

Federation of Students' Council Minutes

SLC MPR, UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Chair: KATIE ARNOLD *Secretary:* EDWARD YANG

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present:

- Abdel, Rana
- Beauchemin, Michael
- Easton, Benjamin (Secretary of the Corporation)
- Fitzpatrick, Amanda*
- Gerrits, Matthew
- Hasa, Zahra (President designate, SciSoc)*
- Hunte, John*
- Lau, Mackenzie*
- Li, Alan (President, MathSoc)
- Mccomiskey, Kaitlynn*
- McGee, Ellen (President, EngSoc B)*
- McGuire, Kevin*
- Mehta, Navya*
- O'Meally, Taijah
- Parboodial, Shelbee
- Parkyn, Colin*
- Plante, Connor (Chair of the Board)*
- Riaz, Shazza
- Roxas, Nikka
- Saleh, Monem
- Shimoda, Mariko (President, EngSoc A)
- Small, Jason
- Soo, Sebastian*
- Town, Megan
- Velling, Seneca
- Wilson, Brendan
- Yang, Edward

* remote | † late

The following members were absent:

- Alves, Ayla (President designate, ESS)
- Chang, Diana*
- Chiang, Evan (President, AHSUM)*
- Dack, Caroline (President, ASU)*
- Nasir, Shehnoor*
- Rodney, Victoria*

- Tait, Abigail*
- Xu, June*

* excused

The following members were present in the gallery and wished to be noted in the record:

- Lee, Alex

PRELIMINARIES

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Katie Arnold called the meeting to order at 12:36 PM.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Be it resolved that Councillor John Hunte withdraws his item (7.2)

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Pursuant to Federation Policy 50, *Indigenous Engagement and Inclusivity*, the Federation of Students' Council acknowledges:

"The University of Waterloo is on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to the Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River."

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the 12 May 2019 Minutes

Be it resolved that Council approves the minutes of the May 12, 2019 Regular Meeting, as presented.

Seneca Velling and Mariko Shimoda.

Jason Small notes that the minutes sent was not the most recent version of the minutes Seneca Velling asked if that the changes were editorial, Jason Small responded that yes they were.

John Hunte moves an amendment to the minutes on page 10 paragraph 2; and page 18, paragraph 6.

John Hunte and Kevin McGuire.

Motion carries unanimously

I ITEMS FOR ADOPTION BY CONSENT

RATIFICATION OF COMMISSIONERS

Be it resolved that Council ratifies the appointments of:

- Maya Venters as Academic Affairs Commissioner;
- Jaskaran Dhillon as Municipal Affairs Commissioner
- Fayza Ibrahim as Provincial and Federal Affairs Commissioner; and
- Victoria Rodney as Equity Commissioner.

Matthew Gerrits and Amanda Fitzpatrick.

Motion carries unanimously

Vice President Matthew Gerrits entered the meeting at 12:43.

II SPECIAL ORDERS

A special order is an item of business that will take precedence over all other business at the designated time for the special order. As it suspends the normal rule that each item must be disposed of before another can be brought up, setting or removing a special order requires a two-thirds majority vote unless originally included in the agenda.

5.1 PRESENTATION REGARDING EMPOWERME

Speaker Katherine Arnold notes that this item will occur whenever Studentcare is around. Vice President Seneca Velling noted that he included a pamphlet of information on EmpowerMe that was sent out to Council.

Be it resolved that Council give leave to the StudentCare representatives to present a special order on the EmpowerMe program.

Chair's Note: Please see the Report of the Vice President, Operations and Finance for the EmpowerMe information package.

Seneca Velling.

Del Pereira is the director of partnerships for Studentcare, he was involved in Feds a long time ago as a former VPAF. His role is first and foremost to do the financial management of the health and dental plan, working with the executives and with health services. He is here today to talk specifically about a student assistance program (SAP), which is based on an employee assistance program.

Just to give some background on Studentcare, Studentcare does student health care plans for student associations across Canada. They cover over 1 million students, and work with 95 student associations, such as UofT, McGill and Queens. They use the

definition of mental health from the World Health Organization, as having a positive state of wellbeing, and being able to go through their degree in a productive and fruitful manner, contributing to his or her or their community. Obviously stigma is the biggest obstacle that can be seen at students while they are at university.

Mental health and mental illness are two separate things, but both have four categories that most impact students. The first being the stress of moving and living away from home. 23% of students at UW are international, he himself is from India and recognized how stressful that situation can be, and how much more difficult that situation could be for students who moved directly here for university. Secondly, academic demands, UW is one of the most competitive universities; social pressures, which are self-explanatory; and financial stresses. They find that financial stresses for students obtaining their degrees, but working to support their tuition, that can be problematic as well. Their approach has always been research driven, did a survey on campuses, of which the University of Waterloo was not a part of specifically, but had over 8000 respondents. The survey was designed in coordination with Heather Schmidt from the Bell Let's Talk campaign. The first thing was promoting a healthy community, which Feds does in their capacity with many different programs. The other top concerns are where they try and have an impact, encouraging help-seeking & helping behaviour, effective response, service, care. The main takeaways from the survey were identifying stigma, shortages of on-campus resources, after-hours/in-person access, and prescription drugs. The Feds plan has one of the best accesses to prescription drugs, but they want to help focus on the other three areas.

There is no one stop solution, they are one of the last partners to bring on an SAP, since it adds on costs for students, They wants to try and keep costs contained within the health and dental plan, but it is no longer possible as seen in recent years. There are tons of government supports, such as the Good2Talk program which is the single greatest resource in terms of money and dollars put into a program, (28-29 million dollars put in by the Government of Ontario). This service is not being used to its full use yet, and only offers one service (calling). They have lots of materials and encourage more students to use it. Pereira presented a list of free online resources, but stated that these are just online, and students don't really use it since it is just reading.

They want to focus on access to care, in-person communications and sessions, which exists at the University of Waterloo, with Walter who is the administrator who is charge of these services. Counselling services and health services on campus, but usually they do fill up. They have a partnership with Walter and his team, where students who go to see Walter can direct bill the claim without having to pay out-of-pocket. There are shortages on campus, even with Walter's team, for example students who are on co-op, 10 000 of UW students are not on campus at any given time. This led to the idea of a SAP. They did not want one, but were asked by the student leaders, including Seneca Velling to come up with one, an example where students could make the decision and choose if they wanted one. This led to Aspiria and EmpowerMe. Aspiria is 100% Canadian-owned, one of the only companies that could prove to them that their counsellors had the proper credentials. Studentcare launched a program with them in 2007. Something that would need to be decided going forward is confidentiality, what is shared with school health services, something that Aspiria is flexible about. The needs on campus are present, not

as bad here as other schools, for example McGill has 3-4 months after an initial visit for a follow up. The point of this is to supplement the different services on campus to reduce wait times and reduce stigma.

This is another addition to the tool kit, providing professional counselling and prevention strategies to be proactive instead of reactive. Various forms of coaching to help with this proactive approach. This includes financial coaching which is their most used service.

Councillor Rana Saleh entered at 12:57

Almost 90% of student health and dental costs are from the claims themselves, by having a short-term solution-focused model, the EmpowerMe program could reduce overall costs of that program by decreasing the number of claims. The idea is that it's a short-term program with a four to seven session average, if there is an issue, it should be a long-term treatment supported by the health & dental plan.

Councillor Shehnoor Nasir left at 12:58.

This plan allows for having 24/7 access, even off-campus, through the phone line, where counsellors have 5 years of clinical experience. They also offer e-counselling which is more useful for co-op students away. The mobile app and online resources which are not that great, since they asked the company not to focus on that since there are already many other great services for those. They can offer 180 languages through interpreters, and about 20 languages that can be supported directly. The in-person counselling can be done in the language of choice, but can also be faith-based and gender-based if required. They have 3 000 practitioners in their network. Laurier, GSA, and Conestoga are all looking into starting EmpowerMe as well. Lots of topics of services from the package that was sent to Seneca Velling, when accessing the service, it is one topic at a time. You could call again for other topics, but it would one topic for the year. That's the way SAP typically works. There is no program too big or too small, there are typically 3-4 sessions per issue. Referred to the psychology network if it is a long-term issue that needs to be worked out.

The service is completely confidential, all records are confidential, Feds will be given very general stats such as the types of sessions for what kind of treatments, but not who. The EmpowerMe phone line will not be utilized correctly unless in conjunction with Walter. If too many students are accessing this, then there is a greater problem that needs to be addressed. At UBC, every person who goes to see counselling services is triaged, and sent to the on-campus program or to EmpowerMe. Roughly one third of their counselling is being sent to EmpowerMe. It's very unique this year, the students paid for the service at first, but by year 3, the university has taken on the cost fully, so students don't need to pay. That's the best way to access it and they hope to eventually implement it that way. Half-year reporting on its impact, based on general demographics data, types of counselling used.

The cost of the program is \$4.75 in Ontario for the year, \$4.20 for the program, plus HST. Only Ontario and Quebec have this tax, however it is not worth fighting the provincial government on this topic, since there is so much revenue from this tax from other employee assistance programs.

The integration within the campus is super important. Integration within the institution is needed for success of the program. This is not required for a evaluation run,

which can be done for only one year, but cannot be re-evaluated after that one year.

The reason for all this: it is a very low cost option, that includes all the services mentioned, and the price doesn't change.

Vice President Seneca Velling noted that they have already had conversations with Health Services and Accessibility to see how to integrate this plan, talking to Walter as well, and the campus health management team.

The following section is formatted as a Q&A session

Mariko Shimoda: Does this just cover counsellors through the service? This doesn't add any additional coverage to private practice?

Del Pereira: No, it does not provide private services, currently 80% covered by the health plan up to \$400 which is on the higher end of other plans in Canada, and having the percentage-based coverage per visit makes it more accessible, even with a lower-cap. At UW, there is already a clinical department that bills directly, which only charges \$70-\$80 per session, but they are clinical counsellors, so different levels. This service is separate and in addition to this coverage.

Seneca Velling: We have been reviewing what psychology coverage looks like as well.

Mariko Shimoda: If it's too expensive to cover additional coverage through private practice, how do you justify that this service is up to the same quality that students would receive off-campus?

Del Pereira: Speaking to the quality aspect of it, in the network that they provide, The claims will be increased, this provides a way as a stop-gap measure, can access all these issues. One is not better than the others, the current plan is the most generous in Canada, the drug plan exceeds most. This is a way to make the plan sustainable

Mariko Shimoda: Are these counsellors good? Since counsellors will go to where there is more money, so how can this program be provided? What is being cut?

Del Pereira: All the counsellors are qualified. The assistance program is a fixed number, the counsellors aren't charging per hour. The counsellors are in large city hubs, the counsellor through Aspiria is likely the same as other counsellors you would get. The exact same counsellors, Aspiria just networks these counsellors

Mariko Shimoda: If someone wanted a specific counsellor, can they do it through Aspiria?

Del Pereira: Not sure, the counsellor would have to be part of the network. Clarified that if you already see a counsellor, this plan would not benefit you in any way. That would be provided through the healthcare plan, this SAP is for a short-term solution. Even if you have 20 services, it wouldn't be enough to cover all the students, this service would be supplementary.

Vice President Seneca Velling: The majority of students using counselling services are using it as a last-resort option, which could be reduced if early prevention is provided, as seen at UBC. The step care model, different levels of issues, giving them access through campus.

Vice President Amanda Fitzpatrick: Is trans-specific care provided?

Del Pereira: Yes, covers other genders too.

Councillor John Hunte: Whether this service will be available to international students while outside of Canada?

Del Pereira: Tough to say, e-counselling is available, but the number is only available in North America. Some students have had a point person at the university who they can contact.

Mariko Shimoda: How many in-person services are available in the Waterloo area? How many of the 300 are in Waterloo?

Del Pereira: He will look into it.

Mariko Shimoda: What are the wait times for Aspiria services?

Del Pereira: Appointments happen with 3-4 days for an in-person appointment to have initial assessment, depends on student and counsellor availability. The initial session can happen. If someone needs to see one the next day, it can happen, but usually 3-4 days due to student schedules. All within under a week for sure.

Vice President Amanda Fitzpatrick: Is this generally a one-person counselling?

Del Pereira: The average is 3-4 sessions, SAPs stem from Employee Assistance Plans, where the point is to get employees back to work as soon as possible, but if it is a long-term issue, it is handed off. The EAP leads to finding a solution or referring to a long-term program. Can keep the same counsellor even when transitioning to long-term which would be handled by the program.

Vice President Amanda Fitzpatrick: What is the maximum number of appointments?

Del Pereira: Up to the counsellor to decide if they need long-term, can start billing through the plan, at which point it is no longer Aspiria. Health plan coverage and SAP will not solve everything, there is no one stop solution for this, it is not easy. Even with the government resources poured into the topic, this is still an increasing crisis. The point is to provide as many services to students as they can. This program is for preventive measures that most schools don't have. At U of T, they added coverage, up to 100% per visit, for up to 20 visits, then they couldn't afford it due to claims. As a result, the cost of the plan went up by 30%. He is trying to prevent cost increases here.

Vice President Seneca Velling: Noted that there is an FAQ on StudentCare website for this year, on which there is no maximum number of appointments, it is done on a case-by-case basis if something needs to be escalating, and each university does that differently.

Del Pereira: There is no cap, but this program is not for long-term issues.

Councillor Megan Town: So it is at the counsellors discretion if it should be long-term?

Del Pereira: Yes, as it is for other counselling. How the long-term is handled depends on the school. At UBC, the counselling goes back to the university.

Vice President Seneca Velling: Offered to forward any additional questions

Del Pereira: Rob at Aspiria has more answers to questions, they would work with Walter to implement the plan.

Mariko Shimoda: How would you say EmpowerMe is better than publicly available services?

Del Pereira: Good2Talk has been around since 2012, how many people at the University of Waterloo use it? It's a valuable resource, a tool, but students won't call

there for sessions, it is a crisis line.

Councillor Niks Roxas: Will the answers to our questions be available?

Vice President Seneca Velling: Relay the questions to him, all answers will be sent back to councillors.

Del Pereira: As for a follow-up, he just had a meeting at Laurier with 22 people. Maybe schedule a follow-up meeting that is more town hall style to ask more questions.

Vice President Seneca Velling: This is just the first step, looking to see if there's interest. If there is, then he will dedicate more time to this.

Councillor Tajah O'Mealy: Has experiences with EAPs, getting the sense that people are focusing less on the purpose of this program to be a short-term preventative measure. Not all issues require long-term counselling, if someone is starting to feel overwhelmed, they can learn coping mechanisms before having to need long-term counselling.

Del Pereira: It makes sense to use this program to try and reduce plan cost increases due to claims.

Councillor Megan Town: Is it a requirement to have the university involved?

Del Pereira: No, two partners have done it alone, but at that point, it's all communication at that point, students have to use it themselves.

Vice President Seneca Velling: Feds would have to publicize it themselves.

Del Pereira: Seeing a person is often better than just a phone line to call.

Councillor Megan Town: So the answer is no, but there are other implications.

Del Pereira: There has been one school where the counsellors at school were unionized and this would be infringing on their protective work rights.

Councillor Rana Saleh: Which school had the claims increase?

Del Pereira: UofT, what happened was the, 90% of the costs of the current plan is due to claims. Other administrative costs are fixed. Was recommended not to change the plan drastically, and by doing that, they say their claims increased significantly, 20% of claims were just mental health related and it increased costs.

Councillor Rana Saleh: Clarification on recommending against increasing coverage?

Del Pereira: Balancing sustainable plan costs, he has no opinion if coverage should be increased. Currently at \$ 300 a year, to balance this coverage would drive up the costs to \$ 425 next year. The only thing U of T could do was to reduce coverage. If they had increased gradually, it would've been better.

Vice President Seneca Velling: Reminded Council that StudentCare is the plan administrator, their job is to give the soundest advice from a financial perspective and sometimes Feds makes decisions because it is worth the cost to students and sometimes decisions are made to keep the plan sustainable. They act as the fiduciary advisor, which is often also best for students, but sometimes they're not typically because the long-term health of the plan for all students in perpetuity is more important than the current students.

Councillor Edward Yang: Asked how it was for one issue at a time, and wanted to know if it was one issue a year, or if multiple issues a year were allowed.

Del Pereira: You're allowed to have multiple issues per year, but once an issue has been cleared, you can't call for the same issue again. For example, if you call for depression and go through the sessions, and it's been documented as no longer an issue

in October, if you call back again in February for depression, then you will not be able to have multiple sessions again on depression. They'll hand-off to someone in the community or back to the University of Waterloo.

Mariko Shimoda will talk to Vice President Seneca Velling about more questions regarding EmpowerMe.

Recess called at 1:44 pm.

Returned to order at 1:51 pm.

REPORTS

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

President (Beauchemin)

The Board of Governors approved our fees and adopted a new policy 42. Seneca and himself are conducting interviews for secretary for Council and Board on Ben's behalf. Had the opportunity to meet with pharmacy and WASA execs in Kitchener and Cambridge, going to be doing that at least monthly. The executive team met with the wellness executive team, going to be following up with them regarding the working group of CoSMH on the difference between peer-support and peer counselling. Working with Amanda to embed that within the current peer counselling framework. Sent a letter about the re-brand to Council and full-time staff. Exec team reviewed the first round of logo drafts, there will be focus groups upcoming, wanted to know availability for a Council specific focus group. Update from Richard Wu, just got the elections and referenda procedure this morning, he has highlighted the changes made. Richard offered a read-only view, tried to keep all comments from various parties, he will be done the overhaul soon.

Councillor John Hunte asked for clarification in his email to Council, who he meant by "we" (in moving forward...).

President Michael Beauchemin clarified he meant "we" as in the executive committee.

Vice President, Operations & Finance (Velling)

Regarding the entire schedule of fees and changes to fees for undergraduates, all societies that requested a fee change got their fees adjusted as requested, Feds fee changed as discussed at last Council meeting and Imprint fee adjusted for inflation. The Board of Governors has approved the fee breakdown, hopefully will receive official confirmation from the university later this week. Have 5 non-essential fees, totalling \$20.10 and 4 essential fees, totalling \$43.46, that are well in compliance with the MCTU's guidelines. The fee profile will be filed with the government. Including Feds and societies fees, excluding administered funds (Health and Dental, Legal, UPass, and so forth), overall at a 55% compulsory fee to 44% optional rate, which is a healthy place to be, based on what the government expects to see. The IFC has met twice since the last Council meeting, to discuss a funding applicant from the science faculty and a conference for engineering. The SLC Management Advisory committee has not yet met, schedules did

not work out for people, hopefully get that moving in the coming weeks. Put out the request for an auditor, information will be provided to Council when that comes up. Redoing pricing models to better use commercial operations and business units to reduce reliance on student fees going forwards. Negotiations are underway for the contract for the legal service, the contract itself is confidential, so that will not be shared with the assembly. Update from university, has ESG (environment impact, social good, and good governance) guidelines for investment now. Considering creation of a commission for the loyalty and rewards programs, to have extra hands there, likely something coming in the next few weeks.

Councillor Jason Small asked that when estimating the opt-out rates, how was the relative ease of the new online opt-outs versus the current opt-out mechanisms accounted for?

Seneca Velling responded that it was estimated based on the current refunding model, then increased it a considerable amount. Current model is anywhere from .045% to 5% per dollar of fee, comparable with other refund models for fees on campus. 30% estimate is in line with other institutions, also in line with the university's estimates, based on discussions with administration, other schools within OUSA, as well as other schools in UCRU.

Councillor Jason Small asked that it has been suggested that revenues from commercial services may be used make up for optional fees, under the government guidelines, would there be restrictions on how such revenues be used by other parts of the Feds budget?

Seneca Velling responded that the current guidelines only regulate compulsory student fees, the provision from the government on optional fees is that they must be separated sufficiently, loosely identifying what is in the category. Revenue from that area could be used throughout the federation for budgetary purposes. Other regulation would fall under federal tax regulations first.

Alan Li sponsored member Alex Lee to speak.

Alex Lee said that in the financial audit report released to members, it said the notes are an integral part of the statements, but the notes are absent, are there any plans to release those notes?

Vice President Seneca Velling clarified that the auditor's notes, on how to manage funds, can contain sensitive information provided confidentially to Board to accept. They are generally not released, and he has no intentions to release that, but would be a longer conversation with the management team on what the impact of that would be. May be possible to publish the non-sensitive portions of the report, but hesitant to say since this is not a power he has himself.

Alex Lee clarified that he meant the notes for each financial statement, not the management notes, which are really important when looking at statements since people can misinterpret financial statements when they don't have notes

Seneca Velling said that's a good point, and he thought they were released, but possibly not.

Alex Lee said it is not currently on the website

Seneca Velling said it was just cut off it appears, and was unintentional. They were presented at the AGM, so it should be part of the public record. They appear to be on the relevant pages of the report.

Councillor Jason Small said the process made questionable choices of what met essential and non-essential fees based on the government guidelines. What factors went into deciding which of the grey area things would be classified as essential?

Vice President Seneca Velling asked which items were questionable?

Councillor Jason Small stated some components of the Health and Safety fee, as well as the municipal affairs and SLC items.

Vice President Seneca Velling explained that the SLC fee is not questionable, it is a building operating fee which is a mandatory fee according to the guidelines. He was pretty conservative on the classification for this category, since he did not want to abuse that, as some other schools included a lot more under building fees, such as management of services and spaces, which he didn't think was appropriate since it does not accurately reflect what the building fee is. With respect to municipal affairs commissioner, cross-listed under academic support and health and safety, since community health and greater well-being was considered essential. As for the health and safety fee, each item was negotiated with the university, ones that met peer-to-peer support and peer counselling services that are protected, as well as items that met similar standards from the university side. For the Vice-President Student Life's budget and wages, someone has to manage the portfolio, the management is generally considered essential. With respect to the optional fees, advocacy to the university and to the government, don't know any other schools that are flagging that as essential under the framework.

Councillor Taijah O'Mealy asked regarding the Feds legal protection fees, specifically the difference between regular and co-op student fees.

Vice President Seneca Velling said it depends on how co-op students are away for part of the policy, since it does not accurately reflect the winter fees. Regular students are double assessed in the winter term to cover spring term. Co-op students are assessed more to cover the subsequent term. It only differs by a few cents, for a student in a regular stream vs. co-op stream by the end of their program. It is based on the average amount of academic terms.

Mariko Shimoda from Ellen: the wording of the legal fee referendum said at a cost of less than \$30 a year, but for co-op students with two academic terms in a year, the total cost would be \$35.88.

Vice President Seneca Velling said it happens since students often fall between policy years, and they should not be paying more than that \$30 a year on average over the 5 years. However, the fee encompasses administrative costs and premium costs, including costs to promote the fee, previously, the administrative fee was funded out of other Feds fees. But this raises an issue when the fee is optional. So the solution was to include it as part of the fee. The plan itself is less than 30\$, but costs more than that to account for administrating it.

Speaker Katherine Arnold asked if this covers students who paid in their last year, so does it cover them for the following Fall term after they graduate?

Vice President Seneca Velling responded that students are covered for the full policy year, students who pay in the Winter are covered until August. Since the policy years are defined by the insurance company, the best he can do is to say they are covered until the fall.

Councillor Jason Small asked regarding the health portion of the fee, is he considering

equity services to mean peer-to-peer counselling?

Vice President Seneca Velling replied that the services mentioned provide peer-to-peer counselling and peer-to-peer support services. He clarified that he was using the word services to mean two different things, service delivery and Feds Service. The services listed provide service delivery in peer-to-peer support. They are flagged that way, and the university does not want to separate out the proportion of each fee which would make the fee statement very long. In the case that the Feds fee is the one chosen by the MCTU to review, he has been working with Amanda Fitzpatrick to log hours to keep a record to know how much of the services' time is spent on this to justify the decision.

Vice President, Education (Gerrits)

The EAC has not yet had a call for agenda, he has had a busy month. But it should be coming very shortly. He has been acclaimed as VP Finance for OUSA. Has two reports under his name, piloting a one-pager report every month to make something more accessible for constituents.

Councillor Megan Town asked for clarification on something in his report about meeting with the bookstore to discuss courses codes being against policy?

Vice President Matthew Gerrits replied that he meets with Shawn Gilbertson, who is the course material specialist in the bookstore. They have collaborated with open education materials, the bookstore is a big advocate for open education materials. He noticed an issue, there is a guideline at the university about how electronic assessment methods should be used, specifically students should not be charged more than \$50 for an online assessment tool unless there is a stand-alone option that is under \$50. This is a guideline, exceptions should be overridden by the dean of the faculty. Noticed that there were courses, especially language courses in Arts and some other courses that didn't meet the guidelines, also important for the manager of Feds Used Books who also hears these complaints. He met with Shawn to cover this and go over a list of courses to see if these were or weren't outside the guidelines. The deans will deal with that, either stating that it should be occurring or giving exceptions.

Deputy Speaker Jason Small asked about the Provost's Advisory committee on timetables and noted that it hasn't been mentioned as having met within any of the reports from the past year, is this committee still active and if so, what is it actually looking at?

Vice President Matthew Gerrits replied that is not a frequently meeting committee, stated that there were 1 or 2 meetings last year that wasn't been able to sit in on. He did not know if he was still on the mailing list for it, Following up with the new academic affairs commissioner to make sure we have a seat on there. The actual responsibilities of the committee are to look into the software requirements of how timetable updating happens at the university. Looking at the relationship between classrooms and class sizes to see if that is sufficient.

Councillor John Hunte thanked the vice president for the one-pager format.

Vice President, Student Life (Fitzpatrick)

Services have been running smoothly, had a BBQ on Friday that went well, same time as the Keystone picnic. Clubs, having some movement with staff there since the clubs man-

ager has recently left, moving around to handle the work with less staff. With orientation, having the first Single & Sexy meeting, making it more inclusive this year, addressing sexual health and consent and other relevant information for first years. Working on housing issues for orientation leaders, since they need to be on campus for August 31st, but a lot of leases don't start until September 3rd. Finding housing for the orientation leaders, looking into solutions. Talking to hotels in the area or apartment complexes, to see if they have rooms there. Victoria Rodney has been hired as the Equity Commissioner, helping plan more events on campus, including Naloxone training and more things, very excited. Policy 42 has been approved, and policy 33 is almost done, which has been going for 4 years. Meeting with Chris Reed, Provost of Students, talking about inter-racial inclusion on campus working with Raise and the equity office. Working with them for the past week or so regarding a student stuck in Jordan, who is now back in Canada, glad that that had been dealt with. Scheduling with committees has been difficult, IAC meeting this week, CLAC meeting soon.

Mariko Shimoda asked on behalf of Ellen McGee: What is replacing Monte Carlo during O-Week?

Vice President Amanda Fitzpatrick responded that it wasn't going well in previous years, trying to make better use of student fees. No specific event to replace it.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

Connor Plante highlighted an amendment to Board procedure 13, which as previously mentioned by VPOF, the overhead administered fees that has been applied to the administered fees programs. The first step of that was the overhaul of procedure 13 that Board approved. The Board did meet for the June regular meeting, approved a long-range plan proposal, which has now been sent to Council, approved the dates for the Fall AGM and Winter GM as recommended by Council, with a slight amendment to the notice period to meet the requirements of the bylaws. The Board has instructed him to look into delegating the setting of dates of GMs to the President. Approved a new Board procedure: collection and vacancy of directors, to comply with Council policy of the same title and with the new bylaws in effect.

4.3 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

AHS Caucus

Absent

Arts Caucus

Office hours are in full swing, Taijah O'Mealy and Shazza Riaz and Shehnoor Nasir are on-campus this term, each running separate office hours. Recently had a meeting with the Arts Student Union president, seeing how to collaborate on any concerns Arts constituents have. Received feedback from the ASU and constituents directly regarding the following. Students at the GBDA and Stratford campuses feeling excluded from the

UW community. Accessibility and inclusivity as it related to Arts buildings (wheelchair ramps and gender-neutral bathrooms). Issues about the lack of Arts co-op opportunities in WaterlooWorks. Increasing mental health support in general. The competitive nature of living learning communities. Concerns about the fees for the verification of illness forms.

Vice President Seneca Velling said all new buildings are required to meet accessibility codes, and include gender neutral bathrooms. Old buildings are not required, but likely to see government changes that make them required. For the SLC, its part of the reasoning for creating a Capital Improvement Fund, for improvements to student spaces to make sure that they are accessible as possible. Working with Amanda to change priorities for SLEF to support resources for connectivity and access to resources from satellite campuses.

Engineering Caucus

Deputy Speaker Jason Small discussed his role as Senator, mentioned the recent Senate meeting where it was considered the number of terms you could take off before having to leave, which will be coming back to the next Senate meeting. Pointed out his Senate meeting notes that he recommends sharing with constituents. Councillor Edward Yang has held office hours in Poets, which will be a bi-weekly thing. Would like to thank Mariko Shimoda and others in EngSoc for putting together the mental illness guide. Megan Town attended the EngSoc Board meeting, her report on Feds was well received, nothing to report back from there.

Environment Caucus

No office hours yet, will be talking to the Environment Student Society to plan this, along with goals and how to best represent environment students. Created some social media accounts as an Environment Councillor, where he can be reached while he is away from Waterloo this term.

Mathematics Caucus

Councillor John Hunte talked about the fees issues he has been dealing with, he has met up 2 times with faculty, no response.

Alan Li said Councillor Diana Chang was kind enough to generate office hours for Math councillors. Seneca has come into some of their meetings now.

Science Caucus

Councillor Niks Roxas is the only one on-campus running office hours, however no one is coming, feeling a disconnect. Working on a services survey, and marketing things. Seneca Velling said that Feds can help with the survey that they are working on.

Councillor Jason Small asked regarding the survey, is it to improve service offerings for Feds, the university or SciSoc?

Councillor Niks Roxas responded that it was mostly to gauge participation in clubs and

events.

Vice President Seneca Velling responded regarding advertisements about the Bomber in GRT transit options, has followed up with GRT, who has been requested multiple times to remove all the advertisements, however nothing so far. Will follow up again. Relying on their timelines and actions.

Zahra Hasan: As planned, their fees will be increasing. At their Board of directors, they have decreased the allotment for departmental clubs, the difference will be put into capital fund in case anything happens to the society and they need that money. For the science CnD, they're looking for new products to sell. As for academic updates, looking to improve marketing strategy for increased turnout. Working with co-op education specialists to make workshops to meet the specific needs of co-op students. Internal update: improving awareness of mental health resources available to Science students and working with campus wellness and student advocacy coordinators. Increasing communications with departmental clubs and forming a committee to meet the concerns of lack of inclusivity within Science generally. Making sure that voting and non-voting members have better communications between clubs, make sure to not repeat events and collaborate when possible. New non-voting member with permanent funding, the Aviation society, working on signing a memorandum of understanding with them, getting them integrated with the Science faculty.

No other reports

OFFICERS OF COUNCIL REPORTS

Speaker

Introduced themselves. Will be entering contentious items, reminded councillors to direct comments to the speaker. If anyone ever has a problem with any decisions made by the chair, the Council can overturn it. If they mispronounce names, please let them know. Open to feedback, message privately, can tell Michael instead, all options to give feedback. Councillor Megan Town noted that Katie is frequently right about things.

Deputy Speaker

Reminded committee chairs to meet soon, thanks to the committees that have met already. The role is centered on online participants during meetings, appreciates feedback on online participation during meetings. Possibility of holding an AMA for councillors, a day-long thing on the /r/uwaterloo subreddit. Would be open for all members of council. Did a strawpoll of who would be interested in such an AMA, got a mixed response. Will pursue it, possibility officially or non-officially. Trying to make it happen within the next month or so. Raising awareness and trying to avoid exam period. A full day thing people can participate throughout the day as available. Getting volunteers and choosing a good date.

Vice President Seneca Velling asked to loop in Lisa Umholtz, the communications specialist. Executives have to be more careful about the information being sent out due to their roles.

Secretary

Reminded everyone to speak clearly and slowly.

4.5 STANDING COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONERS, OR SERVICES REPORTS

BAC

Vice President Seneca Velling would like to add the email sent into the record to be included in the meeting. Discussed budgeting practices, the budget overhaul that will happen. Reviewing centralization of special projects, in discussions with other executives about the other departments of the Federation, especially since will be moving between departments now, looking into regulations to make sure it complies with the ancillary fee protocol. Looking at multi-year budgeting models. Looking at a 3-year, 5-year and 6-year budget model, taking into consideration the timing of the long-range plan. Looking at how to change the number of buckets, what is in each bucket, what is compulsory, what is not compulsory. Budget is could be on a termly basis which is very arduous, it makes more sense to do multi-year basis with yearly changes. Also gives flexibility for each executive and Council to set their own goals and priorities. Exploring more sustainable models for part-time and volunteer appreciation, current system is not inherently sustainable with opt-outs, Amanda Fitzpatrick and Dave McDougall are taking a lead to make that better. Generally tightening financial controls for opt-outs, being prepared to cut-off or spend money as needed. Plan a budget for an opt-out rate above 30%, Re-position commercial options so that they rely less on student fees. Three resolutions were passed unanimously by the committee that should be adopted by council. Typically each club receives \$75 in funding, not sure if we can do that year with the clubs fee being optional. Volunteer appreciation is currently budgeted so each volunteer receives a certain allocation, which might need to change. Budget and appropriations procedure, which currently allows shifts between line items and between budgets that may not be allowed with the current framework, putting rules in place to restrict that. All needed in the opinion of the committee and himself for compliance and ensuring that Feds is in a safe position with regards to the potential inspection by the university and the government of the use of the funds.

Be it resolved that Council accepts the report.

Seneca Velling and Jason Small.

Jason Small moves to amend so that:

Be it further resolved that the authorizations made through accepting the report's recommendations and any procedure suspensions made under such authorizations shall expire at the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year of the Federation.

Be it further resolved that the Budget & Appropriations Committee shall draft procedural amendments to cover the underlying issues detailed in the report and shall present such amendments to Council for approval no later than the February 2020 regular meeting of Council.

Jason Small and Seneca Velling.

Vice President Seneca Velling noted his support for the amendment, to make sure changes are stated in procedure and not just in peoples' memories.

Amendment carries unanimously

Motion carries unanimously

IFC

Vice President Seneca Velling said that it has met twice since the last Council meeting, to discuss the Student Life Endowment Fund, working with the Vice President, Student Life to minimize redundancy in governance to be as cost-effective as possible. Discussion with Dave McDougall and Amanda Fitzpatrick to merge the committees into one to oversee all three endowment funds. Will be having a meeting of the Board of directors of the Student Life Endowment Fund, usually meets once every decade, will be calling it to codify the bylaws of the funds and putting it in Council procedure.

Be it resolved that Council permit the Vice-President Operations and Finance and Vice-President Student Life to draft bylaws for the Student Life Endowment Fund subject to approval from the Student Life Endowment Fund Board of directors and subsequent ratification by Council at a future meeting, to be considered procedures of Council.

Seneca Velling and Matthew Gerrits.

Seneca Velling explained that the fund currently only follows the constitution and some loose guidelines that were prepared in 1992, a lot of stuff is outdated, will be making amendments to add what are considered priority funding projects, such as those relating to wellness, connecting students from satellite campuses, accessibility, advancing the academic goals of the Federation, projects with the municipal and provincial governments, among other projects that the fund will be expanded to include. As a result, need to define the bylaws, the fund has operated ad-hoc in the past, prudent to codify the role of the fund.

Assistant Secretary Edward Yang asked who sits on the SLEF Board of directors.

Vice President Seneca Velling explained who sits on the SLEF Board of directors. The fund is accountable to students and Students Council, the constitution was developed with respect to the Feds bylaws at the time, but responsibilities shared with the university have changed and a new set of bylaws would help that discussion.

Motion carries unanimously

COPs

President Michael Beauchemin noted work on the memorandum of understanding with the societies, opening it up to comment from the presidents of the societies.

Speaker Katherine Arnold asked if there were any commissioner reports or services reports. Vice President Seneca Velling brought up that Services Reports have been struck from the agenda. Services no longer report to Council, they report to CLAC or IAC respectively, and send a summary report instead to Council.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

III 6.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 PROCEDURE 9 SECTION J - ONLINE VOTING

Speaker Katherine Arnold noted that the current version is outdated, with many amendments since then, a cleaner version is available on the Drive and Sharepoint.

Be it resolved that Procedure 9, Meetings of Students' Council, Section J be amended as attached, to go into effect upon the adjournment of the present meeting.

Jason Small and Megan Town.

Jason Small noted the most notable change, that he was not the most supportive of, to restrict it to items that are pre-authorized during a meeting, under the logic that if something that came between meetings, it would have a mechanism to be authorized by Council, other changes were made to address the fact that it was written under a short time frame with limited feedback.

Councillor Megan Town asked about the section where it states "unless otherwise specified in Procedure 5," and wished to hear an explanation of what that means.

Speaker Katherine Arnold clarified that this was to prevent conflicting with any budget or financial policies that already exist in procedure 5.

Vice President Seneca Velling noted that that the change referring stuff to a special meeting of Council or the executive committee of Council (COPs), is the prudent direction to use, online votes were overused last year in his opinion, should always have a discussion first. If the votes fail, special meetings are called anyways. Thinks it's a good change to have a framework. Councillor John Hunte Would rather see a mechanism to call an online vote outside of a meeting in cases which are non-contentious instead of special meetings.

Vice President Seneca Velling the corporation act under the law requires discussion with a meeting of delegates, feels it could be dangerous precedent. Especially with referendum and the potential for abuse. COPs meetings are open to councillors and welcome to participate in meetings that are open and public. Would like to see existing mechanisms be proven unsuccessful before risking walking the fine line of the law. Councillor John Hunte asked if this is comparable to the consent agenda.

Speaker Katherine Arnold responded that the consent agenda can be rejected and be moved to discussion immediately.

Deputy Speaker Jason Small noted that under the bylaws, with 1/3 of councillors, a special meeting can be called, with as little as 48 hours of notice, which would supersede an online vote. If people wanted to have a meeting prior to an e-vote, they can do that instead.

Speaker Katherine Arnold noted that the intention of having a vote of Council to have these e-votes was to allow councillors voice their opinion that felt it shouldn't be an online vote.

Councillor John Hunte asked if it couldn't be expressed by e-mail.

Vice President Seneca Velling amended the wording to be "voting outside of meetings of

Students Council" to prevent it from being misconstrued to committees.

Seneca Velling and Matthew Gerrits.

Councillor Edward Yang said that he didn't feel that the amendment was necessary.

Vice President Seneca Velling stated that since other parts of procedure 9 do apply committees, might impact prudent committee chairs, would be better to make it clear.

Amendment carries unanimously with Jason Small in abstention.

Councillor John Hunte moved to refer the amendments back to PPC to allow the procedure to call e-votes outside of meetings.

John Hunte and Jason Small.

Councillor John Hunte believed that councillors had the ability to request a meeting if they wanted to delay something, and if it's not controversial, why not allow it to happen outside of a meeting anyways.

Deputy Speaker Jason Small felt that their original amendments were reasonable and limited the scope of the e-vote to a very specific set of non-controversial items, and the vote thresholds were sufficient.

Vice President Seneca Velling reiterated his points, and his feelings about the use for this last year, the failure of e-votes and the need to have special meetings. Things should be discussed. COPs is the executive committee to prevent to run-away e-voting. He stated his opposition to returning this to PPC.

Councillor Edward Yang voiced his support for the points made by Vice President Seneca Velling. Councillor John Hunte brought up what if something is not controversial, why can't it be brought to an e-vote?

Katherine Arnold noted that sometimes reports and data need to be elaborated on.

President Michael Beauchemin noted that this is why COPs was given powers, for non-controversial things, COPs should be able to handle it.

Councillor Rana Saleh wanted to voice their support of e-votes. Noting the length of Council meetings. Being able to streamline meetings.

Amendment fails, 14 against sending it back to PPC, 1 abstention (Seneca Velling), 2 votes for (Jason Small and John Hunte)

Motion as amended carries with John Hunte against and Seneca Velling in abstention

6.2 PROCEDURE 9, VARIOUS

Be it resolved that Procedure 9, Meetings of Students' Council, be amended in various matters as attached, to go into effect upon the adjournment of the present meeting.

Jason Small and Seneca Velling.

Speaker Katherine Arnold explained that the text in green is what was amended during the May meeting and tabled to this meeting.

Deputy Speaker Jason Small noted that this motion was specifically for changes made during the previous meeting, since some portions were passed during the May meeting.

Vice President Seneca Velling noted these changes allowed the speaker to limit the time in a better way, noted last winter when every single councillor sent in a motion, affixing times is useful and he encouraged councillors to vote for the item.

Motion carries with 1 against, 2 abstentions

Be it resolved that Council considers 7.3 and 7.4 first, followed by 7.2.
Seneca Velling and Michael Beauchemin.

Motion carries unanimously

Council recessed at 3:29

Councillor Brendan Wilson left the meeting at 3:34

Connor Plante left at some point before 3:35

Called back to order at 3:40

IV GENERAL ORDERS

7.3 ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON LONG RANGE PLANNING

Be it resolved that Council elect _____ and _____ to the Student Councillor positions and _____ to the Student At-Large position of the Select Committee on Long Range Planning, as described in the attached Terms of Reference adopted by the Board of Directors, (Appendix F).

Michael Beauchemin and Megan Town.

Michael Beauchemin said the appendix is not the motion presented, the committee is now charged with steering, the external facilitator is the vice-chair, hence the committee no longer needs to elect a vice-chair.

Ellen McGee joined at 3:41

Vice President Seneca Velling asked about the purpose and role of the committee.

Michael Beauchemin noted that this is the third long-term planning process for Feds, a few month process until adoption in January or February. Enough time for people to have impact. Will give readers an idea of the core values of the Federation of students, continuous improvement. Will need to consult with various groups, constituencies, services, full-time staff, council. Along with UW upper administrative staff who just recently finished their own long term plan. Before the plan is adopted by the Board, it will be brought to Council in February.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits asked if Michael Beauchemin could outline the approximate time commitment.

Michael Beauchemin noted it depended on the consultations, will be meeting frequently throughout fall/winter terms, bi-weekly meetings, 1-2 hours. Probably weekly meetings up until the adoption of the plan.

Vice President Seneca Velling noted that external facilitator does the majority of the work, it's a steering committee and not the deliberating committee, who won't need to do the extensive work which would be done by the facilitator who is paid.

Councillor nominations

- Shehnoor Nasir nominated by Matthew Gerrits
- Jason Small nominated by John Hunte and Seneca Velling, but declines
- Niks Roxas nominated by Michael Beauchemin
- Rana Saleh nominated by Michael Beauchemin, but declines
- June Xu nominated by Seneca Velling
- Kaitlynn McComiskey nominates herself

At-large nomination

- Alex Lee nominated by Seneca Velling

One at-large seat acclaimed by Alex Lee

Ellen McGee left at 3:52

Speaker Katherine Arnold appoints Seneca Velling as scrutineer of the election.

Kaitlynn McComiskey: Was the media marketing exec for a Feds service last semester, has experience with facilitating with the Feds services and clubs. Has experience as treasurer at an elementary school, not part of any other committees so they'll have time for this committee.

Niks Roxas passes on saying any comments.

Shehnoor Nasir is absent from the meeting.

Ellen McGee rejoined at 3:58

Be it resolved that Council amends the motion with the names of the elected members: June Xu and Kaitlynn McComiskey for the councillor seats and Alex Lee for the at-large seat.

Mariko Shimoda and Matthew Gerrits.

Amendment carries.

Be it resolved that the motion is amended to include the destruction of the ballots.

Matthew Gerrits and Megan Town.

Amendment carries.

Motion carries with 1 abstention.

7.4 PPC MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION

Be it resolved that Council approves the change to the terms of reference respecting the composition of the Policies & Procedures Committee, (Appendix G).

Seneca Velling and Michael Beauchemin.

Vice President Seneca Velling stated that the idea was that since many people didn't read it properly last time. So it makes more sense to have people. They did not notice the change last time.

Speaker Katherine Arnold clarified that the change is from speaker as chair to president

as chair.

Vice President Seneca Velling notes that this has the Chair of the Board of Directors be given voting rights.

Michael Beauchemin has spoken to the speaker about this. That it may not have been the best decision to have the speaker be the chair

Councillor Jason Small felt that as the mover of the original mover, that the speaker is generally more familiar with policies. But admitted that that is prone to change from year to year, so he remains neutral.

Motion carries with 4 abstentions, Jason Small noted in abstention

Be it resolved that the adjournment time be amended to 5:00 pm.

Seneca Velling and Jason Small.

Motion carries with 2 against, 1 in abstention, with Seneca Velling and Jason Small in favour.

7.2 DIRECTION AND FOCUS FOR THE FEDERATION OF STUDENTS RE-BRAND EFFORTS AND NAME DISCUSSION

Michael Beauchemin wanted to ask the speaker's advice on a motion to be raised either before or after the discussion. Speaker Katherine Arnold said for the sake of discussion, it would be better to know his intentions.

Michael Beauchemin stated that he intends to move a motion to have Council ratify the executives' decision to rebrand to Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA).

Michael Beauchemin would like to apologize to everyone, due to the publication of a press release with the name of WUSA prior to ratification. The name change is part of an associated re-brand, the legal name will not be changing due to the monetary and time costs associated with that. He would also like to note that the rebrand gives the opportunities to tie the vision and messaging together with the long-term plan, and avoids having to double rebrand with promotional material with regards to the new SLC and fall programming like the signage changes. They would like to communicate their value effectively with the rebrand, in the upcoming year with the Students Choice Initiative coming into effect, they believe that the rebrand will greatly simplify and improve access to the brand and better explain who we are and what we do.

Councillor John Hunte stated that "Council has not had their say, and as the Councilor rep to Board, I would like to inform Council that Board has not had a chance to give their say either. This was not a decision of the Board. This was a decision of the executive and the power to rename Feds is not designated to the executives in the by-laws. This is a Council matter. Assuming the purpose of the rebrand is to build a new brand for Feds without negative connotations, then cutting corners is not the way to do it. I would like Council to know that if we don't like this change, it doesn't have to happen. It is a decision for Council to make, and if we don't rescind the change then we are accepting it. Madam speaker, what were the results of the rebranding survey? How are we expected to vote on something if we

don't have the results? I would also like to know how an announcement accidentally goes out?"

Secretary's Note: Councillor John Hunte's statement was provided directly to the secretary.

Michael Beauchemin responded to the second question, was asked to approve the language of an announcement on Friday, didn't realize the Council meeting on Sunday, didn't occur to him that the announcement would go live immediately. Would like apologize again for the lack of forethought and result of planning. The results of the survey were relatively inconclusive, except that most people wanted a new name. Made the mistake of sending out too many names, WUSA was among the more supported name options there. Made the decision because it was an accurate description of what we are, versus other names. Wanted to avoid the language of using a student union, even though it was split. They felt that the language of a student association was better in the current political climate.

Vice President Seneca Velling would like Council to know that there were 2 surveys conducted, first one was the services and priorities of thing offered by Feds. Everyone wanted Feds to be a student government, few wanted to be in the student government. The results of the first survey helped identify the vision and direction, and the second survey helped choose a name.

Councillor Megan Town asked for them to note a couple of priorities that were identified in the first survey.

Vice President Seneca Velling said they ran a ranked voting survey. The top choice was the UPass program, then advocacy, then health and dental plan, student voice on campus, fifth option was uncertain, sixth option was clubs/commercial services, student services, academic support, others, then with participating in student government as the 13th result.

Ellen McGee would just like the executives to be transparent with the name change, mentioned the timing since the last council meeting in May where there was no mention of this. The reasoning for this rebrand was included in an email sent out on Wednesday. I would like to know what changes would be. If the goal is to change the perception of the organization, she would like to know the actions that will be taken to change or marketing strategies without having to rebrand, since if the organization doesn't change what they're doing that makes the students currently dislike them, then a rebrand is not going to help, the underlying issues are still going to exist. Brought feedback from constituents.

Secretary's Note: Ellen's remarks provided directly to the secretary:

- What is the reasoning for the re-brand? Why is Feds rebranding?
- "the goal is to change the way they think of everything we do and how they interact with us at every level of their experience" (From Michael's email on Wednesday) If the goal is to change student perceptions, what actions have been taken to change the marketing strategy or change student perception without having to rebrand? If the organization isn't charging what it is doing that currently makes the students "dislike" it, then a rebrand is not going to help if the same underlying "problems" (or things that make student perceptions bad) still exist
- What were the results of the survey that was sent out?
- It feels as if the executive have not been transparent in the decisions that have been made. It was mentioned at the last meeting that a rebranding was something that was

being considered, but it was not clear that it would be moving forward at this rate and decided this quickly

- Furthermore, it was very surprising to see the new brand announced publicly on facebook on Friday when it was in the Prez update and in the President's email that it would be discussed at this meeting. It feels as though it was a strategic move to post this publicly before discussing with council (who may have been bringing feedback from the student they represent)

Feedback from Students:

- Can you please ask someone before you make it wooo-sa?
- As a member of the Federation (and who has paid their fees), I feel unsettled that they can change the premise of this organization, without me knowing.
- I'm upset
- I don't hate it, but I dislike the undergraduate part as we also represent graduate student (specifically optometry and pharmacy), it is less accurate than it was before
- WUSA sounds like an elementary school club where as Feds has a level of professionalism to it
- I didn't even know about this, I'm not on Facebook. I would have liked an email asking me about my opinion

Councillor John Hunte said you mentioned they you felt unsettled that they can make this change, his response is that they can not.

Ellen McGee agreed.

Michael Beauchemin would like to note that, thank you for your comments, we are shifting our directions right now, we still have sensitive student consultation that needs to be done. In regards to not hearing about it, an email was sent out on Thursday, but he won't belabour that point. As for timeliness, we needed a direction to go in so that the design teams can get into logo preparations and preparing focus groups going forwards, The name was a big part of that, since it goes into the logo.

Speaker Katherine Arnold clarified that it wasn't Ellen who was upset she heard it on Facebook, she was relating feedback from her constituent.

Vice President Seneca Velling regarding the undergraduate portion, but the second one was on the email. It is also worth nothing that there was an email sent out to all student towards to the end of the last term, with the discussion of the failure of the current brand, and changes to the brand changing the direction of brand. Regarding undergraduate programs, regarding the pharmacy and optometry students, about 1 200, regarding processional stream programs, they do not feel like undergraduate, they do not feel that they are undergrads, however under the university's framework, they are considered undergraduate programs. More to do with marketing rather than the claim that they are not undergrads.

Megan Town stated that she does not feel that wishing to advance the logo making process is a suitable reason to expedite the name changing process.

Councillor Kevin McGuire would like to reiterate what John Hunte and Megan Town said, but the main thing being that the executives were trying to push through was perception. He feels that the majority of students don't care about what Feds are doing, and that a re-brand is not going to fix that. Reading comments from students "It sounds like someone who are trying to hard to straddle, the name sounds bland and uninspired, Feds was inspired and bold," I don't see how this moves things forward.

Connor Plante Seneca Velling would like to note, reiterating comments from the Reddit, despite the negative reputation there. I do think that changing the name is the beginning of the process, it's about a holistic review of the process. Need to signify a change in the product offering, review by the execs of their portfolio and making sure that they are doing what they set out to do, according to their letters patent, advancing the interests and goals of students, pushing for their welfare and academics, advocacy to the university and the government. Trying to do a whole review of the way we communicate about the student union, because no one wants another #Fedsdoesthat campaign, but it's important that students see what Feds is doing and see what they value in it. Like making UPass clearer as a result of collective bargaining by Feds. Making sure that the new product is unique and is what students want.

Councillor Taijah O'Mealy noted a couple of concerns: a bit of clarification about the change in names but not the legal name, making that clear for people looking for legal documents. Was there was a cost analysis done with the re-branding, from the marketing perspective, both monetary and ecological.

Vice President Seneca Velling stated that from a finance perspective, the rebrand was budgeted for in the out-going Council in the transition budget, in the 8 month budget in the transition period while councillors are getting settled in that role. It was budgeted for in an approved budget. One full-time staff equivalent being used. The SLC-PAC begins to open in September, and ideally fully opened by Christmas that year. If there was no rebrand, signs would have to bought then redone later on, doubling the work and effort and ecological impact. Also getting funding for retractable banners for councillor office hours. In regards to operations, it is a big deal to open a building with one set of standards then shift to another set of standards, which would be more costly later on, especially with SCI considerations.

Councillor Taijah O'Mealy echoed concerns from other councillors. There is a student engagement issue at Waterloo. As far people might think Feds name is part of the issue, but having concerns about rolling out the full new package for students and going about changing the marketing and everything. if we the name change, would people see the connection between the two and the changes being made later one. From an transparency perspective, seeing those changes after the name change. Would it be better to wait on the name change and do it with the changes.

Vice President Amanda Fitzpatrick said the key is first-year orientation, for them Federation doesn't make it clear about what it does. For new students, having a new name would make it easier to understand what the union and and by doing the name change, it make it easier to send it all out to new students without having to send out another name later one. For first-year, it's really confusing, so by having the new name, it will make it easier to see the support thy need and having the name change ready by then.

Michael Beauchemin wanted to take a chance to address another part of their concerns, abut rolling things out piecemeal, the rebrand is part of a launch in fall. Making a launch

town hall, looking to get feedback from people immediately. Hoping to do research now, hoping to roll-out the new name now and giving people a chance to get used to it. Improving it over time as it goes on.

Councillor Edward Yang reiterated comments, placing the emphasis on the benefits of this for students rather than purely the benefit of Feds.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits thinks the Federation of Students has changed a lot in recent years, to change the value proposition, and is happy to see this change. even represented in Council and board. Centre for Academic policy is supporting 3 times more students this May over last May. Built better university connections. He thinks that there is a lot of apathy about Feds, he knows that there is a lot of nostalgia about the Feds name. Remembers talking to students and asking if they are planning on opting out of the fees, students are a lot clearer with a student association rather than Feds, lots of anecdotal confusion. Also valuable to point out that the beginning of the strategic planning process, would be exciting to redefine the purpose of the union and having the rebrand line up with the new strategic plan. The ability of people to make decisions, the federation of students is not the only brand, RAISE, and others are also part of the brand. The impact on having to deliver students is part of the executives, no need to debate the minutia. This is not a legal change, this does fall under the executive purview.

Vice President Seneca Velling to Matthew Gerrits about sub-brands, should be brought into this conversation. People don't care about Feds, don't know what they offer. But they will then go use CAPS and RAISE and societies. A lot of branding is out there, but none of it goes back to Feds as something the Feds does. INews, no one has any idea it's operated by Feds even though it is right underneath the name on the logo. In a year with SCI, it's important to show the value proposition, and make it clear that these things are being offered by the student union. Making it clear what students stand to lost by having the fees refunded. They don't recognize the connection according to marketing. It's important to make it, each of the purposes of the exec. We need students to not opt-out of fees and recognize what their fees do for them. Students are going to have to come back and pay into fees, not recognizing what they were for. As a councillor, he would've like to have the name change to come here. It is their fault that it went out in advance. It was spoken about at executive committee that it would not go forward without bringing it to Council. He apologizes for the management mishap that caused the name to be released. He loves the name Federation, it's hard to let go of it, but as the financial person, he will support it. He hopes you let us do our jobs as effectively as possible. As a year to make sure we're doing what we do as well as we can, especially with the changes coming this year. It's important to make sure that we're doing the best we can.

Councillor John Hunte referred to article 8, subsection 7, clause 3, Powers of Council, student priorities. (p.21) regarding Council to establish student perspective.

Vice President Seneca Velling mentioned that the executive committee is mentioned in the bylaws, article 9, section 2, and that executive committee is not given powers except as delegated, and neither are executives directly, except for a few commissions and individual things, but they are responsible for keeping the bylaws.

Councillor John Hunte asked that if this is within the executive purview, then why is ratification begin sought?

Vice President Matthew Gerrits stated that it was his own opinion that he does not feel

it's required, and not the necessarily the opinion of the executive committee.

President Michael Beauchemin said they're seeking ratification because it's courteous to do, even if it fell entirely within the purview of executive/Board. Given that Students Council holds the voice of the students.

Ellen McGee agreed with whoever said the name should reflect what the union does, and perhaps a rebrand is in order. It's a situation where there's a problem with how it was done. She understands it was a mistake.

Councillor Kevin McGuire wants to put a re-brand on to make students less apathetic, slapping a new name on the organization won't make an impact. Having a new name without taking concrete steps to fix the negative reputation beforehand will cause issues. Makes a comparison to the 737 MAX.

Vice President Seneca Velling notes that he appreciated the aerospace metaphor, but does not agree with the metaphor itself.

Councillor John Hunte said that current signage says Feds, your student union, which is clear and doesn't think it's a problem to figure out. Unless the results of the survey results are released, he won't vote at all.

Michael Beauchemin with Feds your student union, still sounds like having to say it twice.

Be it resolved that Council ratify the Executives' decision to brand Federation of Students, University of Waterloo as the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA).

Michael Beauchemin and Matthew Gerrits.

Michael Beauchemin feels that what the executives have said speaks to this.

Be it resolved that to move the time of adjournment to 5:30.

Michael Beauchemin and Matthew Gerrits.

Councillor Megan Town supports the extension. Extension to time of adjournment passes unanimously

Be it resolved that Council tables the ratification.

Taijah O'Mealy and Mariko Shimoda.

Taijah O'Mealy feels it's a large discussion, would need to go back and discuss with others. Michael Beauchemin would like to note that tabling the motion would have a dilatory effect on the ability to move forward with the rebrand. Councillor Taijah O'Mealy mentioned the possibility of having a special meeting or e-vote. Vice President Seneca Velling said he needs to choose for the glass signage, need direction otherwise there will be nothing. Would be better with a special meeting. By approving the budget, but by not doing the rebrand, it would go against the spirit of that budget.

Councillor Edward Yang stated that by approving the budget, they approved the rebrand, but did not approve the timeline being so short. The problem is less with the rebrand itself, but more with the process and the expediency of it, which has legitimate concerns.

Councillor John Hunte reiterates that, yes, the money was approved, but the manner was not.

Councillor Kevin McGuire said that just because the money was give, does not mean it gives permission to executive to change the name without referring to Council in a timely manner.

Vice President Seneca Velling appreciated the clarification from Council on whether or not, in the opinion of the assembly, the passage of a budget requiring expenditures for a certain purpose meant license to execute those purposes. If not, then that's understandable.

Councillor Taijah O'Mealy stated that they did not mean the motion to table as an attack. Felt that there were a lot of concerns from other constituents and wanted to help the executive from being held accountable in a negative way if it results negatively.

Speaker Katherine Arnold noted that there were no delegates from AHS present at this meeting.

Councillor Seneca Velling asked to have a straw poll on 3 things: general opinion about the rebrand, general opinion on the name change, and opinion on tabling or moving to an e-vote on the matter.

Straw poll on rebrand: Council is mostly positive

Straw poll on name change (WUSA): executive is positive, rest of Council is neutral leaning negative.

Straw poll on Tabling/E-vote/Refer to COPs/Vote now: Mostly e-vote.

Vice President Amanda Fitzpatrick wanted to ask if the opinion of the name would be better without the accidental name release, since that was not the intent of the executive, they wanted to have this meeting at Council, and did not want to have that affect the name itself, that was not intentional.

Councillor John Hunte noted that the results of the survey still haven't been released to Council, and as such, he wouldn't know what to think of the name since he has not seen the data.

Councillor Kevin McGuire said it's past the point to separate what happened with the name being released prior to the meeting, it would be irresponsible to focus on that now, better to go to the emergency meeting to talk about it.

Councillor Taijah O'Mealy left at 5:22

Councillor Niks Roxas left at 5:22

Vice President Seneca Velling asked which was more destructive, tabling an item, referring it to a special meeting or calling for an e-vote?

Point of Information: Matthew Gerrits asked if a motion to change the referral to an e-vote would be in order or within the purview of this motion?

Speaker Katherine Arnold replied that yes, the motion to table could be amended.

Councillor Megan Town moved to table the vote to an vote, given that two name options are considered for ratification.

Vice President Seneca Velling asked to clarify what the member meant by two name options.

Councillor Megan Town responded that one option be WUSA, and another that is not WUSA, and neither of which being the Federation of Students.

Speaker Katherine Arnold stated that this does allow the Officers of Council to set the language of the e-vote if this were tabled to an e-vote. The data from the survey has been requested three times during this meeting, she feels this e-vote should include the data from the survey. Will put the second option of the e-vote as the other top ranking result of the survey along with WUSA.

Be it resolved that Council tables this to an e-vote where the e-vote includes at least 2 options, one of those options being WUSA and the options be determined on the highest ranked options by students through the survey.

Megan Town and Kaitlynn McComiskey.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits stated that based on the fact that members leaving, it would be better to proceed with the original e-vote as stated.

Councillor Kevin McGuire felt we should see the survey results and have the opportunity to meet to discuss, prior to ratifying this. Even with the e-vote, it would still be better to have another meeting, whether that be an emergency one or regular to properly discuss the results of the survey.

Councillor John Hunte notes his agreement with the previous speaker.

Vice President Seneca Velling mentioned that something he and Amanda Fitzpatrick were discussing was if it would be more helpful to have another meeting with a marketing director this week to have the discussion. Would rather have a discussion and the opportunity to convince people otherwise, if they fail to convince people, then they have failed in that capacity. Compared to an e-vote, where there would be no opportunity to provide the context that goes into the decision and we don't have the opportunity to introduce the marketing director who could best speak to this and go through the options that are available. It would be prudent to see what the options look like and see what's going to the focus groups in the next weeks. He would rather not have an e-vote be voted down without the needed context. He asked if people would like a special meeting this week or not?

Speaker Katherine Arnold noted that the answer to his question will be determined by the vote.

Amendment to add: Be it further resolved that such an e-vote not be held until the results of the survey are fully released.

John Hunte and Kevin McGuire.

Call to question

Kevin McGuire and Alan Li.

Call to question passes, with 1 against, and 3 abstentions.

Amendment passes with 4 abstentions.

Councillor Megan Town moves that Council suspends the rule of 96 hours for e-voting, she acknowledges that even though not all councillors are present, it has been discussed,

and given the need for expediency indicated by the executive, she would like the e-vote to occur as soon as reasonably possible.

Be it resolved that Council suspends the rule of 96 hours for e-voting
Megan Town and Matthew Gerrits.

Suspension of procedure passes with Seneca Velling in abstention

Amanda Fitzpatrick notes that a huge part of the meeting with the marketing, was going over the survey, just seeing the results is not enough to understand the results of the survey. Having a special meeting would be incredibly important, would prefer to have the explanation of the results.

Councillor John Hunte stated that he does want the context from the marketing department, but that should not be in lieu of the data. He is a math major, it would be his job to know what the specifics mean. We have Math faculty who do statistics courses and can interpret statistics.

Vice President Seneca Velling clarified that it's not in lieu of the actual data, but to provide historical context as to the failures of our current brand as well.

President Michael Beauchemin noted that the assembly is all clearly at odds, would like to offer the potential to have the name as part of the rename focus groups mentioned earlier, that would be happening in June. To do that instead of having this vote of Council here. Bringing the results of the focus groups with names and logos back to Council to approve those.

Speaker Katherine Arnold wanted to clarify if we were to go in that directions, would Feds have to retcon the earlier announcement?

Point of Information: Vice President Seneca Velling asked if would we not have to do that anyhow? Based on the way Council is going today in response to the decision.

Speaker Katherine Arnold replied that it is her interpretation that we would have to do that anyway.

Councillor Megan Town responded to Michael Beauchemin asking if the focus group methodology does not respond to the urgent time requirements for ordering signage?

President Michael Beauchemin replied that we need to do these focus groups anyways, what comes out of these focus groups will be a name and a logo now, instead of just a logo. The marketing department will hate him given the four day turnaround but they'll probably be able to do it. This is put to comply with the deadlines.

Be it resolved that Council amends the time of adjournment to 6:00.
Matthew Gerrits and Seneca Velling.

Motion carries with 3 against.

Call to question

John Hunte and Jason Small. Call to question carries with 2 abstentions (Seneca Velling)

Motion to table to an e-vote as amended fails, with John Hunte in favour, 5 against.

Be it resolved that Council table this item to a special meeting to be scheduled jointly by the President and the speaker.

Matthew Gerrits and Seneca Velling.

Amendment to add: The President will direct the marketing and communications department to include name options as part of the focus group, and shall present the results of the focus groups to Council at the special meeting. The survey results should also be sent out in advance of this special meeting.

Seneca Velling and John Hunte.

Amendment passes.

Motion carries with 2 abstentions, John Hunte in favour.

V NEW BUSINESS

Be it resolved that Council amends the agenda to order the destruction of the ballots for the CLAC election

Matthew Gerrits and Seneca Velling.

Motion carries unanimously

Be it resolved that the deadline for the Bomber Report be extended to the end of July, rather than the end of June. (Item arising from the Vice President, Operations and Finance's report).

Seneca Velling and Matthew Gerrits.

Vice President Seneca Velling stated that currently Council tasked on March 16 his office to produce the holistic report from marketing, business feedback, and student consultation, by the end of June. Given the amount of focus on Students Choice Initiative, organizational restructure, fee adjustments, and other items during his first month of office, he has not had enough time to review the sheer quantity of data. To justify this, he provided data on the survey. Received 3206 respondents total, with only 46 duplicates, 27% from third year, 23% from fourth year, 18% from second year, 12% from first year. 59% are co-op students, which is inline with their actual metrics for co-op students on campus. 1639 responded to every single question on the survey. Overall excellent data with lots of raw commentary. Needs to get in contact with business consultants, before putting a recommendation to council.

Alan Li left at 5:50

Motion carries unanimously with Jason Small in abstention

ANNOUNCEMENTS

9.1 PROVINCIAL ADVOCACY OBJECTIVES

Vice President Matthew Gerrits explained he will be consulting EAC on what policy objectives should they be pushing for at OUSA this year, opening it up to Council. If there is something that should be done, let him know. Read the policy paper. Let them know before week of June 26 on provincial advocacy objectives. Make sure it falls within purview.

President Michael Beauchemin reminded people that what goes on the agenda is public and reflect on the Federation, make sure to vet your language, if there are any concerns, to ask the executive or the speaker. Would like to apologize again for how everything went down, the intention was to keep Council included, fell short of their target.

ADJOURNMENT

Be it resolved that the chair adjourns the meeting at 5:53 PM.

Draft