



## Brock University Students' Administrative Council

### Meeting: 9

Date: January 10, 2018, 6:00pm

**Speaker:** Ian Beaumont

**Deputy Speaker:** Fiona Purkiss

**Recording Secretary:** Maddie Staruch

### OVERVIEW

#### Opening Procedures

- |   |                                     |                |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Call to Order                       | Description    |
| 2 | Approval of the Agenda              | Administrative |
| 3 | Adoption of the Minutes (Meeting 8) | Administrative |
| 4 | Open Question Period                |                |
| 5 | Notes from the Speaker              |                |

#### Presentations

- |   |  |             |
|---|--|-------------|
| 6 | Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) | Information |
|---|--|-------------|

#### New Business

#### Reports

- |    |                             |             |
|----|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 7  | General Manager             | Information |
| 8  | VP Student Services         | Information |
| 9  | VP External Affairs         | Information |
| 10 | VP Finance & Administration | Information |
| 11 | President                   | Information |

#### Question Period

- |    |                           |  |
|----|---------------------------|--|
| 12 | Close Question Period     |  |
| 13 | Information and Reminders |  |

#### Adjournment

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1.0

**Call to Order**

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2.0

**Approval of the Agenda**

BIRT BUSAC approves the agenda for the January 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2018 meeting
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Mover: Hibma
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Secunder: Nicoyishakiye
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<i>Motion Passed</i>
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Yes: 17
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No: 0
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Abstention: 0
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3.0

**Adoption of the Minutes**

BIRT BUSAC approves the minutes for the November 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2017 meeting
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Mover: Hibma
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Secunder: Harris
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<i>Motion Passed</i>
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Yes: 16
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No: 0
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Abstention: 1
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4.0

**Open Question Period**

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5.0

**Notes from Speaker**

**Beaumont:** Happy New Year, welcome back. I would just like to quickly note that the January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting was rescheduled by this committee to January 17<sup>th</sup>. Meaning we have another meeting next week, which will be located in plaza 600F, the same room as last year.

**Nicoyishakiye:** Why was this meeting reconvened?

**Wassink:** It was reconvened to accommodate the Meridian Center game, which is no longer happening.

**Beaumont:** Even though that game is no longer happening, the meeting will still be happening. Also, I have a hard time hearing, so if you could speak up that would be great.

**Total Voting Members = 17**

**Quorum:**

- 50% + 1 = 10
- 2/3rds = 11

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**6.0**

### **Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG)**

*Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) presents.*

**Lillo:** can you elaborate more on the relationship between OPIRG and work groups?

**OPIRG:** Our action groups are not created by us. Action groups are solely run by students and community members. These people file an application with us to our board, and we facilitate that activism. We provide them with the capability to run any campaign they want. We provide printing, resources, etc.

**Lillo:** So, is there anything like OPIRG on campus?

**OPIRG:** There isn't. SJC runs its own campaigns, but for us, anyone can apply and we can facilitate their activism as long as it meets our code of conduct and safety qualifications. We can also facilitate career furthering, so we've been working with Experience BU to fill your campus curriculum. You can also expand your portfolio for your career.

**Castano:** how many students have come to you to run your campaigns?

**OPIRG:** We have 8 funded action groups and since we only have 2 staff members we only have . The total applications were 10.

**Castano:** Are these action groups student based?

**OPIRG:** Some are student run, and some are community based. We believe that OPIRG allows the students and community to connect and make a difference. We want to accept applications from the community as well

**Johnson:** I just wanted to bring up an experience I had with OPIRG brock in December. On Experience BU there was an event for consensus decision making, it was during exams. It was really snowy, so I was taking the bus, and I was a few minutes late, and when I got there 5 minutes late I was told that the person running the workshop had left, can you explain what happened?

**OPIRG:** That's not true, as I was the one who facilitated it and there was a group of 8-10 people there, perhaps there was a logistical error on experience BU that was made. I'm really sorry that you couldn't make it. We're going to have another workshop downtown at the end of the month if you're interested. The event was held in exams because we wanted to make sure our action groups were fully trained.

**Johnson:** I'm sorry I didn't look through other outlets such as your social media but I'm sure that on Experience BU the information was incorrect.

**OPIRG:** We're going to take this feedback to heart and make sure that this doesn't happen again as it's an accessibility issue.

**Hibma:** In regard to the opt-out periods, have you made any progress since the last time this was discussed in BUSAC? Is it still a physical opt-out or is there any progress on having an online opt-out?

**OPIRG:** We were only supposed to have one opt-out period in January, but we extended it to have opt-out weeks once every month. It says opt-out periods must be held in person due to our contract with BUSU. We're trying to work from the bottom up and make sure everything is done according to protocol so we have to make sure our research is done accordingly, and we previously only had 5 board members, now we will have 8.

**Sethumadhavan:** On your website, it has a lot of information of how to opt in, but not how to opt out.

**OPIRG:** It says opt-in/opt-out on the website.

**Sethumadhavan:** Is it possible that the process you just explained to Aidan to be put on the website?

**OPIRG:** I think her question is can we put the steps of how to opt out on the website?

*OPIRG goes through their website to show the instructions regarding how to opt-in/opt-out*

**Green:** With the regards of referencing the agreement from 1988, the internet wasn't a thing in 1988, it's a contract, not a referendum document, I think we've made it abundantly clear over the years even before your leadership, we would be willing to discuss and add things to make it more feasible. Just because it says it must be done in person doesn't mean you can't do it online.

**OPIRG:** We're going to be pursuing this option further and hopefully have it more in September 2018.

**Lillo:** Where do you see OPIRG in the next 2-5 years?

**OPIRG:** Personally, from the career side I would love to see more availability and more career portfolios for students to come and access. I want to see future students get more involved in volunteering so they can get that full rounded experience, which is an aspect of Brock that many people are interested in when they come to Brock. We joined Brock for part of the experience OPIRG Brock allows students to experience community, activism, and education. OPIRG Brock will provide this experience to students and we want to have more action groups, more funding, more activism. In the next five years, OPIRG Brock will be here and we're here to stay.

**Lillo:** What're things that happen at other OPRIG chapters that you'd like to implement?

**OPIRG:** For example, the fair-trade coffee was something that was started at Brock by OPIRG. In terms of recently, there's been the rise of islamophobia, in Nova Scotia they created a case regarding the safety of Muslim students, and we want to ensure that our students are protected in that situation.

**Bathish:** How many community members signed up for a membership as of now and do you have to have a membership to start an action group?

**OPIRG:** Yes, they must pay the same fee as the students do. For them to start an action group, they have to pay the fee, and they have to take our training as well.

**Bathish:** How many do you have?

**OPIRG:** I can get back to you as I don't have the exact amount currently.

**Napper:** I'm just wondering, at the very beginning we discussed how you had 95,000 dollars carried over plus 116,000, I just wondering how you're going to carry this forward as you won't have the same budget next year.

**OPIRG:** We have a professional book keeper to deal with millions of dollars of funding from the government, there's a finance community meeting who can answer these questions in detail. The budget in this year planned keeps in mind the space, first/last, insurance, furniture, etc. The carry-over is there in an efficient manner. This meeting is open to the public to make sure that it is being spent responsibly and in the interest of students. Everything is public and we are aiming to be as transparent as possible.

BIRT BUSAC opens up the agenda.
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Mover: Verrier Secunder: Johnson
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<b><i>Motion Passed</i></b>
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Yes: 18 No: 0 Abstention: 1
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**Verrier:** I'd like to talk about adding two seats to BUSAC: one is the accessibility seat and one is for the Marilyn I. Walker Campus.

**Purkiss:** We were actually just talking about that, and we're going to open up this discussion in the next governance meeting - this might be a good discussion to have then.

**Verrier retracts his motion.**

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**7.0**

**Report – General Manager**

*General Manager, Mr. Green, presents report.*

**Saleeb:** In terms of the prescription drugs being free for under 25, how does that affect Brock?

**Green:** With OHIP+ any Ontario residents under 25 have a level of drug coverage. A lot of information from large pharmacies says your drugs are free, there are about 44,000 drugs that aren't free. We're working with the campus pharmacy across the street to try and accommodate this. If your drug is not covered, there is an exception form that can be filled out. For example, a birth control patch is not being covered. Students need to really do some research to figure out what drugs are covered. Our website is going to have a DIN number search, so students can see if their drug is covered by OHIP+ or if the student plan covers it. The rollout of OHIP+ has been very rocky so far, but as of right now, about 40% of the drugs that our plan would cover are being covered by OHIP+. We're going to figure out how to accommodate this in our fees. Really students need to do some research about which prescriptions are being covered and which are not, as many basics are covered but many specialized drugs are not.

**Saleeb:** Are the fees that students pay going to change?

**Green:** They can't be changed in the middle of the year but they are definitely going to be getting reviewed for the next year.

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**8.0**

**Report – VP Student Services**

*VPSS, Ms. Wassink, presents report.*

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**9.0**

**Report – VP External Affairs**

*VPEA, Ms. Bathish, presents report.*

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**10.0**

**Report – VP Finance & Administration**

*VPFA, Mr. Hibma, presents report.*

**Verrier:** Just so people know why the 428 extension where it went into Queenston and the Secord Woods area, why didn't it come back?

**Green:** There was a route called the 128 that would run at night and it had very low ridership on it. It was one of the routes we had to cut. We put the 432 to cover the area at night due to concerns of safety.

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**11.0**

**Report – President**

*No report from Mr. Hejazi for this week.*

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**12.0**

**Close Question Period**

**Green:** To all the councilors, is anyone living in or around an area that is affected by the Winterberry bus change? Are any of your friends unhappy about the Winterberry bus route? We have one last chance to reach out to the city councilors to make them consider our side. If you know anyone who is dealing with this, get them to write into myself or Aidan.

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**13.0**

**Information and Reminders**

**Johnson:** I just wanted to say for the new Brock Health issue, it's just come out and it's very impressive. I encourage everyone to read it.

**Wassink:** I forgot to say one thing in my report, we're going to be posting for O-Week volunteers right after reading week. If you or your friends want to get involved, keep an eye out.

**Beaumont:** Reminder we have a meeting next week. If you happened to arrive late today, please come sign the attendance so we know you were here.

**Purkiss:** Just a reminder tomorrow is the retraining session tomorrow, please attend. Election packages come out Friday and close January 26<sup>th</sup>!

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:15pm**