



Agenda
February 9th, 2021 - 5:30pm
Zoom

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.

Expectation is that this will be pretty short, but thanks for attending even though we just had a meeting. I will begin with the land acknowledgement (above).



I. Announcements

Speaker: One announcement today, but one note that we won't have reports from some executive members but there were items that should be brought to Council's attention. Since we don't have the Executive reports, I'm incorporating this into the agenda instead. Microsoft Teams group for DSCs, brought by electrical and computer engineering students; if you want to join, provide email and we can set you up to do that. Opportunity to share about events, platforms to continue to develop those activities in this online forum, so you can just forward your email if interested to Andria or me (speaker@sgps.ca) and we can get you connected with this DSC hub. Next thing we will do is to approve the agenda...I think one change. Under other business, we have received a request for presentations to council, one from the Alumni Association. Been thinking about this and one is that this meeting was hard to organize at the last minute because of elections. We won't have the presentation tonight, but they have decided instead to come to the spring AGM with a full executive. I will ask to strike that from the agenda and approve agenda.



II. Adoption of the Agenda

A. Adoption of the Agenda MOTION 02/09/21:01

BIRT SGPS Council adopt the Agenda for the February 9th, 2020 Council Meeting.

Moved by Elise Visentin, seconded by Delaney Ryan.

No dissenting, passes unanimously.



III. Minutes

A. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

MOTION 02/09/21:02

BIRT the SGPS adopt the minutes from the January 12th, 2021 Council Meeting.

Moved by Nicholas Michieli, seconded by Natasha Lomonossoff.

No dissenting, passes unanimously.



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Executive & Speaker Reports

A. Speaker Report

- a. Speaker – Mary Rita Holland (oral report)

Mary Rita Holland

Been putting together things for the nomination process. Changes to nominations period because we recognize that the new online situation was challenging in some respects, some people needed more time, one vacancy that I will let Devin get into. Put together things for the debate on Friday, fairly low turnout but thanks to anyone who came, and the debate was recorded if anyone wants to know more.

No questions.

B. Approval

MOTION 02/09/21:03

BIRT SGPS Council approve the Executive and Speaker Reports.

Carolyn Bonta moves, Kel seconds.

No dissenting, passes unanimously.



Senator, Trustee, Commissioner, Committee & Other Reports

A. Commissioner Reports

- a. Athletics & Wellness Commissioner – Madison Danford (report attached)
Thanks! Nothing else to add, plug virtual cooking led by international SGPS member will take place Friday at 5:30. Information in my report and on the SGPS website.
Other than that, check my report for everything else. Thank you!
- b. Equity & Diversity Commissioner – Fikir Haile (report attached)
I don't have much to add, but happy to answer any questions that you might have.
- c. Indigenous Graduate Liason – Paige Van Tassel (report attached)



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Thank you for coming, few updates that are not in my report happened last night. Aboriginal council, Terry the director of inclusive voices is working on strategic planning for truth and reconciliation and visibility to non-indigenous students of the office because not many people know what it is or what it does, or where it even is (Principal's Office on the 3rd floor of that building). Other important conversations: Including honour songs at convocation, very inspiring to hear implementing those protocols especially in light of Trent University. Working with Madison Danford and Wendy who have a cooking with [Cree for Grandmas] taking place during indigenous awareness week in March. Also I have received requests from indigenous grad students for a separate space; I guess this is a question for the exec, to see if indigenous students can engage with the modifications of the JDUC. If you are self-identified Indigenous, please reach out to me.

- d. International Students Affairs Commissioner – Rohit Shukla (report attached)
Hello. I don't have anything to tell, I have tried to put everything in my report, but will highlight important points but one point is that Jan 27th most of us received an email from SGS that coming this September we will have tuition fees as domestic students, very positive. Beyond boundaries conference, I am hosting a workshop and panel discussion on networking, I have included details of that in my report for max participation. Trying to get someone from academic, industry, etc. so that grad students can maximize their impacts. Third, with Madison we are having intl cooking series. First session Feb 23rd, someone from India who will be cooking and looking forward to that. Any questions, please go ahead and ask.
- e. Social Commissioner – Kel Martin (report attached)
Recently loom meeting event, more registered than could allow so we will have another so if missed out another opportunity. Also sexual and gender diversity working group, serving as liaison for SGPS with that group. To get involved or with questions, email me.

B. Committee Reports

C. Department Reports

D. Other Reports

- a. University Rector – Sam Hiemstra (no report)
- b. Chief Returning Officer – Benjamin Mercado-Cruz (no report)
Deputy speaker on behalf of CRO: Since there is an outstanding position for VP Graduate, we are holding a by-election with nominations beginning March 2nd. During this time, we have also provided OPIRG the opportunity to submit their



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referenda since they missed this in the initial election period. This was proposed at the emergency council last month since by-elections can be held outside of the election period under some circumstances.

- c. Supervisor – position vacant (no report)

E. Approval

MOTION 02/09/21:04

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

Delaney Ryan moves, Carolyn Bonta seconds
No dissenting, passes unanimously.



VI. Question Period and Departmental Issues



VII. Business Arising from the Minutes

Speaker: Update on Bussit fee. This is something the President's report has addressed multiple times over the past few months. At this point, there is no referenda on this fee...at the moment, the bus subsidy program has reimbursed 100% of the fee and will continue into 2021-2022 year. No anticipation of running out of funding for that. So just an update on that in case anyone was concerned why that was not up as a referendum. Any questions?



VIII. Main Motions & Discussion



VI. Other Business

Notices of Motion & Announcements



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Adjournment

A. Adjournment

MOTION 02/09/21:07

BIRT this meeting of SGPS Council be adjourned.

Chris moves, Chloe Robinson seconds.
No dissenting, passes unanimously.