The Society of Graduate and Professional Students recognizes the traditional and ancestral territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Nations on whose lands we gather on today. This land acknowledgement reminds us that rich Indigenous governances still exist, and will go into the future. This should also serve as a reminder that we are benefitting by living on this land that is a traditional territory of indigenous people.

Speaker: I will begin with the land acknowledgement (above).

I. Announcements

II. Adoption of the Agenda

A. Adoption of the Agenda MOTION 02/01/21:01
BIRT SGPS Council adopt the Agenda for the February 1st, 2021 Emergency Council Meeting.
Anthony Lomax moves, Carolyn Bonta seconds.
No dissent, passes unanimously.

III. Minutes

IV. Executive & Speaker Reports

V. Senator, Trustee, Commissioner, Committee & Other Reports

VI. Question Period and Departmental Issues
VII. Business Arising from the Minutes

VIII. Main Motions & Discussion

Main item is the ratification of our candidates who have put their names forward for the upcoming SGPS election. We have several motions, but they are all a part of the overall same process. We received one candidate per position for a number of positions. The first candidates we only have one on the ballot, so they will go as an acclamation. The other we have two candidates. There is another that we have no candidate for, that is VP Graduate. Just so you know...first is to approve candidates who go on the ballot as a question of acclamation, the other is to go on the ballot for the one that is contested which is VP Finance and Services.

Deputy Speaker please check on the by-law and policy for extending the nomination process via a motion from Sofie Vlaad.

I want to open it up if anyone had questions on anything that we are doing or on the process, now is a good time.

I will read through each clause and we will vote on those, but I will read them first.

A. Ratification of Uncontested Nominated Candidates 02/01/21:02

BIRT SGPS Council approve the addition of Jennifer Li onto the election ballot for the position of Vice President Professional in the following form: “Do you agree to the acclamation of Jennifer Li to the position of Vice President Professional of the Society of Graduate and Professional Students at Queen’s University for the 2021 – 2022 term?”

BIRT SGPS Council approve the addition of Anthony Lomax onto the election ballot for the position of Vice President Campaigns and Community Affairs in the following form: “Do you agree to the acclamation of Anthony Lomax to the position of Vice President Campaigns and Community Affairs of the Society of Graduate and Professional Students at Queen’s University for the 2021 – 2022 term?”

BIRT SGPS Council approve the addition of Justine Aman onto the election ballot for the position of President in the following form: “Do you agree to the acclamation of Justine Aman to the position of President of the Society of Graduate and Professional Students at Queen’s University for the 2021 – 2022 term?”

BIRT SGPS Council approve the addition of Emils Matiss onto the election ballot for the position of Graduate Student Senator in the following form: “Do you agree to the acclamation of Emils Matiss to the position of Graduate Student Senator of the Society of Graduate and Professional Students at Queen’s University for the 2021 – 2022 term?”
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Ross Denny-Jiles moves, Chloe Robinson seconds. No dissenting, passes unanimously.

B. Ratification of Contested Nominated Candidates MOTION 02/01/21:03

BIRT SGPS Council approve the addition of Gina Azer onto the election ballot for the position of Vice President Finance and Services.

BIRT SGPS Council approve the addition of Courtney Bannerman onto the election ballot for the position of Vice President Finance and Services.

BIFRT that the candidates for the position of Vice President Finance and Services be presented on the ballot in the following form: “Please select one of the following candidates to assume the role of Vice President Finance and Services of the Society of Graduate and Professional Students at Queen’s University for the 2021 – 2022 term.”

Ross Denny-Jiles moves, Delaney Ryan seconds. No dissenting, passes unanimously.

IX. Other Business

Speaker: Okay now to the issue of the referendum. Devin, were you able to find anything?

Deputy Speaker: Yes.

Speaker: Can you put it in the chat?

Reading the relevant policy section “Referenda may only be held during the fall and winter terms and may only take place outside an ordinary election period if a special referendum date is approved by Council or to replace a previous referendum invalided because of lack of quorum. No question may be submitted for referendum if a question on the same topic has been the subject of a referendum within the previous eleven (11) months, unless the prior referendum was invalid due to lack of quorum.”

Speaker: Okay, so we can do this. Can someone, maybe Ben, draft that motion and put it into the chat? If we did this, what would it look like?

Chief Returning Officer: This election will finish February 22nd, so I recommend that we call a special referendum during the by-election period which will be around March 2nd.

Speaker: Okay, do we have the date of the by-election?
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CRO: Not yet, but I would suggest March 1st.

Speaker: Umm

Deputy Speaker: Maybe we can make it general to the date of the by-election and decide once we know the date.

Speaker: Yes, that makes sense.

CRO: [nods in agreement]

Speaker: Sofie are you an SGPS member?

Sofie Vlaad (OPIRG): Yes, I am.

Speaker: Okay perfect, so you can have your name on the motion.

Motion: BIRT Council approves an by-election for the position of Vice-President Graduate. Additionally, the Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) shall have a fee referendum on the same date of the by-election, per P.9.3(d).

Sofie Vlaad moves, Delaney Ryan seconds. No dissenting, passes unanimously.

Adjournment

A. Adjournment  MOTION 02/01/21:04

BIRT this meeting of SGPS Council be adjourned.
Delaney Ryan moves, Carolyn Bonta seconds. No dissenting, passes unanimously.