



Minutes

January 12, 2016 - 5:30pm

McLaughlin Room, John Deutsch University Centre



Presentations

A. Initiative for Syrian Refugees – Adam Grotsky

- Adam Grotsky – 5th year politics student
- Looking to start initiative “We for Refugee”
 - o Fundraising for families being settled in Kingston (believed 3 settled to date with more to come)
 - Financial support, furniture on free and for sale, taking advantage of Kingston store promos ie Metro’s recent cutlery promotion.
- Questions or feedback from Council on how the SGPS can be involved?
 - o Councilor: How are you going to make sure you work with other groups doing the same thing?
 - A: Looking to make sure that we are finding niche areas, working with rather than reinventing the wheel
 - o Councilor: Perhaps we could offer some translation services given our multicultural society
 - o Councilor: Are you thinking of doing a university wide fundraiser? Should we be contacting our departments?
 - A: Not yet, currently in the lead up phase. Benefit concert might be one option.
- Oag43@queensu.ca for further details.



Adoption of the Agenda and Minutes

A. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION 01/12/16:1

Moved: Chris Cochrane (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Mark Asfar (vpp@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council adopt the Agenda for the January 12, 2016 Council Meeting.

Amend 01/12/16:1

Moved: Travis S.

Seconded: Chris C.



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Move to add 10 fee renewal questions to place on the referendum ballot. These came up as a last minute addition due to policy changes from last year. As such we are waiving the requirement for these groups to submit documentation, and will leave the decision up to Council.

Natasha abstains.

MOTION TO AMEND CARRIES

MOTION CARRIES AS AMENDED

B. Adoption of the Council Minutes
[SEE ATTACHED MINUTES]

MOTION 01/12/16:2

Moved: Chris Cochrane (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Mark Asfar (vpp@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council adopt the Minutes for the December 8, 2015 Council Meeting.

MOTION CARRIES

C. Adoption of the General Meeting Minutes
[SEE ATTACHED MINUTES]

MOTION 01/12/16:3

Moved: Chris Cochrane (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Mark Asfar (vpp@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council adopt the Minutes for the November 24, 2015 General Meeting.

MOTION CARRIES



Executive & Speaker Reports



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A. Executive Reports

- a. President – Chris Cochrane (report attached)
 - Would like mention 3 things. 1) Orientation event held for grad students in Jan 2)
 - Self and Mark A going to CFS this coming weekend 3) Following Council today if you are from Health Sciences please come and see me 4) Feedback on website, if you have any.
- b. VP Graduate – Mark Kellenberger (report attached)
 - 1) SGS and Career Services are looking for 2 grad volunteers to work on career path roadmaps for graduate programs 1 STEM and 1 Social Sci/Humanities sought. 2) 3 Minute Thesis Competition, upcoming
- c. VP Professional – Mark Asfar (report attached)
 - 1) Reiterates please read Council report especially as related to how clubs are handled. Feedback would be great. 2) Recent Journal article – SGPS Transparency Brought Into Question – 4th time this has been addressed. As of yet nobody has personally contacted Mark to express any concerns. Closest that has happened is 1 email from Journal and 1 email from Councilor. If you have concerns please meet with me. Upset and angry at these continued accusations. In response to article – clarifications needed – “removal of commissioners” – no commissions were ever fired this year. “Old contracts were voided” – completely untrue. “Transition reports would be your new year plans” – not true, nobody was told this. 2 commissioners asked for extensions on year plan and they never submitted their report even though they were paid to do so. Only equity commissioner met requirement for rehire policy, and this went through October council, this person was rehired based on their interview. Concerned about the conflation between hiring period and policy changes. Small policy changes – commissioners can hire their own coordinators, set their duties, salary etc. Empowers commissioners. Apparently these are not transparent, but these changes went through Council and now the ex-commissioners who previously were in support of these policy changes have rescinded their support. International Students commissioner example of this – *Mark reads email to this effect*. This commissioner has now said that we are non transparent and not accountable. Frustrated with addressing broad and vague accusations. If you have issues with hiring then contact me directly it is not appropriate to discuss candidate merits in public setting. It is hard enough to recruit talent and now this is making it is even more problematic. If you have questions right now then I am happy to answer them.
- d. VP Finance & Services – Christina Huber (report attached)
- e. VP Campaigns & Community Affairs – Lorne Beswick (report attached)



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1) SGPS parenting room still needs PPS to assemble the change table. I will let you know as soon as this table is assembled.

B. Speaker Report

a. Speaker – Eric Rapos (report attached)

- 1) Deputy Speaker position is now vacant. Hiring period immediately open, term will be Feb 1 – end of May (4 month term). Formal announcement to come. speaker@sgps.ca

C. Approval

MOTION 01/12/16:4

Moved: Chris Cochrane (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Mark Asfar (vpp@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council approve the Executive and Speaker Reports.

Jared: Regarding VPP comments, mentioned that commissions were restructured to afford flexibility. My understanding Executive and Staff would handle contracts. Can we clarify?

Mark A: We do backend of contracts, commissioners still set number of hires, duties, pay I will be there in support role.

Prashant: I feel sad that you had to go through this “transparency” process 4 times, but I still have some questions. Transparency means that the community knows what’s going on. When you say that you want people to see you personally that is between you and them, that’s not really transparent.

Mark A: In my view this requirement has been met by taking to Council multiple times, taking questions. In October I broke this down in detail, and Council didn’t have an issue with it. Instead of anyone contacting me allowing me to clear something up this ends up at Council. Vague allegations that people are unhappy, but can’t point to something specific, cannot respond to that.

MOTION CARRIES



Senator, Trustee, Commissioner, Committee & Other Reports

A. **Senator Report** – Graduate Student Senator – Eric Rapos (report attached)



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- B. Trustee Report** – Graduate Student Trustee – James MacLeod (no report)
- C. Commissioner Reports**
 - a. Athletics Commissioner – Dominic Kucharski (report attached)
 - b. Equity & Diversity Commissioner – Erica Baker (report attached)
 - 1) Introduction, I was rehired. Please feel free to contact me. equity@sgps.ca
 - c. International Students Affairs Commissioner – Sara SidAhmed (report attached)
 - 1) Introduction, Sarah. international@sgps.ca
 - d. Social Commissioner – vacant (no report)
- D. Committee Reports**
- E. Other Reports**
 - a. University Rector – Mike Young (no report)
 - b. Chief Returning Officer – Travis Skippon (report attached)
 - 1) Contact me or person holding position for details.
 - c. Departmental Reports (none received)

F. Approval

MOTION 01/12/16:5

Moved: Chris Cochrane (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Mark Asfar (vpp@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council approve the Senator, Trustee, Commissioner, Committee & Other Reports.

MOTION CARRIES



Question Period & Departmental Issues

- A. None



Business Arising from the Minutes

- A. None



Main Motions



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A. General Meeting Date

MOTION 01/12/16:6

Moved: Chris Cochran (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Mark Asfar (vpp@sgps.ca)

BIRT the SGPS General Meeting scheduled for Wednesday February 10, 2016 be moved forward 1 day to February 9, 2016 to allow for a Debate during the Elections Campaign Period.

Chris: Elections timelines mean that if we want these to coincide then we have to make this slight change.

MOTION CARRIES

B. Elections Timelines

MOTION 01/12/16:7

Moved: Travis Skippon (cro@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Chris Cochran (president@sgps.ca)

Whereas Elections and Referenda policy dictates the specific dates and timelines for SGPS Elections and Referenda;

BIRT SGPS Council Approve the following timelines for the 2016 SGPS Election and Referendum:

Date	Day #	Day of Week	Event
Jan 15, 2016	1	FRI	Nominations open
Jan 22, 2016	8	FRI	Advertisement of uncontested positions
Jan 28, 2016	14	THU	Nominations close (at 4:00 PM)
Jan 29 2016	15	FRI	Campaign Period begins (at 12:00 AM)
Feb 9, 2016	26	TUE	Campaign Period ends (at 11:59 PM)
Feb 10-11, 2016	27,28	WED,THU	Voting Days

MOTION CARRIES



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C. Rector Election Spending Limit

MOTION 01/12/16:8

Moved: Travis Skippon (cro@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Chris Cochrane (president@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council approve a \$300 spending limit for the 2016 Rector Election.

Mark: How does the limit work with respect to the undergrads?

Travis: AMS will pass a similar motion.

MOTION CARRIES

MOVE TO OMNIBUS MOTIONS 9-13 WHICH ARE 5 INITIAL FEE RENEWAL

Move: Travis S

Second: Chris C

MOTION TO OMNIBUS CARRIES

D. Referendum Question Addition (Class B Mandatory)

MOTION 01/12/16:9

Moved: Travis Skippon (cro@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Chris Cochrane (president@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the Queen's Work Bursary Class B Mandatory fee (indexed to inflation) of \$5.30 be put to referendum in the following form: *"Should the SGPS renew a Class B Mandatory fee (indexed to inflation) of \$5.30 for Queen's Work Bursary? This fee last went to referendum in 2009-2010."*



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E. Referendum Question Addition (Class B Mandatory) MOTION 01/12/16:10

Moved: Travis Skippon (cro@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Chris Cochrane (president@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the Athletics and Recreation Class B Mandatory fee (indexed to inflation) of \$165.76 be put to referendum in the following form: *“Should the SGPS renew a Class B Mandatory fee (indexed to inflation) of \$165.76 for Athletics and Recreation? This fee last went to referendum in 2009-2010.”*

F. Referendum Question Addition (Class B Optional) MOTION 01/12/16:11

Moved: Travis Skippon (cro@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Chris Cochrane (president@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the QISS Bursary Program Class B Optional fee (indexed to inflation) of \$0.70 be put to referendum in the following form: *“Should the SGPS renew a Class B Optional fee (indexed to inflation) of \$0.70 for the QISS Bursary Program? This fee last went to referendum in 2009-2010.”*

G. Referendum Question Addition (Class B Optional) MOTION 01/12/16:12

Moved: Travis Skippon (cro@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Chris Cochrane (president@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the Student Refugee Support Class B Optional fee (indexed to inflation) of \$3.32 be put to referendum in the following form: *“Should the SGPS renew a Class B Optional fee (indexed to inflation) of \$3.32 for Student Refugee Support? This fee last went to referendum in 2009-2010.”*

H. Referendum Question Addition (Class B Optional) MOTION 01/12/16:13

Moved: Travis Skippon (cro@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Chris Cochrane (president@sgps.ca)

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the Sexual Health Resource Centre Class B Optional fee (indexed to inflation) of \$0.91 be put to referendum in the following form: *“Should the SGPS renew a Class B Optional fee (indexed to inflation) of \$0.91 for the Sexual Health Resource Centre? This fee last went to referendum in 2009-2010.”*



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Travis: All organizations above were fast in getting in all documentation, attached to Council package.

Marina abstains.

OMNIBUS MOTIONS CARRY

MOTION TO OMNIBUS

Move: Travis

Second: Chris C.

MOTION TO OMNIBUS CARRIES

I. Additional Fee Question Motions

MOTION 01/12/16:16

Moved: Travis Skippon

Seconded: Chris Cochrane

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the CFRC Class A Mandatory fee (not indexed to inflation) of \$7.50 be put to referendum in the following form: *"Should the SGPS renew a Class A Mandatory fee (not indexed to inflation) of \$7.50 for CFRC Radio? This fee last went to referendum in 2012-2013."*

MOTION 01/12/16:17

Moved: Travis Skippon

Seconded: Chris Cochrane

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the Queen's Journal Class A Mandatory fee (not indexed to inflation) of \$3.50 be put to referendum in the following form: *"Should the SGPS renew a Class A Mandatory fee (not indexed to inflation) of \$3.50 for the Queen's Journal? This fee last went to referendum in 2014-2015."*

MOTION 01/12/16:18

Moved: Travis Skippon

Seconded: Chris Cochrane



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BIRT SGPS Council approve that the International Affairs Association Class A Optional fee (not indexed to inflation) of \$1.00 be put to referendum in the following form: *"Should the SGPS renew a Class A Optional fee (not indexed to inflation) of \$1.00 for the International Affairs Association? This fee last went to referendum in 2012-2013."*

MOTION 01/12/16:19

Moved: Travis Skippon

Seconded: Chris Cochrane

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the Grad Club Class A Optional fee (not indexed to inflation) of \$20.00 be put to referendum in the following form: *"Should the SGPS renew a Class A Optional fee (not indexed to inflation) of \$20.00 for the Grad Club? This fee last went to referendum in 2012-2013."*

MOTION 01/12/16:20

Moved: Travis Skippon

Seconded: Chris Cochrane

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the Queen's Food Centre Class A Optional fee (not indexed to inflation) of \$1.25 be put to referendum in the following form: *"Should the SGPS renew a Class A Optional fee (not indexed to inflation) of \$1.25 for the Queen's Food Centre? This fee last went to referendum in 2012-2013."*

MOTION 01/12/16:21

Moved: Travis Skippon

Seconded: Chris Cochrane

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the Kingston Coalition Against Poverty Class A Optional fee (not indexed to inflation) of \$2.50 be put to referendum in the following form: *"Should the SGPS renew a Class A Optional fee (not indexed to inflation) of \$2.50 for the Kingston Coalition Against Poverty? This fee last went to referendum in 2012-2013."*

MOTION 01/12/16:22

Moved: Travis Skippon

Seconded: Chris Cochrane

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the Loving Spoonful Class A Optional fee (not indexed to



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inflation) of \$2.00 be put to referendum in the following form: *“Should the SGPS renew a Class A Optional fee (not indexed to inflation) of \$2.00 for Loving Spoonful? This fee last went to referendum in 2012-2013.”*

MOTION 01/12/16:23

Moved: Travis Skippon

Seconded: Chris Cochrane

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the Positive Space Program Class B Optional fee (indexed to inflation) of \$0.33 be put to referendum in the following form: *“Should the SGPS renew a Class B Optional fee (indexed to inflation) of \$0.33 for the Positive Space Program? This fee last went to referendum in 2012-2013.”*

MOTION 01/12/16:24

Moved: Travis Skippon

Seconded: Chris Cochrane

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the Ontario Public Interest Research Group Class B Optional fee (indexed to inflation) of \$4.66 be put to referendum in the following form: *“Should the SGPS renew a Class B Optional fee (indexed to inflation) of \$4.66 for the Ontario Public Interest Research Group? This fee last went to referendum in 2012-2013.”*

MOTION 01/12/16:25

Moved: Travis Skippon

Seconded: Chris Cochrane

BIRT SGPS Council approve that the Kingston Youth Shelter Class B Optional fee (indexed to inflation) of \$0.98 be put to referendum in the following form: *“Should the SGPS renew a Class B Optional fee (indexed to inflation) of \$0.98 for the Kingston Youth Shelter? This fee last went to referendum in 2012-2013.”*

Mark K: Why indexed?

Eric: Based on fee type when they were established

Marina: When are these fees paid?

Eric: September (after opt out period closes) or throughout the year through payment plan.



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OMNIBUS MOTIONS CARRY

J. Commission Review

MOTION 01/12/16:14

Moved: Debra Mackinnon, Department of Sociology

Seconded: Marina Joury

Whereas the SGPS has a responsibility to provide services to its members through various Commissions (hereafter the 'Commission') that promote community, networking, provide support for, and social activities for graduate and professional students at Queen's by organizing regular and ongoing social and athletic events, and the Commission is a well-established service of the SGPS and is essential for the membership; and

Whereas the membership pays Student Society fees that contribute to Commissions continual and normal provision of services; and

Whereas at a special meeting on 27 October 2015 to restructure commissions, extend current staff contracts, to ensure a smooth running of services, and facilitate transition periods between outgoing and incoming staff across all Commissions and the SGPS Council approved these motions; and

Whereas the Commission changes do not reflect the dialogue between the SGPS Executive and Executive Director and Commissioners and Coordinators, despite Commission Staff willingness to participate in the process; and

Whereas Commissioners and Coordinators expressed concerns about the restructuring of commissions and the hiring process, and how these changes may interfere with the Commission being able to provide member services; and

Whereas the SGPS Executive asked for an extension of staff contracts to facilitate an appropriate transition between old and new Commissioners; and

Whereas no sufficient transition occurred and the hiring processes are unclear for commissions and the expectations of transitions are also unclear; and

Whereas no athletic or social events have been run by the SGPS since November 2015 as well as no indication of future events to come; and



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Whereas the Social Commissioner position remains vacant; and

Whereas the SGPS is bound by the SGPS Bylaws and Policies, specifically P.4 Transition Policy, but where the SGPS Bylaws and Policies are not clear about how the transition will be carried out or what is required of Commissioners; and where a lack of clear guidelines for Commissioners does not safeguard institutional memory as commissions transition from year to year;

BIRT that the SGPS Executive either reappoints the former Social Commissioner or appoints a new Social Commissioner, by the end of January 2016, so that members can expect the social program that they pay for through their membership fees;

BIFRT SGPS Council task the Human Resources Standing Committee to conduct an in-depth review of the Commissions of the SGPS to carefully consider and thoughtfully research the recent Commission Changes and possible Commission improvements. This review shall involve consultation with the current Commissioners as well as former Commissioners and Coordinators;

BIFRT the Commission Review shall be presented by the Human Resources Standing Committee back to SGPS Council by May 2016;

BIFRT following the Commission Review, the Bylaw & Policy Revisions Standing Committee be tasked with ensuring that the requirements and expectations of the Commission positions are clearly outlined in Bylaw and Policy, along with proper hiring processes which are both transparent and equitable.

Debrah: Looking through previous meeting a few things stand out. Policies are out of date. Commissioner needs to be appointed. Services should not be suspended, loss of institutional memory. This is the heart of this motion.

Mark A: I will be supporting this motion today. I would like to reiterate some things however, no dramatic changes were made, nonspecific complains alluded to so I don't know how to address this. With regard to transition 2 manuals still have not been submitted. Agree that B&P need to be overhauled especially when it comes to hiring, transition, and discipline. I made a call for the HR committee to form as of 2 weeks ago, so this committee



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is already being formed. Large number from Master of Industrial Relations on board. Goal is to form several subcommittees with each given separate task.

Jared: I also support this motion. I think the 2 parties involved in this disagreement need to discuss, committee form would be good. Report back to Council also good.

Andria: B&P – I am happy to announce that we are getting a new website so B&P updates will now be posted there.

Eric: As mentioned in my report I have been working on this for some time. Series of updates needed to be made by going through previous minutes. Within weeks this document will be finished. This doesn't address all problems but gives a starting point.

Mark A: Social Commissioner will be hired by end of January and I have excused myself from hiring panel. I will also be excusing myself from chairing HR subcommittees and will be accepting reports as Chair of committee.

Chris C: AMENDMENT

Mark K seconds.

Change to hire social commissioner by end of Jan, striking reference to hiring old commissioner.

Korey: Why?

Chris: I don't believe that Council should allow the executive to appoint people. Don't want to set precedent. Executive should hire, so we should be going through hiring process.

MOTION TO AMEND CARRIES

Mark Asfar abstains.

Chris C: AMENDMENT

Strike 1,2,3 BIFRT clauses and replace with a clause to task the B&P Standing committee to review the policies.

Amendment ruled out of order. Spirit of motion does task the HR standing committee.



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Prashant: What can we expect from the Athletics Commission in the coming months?

Eric: Athletics commissioner is not here this evening.

MOTION CARRIES

Lorne Beswick, Mark K, Mark A, Chris C abstain.

MOTION TO MOVE IN CAMERA

Moved: Chris C

Second: Mark K

Motion to extend +30

Moved: Mark A

Second Mark K

MOTION TO EXTEND CARRIES

MOTION TO MOVE OUT OF CAMERA

MOVED: Chris C.

SECONDED: Mark K

MOTION CARRIES

The Executive provided updates following December 2015 Council meeting regarding the same issues discussed in that closed session.



Other Business

A. None



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Notices of Motion & Announcements

A. Notices of Motion

Eric: The original notices of motion submitted have been withdrawn as these fees have been added to the referendum ballot and will not be handled by council.

B. Announcements

- a. The SGPS Annual General Meeting will take place on Tuesday February 9, 2016 at **5:30pm** at a location to be announced. Motions and Reports are due to the Speaker **no later than 10 days prior** to the Annual General Meeting.
- b. The next SGPS Council Meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 5:30pm** in the McLaughlin Room. Motions and Reports are due to the Speaker **no later than 4pm on Tuesday, February 16, 2016.**



Adjournment

A. Adjournment

Motion 01/12/16:15

Moved: Chris Cochrane (president@sgps.ca)

Seconded: Mark Asfar (vpp@sgps.ca)

BIRT this meeting of SGPS Council be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIES



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Attendance

Attendance for the January 2016 meeting was not available at the time of publishing these minutes, and will be included in a future publishing of minutes, pending availability.