



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

150 Charles St. West, Room 127
Toronto, ON , M5S 1K9
(416) 585 - 4473
www.vusac.ca | fb.com/vusacuoft

VUSAC Meeting Agenda

Call to order: 5:35 pm EST, September 22, 2023

Land Acknowledgement:

Muskaan Aggarwal

Official Regrets: Tanya Kor

Absent:

Approval of minutes:

Motion by Diana Vink to approve minutes, seconded by Lara Athena Reyes.

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

Additions to the agenda:

Motion by Muskaan Aggarwal to ratify the changes to the VicPride! constitution (3 minutes)

Approval of the agenda:

Motion by Diana Vink to approve the agenda, seconded by Lara Athena Reyes.

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

EX-OFFICIO REPORTS:

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

Ali: Hi VUSAC!! It's Ali! Happy first official meeting of the school year! I'm so sad to be missing you today but i'm currently occupied at a wedding for one of my first vic friends!!!

We've had such a great start to the year! Orientation was a huge success thanks to the hard work and dedication of our orientation Co-Chair, the Orientation Executive, Leaders, and Transition Mentors! We had over 850 students at orientation and we were able to introduce them to our vibrant community and showcase the clubs, levies & of course - you (VUSAC)!

Since then, we ran two highly successful days of upper-year focused programming, including the Welcome Back BBQ! And now all full year events are in swing! We've had our first Slice of Vic and our monthly excursion and are so excited for next week's Slice of Vic focused on study tips & essay writing!



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And of course, next week is Student Leader Week!! Please try your best to attend at least 2 different sessions through the week!! If you have any questions you can email me or Alisha!

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Fall 2023 Budget Amendments (Appendix A), put forth by Callan Murphy (75 minutes)

Callan: Thank you for the representatives who are here today. We are doing this early so that you don't have to stay for the whole thing but you can also stay! I allotted 75 minutes, it might not take that long but we'll see. This is the summary for what has been ratified during the budget ratification meeting. On the left, we have what was proposed initially, so all of the budgets as they were. And on the right, is what we have approved so far. Now, we're now going to go to the master budget and look at the lines that are tentative. An important note here is that although we have a common practice of tabling lines, it's not an official thing. So if a line is tabled, it's just equivalent to it being not ratified. So if you submitted an amendment, even if that amendment looks identical to the line that is tabled, it is a new line with a new line number, which you'll see reflected in the budget. So anything that was tabled at the last meeting is now red and struck through, meaning we didn't pass it. And anything that was proposed for an amendment is now in yellow. I'm going to filter this spreadsheet to only show the tentative lines because those are the ones we are going to vote to ratify today. Any questions before we start?

Bachata at Vic

Bachata at Vic (Claire): Hi, I'm Claire. I'm one of the co-presidents of Bachata at Vic. It was our first time to budget, so it wasn't formatted very well. Each section, which we do once a week, we hire an instructor, who is paid \$150, to teach for an hour and a half. 3 times we're going to serve food – 2 party-sized pizzas, 2 dairy-free and gluten-free pizzas, pops, paper towels, and cups.

Cam: Do you know how many people are roughly going to attend each meeting?

Bachata at Vic (Claire): It really depends on the week because it's a drop in event – I would say around 30.

Motion to ratify Bachata at Vic's budget by Lara Athena Reyes, seconded by Shane Joy.

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

Commuter Commision



Juhyung: I miscalculated and budgeted 20 cents less. It would be great if the council could vote in favour.

Callan: This is an amendment to a ratified line because we're just voting to change the amount.

Motion to amend VCCOM-008 from \$136.30 to \$136.50 by Diana Vink, seconded by Lara Athena Reyes.

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

HeartBeat Dance Club

HeartBeat Dance Club (Rhea): I'm Rhea, the President of the HeartBeat Dance Club. We were going to host a fundraiser this semester but we're going to move that to the next semester instead, so we can get rid of that. We also got rid of exec sweatshirts because our execs voted against it. The only thing we only kept from the fundraiser are the costumes, but we did find cheaper options for those, so it's a little bit less.

Lara: Are the costumes planned to be stored and kept for, let's say, next year's round of events or is it going to go to students? I was curious about the sizing.

HeartBeat Dance Club (Rhea): I was planning it would go to the students but I'm flexible.

Callan: You mentioned that they might be cheaper and I was wondering if you can clarify what the actual price is.

HeartBeat Dance Club (Rhea): \$561 is the cheaper option.

Callan: I just want to make a comment to the council that, at \$561, this is a significant amount for costumes compared to some other clubs that we paid for. We want to be careful about funds pertaining to things like jerseys, sweatshirts, and costumes because only a select group of people at Vic get to keep and have them. I'm not opposed to it, but it is a lot of money.

Cam: I wanted to ask about line CHEAR-007. You are hosting a guest speaker from HeartLife Foundation, did they charge \$300?



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HeartBeat Dance Club (Rhea): It was initially \$500 but I am talking to them about potentially lowering them to around an expected of \$300. They haven't gotten back to me yet but that is the aim – I can also go lower.

Cam: So this is something they are charging?

HeartBeat Dance Club (Rhea): Yes.

Cam: And is this your first year as a club?

HeartBeat Dance Club (Rhea): Yes.

Cam: Do you have a rough idea of how many people would attend the workshop?

HeartBeat Dance Club (Rhea): We have 40 members right now so I expect about 25 attenders.

Cam: I am opposed to CHEAR-007. I think the scarcity mindset that VUSAC sometimes tend to adopt is mistaken but I think it's necessary for us to be cautious so that we can provide for all clubs equally.

Shane: Cam, would you like to explain why?

Cam: Yeah, just in the interest of our responsibilities, I don't think there are any other club that's playing a guest speaker that much. And I think especially for an event with an attendance of about 20 – I think that may be on the lower side. Also, as a newer club it's also an unprecedented event and we're not sure yet if this is something the Vic community would be interested in as well.

Diana: When you say there are 40 members, are those 40 people that come to meetings or 40 people who have signed up?

HeartBeat Dance Club (Rhea): Signed up.

Lara: I'm just going to go back to the costumes. Because these are planned to be sized specifically for them, I would encourage your club members to pay for their own costumes since they're planning to keep it. Also \$561 is a hefty amount especially if it's not going to be reused.

Callan: Adding on to that, I just wanted to point out the quantity. We're talking about 10 students, so there's a very limited number of people spending \$561.



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Motion to strike CHEAR-008 by Lara Athena-Reyres, seconded by Shane Joy.

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

Shane: You mentioned that you weren't exactly sure how much the speaker is going to cost (for CHEAR-007). If you had an exact cost for how much they were charging you, it would make it a lot easier for because mandatory expenses are a lot easier to manage, since this is essentially a contingency fund.

Diana: I agree that for now, I don't want to vote yes on this but if you do come back with a concrete number, it would be helpful.

HeartBeat Dance Club (Rhea): I would be open to striking the \$300 and try finding someone cheaper.

Friendly amendment to eliminate the cost for the guest speaker and reduce the amount of CHEAR-007 to \$77.03.

Muskaan: Just a note – I think we struck lines for a lot of new clubs for their pins and stickers because we wanted to make sure they have been operating for a year.

Lara: Would it be possible if we subsidize how much you've already spent on pins and stickers so far? The \$40.00.

Shane: I think maybe wait until the Fall finishes so that we can see how your club and events turn out and then in the Winter, I suggest reproposing the merchandise, once we have a better idea.

Friendly amendment CHEAR-005 to \$39.38.

Caitriona: The full price of the stickers have already been spent as well, is that correct? So we have to add \$98.23 as well.

HeartBeat Dance Club (Rhea): So the total is \$39.38 for pins and \$98.23 for stickers.

Motion to ratify by Lara Athena Reyes, seconded by Muskaan Aggarwal.



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

Mental Wellness Commission

Charlie: The Mental Wellness Commission have been updated since the last budget ratification meeting. These are all the events we're trying to host for now. Most of these just need confirmation because they're collaboration with other clubs and professors that we're reaching out to needs a quote.

Lara: Do we need to get the fruit platter, yogurt, and granola from Eatly? Or can we get it from the grocery?

Charlie: Of course.

Friendly amendment to reduce the food cost in VCMEN-018 to \$150 and the total to \$200.

Cam: So the event title is "Building A Healthy Relationship with Food," can you just expand on what this means?

Teresa: Yeah, this was brought up by one of our executives. A lot of people in body-conscious industries, like modelling and sports, struggle with food and we just wanted to bring attention to it through a community-based therapy event. Food replenishes your energy and body, instead of focusing on calories and stuff. I was in contact with my VPSU professor to go more in depth on what we want to share more at this event, but yeah.

Lara: I would strongly be in favour of figuring out what food you would want to offer that's more a variety. Because if you're hosting an event that's based on building a healthy relationship with food and all you're offering is fruit, it kind of sets a certain tone on what you're encouraging. I would be happy if that \$150 is spent on not just fruits and yogurt, and more of a variety of snacks.

Shane: I did have some questions though. Did you intend for this to have a speaker come in or be more of a discussion-based event?



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Teresa: It will mostly be a discussion and participants will talk to each other.

Cam: I think eating disorders are a hefty and persistent thing. So I wonder if this can be a conversation that can be held with the Equity Commission just to make sure they have the support for students that will need it and communicating ways in which they can be as supportive and productive as possible.

Diana: I definitely see the benefit of things like this because I know people with eating disorders can have difficulty eating. So having company and eating with other people can be a really comforting thing. I just think you have to make the marketing around it really clear on what this is, because some people might look at this and think that this is an event where you don't have to talk about eating disorders. And some people might be more open to discussing this. So something you could even do is splitting it in half, where for example, the first hour is when the topic of eating is off-limits and people are enjoying each other's companies or eating as a group. And the second half being more of a open discussion for those who might want to be talking about these topics. Or you can do this one day and next day. As long as you're trigger warning everything such as when there's going to be a discussion and making all the marketing clear, this could be a really positive thing,

Charlie: We will be mentioning what kind of food we will be offering and what this event will actually be about. I think Diana raised a good point.

Shane: I wanted to ask, for the Mindfulness/Meditation events, VCMEN-022 to VCMEN-024, do you intend for these to be all the same kind of thing, where you will be inviting the wellness interns to each one?

Teresa: No, it's not us inviting the wellness interns. We're inviting professors and faculty members. What we put there is basically because Ali mentioned concerns about it being missing from the wellness intern program that they're doing. But what we thought would be beneficial is just because this is organized by students, and revolving around students concerns. We will be promoting the wellness intern programs at these events because they will only happy once a month while the program occurs every week. So if they want more regular programming, we will suggest they go there.



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Shane: So you're going to have professors at these events.

Teresa: Yes.

Cam: About the Hart House Excursion in VCMEN-022. Just to clarify, it's \$20 per student they're paying. And that's for 30 students. So it's 50-50 subsidization.

Teresa: No, so the subsidization from them are \$5 per students. Originally it's supposed to be \$25 but it's now \$20 per student.

Cam: So students are paying \$20?

Teresa: No, we're paying for the students.

Cam: Entirely?

Teresa: Entirely.

Cam: For 30 total students?

Teresa: Yeah.

Cam: So there's no option per student basis? You're buying in bulk?

Teresa: Yeah, but there's another option if you think the budget is too high. So the students can pay a bit of it, which I also wanted to discuss. What do you guys think of this?

Lara: I would think it's fine for students to pay out of their pocket because it's a very nice excursion. I think \$5 would be fine.

Shane: I know this question was raised last meeting but how are you going to ask students to self identify themselves, through forms?



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Teresa: Yes. We're going to model off of what the Hart House sends out to students.

Diana: I think asking students to pay \$5 is reasonable. I think my only concern is that if we ask them to pay \$5, and the budget would be understanding that they're paying \$5, but we don't get the full amount of students to come, then we won't be making the revenue as we're anticipating. I don't know how much of a problem that is but I think the difference between \$600 and \$450 is quite significant. But I think the difference between \$600 and \$595 is negligible if one person doesn't pay. I think it adds a weird variable to the budgeting process. I'd like Callan's insight if this is a reasonable thing to take on, or something we should maybe avoid, from a financial perspective.

Callan: Can you just clarify what exactly the agreement is with Hart House? Are we paying for 20 spots regardless of how many students sign up?

Charlie: I'll talk about the issue that has been raised. I think that it is possible for students to pre pay for the ticket then the revenue will still be there. This is an option we did think a

Diana: I'd like to clarify, my concern is not getting enough people to sign up not if you get enough people to come. When if you sent out the form and if maybe 15 people signed up instead of 20, then we won't have 5 people paying in advance whether they come or not.

Teresa: So the deal with Hart House is basically – the 30 people is an estimate. They're flexible so for example, if we only fill about, 20 people, they're okay with that. Preferably not, but they are quite flexible if we fill up less than 30.

Aimee: It says in the bottom that it must be approved by tonight and I'm wondering if there's any other excursions they're going on this semester. It seems like it would be a good idea to put out a form and see who are interested. Maybe even asking students to send a deposit in advance. Would there be enough time to do this?

Teresa: For the dates, because it's going into Winter, they're not going on any excursion after October 20th.

Cam: If you get 15 people, you're not paying for any more spots?



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Teresa: Yes.

Shane: If you're willing, let's do a friendly amendment to \$508.50. That's for every student paying \$5 dollars each with tax.

Callan: I'm just slightly concerned with the fact that you said it could be 20 or it could be 30. So if it's more than 20 students, won't your expenses be higher? Or are you capping it at 20?

Teresa: We're capping it at 30. So the quota is 30. The reason why I mentioned the numbers 20 or 15 is because they're just okay with us filling in those numbers. We don't have to pay for anything if those remaining spots don't get covered.

Callan: So it's 30 students times \$20?

Teresa: Yeah and plus tax.

Shane: Could we do a friendly amendment to \$508.50? That's how much you would be paying for after tax if every student paid \$5 each.

Friendly amendment to change the amount in VCMEN-020 to \$508.50.

Diana: Question about the excursion. It's noted here that students have the option to stay overnight. Is that all covered in this cost or would they have to pay externally?

Teresa: They will have to do that while they are on the excursion.

Callan: Just a small note: whenever you go about selling tickets, please reach out so that we can help with how you're going to collect the money.

Shane: So the collaboration with Arts and Culture. Could you explain the reasoning behind \$1000 in line VCMEN-021?



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Teresa: So we're working with a local lamp mosaic shop. He's offering the fee at \$50 per person which is usually \$120 person. We want to accommodate for 20 people so that's going to be \$1000. Just the rationale behind that, they are providing us with all the equipments, such as lamps, art, which costs a lot.

Shane: Similar to the wellness retreat, is this going to be in full amount in bulk or in per person? How is the registration process going to work?

Teresa: It's also based on sign-up. If only 18 people, then we don't have to pay the full expected 20.

Shane: I like the option of students paying \$5 or \$10 for this because it is quite expensive and these costs would be quite reasonable.

Callan: I like the idea of students paying even more than that because the tickets are valued at \$120 each. So I think \$20 would be fine.

Diana: I wonder if it would be more fruitful to do something smaller. I feel like there might not be a large demand for mosaic lamps. I guess the number of Vic students being served to the amount being spent – is this a great ratio? And even if we charge students for this, the price itself feels a little excessive. For example, some people do stained-glass windows in little squares. Then we can serve more people and have it cost less.

Muskaan: I completely agree with that. \$50 per person feels like a lot of money, especially if it's only serving 20 people. If you really want to do it, we can let them pay 50% of it, so like \$25.

Shane: Teresa and Charlie, are you open to asking students to pay \$20 for it? I think it would reduce the cost to \$400, I believe.

Teresa: If we asked the students to pay \$20, I would be okay with that. Responding Diana and Muskaan, we still want to do something related to art therapy. There are smaller scale options for it – we were thinking of doing something like a scrapbooking event, using art supplies, and then we can just budget for refreshments.



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Shane: I like that idea a lot more and I would say more economical. Perhaps we can strike this line and you can propose another line for the scrapbooking event.

Motion to strike VCMEN-021 by Shane Joy, seconded by Diana Vink.

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

Motion to ratify lines VCMEN-018 to VCMEN-020, VCMEN-022 to VCMEN-025 by Shane Joy, seconded by Lara Athena Reyes.

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

Lara: For line VCMEN-016, is the honorarium something they defined and expecting you to pay for \$300?

Charlie: I was trying to negotiate and reduce the honorarium but right now, I'm still contacting and asking them. I was setting the range at \$300. I'm more willing than willing to strike that part for now but if that they get back to me by asking for an honorarium, there's a possibility that we might have to make an amendment.

Lara: I think we should make that \$100. Also, they're professors so they should be doing these workshops for students. If he gets back to you by asking for more, you can mention that that's how much we were able to budget for.

Shane: So Charlie, are you open to make a friendly amendment to line VCMEN-016 to \$320?

Charlie: Yes.

Friendly amendment to change the amount on VCMEN-016 to \$320.

Lara: I wanted to speak for the Physical Health Event. I don't think you need to be providing food. In VCMEN-013 and VCMEN-014, where you're just at the court rental itself so I don't think it would be necessary to budget for food.

Charlie: I am more than willing to strike that part. There wasn't any budgeting for food in line VCMEN-013.

Friendly amendment to reduce line VCMEN-014 to \$200.

Shane: For Community Building with Plants, is that one event or multiple events?



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Teresa: Just one.

Muskaan: Can you explain that more please?

Teresa: We're doing a discussion first about how to take care of plants and the type of plants that are there. The reason why it is budgeted at a big amount, it's because we want to make sure we have enough plants. It's been 4 years that we've been this plant giveaway and I think it's something a lot of students look forward. Last year, we budgeted \$1000 so we had a lot more plants last year.

Lara: I will defend, because I think this is a good idea. Then we're taking away from the idea of giveaways where they just come and take the plant. They have to stay, learn about the thing, and then take the plant.

Shane: I agree with Lara. I just wanted to ask about the Collaborative event with New College, the Therapy Animals in line VCMEN-017. You noted photographer, are you paying for that?

Charlie: No.

Shane: Are you paying for the photographer's materials?

Charlie: Yes.

Lara: They're paying for the films but the camera is coming from VicXposure.

Cam: I feel like there's a lot of great ideas. I thought the collaboration with the Buddhist Student Psychology Union and all of the different collaborations here are so sick.

Caitriona: I don't know how the badminton rentals work., but I was just wondering, is the 200 people the minimum you can budget for? I don't know how many people you're expecting but 200 sounds like a lot.

Charlie: What they told is us that, we're renting out 3 courts and the maximum availability of people that can be in those courts are 200. Usually it will be about 15-20 people.

Motion to ratify lines VCMEN-012 to VCMEN-017 except VCMEN-013 and VCMEN-014 by Shane Joy, seconded by Lara Athena Reyes.

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



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Juhyung: I was wondering for the badminton, is it really necessary to use the Athletic Centre? Is there any other option that's cheaper? Because I feel like \$800, to me, is a bit too much.

Charlie: I think it will be better to do it at the Athletic Centre since I think it would be better to meet on campus. There will be no transportation needed.

Shane: Perhaps this is just my opinion but I don't know if you need to do this bi-weekly if you're already doing bi-weekly health events. I would be more in favour if you did this once a month.

Aimee: I was just wondering if there were other options to do this for free, maybe the Margaret Hall or in collaboration with VCAA.

Charlie: I think that would be difficult.

Diana: I was just going to comment that playing for however many sessions this is...

Charlie: 4 sessions.

Diana: I think reserving 4 sessions might be a lot to start, especially because we don't know how many people would be interested. So maybe starting off with 2 sessions would be good and depending on how many people show up, you can adjust to that.

Shane: Yeah, I agree, once per month sounds good. Are you willing to amend this by cutting it in half?

Charlie: Yes, I am more than willing to reduce it to 2 sessions. If there's a good feedback, is there a possibility to amend this?

Shane: Yes! You can always propose.

Friendly amendment to reduce line VCM-013 to \$403.52.

Shane: For the boxing session, is it in the gym?

Teresa: It's going to be in the music room.

Shane: And the \$200 is how much the instructor is charging you?

Charlie: Yes.



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Motion to ratify Mental Wellness Commission's budget by Shane Joy, seconded by Lara Athena Reyes.

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

Office Manager

Yuna: So these are the invoices of the printing costs.

Callan: We will come back to the third one later but I want everyone to look at the amount.

Lara: I was wondering, the \$350 we passed the budget for, are we assuming that that's going to be the invoice all through December? So this is just so that we can pay what needs to be paid.

Shane: If we do not pay for this then we can't pay for this. So we have to pay for this.

Cam: Are we voting first and having that discussion?

Shane: I think the question isn't whether we should pay for this is more around the printing policy.

Diana: When does our contract end with this company?

Shane: It never ends. We pay for printing.

Lara: Basically, we bought out the printer, so we pay for paper. But we also have to pay for ink. So they still charge us per print but the nice thing is that we don't have to pay for the lease. The printer is ours, and we get the ink from them. They charge us based on how much ink that has been printed.

Diana: I was under the impression that we were buying ink and putting it in into the printer when we ran out. I though this was a recurring purchase of ink, not that they were invoicing us for the amount of ink we used.

Lara: No, they monitor how much we print and they charge us for that. And then the ink comes to us based on how much we spent.



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Shane: Effectively we don't have to do the manual work of getting the ink. The reason behind \$905 this month or over the last 3 days is because 10,000 pages were printed.

Diana: To clarify, do we pay extra for them to do the automatic processing for us to not go in and get ink? And the follow up is, how much is that?

Callan: Yes, we don't know the exact amount but yes.

Lara: We also can't get out of this right now because we just signed the contract.

Diana: What do you mean we don't know how much we're paying for the convenience?

Callan: Because it's not in the receipt right now.

Diana: So you mean it's not itemized in like, this is the ink, etc.

Callan: No, it's a combined total.

Motion to ratify VSOFF-009 to VSOFF-011 by Shane Joy, seconded by Juhyung Yun.

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

President

Shane: I tabled November and December because I wanted to see whether we will be actually charged \$300 per month for everybody's email, but turns out we're going to be charged that much. I'm going to see if we can transition from a monthly plan to an annual plan. Which is probably going to cut between \$300 to \$400. That's something I'm going to work on so if I can get that done before we pay for these invoices then we might be able to cut some costs there. But I'm budgeting for them nevertheless just in case. The 18th line is just tracking revenue from VCAA.

Motion to ratify by Diana Vink, seconded by Juhyung Yun.

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

Vicky Eaters

Vicky Eaters: We're a new club. All of our executives come with a background in some sort of food research, political sciences, international studies anthropology. We're hoping to allow



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students to engage and connect with the city of Toronto. We just put two amendments there for cutlery, and we finalized business partner for those. One is an Indian restaurant in Kensington Market and the other is right under Portland Avenue.

Shane: Are you also going to be doing crafting as well, during this event?

Vicky Eater's: Yes.

Cam: First of all, this is sick. Second of all, do you know how many people will be attending your events?

Vicky Eater's: Right now, based on interests for our upcoming event, I would say a rough estimate would be 15-20 people. Just because food is quite a great draw.

Motion to ratify the Vicky Eater's budget by Lara Athena Reyes, seconded by Shane Joy.

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

VicXposure

VicXposure (David): We were a little over budget last time around.

Diana: Can I get clarification on why this was tabled?

Shane: Since they budgeted over how much they were receiving for the Fall semester in funding. We asked them whether they had enough money to cover these higher-than-expected costs. We thought it would be safer if we were sure that they had enough funds, and turns out they do.

Lara: There's a camera for auction, is that a specific expected revenue. And can we make a line for that?

VicXposure (David): I don't think anyone wants it.

Shane: Just for record-keeping purposes, it would be great if you can just submit it as an expected revenue.

Callan: I just want to clarify that the budget is almost exactly the same as it was before. There were 2 changes. One is line LXPOS-016 there, which is the amendment version of LXPOS-003. And the second one is line LXPOS-022, which was amended from LXPOS-009.



Lara: I just want to ask for clarification about photographers' cash incentives. If events ask you to come, do those events pay for the photographers?

VicXposure (David): No if it within the Vic community, but if it's outside, then yes.

Shane: Their constitution allows them to give incentives.

Diana: Is there a standardized amount that you're giving to your photographers per event?

VicXposure (David): I think we're foing \$25.

Motion to ratify LXPOS-014 to LXPOS-027 by Shane Joy seconded by Krystyn Kalloo.

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

World Affairs and Relations Symposium

Shane: Original fee was originally \$300. I think we should just ratify.

Motion to ratify World Affairs and Relations Symposium's budget by Lara Athena Reyes, seconded by Diana Vink.

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

VUSAC Printing Invoice for 08/19 to 09/19 (Appendix B), put forth by Callan Murphy (10 minutes)

Callan: So Di, this is the invoice they send us. There's the quantity and the price for the quantity. You'll see 8030 on the left side, that's the number of coloured sides printed, times \$0.09398. That gives us \$754.66. With tax, it's going to be \$852.77. Just below that is the cost for black and white printing. Of all of the printing invoices that I looked through in the finance emails for the last 3 years, I've never seen it at this amount. This is a huge cost and is only from August 17th to September 19th. It's very unusual and likely from a large, concentrated amount of printing. This is a challenging thing to work through because it is probably a few people abusing the system and taking advantage of it, which spoils the benefit for everybody else. We literally can't afford if people are printing at this astronomical rate. We need to change our policies around printing or come with a better solution.



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Shane: I completely agree with Callan. The printing policy is not determined by one person and it's a good thing that we're having a discussion about it today. Typically it's decided by the office manager and the executives. It is currently at 100 pages free and then you have to pay following that which is absurd. We did that in the summer as well just to make it free for folks. It's my opinion that we go back to the 20 page limit, and paying 5 cents after that, which would still make us the cheapest option available on campus.

Callan: Just to give a better idea of numbers, on average it's been around \$150 per month. That's what we tend to get. There's also a 9 times difference between colour printing and black and white printing in this invoice. That's why ASSU and most other libraries will also let you print cheaper for black and white but more for colour. So I think we should also consider what that means for our policy. I do think we need to be wary of the fact that we might want our cost policy to be different, depending on whether it is printed in black and white or colour, so that we can encourage black and white printing.

Diana: I don't want to deflect from the people abusing the system. I think that's a very important issue. But I don't know if the latest system described to me makes sense. I have two questions. First is, are we told how much ink we are using? And has anyone done the math about what the difference would be if we just bought the ink ourselves.

Lara: We can't do the latter.

Diana: I'm saying when the contract ends. I understand that we are locked in right now. The fact that there is no transparency with this invoice is concerning to me. I don't see any numbers that says anything other than how many sides we printed. Again, I don't want to deflect but I do think that it's important to talk about the plan we have because I thought we would be much better off once we bought out the printer but this looks like an issue to me.

Callan: If we didn't buy out the printer, then we would've had that cost on top of all these costs, which would've been way more. You're right that they aren't transparent. The reason why we can't do the math to compare it is because this invoice only shows the cost per side. They could be printing a dot of colour or a whole page of colour but they would only show us what that is per side.

Diana: So they don't tell us how much ink we used because of what Lara said, we're or how much they've sent us?



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Callan: Not on these invoices and not that I am aware of, no. We can't ask "how much would these ink costs be?", because the cost depends on how much ink is on the page. There's no good way to compare that to do a proper analysis. Also, like what Lara said, because of this contract, we should think about a better solution right now. Unfortunately, this is where we're at.

Shane: I just want to note something Lara and I have been discussing. We were also thinking of having people register in a way with us before printing, demonstrating to us that they are Vic students because we should be charging non-Vic students every page. That is something we could perhaps include in the office hours guideline and by including a spreadsheet. It might make things more laborious for people but if they're getting free printing or at an insanely cheap price, it should be manageable. Maybe we can also divide this solution by having a form for how much they're printing so that we can also track that.

Lara: I also think that if we're limiting printing, it shouldn't be 20 pages. When I went to Student Project's to get them to fund the printer, it was under the impression that students were going to be able to print more for free. Tracking them won't be a bad idea. I also think this is important for the sake of the environment of the office as well. This way, they can register, show you their T-Cards, and interact with you as well. It would require more labour from both ends but if we want printing to be a sustainable option at VUSAC this is something that we might need to implement.

Cam: This is quite unprecedented. People have really been abusing this system. I would just hate for students to suffer, for what it seems, like there were maybe one or two bad actors. Do we earn any revenue from this?

Callan: We don't.

Di: I don't think this is one or two actors because if one person was walking out with a 1000 sheet of papers, we would've noticed.

Shane: We have noticed people walk out with 300 to 400 pages of paper.

Cam: We've had several conversations outside of this meeting, but from what I heard, is a couple of bad actors.

Motion to extend the discussion by 10 minutes by Shane Joy, seconded by Lara Athena Reyes.

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



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Cam: Is there a way to tell what people have printed?

Callan: To be fair, we should look into it more deeply but what Shane and I have discovered so far is that the printer keeps a log, but this log is wiped out after 24 hours. Because people don't log into these computers, the printer only says how much has been printed on this particular day. If we could see that for example, for one day 5000 pages have been printed, then we can sort of assume that it was by one actor. But it is sort of difficult to tell because this log doesn't seem to go back in time.

Cam: I understand, thank you.

Shane: Perhaps another way to do it is by writing it into the office hours guidelines that the last person on shift that day prints the log. So that when the office is closed, we have that record, so it would give us a better idea of our monthly spending.

Dhir: I think it's important to get the log. I think we can find a way to authenticate the computer and keeping track of the quantity. That way, we can see who went overboard and can charge accordingly.

Lara: I think it's an idea but in terms of sustainability and considering that we have to pay for someone to come in or for software – it would be too much. We don't need to be that fancy with how we track data. People can just come in and show their T-Card.

Diana: Another thing I wanted to bring up is that I don't know the difference between the limit for club printing versus individual printing if there are any. I don't want to say that clubs are the problem but I think that when they have events or posters, they would need to print things in bulk which makes it difficult for us. So I think it might be wise to consider ways in which we're letting clubs and levies use our printing services. As much as we would like to help them and publicize their events, we can't necessarily provide to afford everyone to print so many.

Lara: Clubs, levies, or any student-groups don't have any limit in printing. The issue is, the atmosphere is that people don't really show us what they print. So people can come in and say they're printing for a club or a levy and then they're really just printing their bio work. If anything, if we're tracking students, we can have add a different sheet. If they're tracking for a club, we should be able to track that and see if a club has been printing so much significantly



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more than the other club. We can have a discussion whether that quantity is necessary. I also think it is valid to ask clubs or levies to show what they will be printing.

Aimee: About the limiting at 100 pages, is that like per day or per shift. So can people come in 5 days in a row and print 100 pages?

Callan: I think there is an issue with our current policy because it doesn't address any of those concerns at all. We don't have a set limit and it seems like people are doing this per day. I think it's important to solidify that.

Caitriona: I know this is something not feasible for the Fall but maybe for the Winter. We don't typically make clubs budget for printing since they get money from us anyway. So if we give them a budget for printing and they have to budget for that, then they can budget for that. I think that might be a better way to track for clubs and levies. Especially because I agree that they should be able to print for free but that money is coming out of VUSAC regardless so it could be a better way to keep track of club printing. Another thing I was going to bring up is that, I know we haven't decided anything yet about the limit. But I am noticing it costs 9 times more to print in colour than printing it in — maybe printing anything in black and white can be free for Vic students but anything that's printed in colour can be charged. We can have black and white printing be free but colour printing sort of subsidize for those costs.

Lara: I also wanted to mention that this isn't something we can do within the month because there would be math require. However, what the Faculty of Engineering does is each student gets a quote of how much they can print for the entire year. I'm not saying we need to implement this but I'm sure there's a way mathematically to find a way to determine how much to cut costs and also set our limits appropriately depending on how much we quote.

Charlie: I feel like campaigns and orientation caused a high usage on the printing system. I think waiting for another month and getting the data when people are well in the semester would give us a better idea.

Teresa: Can clubs tell us how much they want to print and we give them the paper when they're checking in?

Shane: I think we might complicate things too much. We can trust people when they come into the desk and write down how much they printed, show it to us, and pay or not pay depending on what they printed. I really like Caitrionia's idea of paying for coloured but it being free for black



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and white. I also think, on a side note, perhaps there can be a supplementary policy that doesn't need to be ratified by us but can be changed as needed. Similar to the budgeting policy just so that we can create some kind of guideline to follow, coming up with things, chat about them, and have something to reference.

Motion to extend this discussion by 5 minutes by Shane Joy, seconded by Diana Vink.

All in favour. 2 opposed. None abstaining. Motion passes.

Cam: I feel like the number 1 service offered to the Vic community is printing. As Callan said, we don't know exactly what happened. But what we do know is that, as long as we've had the printer, people have been using it responsibly. I feel concerned that we are proposing very authoritative, high involved things. But I do think what we should think about, going forward, is how many people like this service and for a lot of people is the only connection they have with VUSAC.

Juhyung: I'm in favour of just tracking for clubs and levies printing.

Diana: I am opposed to giving yearly or monthly quotas. I think that feels a little strict for me and it doesn't really take into account that people have more to print. I also like Catriona's idea. It might not make people happy but in this case, it will be difficult to make everyone happy. I think 20 pages is pretty reasonable, but I don't know, I am not sure if I can think of instances where people would need to print that much at a time. My next question is, would we be aiming to implement something after this discussion, for next week's office hours? Is this something that we want to do immediately or do over the course of a few weeks with a more concrete plan?

Shane: That's a good question. I think we should implement something immediately just so that we don't get one of these invoices. If we don't have the money to offset that cost, at least partially – and I don't think the point here is to offset the cost completely but at the same time the goal is to offset a part of it. As mentioned, making a supplementary policy, and also communicating that transparently through social media and the VUSAC letter of the changes being made in the office should be our aim. People are going to be upset about it. We are going from 100 pages of free printing to whatever we're going to decide on. However, I do think that this is already an incredibly useful and cheap service. People having to go through the hardship of showing their T-Card or writing down their number on the page would be reasonable.



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Diana: As a general rule, I think that majority of people in the room is in favour of Caitrionia's idea of charging for colour and it being free for black and white. So that's something I imagine can be implemented immediately. My next question is, do we have data of Vic students that we can reference to? If people give us their T-Cards, do we have a way of checking that they are in fact Vic students?

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

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

Diana: How easy is it for every VUSAC member to have access to that database?

Shane: We have a database but it does not have every name. It has 4000 names, we're probably missing one or two. Nonetheless we can ask them to show their ACORN.

Cam: I think the best way right now is rather than implementing something right now, we can take it into next week and come up with a proper policy.

Aimee: It sounds like some people know who are directly responsible for this, is there a way to figure out a way to talk to them about avoiding this or have a proper solution for this?

Shane: I don't think it's that productive.

Aimee: I was thinking more in private.

Shane: Moving forward, we can have the conversation after deciding what we're going to do.

VUSAC President's Summer Report (Appendix C), put forth by Shane Joy (15 minutes)

Shane: Previous Presidents have not done this in the last several years. The President's summer honoraria is supposed to be contingent on this report. For full transparency, I've already been paid. I just want to do my due diligence in delivering this report. It's basically what I did over the summer, you can ask any questions if you have any.



VUSAC Summer Office Hours

From early May to late August, I was running office hours out of the VUSAC Office for four days each week. I spent about 25-30 hours in-office and worked more off-campus every week, adding up to 813 hours worked this summer. This is between 150-300 more hours worked than the previous three years. I'm happy I was willing and able, alongside working another job and taking summer courses, to put more time toward keeping the office open and completing the various projects we had running. In terms of the number of people visiting the office, we had a total of about 630 students visit the office to study, print, use the various crafting supplies we had available, or buy merch. The office was also used extensively by the Orientation team throughout the summer and by clubs, levies, and VUSAC members during Orientation Week itself. This was the first summer in which VUSAC was able to have its office fully open, and the number of students who visited and used our resources demonstrates the importance of this service.

Staff and Co-Chair Hiring

The first major project we worked on this summer was the hiring of our staff and co-chairs. Lara and I were very impressed by and happy with the number of applications we received, having had a historic 18 applicants for five staff positions and 36 applicants for five co-chair positions. Our overall total of 54 applicants was very motivating for us so early in the summer, instilling confidence in our ability to generate interest in VUSAC's activities.

Summer Budgeting

We also had a successful budgeting term. After opening the call for budgets, Callan and I created and offered a How to Budget 101 workshop for anyone who wanted to learn more about the budgeting process. From a utilization standpoint, the summer budgeting period was very successful, with 95.1% of the funds we budgeted being spent. Utilization is typically much better in the summer months, but this is still something to be proud of.

Orientation

The other major project I had this summer was working as an ex-officio Orientation Executive. Including spearheading the planning and facilitation of Commuter Orientation, I worked on planning the Traditional Ceremony and Vic Talks Anti-Racism, which I decided to turn into a special topics panel discussion featuring Indigenous speakers. In addition to these duties, Lara and I worked on planning and running the VUSAC Social, which had an unexpectedly high turnout of about 60 people which we were very happy about. An Orientation-adjacent initiative



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Lara and I thought of early in the summer and spearheaded was planning the VUSAC Pub Night, which took place on the weekend following Orientation, and was the first pub night to ever take place at Victoria College since before the pandemic. In the end, we were really happy and impressed with the 160-person turnout we received, which allowed us to further offset costs, and we're both proud that VUSAC was able to provide a space for students to drink and socialize safely.

Governing Document Reform

A major project involving the whole of council this summer was our efforts to reform our governing documents. Beginning in May, I created three working groups to discuss the Elections and Referenda Code, Budget Steering Policy, and Equitable Hiring Policy respectively. The Budget Steering and Equitable Hiring policies had not been updated in two years despite the fact that they should've been reviewed annually, and given the multitude of issues VUSAC encountered during the Spring 2023 elections, some major adjustments were in order. Overall, countless hours were spent working on these documents in several meetings, and we were able to have them all passed before the end of July. In particular, I worked very closely with Dhir over the summer to completely revamp our elections process on the policy side, and we've now transitioned to a ranked voting system, taken control of our voting platform, and moved all our elections functions online. Special thanks is in order to both him and Tanya for working so many extra hours to deliver on this initiative and putting it all in practice. While we still have lots of work to do and I refuse to declare victory until the evening of September 29th, I am pleasantly surprised by how well things are going, and what we've accomplished this Fall makes me hopeful for the Spring cycle.

UTSU Campus College Advisory Committee

Externally, I had the opportunity to meet several times over the summer with Aidan Thompson, Vice-President, Public and University Affairs of the UTSU and the leaders of the student unions of the other six colleges through the Campus College Advisory Committee, which he had the fantastic idea of organizing. Through this committee, we've been able to coordinate actions and advocacy across campus, as well as working to advise the UTSU on how they should best be directing their energies to advocate for students. I expect many great results to come from this committee, which will continue meeting throughout the year.

Winter Break Housing



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Continuing conversations that Diana and Cam began in March last year, I met with Kelley and other members of the Office of the Dean of Students over the summer to discuss the necessity, feasibility, and logistics of students being housed on Victoria College campus during the winter break. Rather than going to the Chelsea Hotel, residence students now have the opportunity to pay a fee of about \$1000 to stay on campus during the break from classes, and there will be Dons and staff members remaining on campus to support them. This is another major success for student advocacy at Victoria College.

Scarborough Charter Discussions

After hearing from the President's Office in early June that they were interested in signing the Scarborough Charter, I immediately engaged the Victoria Black Student Network to begin discussing it from the student side. I let Zindzi, President of the Victoria Black Student Network, direct the work I did on this initiative, and we originally concluded on inviting other student groups on campus to form a working group and broaden the conversation about the Charter, but upon the hiring of Lesa Williams-George, Director of Equity, Inclusion, and Transformative Practices at Victoria University, which fills a major commitment of the Charter, we've decided to move forward with meeting with President McEwen and Lesa to ensure that the signing of the Charter and its implementation becomes and remains a joint project between students and administrators. I look forward to continuing these conversations in October.

Okanagan Charter

I also began conversations with the Dean's Office in April about signing the Okanagan Charter, which Victoria University has decided to move forward with. A commitment to embedding mental wellness into all aspects of campus life and culture, signing the Charter will make Victoria University stand out among the colleges once again, and provide an important point of reference for advocates calling on the University of Toronto to sign the Charter as well. I've been meeting with Dean Kelley Castle over the summer to discuss how implementation of the Okanagan Charter might look for Victoria College, and we've included Emmanuel College staff and the Emmanuel College Student Society in the conversation as well. I'm excited to announce more about this as soon as more details become more available.

Community Safety at Victoria University

An initiative I didn't expect to be working on this summer was discussing how to increase community safety at Victoria University in the wake of the attack at the University of Waterloo



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in late June. Upon hearing about the attack and seeing the petitions being sent around by students, staff, and faculty, I immediately emailed Victoria University administrators to make a statement, and thankfully they already planned to make one. Some days later, I scheduled a meeting with Kelley and Ken Chan, Bursar and CAO of Victoria University, to discuss how to move forward with increasing safety for students at Vic in a way that is consultative and student-informed. While progress has unfortunately been slow from the administrative end, having only met with the President and Bursar once for a very short period in late August, I've been working closely alongside VOICES and VicPride! to schedule meetings with administrators so they can hear our suggestions. We will be coming forth to Kelley next week with a list of recommendations students think Victoria College needs to take.

Conclusion

Overall, I'm really proud of the accomplishments VUSAC has had this summer, and look forward to seeing what the upcoming year has in store for us.

ACTION ITEMS:

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

Muskaan: VEFS is a dynamic club that cater towards sustainability and individual expression on UofT campus. Please ratify them!

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

Motion by Muskaan Aggarwal to ratify The Women's Circle as a club for the academic year 2023-24; seconded by Shane Joy (2 minutes)

Muskaan: The Women's Circle is a welcoming community for minority women on campus. Their initiatives include monthly mental health, engaging weekly discussions about various topics, and a annual women's wellness retreat. We would like to provide accessible group of opportunities addressing challenges such as university life and identity exploration. Also offer a safe space for support. So please do ratify.

Shane: Just a note, if they present the retreat to us this year, I absolutely think we should not ratify that expense. Of course, they should be a club but the reason that I'm saying this is because they told us when we originally approved it or when we originally discussed it that they would



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have I think 30 or 40 Vic students coming. But in the end they had 1. So there was a bunch of other U of T students who were not Vic students, so about \$2000 of our money went to students who were not from Vic, which of course is not good. That should not preclude our ratification of them as a club, but it's just important to keep in mind moving forward.

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

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

Callan: Just to clarify, the reason for that whole exchange, for anyone who's not aware, Women's Circle, in the last couple of years, has had a budget approved that is more than almost any other club. They usually eat up about \$3000 to \$4000 of our funding. And it's a concern when that, at least last year, meant that very few Vic students were getting money, since very few of their members were actually from Vic. So I just want to express that I am concerned about this club because they don't have a good track record. I don't think that they necessarily shouldn't be a club, but I really think we need to be careful about where our money is going.

Diana: I definitely think that we had a lot of issues with them. That being said, I want to point out the value of things like retreats for people who are a part of religious minorities. That being said, I think instead of saying we totally shouldn't approve this if it gets brought to us, I think we should work with the women's circle to come up with very clear budget lines that are defined and so that we know exactly what the money is going towards. And in the event that unfortunately like last year, there is some kind of misunderstanding, I think that we should encourage them to opt for clarity and we can work with them to create that clarity, but I don't think it's fair to just dismiss some of their ideas or retreats out of hand.

Shane: Yeah, I'm not dismissing their retreat. I think that's a bit unfair. I'm just saying that they lied to us last year. That's all I'm saying.

Muskaan: Yeah, I was just going to say that when this does come up, I will be organizing with them to make sure that they have signups before they ask for this budget and just to ensure that vic students can benefit and they're not spending money on these things.

Aimee: I know they're a part of vic but it doesn't say anything like that on Instagram, there should be some more priority there. It just says Women's Circle UofT. So maybe, like, I'll see the students who are going to be on the house one sign up.



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Motion to extend the discussion by 2 minutes by Lara Athena Reyes, seconded by Diana Vink.

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

Muskaan: It's not necessarily mandatory for them to have vic in their name even if they are a vic club. but as long as they're organizing the next public school exam, in that it's concerning, but if that's something that you would like to think of, for them just would be a good idea.

Aimee: Yeah I just think it will be difficult for other people to know that they are vic related.

Diana: I think part of what we were encountering with them was that, at least last year, their support base was mostly non-vic students, and that was what led to a lot of complications because we generally don't fund things for non-vic students. That being said, I think we can encourage them to do the more promotion with this bit, And I also want to point out like there's no rule against like vic clubs having non-vic members. And I think that would be silly rule if there was one. It just like limits our budget of understanding or like what we are able to fund. So yeah, I just want to put an emphasis on working with them and working with all of our organizations to make sure that like all of the things that are being funded are clear and straight forward.

Callan: I just did a quick search. They have at least existed since 2018 and I looked at two budgets for recent years. So I don't know if the problem is that they haven't learned budgeting. I'm just trying to say like this has historically been a problem with the club for multiple years.

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

Motion by Muskaan Aggarwal to ratify Vic Urban Dance Club as a club for the academic year 2023-24; seconded by Shane Joy (2 minutes)

Muskaan: It's a dance club. They want to dance. Just please ratify them.

Shane: This is like the fourth dance club at Vic. Just noting that for everybody.

Muskaan: There are all different types of dance forms.

Shane: What is Urban Dance?

Muskaan: Urban Dance is hip hop.



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Callan: Maybe it's a result of Vic having dance banned for 40 years.

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

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

STAFF REPORTS:

Chief Returning Officer (Dhir): 7 minutes

Dhir: Initially, there were some difficulties with the website. We had some linking issues as well as the forms provided weren't working. There were issue with my settings, so which eventually ended up changing, so everyone could get access to it. In total we received 15 nominations from the VCU. We have 2 dropouts from illness, and the other from an unknown reason. We are now down to 13 candidates running for the election. Other than that after nominations, Shane was the one managed while I was away. In terms of how the Town Hall went, the turn out wasn't what we opt to. That's something we definitely can work on for Spring elections. The information session during the nominations period we did have a quite a good turnout. Since last year we barely had any turnout so I was quite happy with that. As for voter's ed session that Lara and Stephanie implemented this year, we only had one person turn out. The balloting system is quite new, so I would definitely continue this in the Spring and encourage more turnout. Other than that, we are in the voting period right now. As far as results be concerned, I will be informing candidates of the individual results within two hours after I get the results. But I do not intend to inform anyone who's been counselling by that time. Other than that, that was election. And I definitely do intend to continue with this website, but I will implement a free platform on this. And even after that, since I will start working on another review of the ERC, because I have noticed a lot of improvements are needed to be made to the ERC.

Diana: I would like to note how hard Dhir has been working. I tried to say this earlier and he was like, I think it's because we set up a great foundation as a team. This guy literally worked to construct this whole voting system and is working through all of the things. He's got an hour turnaround time on emails. And I just hope everybody knows how hard he's been working and how well it's been going. He is exactly what we needed for CRO. So I just want to make sure that everybody is aware that this guy has been doing amazing.



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Shane: Did you talk about the Constitution thing? With the nominations period?

Dhir: Oh yes, just wanted to update the council that technically as for the ERC, we are meant to have a VUSAC meeting during the nominations period. Which I do think you remember that when we had our review, we wanted to remove that clause. But we have broken it. I will be putting it in my report, definitely.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Academic (Medha & Stephanie): 3 minutes

Stephanie: Yeah, hi everyone. We're super excited that our budget has been ratified and often prepared to host many of our events for the coming semester.

Medha: Our work of the past few weeks has been really getting the commission up and running and onboarding members while also finalizing events for this semester and for the whole year. We are planning to host some workshops and mock interviews because I don't think a lot of the students actually know that these are this, like for, well I didn't know that they're just this. So we'll be meeting with others soon to discuss how a potential collaboration will work. We were also able to host a social to encourage first years and upper years to join the commission. And this went really well. We had one, where we had a couple of people who were on the commission show up and get to know more. And we also received feedback about our collaboration project. And like we had a future discussion about doing an event related to textbooks. But we did find over the past few weeks that it's going to be a bit more complicated to actually do a textbook library. But we have some ideas to make this work.

Stephanie: We're also currently in talks with a professor to begin organizing our first coffee chat. So students can interact with faculty more and facilitate conversation about various subjects. Recently we had a collaborative event with the Arts and Culture and Commuter Commission, which was our tote bag painting night. It was in a lot of demand and we ran out of tote bag. It actually worked out quite well to have a longer event because people really wanted to take their time painting. So maybe this is something to consider for next year. And our next event for the academic commission will be our first anti-procrastination night. And this will happen in the



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VUSAC Board Room so that we can make use of the office. We're looking to increase the occurrence of it because it's one of our most popular events. And so we're making it bi-weekly. We also received many applications for our first year representative and the deadline was yesterday. So we'll start reviewing applications soon.

Arts & Culture (Kate): 3 minutes

Kate: I was able to hire my exec team with the help of Lara, I had my second meeting of the year with them this morning where we discussed some of the events we have coming up in October like our Art Therapy event and Pumpkin Carving and other larger events that will be happening in the spring. Also how to implement merch into events. Over the past week we also had our first event which was tote bag painting in the quad collaborating with Academic and Voca. This event was very successful despite the tote bags barely coming in time, with about 120 attendees and no leftover tote bags. We had snacks, music and good weather, and it was overall a great event. Another event that Arts and Culture will have in Collaborations with VOCA will be our Nuit Blanche commuter buddies initiative where we put out a form for commuters and for anyone who wanted to attend the event but didn't feel comfortable commuting alone. Although we did not have a huge amount of responses I was able to connect two people with a semi similar commute for part of the way and also provided a check in phone number for people to text when they safely arrive home and also offered the option to DM either the VOCA instagram account or our instagram account. So that is mostly everything I've been working on for now, I also just put out my first year exec applications and am going to start working on some of the October events we have planned. Thank you!

Commuter (Juhung & Aimee): 4 minutes

Aimee: To start, during the summer, we successfully hired 10 execs and published a community resource guide with the help of Shane. With the start of the full semester, we watched our first event, which is tote bag painting, with academic and arts and cultures, in which we successfully gave away all tote bags. We also cleaned up the commuter lounge. So if you want to check it out, it's really good. It's like a website theme. And we also have a first pancake collaboration with VUSAC. Make it everyone aware of what VUSAC is. Our next event will be on Tuesday with the community members. We'll also be sending out an email to the planning and collaboration signups. So if any of anyone here is interested, please reach out.



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Juhyung: We opened up our first year exec application in our fall program survey, which aims to gather feedback on VOCA. As of this morning, we have received 94 responses. Our prizes for the survey is either a \$20 UofT bookstore gift card or a presto card that's loaded with one TTC ride. So make sure to fill out the survey. If you haven't already, the link is on our linktree. We also have a lot of upcoming events that we are planning to do in the next couple of weeks. In collaboration with the Com Doms, we will be hosting a survey night next Thursday, 4 -6pm. We also have other events coming up such as a spooky scavenger hunt on October 13th and a thrifting excursion trip to Kensington Market. We look forward to seeing everyone at this event and please reach out to me or Aimee if you have any questions!

Equity (Diana & Caitriona): 3 minutes

I think most of what we want to talk about are our execs who we started meeting with regularly. We hired five execs every summer. Basically, we got so much interest in the advocacy and outreach position that we turned it into a duo. We got no interest in the graphic design position, so we got rid of it. So we have five really great executives who have been so amazing. They're so passionate. So we've had our events team working with the VOCA team. Their advocacy duo, to plan an overlapping meet the advocacy team's moment, which we're really excited about. Our advocacy and outreach duo have been working on creating a forum to see what holidays people want us to celebrate at vic. And are going to start a middle project on the dining hall again, both in terms of sustainability and the equity dining options. We will be reaching out to some of your execs on sustainability for that. And then our social media coordinator, Liz, has begun making some of the posts for us, for instance, our general membership, which will hopefully be going up in the next few days. So we have really good team, I'm really excited to have them, and I think we can do a good job.

Caitriona: Yeah, so we've also reached out to Lisa Williams, who's the new equity inclusion and transformative practices person. I spoke with her at orientation, she's really excited to kind of partner with us and help us with some of our initiatives. So we're gonna be meeting with her hopefully in the next couple of weeks. Some of our execs are also really interested in meeting with her, which is great. So hopefully we'll be expanding some of our cultural events and things like that, which is something she's very passionate about, and she can hopefully help us out with expanding reach and some ideas from an administrative perspective. Yeah, so we've gotten



started on a few advocacy things. We are looking forward to getting those stickers done super soon. We're submitting a form for our pool rentals in the next couple of days.

Diana: As always like let us know if you need anything, if you like have any questions. The other thing I want to flag is if you've been affected by the protests recently, I'm not like trained in mental health or anything but I've always been to have a conversation about it. Just come find me rather and I think that's conversation is an important form of support. So feel free to get in touch for better.

Mental Wellness (Charlie & Teresa): 3 minutes

Charlie: We started by acknowledging the successful hiring of the new executive member in the MWC. This accomplishment was made possible through the valuable contributions of Shane and Lara, who played pivotal roles in the recruitment process. The new executive member is expected to bring a wealth of expertise and enthusiasm to our team. A detailed explanation of the commission structure and budget was provided. Understanding the financial aspects of our project is crucial for its success. We ensured that everyone is on the same page regarding the allocation of resources and commission payouts. We discussed the importance of setting up a dedicated team to work on various aspects of our events. Building a cohesive and efficient team is essential for achieving our objectives efficiently. We emphasized the need for clear roles and responsibilities within the team. Our team has been actively reaching out to various stakeholders, including professors, clubs from New College, BPSU, and instructors. These outreach efforts are aimed at fostering partnerships and collaborations that will support our project's goals. An ongoing project involves the creation of an infographic that explains the Okanagan Charter to students. This visual tool will help us communicate our mission and values effectively. We discussed the progress of this initiative and set a timeline for its completion. We are eagerly looking forward to landing all the planned events successfully. The discussion revolved around the need for effective event planning, execution, and promotion. Each member shared their insights and suggestions to ensure the event's success.

Sustainability (Atlas & Leah): 3 minutes

Leah: We hired our execs, it is a pretty big exec this year. There's like 13 of us, so that's really cool. And we actually just had our first social which was kind of a get to know you on a more



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personal level with all those execs as well as general members and anyone else who wanted to come. So that was a good opportunity to kind of talk to the students about how they could, for example, like present ideas or events that they wanted to have for the sustainability commission and giving them some details about that. So I think that was pretty successful. As far as other events go, we did have a group of people that went to the recent climate strike that happened in the weekend. So it was a good group of like 15 or 17 people that all went with each other and kind of like stay together throughout the march, which I think was really helpful for some, especially those who were there for the first time. And we also had a big decompression after the climate strike which was really helpful and relaxing after such a big day. We also had our first general meeting, so that was kind of a good chance for us to like create walking groups for all of these setting events that we have coming up including developing a cafe which should be happening in October and hopefully monthly afterwards. We're also coming up with a plan for a town hall that's going to be kind of bringing people in from the vic community, to talk about food sovereignty and food security, so thinking of developing a community garden in the next year or two if possible.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS:

VP Internal (Lara): 3 minutes

Lara: So, start off, we had pub night. We had about 160 people, which was super great. Shout out to Dhir, Ju, and Di, for volunteering throughout the night. Y'all were amazing. I also wanted to shout out to VOICES for providing peer support during the event. I think this was a really good event. And also just a really good tone and mood for the rest of the year, in terms of how we collaborate with VOICES, as well as just how VUSAC is fun. I will be holding check -ins in October, but of course, if you need to check-in or anything like that, I'm always free to chat. So send me an email or send me a message on Messenger and I'm happy to chat. I'm going to be starting to plan for VUSAC retreat. If there's anything you want to particularly see that you don't think would traditionally be covered, send me an email or a message, and I'll definitely consider it and put it in my list of things that I'll like to put. And our tentative date, what we are definitely hoping to do is October 14th and 15th. So please mark that on your calendars. I will be sending out a form about CPR training availability. That way, we know who is CPR trained and who needs CPR training. And this is really important because VUSAC members need to staff for Highball and semi and Gala, and that way you are equipped to be staffing for those ones. As always, reminder to check your emails and respond within a reasonable amount of time, and also



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be checking Messenger that is really important. Messenger also tends to be just an easier and less formal way of communicating with the rest of the council. So I really encourage you to get on there as well. It also helps us become more bonded. I also know that it's very early in the year, but everyone has been doing such a great job. Here are notes from the commissions and the reports, the staff, it's just really nice. And I also see all of your hard work and just know that we acknowledge you and we appreciate you very much. VUSAC wouldn't stay afloat, obviously, without your hard work. As always, if you need any support, not just like personally speaking, but also for events. If you're panicking because a shipment's not coming on time or you're missing certain materials, things like that, come to me, I'm happy to help resolve those things with you. I'm here for that reason.

VP Student Organizations (Muskaan): 1 minute

Muskaan: Some things that I've been working on is trying to have more collaborations amongst clubs and levies because they have a lot of projects that they want to work on with other people and that's something that I'm working on. Also organizing the calendar that will allow all the vic students to see all the club and levies events that are happening in one single plac so they can increase engagement. Some of the things that I'll be working on in the future are equity training with Diana and some workshops for all the clubs in the community like trauma response just because I think these are some things that they should know as well working on all club head meetings so that people are prepared for the year. We're gonna do that and a big shout out, a lot of clubs are currently hiring for their positions if you're interested please look at them and do join them.

President (Shane): 5 minutes

Shane: So email vote updates. I have to do these according to our governing documents, so on August 10th VUSAC ratified two groups Vicky Eaters and the Boundary for the upcoming academic year and added a line to the budget for spending on access to the UTSU clubs fair for VUSAC clubs and levies. On August 13th, VUSAC ratified the meeting minutes from June 23rd, voted to reallocate a small sum of money in the community commissions budget as well as 8 randomly selected members of the elections appeals committee. On August 21st I realized that I had made a mistake when filtering the names for the dean's office to randomly choose resulting in us ratifying a member of the EAC who was ineligible to be on the committee so I motioned



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for VUSAC to ratify a new randomly selected member of the committee who's Amoly. Amoly of course ended up deciding to run in the elections and so in order to become eligible, she left the EAC the dean's office selected Riley next and he was ratified on September 20th so we now have a fully eligible EAC once again. Moving forward, I mentioned some of these things already, meeting with Kelly next week along with VOICES and Vic Pride to discuss suggestions about increased community safety at Vic meeting with President McEwen in mid-October to discuss Victoria University's events booking policies. As far as I know, they currently don't have one and that has allowed us the number of instances in which bad actors have been platformed on campus. There's also a discussion that needs to be had about the fact that students have to pay for these spaces a lot of the time. So talking about that as well. But just to name a few instances in which bad actors have been here. Jordan Peterson once did a talk here. Last year, the Creative Writer-in-Residence, an Indigenous person named Liz Howard, walked out after a speaker who was canceled decided to use his platform to complain about it. And then in 2017, there was a Strand article written about this in Isabel Bader Theatre, the Free Speech Comedy Show also performed. Apparently it was a riot. So yeah, I think this will be a great opportunity for us to discuss how exactly we can ensure diversity of thought during big events while maintaining the safety of our community. And this is something administrators are really in favor of. Meeting with President McEwen and Lisa Williams, George in October as well to discuss the signing and implementation of the Scarborough Charter along with Vic Black. The Okanagan Charter will also be signed in October and there are a number of other great announcements the Dean's Office has that they'll be sharing soon. I'll be meeting with them and included in that conversation will be the Mental Wellness Commission and the Emmanuel College Student Society. This fall I'll be working with Callan at some stage to create an Honoraria report for VUSAC. We all see during our budgeting discussions that we really have to be stringent with our finances. And my diagnosis of this problem is that honoraria is an immense burden for us no matter how much we like it. If we had all the money in the world we should give it to people, we don't. So I'm also working with Muskaan to ensure that the relevant levies, namely those who have more than 20% of their budget used up by honoraria, are submitting these reports as well just in accordance with our governing documents. Other updates, the Board of Regents should be releasing its first publicized, albeit partially redacted, meeting minutes following its general meeting on October 12th, which I'm really excited about. One of the biggest complaints from students is that we just don't know what's going on and have to rely on reports from just five student members. After years of asking for this it's finally happening and we're going to actually see, we're going to see if they actually follow through with this but I'm hopeful that they will. Finally I think it's important



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to make you all aware that recently the Victoria College Athletic Association, VCAA, lost its office space in the Goldring Student Center to provide more office space for Vic administrators. It's the same problem happening over and over again. It's really unfortunate that this conclusion wasn't arrived at in a way that was consultative and mutually beneficial since now they have had to vacate, they've already been forced out. VCAA is now sharing an office space downstairs with Vic Records but some time Muskaan and I will be discussing in the near future, to see where there's room to ensure our office space is better utilized. Possible outcomes of this might be the sharing of office space between levies who occupy rooms already to provide greater access and after Yuna led us in cleaning out the back room of the office which was a huge task we're still not done but we're nearly there. That's now another more private space in which groups can likely meet in the future as it used to be a meeting room before but that's it.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS (3 minutes):

Motion by Muskaan Aggarwal to ratify the changes to VicPride! Constitution, seconded by Shane Joy.

Muskaan: I'll just quickly outline the proposed changes to the constitution of the list. The most significant change involves the restructuring of the positions. Previously, they had a single position called the Director of Equity and Education, but in an effort to better serve the needs of the members in the community, this position has now been divided into two, the Director of Equity and the Director of Education. This division allows for a more focused approach to the respective responsibilities and objectives of the role. Another main point would be redefined responsibilities. The responsibilities of each position have been redefined and clarified in a better way. This division aims to make the roles more concise and well-defined, ensuring that the team members can effectively fulfill their needs and contribute to the organization's goal. And a significant change being proposed is the introduction of new roles within the VicPride. Each director and the finance chair will now have the opportunity to hire their own assistant directors following the structure similar to the commission's chair. Basically, these assistant directors will assist in specific tasks related to their respective portfolios, enhancing the overall efficiency of the organization's observations. And additionally, the organization is proposing the introduction of an assistant finance chair, which is basically not like an assistant director, but still an assistant to the finance chair. And they will continue to have assistant executives, which are basically their general members, to allow them to come in and help with the VicPride team as well. And to



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conclude in these changes to the constitution are being driven by a desire to enhance the functionality of VicPride, to better serve the community and to provide opportunities for members to take on more active roles in the organization. And the VicPride team believes that these amendments will allow them to operate more effectively, fostering a more inclusive and vibrant community.

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

Motion to adjourned by Shane Joy, seconded by Lara Athena Reyes.

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

Meeting adjourned.