



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

150 Charles St. West, Room 127
Toronto, ON, M5S 1K9
(416) 585 - 4473
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VUSAC Meeting Agenda

Call to order: 5:30 pm EST, October 20th, 2023

Land Acknowledgement:

Juhyung Yun

Official Regrets: Jackie Ko (Substitute Chair: Callan Murphy); Stephanie Cui; Teresa Wijaya; Freddy Sulowski (Proxy: Isha Mathur); Muskaan Aggarwal (Late, joining at 7:30PM | Proxy: Shane Joy); Tanya Kor; Atlas Changulani (Proxy: Leah McKinney)

Absent:

Approval of minutes:

Additions to the agenda:

Approval of the agenda:

Motion by Shane Joy to approve the agenda for October 20th, seconded by Krystyn Kalloo.

EX-OFFICIO REPORTS:

Lara Athena Reyes motions to grant Ali Kehl speaking rights, seconded by Shane Joy.

Ali: Co-Chair 2024 Applications will be opening on November 26th. I would really like to encourage everyone who is eligible to apply. Reading week is only two weeks away, I know some of us are upset Fall is already here but that just means reading week is just around the corner. Anyways, please take care of yourselves and if you have any questions just let me know. I will send an email to everyone with my meeting link if you would like to schedule a meeting whether that's related personally or to VUSAC. That's it for me.

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

ACTION ITEMS:

Motion by Muskaan Aggarwal to ratify Remnants Magazine as a club for the academic year 2023-24, seconded by Shane Joy (2 minutes)

Muskaan: Remnants is a new club seeking ratification dedicated to fashion and self expression. They're all about thrifted and unique styles, and against corporate fashion. They will be publishing 2 magazines each semester, starting with the first issue to be released in December. The theme for the first issue is trans, joy, and gender expression, where they'll explore how students use clothing to express their identities. They're planning to work with a photography



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team for their submission, who will be open hiring shortly. I can't wait to see all the wonderful things that they have in store.

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

Motion by Shane Joy to ratify Stephanie Cui as a member of the Victoria College Council, seconded by Diana Vink (5 minutes)

Shane: Stephanie was appointed to the VCC because we had one vacant position following the fall elections. In our governing documents they allow us to choose somebody to fill that position should nobody be elected for it. I don't imagine that there's any discussion that needs to be had about Stephanie being exceedingly competent and knowledgeable about academics and Medha is also on the VCC. And they worked together very closely on the academic commission, of course. So it only made sense to appoint her there. And I consulted the exec on that before doing so. So, yeah. Awesome. Any questions?

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Amendments to the 2023 Fall Budget (Appendix A), put forth by Callan Murphy (40 minutes)

Callan: So Appendix A has a few items in it. If you take a look, the primary one is just a link to the fall budget, which you may already have somewhere else from when I've hyperlinked it in an email before. There's also three budget reallocation forms. There are two types of amendments that we generally accept. One is like you're proposing a brand new budget line. And one is you're proposing to reallocate funds from one of your budget lines or multiple budget lines across to other budget lines. So those that are reallocations have forms here. They are also present in the spreadsheet itself as tentative or modifications. And those that are not reallocations are just in the budget as tentative. So if you look at the Fall 2023 Budget, which I'm going to pull up here, any line under the Master Budget tab that is highlighted in yellow is either "tentative" in the ratified column or "modification" in the ratified column; "tentative" being a brand new line and "modification" being a change in the amount on an existing line. So we have 20 tentative lines and 7 modifications to get through here. We will start with No Bun No Fun who submitted a budget reallocation request. I chatted with them over email. Essentially, they had an event, spent far less in the event than they had initially budgeted for, and wanted to take some of the funds from that event and push it forward to their later events throughout the year. They asked if they could do that and I said I would provide it to Council. I did ask for some clarification because I was somewhat confused about the fact that they wanted to take \$60 from line two and put it to



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three and then take money from that three and put it to four, as opposed to taking it from two to three to four, because they have the money remaining on line two for that. I didn't get a reply however, so I'm not 100% sure. I'm a little confused about the amendments and the modifications but unfortunately, we don't have anyone here to clarify.

Lara: So we're not sure if the allocation from two to three and three to four is, like, for example, two to three, and then when they detail three to four, are they talking about the third line being the old ratified amount or the new ratified amount?

Callan: It's a great question. I didn't get clarification about that, which is what I asked them over email. But regardless, the way I wrote it was essentially taking that amount, putting it here, then striking a second time and putting it onto line three. But again, I'm still somewhat confused because even with that, they said they spent significantly less than \$253, like less than \$100. So I'm confused why they only want to move \$60 from there instead of just moving it from the first line.

Lara: I'd like to see if Council wants to either table this or if we're just going to go ahead, just because it's not a major amount of money. Any thoughts?

Shane: Well, personally, I think we should treat all groups with the same kind of scrutiny. So just because it's a smaller amount of money doesn't mean that we should just pass it without asking the proper questions. I feel like that's the responsible thing to do. And I also agree that it does not make sense, because they asked to re-allocate \$60 from two to three on the justification that they required more funding for three for the blind bread tasting, but then they reduced three so that you have even less money for three.

Diana: It says that the last event of the line four event is the 7th of November. Are we meeting before that? Or could we re-entertain these lines with more clarification.

Lara: I think once Callan gets clarification via email, we can do an email vote, because we've discussed it here, so I don't think that's an issue. And then Callan could then explain to us the logic behind it, and if it makes sense to him, then I'm happy to ratify it.

Callan: Yeah. The other thing I would say is that this event was budgeted initially for \$120 and the other event was budgeted initially for \$90. So clearly they thought they could run it for that amount. I think they're just like: "we have leftover money, why not use it?". So I don't think it would be critical to running the event if it came down to that.



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Shane: Yeah. The next meeting, for everyone's information as well, is Fall Caucus, so we won't be able to do any action items there. And that's November 3rd.

Callan: I'll just say one last point. To be honest, I'm a little concerned that it's not super clear what they were asking for. And I did follow up twice and didn't hear back about that question. So I don't know if it's a great precedent to set for reallocations being of this calibre.

Motion to table lines CNBNF-002 to CNBNF-004 by Lara Athena Reyes, seconded by Shane Joy.

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

VOICES

Callan: This is not a reallocation. This is a modification to this existing line. First off, I'll take the blame for the fact that I don't think this line should have been kept as it was. One of the things that I noticed in retrospect is that the expense column was already accounting for the fact that there was going to be subsidized revenue. So the expense was listed at \$600 and the revenue was listed at \$0. That was because the expense was actually \$1000, they expected to sell tickets and so they subtracted the amount. The first thing here is to separate out the revenue and expense into different columns so that we can properly track those. But more importantly, as you'll see in the expected total, it's also increasing the overall spending by \$99. This is retroactive. Both expenses were already incurred. So for full transparency, there are actually two events here, which again I think should have been two budget lines, but they're in one, so we're working with what we've got. As you can see in the notes section on the far right there, I know it's a little complicated, but there were 10 tickets purchased for the first event at \$27.74 each, for a total of \$267.40. And then the second event, 10 tickets at \$85 each for a total of \$150 flat. And then the revenue is the number of attendees times \$13 for the first event. And the second one is the number of attendees times \$28.84 because the tickets are being subsidized but not entirely covered. We worked with VOICES closely to help them prepare for this event and it was a little bit challenging. We wanted to make sure that they were able to get the funding. But this line is both getting fixed and also increasing by \$99.

Diana: I have a question. So the math in the notes is done for \$85 but the description specifies the tickets are \$15 to \$75. So where did the \$85 come from?

Callan: Yeah, good question. The description when the budget line was proposed was because they didn't know exactly which events they wanted to attend. So you'll see there's a few different ones linked here. So what they ended up doing was picking two of these events whenever they



actually put ticket sales on. I don't know if it changed from what it was, or if voices put \$75 and meant \$85, but the prices of the tickets for these events ranged quite broadly, and so they chose to do 1 cheaper one and 1 more expensive one that spanned multiple days. The \$85 one was one of these that was linked.

Diana: The tickets that are subsidized – are they for members of VOICES or any of the students who are interested?

Lara: It's an open invite. Any of the vic students who was interested in the event could RSVP and then they would do the subsidized ticket and so it was open. If I'm not mistaken, there were only two execs from VOICES who ended up attending.

Callan: So again, it's a small increase in the line. It's more about fixing the line for documenting, but the increase is relevant to note as well.

Motion to ratify the amendments to line CVOIC-002 by Shane Joy, seconded by Diana Vink.

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

Victoria Black Student Network

Callan: So just quickly before I hand it over, Vic Black reached out to me and said they had some lines from the summer budget that they didn't end up spending on, and they wanted to kind of push some of those events to the fall and some of that spending to the fall. Sharese asked if she could take the summer budget lines and make a few modifications and then propose them to the fall budget and I said: “absolutely”; so these are those lines. Sharese.

Sharese: So the edits that I made include the commuter brunch. Originally, the summer budget that was supposed to be like a meet the exec event. It's like a breakfast event for mostly CS students But now it has evolved into a collaborative event with the Bachelor's Association. The intent is that commuter students could get to engage with us in this, but the event would be open to the students of any other student from your field who knows the BSA, and of course not only black students, but all students interested.

Lara: Just out of curiosity, is the BSA covering any part of the event?



Sharese: So that's what I don't know about. I don't know what else they expect us to do at that event, but on our aspect of the collaboration, we're bringing food. So I don't think it's going to be like a just common event, look at each other.

Callan: Just one point that I want to clarify, especially for new counselors who might not know. Vic Black is a levy, so their funding comes directly from student fees. It doesn't come from VUSAC's funding, so we're not as concerned about whether or not the funding is there for levies. We're concerned about whether or not the spending that they want to do meets what we think is justified and what meets our guidelines for being justified for a good use of Vic student funds. But the Victoria Black Student Network has their own bank account and their own money and has the funds to pay for these events.

*Motion to ratify LBLCK-033 to LBLCK-043 by Lara Athena Reyes, seconded by Krystyn Kalloo.
All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

Equity Commissions

Callan: We now have one line here from the equity commission. This submission was from Caitriona who reached out and asked if she could submit something.

Diana: Our executives have been trying to collaborate with VOCA. Just like a little meet and greet. I have a sheet of the math that they dud. They're trying to accommodate for 40 people over three hours. So it just turns out that the price was a little bit higher than what the initially budget for. So we are just covering the rest.

*Motion to ratify VCEQU-006 by Lara Athena Reyes, seconded by Diana Vink.
All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

ViciTeach!

ViciTeach! (Danielle): Essentially, we had an event scheduled which was like an alumni panel. Due to having to scrap that event, we were hoping to reallocate the funds to cover the costs of some of our purchases from the fall social. Unfortunately, we went overbudget for our fall social in terms of our purchases of succulent plants, drinks, and snacks. So we're hoping to reallocate some of the funds from the alumni panel which we cancelled, to our fall social.



Diana: Just out of curiosity, why was the alumni panel cancelled?

Danielle: Our faculty advisor suggested that we scrap it because of lack of interest. In previous years, it was really popular.

Callan: I just want to clarify something. So there's sort of two things here, right? One is that there was overspending on an event that already happened, right? So that is proposed to get increased. There is also an event that's getting canceled. And so that's sort of fortunate in the case that it's being used potentially to increase the retroactive budgeted amount for the expenses that were incurred, correct?

Motion to reduce CITEA-005 to \$0 and to reallocate \$60.21 from that line to CITEA-002 and \$16.11 from CITEA-005 to CITEA-003.

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

Mental Wellness

Callan: Going to the Mental Wellness Commission, there are two lines here. One is a modification to the amount for the excursion to the Hart House farm, and the second one is a new proposed budget line. I believe it was determined earlier to table one from the original budget, but this is a proposed new line, so “modification” and “tentative”, these two lines at the top.

Charlie: So for the Hart House, 22 people have signed up instead of 20 people. So we decided maybe increasing the spots to 25. And also for our second event, it's a collaboration event with Arts & Culture. So, we budgeted \$60 for the Muji pens. And also \$50 for stickers.

Shane: So there's revenue as well. Can you explain how the revenue is broken down?

Callan: I can speak to that if you want, Charlie, because I chatted with Teresa about it. So this is similar to that VOICES line, where the revenue was combined in the expense column and not broken out into the revenue column. So we are breaking it out, but we are also, at the same time, increasing the amount by five students. However, also on top of that, Hart House gave a quote of \$20 for Vic students instead of \$25. So it actually isn't even increasing that much because we got it for cheaper than we thought we were going to get it for.



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Juhyung: I was just wondering, we see that 12 people signed up, so did they pay initially?

Charlie: Yes, so 15 have pay but 22 have signed the form.

Juhyung: Are we certain that they're going to come?

Charlie: Yes, but if they are not coming, and if we go above 25 people, we're going to an email to them that if they're not coming, we're going to give that spot to someone else who signed up.

Callan: So for clarification, there was a form you could fill out, right? And 22 people filled out that form. 15 people have paid. And so, hoping that the 7 others will pay so that they can attend, and then maybe three more.

*Motion to ratify lines VCMEN-020 and VCMEN-026 by Diana Vink, seconded by Shane Joy.
All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

Office Manager

Callan: We had a single line that was for all the printing costs. I know we've chatted about this and we have a discussion about the printing policy later. But we had one combined line for printing for \$365. We just got the invoice a couple days ago for September to October and it was \$649, which is not \$900, which is great, but it's still really high. So we wanted to split out and say, let's not do a single printing line, let's instead put that \$649 for September to October, and then for November and December, let's just split it out and say, "let's attribute \$500 to each month to be safe so that we can afford it", but hopefully it isn't that high.

Shane: Just for clarification, what did the company tell us about colour printing?

Callan: So if you recall in the previous meeting, I attached an appendix, which was the invoice, the one that was \$900. That invoice, as we showed, wasn't super clear about what all the costs were, so one thing we did was clarify with the company is exactly what is defined as a "quantity" for a coloured print. Because, as many raised, if you print one dot of color on a page versus a full-sized colored page, those are not the same thing, and our invoice just says quantity. And so the company clarified that *if there is even a dot*, it is charged at the same rate as if the whole page is filled with colour.



Motion to ratify reduced spending for VSOFF-008 to \$0 and ratify lines VSOFF-012 to VSOFF-014 by Shane Joy, seconded by Lara Athena Reyes.

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

Scarlet and Gold

Callan: There are two separate amendments here that came through. So the first one is for semi-formal, for changing some of the costs. That one is actually a reallocation request. So you'll see that one is in the appendix to actually take from Scarlet and Gold line 10 and bring it over to line 13. Then there is four other lines. These are the four Diwali event lines that were on a previous budget and were tabled. So these were resubmitted. Starting with the semi-formal line, anybody want to speak on that?

Shane: Yeah, just on the Semi-Formal. It's literally just reallocating \$55 to our security budget because security was \$55 more expensive. And to be clear, this \$4,445 is like \$1,200 -ish over what we're expected to spend on the event. Since we're budgeting, it's not actually good budgeting practice to continue adjusting lines as we get quotes and just leaving it the way it is.

Callan: So this is from line 10 to line 13. So line 10 is down by \$55. That's line 12 here, right? For \$1500? Yeah.

Shane: I think it's fine to leave it where it is. I did like some calculations and we should expect about that much in revenue, even with the lower ticket prices.

Lara: Sorry to clarify, tickets here for \$10 you're saying are gonna be \$5? They're \$5 for vic students and \$10 for non-vic students. But we increased the amount of people. And capacity is different though.

Callan: So the changes that are being considered here are just for this first section of the budget amendments for semi-formal, right? So taking line 10 down by \$55 and attributing it instead to line 13.

Motion to reduce VCSCA-010 to \$4,445.00 and increase VCSCA-013 to \$610.00 by Lara Athena Reyes, seconded by Shane Joy.

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



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Krystyn: So this is a little bit more clarification. We also have a discussion item later to talk about the collaboration with St. Mikes. The first line is supposed to be \$120 from an Indian sweet shop in Scarborough which I will be taking a trip to Scarborough and collecting that. 40 paper plates in the dollar store for \$9, 30 diyas for \$113. The prices of diyas are different on like Amazon and Etsy so I've been like looking around trying to see if I can get cheaper or if I should go with like mini or large diyas – we'll see. But for now, that's kind of the code. And I think there are puja stores around here, and for decor, I budgeted \$50 from this specific puja store in Scarborough.

Callan: The two lines are similar, can you just speak to the differences?

Krystyn: Yeah, I actually looked up how much paper plates were in a dollar store. And I said where I would get things. So yeah, I got actual quotes. The cost of paper plates is not \$20, it is nine.

Lara: So my thing with this is that it's a very specific cultural event that we're addressing here. And I think, I know the Equity Commission has done a survey and has seen a lot of different populations and what events they want to be celebrating. And I know they'll be also have another discussion item in terms of collaborating with St. Mike's. And so I'm wondering if it might be worth revisiting this idea after that cultural collaboration just because we wanna see how that goes. I also don't want us spending money towards such a specific group of people and then we can't make those guarantees for other holidays. And I think the Equity Commission is planning accordingly for that.

Diana: Based on the data we have so far, people seem really into the idea of a Diwali celebration and a substantial amount of the people who indicated interest, indicated interest in that. That being said, I'm a little bit confused because I've been like somewhat looped into the conversations with St. Mike's about the coordination we're doing because we're working to expand the event to vic students. I haven't seen anything about this event, like it might not have been a conversation I was included on. But I know that we were talking about other things that we could offer like spaces and volunteers. I guess I was a little bit like confused how this kind of slipped past me considering it was it was a very collaborative effort in planning.

Lara: This was planned before St. Mike's even reached out and it was a collaboration between Scarlet and Gold and the Arts and Culture Commissions. It was done like during timeline



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planning from the very beginning and then the St. Mike's didn't come until later on. So that's why I'm saying maybe we should reconsider this idea of an event, and we don't want things to conflict and do two different promotions.

Shane: I'm wondering whether this can be saved for the discussion item on the sort of confusion surrounding communication, or is that relevant to this?

Diana: I just have a clarification question. Is this something that, since St. Miles has reached out, you have spoken to them and planned this event with them, and you have heard that now? Or is it separate?

Krystyn: So we had a discussion with them, even though this was planned beforehand because they were doing a Diwali dinner at the beginning of the week. So we had a meeting with them seeing if we could incorporate this event since we're already going to hold it into their culture week so that it could continue.

Kate: I think that when we had the conversation with St. Miles, their collaboration was based on the cultural fest. I think the Diwali thing was more of a hypothetical thing. But if we're open to just having it be a big event, this was something that we planned originally for. Also another thing, I also have a budget line for this, which is \$160. So I don't know if you're budgeting for more specific things.

Krystyn: Yeah, so I was supposed to budget for the diyas and those other things. And I think we had a different budget into two. That's why we had separate lines.

Lara: I feel like I'm sensing there's possibly some communication that needs to be had between these two groups. And we're also gonna be discussing the same Mike's cultural class. I'm actually just gonna motion the table this just because I think we can save the discussion for later as necessary.

Amoly: I know that this might not happen, but in case it does, if we're doing 30 diyas, does that mean we're only expecting 30 people?

Krystyn: When I sent out a form, I got about 27 responses. So that's why I budgeted for 30.

Amoly: Also 30 years for \$130, that's about \$3. But that's really expensive.



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Krystyn: I know, that's why I was looking up but like many diyasseem to cost about like a much much less like 50 would cost like \$500.

*Motion to table lines VCSCA-014 to VCSCA-017 by Lara Athena Reyes, seconded by Shane Joy.
All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

Tenant Guide (Appendix B), put forth by Cam Miranda-Radbord (5 minutes)

Shane: I think his intention was to present it as something that VUSAC can move forward with and get thoughts on it – whether there are edits that need to be made, general thoughts of support, apprehensions, whatever you please, and I'd be happy to just relay and give that feedback. So, not to put words in Cam's mouth. But I am under the assumption that this is going to be helpful for students living off campus, just knowing their rights as a tenant, if they're renting an apartment or a room, etc. Different numbers of resources such as understanding your rights as well as finding supports and folks to like advocate for you. So for example, Downtown Legal Services which is a service that's free for U of T students through the UTSU. They do have legal advisors there that can help you with understanding your rights as a tenant. And there's all this thing about finding off campus housing through student life, there's that link there for off campus housing finder. In my opinion, there's probably a lot more to include. And I'm wondering, for the thinking behind each of the decisions for each resource, whether they were arbitrarily chosen. I think it would be good if he was here so that we could hear the reasoning for each of the items that these included on here. I also think there's something to be said about just making sure that everyone on council is aware that a project like this is going on so that they have the opportunity to add input before the final product is released.

Lara: Just to clarify, Cam is posing this, not necessarily to be ratified so that he needs the go signal, but just to show us because I think that obviously there's still improvements to be made and this isn't something that I'm comfortable with going forward with as of now.

Diana: I had a quick question, I guess, like more specifically about the contacts, specifically the city council. I mean, my question was just why in particular that city councilor?

Shane: That's our city councilor.. But if you live in another district, you have a different city councilor. So perhaps that wasn't entirely thought through. Maybe there can be a directory there



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so that people can find who their city councilor is. Yeah, and in just a note on intention, I think the intention was yes to move forward with this, but to also to get opinions so that we can change it if need be. If council is not comfortable with this being produced until like he's here and able to answer questions and make adjustments, that's fine. We could also motion to formally endorse this.

Lara: Personally I am not comfortable giving the go signal. But I'm happy to take note of like a quick raise of hands who's interested in maybe working on this with Cam, just so that I can let him know. So that aside from his counselors, this is something that you might be interested in. Raise of hands if you'd be comfortable: Di, Ju, Erin, Amoly.

Ali: Yeah, I was just gonna say I think it would be great, I know that here he has linked like the finding off campus housing, but I think it'd be great if there was also just a link to the general housing office. I think it's right that there's so many Toronto-based resources, but I think that folks who are maybe less familiar with Toronto, would like to have a university resource that they might feel more comfortable accessing.

Motion to extend discussion by two minutes by Shane Joy, seconded by Lara Athena Reyes.

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

Shane: Yeah, I completely agree. There's also housing advisors that you can access as students. I also do think that we have resources that folks can talk to as well, and none of those are, I think, included.

VUSAC Office Printing Policy (Appendix C), put forth by Shane Joy (10 minutes)

Shane: As we discussed in our informal meetings, we do have a printing policy now. A lot of the suggestions that I heard and that we discussed were related to, how does this work for commission, clubs, and levies? And I did add a line. But it's section four, Article II, Section 4 of the document, the final page. I was talking with Callan in particular about how we, as VUSAC, maintain our discretion when it comes to approving large amounts of printing by commissions, clubs, and levies, so that we're not putting out a number. And what if one day we have a really low number of pages left in our printer, and we can't actually accommodate someone who wants to print 300 pages for a particular campaign about a particular issue? That's just like a hypothetical example. But this just allows us to protect ourselves, ensure that our printing



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services are going to those who need it. I would much prefer students being able to print their materials for class, their lecture notes, their readings, than us going crazy on, you know, printing a million different pages for postering. So I'm interested in your thoughts on this specific section, which is just receiving approval from the office manager before printing without charge for promotional materials for an event, if you're trying to raise some awareness about something, that would fall under this and this is just a conversation that needs to be had.

Callan: Yeah, and just to build on what Shane was saying, I think one of the things is like, this is vague, but this is intentionally vague, right? Like this is to give us discretion and that's the point because there are numerous circumstances where we feel like this is not a policy that we can be like, "yeah, you could always print an infinite amount of pages for free" because realistically, it's not going to be possible. And we don't want to make false claims like that. So by making it at the discretion of the Office Manager, who has to approve it on a circumstantial basis, that allows us to be able to say, based on supplies available and based on whatever our printing costs are currently too, which is a big one, like if we're really close, like we know we have a lot of printing that month, we might not be able to afford a whole bunch of printing that month. I think the other thing was when we had that \$900 bill for printing, yes there were a lot of individual groups, but a lot of that printing was clubs and levies and groups and stuff, which is great, we want them to print, but obviously we cannot sustain printing at that rate, so it's just not possible to have free printing for all of those groups, all the time.

Diana: Yeah, I have a few questions and I think that maybe the vagueness of this is gripping less for me. I think my biggest question is what's preventing me from walking into the VUSAC office saying I need to print 100 pages or 100 sides for the equity commission and just doing it for free because I am a vic student. So I guess my question is first of all, do they still get the 100 free black and white sides that VCU members are entitled to? Is there a way to regulate like people coming in and printing for clubs? Are we supposed to ask everyone who we know is a member of a club if they're printing for a VUSAC club? And is this really something that's enforceable, or is it something that like simply because of the nature of how many big clubs and levies there are, it's difficult for us to recognize every single member and ask them if they come in, so it then becomes difficult to be like, hey, this club came in, did they email you? So I think I'm just like struggling with some of, I guess the boundaries, and struggling with some of the clarity.

Lara: So first off, at least with my understanding with how Shane and Callan were discussing it with me. Approval from the office manager, they mean, is as in like they're gonna email office manager, hey, we're gonna be printing this thing, all good? So what used to be the kind of



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printing policy, like a long time ago in VUSAC was that if somebody was gonna come in to print a large amount of things, they had to email the office manager prior so that they could quote unquote, schedule a time when the printer wasn't like heavily in use and you wouldn't obstruct normal operations. I think that this is like a similar case where they're just named by the office manager and like Yuna can you be like, all good, you can come during this person's office hours and they can assist you with printing.

Diana: I think if that's the case, it should be clarified by further. And I still have questions, I guess, about where's the threshold, where it's first of all considered like a large amount. And where's the threshold for like, this is for a club in levy, you can no longer use your personal printing for a logist board, because if I have to print 50 posters, which would easily, I think, cover all of the major locations on the campus, that's technically under my personal privileges as a VCU member, is that something that I would need to tell the office manager about? I really do think this needs more clarification, especially for our members on office hours to know what you expect.

Shane: I think not everything needs to be added. I feel like these are more like instructions for council members and Yuna to follow, rather than things that people necessarily need to know about. But I think your point about, are we treating printing on behalf of a club levy or commission as printing from a person, or like not? I think that's a good question, in my opinion, I think we should treat printing on behalf of a club, levy, or commission as not, somebody exercising their personal printing privileges, but then printing on behalf of a body. And that would mean that there are no printing privileges and that they would need to get that in from the Office Manager. Again, I understand where you're coming from about it's lack of specificity, but I think the reason we don't have thresholds is so that when we're lacking paper, for example, to print, Yuna can make the decision in some cases to say, we're not really able to allow you to do this right now, but once our printing ship comes in, you can do so.

Callan: I'm just adding to that too, I think one the things that we're doing are made with the common assumption that clubs and levies and commissions are going to want to be printing in colour because for the most part, this is probably going to be posters and those sorts of things. And because of the new policy that says colour is always a cost for any student, like even if it's one page, the idea here is, we want to provide those groups with free colour printing. It's just that if they want to print free color printing, they need to get a go ahead to do so. So if you were coming in personally and spending 50 sheets of color and you want to pay five cents a side, you



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can. But if you want to have that charge waived because you are a recognized group, you can. You just have to follow this process in order for that to take place.

Lara: And I think the whole point of like quote unquote approval is that you're sending in a poster to the office manager and the office manager is like, okay, this makes sense. This is a poster being sent in and we're going to print it. I think in terms of like where's the distinction between like if you're just like a normal person coming in versus like saying you're printing for a club, you would be printing a poster. I think when we were in discussions about printing policy, what we said is that if you are printing something on behalf of a commission club or a levy, we have every right on office hours to ask you, can I see what you're printing? Just because it should be a public thing.

Diana: I don't know that I understand this as being a manageable system. This is very hard to wrap my head around only because like, you know, I'm thinking about clubs that print lots of informational materials. So would they just not need approval for like informational materials if they're going to be black and white, or would they still need that? Or what if it's less than a hundred sides? I feel like I'm missing something. S

*Motion to extend by 10 minutes by Shane Joy, seconded by Lara Athena Reyes.
All in favour. None opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.*

Amoly: I was thinking we could have a spreadsheet like we do for when people come into buy tickets, where we could have the person in the last office hours could regularly update the amount of paper we have. And also, if let's say we don't have any more paper for clubs to print, is there a service where they can go to print if we can't provide that for them?

Shane: They'd have to pay a lot of money elsewhere. And that's like sort of the benefit of our service and supposedly print to the Dean's Office if they ask.

Aiko: I just had a question. For example, if I have a schedule for an event and I schedule my printing for a certain day, and then that day occurs that way. Like how would that work? How would I know? You know, as a club, how would you print?

Shane: I think with all this, as I mentioned at previous meetings in earlier September, none of this is going to be an exact solution. This is just us trying to work out a solution in which we're not paying \$900 and \$650 for printing every month. So I fully understand and agree with the



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questions. Yeah, the questions are the fact that it's vague, and the fact that it's not specific, and that there are loopholes that you're mentioning. I understand I'm actively trying to adjust them as we talk. But I think that's a good question. We'll just, you know, we'll have to continue adjusting it as we go. But of course, this is the point of that discussion.

Ali: I think one thing that's really great is that it will give eyes for someone to actually make sure that somebody signed off on the poster. And it's much easier to do an electric signature than signing 100 posters. So I actually think this is great because it gives you the ability to make sure people have their posters checked before printing. Because the worst thing is when someone doesn't know and then all of a sudden their posters are being taken down. So I do think this actually gives you the ability to make sure that's happening beforehand.

Callan: I do want to speak to something Shane was kind of saying as well. I think part of the thing is like all the discussions about printing came about because we had that really expensive invoice. And Shane sort of took the initiative to say let's create like an actual printing policy and make this very clear. But there's no requirement that like this has to be, you know, everything in this document or that this has to be approved or whatever. Like we are free to make those calls as need be. I think the idea is like we still want to make sure that we can move forward with a lot of the parts of the printing policy as is because it will potentially save a lot of money. While we continue to refine it and make it more clear because I agree there are things that need to be clarified on it.

Lara: I will say that like all these questions and the new polls can be addressed easily by reading the office hours guide if we have instructions that changed from basis to basis and I think putting it into a policy obviously we don't need to ratify this policy. But if we put it into a document, we'd have to go through the trouble of like having a discussion every time you want to change it. Whereas if we have like instructions in an office hours guide, we can change it as appropriate, find that there's a problem, solve it, you know, things like that. like that, and I think that's fine. I was just gonna say very briefly, Muskaan's not here, but I think we should just make sure that Muskaan makes an announcement to all the clubs and levies about the changes in the policy just because they do use their picture and they should be aware of this change.

Krystyn: I was gonna ask if it was feasible to have like a five minute discussion item like in future meetings, just about the policy if you guys wanna like keep changing it as we go along.



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Shane: Yeah, we'll keep introducing it so long as there are adjustments made, for sure. And to your point, sorry, we definitely will publicize this, like we'll do a post on Instagram. It's already in the newsletter, which is supposed to be released today. There will be emails sent to the VUSAC clubs and levies.

Amoly: If we regularly log our paper supply, I think it will help us keep track of A) both our paper supply and also B) if we also add to that especially what club printed how much, that will help us manage and figure out our costs on a regular basis as opposed to just looking at the invoice and then we can accumulate. Instead of at the end of the month we're saying hey \$900 versus every day or every week we can negative it. Okay week one we spent \$300 that's a lot let's regulate in week two and three That'd be easy.

Diana: Is it possible to make like a poster or an information sheet just about the new printing policy for VUSAC members because I've just been verbally explaining it to everyone who comes in and I think it might be easier if I was just like, we have a new printing policy, you can read it on this right here it'll be in the face on the wallpaper of the next time.

Andrew: So I have a proposal for the printing policy, so when they want to print paper or a poster, we can ask them to record every time with their names listed on it.

Callan: Yeah I think one other thing too as we first talked about the policy, is there is a printer log that seems to expire after 24 hours from what we've seen it's like you can print it at the end of the day. So I think it may be a good idea to start having whoever's on office hours last potentially print the printer log at the end of the day, because at the very least we have that without needing to manually track it, the printer will track it for us. It obviously won't tell us who printed or how much they printed or was it a club, but it will at least tell us how many pages were printed and I think it'll say black and white or color.

Shane: We do have the tracker and I think asking students to note things down is a step we're not yet ready to take because if we continue to lose inordinate amounts of money due to massive amounts of printing, perhaps that's a step we can take in the future but we don't wanna put too many obstacles in people's way to simply print out their readings for the day, but I completely get where you're coming from and that's something that we definitely could consider down the line, I think. And Amoly, I wanna clarify just what you were saying. So what are you saying that when the office manager gets a request from a club, such as 100 pages blank and white, Yuna would register that in a spreadsheet. And the person on office hours would have that spreadsheet and would be able to know who and when this group is printing and what they're printing?



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Amoly: Yeah, and if everybody at VUSAC that does office hours just has access to it, if a club or levy comes in without approval and you know it's on office hours or something, you know it's in the office, we could just have access to it, edit that, I think. And then if we have the club or levy named, then we can ensure that they're not printing on their own behalf. And then the number of pages that they approve from Yuna too.

Callan: Just so you can see this, again, just because I think it helps resonate the difference between color and black and white, very clearly. This is our invoice from September to October. It's for \$649 in total. On this column here, we have just under 5,000, that is coloured sides. And that comes to \$527. In comparison, we had about 7,500 black and white, and that was just over \$100. So just to put that magnitude in perspective, like this is 1.5 times our colored paper, and yet it's a fifth of the cost. So going to black and white makes a huge difference.

Aiko: I think this is an important policy to have. I just would like to see a little bit more about the terms of what the logistics of it is, so I think that there should be a better idea of the way in which to track it somehow.

Shane: I think Amoly suggested something that we should definitely implement.

Motion to extend the discussion by 5 minutes by Shane Joy, seconded by Juhyung Yun.

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

Amoly: If we also regularly update the amount of paper we have left at the end of the day, that will really help us not only plan orders in paper, orders in advance, but also help us regulate how much in printing, what club or levies are printing, so that we don't get the shortage that we have.

Juhyung: I also think it will be helpful if we have tips on printing. Like making sure you print double-sided, because I know that a lot of people they reprint because they don't know it's like double-sided. Sometimes I might do the long format and then I might get like mine printed with one sentence on the next page. So I think like if we have like tips for printing to put next to the computer: check black and white, check your color, if it's double-sided or not.

Medha: I just had a question. In the printing policy, it says that whoever is coming to the printing services, they have to check in with the council member at the front desk. I was wondering how that was going to be done. I know we said that we don't want to put a lot of obstacles in front of people coming into the space. So would we just let them know that they have to pay for color or would we ask them to check their results?



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Lara: I know some council members have already been applying this. When they come in, we're just like, hey, are you a vic student? Because they come straight in, sometimes. Then you tell them that there's been an update to the printing policy. But in addition to that, we would also probably be making a sign once the policy is finalized to ensure that it's also on the wall for people as well.

Amoly: I don't think that having a sign is very effective because in my experience, we had that huge sign on the wall that said we were out of paper and yet people just kept coming in for paper and we had to tell them. So I think having it on the desk helped but I think we're going to need to continue telling them.

Lara: Yeah, I mean like we have a sign, but in addition to that we also have to keep asking. Like I'm not saying the sign is the permanent solution.

VUSAC Meeting Seating Arrangements and Venues, put forth by Shane Joy (10 minutes)

Shane: It's sort of following up on the discussions we had at Fall Retreat on the kinds of spaces that we're meeting in and arranged in. You're probably all right now cognizant of the fact that we're all kind of sitting in a rectangle circle thing and when guests come to talk about their budget or to ask a question, they're separated from us. And I think that's a problem. It has an element of exclusion to it, in my opinion, and I agree with the folks who brought that up at Fall Retreat. So I'm just wondering if we could have a bit more of a broader discussion. For me, I thought that something that would be better than sitting in a rectangle and having people come around the side is kind of possibly trying to work out in some arrangement in which we're all sitting in a circle, like having the desks shaped in a circular fashion. That might allow a few more people to sit around and doesn't result in people standing on the sides.

Krystyn: I've also heard complaints about sometimes, if we don't speak loud enough, people at the far end can't hear anything, that might help for a circle.

Diana: This room is generally just not big enough. We don't even have chairs for all our council members most of the time, which is a problem. So I didn't think any organization is going to be really helpful. I think that this room is just not big enough.

Lara: I will say that this is something that came to mind during retreat. I was like, it might be worth thinking about like looking at the atrium, because it is a more open space. And I also think that in terms of getting more people engaged with our meetings, people who are passing by can



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see what's going on. I don't know obviously in terms of the efficiency, in terms of voice and echoing in the atrium, but it's just a thought.

Amoly: I don't like the idea of using the atrium because it's just so frequently visited that I don't think we'll have the same productivity as we do in a room. I was thinking more Old Vic – is that possible?

Shane: I don't think the atrium is the best choice because we have music in the other room. It's nice music, but it would interrupt us. There might also be folks like yelling or laughing at their friends or having fun in the building that could also disrupt us. In terms of Old Vic, I think it's something we can look into.

Aimee: Is the VUSAC office too small?

Everyone: Yeah.

Lara: So Old Vic is a bookable space, we don't need to pay. It's just that we have to go through Vic events team. It's not through the Goldring booking system. And if you go through the Vic events team, usually they'll have to get back to you over a period of time. And I'm also pretty sure that they'll have stuff booked out because Old Vic is also rented out for other things. So it's not a sustainable option. It could be something we can consider for meetings where we think it will be well attended, but it's not like a long-term solution, I would say.

Aiko: I just want to question, has Wymilwood ever been considered?

Callan: I'm gonna give one comment, which is, I don't know about the temperature in that room. When it's got 30 bodies in it, just that that's something we noticed at retreat was it was a little warm. The room doesn't have the best circulation, but I agree, it's a bigger room, you're right. Like it could be good, and we can sit more comfortably, but there's also no desks.

Lara: I also want to say that like, Wymilwood is booked out on a Friday night pretty frequently because there will be events. So I also want to make sure that that space is still available for other student groups.

Ali: I think you're probably in a position where you'll have a very hard time picking things right now. But for next semester, you could try out rooms and see what works. I think the problem is going to be that a room that fits more people, you won't be able to have a setup where you're all looking at each other. So in old vic, classrooms can get up to 80 people in them, but it will be



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desk style. So maybe if you feel comfortable, you can use next semester to try it out because then if you book in April for next year, you could maybe get availability every week.

Aiko: What are the feelings regarding, like pulling the desk closer to the edges, like to the end of the room, and then have like a little hole in the middle where you can drag chairs around and sit around.

Amoly: Two points. One, we tried that during the first week. It was very stuffy and it was not good. For old vic, is there an option to just, like, when you're on your calendar and you're like, I have this event every Friday, so let me just do repeat every week. Is there a way to do that with booking? To just book your space for every week?

Lara: Yes you can do that. But again, I wanna stress that Vic events handles it and, I think it is probably unreasonable for us to ask for old Vic every single Friday night. I just think that it's kind of not super feasible.

Krystyn: There is a room at like the end of like the old vic hallway when you go up to the second floor and you head all the way down. There's like the teacher's desk and then there's just like one big long desk that goes like that. So people can sit around if they're like interested in looking at the room at least.

Callan: I think that room is a comparable size to this room, but it might have more chairs.

Krystyn: We'll all be facing each other, so it'll be a little easier.

Diana: I just want to say every time we do a little hallway thing in the middle, it makes it so difficult to talk to people because I'm spinning in circles.

Shane: It'd be good if we could somehow utilize the second floor over there.

Ali: Historically, VUSAC were there in the Regent's room. Because you can book the Regent's foyer. It is a bookable space. It's always been a bookable space. You could technically be booking it right now. Well, but I think that's the point Lara's trying to make. We're too late in the semester. But you could get a reasonable booking probably. You won't get it right now. Everything is booked. But maybe you could try that as a space.

Motion to extend the discussion by 2 minutes by Shane Joy, seconded by Diana Vink.

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



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Diana: We also have like four chairs in that space. Yes. So there would be a lot of labor involved. We're manually moving all of our chairs there and back.

Shane: No, I agree. And to your point, I'm not saying that we should act on this immediately. It's just ideas for a future concept.

Lara: I think to maybe wrap up this conversation, I think it's worth looking into the room that Krystyn was mentioning. That might be a good short-term booking if you do want to try something new for the fall semester. And then I think for the winter semester, we can definitely look into long-term bookings and recurring bookings as well for the if that's something we're interested in.

Amoly: I just had an idea on top of my head. At the EJ Pratt Library, there's a study room. But I think it's too small. So it's OK.

Diana: They do have a conference room in the EJ. I don't know what it's called, but they have a screen in the front.

Everyone: That room too small.

Lara: Ali has just informed me that we only have one bookable space in Pratt, and it is a computer lab.

St. Michael's Cultural Fest Collaboration, put forth by Kate Mochina (10 minutes)

Kate: Yeah, so I just wanted to bring up this discussion item about the spread of the conversation with St. Mikes. So the Cultural Fest would be kind of an all day thing, probably, in St. Michael's, with potluck, games, and free stuff. Then in the evening, they're going to have a cultural fashion show with fashion shows and giveaways, prizes, and dinner. So I think the budget for the whole week is around \$5,000. I'm not sure what the breakdown is, but they were just wondering if VUSAC would be able to contribute to this event financially. I just wanted to see people's thoughts.

Lara: I'm gonna quickly address this based on my opinion. We are budgeting for 30 people which is probably not the size of people that St. Mike's is expecting for this past and it would not be accommodating of all of that, all of the people. I'm sorry I really know that we were excited about that event but I don't think it's realistic to budget for 30 people. I really think that booking Old Vic on their behalf would be a really good solution just so that they can cut cost in terms of renting a space. And that's how we can contribute. And then further stress that a good majority



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of the VUSAC is first aid trained and have volunteered for these types of events in the past. So they would have that as an asset if they're interested.

Amoly: Two questions. One, could we very briefly find out what they're expecting from us, like if they're expecting us to contribute financially, what is our role in it other than the money? And then could we also potentially see a brief breakdown of their current budget because \$5,000 for seven days is quite a lot.

Kate: So I asked them for the breakdown of the \$5,000. They said that they couldn't get back to me. I reached out to them about what we would be taking care of financially because they approached us with that. And they didn't get back to me on that. And I don't know how much budget they would want.

Diana: I'm reading directly from the email. It says the cultural fest has been allocated a \$5,000 budget, not the whole week, specifically that event. And that's for arrangement, booking, location, and providing food. So that is specifically that event from my understanding. I'm not, like, opposed to the idea of supporting them financially. But we've been trying to get them to tell us what they want us to pay for. And we have not had much luck. But if they can give us that, then that'll be a more productive conversation around finances. At the moment, we're trying to push for them to give us spaces and them to provide volunteers, because I know at least some volunteers who are definitely interested in coming out. The other big thing I'll mention is my concern, and this is a very minor concern, but it is a little bit of something that's on my mind as we're doing this, is I want to make sure that if we're getting involved enough, like that Vic students will be not only welcomed, but like a part of the program. I don't want to just like have this be a same like that we're helping out a little bit with, so that people can come and take what. Like I really want it to be a collaboration. Because like I said, on the holiday form, people showed a lot of interest in Diwali events. And people showed a lot of interest in cultural events as a whole. And I think that we've looked at a lot of people who would really like to see that. And at this point, it's too late for us to try and coordinate that on our own. So the big priority for me is I want to get all our volunteers out. I want to get everybody out. Because I want to make sure that it's like, this is a collaboration between the two of us.

Shane: I agree with you. I feel like if you're not being treated as a collaborator right now. So I think it would be good for whoever the folks that are working on this. Is it you two and Krystyn? Yeah, OK. So your three commissions to ask to take a little bit more of a role and to co-chair that whole project. Because I agree that we shouldn't just be footing the bill or giving them a room to run the event.



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Lara: So I think, unfortunately, I feel like just this conversation is going in directions. I think we need to figure out how we're collaborating. first and then in terms of like financial contributions what they're expecting of us and you know those different things and then once we get those answers then we can think about how you want to run your event in case we do continue with that idea.

Amoly: Yeah, going back to Diana and Shane's points, let's just assume that we're not able to bring a large amount of vic students, then I don't think that this is a good investment.

Kate: I think because even if it was at old vic but a lot of vic students weren't there, I don't think this would be a good idea.

Diana: I think Kate's been being nice, so I'm going to email them instead and trying to get some more answers about what their expectations for us are. I, unfortunately, missed the initial meeting that we had about this, but for my understanding, the answers were similarly vague. I can send that email tonight and just be like, hey, we talked to council. We're really interested in being a collaborator on this one, but this is what our expectation would be. You need to tell us what you're expecting from us as well. I think it's something that we would really like to get involved with, but I would need to know what that looks like.

Amoly: Yeah, also, when you enrol them today, could you also figure out what, try to get them to figure out if the events that they're asking us to collaborate with would benefit vic students? I feel like when we plan events for our college, they're centered mostly around people who go to our college and their preferences. So if we were to get involved financially or even events-wise, would they have events that would benefit vic students? Why does a vic student want to go? Is there something that they would want to attend?

Krystyn: I was just going to ask if we know how much we're actually able to contribute financially.

Motion to extend the discussion by ten minutes by Shane Joy, seconded by Diana Vink.

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

Diana: So from my understanding, we're not really at risk of going bankrupt right now unless we spend several thousand dollars on this event, which I don't really think is feasible or reasonable given the fact that we're getting involved. That being said, I also don't think not going bankrupt should be the goal. But I also think that's a hard question to answer, given that we don't have any semblance of an idea of what their expectation would be. Because if they would expect us to



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contribute another \$,000, that's probably not attainable for us. But if they want us to commit a couple hundred, plus the advantages we have for booking vic spaces, that's much more doable.

Krystyn: When we had the meeting with them, they said, if we could contribute financially, that would be good, but we didn't see it specifically. Like, you need to contribute financially. I think they were more interested in, like, booking spaces, especially because they were having trouble to book spaces for the fashion show. Because they were looking at places that would be suitable to hold a fashion show.

Amoly: Could we also maybe ask them to, A) not only send us a breakdown, but for us to figure out how much they're bringing in, and B) can we analyze their budget and break down, and see if we can find more affordable options if we do decide to pursue this?

Diana: Their budgets not a problem. If they budgeted for expensive items that's on them and it's not like our job to fix that if they're asking us to them to budget for expensive items. I don't want to like disrupt the work that they've already done

Amoly: Not as in like we do their work. If they ask us to cover \$100 or \$200, we can go over the things they're expecting us to bring in and the things they're bringing. That would reduce our intake into them.

Caitriona: If I'm under the right impression, we're entering late. We've said we can help them out with the space and we're willing to provide volunteers. I also agree that I don't think at this point we should be providing them any money. They budgeted \$5,000 for what they feel they they want to cover. As Di said there's a lot of people who are interested too.

Juhyung: I think for us, the conversation should be, are we going to rent out old vic and if vic can be part of the fashion show, not the cultural fests or anything else that's kind of hard. I think that's more doable rather than having us collaborate with their culture fest.

Caitriona: Yeah, my other point that I was gonna bring up is, they have asked us to collaborate on just the cultural fests. So they have other events going on – those we are not being asked to be a part of, just the cultural fests, which the fashion show is a part of the cultural fest, but there are other components of the cultural fest, like the food trucks and the carnival games that they're thinking of as well. So I think the fashion show would be the component of the cultural fests, it's being held out at vic, hopefully. And then we would also be invited, again, from my understanding to attend their components that are happening on the St. Mike's campus as well, and then potentially providing volunteers.



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Amoly: Two questions. One, by volunteering, do they only mean volunteering as a first aid trained people or food management? Second, could we just reconfirm if the culture fest was the one they'd set up \$5000 for?

Caitriona: Okay, yes, the culture fest was the thing they specified \$5000 for. Just the culture fest, which was one day. And then volunteers, they have not specified volunteers. That is coming from our end, so it's our definition of what volunteers are.

Diana: For the \$5000 I'm not sure if that includes the cultural fashion show, t because it's listed as a separate event from the cultural festival, but I don't know if the \$5000 is meant to cover both, because they're like one after the other. I will ask them about that as well. I can ask them, like, as much information. I don't understand why they wouldn't be able to give you their budget. I could directly go on their website and look at it. The other comment I'll make is we were only really asked to be a part of culture fest, but I think the other big draw for us is the Diwali dinner, because we have people at vic who are interested in being part of it. I don't want to, like, shove myself in their events, but I also know that that's something that would be very fruitful for big students, so I'm not sure if it's something like they're open to having more involved in on-events during the week, or if they really just want us for that. I'm sure vic students would be interested, but it's not like a nature that we're currently aware of and specifically a cultural fashion show. So I have all those small questions that I'm going to send them.

Shane: Have you met with them?

Kate: Yes, we had a meeting with them. They were explaining the breakdown but it was not as detailed as this chart. They went through with us the cultural best and the fashion show. In that meeting they said they didn't have a space for the fashion show.

Shane: I feel like rather than sending them a million questions through an email, I feel like you better just have a conversation. Your three commissions and them I think that would be just a little more productive and smoother than sending emails back and forth, because it does seem like that email's quite long and complicated.

Ali: When you're sending them the email – remember, this is just four weeks away, and my worry would be if they're doing things like carnival games, it could be snowing, it could be rainy, it could be slippery. Will that be safe for people? So if we can figure out exactly what types of carnival games they're having, and especially if you do end up signing up, we would need to do a risk assessment with them. Also the feasibility of how many people wanna be out November 17th doing those things would be maybe my question on it. Because it's already cold.



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Amoly: Maybe if we're contributing financially, we should also meet with them and negotiate. They could talk about the Diwali dinner and we should be negotiating about vic students presence at those events. I think we should make it clear that if they're planning first to contribute financially, we should be able to bring vic students. If that is the case, and they want us to contribute financially, and we're bringing vic students, then we should start planning and having surveys and trying to gauge how many people that are interested in actually attending so we can plan accordingly.

Krystyn: They had an initial plan for the St. Mike's quad, where they were going to do the whole potluck and carnival games, so they were going to use either outdoor heaters or if it was too cold, they were going to move the event inside to St. Mike's kind of common space.

Diana: I will send an email asking me some, I've been taking down all the questions that have been brought up in conversation and I think there are things that will have a conversation about it. To be honest, like if they keep not giving specific answers then I don't really think this is an event that we'll be able to participate in, but I think that hopefully if we go to them with specific questions, we'll be able to get a more concrete expectation. So thank you all so much for like bringing those questions forward and keep you all updated.

Kate: I think they just said that they're going to also work until I give you a different email.

Motion to extend the discussion by two minutes by Amoly Agarwal, seconded by Shane Joy.

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

Amoly: Do they expect us to provide with \$5,000 or were we expecting a portion?

Caitriona: We were never asked for \$5,000. They have budgeted \$5,000. We were asked to contribute financially if we could. And we are. Our conversation was that we were kind of not interested in doing that.

Diana: Yeah, they haven't asked us for anything. The \$5,000 is their budget. They said if you can give us money that would be great, but we have no numbers. So at the moment we have contributed, maybe no contribution whatsoever and have no intention to do that.

Amoly: So, could we just meet with them and figure out how much they're asking us to contribute?



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*Motion to move up Scarlet and Gold Commission's report up to now by Krystyn Kalloo,
seconded by Diana Vink.*

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

Scarlet & Gold (Krystyn): 3 minutes (moved prior to staff reports via vote by Council)

Krystyn: We've had our first solo event, which was Midnight Brew. We made half the revenue, but we did ratify a budget line that covered us so we're good. The people who came seemed to have a good time, that was nice. In terms of planning for semi, it's going to be on 27th of October, coming in costume. We had catering down and we're going to have a decor list by this evening if I can make the list. If you guys have any things that you want to collaborate with, please stop by my office hours on Mondays from 5 -7pm.

STAFF REPORTS:

Finance (Callan): 5 minutes (Appendix D)

Callan: In Appendix D, there is a document. This is the process and loss statement for the fiscal year. For those who are not aware, the Finance Chair meets with a representative of the Office of the Bursar at least once a month to do bank reconciliations and to manage the records and make sure all the bookkeeping is up to date on VUSAC's accounting. Today, Hannah and I met and closed the books for the fiscal year beginning May 2022 and ending April 2023, which means we reconciled all the bank statements, we made sure all the cheques were accounted for and we checked all the income and expenses for the various groups. This is all done using QuickBooks software on the VUSAC computer. It is ancient. That's another discussion for another time, but Hannah recommended that we look into maybe spending some money on better software/a better computer, because this is very important information that we don't want on a scary computer that might die at any moment. We have a backup, so not to worry, but just in general, that'll come up later. This is last year's fiscal statement. Of course, we are just a student council, so although as much as we like to take ourselves seriously and we *do* have to do serious things like this, we're not a company, so when we try to do a profit and loss, it doesn't make much sense like it would with a company, but it does still provide some important metrics for us to keep in mind for this year. One of those is historical spending trends across different levies or across different clubs. When I say levies, I guess I should say not spending for levies, this is just levy funding, just so we're all aware. The very last page has the levy funding, but just before I do that, I just want to say a quick general guide to this document. This is done in a very ancient way by ancient software. But it essentially just indents everything that falls under the same category. So the first



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indent on the first page is income. So everything that is indented below income is under that category. And then if we go into another category, it's a subcategory, etc. So income is everything at the top here. And then we have total income, which is deposited into our bank account, most of which is student fees that come from Victoria University. As we all know, that's our funding. But there is revenue that comes from other places, particularly Highball tickets. It was a large source of revenue of \$14,000. Semi-formal tickets is another huge source of revenue. There was also a refund just for a cheque that was misattributed to Victoria University. But that's a whole other situation that isn't important. The important part is just that our total income for last year was around \$225,000. And this is the expense section, which is all broken down. And at the very end of the expense section, which is long, because our job is to spend money, right at the very end of the document, you'll see total expense at around \$239,000. And so our net income is around negative \$14,000. So two points about this. The first point is, before you're concerned about the deficit, it's intentional. Last year's council wanted to cut down on the surplus that VUSAC had from previous years. One of the big reasons for that was COVID. During COVID, they did not have opportunities or reason to spend as much money as they normally would have. And so there was a large amount of funding in the bank account. And so they were still up to last year trying to spend out a bit of that surplus. Another thing to consider here is there was \$5,500 revenue from that did not come through until after the end of the fiscal period, which was the end of April. And so that revenue will get counted on our profit and loss for this coming fiscal year, even though really it's revenue from the previous council. So don't look at this as a report card of the previous council.

Look at it more as just tracking the health of VUSAC year-over-year. But I just want to make sure that everyone knows not only that this is done and that this matters, but also that there are good measures in place to make sure that we are spending this money appropriately and good oversight in place. I'm very grateful to Hannah from the Bursar's Office. She's been a huge help in making sure that we can get everything in order because it's not a simple task. The other quick thing I want to say before I lose my time is just a quick update on the fall budget and requisitions. We have 274 lines. We'll have more after these amendments today, but before the amendments, 274 for lines that are reimbursable lines, as in they're not levy lines. Of those, 228 have no submissions yet for a check requisition. For the remaining 46: 1 of those has outstanding issues, 9 are ready for pickup, 29 are waiting to be cashed and 7 are complete. The funds and percents are there. If you have questions about this, let me know, but I'm out of time.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Academic (Medha & Stephanie): 3 minutes



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Medha: We hosted our first anti-procrastination night and it had a great turnout. However, we have some feedback that we're going to consider. For example, a lot of the students were commuters and have mentioned it was quite late. And some students mentioned something about the fluorescent lights as well. We're going to host our next anti-procrastination night next week just to try out different spaces. We've also been planning different workshops. We're hosting a resume and cover letter writing workshop next week which will be in conjunction with the DO's office. And we were also going to finalize two other workshops to conduct. So one is about interview strategies and the other one is about scholarship opportunities who plan to do some kind of academic research. Some of you may know that Stephanie and I were interested in peer tutoring at vic So we were able to meet with them and we were able to start to get to work for our project. We're also super excited to announce that we will have some new members that we will be joining up any group today. And we are about to finalize the hiring of two first year reps.

Arts & Culture (Kate): 3 minutes

Kate: So I'm just going to give a quick report. So arts and culture had a major collaboration with VOCA in Cat'sEye where we promoted first exec applications and a raffle for people to enter with an exclusive arts and culture tote bag. This collaboration was a great opportunity for people to learn more about the vision of these commissions and also just see the events we have coming up. Speaking of events, arts and culture's first solo event will be held on October 26th, from 5-7pm in the Cat'sEye. And with that event, we'll be providing small pumpkins, paint, Halloween snacks, as well as showing a Halloween movie that will be decided on our Instagram. So be sure to check that out. Another initiative that one of my exec has been working on is something called the Arts and Culture Art Atlas, which essentially is compiling a map of museums, exhibits, and art installations in Toronto that are available for free or with students discounts. The map is linked to the website, which is just a really good resource for students that they can just visit next time out in Toronto, or for our students are aware of what's available to them. I am almost finished up with first year exec hiring for which we've got four applicants, and we're looking at interviewing them for this weekend. I'm also looking forward to working with lovely counselors and our paired counselors that were sign to my portfolio. I know you're going to be a great asset to the team, and I can't wait to start working with them.

Commuter (Juhjung & Aimee): 3 minutes

Aimee: For the past month, we've been really busy with running various events, a program survey and an October giveaway. We did a trivia night in collaboration with the commuter dons on September 28th, and we had around 25 students participate. Ju and I also held a very popular



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on October 12th, in which we were able to get away all 40 mirrors, and our event still held a spooky scavenger count on October 13th as well. Furthermore, our advocacy group organized our full program survey, in which we received 111 responses. If any of you guys would like to go through the results, feel free to ask Ju and I about it, and we'd be more than happy to share them with you. Overall, we were able to notice that Instagram followed by email with preferred methods of communication and also that more commuters are interested in low energy events as well as self-defense workshops. Using this information to be catering our events and programming to better encompass the preferences of the vic community. We also recently opened up our October giveaway which already has over 100 responses, so if you haven't already, make sure to check out VOCA's Instagram account and sign up to win a gift card only if you're commuter though.

Juhyung: So we also have some more events coming up. We will be holding an excursion in collaboration with the sustainability commission on October 5th and a Book marking and flower press event in November. Our advocacy team will be holding a meet and greet with the equity commission and we will also be holding a 1989 friendship bracelet making event as well. So make sure to come in and enjoy our events! Furthermore, we have also started new pancake collaborations and our next pancake collaborations will be with the Students for Collective Resistance next Tuesday so make sure to drop by. Speaking of pancakes, this week is our first time with the full VOCA team. With first year exec applications opening up in September, we received 11 applications where we interviewed 4 and hired 3. We are so excited for our full team and to see the our team accomplishes this year. We have also recently been assigned a councillor, Aiko, and knowing the great value Aiko brings to our commission with her bright energy and passion for commuter students, we look incredibly forward to working with them!

Equity (Diana & Caitriona): 3 minutes

Diana: Hi, everyone. I know you've heard a lot from me tonight. First of all, we would really like to give a warm welcome to Sophie and Erin, who have been assigned to our portfolio. We are so excited to have them in our commission. We've got two more counselors and I'm thrilled about it. Our exec team has been working on our VOCA collaboration, which has been going on very well, as well as a collaboration with the Mental Wellness Commission, which should be in fruition soon. We are getting closer to booking a date for accessible swimming lessons, which will be on a Wednesday. So looking forward to finally bringing that idea to life from last year.

Caitriona: Our advocacy execs are looking into a feedback form for Burwash as well. So they're getting connected with the Sustainability Commission to kind of find out more about what's



going on there. Hopefully we will get in contact soon so that we can collaborate and host more cultural events.

Mental Wellness (Charlie & Teresa): 3 minutes

Charlie: Hi, everyone. For our team, we have successfully hosted community parties, and planned viewing events. Around 50 people have turned out, which is definitely a success. Also, we heard good feedback from all of the students. There were some participants having shown strong interest to joining the mental wellness team and volunteer to help us facilitate the events better. And secondly, we haven't started this collaboration with Arts and Culture on a scrapbooking and bullet journaling event. And the time is still in discussion, but we are about to set it around at the end of November as a draft idea. And certainly right now our team discussing with the equity commission to create a survey for the accessibility service checklist for VUSAC related events. And also potentially put an instrument post on the mental wellness and also equity related material. Next, we are having our Hart House Retreat which is happening on October 27th. And right now, we have 20 people signed up and 15 have made the payment. Our mindfulness yoga event is happening at next Monday, 5 to 6 at the Goldring Fitness studio. So if you have any interest in joining that event, please feel free to. Last point, I'm looking forward to working with our new member Andrew and Albert, who are assigned to our portfolio.

Sustainability (Atlas & Leah): 3 minutes

Lara: I'm reading on behalf of both Atlas and Leah. So they have three successful events. They're EcoGrief Cafe. Here, students have the opportunity to talk openly about the climate crisis and share their feelings of climate anxiety and grief in a safe, caring environment. There's going to be another one at the end of the month, which will be more tailored to the preferences of attendees regarding what they want to talk about and it will include activities we think will facilitate better discussion. They had the tote bag Art Bill. Students came out to the Quad to pay climate justice slogans and demands on Toadbags which we are going to be giving out to the broader U of T community. This was a good opportunity to bond while talking seriously about climate justice, messaging, and outreach. Food Justice Town Hall. The first part of the Town Hall was dedicated to the streaming of the emergency in Palestine. We believe food justice is an inherently anti-colonial concept and practice and that it is connected to all struggles that aim for the liberation of Indigenous people from oppression. Therefore it was critical for us to learn about and discuss Israeli apartheid and the genocide that is happening in Palestine right now. After the teaching, we had a very productive and meaningful discussion about potential food justice related problems to vic including a community pantry, a community garden and a food waste reallocation program. Some upcoming events. They're going to have a Halloween thrifting



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collaboration with VOCA, where students will have the chance to go to a variety of thrift stores to purchase sustainable Halloween costumes in line with like semi-investing. Also, keep a lookout for a pumpkin carving event that will be hosted in collaboration with DigIn, a community gardening club at U of T.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS:

VP External (Cam): 3 minutes

Cam: Hello. Sorry to hear you're from Rochester, New York. I thought I would send a video update rather than a written one because I thought that would be more fun. However, I'm kind of regretting as this is my millionth take. However, I've been working on a couple of really exciting things. The first is caucus, two weeks from now, November 3rd, 5:30pm. Really encourage you to attend. For those who don't know, you'll be able to ask questions to the administrators, the president, the dean, in addition to VUSAC execs. So a question form should be in your email shortly. Please fill it out, submit some questions, and be sure to attend. December 6th is a National Day of Action and Remembrance Against Gender-Based Violence Against Women and Girls, collectively known as White Ribbon Day. We're looking for volunteers to speak or to be rose-bearers during the ceremony, so if you can fill out the form already in your email as soon as possible, that would be great. On an advocacy front, really excited to keep working with the Social Justice Coalition, which is open to all vic students, but we've given special priority to Vic Black, VicPride!, the equity, sustainability, and mental wellness commissions. And there was an article that you might see in The Strand about how successful that's been so far. If you have any questions, concerns, or a lot of them working on, please email me at vpe@vusac.ca. We also have two new incredible counselors, the five of the portfolio, shoutout Andrew, and Sophie. Really looking forward to working with you. One of the things that the counselors will be doing, I realize now is tabling! That big banner isn't just for sitting outside the VUSAC office. It's also for use to collect feedback and engage students where they are outside of Burwash in the atrium. Again, you've received a spreadsheet to your email, for tabling. Well, it's not mandatory. I really strongly encourage you to. Miss you all. And I hope you're doing pizza.

VP Internal (Lara): 6 minutes

Lara: Hi everyone. Okay, so since we've last seen each other, Shane and I have onboarded all the councillors, which is so exciting. And so happy to have everyone on board. We had retreat, which was last weekend, I think it was a big success and everyone is able to learn a lot. I do apologize for having to switch online the last minute on the second day. Some people were just calling in sick, so I just felt like it was better to do online. And I hope everyone is able to take away from that good takeaways, good conversations, and good information about resources,



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referrals, and everything you need to be equipped with to be a good VUSAC member. I've sent out the materials for retreat literally 10 minutes ago, and it should be at the top of your inbox. So you can check that out. We had first aid training and we were able to train about nine people with the amazing help of Caitriona. I want to give a round of applause. We did an incredible job and we now have more first aid trained people. Okay, portfolio have been assigned to the councillors, which is so exciting. I hope that you're all able to work amazingly together and I'm very excited to see the outcomes of such collaborations. I know you will all be able to learn and grow from one another. Okay, check-ins. I've completed check-ins with all of the commissions and everything seems to be running great. You guys are doing such an incredible job and things have been full steam ahead and I couldn't be prouder. During retreat, we mentioned how we're doing a commission calendar and how that would be helpful, so I'll be sending that out. And I will give everyone commission's editing access just so that if you have a new event you wanna put in and changes, you can make the edits directly. And I trust you will keep it as organized as it already. Okay, for Semi-formal, I'm going to send out an email and it's sent right now, so you should go on that email. It has all you need to know for Semi, so in line with that, I really all encourage you all to promote to your friends, promote on your Instagram, share, like, comment, subscribe, all that stuff. We're running Semi, encourage all your friends to get tickets, it's gonna be so much fun. I can't believe we're doing costume! Details about the volunteer schedule will all be able to be found there. If you're reading it right, there is also information about risk assessment meetings. So please make sure to fill out the when to meet if you are a volunteer. And aside from that, all council, we will be starting to sell tickets starting next week. So Shane will probably be sending an email separately about how ticketing will work. And please have it open when you're doing office hours just so we can conduct in an orderly matter of selling those tickets. Some reminders, I really wanted to mention emails and communications. If you are comfortable, please like log into your Gmail on maybe your phone or make sure that you have that browser open pretty regularly on your laptop just so that you don't really miss anything, especially if there's some urgent things and communications. Make sure you have Messenger downloaded on your phone or the device you use most frequently, just because that is our main method of quick communication. And it's great that if we have all of council on that group chat and available there. And there's also like a slight note about email etiquette and that kind of thing in Ali's materials for retreat. So that's also in the materials for retreat if you were interested in reviewing that. I just wanted to quickly touch on office hours. Please remember that the schedule is out. The office hours guide that Yuna have compiled is very comprehensive and should be able to answer all of your questions. I really, really need you all to read it before going into office hours. It's really important that we're all in the same page, especially now given the new printing policy and how we have to approach our office hours. I really do recommend that you all read it. I also



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really want you all to arrive on time. It becomes difficult when somebody needs to leave for class immediately and they're waiting for the next person on office hours. So please arrive on time. And if you read the document very carefully about office hours, you will know that you be getting the key from the Margaret Addison front desk. This is something a lot of people forget because the office tends stay open because like a lot of the exec are inside. But please make sure to get the key from the front desk so that if there is no exec in the office, you do not have to keep asking me for my key to access the back. You can use the access the back using the key you get from the front desk. So please make sure you do that. And that's just a reminder for that. Last thing, I finished check-ins with the commissions and with the staff. So that's all good. Maybe in around November I will start checking into the counselors and see how things are going in terms of portfolios and if you guys have any initiatives that may be like independently from your portfolios you want to pursue. And of course as always if you have any questions, send me a message, let me know, it's all chill. And I will stay after this meeting for a couple of minutes if you guys have questions as well as if you want to decompress together.

VP Student Organizations (Muskaan): 3 minutes

Shane (for Muskaan): Hello, everyone. Hope you're well. Sorry for not being able to make it to the meeting today. Not a lot has happened since my last report, but I wanted to highlight some things. Firstly, \$95.56 from the VPSO contingency fund was recently allocated, reallocated to the Goose Fiction. They made a purchase of and budgeted for \$257.64. But that turned out to be USD instead of Canadian dollars. This converted to \$354.20 in Canadians so that extra costs will be covered by the contingency fund. Moreover, over the last week or so, I've been in conversation with Vic Records, who has been having trouble sharing a space with VCAA. They mainly have concerns about the safety of their equipment and its logistical issues with using the spaces of the recording studio. I have reached out to the DO and will be meeting with Ali next week to find potential solutions to this problem. Outside of that, the interactive calendar for clubs and levies is almost ready and will be available for you starting next week. This will allow students to find all events in one place and ensure that all student organizations can plan their events in a way that leads to minimum overlap. I'll share that all with you once I'm ready, and that's all from my side.

President (Shane): 7 minutes

Shane: So we didn't reach quorum for the last meeting on October 6th, so we were unable to get to a lot of the official items we had to discuss despite being able to discuss a few other things. Jackie sent us the motion through email to ratify a line from the Commuter Commission's Budget for a new griddle for \$70. It was announced passed on the 7th. I'm letting you know this



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because I'm constitutionally supposed to make updates when email votes occur. As some of you might have noticed we did not publish our elections report in accordance with the October 14th deadline we set. So constitutionally or according to the ERC, I think actually we're supposed to put out the elections report two weeks following the end of elections. So that would have been September 29th. Dhir intended to do a report on the 6th regarding the reasons for this but we're delivering that now since he was unable to make it today to do an exam. So this is his report: "The detailed results are available on the website. Since October is quite a busy period for me academically and for the sake of my health, unfortunately, I'll be postponing the release of my report by one month to mid-November. I will update the date on the website soon. I apologize to the VCU for any inconveniences caused and trust that the VCU will support my decision. I will definitely release a report in the meantime if there are any queries and or concerns they can reach out to me via email at cro@vusac.ca." Thanks to Callan for all the work he's doing to handle our finances in a way that's responsible and transparent. We all appreciate your guidance as well as the, you know, countless extra hours you put in, reconciling around half of our finances from the last year, including the ones for the year in which you're actually working. So on the printing policy, that has now been developed, as you noticed, and thoroughly discussed, and it seems that we've reached consensus on the way that will look in the logistics. We will be publishing that widely through social media and in the newsletter. I strongly encourage all of you to apply it fully during your office hours so that we're able to recover at least some of the costs. The point isn't to recover all of it, just facilitating the printing service, which is our most utilized service for Vic students. When folks come in and follow the guidelines, asking them whether they're a Vic student, making them aware of the fees that are relevant to them. I charged someone for five cents this morning. I've seen Lara stopping everyone coming in, as well as Amoly chasing people out the door in a friendly way, which is much appreciated, as we all should be applying it. Some updates on other stuff: I'm working to support the Scarlet and Gold Commission, along with Lara. For Semi-Formal folks who are volunteering, please do come to the event. If you're not, just pay the five dollars, it's a very small fee. And if you're volunteering, you don't have to pay. And on advocacy and work with other offices, I'm co-chairing the Working Group for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Victoria College Academic Programs with Lisa Williams-George, Grase Kim, and Professor Jonathan Hamilton-Diablo. We just opened applications and it will be published widely. And if you're in a Vic program or Vic One, please consider applying for the group as we want your opinion to help enhance and advance the principles of EDI and Vic academic programs. And the deadline for that is November 6th. Also, I recently met with Lisa, President McEwen, and Kenneth Chan, the Bursar & CAO to discuss events booking policies, discussing, you know, how do we protect and discern a better balance between, you know, enshrining and protecting academic freedom and freedom of speech at Victoria College while



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also ensuring our community members are protected and feel comfortable and included in their environment in the wake of things that happened, for example, at Waterloo and the summer. That was sort of the impetus for that meeting. Long story short, not a lot can be done in terms of applying events booking guidelines more stringently, but I think we all came to an understanding in that meeting that while sympathetic, there's simply nothing legally that Victoria University can do to prevent people with objectionable views sometimes to come on campus and potentially do an event or talk in the name of academic freedom. There are a bunch of provincial legislation getting in the way of that. So it is also not their fault. Other things, the Okanagan Charter, Ali mentioned earlier, will be signed in the morning of October 26th. This is something that we've been working on and talking about since the summer, something the Dean's office has been thinking about for years since the release of the Charter. And I'm really excited to see it being signed, I think it's a very appropriate time to sign it. And it would be really great to be working with the Mental Wellness Commission, along with the Dean's office, to continue enhancing the culture of mental health and the programs and policies surrounding that at Victoria College. The Scarborough Charter as well, I'm sort of just going off things that are in my head. Met with Lisa again. That will be signed during Black History Month in February. It is a charter about enhancing inclusion of Black students in universities, as well as including staff and employees as well. But yeah, there's some exciting things to come on that front too.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Lara Athena Reyes, seconded by Diana Vink.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:54PM.