

## Transcript of October 17, 2018 Students' Council meeting

### Speaker Key:

CH	Chair
LR	Luis Ruiz
PRES	President
RD	Rachelle Drummond
VPA	VP Academic
VPE	VP External
VPO	VP Operations & Finance
VPSL	VP Student Life
KS	Kent Strayer
SM	Sylvie Masson
AS	Alycia Stewart
MY	Matthew Yanish
CB	Cole Baker
JM1	Jaden Melech
SQ	Sophia Qaderi
VS	Vanessa Sheppard
SN	Spencer Newton
JM2	Jared Millions

CH ...1, we have a motion. Councillor Ruiz?

LR Thank you, Chair. I move to approve the agenda for October 17th, 2018.

CH Thank you, Councillor. And second? Thank you, Councillor Qaderi. It has been moved and seconded to approve the agenda for October 17th, 2018. Is there any debate? President?

PRES Thank you, Chair. Let's move to [unclear] to add a consultation item.

CH It's like the...

PS Titled councillor [unclear].

CH Okay. 8.1 Councillor Exit Interviews. Do we have a second? Vice President Student Life, thank you. It's been moved and seconded to amend the agenda to add the item, 8.1 Councillor Exit Interviews. Is there any debate? The question is on the adoption to amend the agenda, to approve the motion, to amend the agenda, to add 8.1 Councillor Exit Interviews. All those in favour? Thank you. And opposed? Thank you.

00:01:09

Councillor Marler will note his opposition. The motion carries. So back to the main motion. It has been moved and seconded to approve the agenda for October 17th, 2018 as amended. Is there any further debate? The question is on the adoption of the motion as read and amended. All those in favour? Thank you. Opposed? Motion carries.

Item 3, Presentations, no items there today. Item 4, For Information. Sorry? Oh, sorry. Item 2.2. Thank you. Apologies, Councillors. We have a motion. Councillor Drummond?

RD [Unclear] of September 19th, 2018.

CH Thank you, Councillor. And a second? Councillor Strayer. It has been moved and seconded to approve the minutes of September 19th, 2018. Is there any debate? Questions on the adoption, the motion is read. All those in favour? Thank you. Opposed? Motion carries. Okay. 3, I think we've already established there's no items for the presentations. Item 4, For Information, 4.1, Reports, 4.1.1, President, any oral supplements?

00:02:28

PRES Yes. Thank you, Chair. Since my report was submitted to councillors, I didn't meet with the councillors. I think there was the Inclusion Committee. You're looking at adopting mandates for the community to be doing some work with the organization. It's here to provide some functions and some processes on how to better consult specific groups. So in particular, minority groups and how we're going to be doing some advocacy as it relates to postsecondary.

In addition, the university is now looking to create their messaging around the amendments coming to the postsecondary learning apt. As you're all familiar, that's something that we've been advocating on for quite some time with specific points. The VP External can tell you a little bit more about it, but we are busy right now, kind of, drafting our communications plan on the savvy side as well. But the university will be circulating some information to the students. So you can look for that in your university inboxes [?] once that's been introduced. That's all for me, Chair. Thank you.

CH Thank you, President. Item 4.1.2, Vice President Academic, any oral supplements?

VPA Yes. Thank you, Chair. So as I mentioned in my September report, the joint effort for the OER Fellowship Program, which is going to support people who are interested in creating an OER for students on campus. As of yesterday's Executive Committee meeting, we have approved to support the creation of this OER during this fellowship

pilot program starting next spring. So out of the special projects line, three of the executives will be contributing \$2,500 for the creation of a fifth OER Fellowship that will [unclear]. Thank you, Chair.

00:04:13

CH Thank you, Vice President. 4.1.3, Vice President External, any oral supplements?

VPE Yes. Thank you, Chair. So on Saturday, I met with the Alberta Party to get a special assistant to the leader and their policy chair. They want to discuss something that caused priorities and see if they could possibly fit them in within their policy convention document around postsecondary education. And then yesterday, I travelled to Calgary and delivered a presentation on the upper cause, the University of Calgary really needs a student legislative council, which is essentially the same thing as our student council, just discussing what cause [unclear] and kind of what, how the cycle have caused. That's all. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Item 4.1.4, Vice President Operations and Finance, any oral supplements?

VPO Yes. Thank you, Chair. I attended the MacEwan Committee on internationalization today. It's a standing committee of AGC. And what this committee is currently working on is with the university's new strategic plan. Internationalization efforts had been removed from the plan where it was one of the main goals in prior years. So what this committee is now working on is to interweave the ideas of internationalization into the other university goals as they currently stand with the new integrative strategic plan.

00:05:45

And so they are going to be working very closely with various departments on campus to introduce curriculum opportunities, mentorship programs as well as education for professors and teaching international students. And then, specifically, I'll be working on student support, support international students on campus and to increase and assist in that process. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Vice President. 4.1.5, Vice President Student Life, any oral supplements?

VPSL Yes. Thank you, Chair. I would like to report on a conference session, this is the [unclear] as well, which was more [unclear] conference which is [unclear] conference that happens here on campus. So not only it wasn't really beneficial for any relationship [unclear] but also just to provide that sort of [unclear]. It went out really well. A lot of bright idea in the room went [unclear]. It was really fun and [unclear]. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Item 4.2, Executive Committee minutes, minutes of September 12th, 19th, and 28th, 2018 are provided in your package for your information. Item 5, Question Period, 5.1, Written Questions. Kudos to Councillor Newton. Where are you, Councillor Newton? Thank you, Councillor Newton, for the

question. We will move onto 5.2, Oral Questions. Question period's open now.  
Councillor Strayer?

00:07:25

KS Thank you, Chair. I saw that all the executives had a Windows 10 training. I was going to ask you if you guys had any insight on helping students to connect to the Wi-Fi, but I'm not going to ask you that. Instead I'm going to ask you something else. As for the VP of Operations, can you tell me about the specifics of the SAMU Fund Development?

CH Thank you, Councillor Strayer. Vice President?

VPO Yes. Thank you, Chair. So the report that was submitted by the fund development consultant, I guess, would be a correct title, she put forward a full analysis of all of the work that she did. She interviewed various staff. She interviewed executive past and current, some councillors, some external stakeholders, and essentially what she was looking for from the director's team and from the executive were essentially the direction to continue.

So she did a basic analysis and said, here's what we've noticed. So there's lots of people who really want to engage in fund development. There's lots of people who, within the organization, who think that it's a good idea and that we should pursue it, but not a lot of people have any ideas about how, which she says is quite common. And so what she was looking for is she had some proposals, but she wanted direction as to whether or not we wanted to pursue it after reading the initial analysis.

00:09:11

So it was the Executive Committee's direction that, yes, we want to move forward. We had some specifics. So for example, we want to work on developing an alumni program for SAMU executives, elected officials, including Student's Council. We think that that's a really important program as well as a goal of mine and the VPSLs. And so giving her some of those initial, we'll hear some things to start with and giving the direction that, yes, this is something that we want to move forward with.

And then she will take that with some of the recommendations that she has been working on and we'll propose next steps and a schedule for those next steps. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Strayer, anything further?

KS Yes. Thank you, Chair. Our budget is roughly \$3.5-\$3.6 million a year, give or take. Is it realistic to think that that can be entirely covered by alumni or did she propose other options for us? Thank you, Chair.

00:10:19

CH Thank you, Councillor Strayer. Vice President?

VPO I don't have any details on any of the propositions. What she was looking for was direction. So I don't really have any further details on it at this time. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Strayer, anything further?

KS Yes. Thank you, Chair. I got one more question. It's for the VP External. You met with your staff at some point in this month. Sorry, the VP, the chief of staff for Minister of Advanced Education.

CH Thank you, Councillor Strayer. Vice President?

VPE We talked a bit about the tuition campaign. They were a little overwhelmed by their response. The [unclear] other people got some email, so they're happy about that, also kind of mad. But they're kind of happy at the end of that, the end of the meeting. And they said that they would be in contact with us and that they're hopeful that they can think you needed an answer. It wasn't very much a more in depth conversation at that moment, but they did say that they want to set up a meeting with Minister of Advanced Education the next couple of weeks.

00:11:24

And we also [unclear] coming up or [unclear] coming up, so it's important that we did that. So yes. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Strayer, anything further?

KS No, I'm good. Thank you.

CH Thank you, Councillor. Any other questions? Councillor Masson?

SM I have a question for the VP of Operations and Finance. With the international branch immersing into SAMU commissions, I guess, is that going to take away the opportunity for, I guess, activism towards international students getting better work placements, because right now, they're not able to participate in all, I think.

CH Thank you, Councillor. Vice President?

VPO Thank you, Chair. I may ask for clarification. So MacEwan community on internationalization, what, they help set the guidance and direction for MacEwan International, which is the department within the university. So the committee itself is a governance body, so it doesn't get into the very specifics of how many students receive work placements or things of that nature. Part of what the subcommittee that I will be sitting on and most likely chairing is going to be, are there ways and what specific ways can students, specifically international students be better supported on campus?

00:13:10

So whether that is providing more supports for them in the way of work placements, if it's more to do with building better tangible skills for those jobs. Those are things that we can put forward as recommendations through this committee. But they themselves, as a governance body, will not be enacting those things that will be put to MacEwan International to find that support for them, if they are able to.

MacEwan International, given that it is not a current priority for the university, will likely not receive additional funding for the upcoming year simply because it's not a priority in their integrated strategic plan. And so their capability is somewhat limited in the additional support they're able to provide. It's more about finding creative ways to address those needs while also maybe re-evaluating current work to be more effective. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Masson, anything further?

SM I think I'm good for now. Thank you.

CH Thank you. Councillors, any other questions? Councillor Stewart?

AS Thank you, Chair. This would be to the VP Operations and Finance, just integrates to the topic of international students. Sorry. It might be just like a brief clarification, but when it comes to international students, and you had mentioned that it's no longer a priority necessarily for MacEwan in terms of their integrated plan or integrated strategic plan or [unclear], how will this currently impact international students in the future? It sounds like when midyear and it's trying to sit up some resolutions or some solutions to address that issue. But right now, how is that going to impact students or international students?

00:15:19

CH Thank you, Councillor Stewart. Vice President?

VPO Thank you, Chair. I don't know. The integrated strategic plan is not complete. It won't be completed until probably the end of the fiscal year. So definitely not before the end of this year. Hopefully, by March is when they will have it passed. So when I say it's not a priority, it's not listed as one of the four key, I don't know if they call them values, there's four main ideas or goals that are articulated. One of them is in relation to the cause of action with the TRC.

One of them has to do with... honestly, I can't remember it. That's one that I remember very specifically. So it's not as if they will remove the department. It's not as if those actions that that department does is not important. It's that, at this time, the university is choosing to focus some of its external efforts elsewhere. What this means is that it's not going to be cut. It just may not be increased, because they will put funding towards priorities that they feel are within the strategic direction of the university.

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So international students will receive the services at the level that they are able to be provided now. There is no intention to cut services or funding to that department. The most I can say is that we are trying to diversify the international portfolio to better increase awareness, to get it more in the vernacular of the university community and then hope that it will, through those efforts, become a top level priority again. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Stewart, any further questions?

AS No, I don't. Thank you very much. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. Councillors, other questions? Councillor Yanish?

MY Thank you, Chair. I just have a question for the president. You said you spoke at the stride panel and you talked about SAMU's practices for encouraging women and non-binary people to participate in the student governance. I was just curious what those were.

CH Thank you, Councillor. President?

00:17:52

PRES Thank you, Chair. So I think in my report, I talked about something that stride is focusing on but rather at SAMU, we kind of took a holistic approach this year, so our councillors might be familiar with the workshop that the Vice President Operations and I had put on over two days kind of giving council hopefuls or really just any [unclear] interested in elected office, the opportunity to get involved and engaged with the topic of running for elections.

And so we talked about that. What UASU is doing is a little bit more focused on women and non-binary people, but we also indicated that we don't necessarily have as many of the challenges that they've had in the past in recruiting women. So from, I think, 2011 to 2015, UASU had a male-only executive. So they've had a real challenge recruiting woman and so we haven't had the need to be making those gender-specific programs. So we talked more broadly about engagement on potential candidates in general.

CH Okay. Thank you, President. Councillor Yanish, anything further?

MY Yes. And the second question for the VP External, I was just curious if you had any more conversation with [unclear]? I've just spoken to him myself a few times. I'm just curious what he said to me.

CH Thank you, Councillor Yanish. Vice President?

VPE Can I ask for a clarification, just what do you mean by any more conversation, like any further conversation after the meeting?

00:19:15

MY Yes. So it's just that I believe it's [unclear] we're going to be in contact with them, and I was just curious if that [unclear].

VPE Yes. Thank you, Councillor Yanish. So what does actually he wanted is some stats and some of the cause and advocacy priorities because he was turning [unclear]. He really wanted to know more before he could make the [unclear] behind them. So right now, we're currently in the stage of compiling the stats and applying more empirical evidence [?] and providing it to them in the future. Thank you.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Yanish, anything further?

MY No. Thank you.

CH Thank you, Councillor. Councillors, any other questions? Councillor Baker, sorry.

CB Thank you, Chair. I have questions for the VP Operations and Finance. On your report, you had mentioned you were disheartened with your initiative to engage more students for student council positions. And I first would like to commend you on your efforts. I know it's super important to engage the students in this. Now, I'm just wondering what measures are in place to engage students in feedback and what measures have been taken to receive feedback in order for us to best support students in these endeavours?

00:20:25

CH Thank you, Councillor Baker. Vice President?

VPO Thank you, Chair. If I could receive clarification on what feedback we would be specifically looking for to, just some clarification of the question. Thank you, Chair.

CH Sure. Councillor Baker?

CB Certainly. Clarification, I can give... clearly, the students weren't receptive to this type of engagement. So I'm wondering what feedback has been given or if you'd have done any surveys or reports or just general questioning or talking with students as to what will be more tangible or more accessible for them.

CH Thank you, Councillor. Vice President?

VPO Thank you, Chair. So based on a... and the governance advisory may correct me. Thank you, to myself. Sorry. There was a report done a few years ago about the best ways, or it was done by students at MacEwan as to the best ways to engage with students at MacEwan. And overwhelmingly, it was face-to-face interaction, speaking one-on-one, the direct contact. And so using that information and based on a lot of experience through elections and through other people, we decided to have much more of a focus towards speaking to students one-on-one and trying to engage them in that way.

00:21:59

And throughout the project, I myself, because I attended everything, I found that students who did speak with us, we're much more inclined, lots didn't know anything about Student's Council or the nomination and election process. And so a lot of them were quite encouraged because they spoke one-on-one. And so that to me was an indicator that I was having some success. Unfortunately, students, while receptive, are not always super initiative. What is the... I don't care. They don't always go for it.

And so I think just based on the amount of students that I spoke to and how they engaged with me, I don't believe a survey is most appropriate because I believe the vast majority of students wouldn't necessarily provide the feedback that we were looking for, given we did not speak to the entire population, which is who it will be sent

out to. But what I do think is, for the Executive Committee Nominations Project, which I hope to run, is to re-evaluate some of the materials that we use.

I think some of the nomenclature around the election is important. At this time, I haven't had the opportunity to fully evaluate the project as other things have popped up. But it's going to be a lot of my November, December project to really evaluate that and rethink my strategy for next semester. Thank you, Chair.

00:23:45

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Baker, anything further?

CB Yes. Just to ask, I guess. So then, when you are developing or hopefully developing the upcoming strategy, will there be discussion with students who may not be so involved in talks with them as to how to be more involved in and get their opinion on that? Is that something that would be considered?

CH Yes. Thank you, Councillor Baker. Vice President?

VPO Thank you, Chair. Sure, why not? I haven't had the opportunity to develop anything yet, but it's a great suggestion. And I can see with the governor's office this weekend, set up a focus group if we can do some of those things to reach out to the student body. So I'll take it as a suggestion, and I'll see what I can do with it. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Baker, anything further?

CB No. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Councillor. Questions? Other questions? Councillor Melech, we haven't gotten to you yet.

JM1 Thank you, Chair. Just a question for the president. I'm wondering if you could just elaborate more on the main points discussed at the consent panel. I see why you questioned. I understand. That's fair enough. Thank you, Chair.

00:25:06

CH Thank you, Councillor Melech. President?

PRES Thank you, Chair. So the conversation that we have is largely around, what can we do beyond massive institutional things to shift the culture? So that manage just kind of how do we combat things around like the socialization of students on campus, how do we combat this kind of expectation that sexual violence is a reality for students on campus. And one of the things we talked about was really targeting certain groups who might be in positions of power, who might be able to impact that.

So as I said earlier, two councillors here in our conversation, one of the examples was the healthy masculinities programming that goes on and it came up a couple of years ago. So things like that and really making sure that we're providing opportunities for folks to learn as a more of a preventative and educational measure as opposed to how do we support survivors, because both are equally important. But we do feel that if

we're looking at sexual violence prevention in particular, that's something that we need to focus on.

The other thing was that really pushing MacEwan to put resources behind student-led and grassroots approaches, so allowing students to be at the forefront of that conversation as opposed to a top-down approach. And then we talked about what a culture of consent really looks like on campus. So there was a few different takes and a few different perspectives. So for example, one of the panellists was speaking specifically to our experience as a survivor who went through the process and what could've been done better for her, things like that.

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So it was a panel of students and students from different components of the university. So from residents [unclear]. And so we got to hear a little bit about the weaknesses and strengths in each different area and how we can better support that. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, President. Councillor Melech, anything further?

JM1 No, thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Councillor. Councillors, other questions? Councillor Ruiz?

LR Thank you, Chair. My main question is for the Vice President Operations and Finance. Do you know the only reason why MacEwan is moving away from the internationalization in the strategic plan?

CH Thank you, Councillor Ruiz. Vice President?

VPO Thank you, Chair. I do not. The instigation of the integrated strategic plan was done by the President's Office, so the president of the university, and the Executive Committee set that direction. So unfortunately, I am not in those meetings. I can't say why. This is the focus for them. But this is the focus they've set. Thank you, Chair.

00:27:44

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Ruiz, anything further?

LR Yes. Just a follow-up question, is there anything that the committee can do about it at this point in time, or do you bring back the focus to potentially change the mind of the executives at MacEwan?

CH Thank you, Councillor Ruiz. Vice President?

VPO Thank you, Chair. As I mentioned earlier, I think trying to increase their efforts to be more interwoven into the MacEwan community to try to set the priority within the other priorities so that it becomes a larger facet of the university's efforts, and hope that through those efforts and advocacy through the international office and through those committee members, that as the plan is being created and developed, it remains a

focus in there. And then, if not that, when that plan comes up for renewal, that the international office will be in a place to become a priority again. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Ruiz, anything further?

00:29:00

LR No. I'm just saying. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Councillor. Councillors, other questions? Councillor Stewart?

AS It's kind of more just for a potential comment, this would be directed to the VP Operations and Finance.

CH Sorry, Councillor. Did you say you were going to comment, or were you going to ask a question?

AS No. It would be a question.

CH Thank you. Okay. Go ahead. But go ahead. Sorry.

AS Sorry. My apologies. Directed to the Vice President Operations and/or potentially the President. When it comes to the elections and governance, obviously, it's not really quite over yet. So I understand not being able to have much time to reflect or work on potential different engagement strategies. But especially with your work as well on the stride panel in talking about getting women and other [unclear] involved in the democratic process, I'm just curious, do you think it could be a concern for a point of engagement in the future with this election only containing three people who do not identify as male and, for my knowledge, no visible minorities of ways to... if it is a concern then to potentially to try to engage most groups in the future and maybe potential options of doing so.

00:30:32

Sorry from my clarification, but just in regards to, yes, seeking engagement based on the current election when it comes to gender diversity and diversity itself on council and governing bodies.

CH Thank you, Councillor Stewart. Vice President? I think there was a question in there.

VPO I think I'll pass to the president.

CH President?

VPO Thank you, Chair.

PRES Thank you, Councillor. So for us, I guess this is our appeal for some patients from council as we navigate our way through this kind of process that we've undertaken in terms of engagement of students who are not usually super engaged with SAMU. This is the first of its kind in terms of initiatives that we're taking on. And obviously, it's been a learning curve for us. I think that we need to do a more thorough review of who is getting involved and why certain groups aren't getting involved.

00:31:30

That can go from fields of study to people who might be racial minorities to people who might be gender minorities and seeing what can we do to facilitate that involvement a little bit better. So maybe doing a more comprehensive review as opposed to just this last election. It would be, I think, our next step in that process. As yet, we are looking at improving our equity and diversity practices overall. And I'm sure that governance is going to be no exception in that context.

But for us, we can't say right now what that's going to look like or what steps are going to be taken formally because we just haven't done the appropriate information gathering process to start that off. I can say that, for certain, this is something that's a huge priority for us. And that we are going to try and implement that in a way that is tangible. And of course, Councillors will be kept in the loop to make sure that what we're doing is appropriate and reflects the kind of engagement that we want to see from our student body.

Ultimately, the goal is not to have an X number of women or an X number of minorities around the table. The goal is to make sure that what we're doing at SAMU is accessible to any group who wants to engage with it. And so we're going to work towards that goal. Are we going to get it perfect on the first try or not? I think that's our last run out of this evidence of that, but it's not going to stop us from continuing to pursue it. Thank you, Chair.

00:32:50

CH Thank you, President. Councillor Stewart, anything further?

AS No. [Unclear] being potentially inarticulate earlier. I really appreciate the comment or the answer to that as this became a bit more...

CH So thank you, Councillor Stewart. I appreciate that.

AS Thank you.

CH Councillors, any other questions? Councillor Masson?

SM My question is directed to the executives. Today, I saw a lot of, I believe, they're promo squad wearing the black shirts and handling of these for elections. Would it be possible to get higher people running for student council, do the same thing at the beginning of the year at September to try to create awareness about the Councillor positions?

CH Thank you, Councillor. We will go to the President.

PRES Yes. Thank you, Chair. I think it's certainly something we can consider. We have found though that a lack of engagement doesn't come from people not knowing elections are happening. It usually comes with other challenges associated, so the time commitment, people's feelings of readiness for the position. So we have done things to that effect with the Vice President of Operations and the rest of the MacEwan, doing a lot of tabling and a lot of advertisement just through social media for the conditions.

00:34:07

But I think that will be blended into our larger review of what we need to do to make this work in the future as we continue to pursue those engagement efforts. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, President. Councillor Masson, anything further?

SM No. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. Councillors, any other questions? Councillor Qaderi?

SQ This question is directed to the VP Student Life about the Dream Catchers Conference, and maybe Councillor Baker would like to comment on this. So I know in the past couple years, the turnout had been super low, what was your strategy on promoting it and getting more people involved? Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Councillor Qaderi. Vice President?

VPSL Thank you, Chair. As it is not actually our conference, we're just invited to host the session. Mine was just to share the poster that was provided to me. And our social media team, we tweeted a couple of things because it's not our direct function. It's not something for us to take over. The involvement, I believe, was around 100 [unclear]. Thank you, Chair.

00:35:14

CH Thank you, Vice President. I'm sorry. Sorry, Councillor. Councillor Qaderi, anything further?

SQ No. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. Councillors, any other questions?

SM I can speak to that.

CH Councillor Masson, I think we got an answer. We had a question, if we want to follow up later, that's fine. Councillors, any other questions? Councillor Yanish?

MY Thank you, Chair. I'm not sure if I'm addressing this to the correct person, so I'll address this to the President, but would it be a good idea for us to consider in making it easier to apply to run for Student's Council? I know when I looked at it, the 30 signatures was the most daunting thing, which is easy way to go and do it, but maybe we consider lowering that, eliminating it.

CH Thank you, Councillor Yanish. President?

PRES Thank you, Chair. This is not something that we've considered in the broader context. Understandably, executives don't tend to meddle in election regulations and processes. We're bound by the same process. I will say that I can offer my penny, and as someone who's gone to the election process a few times now, 30 signatures is not very many in terms of going around and engaging the campus community.

00:36:28

And we would hope that folks who are hoping to sit around this table and represent the student body take that first step of initiating the nomination process by speaking to that many students. If that's something that's too daunting, then I think that's kind of a more grown [?], their potential performance in the role of the councillor. And that's not a personal judgment. That's just one of the requirements we talked to be able to perform your role well just to engage students.

The other thing is that we need to make sure that people who are looking to run in these elections, at least have the capacity to have the endorsement of some of their peers. And so I think that's fairly common for any election process, that there was a nomination process. And we want to make sure that that in itself filters out people who may not necessarily be here for the right reasons or we don't understand the process or who are not understanding what they're signing up for.

So we think that's one of those steps that could certainly make it easier for people to engage, but I think it's a necessary step in the entire process of getting the nomination filled out and submitted. I think that if there are other challenges, certainly, I think the governance office would be more than happy to hear that from folks who have gone through the election process, and we can evaluate that. But I can't make any kind of commitment in terms of making those changes or adjusting that process to make it easier for councillors to run. Thank you, Chair.

00:37:49

CH Thank you, President. Councillor Yanish, anything further?

MY No. Thank you.

CH Thank you. Councillors, any other questions? Going twice. Good question period, Councillors. I think that... do people still raise the [unclear]? That was a god joke. I'm allowed to do that now. Okay. So I digress. You didn't answer, but I'll get your answer later. Item 6, In Camara [?] Period, no items there. Item 7, Motions and Business Orders of the Day, no items there. Item 8, Consultation. 8.1, President, Councillor Exit Interviews.

PRES Yes. Thank you, Chair. First, I'd like to apologize for the last bit of addition of this to the agenda. I missed the deadline for having it submitted at the appropriate time. So I appreciate you being willing to entertain the item. What I'm looking for here is just some thoughts from councillors. And now, that you're at the end of your term, whether you've been here for the full term, whether you were appointed somehow through, in terms of what you think would be some good strategies for us to get the opinions of councillors who are leaving council in terms of their experience as a councillor, things that we did well and things that maybe we didn't do so well in terms of facilitating their experience here.

00:39:08

So whether you think that we should be having a conversation prior to people's exits, whether you think that's even a good idea or not, I'd be interested to hear that. This is going to really help with some of the things that we do with leadership and engagement committee in particular about how we engage councillors, how we facilitate their involvement as a councillor at this table and then our committee table.

So if we can just go around and share some thoughts. I'm not looking for a step-by-step strategy, more just your take on another councillor. I'm also not looking for your exact opinions right now. If you have those, feel free to forward them to the executive, of course. But this is more about just the process that you think would maybe serve best in terms of getting that commentary from our councillors. So that's getting in there. Thank you, Chair.

CH Great. Thank you, President. Councillors? Care to offer their perspective? Councillor Sheppard?

VS Thank you, Chair. And speaking to exit interviews, for myself, who had just gone through one in the summer and it was a atrociously done, let me just tell you that face-to-face is the best thing you can do. Surveys are great in their own right, but you're not going to get that same perspective as you are when councillors reminiscing on those experiences. I find personally that if someone is asking me and having more of like a face-to-face interview, I can remember more, I can expand more on my thoughts and feelings of the issue. And certain things will trigger it better than if I'm up at 2:00 AM and have nothing better to do but your survey or something like that.

00:40:52

So yes. And don't try to make it a group event. That's the horrible one I went through, guys. It was terrible. Please don't do it. One-on-one interviews and exit interviews are, I think, a great idea especially to find out what we're doing, right or wrong. And yes. So thank you for taking on the initiative.

CH Thank you, Councillor. Other councillors? Councillors? Councillor Masson?

SM I think it would be advantageous to... thank you, Chair... come forward with more team building activities. I feel like, as a whole, we all have different schedules of things that we volunteer with. We might only see one or two people in passing. So other than our meeting, I think it would be valuable to have primary, get to engage in each other and feel more comfortable talking amongst each other that just not involve, helps meetings.

Another thing that I would look to consider is that councillors that are engaged and very involved, as councillors, I guess I would think it would be wise to take that 80% of team meetings away or more consideration of how much councillors are committed and engaged to be looked at in the following year.

CH Okay.

00:42:55

SM That's all. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Councillor. Councillors, any other comments? Councillor Newton?

SN Yes. Thank you, Chair. Yes. With regards to exit interviews, I think they are a really great idea. And one thing that we can definitely look into doing is asking councillors about their experience, positive as well as what they thought could be improved on for councillor trainings, because there might be things that were overlooked or things that the council, when they were in training, they thought they did well, but it might be like, this whole entire time, I wasn't really sure how to do this, so that just we can focus our councillor training, make it more streamlined to, what, new councillors. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Councillor Newton. Other councillors? Councillor Qaderi?

SQ Yes. I like the idea. I think it should be open to both the surveys and coming in person and talking about what can be improved. Because some people feel more comfortable in person. Some people feel more comfortable filling out the survey. I think it should be open. And yes. Thank you, Chair.

00:44:00

CH Thank you, Councillor. Councillors' other perspective? Vice President?

VPO Thank you, Chair. I think another important aspect of a councillor's time on council is, and this is just purely based on an observation, I've never served as a councillor other than in an executive capacity, I find that those who are not re-elected or who did not return for a second term, they're here in the October meeting and then they're not in the November meeting. And there's no transition in that way. There's no recognition for that time.

And so I think if we are attempting to build potentially an alumni program or something to that effect, that recognition of those councillors who served their time and then continue on outside of this group, there should be some form of recognition, whether it'd be an activity or whether it'd be a celebration or something, I think that that is important to recognize as well because we don't want... I would hate to have a councillor come, feel that they dedicated a lot of time and effort and then have them leave without having some kind of recognition or some kind of thank you other than just a thank you at a meeting.

I think that that would be appropriate. And it's another way to garner feedback at things. So I think that that can go hand-in-hand with transitioning if there's a transition plan, if there's an exit interview, that there's also some kind of recognition or celebration with that. Thank you, Chair.

00:45:49

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Stayer?

KS Yes. I think this is a good idea, the initiative. I think it should be extended further than just necessarily exiting councillors. Any corporation or business environment, there is quarterly reviews, yearly reviews with their employees. I would argue the same thing. It should apply to us, a yearly review of how did your past year as a councillor go. And it can be as simple as questions like that at this time of year. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Councillor Strayer. Councillor Stewart?

AS Yes. I just want to say that I like all of these ideas that are coming up, thinking it's really important just to expand on a councillor's experience or comment on it not just being on this time of year in regards to exiting but maybe a potential opportunity for interviews or some kind of team building or some kind of option for students midway through. Obviously, I haven't done a full year in council, but I could see there potentially being room for [unclear] during that time or has had a few months experience instead of waiting for a whole term to maybe be done like partly through as an option. That's all.

00:47:11

CH Thank you, Councillor Stewart. Any other perspective? Councillor Yanish?

MY Thank you, Chair. I know if this deviates too far from what is meant to be accomplished by this whole experience. But if it were completely up to me to create something that would help new councillors the most, I think a very informal... honestly, the very first meeting I ever attended afterwards with drinks like we normally do, and then I felt I learned so much more in that 90 minutes sitting at Hudson's [?], wherever it was, I'm just saying like, hey, even down to questions like, do I say thank you, chair, after he turns it over to me? Is that a thing you have to do? Is that something we should do?

I asked him just little questions like that or big picture, small picture, whatever. I think it's a lot more easy in an informal environment to ask all of those specific questions. Again, I don't know if that's too far from an exit interview, but if it were, like I said, if it were completely up to me, that's what I would do, is I would have the exiting councillors and the new councillors mingle, ask as many questions as you want. I don't know. I think that would be most helpful, but that's just me.

CH Thank you, Councillor Yanish. Councillor Drummond?

00:48:26

RD Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to talk a bit about on those points. I do agree with Councillor Newton in saying, I think you need to identify things that you found were important in training and things that weren't so important. I've been on the council for a couple of years, and I have found most likely given the same presentation from what I found and a lot of it is very governance and policy-based, which is great. We need to know that as well. But there are those little things like Councillor Yanish was saying that we do miss out on.

That being said, I think although I should know the councillors [unclear] we can go and talk to each other and we don't need to have a consultation item to go and speak to each other and ask questions. So I think that's really important. And again, what Councillor Strayer was saying, I think we were transitioning new councillors in as well as partway through or appointing new people and people who are totally new. Those interviews are really important as well, not just at the end. Because there are things that come up midway. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Councillor. Councillors, any other perspective? Councillor Ruiz?

LR Thank you, Chair. I would like to add... oh, yes, but Councillor, as you were... Councillor Drummond and Councillor Masson have, like I said, they have find some really great ideas as well as Councillor Yanish. I definitely do think that we showed you some type of mingling. I know that in the past, some of the new councillors have approached me for questions during my three terms and it has been a great thing.

00:50:00

And I do think that we should need to have a transition period or some sort of thing for new councillors. I also believe that we should be able to do more activities throughout the year through leadership time engagement. I know that in my first year as a councillor, we had something going on almost every month. But since then, there hasn't been much happening ever since or at least from my perspective.

So I would like to see that change somehow going forward, some sort of like a feedback. Because I do think that a team building and being able to ask questions for [unclear] or support each other is important. And I will also add that it is great when other councils or other councillors, not during the meetings but prior to them, is also very important. And it's something that each will be encouraged more. So that's just my input. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Councillor Ruiz. President?

PRES Thank you, Chair. It's awesome.

CH Thank you. Item 9, Evaluation. Here are the forms.

00:55:05

CH So Item 10, Recognition. Councillor Masson?

SM I like to recognize the VP of Student Life for her continuous work on diversity and inclusion and sexual violence on campus and also the President for her work on sexual violence on campus. I was recently asked for there to be more awareness, and I reached out to Roxanne. But just seeing the reports, the work that you've been doing is really encouraging. So thank you.

CH Other recognition? Councillor Ruiz?

LR Thank you, Chair. I would like to say thank you to all of our outgoing councillors for their time here. And it has been a pleasure having served throughout their term. We

will be [unclear] all of you and I wish you the best in your future. And I also want to wish the best of luck to all of the candidates, the other 11 candidates running for the election, which is [unclear] company, and I really hope that the best councillor will win.

CH Okay. Thank you, Councillor Ruiz. Councillor Millions?

JM2 Thank you. Where's my water? [Unclear]. Thank you.

CH Thank you, Councillor Millions. Councillor Stewart?

AS I find [unclear] especially as well as the president for entertaining all of our questions today and for yours, it's been really appreciated.

CH President?

00:57:16

PRES Thank you, Chair. I'd like to recognize Councillor Sheppard for being elected the chairperson of the whole congress. I'm not super familiar with our nomenclature, so she had to explain it to me, but it's a big deal.

CH Any other recognition, Councillors? Councillor Masson?

SM I would like to recognize those who participated and asking or answering questions for councillor elections, so all candidates and those who contribute to that, I'd like to recognize them. And all those engaging with the student body in running or encouraging in the upcoming launch [?].

CH Thank you, Councillor. Councillors, any other recognition? Vice President?

VPO Thank you, Chair. I'd like to recognize the Executive Committee in helping me with my somewhat failed nominations project and for their support through that process. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Vice President?

VPE I'd like to recognize everyone who helped me on the tuition campaign. That was phenomenal. So thank you.

CH Councillor Yanish?

00:58:48

MY Thank you, Chair. I'd like to be super cliché and honestly just recognize all of us in the room today because the Student's Council [unclear] a year ago, I would never consider joining to [unclear] a lot conversation with Ruiz about it, and it doesn't need to apply to the appointment, and that's something to look forward to every month. So I just appreciate what most everyone's done in this room [unclear] something I look forward to. So thank you.

CH Any other recognition, Councillors? Councillor Baker?

CB Thank you, Chair. Once again, to echo Councillor Yanish, I will be also cheesy. I just want to thank everybody for the opportunity to be on the Student Council. I would just like, I guess, to clarify and recognize that you guys [unclear] coming into council so late, but unfortunately, I can't continue to help with the issues. I've been really sick for the last four months. So unfortunately, that's why I'm running again. So thank you for your understanding. Thank you for all of your support.

CH Councillors, any other recognition? Vice President?

VPSL I would just like to thank all of the councillors who have not decided to run in election to return to this table again. Thank you all for your service. It's been an absolute pleasure for the last six months.

CH Councillor Ruiz?

01:00:24

LR Thank you, Chair. I would like to wish Councillor Baker a fast recovery, and I hope that your health does improve in the next little while. And we hope to see you next year perhaps. Thank you.

CH Councillors, any other recognition? So Council, I always get the last word because I'm the chair. So I recognize that some of you will be joining us next month and others will. I want to say that I think that we've accomplished a lot in the past number of months. And I think you have held yourselves with professionalism. And I think that we've grown as a council. And I can honestly say that I've come to really look forward to these meetings because I think that they've been productive.

And I attend many meetings a day, and I can say that not all of them are productive. And so congratulations to you. I would encourage you to take what you've learned here and apply it to whatever field that you go into in the future. I can tell you from personal experience that it will serve you well. So congratulations to you. For those of you that are joining us again in the next month or those of you that are running, good luck. And we'll see you in the next month.

So with that said, Item 11, Adjournment. We have a motion. Councillor Sheppard?

VS I just move to adjourn the meeting.

CH So we'll just have a motion to adjourn. It only requires one mover, and it's not debatable. All those in favour? Thank you. Opposed? Councillor Strayer has opposed. Motion carries. This meeting is adjourned.

01:02:36