

Student Association of George Brown College

Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Time: 6:00PM – 8:00PM

Location: Online, Zoom

Board of Directors – Voting Members	
Executive Members:	
Director of Communications and Internal	Sri Krishna Rajan
Director of Operations	Hadja Bah
Director of Education & Equity	Angeline Nijmeh
Director of Student Experience	Simran Malhotra
Educational Centre Representatives:	
Arts, Design and Information Technology Representative	Mehak Khanna
Business Representative	Arlinda Sokoli
Community Services and Early Childhood Representative	Luke Bowden
Construction and Engineering Representative	Nirmala Singh
Health Science Representative, including school of Nursing	Shriya Gupte
Hospitality and Culinary Arts Representative	Ashmeet Kaur
Preparatory and Liberal Studies Representative	Vacant
Non-Voting Member:	
General Manager	Rosalyn Miller
Resources:	
Chair	Kayla Weiler
George Brown College Representative	Melissa Gallo
Minute Taker	Jessica Pasion
Operations Manager	Wafa Ulliyan
Guests:	
Dialog Staff	Ayeshwini Lama
Senior Internal Coordinator	Jessica Pasion
Senior Health Benefits Coordinator	Yukiko Ito
Senior Finance Coordinator	Galina Chible
Vice President, Facilities and Sustainability – GBC	Michelle McCollum
Senior Benefits Advisor – The Integratis Group	Mike McCourt

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1. Roll Call:

Board of Directors: Voting Members	Present	Absent	Regrets
Executive Members:			
<i>Director of Communications and Internal</i>			✓
<i>Director of Operations</i>	✓		
<i>Director of Student Experience</i>	✓		
<i>Director of Education & Equity</i>	✓		
Educational Centre Representatives:			
<i>Arts, Design and Information Technology Representative</i>	✓ late		
<i>Business Representative</i>	✓		
<i>Community Services and Early Childhood Representative</i>	✓		
<i>Construction and Engineering Representative</i>	✓		
<i>Health Science Representative</i>	✓		
<i>Hospitality and Culinary Arts Representative</i>	✓		
<i>Preparatory and Liberal Studies Representative</i>	Vacant		
Non-Voting Member			
<i>General Manager</i>	✓		

Land Recognition Statement:

Student Association of George Brown College is located on the traditional territory of the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation and other Indigenous peoples who have lived here over time. We are fortunate to have the opportunity to learn, work, grow, and live in the community sharing the responsibility to honor and protect this land as treaty people and to live peacefully with each other.

1. Call to Order

Time: 6:06PM

2. Approval of the Agenda

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors accept the agenda as presented with the amendments, if any.

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Moved by: Angeline Nijmeh, Director of Education and Equity

Seconded by: Simran Malhotra, Director of Student Experience

Discussion:

- Luke Bowden, Community Services and Early Childhood Representative, proposes a motion to amend the agenda

Motion to amend the agenda to include Labour Management Committee Report as agenda item 14

Moved by: Luke Bowden, Community Services and Early Childhood Representative

Seconded by: Nirmala Singh, Director of Student Experience

Discussion:

- The Chair inquires directly to Luke, if he intends for the agenda item to include and discuss any HR matters in camera
- Luke indicates that it should be in camera and with voting members
- The Chair notes the comment and moves on to the speakers list to discuss current motion.
- Angie motions to include her agenda items
- The Chair indicates that the current motion is still in process and will return to her once current motion is voted on.
- Angie indicates another motion to amend the agenda to include another agenda item, not in relation to the current motion to amend
- The Chair indicates that she will get back to Angie
- Rosalyn is added to the speakers list and indicates that the Labour Management Committee is chaired by the Director of Communications and Internal and the Director of Operations as they deal with the legal counsel. There are current active cases happening and investigations. Communication from the Director of Communications and Internal should have been sent to the Board from legal regarding how to address the matter. The General Manager advises that if the Board would like to discuss this matter that they should include and have legal present as legal will direct the conversation to avoid any future risk and liability since there have been some with regards to communication outside of the organization that is currently impeding and impacting some of the labour relations. "It's a liability and it's documented liability from legal counsel"

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- The Chair asks Luke directly "Do you have something to present as the Labour Management Committee report?"
- Luke clarifies that he is actually seeking reports from the Labour Management Committee as the VDAM states that the committee is to provide a report including attendance list, minutes of the meeting and any motions that are relevant. Luke continues to indicate that the Board has not received a report from the Labour Management Committee since May 1, 2022.
- The Chair apologizes and indicates she misunderstood what the amendment was before and suggests rather adding a new item, it would fall under other business as Luke does not have a report to present, but also since there is no lawyer present to be able to discuss the Labour Management Committee, unsure that it can be added to the agenda as its own standalone item
- The discussion continues with Luke again reinforcing that the request is to request the report and "not to discuss any nuanced or sensitive or privileged information" but to request the report itself and updates as to why it hasn't been submitted or provided since May 1, 2022.
- The Chair recommends that the motion is defeated and brought up during other business since there is no motion for a question being asked
- Luke inquires if a motion can be made in the Other Business and the Chair indicates no.
- Simran is added to the speakers list and inquires if she can add to the agenda and the Chair indicates to come back to her
- Rosalyn is added to the Speakers List and indicates that she has forwarded the instructions of the communication that Krishna has sent and was suppose to share with the board. She also states that both legal counsel given "can allow for this conversation to occur without board members being personally liable for any damages that might be a result of any conversation that should not have been held. And I say that with utmost respect for the board of directors and their knowledge to know information, but there's also sensitivity, negotiations and I think what personal liabilities folks should proceed with instructions for those that deals in labour relations and the law"
- The Chair moves onto the next person on the speakers list and reminds folks that the current discussion is to add Labour Management Committee to the agenda

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- Angie is next on the speakers list and disregards the comment made by the Chair and inquires if she should do the TTC amendment now and the other amendment as well.
- The Chair states "not yet" and explains that the current amendment needs to be addressed.
- The Chair goes back to the Speaker's List calling for final speaker and acknowledges Luke as the final speaker.
- Luke reiterates the same opinion to the Board of Directors regarding his reason to have this topic on the agenda and why this motion should occur.
- The Chair then recommends for simplicity that due to certain factors and lack of components of the motion, to then vote no to add to the agenda. The Chair also states as per Rosalyn's reference "any request for information about grievances or complaints or labour relations or negotiations should come on behalf of the Board and not from an individual director. 2, if the Board makes a request for this information, it would be, have to be assessed on a case by case basis and a lawyer should review and provide guidance, so in most cases it would not be appropriate to provide specific info about individual grievances, allegations, and the details of confidential ongoing negotiations. And 3 it may be appropriate to provide general information so overall status, whether they've been resolved or not, but again this would have to be assessed on a case by case basis and only after receiving a valid request from the board as opposed to an individual director."
- The Chair then seeks from the board to not entertain the motion; Arlinda Sokoli, Business Representative opposes and Luke Bowden, Community Services and Early Childhood Representative, therefore the Chair goes back to the main amended motion as the opportunity to not entertain has failed.

Vote: Carries (Oppose – Hadja Bah, Director of Operations, Abstain - Simran Malhotra, Director of Student Experience)

Motion to amend the agenda to include Research and Implementation and Development of the TTC Voucher Program and Motion to include Samuel Tetelpta from the Justice for Workers movement to come in and table at major events in March as items 15 and 16

Moved by: Angeline Nijmeh, Director of Education and Equity

Seconded by: Simran Malhotra, Director of Student Experience

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Discussion:

- Angie motivates that both are significant motions. Angie indicate "We've been looking into transit for a while. So this will just give us the go ahead to get the ball rolling on research and development And for the second one, you know, just really significant the justice for workers movement is really significant, especially in these times and Samuel is well known and it would be a privilege to have him during our events. You know, these are really popular events next month are gonna have a lot of foot traffic. So we're hoping to get him to come in and table to spread awareness about the initiatives going on with his campaigns. So that was the motivation for the for the two amendments".
- No additional names were added to the Speakers List

Vote: Carries

Motion to amend the agenda to include Job Fair as item 17 and Director of Student Experience under other business.

Moved by: Simran Malhotra, Director of Student Experience

Seconded by: Hadja Bah, Director of Operations

Discussion:

- Simran motivates the amendment "Because I feel like it's a great it's a crucial topic to talk and discuss about and how representatives and executives can actually implement the job fair by connecting with the deans from the various centers and how it is critical for me, for us as the organization for students."

Vote: Carries

Motion to amend the agenda to table item 9 Program Usage Audit Report and to the Operations Committee

Moved by: Hadja Bah, Director of Operations

Seconded by: Simran Malhotra, Director of Student Experience

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Discussion:

- No discussion at this time as the motivation was mentioned within the motion to remove

Vote: Carries (Abstain - Angeline Nijmeh, Director of Education and Equity)

Back to the main motion with the additional agenda edits

Vote: Carries

3. Limitation of Speakers

Be it resolved that all discussions and/or debates be limited to three (3) speakers for and three (3) speakers against each individual motion.

Moved by: Angeline Nijmeh, Director of Education and Equity

Seconded by: Simran Malhotra, Director of Student Experience

Discussion: None

Vote: Carries

4. Speaking Time

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors, resource persons, and guests respect Robert's Rules of Order and, when invited to speak by the Chair, limit their speaking time to 3 minutes per item.

Moved by: Hadja Bah, Director of Operations

Seconded by: Simran Malhotra, Director of Student Experience

Discussion: None

Vote: Carries

5. Approval of Minutes

Whereas the meeting minutes from January 23, 2023, the Board meeting require approval.

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors accept the meeting minutes of the January 23, 2023 (Appendix A) Board meeting as presented with the amendments, if any.

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Moved by: Hadja Bah, Director of Operations

Seconded by: Angeline Nijmeh, Director of Education and Equity

Discussion:

- Luke indicates that "The minutes are adequate they largely accurately reflect the content of the meeting. I do wonder if we shouldn't be moving towards having an external typist. There seems to have been some challenges with having a member of staff do the minutes and a different set of challenges having a director do the minutes so in the area of sort of implicit bias"
- The Chair kindly stops Luke from continuing any further, explaining when approving the minutes, the intention "We're simply highlighting if there's anything in the minutes that need to be edited before they're approved. So such as like if you were present, but you weren't present, or if a motion passed, but it hadn't passed those kinds of things. So it's not the it's not germane to debate the processes that the minutes are taken, but more just so like do the minutes accurately reflect the decisions made"
- The General Manager, Rosalyn signals to the Chair to remind members to follow the code of conduct and not to publicly voice criticism of individuals, "focus on the item and not the people", "be respectful of others and their feelings and the work they put in and the attempts they made and just encourage and support each other and not tear each other down."
- The Chair reminds folks to direct the comments to the Chair and not individuals.
- Luke addresses that the comment made by the General Manager is taken into consideration and didn't mean to cause any offense to any party. He acknowledges considerable improvement of the minutes over the board term.

Vote: Carries

6. Declaration of Conflict

At this Time members are to come forward to disclose any conflicts of interest they may have, either work related, personal relationships, etc.

- No declaration was done at this time.

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7. George Brown College Building and Capital Strategy

Presentation by Michelle McCollum, Vice-President, Facilities and Sustainability

- A question was asked about the status of the Mount Dennis campus in order that the Board could estimate how much money should be allocated to the Building Reserve for the construction of a student centre on that potential campus

8. Student Health Plan Usage Report (2021-2022)

Presentation by Mike McCourt, Senior Benefits Advisor, The Integratis Group, (Appendix B)

9. Attendance at Financial Literacy Training

By Hadja Bah, Director of Operations

Whereas the board requested financial literacy training

Whereas the Director of Operations scheduled and notified of upcoming training in December 2022

Whereas the training scheduled for January 31, 2023, at 3:00pm, and 60% of the board members either declined or did not respond.

Whereas the training by Grant Thornton is a significant amount

Be it resolved that that all members attend the rescheduled training on February 27, 2023

Moved by: Hadja Bah, Director of Operations

Seconded by: Mehak Khanna, Arts, Design and Information Technology Representative

Discussion:

Vote: Carries

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10. Operations Committee

A. Financial Statements, period ending December 31, 2022

Presentation by Galina Chible, Senior Finance Coordinator and Hadja Bah, Director of Operations, (Appendix C)

Whereas the Operations Committee is required to review the financial statements on a bi-monthly basis.

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors accept the unaudited financial statements for the period ending December 31, 2022, as presented.

Moved by: Hadja Bah, Director of Operations

Seconded by: Simran Malhotra, Director of Student Experience

Discussion:

Vote: Carries (Abstain - Angeline Nijmeh, Director of Education and Equity)

***Motion to extend** the Board meeting to 8:30PM

Moved by: Angeline Nijmeh, Director of Education and Equity

Seconded by: Hadja Bah, Director of Operations

Discussion: None

Vote: Carries

B. Ancillary fees

Presentation by Rosalyn Miller, General Manager and Galina Chible, Senior Finance Coordinator (Appendix D, D1)

Whereas the college and the SA recognize the right of the SA to set fees from time to time and the fees for the Board of Governor is required to the board of Governors committee no later than February of the same year

Whereas SAGBC fees and CFS fees typically include CPI increase, which was not posted until January 17, 2023

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Whereas the CPI increase is at an unprecedented high level because of inflation.

Whereas the Registrar office and CFO met requested a meeting on Feb 2nd to update on Ministry Guidelines

Be it resolved that the Board accepts the presented SAGBC ancillary fees , which does not include SA CPI increase for the period September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024.

Moved by: Hadja Bah, Director of Operations

Seconded by: Angeline Nijmeh, Director of Education and Equity

Discussion:

Vote: Carries (Abstain - Luke Bowden, Community Services and Early Childhood Representative and Arlinda Sokoli, Business Representative)

C. Committee Report

Presentation by Hadja Bah, Director of Operations (APPENDIX E)

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors accepts the Operations Committee report as presented.

Moved by: Hadja Bah, Director of Operations

Seconded by: Ashmeet Kaur, Hospitality and Culinary Arts Representative

Discussion: None

Vote: Carries

***Motion to extend** the Board meeting to 9:00PM

Moved by: Hadja Bah, Director of Operations

Seconded by: Simran Malhotra, Director of Student Experience

Discussion: None

Vote: Carries

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11. Executive Committee Report

Presented by Simran Malhotra, Director of Student Experience (Appendix F)

12. Board Report

Presented by Simran Malhotra, Director of Student Experience (Appendix G)

***Motion to extend** the Board meeting to 9:30PM

Moved by: Angeline Nijmeh, Director of Education and Equity

Seconded by: Simran Malhotra, Director of Student Experience

Discussion: None

Vote: Carries (Abstain - Arlinda Sokoli, Business Representative)

13. Labour Management Committee

* Chair states conversation about the labor management committee without the chair of the committee nor without any legal to answer any questions that people might have *

14. TTC Motion

Whereas, the Student Association discounted TTC pass program ended in 2018 by Toronto Transit Commission

Whereas, Presto and its voucher program, which would be applicable for transit in Toronto and the GTA requires a thorough cost analysis.

Whereas, there is a need to fully understand the challenges with commuter cost for our student body

Whereas, there are options that can be explored for our membership in response to the high transit cost

Be it resolved, that the Student Association initiate research and development into the re-implementation of a TTC or transit voucher program.

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Moved by: Angeline Nijmeh, Director of Education and Equity

Seconded by: Nirmala Singh, Construction and Engineering Representative

Discussion:

Motion to amend the be it resolve to clause to strike the word “development” and read the following “**Be it resolved**, that the Student Association initiate research into the re-implementation of a TTC or transit voucher program.”

Moved by: Angeline Nijmeh, Director of Education and Equity

Seconded by: Luke Bowden, Community Services and Early Childhood Representative

Discussion: None

Vote: Carries (Abstain - Arlinda Sokoli, Business Representative)

Vote: Carries

15. Justice for Workers

Whereas Ontario Nurses and healthcare workers are going into bargaining with the provincial government next month

Whereas the SA’s events provide an opportunity to reach out to a large number of students

Be it resolved that Samuel Tetelpta be invited to table on behalf of Justice for Workers at the SA’s major events next month to raise awareness around wages for healthcare workers.

Moved by: Angeline Nijmeh, Director of Education and Equity

Seconded by: Luke Bowden, Community Services and Early Childhood Representative

Discussion: None

Vote: Carries

16. Job Fair

Presented by Simran Malhotra, Director of Student Experience

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17. Other Business

Director of Operations

- Campus Master Plan Update
- Board Member's Schedule

Director of Education and Equity

- Class Schedules
- Mandatory "on campus 3x a week"
- Zoom Training for faculty
- Mandatory Indigenous Studies elective

18. Adjournment

Whereas the Board Meeting was scheduled till 8:00 PM

Be it resolved that the Board Meeting is adjourned at 9:46PM

Moved by: Angeline Nijmeh, Director of Education and Equity

Seconded by: Mehak Khanna, Arts, Design and Information Technology Representative

Discussion: None

Vote: Carries