

Homecoming Meeting Minutes
Friday, July 25th in the Larkin Building

Tina moves to approve agenda. Mohammed seconds.

- Ryan: Since this is a last minute meeting, I think we should leave long discussions for another time when we can set a meeting in which everyone can be present.

Unanimously approved.

- Venue information

- Tina: We have all of Devonshire and 10-15 spaces in the parking. The Varsity needs it for sponsors and others will be setting up booths. I have applied for 11 am to 5 pm; the space is only needed until the football game. There are buskers [is this correct?] to lead into the pub crawl afterwards. The noise permit form has been taken care of, garbage permit and other details as well.
- Leo: In terms of traffic flow, are people allowed to go wherever they want in the street?
- Tina: Are you talking about vehicles?
- Leo: No, pedestrians. Would we be regulating whether they leave the homecoming area?
- Tina: We can wristband attendees but I do not think it's necessary.
- Ryan: It is a Saturday afternoon, there is going to be very few pedestrians but there will probably not be members of the community coming in and taking materials from U of T.
- Tina: There will be security and we will have college representatives and pro-fac reps monitoring the event. If there are any disturbances, we have the power to have people leave since it's U of T property. Campus police will also be there.
- Tina: There needs to be a 3-6 metre fire emergency lane on the east side of Devonshire. The east side will be lined with tables that will have face paint and noise makers; the food will be in the Trinity parking lot.
- Ryan: That is quite a bit of space for activities. How about instead of occupying all the space with only face paint and other things, you can have clubs booths where they can show their spirit and promote their clubs? They can set up how they please, bring more people to homecoming and potentially get people more involved.

- Introductions

- Rowan, Victoria College president.
- Alex, Orientation Co-ordinator for UTSU
- Yolen, St. Mike's, UTSU president
- Ryan, Innis College President
- Victor, St. Michael's College President
- Leo, University College President
- Tina, Trinity College President

- Budget
 - Tina: We have to see how much each college can budget from their own budgets to put towards Homecoming. I have spoken with Rowan already and we know it is something we can pass through our councils. We were wondering whether to divide this based on size of college?
 - Leo: Should we create a joint account for homecoming, like Winterfest?
 - Tina: We have to talk to UTM and UTSC to see what they would like to do, since I imagine that it should not be put in an SGRT account for them.
 - Victor: It has been budgeted as \$500 in our budget line. We had to finalize our summer budget last month, so I allotted that much.
 - Leo: Is that flexible?
 - Victor: Not at all, based on our budget and the fact that it is currently closed. We can reallocate funds, but we do not have the funds. Yolen, would the UTSU be interested in joining and funding Homecoming?
 - Yolen: We just came by to hear what was happening with your planning.
 - Ryan: Can we push this forward as just Homecoming, not as SGRT or UTSU homecoming? This is an idea you may take back to your executive. If we are taking two options, then we can take this forward as one.
 - Yolen: I'd like to clarify that Cameron will not make it. But, I will take back that idea.
 - Leo: I would like to clear the air in the past week, it was a very sticky situation. The SGRT had the intention to contact all other groups about homecoming and we do not want it to affect the quality of the event. We did not want it to be a quality of bad faith and did not intend for the letter to be released.
 - Yolen: From my perspective, there were definitely concerns about the misunderstanding that occurred. There wasn't any indication of anything else being planned. The SGRT meeting that just occurred went in camera and when Cameron was brought back in, he was only informed of the decision made for SGRT homecoming. The homecoming is something we wanted to happen particularly for the students and did not want any conflict.
 - Tina: I'm sorry about what happened with the Varsity and we did not intend for that to happen whatsoever.

- Food and Spirit Gear
 - Tina: Initially we thought of just having food trucks, but I was talking to [missed name] about them. She said that if you book them, they can sometimes ask for a guaranteed amount of money and then ask for compensation if they do not make that much money. We need to discuss if [price] for barbecue is too much for food? I would also like to hire a caterer to oversee health and safety of the food, the Trinity caterers would be able to do so very well.

- Ryan: The Innis College barbecues are located very close to Devonshire and a 20 second walk to bring the food into Homecoming. I am very comfortable with students doing the barbequing since Innis has done this for our events, we do have the resources to do this and cut costs.
- Tina: We can sit down with the bursars at Trin and see if this is okay and they can also show us how to mediate risks. I am mainly concerned with the raw meat and how that is taken care of, but Trin has never done that as Innis has. Back to the budget – Leo suggested that each college could take on different aspects of homecoming.
- Victor: I think that's better if we don't want to have separate account.
- Ryan: I don't think we should speak further to this without knowing what other divisions would want to take part in this, except for Victor who already had to reallocate funds.
- Tina: Would we want cotton candy and popcorn?
- Victor: St. Michael's has a popcorn machine.
- Leo: This will also depend on how much everyone is contributing; there are resources still available.
- Victor: Last homecoming meeting, Cameron suggested posterage and putting things in frosh kits promoting homecoming.
- Ryan: We can print things from FedEx for very cheap if you're a U of T employee and receive paystubs from U of T.
- Tina: The first Saturday after Frosh week, Engineering usually goes to Hart House Farms and that is one less resource for homecoming though Teresa still would like to be in the discussion.
- Supplies
 - Tina: We are discussing face paint and noisemakers. There are very particular U of T rules on colours and logos that can be used so we need to have this approved.
 - Ryan: That is the reason why it is so much harder to make U of T homecoming happen in comparison to small town schools, the very specific rules restrict planning committees a lot.
 - Tina: We have to follow specific rules in booking specific places, like fencing off areas and giving out wristbands.
 - Rowan: If we spend money on alcohol, there is a chance admin will not approve of the event.
 - Leo: Having alcohol there can deter first year students from coming.
 - Tina: Maybe not even that, but it could cause liability issues.
 - Yolen: I agree that alcohol is not worth the cost and problems.
- Promotions
 - Tina: We need to decide what is the best way to reach out to people.
 - Victor: When we plan events at St. Mike's, we have people wear white shirts and we decorate them and we talk to students on the streets about the event.

- Ryan: From a marketing standpoint, I think it should not be promoted as something U of T run. It could be word of mouth, just say that there is tailgate on the street, similar to smaller schools.
- Tina: We have to be careful because it is about specifically U of T spirit. There has to be a clear distinction that these are U of T students and not separate people by college affiliation.
- Tina: For people who are unsure of how much they are spending, are they taking it back to their council?
- Ryan: I am not making the call myself; I am leaving this to the two people in charge of homecoming for Innis.
- Tina: We have gotten distracted from how to reach out to UTM and UTSC.
- Ryan: Hopefully the UTSU will understand now that this is not political move, but a fun event we were trying to work on. We would like this to be an event we want everyone to join in on.
- Leo: We should send our own invitation to the other divisions.
- Ryan: Well, as of right now it's an invitation that has a political idea attached to it currently.
- Victor: When people decide to go to events, they want to have an incentive and motivation to join in on the event. For St. Mike's, we have the football team sell tickets for the toga party and that markets well to girls. I want people to be excited to show their U of T spirit and I'm wondering how we get people hyped?
- Leo: You make it a spirit rally for U of T the best you can. This is coming right out of frosh where other divisions are pitted against each other, so we have to bring people together.
- Ryan: I don't think mindsets will have changed till the air is clear.
- Rowan: Well, you mean it won't be widespread until the UTSU is on board. My orientation team is really pumped about having the football team move frosh in during orientation in order to promote homecoming.
- Victor: On that note, how do we divide tasks? I don't know how it ran last year, but we can divide it into committees and have different divisions work together.
- Tina: We should have a committee of people for promotion, and then choose 2-3 people who are interested and creative. That should be the best way to do it. I think it would be fun to have various colleges go through dining halls or student spaces.
- Sponsorship
 - Tina: We need to get onto sponsorship now; I don't have the expertise on this in particular. Do any of you have suggestions for sponsors?
 - Ryan: If we need sponsorship, then the Brunny and Tequila Jack's will be down to sponsor anything. The Brunny was willing to buy 5000 t-shirts for us last year. They may even provide one of their DJ's and by allowing them to do this, they'll pay us.

- Tina: Famoso's on Bloor Street sponsors a lot of U of T events.
 - Victor: Insomnia, the restaurant, sponsored us for frosh week. They could provide a booth potentially.
 - Leo: Importantly - what sponsors do we not want?
 - Rowan: I do not want the Brunny personally, as a former Don, I do not think we should promote them after the situations I have faced due to it.
 - Leo: Do we want to stay away from banks or other groups?
 - Victor: For the UTSU, do you have a sponsorship package that excludes places U of T does not approach?
 - Yolen: We avoid credit card companies to not promote more debt for students.
 - Alex: We do not promote Walmart because of their business practices.
 - Tina: We need separate subcommittees for sponsors and promotions. We should discuss budgeting altogether.
 - Ryan: For sponsorship – probably the frozen yogurt places on Bloor will sponsor a U of T event.
- Details for next meeting
 - Tina: When do you think you'll be next discussing homecoming?
 - Yolen: We have the board meeting tonight, but probably at our next executive meeting.
 - Victor: We should look into our student chair for the committee before our next meeting.

Rowan moves to adjourn. Ryan seconds. Unanimously approved.