**Board of Directors Meeting Agenda**

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| **Date** | Sunday, 20th February 2022 |
| **Time** | 3:00PM Atlantic Daylight Time (Canada) |
| **Location 1** | 5th Floor of the Saint Mary’s University Student Centre Building |
| **Location 2** | Joshua Sydney is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.  <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84581210897?pwd=NHhINVZRdDBEY3lPenVrWEc5T2NYZz09>  Meeting ID: 845 8121 0897  Passcode: 638891 |
| **Invitees** | Joshua Sydney (Board Chair), Alex Wilson (Vice Chair), Joshua Lafond, Brian Tumusiime, Mihika Mihika, Pearl Buyanzi, Miyah Basden & Abhinav Gaur |
| **Regrets** | Adam Snow |
| **Resources** | Franklyn Southwell (SMUSA President), Kaylie Dolan (Board Secretary) |

1. **Call to order**

At 3:17 pm, the meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Mr. Sydney.

1. **Land Acknowledgement**

At 3:17 pm, Mr. Sydney offered a land acknowledgement, recognizing that Saint Mary’s University is located on the unceded, traditional land of the Mi’kmaq nation.

1. **Conflict of Interest Declaration**

At 3:17 pm, Mr. Sydney asked the Board if there were any conflict-of-interest declarations to be made. No declarations were made.

1. **Approval and Adoption of Minutes from previous meeting**

At 3:18 pm, Mr. Lafond made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from the January 30, 2022, Board Meeting, seconded by Mr. Wilson. Motion carried. Ms. Mihika volunteered to adopt the Minutes.

1. **President’s Report**

At 3:18 pm, Mr. Southwell, President of SMUSA, gave the President’s Report (see Appendix). Follow-up questions were posed by Mr. Lafond and Mr. Wilson.

1. **Chief Governance Report – Joshua Sydney**

At 3:25 pm, Mr. Sydney gave the Chief Governance report, highlighting updates to SMUSA webpage, congratulating the newly elected Board Members and President, and thanking those involved in the elections process for a job well done.

1. **Reports of Standing Committees:**
   1. **Human Resources and Governance Committee – Adam Snow**

At 3:29 pm, Mr. Sydney presented the Human Resources and Governance Committee report on behalf of Mr. Snow, highlighting the committee’s ongoing review of the governance budget, and the advancement of its human resources policy. A congratulations was also extended to the new electees.

* 1. **Elections Committee – Alex Wilson**

At 3:31 pm, Mr. Wilson gave the Elections Committee report, congratulating everyone involved for a successful election and providing an update on the elections report, which will be finished before the next meeting.

* 1. **Societies Committee – Joshua Lafond**

At 3:34 pm, Mr. Lafond gave the Societies Committee report, echoing the previous congratulations extended, and highlighting the crafting of society (gala/event) policy that is nearing completion. Mr. Southwell thanked Mr. Lafond and the committee for these emerging policy frameworks.

1. **Reports of Ad-Hoc Committee:** 
   1. **Steering Committee – Miyah Basden**

At 3:37 pm, Ms. Basden highlighted the ongoing efforts of the Ad-Hoc Steering Committee, which are currently in the planning phase.

1. **Any Other Business**

At 3:38 pm, Mr. Sydney asked the Board whether there was any other business yet to be discussed. Best wishes were extended to Mr. Snow, who was unable to be in attendance.

1. **In-Camera Session**

At 3:39, Mr. Lafond motioned to move to move to an in-camera session, Mr. Wilson seconded, motion carried.

1. **Adjournment**

At 3:40 pm, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Lafond, seconded by Mr. Wilson, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm.

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**Appendix**

**External Affairs**

* **(CASA) Canadian Alliance of Student Associations**

SMUSA was pleased to be a part of CASA’s advocacy week which is concluding today. Throughout this week, myself and Kyle have had opportunities to meet and discuss CASA’s priority asks to various to MPs, and Senators from the Federal Government. Notably I personally have met with MP Kody Blois, Senator Terry Mercer, and Rick Perkins who are all proud SMU alumni.

* **(SNS) Students Nova Scotia**

Earlier this week the NS government announced the introduction of the Covid-19 grant. This grant will provide $875 to all NS student assistance recipients which is over 11,000 students. This will help provide financial relief for challenges arising from Covid-19, including the rising cost of living, and education. The significance of this grant is that it was a direct ask from SNS last November during our advocacy week. So, we are pleased to see our efforts bear fruit. We also started planning our March Student Housing Advocacy Campaign which will be unrolling in a few weeks.

**Internal Affairs**

* **Election results**

I would like to congratulate Isobel for being elected as president for the next academic year 2022/2023. I would also like to congratulate Francesca, Nikkita, Ashish, Sorav, Thomas, Toni-an and Meghan for being elected to the board as well. Isobel and I will start our transition training after the break, and job postings for the new VP positions will be posted within the next two weeks.

* **Women in Politics event**

As March 8th approaches, that date marks international women’s day. So, currently my team is working on a few events to our honor and highlight our women on campus. So, our women’s centre is working on some social events, while I am working on putting forward and panel of women in leadership positions.

* **SMUSA Charter Day**

Now that in person events have been authorized on campus again, my team is planning to host a charter day award event to honor our student leaders on campus and do a review our year.

* **Graduate Student Committee**

We restarted a graduate advisory committee to collect student feedback from grad students. So far, we have ten students signed up, and meetings will start after the February break.

* **Academic Integrity Week**

Our VP of Academic Kyle is working with Dr. Takseva to put forward a week of workshops and panel discussions for our students regarding academic integrity later in March. A lot of our students still struggle with understanding academic integrity and avoiding mistakes, so hopefully this week of workshops will give students an opportunity to gain insights as to how to avoid those mistakes.

* **Food Committee**

The SMU food committee is back this semester. This is an opportunity for students to give Aramark any recommendations on new food options they want on campus, and just talk about anything related to their experience with the quality of the food on campus. So, next week we will be inviting students to join the committee to talk about their experience.

* **Barbershop and Salon Talks**

As we continue to celebrate black history month, our next events will be the barbershop and salon talks on February 28th at 7pm in LA290. These events are open to everyone, and all are encouraged to attend. We will have registration links rolling out this week for people to sign up.