

University of Regina Students' Union
Special General Meeting
April 12th 2023, 2-5pm
Multi Purpose Room and Zoom
Minutes

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM - Quorum Established.**
3. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
4. **APPROVAL OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Bart Soroka be appointed Chairperson for the 2023 URSU Annual General Meeting.

Moved:

Seconded:

Motion: Carried.

5. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Membership approves the agenda for the 2023 Special General Meeting

Moved:

Seconded:

Two amendments. 1) to add a discussion about house rules to the beginning of section 10, and 2) to add a discussion about the 2023 election to the end of section 10.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Membership approve the amendments to the 2023 Special General Meeting with the additions of House Rules as 10.1 and renumbering subsequent motions and 2023 General Elections as a discussion item at the end of the meeting

Moved:

Seconded:

10.1.1 To adapt the house rules as presented in the handouts

Motion: Failed

Main Motion to adopt the agenda:

Motion: Carried

- 10.1 CONSIDERATION OF MOTION SERVED WITH DUE NOTICE**

- 10.1.2 Internal Forensic Investigation for URSU**

WHEREAS, the Students' Union at the University of Regina, referred to as URSU, has shown disregard for its membership in terms of its management practices, including significant increases in

spending without strategic planning, loss of a significant amount of money without providing an explanation, and concerns from the membership regarding financial and managerial irregularities, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has acted as a rubber stamp and taken little accountability for these issues,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT MNP be hired to conduct an "Internal Forensic Audit" to investigate URSU's internal management practices, including but not limited to hiring, HR, nepotism, funds management, budgeting, relationship and treatment of staff, and operational expenditure,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT MNP be supported by a committee consisting of one representative from each student faculty association,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT MNP shall be given any and all information required by URSU management to complete the investigation,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT MNP reports back to the membership in Fall 2023, either via email or a presentation at the Annual General Meeting, and the report will be written in a manner that all students can comprehend.

Moved: Tayef Ahmed

Seconded: Bronwyn Heerspink

Amendment:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT MNP be supported by the **board of directors**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT MNP reports back to the membership in Fall 2023, either via email or a presentation at the Annual General Meeting, and the report will be written in a manner that all students can comprehend **in a way which does not compromise confidentiality or creating any adverse legal liabilities**

Moved: Pedram Monfared

Seconded

Motion: To adjourn the meeting and hold future meeting exclusively in-person

Moved: Tayef Ahmed

Seconded: Bronwyn Heerspink

Amendment to add a requirement for an email to be sent out prior to the next general meeting

Seconded

BIR that this meeting be adjourned to May 29, 2023 , and that notice of that future meeting be sent by email.

Motion to challenge the chair on their decision to rule the amendments reading: "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT URSU REIMBURSE THE STUDENTS 5000\$ for money spent to promote this SGM" out of order

Motion: failed

Back to motion to adjourn this meeting to May 29, 2023

Moved:

Seconded:

Motion to change the adjournment date to April 28, 2023 at 2 PM

Moved:

Seconded

Amendment: Failed

Back to the motion to adjourn this meeting to May 29, 2023 at 2 PM

Motion: Defeated

Back to the discussion of **10.1.2** as amended

Motion to adjourn the meeting to April 28, 2023 at 2 PM

Moved by the speaker

seconded

Motion: Defeated

Back to the motion of **10.1.2** as amended.

Amendment: to have the second To Be It Resolved clause be amended to read MNP be supported by a committee consisting of the URSU Board of Director and one representative from each student faculty association

Moved

Seconded

Amendment: BIR that MNP be supported by a committee consisting of the URSU Board of Director and one representative from each student faculty association. BIFR that the URSU Board of Director and the representatives from the ratified student faculty associations, clubs and service centers have equal voting power on this committee

Amendment to the amendment: To strike the clubs and service centers from the language

Moved: Tayef

Seconded

Motion: Failed

Back to voting on amendment which is “**BIR that** MNP be supported by a committee consisting of the URSU Board of Director and one representative from each student faculty association. **BIFR that** the URSU Board of Director and the representatives from the ratified student faculty associations, **clubs and service centers** have equal voting power on this committee”

Motion: failed

Motion to adjourn the meeting to April 28, 2023 at 3 PM

Moved

Motion: Failed

Motion to adjourn the meeting to April 27, 2023 at 2 PM

Chair called the motion out of order

Motion to extend the meeting until 6 PM

Moved: Pedram

Seconded

Motion: Carried

Back to the motion as initially amended:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT MNP be supported by the **board of directors**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT MNP reports back to the membership in Fall 2023, either via email or a presentation at the Annual General Meeting, and the report will be written in a manner that all students can comprehend **in a way which does not compromise confidentiality or creating any adverse legal liabilities**

Motion: Defeated

10.1.3 Governance

WHEREAS URSU is currently noncompliant with the Saskatchewan Nonprofit Corporation Act 2021;

WHEREAS member turnout in URSU elections is in the single digits;

WHEREAS URSU's governance structure has been questionable to the wider student body;

WHEREAS many student groups have lost confidence in URSU to operate with transparency;

WHEREAS URSU failed to provide necessary information to students with respect to transparency, keeping students in the dark about their business;

THEREFORE, I move to appoint a reputable consulting firm based in SK to conduct a third-party governance review to bring URSU into alignment with the Saskatchewan Non-Profit Act, 2021 and review internal policies and processes to ensure a member-centric URSU.

The (FIRM) shall be appointed by a committee consisting of one representative of each ratified student society.

The (FIRM) has member support to utilize university mailing lists to contact URSU members directly, pending University of Regina Administration approval.

The (FIRM) will prioritize consulting and working with current members, and can include URSU Staff, current and past URSU Executives or URSU Member Alumni as they deem necessary.

The (FIRM) will report back to URSU members at a Special General Meeting or next Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Bronwyn Heerspink

seconded: Tayef Ahmed

Motion: Failed

UR Pride Fees

WHEREAS UR Pride is committed to excellent service delivery to the university community and southern Saskatchewan that supports 2SLGBTQ+ individuals;

and WHEREAS UR Pride has not increased membership dues for over two years;

and WHEREAS Service Centres are restricted to incremental increases of 20% per year;

and BE IT RESOLVED that student levies due to UR Pride increase for full-time students by \$1.05 and for part-time students by an increase of \$0.55.

Moved: Style Stenberg

Seconded:

Motion: Failed

Cross Contamination Food Policy

WHEREAS a large part of URSU's membership is vegetarian and/or vegan as well as other

food diverse diets, and

WHEREAS many members have various food related allergies, and

WHEREAS it would be important to develop formal operational policies with regards to food safety and security; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED THAT URSU create a cross contamination food policy to ensure URSU's services have as little cross contamination (including various allergens) as possible, using such tools as guides, marketing materials, and other methods

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT URSU work with the University of Regina and University of Regina Food Services, as well as any other vendors on campus, to implement cross-contamination food guidelines in all food spaces on campus

Mover: Olufemi Oluyemi

Seconded: Meet Sonani

Motion: Carried

Student-Worker Solidarity

Whereas corporations and Governments are constantly undermining worker rights

Whereas membership among labour unions has been declining in the last couple of decades

Whereas today's students are tomorrow's workers and it is important to promote workers rights and unions,

Be it resolved that the Student Worker Solidarity policy be approved

Be it further resolved that URSU supports various Labour Unions on campus and promotes Union Solidarity among students

Be it further resolved that the URSU run the Student Worker Solidarity Campaign.

Mover: Olufemi Oluyemi

Seconded: Meet Sonani

Motion: Carried

Student Worker Solidarity Policy

Policy owner: Director of Advocacy and Campaigns
Audience: International Students Coordinator, International Student Members, Board of Directors, Staff, Executive

Approved:
Last Reviewed:

Review Schedule:

Introduction:

Students and Workers have a unique relationship in the labour market, as today's students become tomorrow's workers.

In the current labour market, worker protections are constantly being undermined by corporations and the government by undermining workers' rights.

It is important that students understand and learn from unions regarding workers' rights and labour movement.

It is important URSU works with labour unions to promote Student worker solidarity on the University of Regina Campus.

Mandate:

The mandate of the Student Worker Solidarity policy is to promote Unionism on campus. URSU should work with various Unions and District Labour Councils to create awareness among students about various issues faced by workers.

URSU also works with Faculty Unions and other labour unions located on University of Regina Campus to support and establish Campus Labour Council.

URSU promotes worker rights among students and shows solidarity with labour movements.

Consequences for Non-Compliance:

Members that do not abide by the Student workers Solidarity Policy and/or the Policy on Campus Groups may face disciplinary action up to and including loss of funding eligibility

Lobby Week

Whereas URSU did not organize lobby weeks and regular Government relations in the last couple of years;

Whereas URSU Advocacy Department established relationships with MLAs from all parties in Saskatchewan Government;

Whereas URSU Advocacy organized lobby week this year in February after many years;

Be it resolved that URSU Advocacy week plans and organizes Lobby week on an annual basis.

Be it further resolved that URSU conducts outreach to students to understand their issues and perform necessary research necessary for Lobby week.

Mover: Olufemi Oluyemi

Seconded: Nabeera Siddiqi

Motion: Carried

Campaign on Provincial Election and Education

Whereas Provincial Elections in Saskatchewan are due in Summer 2024

Whereas URSU has not conducted any recent campaigns in the last Federal or Provincial elections

Be it resolved that URSU organizes Get Out the Vote Campaign for the upcoming Elections

Be it resolved that URSU plans and organizes Election campaign for 2024 Election in Saskatchewan

Be it resolved that URSU put aside \$30,000 for a Provincial Election Preparedness Fund to fund this campaign

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that URSU engage with other student organizations on the

provincial election.

Moved ; Olufemi Oluyemi

Seconded: Style Stenberg

Motion: Carried

Discussion about the 2023 General Election

Moved

11. Q/A

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:01 PM

Moved

seconded

Motion: Carried

