appointed by Council, then the winner in the general election can assume office after the ratification on April 14.

Geoff Vinod Pittappillil – Chair, Specialized Transport Campuses

- There will be a career fair at ATC on April 8.
- For students graduating this year, there are awards offered by BCIT for graduating students. More information about these awards is available on BCIT's website on the Awards & Financial Aid page.

Greyson Dubé – Chair, School of Business & Media

- Set Rep meetings will be held this week on Wednesday and Thursday.
- Pub trivia is still under development. The event will run for six consecutive weeks starting on March 20, and following every Thursday until April 24. There are several topics from general to niche and each night will feature questions from four topics.

Jimmy Wang – President

- Attending a Board of Governors meeting tomorrow.
- Intending to start discussions about the new SA building soon.

Shervin Laghaie – Interim VP, Finance & Administration

- Sent a survey to Council about important issues they would like to see actioned. This will help him set the focus for his role on the Board.

10.6 Old Business – None

10.7 New Business:

10.7.1 Clubs Discussion Item

- Xavier D.

The Chair of the Clubs Committee, Xavier, provided a verbal update to Council on a recent incident perpetuated by the members of the Clubs Committee and its resolution. In late January two Computing clubs - Coding for All and the BCIT Computing Club - were suspended, due to allegations of violence and/or harassment, abuse of privileges, violation of BCIT policies, embezzlement, unapproved event execution, and discrimination. An executive from each club was present at the meeting to ask Xavier questions about the decision and to provide additional commentary. From this conversation it was revealed that due process was not followed for the suspension decision. The suspension was proposed by the former Vice Chair, Fiona Wong. She authored a report of complaints regarding the misconduct of a student executive involved with both clubs. This report, based on information from two DTC set reps, was presented to the committee along with a motion to suspend the clubs. Then, without reviewing the report, the committee voted in favour of her motion as the clubs policy doesn't offer other options for action the committee can take to discipline a club. The clubs weren't informed of the process. The new draft of the club policy, according to Xavier, seeks to lay out the process for formal investigations by third parties, appeals, and ensuring fairness to all parties. The decision to suspend was reversed only after the Executive Directors and the Director of Engagement were made aware of it. The process to suspend was unfair and no evidence to the alleged violations was provided.

Fiona resigned from her position as Chair, School of Computing & Academic Studies on February 21, 2025.

Margaret Van Essen – Councillor joined the meeting at 18:22 (30 voting members).

One of the club executives asked about Fiona's inflammatory remarks about the clubs in public channels. Neither Xavier nor Eric - who was present when Fiona called the clubs a toxic environment - could explain or take accountability for her behavior as she has since resigned. The executive also inquired about the hackathon Fiona was planning before her resignation. The cancellation of it happened a few weeks prior to the suspension of the clubs. The internal team that was responsible for assisting the execution of the event didn't believe the event would be successful due to Fiona's difficulties in securing a data set and sponsors, as well as delays in creating necessary assets. Fiona indicated shortly before the drop-dead date that she would be unable to support it any longer, thus the decision was made postpone, which de facto canceled the Hackathon.

The project will be examined internally to determine if the scale of it is within the organization's capacity to execute. Sameer mentioned that he believes it is too large of a project to have an Executive lead or manage.

The same club executive asked if it would be possible to have the previously suspended clubs pick up the effort that was put into this event to organize their own hackathon. Roland and Sameer explained that one of the primary problems in setting up this event is that the internal team lacks the technical or industry knowledge required for a hackathon. While input from the Computing Clubs might help, it remains unclear if or at what scale the event can return, especially so late in the term.

10.7.2 Clubs Committee Oversight

- Jimmy W.

Motion:

WHEREAS Bylaw section 6.2(f) empowers Council to set aside the decisions of its Committees; and WHEREAS there is public commentary that raises significant issues about the decisions of the Clubs Committee to suspend the Computing Club and the Coding 4 All Club;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council, pursuant to Bylaw 6.2(f), sets aside all decisions of the Clubs Committee taken with respect to the Computing Club and the Coding 4 All Club since January 1st, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council pre-emptively sets aside all decisions taken by the Clubs Committee between now and May 31st which relate to the Computing Club and the Coding 4 All Club, other than any decisions to grant funding in the amounts requested by those clubs, provided said requests are within the prescribed limits and conform to the Policies and Procedures of the Association; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council will not rescind this motion until it is satisfied that most members of the Committee have completed BCIT's MOOC 0131 "Natural Justice and Academic Appeals" and the BC Ombudsperson's "Fairness 101: An Introduction to Administrative Fairness" free online courses.

Moved by: Jimmy Wang

Seconded by: Marisa Price

21/3/6

CARRIED

Discussion:

- The President learned of the clubs decision and reversal shortly after the reversal was made. He is presenting this motion due to a lack of confidence in the committee to make unbiased decisions.

10.8 Open Forum

Joseph Yuruk – Member

- Raised a concern about Robert's Rules not being properly followed at the previous Council meeting. When the Kwantlen Student Association item was tabled on November 25, 2024, there was an amendment on the floor. Per Robert's Rules, when the item returned to Council for further discussion on February 10, 2025, the amendment should have been the first item discussed. This was not the case and the final decision to pass the resolution never included a vote on the amendment from November 25. He recommended a retraction of the motion as it did not follow due process.
 - The appropriate course of action would have been to raise this concern during the meeting in which this motion was being discussed. Since no members of Council raised this point during the meeting, the final decision made by Council is considered binding. Since a two-thirds majority passed the final resolution, it is impractical to return to this motion.

Bobby Davidson – Councillor

Shared a reminder with Council that student seats on BCIT's Education Council and Board of Governors are also available for students to run for. A student can only run for an Executive Board position or a BCIT Student-at-Large position.

The Councillor prompted the Board and other attendees with some questions for discussion:

Has the Board convened every other Monday since the New Year and conducted business?

- The Board meeting following the January 27, 2025 Council meeting was cancelled, but all others have proceeded as scheduled.

Can Executive Board minutes from January 1, 2025, onwards be released to Council?

- Yes.

Is there confidence that the Board will be able to continue the work of governance and internal matters can continue to be worked towards until the end of May?

- The President has full confidence in the Board.
- There is some tension, but the Board is still able to come to resolutions.
- The Board is continuing to put the students first.

In consideration of history (including previous years of student government), are there concerns of the conduct and procedure at Council meetings?

- What history is being referred to? – If students have previously been on Council they can reference that.
- There is a clear divide between the Executive Board members. Is mediation still something that the Board is pursuing? – Yes, the Board is still in agreement about continuing with mediation.
- There is nothing inherently wrong procedurally, Council meetings are at their best when there is a fulsome discussion. There are no violations of Bylaws during Council meetings. A primary conflict is that of leadership styles.
- This is an effective question for a productive discussion. Council members would like more time to think about their answer and return to this discussion at the next meeting.
- The meetings have been smoother recently, though perhaps the quieter atmosphere is due to regular departures. Just because things are feeling smoother, it does not mean that the circumstances have improved.

Are there ideas for creating more accountability in our student government?

- Recording meetings and publicly sharing the video. This would help with hearsay arguments and recollection of behaviors and statements. It would ensure that the student leaders are always on their best behavior. It also has value as an accessibility tool.
 - The Council would like more information on the feasibility of recording and publishing meetings.
- A Code of Conduct will ensure accountability by creating clear standards and avenues for addressing issues.
- Councillors play a critical role in oversight of the Board. They are encouraged to speak up and scrutinize the decisions being considered.
- This is an effective question for a productive discussion. Council members would like more time to think about their answer and return to this discussion at the next meeting.

The Chair called a recess at 19:16.

The meeting reconvened at 19:27.

Motion:

Be it resolved that the meeting be extended by 10 minutes.

Moved by: Greyson Dubé

Seconded by: Moksh Garg

10/12/8

REJECTED

10.9 Meeting Adjournment

It was moved by Jimmy Wang and seconded by Greyson Dubé that the meeting be adjourned.

VOTE

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 19:31.

Minutes Recorded by

Adam Beggs & Roland Gagel

Approved by Council on:

March 17, 2025

Executive Directors' Report for Council Meeting – February 24, 2025

Executive Directors/Director of Finance/Organizational activities of note

- New Conference table and Meeting Chairs for Council Chambers ordered
- New Furniture for Student Service Office ordered
- De-Escalation Training scheduled for front-facing staff
- SA Elections nominations have opened, will close on March 7

Engagement

- **Marketing and Communications**
 - Election Marketing and Awareness Campaign has been successfully deployed today with the nomination Period of the process. New assets have been developed and further direct outreach is planned.
- **Events**
 - **ReCharge @ DTC** Feb 20
 - **ReCharge @ Burnaby** Feb 26
 - **Thrive! @ Burnaby** March 4
 - **Imaginus Poster** Sale rescheduled to February 27 and 28
 - Wellbeing and Events are bringing a monthly Yoga series to campus, beginning February 25
- **Publications**
 - Further development on our Student Leadership issue is ongoing. Link is reaching out to former Executives for comments and insights
- **Clubs**
 - **Clubs Forum @ Burnaby** March 11

Childcare

- New Rates for September 2025 as per Ministry Guidelines have been set
 - Toddler Net \$695
 - 3-5 Net \$530
- Center is full and has wait list of over 400 children, starting to work on intake for Summer/fall 2025

Habitat Pub

- Pub sales for the month 1k up for month of Feb
- Pub sales for the year up 8k year to date
- 9k catering booked for month of Feb
- In the process of booking a few larger catering events for March and early April
- Trivia nights starting next month Thursday evening

Retail

For the Month of:	Feb-2025		Sales Data to:	17-Feb	% of Sale Days for Month	
Total Business Days:	19		Days of sales:	10	53%	
Location	Transactions	Net Sales	Budget	% of Budget	Projection	Difference
Geared Up	320	\$ 12,300	\$ 28,300	43%	\$ 23,500	\$ (4,800)
St Central	2,911	\$ 17,600	\$ 39,300	45%	\$ 33,500	\$ (5,800)
St South	5,089	\$ 31,000	\$ 51,300	60%	\$ 59,000	\$ 7,700
Geared Up@NE1	276	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,400	48%	\$ 9,500	\$ (900)
Print Shop	256	\$ 1,700	\$ 6,900	25%	\$ 3,000	\$ (3,900)
Total Retail Services locations	8,852	\$ 67,600	\$ 136,200	50%	\$ 128,500	\$ (7,700)

- There was a snow day on Feb.3rd lost one day of business.
- Stores in SE2 were open until 7pm on Feb.19th for the BIG INFO session to provide extra service and earn additional revenues:
 - Geared Up store 4-7pm earned \$800 in revenues with 16 transactions.
 - Stand Central store 4-7pm earned \$800 in revenues with 119 transactions.
- 800 copies of Winter Link issue were printed at the Print shop in February.

2024-2025 Executive Objectives			Objectives	Report to Council Meeting Feb. 24, 2025
Name	Position	#		Update #9
Jimmy Wang	President	1	Create and implement a 'Code of Conduct' for Student Executives & Councillors	In progress. Will review offline & at Bylaw Committee meeting tentatively set for March 4th.
		2	Form a plan for new SA space for proposed new building - consult w/Executive Board, Council, Set Reps. Work in tandem w/VPX & Alumni Association	Was slightly discussed. Due to emerging issues regarding student conduct, have not had time to meet/schedule meeting.
		3	Implement Governance Review recommendations. Assist Bylaw Committee with Bylaws review and move items from Bylaws to Policy as necessary. Ensure all out of date policies are updated and reviewed.	
Shervin Laghaie	Interim VP, Finance & Administration	1	N/A	
Cora Bell	VP, External	1	Create a bursary for a student who must travel outside of the Lower Mainland for a mandatory practicum.	
		2	By the end of January, create and distribute a guide for Councilors about SA governance structure and the role of Council/Councilors.	
		3	Complete a full review of the current Bylaws and develop a comprehensive list of proposed amendments to recommend to the Bylaw Committee and Council.	
Xavier Delaney	VP, Student	1	Complete a revision of the clubs policy, along with ammendments and additions to the policy to be presented to Council. This policy should be under regular review henceforth to respond to the dynamic needs of clubs, as well as to maintain their engagement and longevity on campus.	First draft is approaching completion, with assistance from the Director of Engagement. Changes being made to policy for funding aspects, modernizing outdated forms and segments, operationals of club lists and memberships, club fees, and more. Will be reviewed by Sameer then brought to Clubs Committee at our meeting on the 27th.

2024-2025 Executive Objectives			Objectives	Report to Council Meeting Feb. 24, 2025
Name	Position Experience	#		Update #9
		2	Host two clubs forums with at least two thirds of general clubs participation.	Club forum will be hosted on the 12th, so far several clubs have signed up. Preparing Powerpoint presentation and questionnaire along with the events team. This will be done in tandem with club executive training.
Moksh Garg	VP, Equity & Sustainability	1	Organising a thrift event for all students which will offer clothes, books and other student supplies.	
		2	As the Chair of the Equity and Sustainability Committees, my primary objective is to align BCIT with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to foster equity throughout the campus.	
Greyson Dubé	Chair, School of Business & Media	1	Offer a tax clinic to students in collaboration with the VP of Finance and Administration	
		2	Increase foot traffic to the Habitat Pub by 10%	
Russell Moy	Chair, School of Energy	1	Host and support School of Energy related club events such as RC Classic.	
		2	Create a framework to streamline Set Rep meetings and improve Set Rep/instructor interactions.	
		3	Ensure that doggy destress day occurs on campus as well as other events to boost student morale.	

2024-2025 Executive Objectives			Objectives	Report to Council Meeting Feb. 24, 2025 Update #9
Name	Position	#		
Vacant	Chair, School of Computing & Academic Studies	1	N/A	
Jasmine Yang	Chair, School of Health Sciences	1	Support the Health Science IPE team with IPE Healthcare Expo	
		2	Provide more study spaces for NW4	
		3	Increase Health Science student engagment with the Recharge Events.	
Adam Matthews-Kott	Chair, Schools of Transportation, Construction & the Environment	1	Implement a student support phone line into the strategic plan. The phone / chat line will be operated by students and offer peer support as well as advice about services available to BCIT student.	
		2	Work with members of the Student Spaces Development Committee to develop community projects.	
		3	Collaborate with Greyson to increase pub traffic by at least 10%.	
		1	Increase the availability of student study spaces utilizing unused classrooms.	Evening study spaces still in-progress; the Computing Program at DTC has booked additional study spaces for midterm week as many of the usual spaces are utilized for exams.

2024-2025 Executive Objectives			Objectives	Report to Council Meeting Feb. 24, 2025 Update #9
Name	Position	#		
Eric Chau	Chair, Downtown Campus	2	Provide more spaces for Student Association Events to be advertised	Plans in place to meet with the Program Heads to make announcements on D2L as a potential channel of notifying students of BCITSA events at DTC.
		3	Smaller Objectives: More AED placements at DTC, disposable/compostable utensils for students and opening the gym earlier to match the time the building opens.	Currently in progress, awaiting updates from interim ED's Roland and Sameer. Originally discussed Jan 17th, email requesting updates sent Feb 6th, follow-up email sent Feb 18th, still no reply as of Feb 21st.
Geoff Vinod Pittappillil	Chair, Specialized Transport Campuses	1	To advocate for the establishment of financial bursaries specifically tailored for international students across all BCIT Schools, aiming to alleviate the financial burdens associated with higher tuition fees, cost of living, and limited work opportunities. This initiative seeks to ensure equitable access to education, support student well-being, and enhance the overall academic experience for international students.	
		2	Transform the contemplation room at ATC into a vibrant student lounge featuring a gaming console, comfortable couches, and various recreational activities to enhance representation and awareness of SA services.	
		3	Redefine the ATC Councillor position into a Specialty Councillor role to address the significantly lower level of SA representation and the unique amount of work required at specialty campuses (ATC, BMC, and AIC). The goal is to develop a fully accessible and functional model similar to what exists at the Burnaby/Main Campus.	

DRAFT DECISION NOTE

2025-02-21

PREPARED FOR: BCITSA Council

PREPARED BY: President

ISSUE: Clubs Committee Oversight and Training

PROPOSED MOTION:

WHEREAS Bylaw section 6.2(f) empowers Council to set aside the decisions of its Committees; and

WHEREAS there is public commentary that raises significant issues about the decisions of the Clubs Committee to suspend the Computing Club and the Coding 4 All Club;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council, pursuant to Bylaw 6.2(f), sets aside all decisions of the Clubs Committee taken with respect to the Computing Club and the Coding 4 All Club since January 1st, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council preemptively sets aside all decisions taken by the Clubs Committee between now and May 31st which relate to the Computing Club and the Coding 4 All Club, other than any decisions to grant funding in the amounts requested by those clubs, provided said requests are within the prescribed limits and conform to the Policies and Procedures of the Association; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council will not rescind this motion until it is satisfied that most members of the Committee have completed BCIT's MOOC 0131 "Natural Justice and Academic Appeals" and the BC Ombudsperson's "Fairness 101: An Introduction to Administrative Fairness" free online courses.

BACKGROUND:

On Wednesday, January 29th, 2025, the Clubs Committee made a decision to suspend two clubs without notice or due process, namely the Computing Club and Coding 4 All, without prior investigation and either without staff consultation or contrary to the advice of staff. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that the former SoCAS Chair had presented to the committee a "report" authored by herself and edited by the DTC Chair as well as two Set Reps.

In coming to their decision, it appears that the Committee failed in its duty to give the two affected clubs any semblance of due process. After the issue was brought to the attention of the President and subsequently the Co-Executive Directors as well as the Director of Engagement, the Clubs Committee held an emergency meeting to rescind the decision to suspend the two clubs, as there had been no factual basis presented upon which they could have relied to make their decision. Further, the decision to suspend came with no fair opportunity for the clubs to make their own case in response. The entire process was profoundly unfair.

The integrity of the decision making of Clubs Committee members have been called into question. In the week before the resignation of the SoCAS Chair, the Executive Board resolved to suspend her in her role as Vice Chair of the Clubs Committee for a period of 13 days in unanimous vote.

The purpose of this motion is to allow the Clubs Committee to continue to do its work while providing these two specific clubs with the confidence that further adverse behaviour against them will not occur.