



January 31<sup>st</sup> VUSAC Meeting Minutes

**Call to order:** 5:30pm

**Land Acknowledgement:** Tran

As we're still in the beginning of the new year, it's important to remember the significance in these land acknowledgements. Especially in these times, it's important to take the time to reflect on what it means to work on this land. Therefore we wish to acknowledge this land on which Victoria College operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are very grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

**Official Regrets:** Katherine

**Approval of minutes:**

Katie Motions to approve the January 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes. Tran seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

**Additions to the agenda:** Mental Wellness Commission update (3 minutes), Equity Commission update (3 minutes)

**Approval of the agenda:**

Michelle motions to approve the agenda. Fatima seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

EX-OFFICIO REPORTS

**Campus Life Coordinator (Christina):** 3 minutes

We're still looking for clubs, levies and commissions to take part in our fair. Thank you to VOCA, Sustainability and Mental Wellness for participating so far. It is happening Wednesday 12-2pm (5<sup>th</sup>), free massages, crafting and food!

Reminder I will be away February 15-27<sup>th</sup>, should you need any support I'm happy to support you within this time.

A friendly reminder and PSA regarding e-mail and phone scams. You shouldn't be giving out any personal information you can always call your dons, or MAH front desk, or campus police if



you've experienced or are suspicious of a scam. Never give out your SIN, personal information, send money or bitcoin to someone you do not know. Thank you again!

ACTION ITEMS:

- Motion by Rebecca Gao to ratify the Strand's Constitution (3 minutes) [Appendix A]  
Rebecca: We were here a couple of weeks ago to discuss some of the changes we wanted to make to our constitution for the Strand this year and next year.

Motion by Rebecca Gao to ratify the Strand's Constitution. Cam seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

- Motion by Cameron Davies to ratify RealTalk as a VUSAC-recognized club.

Cam: We have Abhay here to talk about RealTalk, but just to preface, at our last meeting there were a few concerns raised; one was the name of the club overlapping with the name of the commuter don event, Abhay and his co-president have agreed to change the name of the club from Communi-Tea to RealTalk, another issue that was raised was that they may be eligible for more funding under the designation of an Academic club, and again they have agreed to change their designation, and final concern was their policy around discussion items, and they have clarified that a bit with me.

Abhay: Thank you for having me here, Sienna, my co-president and I were talking about some of the conversation we often have on campus, like climate change, and a lot of other polarizing topics and we wanted to create a space where students could have these conversations and raise their opinions, and I understand that a main concern was about the equity behind that and making sure that we're keeping students safe. In general, the main thing that Sienna and I had in mind was this idea that we're going to have guidelines on topics that can be brought forward, and we'll have topics run by each other and other community members to make sure that they're safe, and have a set of rules about making sure that the conversations that take place are respectful, and in general, the discussion of certain topics we will make sure that they aren't anything that can be potentially traumatic. Overall, that was the main idea, in general, we're not going to put topics in place that will question someone's basic humanity, we will let people know what the topic is a week beforehand so if anyone does have a concern they can reach out directly or anonymously through a Google Form, and we want to make sure that everyone can feel safe.

Motion by Cameron Davies to ratify RealTalk as a VUSAC-recognized club. Mehr seconds. Motion passes.



## VICTORIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

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- Favour: all
  - Opposed: none
  - Abstained: Aminah
- 
- Motion by Cameron Davies to ratify the membership of the Student Projects Advisory Board for the 2019-2020 School Year (3 minutes) [Appendix B]

Cam: So, for the Student Projects Advisory Board, it oversees Student Projects, it meets once a semester to talk about broader student project operating changes and the hiring of the Student Projects chair person, but it's not the SP committee. In terms of membership, as a non-voting chair of that committee I reached out to various different constituencies who are required for the SP operating policy to either send a representative or appoint someone to the committee or advisory board, in terms of who will be sitting on it, I'll be sitting on it as a non-voting chair, Gavin will be Student Projects Chair, Dorian was appointed by the VUSAC President, Mehr was appointed by the VPE, Nerjia was appointed by VPI, Helen Zhang was appointed by I, and Rheannon and Sarah Sugin were appointed by the Commuter Commissioner.

Massoma: A question about the Board in general, is having an equity representative something that has come into discussion?

Cam: Yes, I can definitely bring that up, and I am happy to see more equity representation, will talk to Gavin.

Mozynah: So how does this Board work in relation to the committee?

Cam: Student Projects was inactive last semester, but we hired Gavin this year who is in his term now, one of the main roles of the operating board is if a grant is not successful, then that can be appealed up to the operating board, that alongside SP operating policy and SP chair person are the three main spots of jurisdiction of the operating board.

Lucy: If you're granted money but not as much as you requested, can you still appeal?

Cam: I believe so, yes.

Tran: With the motion passing, would there still be the addition of another member?

Cam: This is the Board that oversees amendments of the Student Projects Operating Policy, once we get the Board in place we can get the amendments to have an equity representative on board and ensure that there is equity representation for future Boards.

Motion by Cameron Davies to ratify the membership of the Student Projects Advisory Board for the 2019-2020 School Year. Vibhuti seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none



- Motion by Vibhuti Kacholia to ratify the proposed amendments to the Elections & Referenda Code (5 minutes) [Appendix C]

Vibhuti: Last meeting we talked about some of the changes we are making to the ERC which range from grammatical errors and procedural to bigger definitions of the sort, the only changes of what we talked about to what I bring to you today is we fixed the grammar so they make sense, and the same sort of spirit is there, if anyone has any questions on specific changes we've made let me know, if not, we will be approving the amendments today and they will go into effect February 14<sup>th</sup> which is when nomination packages go up.

Motion by Vibhuti Kacholia to ratify the proposed amendments to the Elections & Referenda Code. Jay seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

- Motion by Aminah Attar to allocate \$100 to a new budget line for the Sustainability Commission's budget for a Facebook boost option (3 minutes)

Aminah: With our events coming up next week with Environmental Equity Week, basically we want to utilize the Facebook boost option to get more people coming and make it more accessible, so we are allocating \$100, are there any questions?

Alexa: Which dates will this run? How much is it per day, what is the plan for that?

Aminah: We haven't decided, we were planning on having it run for 4 days until the day before the last event.

Jay: How does Facebook boost operate? Does it direct it towards U of T students?

Aminah: You can direct it towards different demographics and locations; we were thinking of maybe within a 5km radius and bring the age group down to cater to U of T students.

Alexa: Have you considered starting a few days before Environmental Equity Week beings so it's on people's radar?

Aminah: This was brought up earlier today, if this is ratified today we can get it going ASAP!

Motion by Aminah Attar to allocate \$100 to a new budget line for the Sustainability Commission's budget for a Facebook boost option. Massoma seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

*Budget Meeting Tabled Motions [Appendix E]*



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- Motion to approve line 63 of the Scarlet & Gold budget for ticket subsidy.

Tran motions to take the motion from the table. Fatima seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

Tran: I did the math after the budget ratification meeting, and we can subsidize tickets for Vic students so that Highball tickets are \$30 per Vic student and we can keep it at the same amount as last year, and since it's approved money from last year I think this is the best way to reallocate the money and keep that funding.

Vibhuti: Would non-Vic students not get a subsidy at all?

Tran: I want to be able to have a subsidy for non-Vic students too, there is the potential to make it \$40 for non-Vic students, just a matter of discussions that we have around this, and it's mostly Vic fees that come from this so I want the Vic students to have a significantly lower price.

Alexa: I agree, we should prioritize the Vic students since it's their money going into paying for the venue and these events and it should go back to them.

Fatima: For non-Vic students is it possible instead of having it subsidized \$10 but have it \$5 instead? Like \$50 to \$45, which I think sounds a bit better than \$50 which can be daunting.

Alexa: I wanted to point out that the waitlist is quite large and there are many Vic students who can't go because there are non-Vic students who take up those spots so I don't think we should prioritize incentivizing tickets to non-Vic students.

Tran motions to approve line 63 of the Scarlet & Gold budget for ticket subsidy. Fatima seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

- Motion to approve line 142 of Hey Teach!'s budget on printing.

Cam motions to take the motion from the table. Katie seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

Cam: Last time there were concerns, in my notes I had that they had printed \$200 copies and now they are gone, I didn't realize they had all been used, we expect them to have another successful printing this semester!



Cam motions to approve line 142 of Hey Teach!'s budget on printing. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
  - Opposed: none
  - Abstained: none
- 
- Motion to approve line 150 of Motion Victures' budget on Bader Theatre costs.

Cam motions to take the motion from the table. Mehr seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: Katie
- Abstained: none

Cam: Basically last time the main concern was that they applied for \$1000 for Bader theatre costs and that was too low for covering an event they are planning on hosting on March, they did apply to the Performing Arts Endowment but they were holding off since there was a section on their application that asked if they were getting other funding from other sources and they weren't sure if they were getting money from VUSAC, so they were hoping to get the funding ratified first, so I told them to put a 0 in that line and include a line that they were waiting on \$1000 in funding to be ratified.

Katie: Have they been in contact with the Bader, is this \$1000 based on anything? Have they done research to get this number?

Cam: I didn't confirm whether they had looked into the Bader, but it is a possibility that in the case that they do book the Bader I'll ask them to run the costs by us and what the Performing Arts Endowment can cover.

Katie: Personally, I don't feel comfortable funding it if they're just going to have to come back later and ask for more money, that doesn't make sense to request this number without having no basis.

Massoma: As a side note, the cost for rental that is 4 hours is \$984, maybe they got the \$1000 from that estimate if they were in contact with the Bader staff.

Katie: It said in the details of their application that they hadn't contacted the Bader staff, so it's possible that they got that number from there.

Cam: I'm not sure if they contacted the Bader, but can we table the meeting until the end of this meeting?

Alexa: Could we table the meeting until they hear back from the Performing Arts Endowment? I want to see an invoice in more detail, why is it the Bader and not a smaller space? That's a substantial amount for an event.

Cam: Vic students will be showing the various films they made here, I can see them having attendance well into the 100s because if your friend makes a film for it, you go to an event for your friend but I can't say exactly what the attendance will be.

Tran: Because I sit on the Performing Arts Endowment committee, the meeting for that is February 12<sup>th</sup>, which is before the next VUSAC meeting, we will then have more information by that meeting, so I would be comfortable tabling this to the next meeting.



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Michelle motions to extend 3 minutes. Fatima seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

Rheannon: Is there a down-payment for the Bader theatre? Should we ratify this more urgently then or should we wait until the 14<sup>th</sup>?

Gabby: We can email vote if the case is urgent.

Katie motions to table the motion to February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Alexa seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
  - Opposed: none
  - Abstained: none
- 
- Motion to approve line 153 of Motion Victure's budget for a phone lens adapter.
  - Motion to approve the entire budget for Women's Circle, lines 196 to 214.

Cam motions to take the motion from the table. Vibhuti seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

Cam: The Women's circle was very generous, they sent in a very detailed document about their retreat, all their invoices, and three of them have agreed to be here today as well!

Michelle: Would it be possible for you to share the detailed outline?

Cam: Yes, that is definitely on me, Gabby asked me to message it to her.

Gabby: How about we motion for a recess as everyone takes a look at it.

Vibhuti motions to take a two-minute recess. Tran seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

Lucy: One question, with your winter retreat, in the case that there are more people that want to go than there are spots, is it first come first serve?

Mozynah: Yes, last year we didn't have a waiting list so everyone was able to come, it was 45 students.

Cam: For the end-of-semester dinner, is the revenue from the tickets for charity or will it go back into VUSAC?



Mozynah: Revenue to cover the costs and there will be activities there! It depends on what type of funding we have, we will apply to Student Projects; we tend to do a lot of applications, we applied for 5 different grants for the retreat, we try to practice grant-writing, we can get for a dinner, unfortunately for the retreat after applying 15 applications, most U of T grants don't fund for off-campus excursions.

Vibhuti: We love the Women's circle, in the future being super thorough as you have been, will help you in the process.

Lucy: I know you applied for Student Projects last year and you were able to subsidize tickets for your winter retreat, I see that you've planning on doing it again this year?

Mozynah: We are doing that for the dinner.

Aminah: Thank you for coming out, looking at the budget there is a yoga class instructor fee on the general budget line that says that it includes more information? Is that separate from the retreat?

Mozynah: It is separate.

Vibhuti: The more information required was a note from budget steering and that's why they've come today.

Mozynah: We have had yoga instructors at the retreat but my friend who was going to come just told me she can't make it.

Fatima motions to extend 3 minutes. Jay seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

Cam motions to approve the entire budget for Women's Circle, lines 196 to 214. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none
  
- Motion to approve the entire budget for the Student Chapter of the Association for Women in Math, striking line 162.

Cam motions to take motion from table. Spandan seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

Cam: I just spoke with the Student Chapter of the Association for Women in Math, they're comfortable with us striking this line from the budget, I would like to amend my motion to say strike line 162.



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Katie: Did we ever figure out what was happening with that?

Cam: I think the Association was confused with what was wrong, the fact that they have an organizational bank account, if they wanted to do that for their book-keeping so be it, and they looked over all of the UTSU guidelines, they said that for the UTSU, if you are getting funding from multiple sources you need to have a bank account, but they are not getting UTSU funding, and so they said that they are comfortable with us striking that line. However in terms of a club having their own bank account, that is not something we can police in general but they are comfortable with us not paying those fees.

Vibhuti: I think there is something wrong with them keeping a bank account, if they are doing it without our knowledge we can't audit it, at VUSAC people pay out of their pockets and then are reimbursed back into their pockets; the problem with having a bank account is that you would get reimbursed into your bank account in which we can't tell where that money is going, and that can pose a problem for keeping funds in that account going forward, and that is one thing, and two, we need to be auditing, just like we audit our levies, and we are making sure they are spending things that they claim to spend, I understand that if they want UTSU funding, but if they want Vic funding I don't think they should have a bank account.

Cam: Basically for having a bank account they aren't reimbursing it into the account, they are asking for individual reimbursements, they're just using it to keep account of the money and how much money they are spending, and I want to distinguish the case of a levy from this, levies operate their own budget, while clubs everything has to be operated on an individual basis and Katherine reimburses individuals, I think that as someone who has worked in the Finance Office I don't see a problem here, but to my knowledge what is stopping let's say a club from starting a bank account and not notifying us, no way for us to know.

Vibhuti: So maybe this conversation is not germane to the conversation at hand.

Spandan: What's the difference between VUSAC reimbursing someone through an organizational bank account vs their personal bank account?

Vibhuti: It's a matter of keeping money that are student fees in another bank, being reimbursed back into that account would pose an issue for how fees are handled at VUSAC; something like Ryerson can happen where someone can take the credit card and go off.

Cam: To be clear, they are not requesting reimbursements to the bank account, they are requesting reimbursements on an individual basis, if someone decides to do a Ryerson, that's not anything that relates to VUSAC, what is stopping someone from spending their own money with a credit card?

Jay: I don't understand how this operates, if they are reimbursed for the money they spent that they are using, what is happening with this bank account since we're not putting this money into the bank account?



Vibhuti motions to extend for 5 minutes. Aminah seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

Cam: Their bank account has a balance of 0, I can ask them to close the account, I mentioned to them that that may be easier, they didn't feel there was a clear motion given at the previous meeting and didn't feel comfortable taking that action without a clear reason given.

Katie: I'm confused of what the point of the bank account is, if there's no money in it what's the point.

Alexa: It's like a red flag to me, I don't know what the purpose is then since it doesn't operate within our system, this is a general principle how do we handle this happening? We can strike this now and have those conversations at another time.

Katie: The other thing is, this reflects badly on VUSAC since they are operating under us.

Cam: To reply to Alexa, there is nothing stopping another club for charging admission then putting that in my personal account, I do agree this is a longer question and discussion we should have and I can go back to them. I agree for now it may be best to just strike this and have this conversation on a later date.

Aminah: There will probably be clubs that UTSU recognition and are also a part of Vic; we should have a policy to figure out these cases.

Ellenor: It's still refunded right?

Vibhuti: If there is a larger booking thing VUSAC is happy to directly invoice them, come to VUSAC we can help you give them money so you don't have to directly use your card.

Cam motions to approve the entire budget for the Student Chapter of the Association for Women in Math. Spandan seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

Vibhuti motions to take a 5-minute recess. Tran seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Assessor Members vs. Ex-Officio Members (10 minutes)



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Alexa: VUSAC in process of revising governing docs, working now on Council Policies and the Constitution, we wanted to ask you what your thoughts were on Assessor Members and Ex-Officio Members since the distinction right is unclear, and we want to make it clear what is Assessor does refer to the levies, Ex-Officio would be members of the VCC, VUS, BoR who can sit on VUSAC – what about Vic Directors and being an exec on the UTSU?

Cam: Shouldn't preclude anyone from taking a paid, hired position, as they may need work for money.

Disha: What does the UTSU do, I don't have an opinion on why would it be a conflict of interest?

Alexa: the UTSU represents all undergrad students at U of T, they do give different services like health and dental plan, each exec has their own project as well

Disha: Why is there talk of not giving a UTSU voting member the right to vote in VUSAC?

Vibhuti: The thing is that the UTSU has an agenda just like VUSAC has an agenda, sometimes the agendas are not in the same viewpoint, puts people in a weird place. Also, I think that assessor heads should be levy heads the UTSU Vic director; those people are close to VUSAC but not part of council itself; Ex-Officios should be all the governing bodies and the rest of admin and Christina because they can technically be on VUSAC. I think that if you are a paid staff member on the UTSU you should not be a voting member on VUSAC, but if you are a hired position at the UTSU, you could be a hired position on VUSAC. If you are an elected position you are doing a lot, creating the backbone of what the UTSU does and can skew your viewpoint on the UTSU.

Cam: Certain members of the UTSU have to sign fiduciary forms; discussion we're having should be informed on the basis of how these contracts apply to these people's lives, I'm curious to know what the scopes of these will be, and you can't act in the best interest of two opposing documents all the time

Spandan: I think that assessor members also being extended to student orientation co-chair and dons?

Vibhuti: It comes into play when you're talking about levy heads and Dons, we have this year two levy heads that are also Dons.

Jay: What are the Assessor Member's roles on VUSAC? Does that give them power in relation to VUSAC?

Vibhuti: It means just they can't be a part of both organizations and sit on both councils.

Cam: Building off of Jay's question, I'm wondering if in our policy, it would currently have the UTSU UC Director as an Assessor member of council, that person wouldn't be eligible to sit on VUSAC anyways, should be separate UTSU Exec and Vic Directors?

Spandan motions to extend 5 minutes. Jay seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none



Vibhuti: I think that is a good idea.

Jay: You said Assessor Members have to report back to VUSAC? What does that mean?

Vibhuti: That was just an example, once we change the definitions we'll have to go back to our governing documents and edit that. But this is a good framework to start working on it.

Michelle: Whenever we're looking at council policies, unless they specify what type of member they are, it is unclear what policy is relevant which is why we want to change the definitions to help us orient the policies to the right members.

Cam: Might be good to have an Ex-Officio member as being someone who automatically has speaking rights at a VUSAC meeting; might be beneficial to frame it as here is a bundle of restrictions/privileges, here is who we will give it to.

Alexa: I was in a position last year where I was a staff member and a voting member on VUSAC; UTSU had a certain stance that VUSAC didn't have the same stance for, but I felt like I assumed what the VUSAC was voting for over UTSU as a voting member. I don't want to prevent VUSAC members from getting a job as it caters to a similar skill set.

Cam motions to extend 2 minutes. Aminah seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: Spandan
- Abstained: none

Cam: Some elected positions in VUSAC who have had hired positions; over the summer I worked at the registrar's and finance office but I want to echo what Alexa said, I don't think we should be preventing people who have student jobs at Vic from having these positions but this should also be on the table for everyone's thoughts.

Jay: Why can Dons not be voting members on VUSAC?

Katie: Dons are employees of the Dean's Office.

Vibhuti: Only office we'll ever have conflict with is the Dean's Office; UTSU is its own organization doing very different work, while if you're working at Vic everyone is working to better the Vic community.

Jay motions to extend 5 minutes. Jenny seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

Jay: I just want to clarify, I'm not against these ideas, I'm just curious about why things are the way they are. You mentioned earlier in an example that Christina could be on VUSAC because



she's technically an ex-officio member, not an assessor member, but wouldn't we want Dean's Office staff to not?

Vibhuti: Christina was a bad example, Christina is the CLC, in a position very close to VUSAC, just means that we don't have to grant her speaking rights when she talks.

Alexa: They also don't pay their Vic student fees so they can't be on VUSAC.

Michelle: What are people's thoughts on Dons being levy heads?

Cam: We have taken a non-enforcement approach to that policy this year, can't tell someone they can't be a levy head, haven't been enforcing that policy.

Alexa: I think they were chosen as levy heads before dons.

Vibhuti: Levy heads and Dons are harder for VUSAC to serve our stance on because levy heads have a degree of autonomy.

Aminah: I don't think there should be additional restrictions.

Jay: I just want to mention that either way, what's happened this year does set a precedence for future years, would be harder to go back on that. Might open up the floodgates a bit...

Rheannon: The levy head at the Cats Eye has been very cautious about where he does have privileges that he would step back, in that respect it has been very good.

Lucy: I think the point is to prevent the worst conditions, we're thankful that we have a great council, great levy heads, may be a period where that isn't the case and we don't have the best people in that position, and there can be a conflict of interest, if the co-manager of Caffiends was a don that is a direct conflict of interest; if next year, when Caffiends lease contract is re-negotiated, if the co-manager is a levy that is a COI because they are getting paid. That's one example, there could be others, need to anticipate the worst in some cases, that's what policies are for.

Lucy motions to extend 2 minutes. Cam seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: Disha
- Abstained: none

Cam: A possible way to enforce this policy, people have been selected as levy heads, and later one been selected as dons, we do ask questions about what other people's commitments are including don-ship, that is important information for a hiring committee. Moving forward we can encourage the Dean's Office to ask questions on who is a levy when going through the don hiring process.

Vibhuti: I don't think the Dean's Office should be making rules about whether dons could be levy heads, shouldn't have the power to turn people away from don-ship.

- Green Shift Napkins (7 minutes)

Aminah: A concern was brought up that Caffiends is a business and shouldn't use the Green Shift Napkins that the Sustainability Commission purchaes; they are currently napkin-less. Should



VUSAC Sustainability Commission continue to purchase Grenshift products for Caffiends that they charge?

Ellenoor: Aren't the Green Shift cups non-compostable?

Katie: That's a whole different issue and conversation.

Vibhuti: What we're talking about is that VUSAC has been providing Caffiends with free products, not about the actual composability.

Jay: Because levies are supposed to operate separately from VUSAC, maybe we shouldn't be providing them with materials, but we are still responsible for our levies and it's napkins, especially because they don't have any right now; why are we ordering Green Shift napkins all napkins can be composted? Aren't they more expensive?

Aminah: Other napkins are cheaper, the urgency of the napkins are what we were going off of, and for next year's transition reports.

Leila: This is just because we ordered a lot, we should probably change it in the future, but what we have right now is what we have.

Lucy: I'm a very biased person because I'm also on Caffiends; the purpose of VUSAC as a whole is the betterment of the Vic community, to create a space that is nourishing and is a positive atmosphere. If VUSAC was in a very tight situation and we didn't have money, couldn't pay for things and for expenses then I'd understand the claim that we should remove the benefit of giving them napkins, but since we have quite a bit of surplus and we send thousands of money on Highball and other events, it doesn't seem fair to refuse napkins or cups to them because they repay us with the benefit they bring to the Vic community.

Hannah: I just wanted to say that I didn't know about this before and I'm glad it was brought up; in the future would Sustainability Commission be willing to give those supplies to other levies?

Spandan: What if we don't give VUSAC napkins, Caffiends orders napkins, and VUSAC funds Caffiends so it doesn't really make sense...

Vibhuti: VUSAC and Sustainability gives Green Shift products to all levies; why we get Green Shit is because we have a good relationship with the people that work at Green Shift; third thing, since Caffiends makes money as they give napkins out, it's a bit different. Caffiends could maybe pay some money to receive these products.

Vibhuti motions to extend 10 minutes. Jenny seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

Cam: The reason this was brought up for Caffiends was because a levy like VCDS isn't going to use napkins often; will cause more work than it's worth to bill all levies for napkins, whereas for



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Caffiends since they do use a lot of napkins compared to any club or levy, that is why Caffiends was distinguished in our conversation.

Rheannon: The amount they're paying is \$200 the entire semester, it is a small amount of money and could provide a lot of good.

Alexa: VUSAC does not pay for VCAA's events, they have their own levy fee for that, I like Vibhuti's suggestion of going half and half, but I want to know how much they use in terms of napkins, they do have the mugs, just to know what is going on there.

Aminah: Thank you everyone, just to Spandan's point – if we were to go forward with two different orders, they'd likely end up in the back-back room so they'd be in close proximity to each other anyways doesn't make sense to go down that route, so half and half does make sense. For now, we will just order the napkins.

Angela: If we're giving Green Shift to everyone it seems pointless to just exclude Caffiends especially since they are using them the most. We should also make it well known to all clubs that these products are available.

Jay: One note about what I said earlier on how Green Shift is too expensive, if they are created more sustainably, we should keep Green Shift.

Vibhuti: That's not Caffiends' job to tell other clubs about the Green Shift products, them using the products is just a transactional relationship between Sustainability and them.

Cam: In my updated emails I have said that the Green Shift products are available at the office, they should know that.

Vibhuti motions to take a 5-minute recess. Michelle seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: Spandan
- Abstained: none

### ASSESSOR MEMBER REPORTS:

#### STAFF REPORTS:

**Chair (Gabby):** 5 minutes

I sent y'all an email asking for any feedback based on the way that your role is described in the Constitution and Council Policies, if you could take a look at what you actually do and please let me know if it accurately reflects your roles. Just send me and Michelle and email please to make the meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup> run smoothly!

#### COMMISSION REPORTS:

**Scarlet & Gold (Tran):** 3 minutes



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We have a confirmed date for High Ball, March 27<sup>th</sup> which is a Friday, the affordable formal wear sale will be happening again, the week after reading week! There will be a whole document explaining how that happens coming out, the actual sale will be March 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Sustainability (Aminah & Leila): 5 minutes**

Aminah: Environmental Equity week is coming up, Monday will have a doc and talk about building a telescope, will go on sacred lands, everyone is invited to every event so please come if you can! On Tuesday we have a talk from an indigenous activist, she's amazing, on Wednesday there's a cool workshop, Thursday there's another speaker talking about the climate crisis and food rationing, on Friday will be watching a documentary, please come out and support! We're also in the process of having more sustainability ideas, and cool stuff going on!

Leila: We had our highest attendance at a Doc and Talk this week, me and 4 other people! There will be food at all the events!

### EXECUTIVE REPORTS:

#### **VP External (Vibhuti): 5 minutes**

One thing I did last week was meet with all the building presidents which was fun and ~chill~, one thing we are helping put on is the karaoke event on February 26<sup>th</sup>; also will be DJ-ing the Harry Potter Pub Night. I let the dons know about elections, the strategic plan. Crescams are happening, we have our committee all sorted out and will be meeting soon, excited to have that streamlined, packages will start to be circulated on the 7<sup>th</sup>, great way to recognize a fellow student leader or someone else about the great work they've been doing and have them recognized at this event. You get a little glass with the Vic College logo on it, that will be March 23<sup>rd</sup> in Alumni Hall. Caucus, thank you for Jay who came in clutch, I chatted with VCDS, we will have it on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February, Holly will be reaching out to you about another report that will be due on the 19<sup>th</sup>. We will have tacos! To make the meeting more productive we will have the Dean's Office, the Registrar's Office, and the Principal's Office and have separate tables so that students can come up and ask questions and no one has to stand on stage. My councilors, Disha and Mehr we had a great meeting today with VISA about collaborating with International students and making sure they're aware of the resources we have on campus, if any of you are interested in collaborating on that please let me know and I'll get you in touch with VISA.

Tran: What time is Caucus?

Vibhuti: 5-8pm.

#### **VP Student Organizations (Cameron): 3 minutes**

I'm working alongside Hannah and Massoma on Club and Levy Equity training, still reaching out to Mari, getting Club and Levy exec lists ready to confirm that they are meeting our membership requirements. Mari offered to have a workshop on understanding and responding to



microaggressions. Additionally, I wanted to plug that some clubs and levies are having events coming up, VCAA has bi-weekly fitness sessions, Vic Pride is also hosting events, they had a social in the Cats-eye, VCDS's Spelling Bee is a fantastic show, it warms your heart so much, please go if you have the time, it will make you feel better!

**President (Alexa): 5 minutes**

I created a contract for when hiring bands for events, avoid us from being bamboozled for any reason, once it's signed please give it to Katie, if you have any comments please let me know. The St George Round Table met last week, we had a conversation about the purpose of the committee, we brainstormed ideas for the agenda with the Office of the Vice Provost; the Mental Health Task Force also released the final report, I recommend you all read it and raise any questions you have, includes several action items. They will also be collaborating with other professionals since the scope is so large, one of the most notable collaborations Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, U of T also in a pilot of reviewing the verification of illness forms. Also, various sub-committees regarding the colleges right now and they are looking to include students. I also highlighted the need for collaborating with students who are not as involved in Student Life. Regarding the SCI we have no updates for now, the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents met last week, I mentioned the Strategic Plan, they were excited about that, they are hoping to see a copy as well at the board, I appreciated that. On Tuesday the land-posts will be replaced – there are three different options currently for the design of the land-posts.

Alexa motions to extend 10 minutes. Jay seconds.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: none

The VWA and I met, it was very lovely, the ladies are very sweet. Finally, I want to talk about the Strategic Plan, the survey is up, please continue to filling out the survey! I want to thank Cedric for all of his work on getting those up and running, next week we will be tabling around Vic campus and asking students in person, there has been awesome feedback so far!

Vibhuti: Will you be consulting Megan Kilty, and President Robins about putting the plan together itself, I was talking to Megan earlier, we were talking about the way in which the SP will be actually enforced, and when you brought up bringing it to the Board, the Board is who we report to, do you think that's something that they can take a role in as well?

Alexa: I didn't initially think of working with Robins, since he is working on his own Strategic Plan, was basing it on the structure of other universities; as for enforcement, I want to hear people's thoughts on that, I hope that moving forward and with the transition it will help!



Cedric: I was just looking at the comments, keep showing your welcoming faces, some were about Office Hours that some people were not very welcoming, and there were some that your smiling faces saying hello to each of us were very nice.

Mehr: Will all those comments coming in be shared with council?

Alexa: Yes absolutely, there is so much awesome feedback that is important and many are quick fixes that we can do!

**Mental Wellness (Spandan): 3 minutes**

On the 5<sup>th</sup>, this Wednesday we will be part of the Wellness fair, it will be fun! We will have a table in the Cats-Eye, and then on the 6<sup>th</sup> we will have Bob Ross Paint Night, on the 12<sup>th</sup> we will have Cedric's event 'Checking Our Vibes.' We are also working with the Dean's Office for the event on February 27<sup>th</sup>, Minding our Minds, I'll be working on the Student Panel on student reflections, we are looking for speakers for the panel if anyone is interested please let me know!

**Equity (Massoma & Hannah): 3 minutes**

We have Environmental Equity Week coming up, everyone please come! We're thinking of selling Diva cups year-round so they are more accessible, I want to get feedback on that, on top of that, I don't want to be annoying, but please fill out the form because I've been bugging everyone and I would like to move forward with the process, we don't have a lot of input right now, I do appreciate if everyone can fill it out, it's also been filled out on the VUSAC page. We have a couple of modules happening ahead for different things happening on campus, will also have a cultural celebration for Purim on March 10<sup>th</sup>, also will have something to do with mental health hopefully soon, which is in the works!

Spandan: If we sold Diva cups year-round would we be order more?

Hannah: Would be based on the brand, if we have lots of people wanting to buy diva cups then we would buy more; probably the amount we have more is enough for now and then go from now.

Alexa: I am such a huge fan, they're more sustainable, tampons and pads are not great for the environment and it would be cool if we had that service since we are selling them at a reduced rate.

Nerjia: How much cheaper is it?

Aminah: They usually cost around \$50 with taxes, while at VUSAC they will be \$20.

Vibhuti: Also, as equity co-chair last year we worked on that relationship that Shailee (Equity Commissioner 17-18) made with the Diva Cup Company, we get Diva cups for a very reduced price that won't change, ordering more should not be a problem.

Aminah: Could we look at alternatives, like getting reusable pads?

Leila: Also, we would probably create some sort of system so if you're not interested in selling them during your office hours you can let us know.



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Cam: Will there be a system for folks to buy them without disclosing that they need them.

Hannah: That's definitely something we can take into account.

Tran motions to adjourn the meeting. Fatima seconds. Motion passes.

- Favour: all
- Opposed: none
- Abstained: Lucy