

Brock University Students' Administrative Council



Meeting: 9

Date: January 18, 2017, 7:00pm

Speaker: Istafa Sufi

Deputy Speaker: Jeremy Steinhausen

Recording Secretary: Kaitlyn Daw

OVERVIEW

Opening Procedures

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2 Territorial Recognition	Administrative
3 Approval of the Agenda	Administrative
4 Adoption of the Minutes (Meeting 8)	Administrative
5 Open Question Period	Information
6 Notes from the Speaker	Administrative

Presentations

7 Club Funding Presentation – KIN Games	Information
8 Club Funding Presentation – Model U.N.	Information

New Business

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10 Clubs Levy Referendum (Mover – Nasser)	Action Item
11 OPIRG Referendum	Action Item
12 Yes side for Transit Referendum (Mover – Hejazi)	Action Item
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14 Capital Request for Holding Cabinet at Harvey's (Mover – Hejazi)	Action Item
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Adjournment

1.0

Call to Order

2.0

Territorial Recognition

3.0

Approval of the Agenda

BIRT BUSAC approves the agenda for the January 18, 2017 meeting.
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Calder, Sehgal

-In favor

-Against

-Abstain

Passes by general consent.

4.0

Adoption of the Minutes

BIRT BUSAC approves the November 30, 2016 minutes.
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Stark, Cousins

-In favor

-Against

-Abstain

Passes by general consent.

5.0

Open Question Period

6.0

Notes from the Speaker

Welcome back everyone. I hope you all had a great holiday break. As you know, we will soon be entering the election period so if you are planning to take a leave of absence because you will be running or part of a campaign team, please let Jeremy, the Chief Returning Officer, know by next Friday at 4:00 p.m.

Make sure you promote the elections to your constituents.

Total membership present is 22 which means 50% +1 vote is 12 and 2/3 majority vote is 14.

7.0

Presentation – Club Funding Presentation (Brock Kin Games)

8.0

Presentation – Club Funding Presentation (Model U.N.)

Foster: Do you know how much money you would save if you got a hotel in New York or New Jersey? I only ask because on my high school trip we went to New Jersey and coordinated a bus and were able to save a lot of money that way.

NMUN: That's a fantastic idea and we did look into that. There's a faculty advisor in the Political Science department who will be travelling with us. The hotel charges a \$50 USD fee if you don't stay in the hotel for them, which is actually a lot worse after the exchange rate. With that being said, the problem with booking hotels separate is that cab fares in New York are scattered. For example, last year one started at forty cents and another started a \$3.50. In terms of the bus and subway routes, anything in Times Square was actually more than the hotel rooms at the conference and there were none that matched the schedule to have the delegates arrive on time at 8:30 in the morning. Our biggest concern was safety for our delegates walking late at night. We've done everything to find the cheapest hotel though.

Tonyclinton: What is the delegate fee?

NMUN: Every delegate is charged a fee to compete in the competition, which is \$139 each. The Political Science school registration fee is \$200 and we need another \$1000 just to hold the six hotel rooms. There are three separate fees you need to pay to hold your country's spot in the competition.

Hejazi: It's nice to see the department is contributing to this. I'm just wondering if this is the first year they've done this?

NMUN: I approached them this year because they suggested 2 people to a room and I thought how ridiculously expensive that would be. I told them they had a great idea and I understand where they're coming from, but unless they contribute some of the costs I don't see how we'll even be able to consider it. Unfortunately the department doesn't have enough funding left to give to the club, but they are

covering the cost to send a professor along with us. They provided \$264.01 to help us hold our spot.

Nasser: You're the only university chapter from Ontario, Canada that goes to New York. With the way the dollar is, would you consider doing the Model U.N. conferences that are hosted here in Canada?

NMUN: We had actually been asked to attend Japan this year, which we immediately scrapped because it was way too out of proportion. By the time we registered our non-refundable deposit we received a lot of emails. A few of us went to represent in Scarborough and awards were received for our efforts. There is one hosted in Ottawa, which we will definitely look into for next year. Unfortunately, though, this one [in New York] is the largest and most prestigious of them all and it's the one that really gives students the best networking opportunities for their future. We're also starting to build a name for ourselves internationally there. If the dollar continues to plummet we will get to the point where we won't really have a choice but to stay inside Canada though, despite the benefits of attending the conference in New York.

Green: How many nights are you staying in New York?

NMUN: We're staying in New York for 5 nights.

Green: I have two questions for you. Looking at the budget, you have a hotel down payment of \$1320.05, and a room fee of \$12,160. Doing the math, all of those numbers equal \$28,228. But the hotel will lump the deposit in your actual cost of the hotel room, so I'm not sure if the math is right. Is that \$1320 part of the \$12,160 double counted in the revenue and expenses? They won't charge the deposit; that will be lumped into the final bill at the end of the conference.

NMUN: We had a problem with the cheque, they didn't give us any information about that.

Green: I also have a little bit of concern about the raffle draw. You're charging \$5 a ticket, or \$10 for 3 tickets, and you're giving out prizes. So to do that in Ontario you have to have a lottery license; it's illegal to do without one. Have you obtained a license for that?

NMUN: I discussed it with the OLG board and they said that you only need one for a Stag and Doe.

Green: Before you print your tickets make sure you check with the City of St. Catharines about a lottery license because you may need to include a license number on the tickets. Especially if you're going to raise \$3000—there are regulations for that.

Calder: How much did you have committed to this conference before you knew about other conferences?

NMUN: At that point we registered at the hotel for the \$264.01 that was non refundable.

Nasser: You guys know this is a prestigious and very costly event. Why haven't you done any major fundraising or sponsor outreach to help?

NMUN: In our constitution there are actually companies listed that we aren't allowed to approach. We do have plans for the delegates to approach various banks in the area for donations or sponsorships. We have definitely put thought into it, we've just been making sure that everything is done correctly and in line with our constitution; it just hasn't been done yet.

Sheikh: This is the second conference you're going to this year?

NMUN: We paid for the first one completely out of our own pockets. We just did it because we thought it was a great, worthwhile experience. It was especially helpful in terms of practice for people who haven't done one before.

Sheikh: How much did that one cost?

NMUN: We had two female delegates and three male delegates, so there were two separate rooms. The room was \$479 and food cost per person was approximately \$150. The Vice-President and I drove down so gas was roughly \$50. We drove to and from the university to the hotel, which cost about \$100 over the weekend to fill up. The only other cost was about \$20 in parking that wasn't covered. We only stayed two nights and it was cheaper because it was in Canadian dollars, too.

Hejazi: How many people went last year?

NMUN: 12.

Hejazi: I thought there were 19?

NMUN: There was, but the number dropped because there wasn't enough funding and people couldn't afford to go which raised the cost up to \$860 for every delegate, excluding food. This year we crunched the numbers and we've already taken a \$150 non-refundable down deposit from students that got sent to pay for the hotel (\$1325.05). With zero fundraising from everything, the students will still owe \$920.20, which is way too much money. A lot of them have already expressed concerns that if it's over \$700 they'll unfortunately have to drop out, which is what we're trying to avoid.

Hejazi: Do you know why so many students backed out after paying the deposit last year?

NMUN: None of us were executives so I'm not sure why, all I know is that students from the 19 delegates last year dropped out after the non-refundable was paid for reasons unknown to us.

Foster: Did the past executives give you any information?

NMUN: They just provided me with the constitution and told us to make sure that we fundraise because there was no fundraising done last year. Being a member of the team and having to pay that much more money at the end was really difficult. We want to make sure that we came up with a raffle fundraiser that would help with these costs.

Hejazi: It's such an important conference and so expensive, there are so many ways that you guys can fundraise. I understand that everyone is busy, but for next year if you guys are around there are many BUSAC councilors that would be

happy to brainstorm ideas with you, like car washes. There's a lot of money out there that you guys could be using. It's unfortunate that this conference is so expensive, but it's crucial for your experiential learning.

NMUN: We came up with the car wash idea after we were already into winter and there have been a few other ideas that we've had to scrap for various reasons. We've also talked to Boston Pizza about a fundraising dinner, so there are ideas and we're looking into different options.

Nasser: What's the date for this again?

NMUN: We leave March 18 and we're in a hotel from the 19th to the 23rd and we return on March 24.

Nasser: What about their courses?

NMUN: All delegates have been informed to make sure their professors and TA's are made aware of their absence for this week that we're away for the conference. Last year we were gone a week during school and it wasn't an issue, professors just asked that assignments be submitted before the trip or extensions were provided.

Nasser: Is the majority of your team political science students?

NMUN: Not really, we actually have quite a range this year. We have a student studying Microbiology, students in social sciences, some philosophy students and English Majors, so it's actually a very diverse group of delegates this year.

Hall: Students in the Political Science class, do you get a subsidy for doing this?

NMUN: No, we still pay the full credit of the class. When writing your position paper that's due March 1, you hang onto it and write a separate paper explaining Germany's position on it.

Cousins: How long have you known about this conference?

NMUN: I got an email last year which is why I tried out for the team and became President, and we've been working with CPC since September. The problem was that all of the costs were raised this year in comparison to last year.

9.0

Clubs Policy Committee Report

BIRT BUSAC approves \$5000.00 as a grant for the Kinesiology Games (KIN Games) Club from Clubs Funding.

Nasser, Calder

-In favor
-Against
-Abstain

Motion to amend from 1a to the recommendation (1b) as presented in the Clubs Policy Committee Report.

Calder, Berryman

Nasser: We decided we would cover one quarter of the delegate fees (total of \$2750).

Hall: Why did you decide on \$2750 instead of the original \$5000 that was requested?

Nasser: We have a reserve that we can go into, in which we took out \$15,000. That is our budget for this semester. As you know, Brock Musical Theatre's (BMT) show is in February, where about \$13,000 is likely to come back and be returned to CPC's budget and the reserve. The idea is that in the end we'll only actually use about \$2000-\$3000 from our reserve. There are clubs still ratifying and planning to come to CPC for funding so we need to take all clubs into consideration. It's not at all because the request wasn't reasonable or prepared well, we just have to consider the other clubs who haven't received funding yet which is why we recommended reducing the ask.

Tonyclinton: How much do we have left in the clubs budget?

Nasser: I explained the \$15,000 part from our contingency reserve we tapped into. \$5,387.82 is left until loans are paid back. We have roughly \$20,000 to start this semester with the money from the reserve, and we have about 10-15 clubs lined up to meet with CPC so far aside from the clubs who presented today.

22-In favor 0-Against 2-Abstain

Motion passes.

BIRT BUSAC approves \$2750.00 as a grant for the Kinesiology Games (KIN Games) Club from Clubs Funding.

Nasser, Stark

23-In favor 0-Against 0-Abstain

BIRT BUSAC approves \$8000.00 as a grant for the Model U.N. Club from Clubs Funding.
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Nasser, Verrier

-In favor -Against -Abstain

Motion to amend the amount to \$4000.

Verrier, Tonyclinton

Verrier: Last year the club didn't really get any funding, so taking that into consideration I think it would be reasonable to give them half of what they're asking for. The hotel they're staying at is the one being offered to them by the United Nations conference. There was the point made last year about safety, which is necessary when taking students from our university to a foreign country. The \$4000 would be a good stepping-stone, and if they put a little more effort into fundraising I think they would be able to get the rest of the money on their own. With the recommended \$1700 I can see a similar situation happening like last year where students won't be able to afford to go. They went from 20 delegates to 12 and it really is an incredible experience.

Danaher: So the only reason we're giving them that amount of money is compared to KIN Games they've done a lot of fundraising, where Model U.N. didn't really do any fundraising. We don't have a lot of funding left and we have to stretch it out for other clubs, so that was the rationale behind the recommendation.

Foster: I would just like some clarification in regards to Verrier's earlier statement. Did the club actually not receive funding last year?

Speaker: They did receive funding last year.

Green: On the January 9 meeting, BUSAC approved \$4240 almost unanimously for the Model U.N. club for a grant. There were 0 against it, named abstentions were Hobbs, Sergi, Budgeon, Banava, Fuller, Irlandost. Last year at the time that they received the \$4240, there was still \$15000 left in the clubs budget, so there was still plenty of money left at that time.

Berryman: The idea that 'last year we gave them a lack of funding because CPC wasn't in a place to give them money so we should give them funding this year' is not good procedure for BUSAC to make because then we're not giving CPC the power to give further funding to the rest of the clubs. We have 10-15 clubs lined up already and a limited budget.

Nasser: In CPC, we break down the budget and look for what we generally pay for and what we don't pay; we try to be as consistent as possible with delegate fees, transportation, and hotels within reason. We realize that we are responsible for all clubs and we want to have funding for all of them. CPC has to take into consideration that Model U.N. is not in Canada, that the Canadian dollar is not

doing well, that this is a very costly conference, that they've been part of this club years before and have attended this conference so it's something they're aware of. The first thing we mention at the club summit is we encourage everyone to fundraise and seek sponsorships wherever they can. We are more than willing to help the students when we see them helping themselves. I also want to say that we can't just base it off cutting a budget in half and/or because of what happened last year. That's not a proper way of going about things, especially when we need to ensure the dollars are being allocated properly.

Hall: I think everyone has fantastic points here. I think one thing we have to keep in mind here is the magnitude of this event and the way they are representing our university. When we receive the loan back from BMT we should be near what we were last year when we approved them for \$4000. I don't think \$1700 will be enough to fund this club to go back to New York.

Rieger: I think everyone is having mixed emotions about this club. Just as they mentioned wanting to start with a blank slate I think we should also start with a blank slate. I think we should disregard what happened last year and focus on what is happening right now. Sadly we do not have enough funding to give this club. If we give them \$1700, and they do their funding by themselves, they'll be paying \$746 each. That is enough money to actually go and fund themselves. The first time I went I had to pay around \$900. The second time I had to pay around \$800. I feel like they can manage with the money recommended by CPC.

Tonyclinton: Is this their first time?

Speaker: They've been doing this several times.

Hejazi: I want to echo the comments that we shouldn't compare clubs from one year to another because there are new members and overlapping members. The overarching issue here is the amount of funding we currently have for clubs is a major problem, as it always is. Hopefully if this referendum runs in March, I want you guys to tell your friends to vote yes for it because it is extremely necessary. I'm sure everyone in this room would love to fund this initiative, but there's only a certain amount of money that we have to deal with and once you reach zero, you reach zero.

Calder: The way CPC does funding is we wait until they give us a receipt and then we give them cash in exchange for that receipt. If their transportation costs actually increase we will know exactly how much it cost them when we get the receipt back.

Nasser: I want to clarify that we have nothing against the club or any grudges from last year. For every club, especially over the \$5000 mark, we look for funding. There are so many other clubs raising funds and we like to help them out when they need it, but as you all know we only have \$66,000 in clubs budget for the year and 116 clubs and still more that are ratifying. That means each club gets

a maximum of a little over \$500. If one club comes for \$1000 that means another club isn't getting funded. If a club comes asking for \$4000, \$5000, or more, you can do the math to figure out what that means for other clubs. It is our obligation to keep all clubs in mind, it has nothing to do with the club itself. This is probably the most prestigious conference we will see come to BUSAC. It's a great way to represent Brock and it's fantastic that we're the only school representing Ontario. At the same time though, I am concerned that if this is something we can't afford then we should resort to other options within Canada (due to the exchange rate) that's in our budget. If you're putting on an event like this you should be going out of your way to raise funds and find sponsorships to make it affordable. You must fundraise in order to go to these kinds of conferences.

Call to question

Banava, Hall

16-In favor 4-Against 3-Abstain

Motion fails.

Verrier: A lot of the conversation is about how there's not a lot of funding left. If this club had sent their request before BMT they would have gotten their funding. If we had the money from BMT, this club, assumingly, would get \$4000. Is it ethical that we are not approving \$4000 when we approved \$16,000 for BMT?

Green: I'm sitting in the same Chamber as Mr. Verrier, and I think he's slightly misunderstanding the conversation. There have been some people who have talked about the funding issues, but the majority of people who have talked about it have referred to the \$3600 is projected in fundraising but only \$264 has been for a total expense item that is \$20,000—or about \$18,000 minus the deposit for the hotel. I think some of the major concerns that I'm hearing from the room is that only \$264 has been raised out of the \$20,000 to date. To say that the room is in an ethical quandary is fairly misguided. I think he's hung up on that issue and that's not the issue right now. The other issue is that when we have a loan for a club, it's not the same as funding a grant. That money is expected to come back. It's an arrangement that they are going to sell tickets and they will bring back a portion, hopefully all that was given, as a revenue. A loan and a grant are very, very different. CPC has shown you that there is \$15,000 available to spend, so in theory there is money to spend. The same amount available now is the same amount as last year, the only difference is that they're a week later. The original ask last year was for \$10,000 on January 9, 2016. Mr. Verrier was on the motion to amend it down to the amount that was recorded in the minutes. When we talk about history on Council, we have published minutes for a reason. I have concerns about the projected revenues, I'm 90% sure they're going to need a raffle license. \$3,000 on a raffle draw, depending on the prizes, is pretty aggressive. If they can do it that's great, but I think it's going to be a little harder

than expected. If they don't come through on that \$3,000 revenue, the club is going to have a funding gap for themselves. I think there's a lot to be considered here. It's a great cause, but the planning has to happen properly. When you compare a group like this to BMT, who has a full on business plan and partners, rental agreements, contracts, and employees, I don't think it's fair to compare the two because the product they're selling is completely different.

Cousins: I was listening to Model U.N. speak and they said the price per student was around \$900+ without any help. They also said their delegates wouldn't be able to pay if it was more than \$700. I'm wondering if there's a way the club can shuffle their budget around to make it that way, or if they have done this already. I'm just wondering if there's a happy medium we can reach.

Verrier (Foster passes his second speaking turn): I would like to apologize for the mix up. We denied the funding at the first meeting, and approved it at a later meeting [last year], which I somehow forgot. I'd like to apologize for that. I do believe it would be a good idea to renegotiate the amount of money that this club would need per delegate. Since this is not until March, I would prefer to wait two weeks until the club can meet with CPC again to renegotiate their ask. I don't think it will make that much of a difference for the club to not have that money for another two weeks.

Motion to call to question

Tonyclinton, Danaher

21-In favor 2-Against 3-Abstain

Motion to call to question passes.

Motion to amend: BIRT BUSAC approves \$4000.00 as a grant for the Model U.N. Club from Clubs Funding.
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Verrier, Tonyclinton

6-In favor (Verrier) 10-Against (Danaher) 7-Abstain

Motion fails.

Sheikh: I don't think we should be working off of assumptions, rather we should be working off of demonstrations.

Motion to amend to "BIRT BUSAC approves \$2603 as a grant for the Model U.N. Club from Clubs Funding."

Nasser, Calder

Sheikh: Could you explain the reasoning behind the motion?

Nasser: The reasoning is because the transportation costs have increased, so we will approve up to \$2603 after we receive receipts.

21-In favor (Verrier) 0-Against 1-Abstain

Motion to amend passes.

Danaher: They also have two months to fundraise to for the trip since it's in March. So whatever we don't cover, they have time to make up for.

Stark: If it's \$920 per person, I just did some quick math. \$920 for 20 people is about \$15,000 (subtracting the 2700), which will make it to about \$785 per person.

Public (Verrier passes speaking turn): The \$920 is on top of the \$150 they have already given us. After crunching numbers I must tell you that there will still be ample people dropping out of the conference because of the price.

Public (Haidon passes speaking turn): The transportation was updated because that's the only bus that will transport us to New York City. We had no control over the price change.

Calder: This number would have been within the sweet spot of what the members can pay. There's some responsibility in choosing to participate in a larger scale conference and it will cost more money. That's the reality of the situation.

Danaher: I'm just thinking, if it's in March they have the rest of winter and spring to fundraise.

Public (Banava passes speaking turn): Team members have paid \$150 as a down deposit as a strategy to discourage people from dropping out, as was the case last year. If the current motion were to pass, members would have to pay \$790 on top of the \$150 they've already paid, which would bring the total of their trip to \$940. Just so everyone is clear, that is what is on the table right now.

Sheikh: It seems like the main barrier for fundraising for this club is the belief that you can't start fundraising until the tryouts are over, but there are multiple ways to alleviate that. One suggestion is they can start fundraising in the summer.

Public (Verrier passes speaking turn): The problem with running summer tryouts is that it discourages first year students who start in September. We weren't given

money from previous years, so we started from nothing and no information to go off of.

Nasser: We understand that there are a lot of issues we see with previous executives. We actually take each club as if it's their first year coming in. That's why we have the clubs summit and we encourage every single club to fundraise. You know what your expenses are roughly going to be. You started as a club in September and have from then until now to start fundraising like every other club. You shouldn't wait a month, week, or until after an event to raise funds because that just doesn't work. We understand how prestigious this is and that you're representing us, but at the same time you have limited funds to allocate which is why we suggested attending the Canadian conferences instead that were more affordable. If you choose New York, then you realize there is a greater responsibility to raise money and you should take that responsibility on. We cannot do that for you and fund other clubs as well. We don't want to discourage you guys, but as Ms. Rieger mentioned when she first went they were paying over \$900 out of pocket to attend. This is pretty standard with past experiences. If you want it to cost less, you must fund it through sponsorship and/or fundraising. We reiterate this every year.

Public (Foster passes speaking turn): Please understand that this year we weren't told anything. We had a meeting with CPC in September and it was rescheduled on us. We waited so long to find the best fundraiser for our club. I know it seems like we're doing this so late, but please understand that it's because it was so carefully thought out, especially because we had nothing from the year before.

Rieger: I don't think we should be blaming executives. I am a founding member and the first time that we went we paid everything out of pocket. \$900 was the expenses, not even including food, transportation, or anything else we wanted to buy in New York City. In the second year, the same thing happened. We lent money to other students who didn't have enough money to go, which is why on the third year there wasn't much communication on what should we do for funding because we had the privilege of having people who were able to cover the cost. We know this is a very privileged thing to go to, and when you are committing yourself to go to this thing you need to have money.

Nasser: I just want to clarify that the CPC request came on November 18 and we had to cancel in December, so it wasn't in September.

Verrier (Stark passes speaking turn): What is the bare minimum BUSAC would have to give the club to allow all delegates to go on the trip?

Speaker: I will need some time to get this back to you.

Stark: If it means this much to go and it's this prestigious; I don't understand what the difference of \$100 is. You can work 10 hours to make more money or pick up leaves or something.

Motion for 10-minute recess.

Verrier, Haidon

Speaker: As per your request Mr. Verrier, the total is \$7400. If you would like Ms. Napper, you may explain a bit more as to where the number is coming from.

Napper: The club is aiming to get their per person cost to \$700. The \$7400 for their delegates comes to \$370, which is \$700 plus \$370 for the total of \$1070 per delegate. So to answer your question, in order for all of the delegates to go, BUSAC would have to grant \$7400 and all 20 delegates would have to pay \$700.

Verrier: Mr. Speaker, could you ask the club what the cost of the delegate fee would be please?

Green: The delegate fee in the budget is \$3564.13.

Cousins: What would the implications be, according to CPC, if we were to grant the \$7400 required to send all delegates to this conference?

Calder: We have just around \$20,000 left including the \$15,000 reserve, which we ideally do not want to spend all of. If we give them \$7400 we would have about half left after the approved funding to KIN Games tonight.

Green: They have 20 delegates going, and I believe they mentioned the minimum number of delegates needed to represent Germany [14]. Is every country different?

Speaker: Yes.

Green: So if they took the minimum to the conference they would need \$5180, but if they take the 20 they need \$7400?

Speaker: If they take less than the minimum then I believe there is a penalty.

Public: If you bring 14 there is no penalty, however the only setback is that you will not be able to participate in all of the committees representing Germany and won't be able to reach the top percentile.

Verrier (Campbell passes speaking turn): Given that the amount required would be \$3564.60, would it be friendly to the original mover to amend to that amount?

Green: You would have to vote down the original amendment and motion to amend with the new amount.

BIRT BUSAC approves \$2603.00 as a grant for the Model U.N. Club from Clubs Funding.
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Nasser, Calder

17-In favor 3-Against (Verrier) 3-Abstain

Motion passes.

Clubs Levy Referendum

Nasser: Very rarely do you see a club coming in asking for \$600, and \$66,000 for 116+ clubs is not working. This referendum should have happened previous years as we continuously encourage students to find their passion and create clubs. That's one of the main reasons why we have to change our Clubs Levy and that's why we'll be running this referendum.

Gate: Referendum or not, we kind of brought this issue on ourselves. Last semester we approved a lot of money to clubs that came in asking for it. Yeah, it would be nice if we had more money but I feel like we'll keep running into this issue.

Calder: I don't think we have a problem on CPC. The reason this referendum is needed is because the number of clubs requiring funding has substantially increased since this Levy was first implemented. If clubs are growing they're attracting more people, which means bigger events and more costs. I would disagree; it's not a mismanagement issue as it is an actual issue of lack of funding itself.

Danaher: Our clubs are growing every single year. For example, this semester alone there is a sign language club, coupon club, there are new clubs every year. This referendum is helping us cover our bases so we don't necessarily run into the same issues that we continuously run into with clubs like the Model U.N. club.

Green: One thing that I think a lot of people don't understand is the actual cost of administering the club program. We have the clubs coordinator, which is a student position, a director that oversees clubs, we have the insurance we hold on clubs because there are more and more risks with newer events, especially those including travel. We have clubs entering contractual agreements with performing arts centers. We pay almost \$90,000 a year in insurance as an organization and the two biggest expenses in that is having a bar and club risk management and liability, and those only increase. Over the last four years our insurance has gone up probably about \$20,000. Every time we don't have enough money on the backend to run these programs we have to take it from the money that could actually be going to student services.

BIRT BUSAC tasks the referendum petitions and polls oversight committee to meet with the YES side of the Clubs Levy Referendum to draft a question and memorandum of understanding for the March election period.

Nasser, Berryman

20-In favor 0-Against 1-Abstain

11.0**OPIRG Referendum**

Green: There is a master tracking list of fees to review on a schedule, and OPIRG is on that schedule this year. RILRC decides if they want to discuss it or send it to referendum. The SJC was also put up for referendum this year.

Speaker: OPIRG was not tasked for this year initially, but it was recommended last year that we wait two years instead of four moving ahead.

Smaiya: For the past few years OPIRG has been struggling, but now we have a functioning Board and are trying our best to move forward. We will have another meeting in March. I have no problem with it going to referendum, all I ask is that we have ample time to tell our side of the story.

BIRT BUSAC tasks the referendum petitions and polls oversight committee to meet with relevant stakeholders to draft a question and memorandum of understanding for the March election period for OPIRG.

Danaher, Campbell

19-In favor 0-Against 1-Abstain

12.0**Yes Side – Transit Referendum**

Hejazi: There isn't much discussion about this as most of you should know by now why we are doing this. The current standing of the fee is \$202.20 and it is estimated to increase to \$240. Chris and I presented to you in before the new year about why we have to do this.

Speaker: I can explain why there is this motion on hand. No matter what you vote on this, the fee will be going to referendum in the next election period, however, because it is going through BUSAC you can assign who leads the "YES" side.

This basically allows Mr. Nasser to continue to fulfill his duties as VPSS while also chairing the “YES” side of the campaign.

BIRT the Brock University Students’ Union be permitted to run the “YES” side Campaign Team of the Universal Bus Pass Referendum, pursuant to section 5 of By-law 401, the “Referenda Bylaw”

BIFRT Jad Nasser, the Vice-President of the Student Services; be directed to act as the chair of “YES” side Campaign Team of the Universal Bus Pass, February 2017 Referendum, pursuant to section 5 of By-law 401, the “Referenda By-Law”.

Hejazi, Banava

20-In favor
0-Against
0-Abstain

13.0

“YES” Side – SJC/WUSC Referendum

BIRT the Brock University Students’ Union be permitted to run the “YES” side Campaign Team of the SJC-WUSC Levy Referendum, pursuant to section 5 of By-law 401, the “Referenda By-law”.

BIFRT Patrick Foster; the president of BUSU, be directed to act as the chair of “YES” side Campaign Team of the SJC-WUSC Levy, February 2017 Referendum, pursuant to section 5 of By-law 401, the “Referenda By-Law”.

BIFRT Julia Wood, the Vice President of External Affairs, be permitted to be on the “YES” side Campaign Team of the SJC-WUSC Levy, February 2017 Referendum, without having to take a leave of absence.

Hejazi, Haidon

-In favor
-Against
-Abstain

Passes by general consent.

14.0

Capital Request – Harvey’s

Green: We’re required to have a holding cabinet purchased from the franchise. We have \$38,000 remaining in the Capital Fund.

BIRT BUSAC approves the Capital Purchase Request for a holding cabinet in Harvey’s for up to \$4482.82 plus applicable taxes and shipping.
Hejazi, Berryman

-In favor
-Against
-Abstain

Passes by general consent.

15.0

Capital Request – Booster Juice

Green: The old fridge isn’t working properly and must be replaced to ensure that fresh fruits and veggies, as well as frozen products, are stored correctly.

BIRT BUSAC approves the Capital Purchase Request for an upright fridge in Booster Juice for up to \$1399.00 plus applicable taxes and shipping.
Hejazi, Stark

-In favor
-Against
-Abstain

Passes by general consent.

16.0

Leave of Absence for the Semester

17.0

Report - General Manager

Report – VP Student Services

Berryman: The two new microwaves on the top, could you explain those?

Nasser: The 4th floor of the Plaza building is a 24 hour work space so we brought two new microwaves to make it easier for students staying late into the night to heat up food or drinks while they're on campus.

Motion to open agenda.

Verrier, Smaiya

Verrier: I would like to look at funding again for Model U.N. Club. The \$2603 that was approved is intended to cover the transportation, but with the exchange rate this price is subject to change. We went from a recommendation of \$1700 to \$2603 in a short time, which shows that the fluctuation can happen at any time. I would like to offer 3564 for the delegate fee which will not change and will allow all of their delegates to go to this conference.

Nasser: The amount you want to change has already been changed, and that's after considering all of the issues you brought up. I don't think the dollar has changed that drastically since Monday, so the change seems a bit suspicious to me, but nonetheless I don't think the dollar will change so drastically that you will need an additional \$1000 on top of that.

Calder: If there was a situation where they had an emergency increase to the cost of their bus, could they present a receipt or invoice to us at CPC to have it covered?

Speaker: As long as it's under \$1500, yes.

Verrier: The motion that I was putting on the table was to give the club the amount that they need to cover their delegate fees which is set in stone and not subject to change. It would allow all delegates to attend.

5-In favor 10-Against 5-Abstain

Report – VP External Affairs

20.0

Report – VP Finance & Administration

21.0

Report – President

22.0

Closed Question Period

23.0

Information and Reminders

Hejazi: Remember that if you want to do the survey for the Presidential search, please visit this link: <https://brocku.ca/presidential-search/>

Green: For anyone that might be running for positions during this election period, our management team and myself always have our doors open so feel free to come talk to us. It's completely confidential so you're more than welcome to ask whatever questions you have.

Banava: On January 22, Brock Dance will be hosting their 8th annual benefit show at 7:00 p.m. You can purchase tickets online for \$20.

Speaker: If you're planning on running, please have your packages submitted by next Friday at 4:30 p.m. sharp. Also make sure you let the CRO know if you will be taking a leave of absence. It's very important because we need those three committees to continue functioning during the election period, so we want to ensure we temporarily elect people to fill any vacancies.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:07.