VUSAC Meeting Agenda

**Call to order:** 5:37 pm EST, October 28, 2022

**Land Acknowledgement:**

*Sooyeon*

*Land acknowledgements are quite straightforward, and they are a statement of a fact, which is that most of us are not indigenous to in Canada. And our use of the land is a result of colonialism of land that were already inhabited by Indigenous peoples. And this was based on systems of hierarchy and supremacy that acted as justification for taking indigenous land and suppressing indigenous cultures and rights, and these systems are very much present today. I just want to say, take the time to think about how you can take action to support Indigenous Peoples, and that action looks like informing yourself on their history and culture. It’s important for us to lobby for better support and that means contributing towards a culture of learning and unlearning and constantly challenging people’s norms. But when we read or listen to land acknowledgements we have to actively reflect so we don’t forget and do the work that is necessary. With that being said, I would like to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto 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 grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.*

**Official Regrets:** Vincent Espenida, Kate Mochina (Proxy: Juhyung Yun), Julie Seeger, Luca Carnegie (Proxy: Carolyn Gao)

**Absent:**

**Approval of minutes:**

*Motion by Shane Joy to approve the minutes for Month Day, Seconded by Amy Mann*

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

**Additions to the agenda:**

*Jackets for Vic, put forth by Carolyn Gao (3 minutes)*

**Approval of the agenda:**

*Motion by Amy Mann to approve the agenda for Month Day, Seconded by Diana Vink*

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

EX-OFFICIO REPORTS:

*Motion: Shane Joy motions to grant Ali Kehl speaking rights, seconded by Michael Elsaesser*

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

Ali: I’ve been doing a lot of work with VUSAC. We’re wrapping up retreat, as well as working on Caucus and the December Memorial with Shane. I’ve also been meeting with the relevant commissions for Home for the Holidays, Semi, and Gardiner Gala. There’s lots going on in the next couple of months, so please take extra care because VUSAC is going to end up in a busy season. In terms of our TM updates, if any of you are in first year or are a transfer student, you will be able to access our November Social starting on Monday. Free tickets to the Royal Ontario Fair, which has a lot of fun stuff. Their retreat is happening on Monday, so because most of you have not been here during an in-person year, this is kind of our Goldring Halloween Special. You get free candy, but also there’s a resource check happening from 1-4PM on Monday. A huge thank you to our VUSAC speakers and volunteers for Minding our Minds. It went really well, and I hope you learned something if you attended. Cochair applications for Orientation open up on Monday, if you are already holding a VUSAC position or an assessor role you cannot apply. It is a long application, so there’s no point in going through it if you already hold a role. You also need to be centrally located in Ontario for the entirety of the summer, minusing any vacations. I know Shane also sent a reminder but if any of you want to help out in the December 6 memorial, that is the National Day of Rememberance and Action on Violence Against Women, we need 14 rosebearers, if you don’t want to speak but be part of the ceremony a rosebearer is a really simple role, you just bring a white rose up in memory of the victims. Just a reminder to treat yourself with grace, so be kind to yourself and to others.

ACTION ITEMS:

*Motion: Sooyeon Lee to pass “Council Policies Amendments 2022” (Appendix A), seconded by Jackson Leslie (3 minutes)*

Sooyeon: Just for some context, I can explain what the amendment was for. So we have existing measures in place that hold levy heads accountable to serve in accordance with the constitution, but we don’t have that for club heads. Although levies get funding, that shouldn’t be a reason that club heads aren’t held to the same level of accountability. So for the amendment, I applied the same language of levy heads to the club heads, and two weeks have passed so I’m bringing up the motion.

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

*Motion: Maarib Kirmani Haseeb to amend line 330 in the ratified Fall 2022 budget, seconded by Jackson Leslie (3 minutes)*

Maarib: There was a mix up with the budget allocation, and our events duo handed out $150 worth of gift cards instead of the newly budgeted $100. So I’d like to add $50 to Line 330 so it doesn’t come out of pocket for those students.

Thomas: In terms of financial feasibility, this is fine, it’s just fifty dollars.

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

*Motion: Shane Joy to reallocate $127.46 from line 198 to 194 in the ratified Fall 2022 budget, seconded by Jackson Leslie (3 minutes)*

Thomas: So the reallocation just means that they want to change their expenditure from one line to another, which means there’s no change in total expenditure, it’s more of how they want to spend their money.

Julia: What we got the information on for a fee was in USD and not CAD, so we were hoping to get the additional from another line.

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

*Motion: Michael Elsaesser to ratify Victoria Environmental Fashion Show as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2022-2023 school year, seconded by Jackson Leslie. (3 minutes)*

Michael: VEFS is a returning club here at Vic, I’m sure everyone’s aware of them. They’re really great, they promote sustainability in fashion, as well as social possibility and individual expression. They build a culture of sustainability here at UofT, and the students are encouraged to learn about design and create their own sustainable fashion. They have a big show at the end of the year too that I’m sure everyone’s excited about it.

Abigail: Hi, I’m the Vice President of the VEFS, I manage the internal and external relations of the club. We’re really excited because we have more events in person now, so we’re looking forward to it.

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

*Motion: Michael Elsaesser to ratify Victoria Pool Society as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2022-2023 school year, seconded by Jackson Leslie. (3 minutes)*

Michael: Victoria Pool Society is a new club here at Vic, they want to expand the culture of billiards. They plan to hold weekly sessions of pool sessions so players can learn, and are thinking of possibly holding leagues and tournaments. Pool is big at Vic so this is a great opportunity to connect students with one another.

Yegor: This is a great opportunity for anyone who’s interested, it’s a very inclusive and social game so it’s great to meet other people too.

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

*Motion: Michael Elsaesser to ratify Bachata at Vic as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2022-2023 school year, seconded by Jackson Leslie. (3 minutes)*

Michael: Bachata used to exist but the club ended, and they’re now returning. It’s a fun and inclusive club for UofT students to enjoy Bachata. You can make new friends and learn new forms of movement. It’s great for students to learn and socialize.

Liam: Hi, I’m copresident of the club, and we’re really excited to bring it back to Vic.

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

*Motion: Michael Elsaesser to ratify One Piece Cake Club as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2022-2023 school year, seconded by Jackson Leslie. (3 minutes)*

Michael: One Piece Cake Club is a new club that aims to bring together community through cake. They focus on mental wellness, food, and sustainability. They have lots of passion and it’s a great way for students to socialize.

Noah: Our three main focuses are mental health, sustainability, and culture. We have a plethora of interests and work to provide a safe space for students.

Cameron: Is the name going to be a permanent thing?

Noah: The name pays homage to the people we got the idea from and those are our roots.

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

*Future initiative on communicative platform, put forth by Juhyung Lee (5 minutes)*

Juhyung: For those of you who don’t know me, I’m a first year councillor. This is for a future initiative. I’ve noticed that there are problems with people eating lunch alone, not necessarily because they don’t have friends, but because schedules don’t match. So the initiative is to create a communication platform to create a place for students to socialize and find someone to connect with. I wanted to see everyone’s opinions on it.

Jackie: I think this is a great idea, I just wanted to ask, who will be managing the platform?

Juhyung: I was thinking councillors could manage it, but I don’t think there will be a lot of supervision needed.

Jackie: I have witnessed issues that can arise in platforms like Discord, which is not something that one person can deal with alone. So, I think there is a need to figure out how many people will be involved in managing the system, and how the roles will be distributed.

Ali: I think you need to consider that if this is a VUSAC initiative, there are issues with safety. Will the server only be for Vic students? Students are sharing personal information back and forth and that can be an issue.

Sooyeon: I think the discord idea would be great, because discord can have channels specified for other things. I know some people might use messenger more, so that could be an option. In terms of safety, what would you suggest, Ali?

Ali: I don’t know if you can ask questions like if they’re Vic students. My thought is, is it worth sharing locations if you have no ability to confirm their identity. Even if you have Tcard numbers, there’s no way to verify they’re active students.

Carolyn: What if it was just for people who are in residence, like you slip the link under doors.

*Motion by Diana Vink to extend the discussion time of the item, seconded by Dhir Shah.*

Rebecca: What if we use the Vic mailing list and send a link through that? I’m sure there’s a Vic mailing list somewhere.

Ali: My only concern would be that there are Vic students who might have something with other Vic students, so that’s still a concern. And given that this is VUSAC sanctioned, there is liability here and you’re taking ownership of what happens in a channel with thousands of students.

Tariq: Once you send out a link to join, it’s out of your control who has access to that and who gets in. A solution could be just have students come in to meet for lunch.

Diana: I’m not a big fan of the discord link being sent out because it can be distributed. I was thinking of more of a community building and have an event-type situation.

Ninon: I know that with discord you can have the link expire over a certain period of time, it could be safer that way, and you would also lower the amount of distribution.

Lara: I think this is a great idea but if we’re worried about safety we can invite people to the VUSAC office instead? There’s always someone holding office hours and it’s a public space that anyone is welcome to come into.

Sooyeon: The root cause is because people feel alone or there isn’t a coordination of time, but I don’t think we can singlehandedly solve it. Our events have good turnout but it’s admittedly the same couple of people and it creates this bubble. I think we need to make people feel more connected and welcomed, and find a community they can be apart of.

*Victoria College Helpers Budget Addition–Website Expense, put forth by Thomas Keough (8 minutes)*

Thomas: So Victoria College Helpers had their line struck during the budget meeting, and unfortunately, they didn’t realise their line was struck so they came back with an addition as a necessary expense. The expected expense was $448, but it was struck at $432. The expected expense was more now because of tax. The club deems it as a necessary expense. They don’t have a representative today but I did ask them a couple of questions. So Victoria College Helpers does free virtual tutoring in the GTA, and they’re a Chapter of the Halifax Helpers, and they aim to grow and do similar work in Ontario. The club website is needed so the services can be easily accessible and the website can show who their tutors will be. The booking service is so students can book sessions, and the Wix booking system is the best, according to them. This was double the expense of similar services, but they deem it necessary. In terms of affordability, without the expense there would be no Victoria College Helpers.

Shane: If we were to create a motion to include this, how would that impact the budget?

Thomas: There’s $4,000 left in what can be responsibly spent this term, this is an eighth of that. With the new clubs we ratified, this is a big chunk of that, and they may need to budget for items. But given what we know about other expenses, there isn't necessarily a reason to withhold the expense.

Jackie: For VUSAC’s website, we use the combo premium for $185, so is the booking system is $300 more?

Thomas: So my understanding is that the regular website plan for Wix is about $200 a year, it might be even more than that. But the booking service is additional, yeah. I don’t know the numbers off the top of my head, but think that this site plan is $21-22 a month and then the plan that includes the booking service is somewhere in the forties.

Jackson: I was wondering if Ali could talk about this, cause she has experience with booking services?

Ali: I do use Microsoft Office, but students don’t have access to that, it’s a feature that staff get through Microsoft. UofT pays for Microsoft Office but booking is not part of that, so I have no idea how expensive that would be. My assumption would be that they would probably have to buy a full suite, and I don’t know if that would be in line with what they need, cause they’d still have to buy a website.

Rebecca: I know there are external websites that offer free booking services, so I’m wondering why they can’t just link to an external platform for booking?

Thomas: So they didn’t say, but I’m assuming it’s for accessibility reasons.

Dhir: Do we have numbers on how many people actually use their services, so we can determine if they actually need that booking system and if we should be spending on that?

*Motion by Jackson Leslie to extend the discussion of the Victoria College Helpers budget addition by five minutes, Seconded by Sooyeon Lee*

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

Shane: They don’t have a representative at this meeting, so we should wait until the next meeting for a club representative to be able to discuss this.

Jackson: I agree, I think we should ask the club to send a representative and then discuss this later on.

Jackie: Just for some context, Wix booking offers a free version that has the basic features, but the paid plan has better options. It would be important to find out why they need the booking, if it’s not super complicated then I think they can deal with the free version.

Lara: I agree with Dhir that it’s important to find out their statistics, and I’m also taking a look at the booking costs, and it’s $28/month which already includes the booking service.

Thomas: The Halifax branch has 500 families, so that would be a good question to ask in terms of what they expect for this branch.

Diana: This is a new club, and if we start them off with a lower plan then that would be better, and we can budget and reconsider the upgraded plan next semester.

*Abolishing VISA*

Sooyeon: This is something the VUSAC Exec has been talking about, not just this year but in past years too. So just some context, VISA is Victoria International Student Association, it is a levy that is inactive, and when a levy is inactive for two years, they lose levy status, and that’s a problem because VISA is not active but they’re collecting student funds, and we don’t know how much money is in VISA’s bank account at the moment, that isn’t being spent on the purpose of serving international students. We have an international councillor, and typically VISA would work alongside the councillor for programming. But VISA isn’t active, and I don’t expect them to be active, I’d be surprised if they did, the Executive are contemplating abolishing VISA, but that isn’t a decision we would make alone, and want to do so in conversation with international students. I just want to raise to council how they feel about this, either using the funds to raise VUSAC’s funds for potentially, a new International Commission. I don’t know if anyone has any thoughts on what that might look like.

Shane: And I think this would also involve us getting rid of the International Councillor as well in the future, just because we don’t want two different things to have the same purpose. I think that the international commission would significantly expand VUSAC’s ability to cater to international students, especially because the international student population seems to be steadily rising. And based on my conversations with Charlie, it seems as though the International Councillor is doing planning and outreach, organizing surveys, all of these different things that is kind of impossible for one person to do, along with other commitments and academics. I think this would allow us to manage issues with succession as well.

Jackson: This was brought up by Jerico and we’ve been talking about this over the summer. Because VISA is a levy, we would have to do a referendum, that would go to all of Vic and would have to be done during our Spring Elections. As an International Student, it’s unfair that we’re not getting that representation, and it’s unfortunate that Charlie doesn’t get to work with VISA. Given that it was inactive, what had happened is that Kate, as VPSO, took over as acting levy head. If there would be an international commission it would run like VOCA, and it would likely just be VUSAC taking on VISA. The 20 cents we pay to VISA now would be reallocated to VUSAC, but that needs to be voted on and needs to be a conversation with the wider community.

Shane: I think another important thing to note is that, if you think back with the previous budget items Charlie proposed, like going to Wonderland and having the capacity to run that event on his own. With an international commission it would be much easier to run events like these and not worry about safety and supervision.

Lara: I was hired into VUSAC and immediately I noticed that we have a lot of different commissions that represent different populations of Vic, but we don’t have one for international students. And we have an international councillor, and Charlie is doing all of the planning that’s great for us, but he can’t, as Shane said, do all of those things himself. And in my first year, we didn’t get a lot of events, none that I was aware of, and as a result I kind of forget that I’m an international student because we don’t have events specifically for us. So Charlie has been doing a great job but I would agree that a commission would be an incredible opportunity for VUSAC as well to work more in line with what international students need, and fulfill VUSAC’s mission and vision in line with the international students.

Diana: I have a question, what happens if VUSAC doesn’t absorb VISA without a contingency, what happens to the money?

Jackson: Well first we need to get access to the bank account fees and see what’s in there. There might be a possible workaround through admin, but Kate mentioned that we have zero clue as to what’s in there.

Rebecca: I have two questions–why was VISA a levy initially? And is it possible to vote for it as one thing or do we have to consider it as two separate things?

Sooyeon: It would have to be two steps because they are two separate things. If, in the event, the two items would be (1) to abolish VISA, then to (2) raise VUSAC’s funds with that money. I hope people read the referendum enough to understand our intentions behind this.

Ali: The VUSAC you’re seeing now is very different from the VUSAC of the past. Levies were such big bodies, and VISA used to be a very active levy, with about 2-3 events per month.

Cameron: I’m not sure it would make sense to have a non-international student assigned to the commission. So I think that if we did change it, we should keep the international councillor or save a seat for an international student.

*Motion by Shane Joy to extend the discussion of Abolishing VISA by ten minutes, Seconded by Jackson Leslie*

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

Alex: Prior to COVID, VISA was very active and was a very involved levy. I guess, I’d just like to know what VUSAC has done to exhaust all possibilities before abolishing.

Charlie: I’d like to ask how long will this process take, and I think a question that will come up would be what is the major difference between a levy and a commission.

Sooyeon: The main difference is that a levy is financially autonomous from VUSAC, so they decide how they want to spend their money. I can do more research on what the tapering point of VISA was, but to my knowledge, VISA has no presence right now, they have no active members, no one is interested in being president, no social media presence, etc. And, dissolving a levy can only be done with a referendum, so at the very bottom of the ballot in the election there will be the referendum regarding abolishing VISA and then raising VUSAC’s funds. And after that, it’s a long process of bank ownership and financial questions will have to be answered, but making a new commission can be done internally.

Alex: I think that everyone would benefit from an assessment on this levy’s financial performance, involvement, and anything related to why it’s no longer active.

Zoe: About the balance in the bank account right now, what is the process of accessing the funds?

Sooyeon: In order to have access to a levy’s bank account, you need a signing authority. So for VUSAC, Thomas and I are those authorities. For someone to access VISA’s finances, they would need to go to the bank and give their legal name and be a signing authority.

Ali: They would also technically need a letterhead from the Dean’s Office because they’ve been inactive for so long.

Zoe: Could the international councillor get that letter and be the signer for the levy?

Diana: I have thoughts and questions. Yes, I think it’s important that we have international representation on council, but I don’t think we should automatically assume that the international councillor would be automatic head of the commission, because that’s not what they signed up for, but that’s a question that doesn’t need to be answered right now. I do need to ask, if there are financial consequences to moving a levy into a commission?

Sooyeon: If VISA was normally running, none of the funds they’d be spending would come out VUSAC. If VISA is abolished, then we just have another body to consider for budget ratifications.

*Motion by Shane Joy to extend the discussion of Abolishing VISA by ten minutes, Seconded by Michael Elsaesser*

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

Diana: With the amount being added to VUSAC’s fees, what would that look like?

Thomas: So we’d be shifting the twenty cents from VISA to VUSAC. So when levies get their money, it’s guaranteed that they’re going to be spending that for that levy. But when it’s shifted to VUSAC, there’s no guarantee that those twenty cents would go to international students because VUSAC has a general budget.

Jackson: The decision to keep the councillor, I think it’s something we can explore, but I think we need to think about what we consider as an international student, because there are students out-of-province who might consider themselves international, so I think we can say that you’d be paying international fees. But for the referendum itself, in terms of the money, at the very least we would hope to transfer over the twenty cents. I personally think, if it’s twenty cents being moved over, we probably could make it one line item. If we’re going to increase the budget, something we need to consider is if there are going to be a commissioner and co-chair? If so, that’s something we need to include in our budgeting because those positions have honoraria now. And in terms of signing authority, we’re probably going to give that to Michael for now, but it’s something that we’re working on. So I can’t remember exactly what Kate mentioned, but we’re hoping to take over and basically oversee anything now that we’re stepping in.

Charlie: What do you mean by a separate budget line?

Jackson: So for a referendum it will come out as different things you’re voting on, and we would like to abolish VISA, and transfer the funds to VUSAC. The risk is that if we create two separate items, it could be like it’s voted for us to take it over, but students don’t vote on increasing our fees.

Pooja: VISA posted on March 21, they did some giveaway, so I was wondering who was running their social media then?

Sooyeon: That was Kate, the previous VPSO, when she was taking over as levy head.

Ali: I think it’s a really good point to bring up historical information, and so you could reach out to the assistant registrar, because she has a lot of knowledge and could probably tell you what happened in the last few years leading up to COVID.

Diana: So when we propose how much money we need, if we’re not providing a breakdown to the use of the funds, what’s preventing us from using that money for other programming. Is there a measure in place that prevents that?

Shane: On the referendum, we can justify the increase, but as Thomas mentioned, there is nothing preventing us from spending it elsewhere. It would sourt of just be our responsibility as council to make sure that this money being set aside is used how it was intended to be used. I agree with Ali and Alex, I think we need to do a bit more research on what this levy has looked like in the past, and their turnout on events.

Cameron: I think regarding the honoraria, it’s good we pay our people but VISA has honoraria and based on my understanding is that it’s a levy and the honoraria should be given. By making them a commission we’d be saving money.

Jackson: The way that I’ve been looking at it is treating it as a separate body and viewing it like how we view VOCA. There isn’t anything in our constitution that prevents us from using that money elsewhere, but we can separate those twenty cents and allocate it for the international commissioner.

Sooyeon: I put this discussion item up because this is something we’ve been thinking about for a while. Something I’m going to do on my end is to see who has the current bank access, and see how much money is left and if there can be anything that can be done right now.

*Motion by Shane Joy to extend the discussion of Abolishing VISA by five minutes, Seconded by Michael Elsaesser*

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

Shane: I think the question of whether the money is being spent adequately on international students isn’t something we need to be too worried about. I think we do a pretty good job of ensuring the commissions get the money they generally want. And I don’t think there’s any need to set aside this money and make sure it’s set for international students.

Thomas: The only guarantee for that money is to keep VISA as a levy, and it was probably established to guarantee that. I think that abolishing VISA should be Plan C, and maybe our priority should be finding people to get the levy back up and running by taking them under our wing and hold the elections ourselves, because not everyone looks at referendums anyways.

Shane: I think we need to figure out if we’ve been doing a good job of that, and then return to this discussion.

Ninon: In theory, if we move the twenty cents it wouldn’t be a big thing, but raising fees would be an issue because international tuition is already incredibly expensive, and it’s been hiking up. I don’t think there’s any way an international student would vote yes to increase a fee, I also think that if people were around pre-pandemic they’d know about VISA, but personally my international student friends didn’t even know of it.

Shane: We’d only increase it by twenty cents. There’s 3,981 students at Vic, so in relative terms it’s not that much of an increase.

Diana: I wanted to talk about the allocations of international students. I also think that specifically allocating twenty cents enters dangerous territory on commission’s not getting specific allocations. And, is there anyone at VISA at this point, is it totally empty or were there people who wanted to succeed, or any exec?

Michael: I’ve been reaching out to Kate to see what’s been going on. But currently I’m technically the levy head, which puts me in a weird position as a domestic student to speak for international students, so I’m glad we’re having this conversations. It is unfortunate and we want international students to have that representation.

Alex: The idea of twenty cents of moving it to VUSAC, I think it’s important to note what it means to have a levy fee, as levy fees have not increased by inflation over the years. And if you now have the option to delegate that twenty cents it might be an issue, and we don’t want to be increasing levy fees and overall tuition.

Shane: That’s a great point, this year that’s something VUSAC and levies have to discuss together. I mean, Vic Pride only gets fifteen cents which I find absurd, so we definitely need to have that conversation.

Cameron: It doesn’t have to be mutually exclusive, though, I think the best way to go forward would be to keep it running. We have a commuter commission, and there is a need for someone to advocate for their needs, so I think an international commission would be effective. We’re great with our budgeting process and that’s not always going to be the case, and international students will be defunded so we should assure them that there’s something to replace that.

Shane: I think that it’s an inappropriate characterization to say that the organization would be defunded when we’re transferring it. I just wanted to clarify, did you think that?

Cameron: I didn’t mean to say that you’re trying to defund VISA, I think it is a perception of the funding where there’s no longer this specific intention set out, and I think that we should be looking into assuring the students that we would still advocate for them.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

*Arts and Culture: Amelia (3 minutes)*

Amelia: I’ve been doing two things, one is establishing some equity training for the BOB directors, and clarify the process through which all of the directors are hired. So for the incoming transition report I’ll provide some clarity on that. I’m also sorting out the performing arts endowment, and I met with Soo to talk about the Gardiner Gala in February. So if anyone wants to talk about that, please contact me, I’m looking forward to it.

*Commuter: Maarib and Emilie (3 minutes)*

Maarib: So we hired and onboarded three first year executives, because we had really good applications this year. The attendance for pancakes is still high, and we had Taylor Swift night at Wymilwood, everyone who attended seemed to enjoy. The Little Library will be up in the commuter lounge soon too. For Home for the Holidays, we booked Old Vic from 5-9PM for November 24th, and we will be sending out an email for booth ideas to commission, levy, and club heads. We also bought materials for party favors this week. Some upcoming events, we have a presto ticket giveaway, and a Fall photo contest where people will be voting which photo they liked the best. We’re also going to be having our Spotify frame night where you can make your own spotify frame, which is headed by our events duo.

*Equity: Diana and Cam (3 minutes)*

Diana: So right now we’re selling the Diva cups, we wanted to provide it in a more accessible fashion, and so we’re providing it at a lower cost. Everything is set up, I inputted the item on the Square app on the iPad, and we’re gonn apost about it soon. So for those holding office hours, you can know what’s going on and you have that rationale behind why it’s being sold. In our general membership meeting we talked about resource compilations for students so they’re not digging through an abyss when they need resources. Specifically, we’re currently collecting resources for LGBTQ+, sexual violence, financial resources, mental health, and general student resources. If you know of any resources, please pass it on, the more the better.

Cameron: We also have our field trips coming up, and the play we were going to see starts soon so the field trip for that will start in November

EXECUTIVE REPORTS:

*VPSO: Michael (5 minutes)*

Michael: It’s been really great settling in, my main goal has been for club and levy check-ins and to see what their goals are, and how I can best help them. I’ve spoken to 5/11 levies, not counting VISA. I’m hoping to have all the check-ins done by Caucus. We also had our new clubs ratified, and I had a great discussion with Diana about having equity training for clubs and levies, with more specifics on how clubs and levies operate. It’s more specific to Vic and how you can incorporate equity in that. In terms of VISA, I will do my best to find more information and historical context, and ensuring that we can incorporate international students in this succession to make sure they get their representation.

*President: Sooyeon (3 minutes)*

Sooyeon: So the main thing that I’ve been working on are the following, VUSAC is now recognized as a body on campus, which is great. I’m currently in touch with Shiny and Ali regarding all the rooms at Goldring and conducting a space audit. I wanna see the rooms that students come into and the different spaces at Goldring that not everyone knows about. I’m going to get in touch with Shiny on a comprehensive list of all the spaces, and reach out to council members acting and ask why you’re drawn to certain spaces at Goldring. I want to see how frequently they’re used and if they’re accessible, and how we can improve this and make it more inclusive and welcoming for students. Caitriona is going to be helping me with this as well.

*VPE: Shane (3 minutes)*

Shane: Caucus will be on November 25 at 5:30, and all council members are required to attend. I’ve invited clubs and levy heads, admin, and the presidents. If you have any issues you want answered, this is the time to bring it up. Feel free to let me know, and I can add it to the agenda. The December 6 memorial is the National Day of Remembrance, which is for a massacre that occured in Quebec. For the memorial service, there’s going to be speeches and music that we think are meaningful, so if any of you are interested then feel free to let Ali or I know, we can take as many people as are interested. That’s on December 6, from 1-2:30PM.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

*Jackets for Vic, put forth by Carolyn Gao (3 minutes)*

Carolyn: So Luca isn’t here but we just wanted to gauge interest on jackets for Vic. So this would be to improve college unity and spirit, and the jackets can be customized with the program of the student, and students can choose their elements. This initiative is so students can have pride in their college, as well as a memento of their time at Vic. If there’s enough interest this can also be a small revenue stream, since we could sell these to alumni. We would like to propose this to the Student Projects Fund, and plan to gauge student interest through a form.

Shane: I think that it would be great to put this through the student projects fund, we’d be more inclined to give that away for free, I don’t think VUSAC should be earning any money.

Jackson: Luca reached out to us before and I was pretty interested. And then after we got the financial rundown, I realised that’s something we can’t do as VUSAC, but it’s not something that hasn’t been done before. Our previous merch was done through student projects, so VUSAC couldn’t fund that but we did that through them. So I think it’s good to start collecting student feedback on interest on merch.

*Motion: Shane Joy motions to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Maarib Haseeb*

*All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

*Meeting adjourned at 7:19PM.*