

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of
The Students' Union of the University of Regina Inc.
March 30, 2016**

1. CALL TO ORDER - 12:12 p.m.

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Quorum not met. Cannot vote on motions.

3. APPROVAL OF THE CHAIRPERSON

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Brad Lulik be appointed Chairperson for the 2016 URSU Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Lynn Barber

Seconded: Justin

All in favour. Motion passed.

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Membership approve the agenda for the March 30, 2016 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Justin

Seconded: Emily Barber

All in favour. Motion passed.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Membership approve the minutes of the April 15, 2015 Annual General Meeting.

Quorum not met. No motion on minutes considered.

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1. URSU's Audited Financial Statements

6.2. URSU's Financial Update

No questions arising.

7. NORMAL BUSINESS

7.1. Appointment of Auditor

BE IT RESOLVED THAT MNP be re-appointed as the Auditor for the 2015-2016 fiscal year

7.2. Ratification of changes to Emergency Bursary Fund Bylaw

WHEREAS URSU requires the approval of its membership to ratify any changes to its bylaws; and

WHEREAS the Board of Directors has recommended and approved an update of the Emergency Bursary Fund Bylaw; and

WHEREAS this update proposes several changes designed to modernize the fund application process, and extends the bylaw to cover management of the Student Mental Wellness fund; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT URSU adopt the updated bylaw titled "URSU Student Support Funds Bylaw" as presented at Appendix 1

Quorum not met. Motions not considered.

8. OLD SPECIAL BUSINESS

8.1. **Levy Process**

WHEREAS the modification, establishment and abolishment of new fees/levies should take place via referendum to ensure members are adequately consulted; and

WHEREAS there is no clause in the constitution explaining how levies can be modified, established or abolished; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following section be added to Article IX of the URSU Constitution as Section(12); Levies paid to student groups (ex: The Carillon, The Women's Centre, etc.) of the students union may only be established, modified or abolished by referendum as laid out in the Elections and Referendum Policy.

8.2. **Constitution Amendments**

WHEREAS modifying the appearance of the constitution is not explicitly permitted; and

WHEREAS modifying the layout and appearance of the constitution is desirable in order to make the document more accessible to students

WHEREAS a number of references within the constitution are out of date and need to be updated

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following section be added to Article XIV of the URSU Constitution:

(3) Non---material changes to the constitution (i.e. layout changes, correction of grammar, updates to names/sections of other documents referenced within the constitution, etc) may occur with the approval of the Board of Directors, subject to recall as laid out in Article IX

8.3. **URSU Constitution update**

WHEREAS URSU's constitution is confusing, moderately contradictory and difficult to interpret; and

WHEREAS URSU's Constitution includes many unnecessary clauses that should exist as their own independent bylaws; and

WHEREAS URSU would be able to operate more efficiently if the constitution were clear and concise; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT URSU begin to undertake a constitutional review in the coming year

PROPOSED AMENDMENT: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the membership empower the board of directors to approve and begin utilizing the new draft of the constitution, subject to the approval of the membership at the Annual General Meeting

8.4. **Alternative Vote Motion**

WHEREAS, First Past the Post Voting is susceptible to vote splitting between Candidates of similar ideologies resulting in a less favored ideological opposite candidate to win; and

WHEREAS, First Past the Post Voting results in candidates potentially representing an electorate even without collecting over 50% of the vote; and

WHEREAS, First Past the Post voting forces voters to predict who the top two candidates will be prior to voting since all votes for anyone other than the second place are votes for the winner this discourages voting for alternative candidates while also giving more power to media in dictating more coverage on two candidates over alternative; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT URSU rewrite the Elections and Referendum Bylaw so that the Alternative Voting system is used in all future elections. As described by voters ranking candidates from most to least favored. Following this the candidate with the lowest amount of votes is eliminated from the race with their votes going towards whoever was ranked 2nd by each individual voter. The process of eliminating the bottom candidate and redistributing their votes continues until a candidate gains over 50% of the vote.

Quorum not met. Motions not considered.

9. NEW SPECIAL BUSINESS

9.1. **APPENDIX A – Building Fund**

WHEREAS URSU's Constitution is out of date and certain sections no longer reflect current practices; and

WHEREAS the Building fund fee has been modified multiple times via motion at the AGM but those changes have not been reflected in Appendix A; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU constitution be amended to remove Appendix A – Building Fund

9.2. URSU Position Profile Updates

WHEREAS URSU's Executive Committee's positions as presented within Article VI "Powers and Duties of the Board of Directors" are confusingly worded and provide few examples of the actual day to day work; and WHEREAS Executive positions have been defined more accurately within the "Policy on Executive Roles" recently approved by the URSU Board of Directors; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article VI of the URSU Constitution "Powers and Duties of the Board of Directors" be amended as follows:

- Section 13 (inclusive of all subsections) be deleted and replaced with; "The members of the Executive Committee shall complete the duties assigned to them by the Board of Directors as laid out in the Policy on Executive Roles, as modified from time to time."

9.3. URSU Election day clarification

WHEREAS URSU's elections days are stipulated in the constitution; and

WHEREAS this practice provides more transparency and consistency for students; and

WHEREAS the language currently in use causes ambiguity when the days described don't fall on the same week; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article XI "Frequency of Elections and Meetings" (1) be amended to read as follows:

(1) An annual General Election to elect members of the Board of Directors, Executive of Council, Council, and Senate must be held on **four consecutive business days during the third week Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday** of March.

9.4. URSU fee collection changes

WHEREAS URSU modified its fee at the 2014 Annual General Meeting so that it would collect 1 flat fee; and WHEREAS by collecting the fee in this manner URSU pays more to student centres than it receives in certain cases (ie: Students taking 1 or 3 classes); and

WHEREAS changing student demographics are likely to increase the instance of URSU paying more than it collects; and

WHEREAS the following changes will not significantly impact the revenue collected by URSU; and

WHEREAS students taking full course loads will pay less fees than before; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT URSU's fee structure be changed in the following manner;

- All students be charged a base fee of \$38 to cover costs levied on a per student basis like the Womens' Centre Fee, the UR Pride Fee, the Carillon fee and RPIRG fee, etc
- All students be charged a further increment of \$5 per credit hour based on the number of credit hours taken that will be directed to URSU

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT future increases to student centre and group levies result in equivalent increases to the base fee as calculated by URSU

Quorum not met. Motions not considered.

10. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

10.1. Vice President Student Affairs

10.2. Vice President External Affairs

10.3. Vice President Finance and Operations

10.4. President

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND BUSINESS

12. ADJOURNMENT - 1:14 p.m.

Moved: Courtney Lamothe

Seconded: Devon Peters