

Brock University Students' Administrative Council



Meeting: 11

Date: February 15, 2017, 7:00 pm

Speaker: LOA

Deputy Speaker: Jeremy Steinhausen

Recording Secretary: Kaitlyn Daw

OVERVIEW

Opening Procedures

	Description
1 Call to Order	
2 Territorial Recognition	Administrative
3 Approval of the Agenda	Administrative
4 Adoption of the Minutes (Meeting 10)	Administrative
5 Open Question Period	Information
6 Notes from the Speaker	Administrative

Presentations

7 Club Referendum Presentation – (Nasser and Napper)	Information
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New Business

8 Referendum Petitions and Polls Oversight Committee Report	Action Item
9 Yes Side for Federal Advocacy Fee Referendum (Mover – Foster)	Action Item
10 Yes Side for Clubs Levy Referendum (Mover – Foster)	Action Item
11 Second Reading – Capital Fund By-Law (Mover – Sheikh)	Action Item

Reports

12 General Manager	Information
13 VP Student Services	Information
14 VP External Affairs	Information
15 President	Information

Question Period

16 Close Question Period
17 Information and Reminders

Adjournment

1.0

Call to Order

2.0

Territorial Recognition

3.0

Approval of the Agenda

BIRT BUSAC approves the agenda for the February 14, 2017 meeting.

Verrier, Barbon

-In favor

-Against

-Abstain

Passes by general consent

4.0

Adoption of the Minutes

BIRT BUSAC approves the February 1, 2017 minutes.

Verrier, Sheikh

-In favor

-Against

-Abstain

Passes by general consent

5.0

Open Question Period

6.0

Notes from the Speaker

7.0

Presentation – Club Referendum Presentation

Green: Do you have the budget so we can look at it?

Napper: Yes. As you can see, the main increases impacted by this proposed referendum are on the salary and clubs line.

Hollard: You mentioned something about a half day of training. Some clubs are ratified after the summer—will they have the opportunity to receive this kind of training as well?

Napper: A training schedule will be put together by the Clubs Manager, and all of those clubs who have been ratified will have the opportunity to sign up for whatever day works for them.

Sheikh: Does the half-day training replace the training that’s already in place?

Napper: This will be additional training that people can sign up for. There’s some disconnect between the clubs summit training, so this will hopefully help close the information gap.

Nasser: When the next executive transitions into my position, those administrative and training specifics are the little changes that we can make depending on what demands we see from the clubs.

Napper: We want to see more support from more than one part-time student staff managing over 100 clubs.

8.0

Referendum Petitions and Polls Oversight Committee Report

BIRT BUSAC approves the OPIRG referendum question and memorandum of understanding and sends it to referendum for the March election period.

Barbon, Verrier

10-In favor

0-Against

0-Abstain

BIRT BUSAC approves the clubs levy referendum question and memorandum of understanding and sends it to referendum for the March election period.
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Foster, Haidon

10-In favor 0-Against 0-Abstain

Verrier: Is this instead of sending CASA to referendum

Wood: It's not a membership question for CASA; we're questioning how we charge students and pay for this membership. Right now the money comes out of the Division One budget. If we had a fee that students paid into, then we would free up money in the budget to spend on other initiatives.

Verrier: So this would be to fund CASA?

Wood: Yes, it would be funding CASA and any associated costs for advocacy. It would free up about 60k annually from our operating budget to redirect to other initiatives.

Green: When we put BUSU into CASA, they could not apply the fee to students because any student fee needs to go to referendum for approval, as per our constitution. Council cannot levy a student fee without going to referendum.

Sheikh: I don't know if it's a good idea to run so many referendums at once.

Danaher: Yeah, a lot of students were asking about referendums this past week. A lot of people are voting no on them because they don't want to pay more money because they know more referendums are coming.

Wood: A lot of our programs and services are currently underfunded and we're playing catch up this year. That's why there are so many referendums at the moment. Other schools are increasing their fees for refugee students as well, and we've received a lot of positive feedback with this referendum. Ideally some of these referendums should have happened in previous years already.

Danaher: I feel like when I explain it to people they understand, but their initial thoughts are "more money."

Nasser: To elaborate on the clubs referendum, the budget was initially made to sustain 60-70 clubs. As council has seen, we've run into a lot of issues with clubs funding where we run out of money by the second semester. Clubs funding should have been changed years ago, and it is our responsibility as an executive team to not pass this problem on to the other executives next year. We don't have control over the St. Catharines Transit system increasing their fees. We believe that students should know where their money is going.

Foster: We've taken on a lot this year. It's rare that this many referendums are taken on at once, but it's important to convey to your constituents why these are worthwhile causes.

Green: In our system, every fee that we have is listed as a separate fee. Most other institutions have a lumped activity fee that students pay into, but we have a ton of different smaller fees. Several of these MOUs were set up a long time ago,

and we're now trying to put in protections by going 5% or 1% above contract rates to avoid going back to referendum. By having to go to students to increase costs, we're increasing transparency. Unfortunately voter fatigue will and does happen, and I think BrockTV was a victim of that last semester.

Verrier: What is the fee amount for the Federal Advocacy referendum?

Wood: It's 70 cents per credit.

BIRT BUSAC approves the Federal Advocacy referendum question and memorandum of understanding and sends it to referendum for the March election period.
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Danaher, Wood

8-In favor

1-Against

0-Abstain

9.0

Yes Side – Federal Advocacy Fee Referendum

BIRT the Brock University Students' Union be permitted to run the "YES" side Campaign Team of the Federal Advocacy Fee Referendum, pursuant to section 5 of By-law 401, the "Referenda Bylaw".
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BIFRT Julia Wood, the Vice President of External Affairs, be directed to act as the chair of "YES" side Campaign Team of the Federal Advocacy Fee, March 2017 Referendum, pursuant to section 5 of By-law 401, the "Referenda By-Law"

Foster, Verrier

9-In favor

1-Against

0-Abstain

10.0

Yes Side – Clubs Levy Referendum

BIRT the Brock University Students' Union be permitted to run the "YES" side Campaign Team of the Clubs Levy Referendum, pursuant to section 5 of By-law 401, the "Referenda By-law".

BIFRT Jad Nasser; the Vice president of Student Services, be directed to act as the chair of "YES" side Campaign Team of the Clubs Levy, March 2017 Referendum, pursuant to section 5 of By-law 401, the "Referenda By-Law".

BIFRT Faisal Hejazi, the Vice President of Finance and Administration, be permitted to be on the "YES" side Campaign Team of the Clubs Levy, March 2017 Referendum, without having to take a leave of absence.

Foster, Barbon

10-In favor
0-Against
0-Abstain

BIRT Patrick Foster; the President, be directed to act as the chair of "YES" side Campaign Team of the OPIRG referendum, March 2017 Referendum, pursuant to section 5 of By-law 401, the "Referenda By-Law".

Foster, Berryman

10-In favor
0-Against
0-Abstain

11.0

Second Reading – Capital Fund By-Law

Green: Nothing has changed since the first reading.

BIRT BUSAC approves the changes to Bylaw 105 (Capital Fund Bylaw) in its second reading.
Sheikh, Haidon

9-In favor
0-Against
1-Abstain

12.0

Report - General Manager

13.0

Report – VP Student Services

14.0

Report – VP External Affairs

15.0

Report – President

16.0

Closed Question Period

17.0

Information and Reminders

Green: Let your constituents know that there will be a number of BUSU postings that will be on there until March. There are some new positions on there as well (including political positions ideal for Political Science students). Thank you to Harris and Brandon for standing in on the Board during this election period.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Verrier, Barbon

Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.