



Concordia Student Union - Council Of Representatives

CSU Regular Council Meeting

Wednesday, October 04, 2023

H-711 OR via Zoom, 18h30

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approval of Previous Minutes
- b) Chairperson's Report
- c) Executive Reports
- d) Ratification of Committee Reports

5. PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST SPEAKERS

6. APPOINTMENTS

- a) Appointments Committee (1)
- a) BIPOC Committee (3)
- b) Clubs & Spaces Committee (1)
- c) External Committee (1)
- d) Fee Levy Review Committee (1)
- e) Finance Committee (2)
- f) Loyola Committee (3)
- g) Mental Health Committee (4)
- h) Policy Committee (1)
- i) Student Life Committee (2)
- j) Sustainability Committee (3)
- k) Sustainability Action Fund (1)

7. NEW BUSINESS - SUBSTANTIVE

- a) Funding Approval for the Transitional Housing Process
- b) Appointments Committee Recommendations
- c) Annual Retreat Reschedule
- d) Consent Training Reschedule
- e) Temporary Membership to CSU Councilor
- f) Student Housing Summit

8. NEW BUSINESS – INFORMATIONAL

- a) Transfer of Student Information for the Purpose of Administering the Health and Dental Insurance Plan
- b) Class Action Lawsuit Regarding Student Health and Dental Insurance Plan c) CSU Student Centre Building

9. QUESTION PERIOD & BUSINESS ARISING

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT



Concordia Student Union - Council Of Representatives

CSU Regular Council Meeting

Wednesday, October 04, 2023

H-711 OR via Zoom, 18h30

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson calls meeting to order at 18h38

We would like to begin by acknowledging that Concordia University is located on unceded Indigenous lands. The Kanien'kehá:ka Nation is recognized as the custodians of the lands and waters on which we gather today. TiohEá:ke/Montreal is historically known as a gathering place for many First Nations. Today, it is home to a diverse population of Indigenous and other peoples. We respect the continued connections with the past, present, and future in our ongoing relationships with Indigenous and other peoples within the Montreal community.

2. ROLL CALL

Chairperson: Michelle Lam

Minute Keeper: Kyla Renee Jallow

Executives present for the meeting: Harley Martin (General Coordinator), Alexandrah Cardona (Academic and Advocacy Advisor) , Hannah Jackson (External Affairs and Mobilization Coordinator) , Kareem Rahaman (Finance Coordinator) , Christian Taboada (Internal Affairs Coordinator) , Tanou Bah (Student Life Coordinator) , Talya Diner (Loyola Coordinator), Maria Chitoroaga (Sustainability Coordinator)

Councilors present for the meeting: Adam Mills (Arts & Science), Salma Bannani Khir (Arts & Science), Sona T Sadio (Arts & Science), ,Riley Cooke (Arts and Science) , Moad Alhjooj (Arts & Science) , Michael Lecchino (John Molson School of Business)

Executives absent for the meeting: N/A

Councillors absent for this meeting were: Yanira Margarita Coulson (Arts & Science), Haru Noda (John Molson School of Business), Kareem Abdeen (Independent)

Harley Martin motions to excuse Nassim Boutalbi

Seconded by Riley Cooke

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Harley Martin motions to add Temporary Membership to CSU Council to agenda

Seconded by Riley Cooke

Motivation:

Harley Martin: The DNE came up and we need to address it as soon as possible.

Adam Mills motions to add Student Housing Summit to the agenda.

Seconded by Riley Cooke

Motivation:

Adam Mills: I want to inform council and get consent for it.

Hannah Jackson motions to approve the agenda.

Seconded by Kareem Rahaman

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Talya Diner and Hannah Jackson motion to have their Executive Reports included in the consent agenda

Seconded by Harley Martin

Talya Diner: Since we had our last RCM relatively recently, which included most of the stuff until mid-September, it was mostly the newest additions were mostly just like points about orientation activities, tabling that was done with CJLO at the Loyola campus and updating the Loyola schedule and some HR meetings and mental health committee meetings.

Hannah Jackson: If you would allow me to share my screen, Michelle, I can show my report extremely briefly. Yes, so basically in September report most of what I'm what I did was I worked pretty intensely in the **campaigns department** as the campaigns coordinator was absent. So I essentially took on the roles of the campaigns coordinator involving quite a lot of

campaigns assistant management and working to arrange the various events that we are going to be having in October and November. Continually managing the budget for these connected with SSMU and also connected with various Indigenous organizations in the city for putting together our Truth and Reconciliation Day statement. The statement was released, and I've confirmed the three dates of our November speaker series, which are coming along really well and also did a considerable amount of consultation about the new student care benefits.

Hannah Jackson: I would also like to motion at this time if counselors are not yet aware, there is deadline for submitting executive reports and we are penalized over \$100 if we miss this deadline. I am humbly requesting an excusal for this this financial penalty due to the fact that this RCM was moved very last minute and so I had planned for my executive report to be ready for the RCM that was going to be held next week. So I would just like council to consider waiving the penalty in only this case.

Chairperson: For context, council it is, 1.71 in the Policy of Executive Council and Committee, which reads, "Any executive who does not submit a report within the prescribed delays of five days prior to a meeting of council shall be deducted \$100 from their next paycheck. Council can waive the penalty for exceptional reasons by a majority vote, so Hannah is requesting that Council votes on this and if they deem exceptional reasons by majority votes, then they can have the \$100 penalty waived.

Chairperson goes into a vote:

Chairperson: By a majority vote the penalty has been waived.

Talya Diner motions to request their penalty waived

Seconded by Riley Cooke

Motivation:

Talya Diner: I did not realise the next RCM would be this week, and I lost my grandfather last week so I was out of town and unable to work on it in time.

Chairperson goes into a vote

Chairperson: All right, so by majority votes, the penalty has been waived.

Chairperson: And Alexandrah, I know you didn't have the opportunity to motion for this last time and your while your report was also late, so I'll give you the opportunity now should you decide.

Alexandrah Cardona motions to request that their penalty be waived

Seconded by Harley Martin

Alexandrah Cardona: I also submitted my report earlier in the week. I have been doing a lot of traveling for the CSU in the last two weeks as you guys have seen in my reports. It was

delivered two days before the regular meeting and it was one day before the traveling to Quebec City to lobby for the government. That is roughly what happened.

Chairperson calls on a vote

Chairperson: All right, so by majority votes, the penalty has been waived.

Harley Martin motions to prove approve all items under consent agenda

Seconded Kareem Rahaman

- a) Approval of Previous Minutes
- b) Chairperson's Report
- c) Executive Reports
- d) Ratification of Committee Reports

5. PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST SPEAKERS

6. APPOINTMENTS

- a) Appointments Committee (1)

Harley Martin: We have 10 applications process right now joining. We're doing training on Friday.

Chairperson: Are there any counselors interested in sitting on appointments committee?
If not this one will come back at the next meeting.

- a) BIPOC Committee (3)

Tanou Bah: Yes, BIPOC committee should be functional now after our student at large seats. Essentially we give out some funding to BIPOC students and groups, me and Christian are chairing it.

Chairperson: Are there any counselors interested in joining BIPOC committee?
If not, this one will also come back at the next meeting clubs.

- b) Clubs & Spaces Committee (1)

Christian Taboada: So we approved clubs budgets, we agree with the clubs that are part of Concoridia and we approve new constitution and changes that are made.

Chairperson: Are there any counselors interested in sitting on clubs and spaces, if not this one will come back.

- c) External Committee (1)

Hannah Jackson: The external committee mostly dispenses funding to organizations both in the Concordia community and out of the Concordia community. I find it's a very fun sort of low pressure community and the people who get funding from us really, it really makes a difference.

Chairperson: Are there any counselors interested in joining external committee? If not, we'll move on to fee levy review committee with one open seat.

d) Fee Levy Review Committee (1)

Kareem Rahaman : Pretty much just as it sounds, we review the fee levy applications.

It's not a crazy amount of work, it's just sort of document review. It's a super chill committee except for like maybe once or twice in the year and they will probably convene Max four times for the year just for the 2 elections. So if you're interested, come check it out.

Chairperson: Are there any counselors interested in sitting on fee levy review committee?

e) Finance Committee (2)

Kareem Rahaman: Essentially we review all almost all expenses that are over \$10K plus asset purchases and projects that pass through the CSU and the committee is functional as it is with the students at large. So if you're interested in knowing and having a say in where the money is being spent, then highly recommend you join.

Chairperson: Are there any counselors interested? If not, we'll move into Loyola committee with three open seats.

f) Loyola Committee (3)

Talya Diner: We're functional. We get to decide things about Loyola and give out bursaries or grants specifically to Loyola based projects.

Talya Diner motions to appoint Sona Sadio to Loyola Committee

Seconded by Harley Martin

Motivation

Sona Sadio: The position needs to be filled and I have an understanding of the things that go on at Loyola.

g) Mental Health Committee (4)

Talya Diner: Yes, this is a really super important committee. We need to be deciding what service providers will be providing the mental health services at the campus per our fee-levy that we passed last year and this is like super integral service to be offered. So it would be great to have somebody join so that we could be functional

Riley Cooke motions their nomination to the Mental Health Committee

Seconded by Harley Martin

Motivation: I sat on it last mandate and it was a nice committee to be a part of as it impacts student mental health

Harley Martin motions to appoint Riley to Mental Health Committee

Seconded by Christian Taboada

h) Policy Committee (1)

Alexandrah Cardona: If you care about how the CSU operates and either you want to see change and how it operates or you want to help enforce how it operates or you want to discuss anything in between, this is the place for you.

Chairperson: Are there any counselors interested in joining Policy Committee? If not, this one will also come back.

i) Student Life Committee (2)

Tanou Bah: Yeah, student life is a great time. We're doing some funding for, student life initiatives. Maybe we'll plan an event or two, it's a fun committee.

Chairperson: Are there any counselors interested in sitting on student life? If not, we can move on to sustainability with three open seats.

j) Sustainability Committee (3)

Maria Chitoroaga motions to appoint Michael Lecchino

Seconded by

Motivation:

Michael Lecchino: I really enjoyed the work that I did last year with the committee.

And I think it really is a great way to provide certain students with the finance that they need and provide great infrastructure overall. So I am happy to contribute towards that.

Motions to appoint Michael Lecchino to the Sustainability Committee

Seconded by Christian Taboada

k) Sustainability Action Fund (1)

Maria Chitoroaga So I'm actively part of the committee, I don't chair it. We need a CSU counselor to join us to fill our two CSU seats. We meet up on a monthly basis and basically

the board meetings, it's just you get application presentations and you both decide whether or not you want to fund them. So yeah, join if you're interested.

Chairperson: So yes, are there any counselors interested in sitting on Sustainability Action Fund? If not, this will come back at the next meeting.

7. NEW BUSINESS - SUBSTANTIVE

a) Funding Approval for the Transitional Housing Process

Maria Chitoroaga: So as we all know the CSU purchased the student building 2 years ago and renovations were set to start in January 2024. And before renovations were set to start, we put forth the transitional housing pilot projects. The project was set to end initially on November 2nd. This is when the Housing Search Director's contract ends. So now we know that the renovations have been pushed back until September 2024, which gives us the opportunity to extend the project until August 2024. I would like to extend the project because it's been highly successful. However, my stability budget line only had enough to cover from mid-May to November. So as of right now I don't have the funds to continue it for another 10 months. Now we do have a grant writer who's been looking into grants for this project but because grant applications are very long winded and it takes a long time and I need an answer whether or not we can extend this project by November 2nd. But first of all I need to extend the contract of my employee and 2nd just for continuation sake so that I don't kickout tenants that are already in the apartments. So I would like to apply for SSAELC funding because it fits SSAELC's mission, it gives students bases and it helps with accessible education by providing housing for average students.

So success is within our first four months, we've got four members of the community that we've been able to house. We have in total three units that we've cleaned and furnished and been able to use. Then there's the housing search director that created a evaluation process and he's done that in collaboration with the HOJO department. We've got four ongoing cases under the management of the housing search director. Half of the people that have been housed have already moved out. So that means a successful rate because our projection was that they would stay for three months, but they actually ended up staying for shorter periods. One of them stayed just under three months and the other one just needed it for like half a month. So our projections like are even better than the affected. And the two other tenants that we have in the apartments right now are just new, they moved in a few weeks ago. So the average time to arrange for housing between the time that a student or a person would walk into HOJO looking for housing until the moment that they get to use the apartment is about two days, give or take. I would like to make the distinction that we've held so far, seven people and four of them have been housed. Three of them were actually just case management where they didn't necessarily need housing, but the housing search director is still met with them and helped them navigate their problems to obtain housing. Basically, 57% of our cases were situations where people could sleep momentarily or for a few weeks at a friend's house, and 43% were people that just didn't have any housing and they were sleeping in their car or at the library or just outside. 100% of the people that have used the

service are BIPOC. So this is great because we're directly helping the demographic of the people who we have prepared to house in the service, 60% have been students at Concordia. 40% we're not students but are student aged. 50% of that 40% I get like three people are interested in enrolling for Concordia. So it is directly Concordia's hemisphere, even though it's not all Concordia students that we've been able to help. So from the start, within the first week of us launching the transitional housing project, a student facing homelessness was housed. So that was literally just two days after we finished cleaning and furnishing the apartment. Then we've got six other cases of community members needing transitional housing have since emerged through HOJO, HOJO also anticipates an increase of need, as in walk-ins, as the semester progresses because less and less apartments are available on the market. There were more available in September than there are in October because students coming in in September tend to take most of what's available out there. And to date each unit has been filled immediately upon furnishing. Here's the intake process. I'm not going to go too much into it, but basically a student or a person that's at risk of homelessness would go and book an appointment with a hotel assistant. Then the HOJO assistant, filters them out. So if they see that their situation is very risky, then they would refer them to the housing search director and then the housing search director would look at their intake form and kind of talk with them and assess their situation. And based on their situation, that's how we decide whether or not we should give them housing.

So if a person is not accepted in in the unit that doesn't mean that we forfeit their rights to get help. The housing search directors still meets up with them and still tries to help. It just means that they probably weren't fit for the program or that we also look at the social aspects and we try to make sure that everybody coming in wouldn't pose a risk for anybody else.

So the first case study with the low income students in a situation of violence. They were held within a few days of their intake with the housing search director, they have since moved out. They have found an apartment in a second job. And this is just a few of the things that the housing search director has done for them.

The second case study is a mostly monolingual Palestinian refugees struggling with language and income barriers to jobs and housing. And I think this is the only person that is not in the Concordia hemisphere, Like they're middle-aged and have no plans of becoming a student. They're very warm, friendly and eager to stabilize your living situation. They've been housed within a week of reaching out to us. They're expected to find a job within the next two weeks and expected to find permanent housing within the next three months.

Case number three is a person of color with a disability, living in their car and holding a full time job. They weren't getting housing because of behavioral concerns and worries that they may not transition out of the housing, but they were assigned a housing search director as a part time caseworker, and the housing search director helped them with building a CV and finding a second job. And they taught them how to do laundry, connected them with the right services to get additional funding.

Case number four, is a student, again, a person of color, and a new migrant who was sleeping outside. They were given transitional housing within two days. We helped them with groceries and cooking, and the housing search director is helping them with the job search. I believe they're also pursuing like a driver's license full time. And so that will also help expand their job stretch once they're done.

Budget:

So if we do extend the project, I will call it phase two and basically what I need from SSAELC is up to \$30,000. Most of it is for the housing search director salary. They work up to 20 hours a week. The furniture and operation would be \$6000 and what we need the funding is let's say if somebody comes and they don't have enough money for food or for groceries or if they have like a special request, things like that, this is what we need that money for. So the total would be \$30,000, the first phase one. So the housing search director was assigned \$12,000 for their salary for furniture and operations I had \$5000. And now to furnish the three apartments, it was roughly \$3000 without couches. Because we didn't buy couches, we bought beds and mattresses. If we are to expand and have more apartments, I think that the couch situation is pretty easily fixable. We can get donations and stuff, but it takes about \$1000 to furnish an apartment. We also got a CCFL grant which was for the housing search director salary, which made my operation budget a bit higher. So I was able to really focus on furnishing the place and being able to provide food and all of the essentials. So the total for the first few months is \$23,000.

Maria Chitoroaga presents motion:

Whereas the Transitional Housing Pilot Project was set to end on November 2nd, 2023, and the Sustainability Initiatives budget has the capacity to only cover the expenses from June 2023 to November 2023;

Whereas the Student Building renovations have been pushed back to start in September 2024 as opposed to the original renovation start date in January 2024 thus giving the opportunity to continue the Transitional Housing Pilot Project for an additional 10 months;

Whereas the Sustainability Coordinator is looking and applying for external funding avenues;

Be it resolved that the Transitional Housing Pilot Project is funded through the SSAELC fund to ensure continuity of the project while alternative funding avenues are looked into;

Be it further resolved that if the alternative grant applications are rejected the Transitional Housing Pilot Project will continue to be funded through the SSAELC fund until its dissolution in August 2024.

The budgetary impact of the SSAELC fund would be up to 30 000\$ dollars. The budgetary impact is nil.

Seconded by Adam Mills

Hannah Jackson: I would also just like to say that what has been done with the transitional housing project is pretty exciting and pretty honestly unique in terms of what student unions are doing to actually substantially make a difference with students and precarious housing, which we know is getting much, much worse here.

Adam Mills: One last thing, if I may, I think it would also be great if we could probably bolster the positive news from Maria's report on CSU socials and whatnot to make people aware of this thing that I think we should all be very proud of Maria for doing.

Motion passes unanimously

b) Appointments Committee Recommendations

Harley Martin: We're just doing ones for Judicial Board and Senate, but we have about 10 applications that it stands right now to get through for CCSL and other positions.

Judicial Board:

Appointees: Juliette Weil and Rebecca Kaninda

We received two new applications for the Judicial Board and there are currently three open seats. The Appointments Committee chose to appoint Juliette Weil and Rebecca Kaninda. Each demonstrated knowledge of the role and a genuine commitment to the work of the Judicial Board. The members of the Appointments Committee felt both applicants met the requirements for the position and would be able to carry out the work of the Judicial Board.

University Senate:

Appointee: Marina Ghali

For the position of student senator, there are currently four open seats for students at large (and one open for Council). We received five applications, but only Marina submitted all the necessary documentation in time to be reviewed at this RCM. Marina previously served on the Senate as the ECA faculty representative. Due to this and other experience detailed by Marina, the members of the Appointments Committee believe that Marina has the capacity to carry out this role

Harley Martin motions to appoint Juliette Weil and Rebecca Kaninda to the CSU Judicial Board on the recommendation of the Appointments committee.

Seconded by Adam Mills

Harley Martin motions to appoint Marina Ghali to one of the student at large positions on the Senate on the recommendation of the appointments committee

Seconded by Adam Mills

Motions unanimously pass

c) Annual Retreat Reschedule

Christian Taboada motions to reschedule the council retreat

WHEREAS there is a lack of Councillors for the summer,

WHEREAS there was not quorum for multiple SCMs over the summer, WHEREAS there have is only 1/3 of a full Council,

WHEREAS the mandated trainings would not be taught to everyone; WHEREAS it is hard to get all of the Councillors in attendance,

WHEREAS 10.1 of the Policy on Executive, Council of Representatives, and Committees states that The Council Retreat shall be held annually before October 1st.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the annual retreat be held at a future date after the byelections, notwithstanding policy 10.1

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the budgetary impact is nil

Seconded by Harley Martin

Motivation:

Christian Taboada: We currently do not have enough councillors for the reinvestment of this councillor retreat, which purpose is for all the councillors to get to know each other for the year. However, I think it's the best fit if we do it after the by-elections and we're going to have new councillors and everyone can get to know each other for the rest of the academic year.

Motion passes unanimously

d) Consent Training Reschedule

Christian Taboada motions

WHEREAS there is a lack of Councillors for the summer,

WHEREAS there was not quorum for multiple SCMs over the summer, WHEREAS there have is only 1/3 of a full Council,

WHEREAS the mandated trainings would not be taught to everyone; WHEREAS it is hard to get all of the Councillors in attendance,

WHEREAS 2.2 of the Sexual Violence and Safer Spaces Policy states that

Councillors must complete three (3) hours of consent training by October 1st of their mandate. Councillors elected in by-elections must complete the same consent training prior to February 1st.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT consent training be held at a future date after the byelections, prior to February 1, 2024, notwithstanding policy 2.2

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the budgetary impact is nil

Seconded by Harley Martin

Motivation:

Christian Taboada: It seems kind of pointless to bring in professionals to train the council because we don't have a full council yet. So same thing was funny, after the by-elections, we're going to get some training and leading up to the council, retreat as it's been done in the previous years.

Maria Cholakova (The Link) Don't you think it would be beneficial for the part of the councillors that you have now to have a consent training for the work space?

Christian Taboada: The trainings that create kind of a sense of everyone is in the room and it also like the people that are in the room are getting the same information and are not being split into, but you can create a separation especially in the council that's supposed to be united.

Motion passes unanimously

e) Temporary Membership to CSU Councilor

Harley Martin: Students are members of this community up until the Fall DNE deadline, and then Michelle verifies that information to make sure we're all still students at the beginning deadline with the student's office. Councilor Sona had visa issues that are not their fault, that have made it so that they cannot register for classes this semester. It messed up their study permit. Meaning according to the university, Sona is not a student this semester and therefore not a member of the CSU. So what we'd like to do is grant temporary membership to Sona until this is resolved.

Harley Martin presents motion

Whereas clause 3.1 of the CSU Bylaws states that to be a member of the CSU an individual must be registered for a credit course or its equivalent;

Whereas Councilor Sona Sadio is no longer a member by this definition as the result of an error committed by the agency which processes student study visas and permits preventing Sona from registering for classes in the fall semester;

Whereas Sona will return to classes in the winter semester when the issue is resolved;
Whereas clause 3.5 of the CSU Bylaws allows the Council of Representatives, by a two-thirds majority vote, to grant temporary membership with full rights and privileges to an individual who is not a member due to exceptional circumstances outside of their control including visa problems unresolved because of government bureaucracy;

Be it resolved that the Council of Representatives grant Sona Sadio temporary CSU membership, with full rights and privileges, as specified in clause 3.5 of the CSU Bylaws;
The budgetary impact is nil.

Seconded by Maria Chitoroaga

Motion passes

f) Student Housing Summit

Adam Mills presents motion

Whereas the housing crisis in Canada is rapidly and increasingly affecting Montreal rents affecting affordability for students and the greater population

Whereas Governments of all levels, along with our higher education institutions have neglected to meet the crisis with the required concern and force.

Whereas the CSU has long been a leader in student movements and organizing

Be it resolved that CSU council endorse actions to convene a Montreal student housing summit in cooperation with various other Montreal student unions to drive awareness of the crisis, solicit expert advice, strategize with and bolster the student movement in Montreal, and deliver tangible courses of action to ourselves, our institutions, and all levels of government.

At this time, the budgetary impact of this motion is nil.

Seconded by Sona Sadio

Motivation:

Adam Mills: The housing crisis is rapidly hitting what was, I don't know if it still is but the most affordable student city in in the country and we need action. And I think there's no better way to do that than by getting together with our fellow students in the greater Montreal area to convene some sort of summit to bring awareness to the issue like you said, formulate courses of action that we can take ourselves. We can bring like Maria's fantastic program things that we can demand from our universities and from all levels of government and you know get some good press on it and and really connect with the greater student movement

Hannah Jackson: Yeah, the housing and labor was like one of the was the main campaign that campaigns did last year. So this is something that we mobilized about last year and it's something that we've been doing a little bit of continuing work with most of our campaigns work has been with HOJO, which is our service that also does a bit of advocacy work with this, and has been in contact with the Committee de Logement in different neighborhoods. We've also been talking, trying to meet with SSMU because McGill is also thinking about this. I definitely think whatever we end up creating around, I think to get people together to strategize and do action, particularly around the proposed law restricting lease transfers, which is a very urgent political matter. I would want that to be integrated with the advocacy that that HOJO is also doing. I think if we act on this, it would be very important that they be a partner and I think they might have also a pretty strong idea of what the timeline for this kind of event is -it happening, because the main problem is with I think you said doing it this fall instead of in the new year is often times when you want to bring a lot of large organizations together things kind of lurch along in the planning. We could do something quick if we really wanted to mobilize very quickly specifically let's say about the lease transfer law or something. But if we wanted to have a housing summit that was sort of had a large reach, large attendance and large impact, I think realistically we would want to be looking at slightly bit of a longer timeline. I think it could be really interesting. I think that it could pair with advocacy that's already happening, like not only here in but also in the community. I'd also would be curious about where in this year's existing CSU budget you would be imagining the summit funding would come from.

Adam Mills: This is by no means like meant to sidestep any existing advocacy.

Kareem Rahaman: Yeah, when it comes to funding for it, we are still in quite a healthy surplus. And so for something like this, we can definitely make room. There might even be an existing budget line for things like this. We do have a conference budget line. This would fall under that. So we'd simply have to top that up, which we can do it council, we can shift money into that in the next RCM I guess.

Motion passes

8. NEW BUSINESS – INFORMATIONAL

a) Transfer of Student Information for the Purpose of Administering the Health and Dental Insurance Plan

Harley Martin: So the student union negotiates the health plan and has done so since the late 90s. And we have an agreement, a memorandum of understanding with the university, where they provide the health comparator with the necessary student information to administer the plan. They also directly collect those fees and send them to the provider. The provider then sends off notes back and it goes to student accounts office. And that's how it works. This has been the system in place for, yeah, essentially 25 years. So there's new privacy legislation in the province and the second phase of that came down in late September. And just before the school year started. The university quite inconsiderately informed us that because of this new legislation, they're no longer going to carry out that function for us and also suggested that they might not even transfer that data to us, which, as for the agreement then lets us transfer it to whoever we have a student help button with. So tried to deal with this right away because we're concerned that this would mean in September we'd have people paying into a fund but not being able to use it. But we managed to clear that hurdle and the data was already transferred for the semester. So people are covered for this fall. But the university, like we've worked with the CSU's legal counsel, the graduate student's legal counsel and their team and the insurance provider ASEQ with their team to try and resolve this with the university. And up until this point, the university is just no, they're not moving on it because for them it's an easy one, right? The blowback isn't going to come on them, and it's obviously the easiest way out of here.

This Friday we're having the first iteration of a solutions based working group with some university administrators because we went for them and suggested this because when you just meet with the lawyers there's no solutions discussed. We're also going to write a letter to the government asking them to provide clarity on this because I have it from Graham Carr that the government directly tells them that they're clear to continue existing as they have before in very specific details. The university won't object, they just want to make sure that they're clear. So part of this meeting on Friday, we're going to get the exact criteria that they want to see in that letter. We'll send it off and from the insurance provider from ASEQ side what they're doing is trying to lobby the government to provide clarity within the lot self to more of a longer term project. Overall more beneficial because this legislation and the ambiguity within it has more implications than just student health plans in there, transfer student out of the other things within student associations etcetera across the province. So they're they're doing that work that I think is needs to be done, but it's like for the long term. Beyond that, we're just trying to figure out what solution we can put in place by January because I've tried to do a list point across, but I don't think the administration quite realizes what a disaster

we're going to have. I think there's a few obvious solutions and hopefully they're accommodated with that, but we'll see. I think this will be something that, you know, we'll have to deal with that CSU and other associations for that time, like quite a while to come as people figure out what this legislation means.

Adam Mills: Yeah, good work. You've done everything that I think you should be doing so far.

One thing I'd say, like when you're reaching out to the ministry, like give them two weeks and then if you if it's still , no reply, start reaching out to your various news outlets and whatnot.

b) Class Action Lawsuit Regarding Student Health and Dental Insurance Plan

Harley Martin: Concordia is the only university that has taken this position. Their defense is that Concordia currently has the start of a class action lawsuit to do with student health funds. And so they're already in a spotlight they don't want to be in as their argument. And so they're not going to potentially do something out of order. Well, we also argued to say like, you know, if every university in the province maintains the status quo, my feeling is that the, the government's biggest concern to do with this privacy legislation about student health plans, they're probably not going to suddenly challenge all the universities. But I want to stress that these are really distinct issues, these two points. A student launched a class action lawsuit against Desjardins , also known as Student Care at Concordia University. So the CSU is not directly named, but the university only does administrative functions when it comes to the health and dental fund. It's the union that is given the capacity to negotiate that plan and carry it out for the students . So we had to sign off that like we have a receipt of the class action lawsuit even though we're not directly named as a defendant. The class action lawsuit is about how students are automatically registered into a student health and or dental plan in the province of Quebec. So the applicant states that the defendants are actively lead by subscribing the class members to a group insurance plan of their consent either before or after these members were subscribed, invoicing the class members of their consent and without informing them that they had no obligation to pay the amounts indicated on the invoice with respect to the insurance. Imposing an arbitrary deadline to opt-out opens based either on legislation or regulations from their consent with the class members and failing to send the insurance policy class members. ASEQ Student care, this is their whole business model. Because it's their whole business model like they're going to fight very hard for this. They're going to be the main one to review the research on this on this sort of stuff that realistically, you know, the university as the defendant doesn't particularly care. It's ASEQ here that's really on the defense and one last thing is that it's expected that, you know, a copy of this class action lawsuit will be launched at other universities by a different student. I think as many people are well aware like this doesn't come out of nowhere. There's been movement to try to in the long term essentially eliminate a student health.

c) CSU Student Centre Building

Harley Martin: I just want council and everyone else to be aware that CSU did purchase this building 20 May 2022 on Bishop St. 2045 and there was some initial work done last year. We picked up where they left off. It's going to be renovated to the student center entirely, managed and operated a by the CSU. Construction will begin in the fall of 2024. They say it's going to take two years.

9. QUESTION PERIOD & BUSINESS ARISING

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

Harley Martin motions to adjourn meeting at 19h54

Seconded by Christian Taboada