



## **VUSAC Clubs Ratification Meeting Minutes**

**Call to order:** 5:30 PM, July 31<sup>st</sup> 2020

**Land Acknowledgement:** Jay Muoio

Jay: We wish 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 most recently, 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. Since not all of us are on Toronto land right now, it's important to look at what land we belong to and to understand that colonialism is an ongoing process. Indigenous peoples are disproportionately suffering from the pandemic and it's important to look at colonialism as an ongoing issue and to take tangible actions towards making reparations. Also, I wanted to apologize that I organized this meeting on Eid and I would like to thank everyone for making the time to be here today.

**Official Regrets:** --

**Approval of minutes:**

*Motion: Rheannon motions to approve the meeting minutes. Seconded by Tran. Motion passes.*

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

**Approval of the agenda:**

*Motion: Jay motions to approve the agenda. Seconded by Nerija. Motion passes.*

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

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Club Application Process, put forth by Jay Muoio (15 minutes)

Jay: Everyone should have the full document that includes all of the information about a certain club including their contact info, their purpose and their plans for the upcoming year. The upcoming year section includes how they are going to address COVID. All of the applications opened on June 4<sup>th</sup> and they were open for 8 weeks until July 23<sup>th</sup>. Clubs need to reapply every year for status, if clubs are new or returning it will be mentioned on the doc. Clubs apply for status and VUSAC ratifies them at this meeting. Other clubs can be ratified later in the year, but they won't be included in orientation or in the fall budgeting period. Also, important to note, there are some clubs with notes written in red. Some of these notes talk about how they plan to hire vs. elect

new members for the upcoming year. In council policies, there is a clause that talks about how if clubs want to appoint members instead of electing them, that needs to be reflected in their constitution. We don't actually collect club constitutions anymore, but we've decided to let clubs know that they need to tell us whether or not they are appointing or electing a position. This is just to make sure that clubs are acting equitably and not just hiring their friends without due process. A lot of clubs have been hiring people in the past few years without an equitable hiring policy, but we are trying to reconcile this policy given the circumstances this year. Some clubs don't meet the requirement for Vic clubs to have 70% of their exec team from Victoria College or residents on Victoria College campus, so we need to hear from them today to talk about that to know whether or not they have a concrete plan to meet that standard.

Erik Gillis: If a club doesn't meet the standards right now, what is the process for applying for club status later in the year?

Jay: If a club doesn't get ratified right now, we can table it until the next VUSAC meeting which might not happen until later in September. I would be sure to follow up with them before that to make sure that all their needs are met. If a club gets rejected now, they can reapply for the next meeting. Clubs can keep applying for status if they keep getting denied, but if it's a structural concern with their club, they should probably work those out before they apply again. Also, could I get some idea for which VUSAC members have read the applications so that I can determine how in depth I need to go when I'm explaining it? Okay, good to know, so I'm not going to read everything in the document but it's there for anyone else who needs it!

#### ACTION ITEMS:

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Victoria College Board Games Club as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Mehr Mukhtar (3 minutes)*

Jay: We have a representative here. They are a long-standing club and I am recommending them for ratification.

Erik: Right now, I am the only exec member of the club. The pandemic sort of derailed our club exec transition. As it stands for the fall, we've been working to maintain and extend our board game rental process. We have been working with the Cat's Eye to extend our rental process when in person events start back up again. Since I don't have any sort of social media, we aren't very well equipped to do online events in the fall. We likely aren't going to be applying for any money because we won't need it for the work that we are doing in the fall. Hopefully when things start back up again, we'll be in a stronger position as a club to host rentals.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify The Boundary as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Mehr Mukhtar (3 minutes)*

Jay: I don't think we have a rep from The Boundary here today. The Boundary is another returning club, they are a satire newspaper that mainly covers new that's relevant to Vic. This year they are

planning to launch a magazine since last year they wanted to but COVID made that impossible. They are planning on hiring a finance head since the finance role is a very specialized role.

Hannah Ahamedi: I was wondering what equitable process The Boundary is putting in place to make sure that students feel comfortable with the content they are publishing?

Jay: I don't have any information on that, but I will be speaking with them to talk about this and issues they've had in the past. I think this is an important question and if they breach any equity concerns it puts them at risk of having their club status revoked since it violates our community mandate. Even with ratification, it doesn't ensure that clubs can do anything they want so they'll be held accountable for sure.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Boundless Books as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Mehr Mukhtar (3 minutes)*

Jay: Basically, their aim is to promote diversity at Vic and U of T in the world of literature by showing a diverse range of authors and stories. They are a focused book club who wants to promote the voices of BIPOC and LGBTQ+ authors. They want to hold weekly meetings to discuss the contents of the books they read and host movie nights throughout the year. They are hoping to get their books from the U of T library or the Toronto Public Library

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify CARE University of Toronto as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Mehr Mukhtar (3 minutes)*

Jay: CARE U of T is a new club that is applying for status this year. They are a new Vic club and I believe a new U of T club. They are looking to operate under the same mandate as CARE Canada who seeks to end global poverty and injustice. Their plans this year are engaging with as many people online as possible on and off campus, and they are going to have a theme every month. They're planning on hosting an in-person fundraising event in the winter semester so hopefully things get better before then. They are primarily a fundraising and advocacy club operating here on campus.

Sara Mostafa: I'm the president of the club and I was wondering if I still can call it CARE U of T if I'm applying through Vic?

Jay: Yes, you can sorry I didn't make that clear! Also, sorry I didn't ask if you were here before talking about your club!

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify the Food Intolerance and Allergy Club as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Mehr Mukhtar (3 minutes)*

Jay: FOODIAC is an advocacy and social club that seeks to make students aware of what it is like to have a good allergy. They are a returning club whose been active at Vic for a few years. They are tied to Food Allergy Canada and they are looking to see if they can run programming or provide resources in conjunction with them this year.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Goose Fiction as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Mehr Mukhtar (3 minutes)*

Hadiyyah Sara: Goose Fiction publishes short stories written by U of T or Vic students. We see it as a way for students to get a foot in the publishing world at an early stage in your career. This year we are hoping to feature more BIPOC writers and have more BIPOC board members. For the upcoming year, we are hoping to recruit online and host more online workshops since that went really well last year, we just need to figure out how we're going to do those this year. We publish one issue every year and we'll be working on that until April.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Her Voice as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Mehr Mukhtar (3 minutes)*

Jay: HerVoice is a group that advocates for victims of domestic violence and women whose voices are underrepresented. They have also done fundraising events for various local groups to support their cause. HerVoice is a returning club who has done some great work in the past. They are planning on hosting a variety of digital events and when in-person events open later in the year, they are hoping to have some screening nights and other events in the Cat's Eye. They also want to create a safe space on social media for people who need it.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Hey, Teach! Magazine as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Mehr Mukhtar (3 minutes)*

Jay: HeyTeach is an educational magazine that is distributed amongst Vic and U of T students. They primarily talk about education from the perspective of Vic students and faculty members. They want to publish two editions this year with the voices of U of T and Vic students from various academic backgrounds. Despite COVID, they are still planning on publishing the same number of editions this year as they have in years past.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Motion Victures Film Production Club as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Mehr Mukhtar (3 minutes)*

Jay: Motion Victures is another retuning club and they aim to bring diverse voices to film making at Vic. Their focus is mobile film making and semi-professional cameras. They provide resources to students who are interested in film making and put on a film festival at the end of the year. For the first semester, they are focusing on script writing and workshops and then later hosting more in-person events throughout the year once restrictions are lessened. If they decide to do in person events in the fall, they will need to be in discussion with me to ensure that they are keeping students safe. This goes for all clubs with plans for in-person events in the fall.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify MEDiversity as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Mehr Mukhtar (3 minutes)*

Jay: It is a club starting by two fourth year students in life-sci programs. Basically, their mission is to provide a collective forum for students, especially from minority groups, to highlight topics in life science. \*Jay's audio cut out here\*

*Motion: Tran motions for a 5-minute recess due to technical issues. Michelle seconds. Motion passes.*

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

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify RealTalk as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Tran Thai (3 minutes)*

Jay: RealTalk was ratified late last year just when COVID hit so they didn't even get to have their first meeting. They really want to get conversations going this year and they have a really good description in their write up about how they are going to maintain healthy and equitable conversations around topics that might be considered taboo or unconventional. They want to host online meetings this upcoming year.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Screenwriting at Victoria College as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Tran Thai (3 minutes)*

Elizabeth Coulter: We are a returning club. We hold bi-weekly meeting to talk about the art of screen writing and to talk about the use of screenwriting in film. In light of COVID we are hosting meetings online and we also have an online journal that we will be continuing to accept submissions to throughout the year.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify The Scribbler as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Tran Thai (3 minutes)*

Jay: They are an online English journal for everyone who wants a platform to publish their writing. Their plans for last year were put on hold because of the pandemic so they are looking to expand their programming for next year and to continue their plans for the journal that they wanted to implement last year.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify UofT's Veterinary Medicine Club as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Tran Thai (3 minutes)*

Maria-Victoria Walker-Genovese: We have been around for 3 years as a ULife recognized club but a second year here at Vic. We are trying to expand programming and resources for students who are interested in going into veterinary school. Our programming isn't going to change much next year because we did mostly online programming and conferences in the past anyways.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify The Unsanitized Project as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Tran Thai (3 minutes)*

Kate Haberl; We are a very new club; we were founded in the aftermath of the turmoil of the last couple months of COVID and the Black Lives Matter movement. We are here as a platform to uplift student voices and create an equitable space for everyone to share their unfiltered personal stories. In terms of programming, we have running a pilot version of our book club, we are also looking at hosting speaking events and have been sharing students' stories on our Instagram page.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Vic Chorus as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Tran Thai (3 minutes)*

Jay: Vic Chorus is a long-standing club at U of T. They are a non-audition choir that hosts three concerts a year. They are going to be cooperating with the university in terms of maintaining social distancing guidelines throughout the year, but we are going to be working together more in the next couple months to plan for next year.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Vic Dance as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Tran Thai (3 minutes)*

Jay: Just to start, Vic Dance is separate from Vic Urban Dance. Vic Dance is a casual dance team that brings non-competitive dance to the university. They are looking for safe ways to audition,

rehearse and perform for the year including both in-person and online options. Hopefully, things will be better by the winter and they can have their year-end show!

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Vic for a Cure as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Tran Thai (3 minutes)*

Jay: They are another returning club that is dedicated to raising money and awareness for curing cancer. They are going to hosting a variety of online fundraisers this year. They are going to be hiring two positions on their exec team — two social media coordinators — since they want to fill up their exec team before they start communicating with their general members. Social media coordinators and event coordinators are skilled positions, so it makes sense to hire them not elect them.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Vic iTeach as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Tran Thai (3 minutes)*

Jay: They work closely with the Vic One education stream to create a social environment for Vic students who are interested in going into education. Their exec team is made up of education masters students. They have first year representative positions that are currently unfilled so those will be available to the Vic One education stream members.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify VicReach as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Michelle Zhao (3 minutes)*

Jay: VicReach is a volunteer academic outreach program that works to get students who are interested in education into classrooms for volunteer experience. They are planning online events, info sessions for the application process and they are looking to pair students with teachers in an online format.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Vic Records as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Michelle Zhao (3 minutes)*

Chanel Fu: Essentially, we are everything music at Vic College. We host open mics that often feature local student musicians and we give students the opportunity to create music in our studio. This year we are shifting our listening parties online, Jackbox events, we are sharing Spotify playlists, livestreaming our studio sessions, as well as hosting livestream DJ tutorial sessions.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Vic Spikeball as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Michelle Zhao (3 minutes)*

Jay: They are a club that started last year, and they are trying to get off the ground a little bit more this year. They are a spike ball club that hosts games, tutorials, workshops and social spaces for spike ball. This year they're hoping to host some events in-person but depending on what it looks like in the fall, they might have to shift to fully online formatting. I'll be working with them on developing that for next year.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Vic Ultimate Werewolf Club as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Michelle Zhao (3 minutes)*

Jay: I'm actually the president of Werewolf so I'll be abstaining from voting for this one. We play the game Ultimate Werewolf, it's mainly a social club that wants to foster a fun and inclusive environment at Vic. We are hosting events online this year over Discord and Zoom so I'm really excited for that!

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify the Victoria Black Student Network as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Michelle Zhao (3 minutes)*

Amara Phillips: We are a network for Black students at Vic as well as for allies. We do movie nights and photoshoots as well as partner with other groups on campus. This year we are more focused on advocacy and equity work on campus, working with the Dean's Office and other groups to deliver more equity-based programming, and create a more welcoming environment for black students on campus.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify the Victoria College Environmental Fashion Show as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Michelle Zhao (3 minutes)*

Jay: Last year they weren't able to put on their show, so this year they are going to be putting out a magazine with last year's content and with last year's funds. Later in the year they might be putting on their show depending on what happens with COVID.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify the Victoria College Greek Students' Association as VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Michelle Zhao (3 minutes)*

Jay: The GSA is split into a larger U of T GSA and the Victoria College GSA. The majority of the exec are Vic students, but the president isn't this year. They give a space for Hellenic descent to celebrate their heritage on campus. They're also a returning club.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Women of the World as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Michelle Zhao (3 minutes)*

Jay: They are a social charity club. If you want to read over their description in the clubs' application package, they describe themselves well there. If anyone has any questions or concerns they can bring it up now.

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify The Women's Circle as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year, seconded by Michelle Zhao (3 minutes)*

Jay: The Women's Circle is the only club that has an exec team that's made up of fewer than 70% Victoria College students and they haven't confirmed any plans to meet this target with me. 2/3 of their exec members are Vic members. I think that they could make the 70% before the beginning of the year and so I think it would be good to ratify them now. They've also done good work in the past so I would recommend to ratify them now.

Mehr: Are they looking to hire more positions before the beginning of the year?

Jay: I don't know because they haven't followed up with me on that. A lot of other members on their team aren't Vic members so that's another concern too. Since we can't tell by their title if those members are execs, that might actually lower their Vic student percentage even further.

Tran: Women's Circle has been a long-standing club at Vic for a while and they have a really important mission. They are super close to meeting their threshold, but I think we should table this for the next meeting. If something comes up where they are able to explain their situation, we can also do an email vote to make sure that they are able to get ratified before the fall budgeting period.

*Motion: Tran motions to table the motion to ratify The Women's Circle as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-2021 school year to the next VUSAC meeting. Rheannon seconds. Motion passes.*

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify Vic Urban Dance Club as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year seconded by Mehr (3 minutes).*

Jay: This club also didn't give me any composition for their exec team and both of their club heads are not Vic students. They are a returning club and I was hoping that they would get back to me before this meeting, but they didn't. I would recommend tabling this motion because they haven't proved that they can meet the requirement. They also haven't provided any plans for the upcoming year.

Tran: If we are going to table this motion, I think we should also get more information about what their plans are for the upcoming year.

Jay: I would like to say that plans for upcoming year is an optional question. While it's super helpful, it's not something that they have to do even though most of the other clubs did. I'll definitely get in touch with them later about their plans.

*Motion: Jay motions to table the motion to ratify Vic Urban Dance Club as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year to the next VUSAC meeting. Fatima seconds. Motion passes.*

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

*Motion by Jay Muoio to ratify the Spanish Student Organization as a VUSAC-recognized club for the 2020-21 school year seconded by Tran Thai (3 minutes)*

Lucy: The SSO was established in 2013, we are ULife recognized and UTSU recognized as well. The club is for anyone who is interested in speaking Spanish or in Spanish affairs. Our events are mainly going to be held online; these include online language speaking cafes and an online Spanish film festival. We probably won't be applying for a lot of funding in the fall since most of our programming will be happening online.

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

*Motion: Jay motions to adjourn the meeting. Mehr seconds. Motion passes.*

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.