

**VUSAC Meeting Minutes**

Friday November 20 in the Regents Room - Goldring Student Centre

MINUTES

**In Attendance**

**VUSAC**

**Judiciary**

CO-PRESIDENTS

Benjamin Atkins and Gabriel Zoltan-Johan

VP EXTERNAL

Alex Martinborough (with proxy vote for  
Miranda Alksnis)

VP INTERNAL

Rahul Christofferson

VP STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Lucinda Qu

**Assessor Members**

CAMPUS LIFE COORDINATOR

Bergita Petro

CHAIR

Emily Dyer

COMMUNICATIONS

Alice Sluchenkov

CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

Saambavi Mano

FINANCE

Shannon Brown

SECRETARY

Golda Greenspoon

UTSU DIRECTORS

Auni Ahsan

Stephen Warner

**Commissioners & Councillors**

ARTS & CULTURE

Sumeeta Farrukh

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL

Michelle Vacarciuc

COMMUTER

Anna Pozdniakova

EQUITY

Claire Wilkins

SCARLET & GOLD

Stuart Norton

SUSTAINABILITY

Leila Atri

COUNCILLORS

Carl Abrahamsen (with proxy vote for  
Cricket Cheng)

Hannah Brennen

William Cuddy

Peter Huycke

George Wilson

Seraphina Vasilodimitrakis-Hart

## **LEVIES**

CAT'S EYE

Thomas Lynch

## **Not In Attendance**

## **OFFICIAL REGRETS**

Emily

Alice

Miranda

Cricket

## **ABSENT**

N/A

Call to order – Friday November 20, 6:05 PM

## **LAND RECOGNITION**

- Shannon: I would like to acknowledge this sacred land on which the University of Toronto operates. It has been a site of human activity for fifteen thousand years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat, and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently the Mississaugas of the Credit River. The territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Bely Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Confederacy of the Ojibwe to peaceably share and care for the nations around the great lake. Today the meeting place of Toronto is still the home to many indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to meet in the community on this territory.

William moves to approve minutes from last meeting. Anna seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Sumeeta moves to move Student Projects before the Arts & Culture update. Lucinda seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

William moves to approve agenda. George seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

- *CLC* - Bergita

- Bergita: I hope that your still managing to get enough sleep. I just wanted to talk to you about the study space schedule. You can all sign up in the VUSAC office. It is an opportunity to get paid on an hourly basis. Please look out for that, we will start with one shift each. We will also have this building open for study space, there will be tables outside the regents room. It will be 7am-11:30 pm. I wanted to remind you that we have learning strategists who come in every week. We also have career counsellors. Please make sure you make use of these services. The deadline for co chair applications is December 1st.
- Leila: For study space here is it just in this area?
- Bergita: The tables will be up here but the whole building open.
- Alex: When do overnight study space shifts start?
- Bergita: As early as December 2nd.

- *UTSU Directors* - Auni & Stephen

- Auni: You may or may not be aware that the UTSU AGM happened. It was thankfully a pretty reasonable success. We really hauled for this, it definitely paid off. Last Friday we had a board meeting that ended in tears, a lot of this tension seems to be a result of the conflict between the UTSU and UTM. UTM boycotted the AGM. Vic's role is over. I really want to try to take a step forward out of that and try to engage Vic students more.
- Stephen: In terms of tangible effects, the biggest is the change in board structure that allows VUSAC to elect its directors directly. This allows us to control the elections and time them with the VUSAC elections. It allows us to get rid of slate campaigning. Someone on VUSAC will have to move to change the constitution to allow for this. If we want to elect those positions we will have to do that and provide the UTSU with notice on that.
- Auni: VUSAC's elections right now allow all everyone who is a residence student and all part-time students to vote. If VUSAC wants to hold internal elections for Vic director then it would need to change that procedure so that only full-time Vic students can vote. Otherwise we can't do this internal election.

- Rahul: Did UTM give grounds for the boycott?
  - Auni: There were a lot of demands for us to cancel or postpone the AGM from UTM. Thankfully Vic caucus moved to condemn that. We didn't end up voting on that because the meeting adjourned half way through. On Tuesday UTM kept demanding that we cancel the AGM. The Chair finally gave in and a compromise was struck, allowing them to Skype into the meeting from a location at UTM. On Wednesday afternoon shortly before the AGM UTM said they couldn't book a room. Again, demanded we cancel the AGM. That is why we were waiting in line so long, in part. Then they decided not to come.
  - Rahul: Can you say anything about what the discussion was at board meeting?
  - Auni: There was a motion put forth by a UTM director to postpone the AGM to January. They claimed that first of all the date was targeted at UTM because their AGM was last Thursday, and also claimed this is in the middle of UTM's midterm period. Someone someone from St. George created a petition on change.org to cancel the AGM and allegedly got 500 signatures for it. The discussion began on Friday with all of UTM directors present all in favour of this motion and the petition. Ben Coleman gave his response and reasoning. I also argued against the petition, pointing out that it was UTM Students, Ryerson Students, non-students, etc., and Ben Coleman that signed this petition. I also told them that Vic Students had an AGM last Friday but that we understood the reality of the situation, and then moved to condemn aforementioned petition (thanks all). Eventually the discussion broke off due to a lot of other unrelated tension, the meeting ending in tears, people walking out, and an abrupt adjournment.
- *Scarlet & Gold* - Stuart
- Stuart: 1836 was a big success, I want to take the time to thank everyone on council who helped me. We sold around 270 tickets, which was incredible, more than highball last year. There were a few issues during the event. I was notified 8 mins before the event that with an event on campus, apparently students who are under age need to bring ID as well. There was an issue with international IDs no longer being accepted as valid. This is at the discretion of the new management. Claire drafted an email about this and sent it to the appropriate people, yet to receive a response. I believe this practice is completely unacceptable. The reason for ID underage is if the liquor board comes into an event if someone underage is drinking that could compromise the entire liquor license. That was problematic. Thank you so much to everyone who helped out.
  - Bergita: I just wanted to say that 270 tickets is unprecedented and amazing. For the IDs, it is technically illegal for people not to have ID on them at any given moment. I think that with

the international students ID, I think it was because it was some kind of miscommunication, they are looking into it.

- Stuart: Highball committee app period is over and the members of the committee will be Lauren Van Klavern, Jemima Raffe-Devine and Zoe Ritchie.

Stuart moves to ratify Lauren Van Klavern, Jemima Raffe-Devine and Zoe Ritchie to the 2015-2016 Highball Committee. Gabriel seconds. Motion passes, two abstaining.

- Auni: I just wanted to express disappointment with this international ID situation.

- *Student Projects*

- Lucinda (On behalf of Enxhi): This week, Student Projects received two completed applications and conducted online discussion and votes for both. Both applications were from Sumeeta as the Arts & Culture commissioner. The first was to purchase tickets for the Toronto Art Crawl Christmas market so that Vic students could get free entry. 30 tickets were bought for \$150, which Student Projects fully funded. The second project was for the Blue Moon Cafe food, decor, and polaroids. Student Projects has agreed to fund \$600 for this event, and Sumeeta will use funds from her commission's budget if she requires additional money. Can I please get a member of VUSAC to move to approve both projects?

George moves to approve both budgets . William seconds. Motion passes, six abstaining, Alex's abstention is noted.

- Alex: I have noticed that a trend has been to have these discussions and votes online.
- Lucinda: It is definitely not preferred for us but she said that these were really urgent projects. It is not ideal.
- Benjamin: I shared my concerns to Enxhi directly. We have had more discussion online than in person. I don't think that will continue.

- *Arts & Culture - Sumeeta*

- Sumeeta: The Art Crawl, with funding from Student projects we were able to receive 30 tickets for students. I am opening the invitation to everyone here for the art crawl. For The Bob, the performances are happening next week with tickets on sale starting on Monday at five dollars, also available at the door. In regards to The Blue Moon Cafe, with money from student projects we will have this open mic night. I am hoping to have a really big turn out.
- Michelle: Do the performances have to just be signing?

- Sumeeta: No, they can be anything!

- *Commuter* - Anna

- Anna: Wednesday was home for the holidays. It was amazing, the best night of my life so far and an objective success. Thanks to the Dean's Office, Devonia, VUSAC, VOCA. Truly a fantastic night. Burwash festive dinner is next week. The one that pertains to commuters is on the 26th. Elaine and I will be choosing a commuter of the year, so we have a box in the office where students can write the name of a commuter student or students that they love and drop that in the box. We will look into that box and chose the commuter student of the year. I have been in conversation about holding a commuter symposium with a student from the Environmental Studies Students Union. I should also correct myself -- it'll be a gathering of commuter students who will facilitate round table discussions, which allows commuter students to come in, etc etc (it won't necessarily be just upper year commuters!) It will be happening mid-February.

- *Equity* - Claire

- Claire moves to extend her time by five minutes. Anna seconds. Motion passes, one abstaining.
- Claire: Equity Chats were a success, and the Equity Commission is considering making them a regular thing with a variety of topics to specific marginalized groups. The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women is December 6, and Vic will be holding a memorial event December 4 at 2 pm in the Wendy Cecil Atrium. On December 6, 1989, 14 women, individuals at l'École Polytechnique de Montréal, were killed in a gender-based act of violence. The day now represents a time to reflect on the phenomenon of violence against women in our society. It is also a day for communities and individuals to speak out against all forms of violence against women and its impact on victims and their families and friends. 14 students are needed to represent the lost women of Ecole Polytechnique (holding flowers); let me know if you would like to be one of these students. I will be contacting Trans Inclusivity Project to speak about violence against trans women in particular and First Nations House to speak about missing and murdered Aboriginal women; collaboration with these groups is yet to be confirmed.

Today is the Transgender Day of Remembrance. Our meeting is taking place during the same time as the candlelight vigil for remembrance of Transwomen of Colour in Queen's Park, and follows TIP's protest at City Hall today. Because our meeting overlaps with these important events and takes place on this day, I ask that we take a few minutes to reflect on the violence experienced by trans people this past year. At least 81 transgender people were murdered worldwide this year — and those are just the victims whose deaths were reported.

According to the Human Rights Campaign, more transgender homicide victims have been reported in 2015 than in any other year, most of these victims being transgender women of colour. Furthermore, it is hard to determine how many transgender people were actually killed this year, because police can be inconsistent with gender labels when reporting these crimes. I am passing out candles now. As I read the names of transgender lives and loves lost this year, I ask that we close our laptops and hold our silence for those lost as a result of transphobia, and to reflect and act on continued violence experienced by the trans community. Keyshia Blige (33 years old), Tamara Dominguez (36 years old), Kandis Capri (35 years old), Amber Monroe (20 years old), Ashton O'Hara (25 years old), Shade Schuler (22 years old), K.C. Haggard (66 years old), India Clarke (22 years old), Mercedes Williamson (17 years old), Penny Proud (21 years old), Taja Gabrielle DeJesus (36 years old), Bri Golec (22 years old), Lamia Beard (30 years old), Papi Edwards (20 years old), Nephi Luthers (20 years old), Diosvany Muñoz Robaina (24 years old), C.N. Alves de Matos Jr (21 years old), Unknown (41 years old) Location of death: Alicante, Spain, L.A. de Souza, (22 years old), Waleska Rayala, (21 years old), Paulinha, Flower, (39 years old), V.H.A dos Santos , (25 years old), Patricia, (29 years old), Unknown, (45 years old) Location of death: Alta Floresta d'Oeste, Rondônia, Brazil, Gabi, (26 years old), Erika Aguilera, (25 years old), India Nascimento, (29 years old), L.R.O. Dorta, (26 years old), Vanessa Calaça, (27 years old), Unknown woman Location of death: Manaus, Amazonas, Brazil, Unknown woman Location of death: Cacoal, Rondônia, Brazil, Bruna J. Mendes, (27 years old), Sidney Araújo Claudino, (19 years old), Laura Vermont, (18 years old), Kauane da Silva, (35 years old), Unknown woman Location of death: Serra, Espírito Santo, Brazil, Kelly Silva, (31 years old), Andréia Amado, (29 years old), Carol Melo, (30 years old), Priscilla da Silva, (23 years old), Barbara Sodre, (29 years old), Jean Waltrick, (27 years old), Vandressa Vinnitt, Ticiane Abravanel, (21 years old), La Monique de Roma, (43 years old), unidentified woman Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil, Stefanny, Job Rodrigues da Silva, (46 years old), unidentified woman Location of death: Manaus, Amazonas, Brazil, Bruna, (47 years old), Bruna Quércia, (15 years old), Victória Camargo, (29 years old), Bruna Michele, (20 years old), Vanessa Ganzaroli, (18 years old), Debora, Lotinha, Adriana, (22 years old), Bianca Araujo, (21 years old), Michael Lucas de Almeida Reginald, (13 years old), Natália Ferraz, (21 years old), Ygor Fernando Oliveira Santos, (20 years old), Keity, (23 years old), Lara, (16 years old), unidentified woman Location of death: Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, Raíssa, (19 years old), Capitú Santos, (31 years old), Joyce Akira, Pata, (35 years old), Didinha, (18 years old), unidentified woman Location of death: Lorena, São Paulo, Brazil, LÉO, (26 years old), Piu da Silva, (25 years old), unidentified woman Location of death: Peshawar, Pakistan, unidentified woman Location of death: Peshawar, Pakistan,

Diana Sacayán, (39 years old), Marcela Chocobar, (26 years old), Francela Méndez,,  
 Fernanda “Coty” Olmos (59 years old), Yoshi Tsuchida (38 years old), Leticya Santos  
 Ignácio (21 years old), unidentified woman (19 years old) Location of death: Taguatinga,  
 Brazil, Miscilene (25 years old), Miscilene (20 years old), Tiffany Latifah (24 years old)  
 unidentified woman, Location of death: Jaboatão dos Guararapes, Pernambuco, Brazil,  
 Tiffany Latifah (17 years old), Anusha, Pravalika (24 years old), Hande Ö (35 years old)

(Moment of silence).

- Lucinda: I just wanted to personally wanted to thank you for doing this. I think its important to reflect on how transphobia, etc., all in intersected in such catastrophic ways.
- *Cat's Eye* - Thomas
  - Thomas: For co-manager applications, we are currently looking for a new co-manager, due next Wednesday, with just an application and a cover letter. Please spread the word.
  - Gabriel: Are you doing interviews?
  - Thomas: The interviews are following. It's the cat's eye that meets and discusses after, it will be decided before the last VUSAC meeting.
- *VPSO* - Lucinda
  - Lucinda: I am scheduling meetings with a club and levy heads. It is proven to be a nice check in point/idea so far. VISA officially making the move to a levy in the spring. Maybe some clubs will change status. I will be reading the levy updates. VCAA has had one event since last update; We had Paintballing on Nov 18 and it went pretty well. Other than that Intramural teams are doing well and some of them have made the playoffs. Our next event will be Hockey Night at Vic on the 23rd of this month. *Cat's Eye*: The first week (9th to 13th) was shorter because of fall break, so our first event was VOCA Pancakes on the 11th. It went well, as usual. Later that day we had Wellness Wednesdays Zumba and the Strand's Fall Magazine Launch. The Doc and Talk on Thursday was cancelled due to the Semi-Formal. 1836 borrowed some of our sound equipment. The Friday, we had a VISA potluck and a Burwash Open Mic, organised by the Dons. This week had been busy. On Monday we had the XAO Open Mic Night. It went exceedingly well, despite concerns about sponsors. On Tuesday the bFriend initiative hosted their first event, a asked friendship session. It wasn't as well attended as they had hoped, but they hope to host another one next semester. On Wednesday VOCA Pancakes were shorter (10-12) due to Home for the Holidays. Thursday saw two consecutive movie screenings, Food, Inc. at the weekly Doc and Talk,



and *The Imitation Game*, organised by the Commuter Dons. Tonight (Friday the 20th), the Strand and UC Follies are holding the Adiorble Comedy Night. Saturday morning the Semiotones will record their next album. This week we also managed to finish the subcomm wall, featuring photos of all our members. We have put out a call for Co-Manager applications, and started advertising for our Year-End Coffeehouse (held in conjunction with the Commuter Dons and catered by Caffiends). We are also working on a new promo video which will hopefully be out next week. VicPride! had a slow start this year. After holding two consecutive and very successful events in September, no events were planned for October because the executive team was in the midst of planning for November and December, as well choosing a first year rep. This upcoming Tuesday, VicPride! is going to be hosting a movie night in the Cat's Eye, and we plan on showing *Blue is the Warmest Color*. Based on the responses we've heard so far, we anticipate it to be a successful event. Acta Vic is in the midst of its busiest time right now, as we are in the process of selecting submissions for publication. Our editors are finishing up with reading all of the submissions tonight, and will be meeting tomorrow for 6+ hours to choose the top 12-15 written and 3-5 visuals. Following that, the two of us EIC's will be working with our design editor and Coach House Press to ensure that our journal is published and in the hands of Victorians in February. We are planning a launch party for late January, but have not yet set a firm date ... stay tuned for our promos for that event! WUSC: Our sponsor student has settled in well and we are continuously in touch with him to help with whatever issues may arise. We will be attending Festive Dinner as a group next Thursday. Several of our members will be traveling to Ottawa in January for the yearly International Forum, bringing together WUSC chapters from across Canada for a weekend conference. Caffiends: Updates: Art submissions deadline has passed and our Cafe Arts Director has made selections; new art should be displayed in the near future. Catering, we've catered for the following events: VOCA pancake days, Vic Caucus for the second time, Burwash Coffeehouse, Doc & Talks (with VUSAC Sustainability). We're lined up to cater the Commuter Don/Cat's Eye coffeehouse. Had a volunteer social with a drink-making competition, food, cookie decorating, and tea jar painting. Collaborated with VISA to host a hugely successful latte-art workshop which garnered interest. Conducted co-manager interviews; currently in process of deliberation. Strand: This weekend we are producing our final issue of 2015. We will resume production in the second weekend of 2016. Because of the break in print issues for our magazine, we've got quite a backlog of content and will have much up as web-only features. Some of our pieces include a long-form piece on Vic's role at the AGM and a roundtable of our Editorial Associates on the movie *Beasts of No Nation*. Tonight we are hosting a comedy show in the Cat's Eye with UC Follies and local Toronto comedians, including the co-creator of the

popular Drake-themed Trust Issues podcast, Lauren Miller. Our magazine launch was a success, with all our newsstands being emptied within 5 days of distribution. We continue to be working on getting our advertising off of the ground. If any clubs or levies are interested then they can contact editor@thestrand.ca for a pricing schedule. Rates are among the cheapest on campus in order to get the program off of the ground and penetrate the market. VCDS, God of Carnage: The show is undergoing rehearsals and other aspects of the production process. We have almost all our positions filled on that show and it opens in January. Useless Superhero Support Group: We finished callbacks last night and are in the final process of casting the show, hopefully by the end of the day it will all be finalized. There will be a read through before the break but no major rehearsals until January. The show opens towards the end of February. Rent: We are halfway through auditions, callbacks are on Sunday. Things have been going really well so far, a lot of talented new people! We are just hoping that we will be able to see everyone who is interested. VCDS as an organization is doing well, we are in the process of ordering sweaters and planning our holiday get together before we take a break. Financially, we haven't gone over budget but have been close or meeting our budgets which is good.

Lucinda moves to ratify Vic Shadow Dance. Hannah seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

- Alex: Their budget?
- Lucinda: They submitted one. They offer dance classes, there will be salsa, they teach different types of dance. Beginners can drop in. They will be trying to recruit members in January.
- Auni: I heard that a Vic club is attending regionals?
- Lucinda: There is no such Vic Club. An associate club is trying to compete in an international accapella competition, regionals. My councillors and I have been working on updating our records, organizing data. I have been looking to hooking up the strand with cheaper printing options, that happened and they saved a lot of money and got many more copies.
- Carl: Is this solely for paper? Like what the strand is?
- Lucinda: Any kind of paper.
- Hannah: Could VicXposure do that?
- Lucinda: I think this is a little bit different. Constitutional amendments, my councillors and I are looking at that too. We have started looking at associate club stuff.

- VPE - Alex

- Alex: I would like to thank Daman for stopping by our meeting. The UTSU, hopefully that is the last time I will have to talk about it in a VUSAC meeting. You all made this process a joy. I had a really great time. The general enthusiasm was so positive and infectious surrounding this campaign. For Vic the benefits are that we reached out, contacted so many vic students. It's something that I hope VUSAC will continue this year, with this outreach. I would like to shift towards talking about all the events and such happening at Vic, continuing to spread positivity and enthusiasm. The dedication was fantastic and somewhat mind boggling, thank you all.
- Auni: Everyone at VUSAC really contributed a lot but I just wanted to give a special thank you to Carl.
- Alex: Caucus was last week Friday. We had a good turnout. I think they came primarily for the pizza and the discussion groups. Seraphim did a great job keep that all organized. And thanks to all who moderated and took notes. I was hoping to get some of your thoughts on the format of caucus.
- Lucinda: Discussion time could be increased.
- Anna: Maybe breaking us up into the smaller discussion groups should happen last.
- Peter: If possible to rotate, instead of just staying at one.
- Gabriel: I would say maybe have discussion groups first instead of last. There was a distinct lack of clubs and levies present, which I think is a big issue.
- Rahul: Thank you and good job to Alex.
- Auni: I just wanted to say thank you for the condemnation motion.
- Lucinda: I just wanted to follow up on Gabe's point. I didn't make a big deal of this to clubs and levies. For the second term that is going to be a situation were their presence and participation is more highlighted.
- Peter: I was just going to thank Thomas for realizing what the motion was actually about.
- George: I was going to bring up that 2 of the 4 residences brought up updates.
- Alex: I would generally encourage all to provide updates because its a valuable opportunity. I think that in terms of whether or not they engage is largely up to them. I sent out an email asking whether or not they wanted to participate. I would like to have more direct conversations with the residences and I am looking to foster those more.
- Bergita: It is okay to acknowledge that people weren't there with an email.
- Auni: W the UTSU , if you are a level 3 club you have to send a certain number of people to the AGM.
- Lucinda: It is mandatory for clubs and levies, we got some messages.
- Alex: I am looking into organizing a joint college council social with our friends at Inis. This was done at the requests of the judiciary. This is kind of a straw poll kind of thing. It

would be awesome to do this. Would people be open to having this on our last meeting on December 4th. Thanks. I'll keep you in the loop on that. Res updates are just that they are looking to do more for next semester. I am looking to try to have some bilateral events between VUSAC and some of the buildings. That is what's going on. If you'd like to collaborate with residences in some way, I would love to help you with that. A cool event that's coming up is exam jam on December 2nd. I would really encourage you to stop by.

- George: I know that I have talked to house presidents that they would be open to collaborate on a pub night with a club.
- Alex: It is easier to do that through VUSAC directly I think.

- *Co-Presidents* - Benjamin & Gabriel

- Gabriel: Ben has been organizing meetings with all the councillors, which we want to get done in the next two weeks. There will be individual ones and a group one. Asking how they are doing and how things are going. I am stepping forward again so the work split is back to pretty even. I know Alice isn't here but I wanted to bring up the student activism fund, it should be up on the website hopefully soon. Cat's Eye concert is happening on the 27th, the performer is Fracture, I encourage everyone to come. The entire proceeds of the concert will go to a charity that helps Syrian refugees. It starts at 8pm.
- Benjamin: Tomorrow is strategy day for the board of regents. If you have anything you'd like me to bring up please ask them now or email them to me. Next week I will be going to san francisco on the 26th and 27th. Next week, I will be meeting with Bob Kincaide to discuss reforms that could be made to the Board's Alumni Affairs and Advancement Committee. I will be doing so with student needs for greater alumni interaction in mind. Something that we are interested in implementing is an online bulletin system, it is a blatant rip off from Trinity's bulletin. That will hopefully be starting this coming week. This weekend I will be working with Alex to look at a VUSAC study space.
- Gabriel: There is a VCC meeting on Monday as well. I encourage you to come to me if there are any concerns with academics at Vic. For computers in the lounge, we are in the process of getting them but there has been water damage at new college. Once all the IT stuff is done we should be able to pick those up.
- Alex: When can we expect to see iPads? We want to see computers first.
- Gabriel: I want to set them up at the same time as the computers.
- Stuart: For the concert will there be an event soon? Will there be more tickets?
- Gabriel: This weekend. The numbers for the maximum is set by Events Victoria so we have to abide by that. I want to talk to them about if that's the actual capacity. I think the amount of tickets will stay the same at 110.

- Auni: So XAO was on Monday, VUSAC pulled out last minute. Was the rest of council consulted? Is there any policy with that?
- Benjamin: It was notified to the rest of council on Facebook. The judiciary made the decision mainly because students raised concern about the nature of the event, specifically with one of the group. We didn't feel fully comfortable with endorsing that.
- Bergita: I would just ask that the Dean's Office be informed about that, for all intents and purposes you were hosting it.
- Thomas: We weren't sent an email about that or told explicitly.

Alex moves to extend by five minutes. Carl seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

- Auni: I think that overall there is the opportunity for complaints to be done in a different way. I think that VUSAC should determine in a more formal way how VUSAC wants to be involved.
- Rahul: As a council that represents Vic students our commitment is first to the safety of Vic students and then social justice work. Our first responsibility is to address their concerns. I think that a formal stance might impose too much rigidity.
- Claire: We still were endorsing the event. students had an issues with it being endorsed by poster/name. I agree with Auni's point on the discussions. At the same time students are the priority.
- George: I wanted to thank the judiciary for responding to student issues. If a situation like this happened again would you change anything?
- Gabriel: I would get all the details of the event that we were participating in, we found out who was collaborating post risk assessment. I would want to get more detail.
- Bergita: If you were concerned enough I feel like having your name not associated with the poster was not enough?
- Gabriel: During the judiciary meeting there were concerns about puling out entirely, to having a worse response publicly to this, with the idea that we are anti equity. Pulling out would mean that we would be stopping a main event of the VP Equity of the UTSU from the PR perspective that is an awful thing to deal with. No side would be happy. Vic has had a history of not participating with the UTSU in equity events. We want to have those events at Vic Campus.
- Anna moves to extend by ten minutes. Peter seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
- Claire: It is difficult to know how to act in this kind of situation. I believe we made the best decision we could with the information we had and the complaints we received by keeping the space reserved in our name. The event itself was eXpression Against Oppression, and

we would be doing Victoria and other college students a huge disservice preventing this important event from happening. While some students may have been unsettled by SAIA being a collaborator, for other students, it was a step towards resources of solidarity that they needed. The highly polarized nature of the Israeli-Palestine conflict involves affects many students of Victoria, and it would have been unfair to prevent students affected from engaging with this event by canceling the booking. Students who had never been at Victoria College before were gathering collectively in the Cat's Eye, which is a great thing. It's pertinent that we have a discussion about BDS and VUSAC's stance on political activism at UofT as soon as possible; we owe our students clarity.

- Anna: I think that it is important that we have these events on Vic campus. I understand the concerns that we're presented and even if VUSAC decided to pull out their name it is still good that they let the event continue.
- Peter: I would like to echo Anna. I felt like we were hosting an event because they had to use our space. One of the groups VUSAC didn't feel comfortable associating with. There is a difference. Sponsoring is different than people having an event in cat's eye. It was last minute and I understand why.
- Carl: The complaints from students were about the co-sponsors?
- Gabriel: Yes
- Carl: I don't think we should take that as a future policy.
- Claire: The issue raised was that they were scared that certain perspectives would be expressed.
- Carl: I think that's very important I think that in that case we need to figure out how to make the space safer. The potential remarks I don't think should allow us to disrupt the event.
- Benjamin: I think this speaks to how the dean's office makes us use space. If an external group wants to book the Cat's Eye another Vic group has to co-host the event. If we weren't in this position we wouldn't some how pull out our support while this was still held.
- Claire: We would have had the full context of the event, and known all the collaborators
- Benjamin: We would have been able to make the choice about this.
- Claire: I had to go through risk assessment but I didn't have full knowledge or opportunity.
- Stuart: I completely agree with your sentiments carl but this situation was very unique, and with the vic space policy. As someone who attended the event, there were some problematic things said, it was very alienating in respects to certain views with no other perspective. I think that was a concern. I think you guys did do the right thing. I wish we could have had

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- Stephen: I will bring up a point, throughout the last ten minutes we have talked about issues and collaborators. Everyone knows what we are talking about. I think it might be helpful if someone explained the collaborator.
- Benjamin: The group was called Students Against Israeli Apartheid. We pulled our name from the material because there were several complaints brought to us by students who were concerned about the possibility of anti-Semitism and anti-Semitic remarks being made. If Vic students are fearing for their safety we will ensure that any event operates with safety in mind. We decided to pull our name from the advertising.
- Gabriel: Thankfully nothing happened and it was well run. We got many praises from individuals about it being a safe space at Vic.

Gabriel moves to extend by ten minutes. Lucinda seconds. Motion passes, one opposed.

- Gabriel: I think this is very telling that students approached us saying that. I was interested in the fact that students who approached me in the fact that students thought our solution worked. We did our best caught between a rock and a hard place. VUSAC is not in the business of making people feel unsafe or cancelling an equity event at the last minute.
- Lucinda: I think that this is an example of us discovering groups outside of Vic that can offer something unique here for our students and their needs. Moving forward it would be nice to continue this outside of this meeting to discuss future plans and our relationship with the Dean's Office on space. We should be extremely involved on the planning process of any events at Vic. I would understand if the Dean's Office was not pleased with our behaviour on this.
- Peter: I think there should be a compromise where VUAC will monitor the event
- Auni: I know there were issues at the event. The event went really well. A lot of people felt it was a great way to understand oppression. I understand the difficulty in making this decision. When VUSAC decided not to endorse it it made it a lot less palatable to work with VUSAC. The UTSU might not work with VUSAC on this sort of thing.
- Michelle: I think it is important to consider that the way we determine how we stand on something is voting on something. I feel like this becomes us just giving them the space. If the event was neutral i don't see problems with it
- Claire: I think this speaks to a bigger issues, that we need to speak to BDS as a larger discussion.
- Lucinda: Maybe that's actually a cool new direction that the equity commissioner could take in the future, where VUSAC can decide where they stand at the beginning of meetings or something.

- William: Two weeks is quite a long time for events to develop on campus.
- Alex: I think that something that this discussion raises is what exactly the role of VUSAC meetings should be. Are they for updates, for issues on campus? There is a lot going on on campus that we should be discussing.
- Gabriel: I just wanted to say an issue with what Auni said, I think the other two situations that could have occurred were what the other groups would not have wanted, cancelling entirely or stopping other groups from hosting the event. Granting them the space is a gesture of good will and good faith. I think tis unfair to say that the middle path has them not operating with us. That statement presumes that we had all the information before participating in the events, which we were not provided with.
- Rahul: I wanted to add on to that, saying that we did not completely wash our hands of this event. Claire still reached out about the event by posting about it in Facebook groups and emailing student groups to get involved as performers.
- Claire: I just wanted to be clear that I actually didn't get in touch with student groups, although that was my intention. UTSU's VP Equity did not respond to my email, and so I did not go forward with emailing Victoria student groups because I was unsure if VUSAC's reachout would be welcome considering the tense relations that followed with UTSU after our endorsement pull-out.

George moves to extend by five minutes. Peter seconds. Motion passes, two opposed.

- Peter: It seems that the problem is more with what we can actually do with running an event and how VUSAC can host non vic groups. It is very difficult, and I think needlessly difficult. Groups from outside of Vic who don't agree with our opinions cant run an event here because their views don't align with those of twenty people here.
- Hannah: Event and space is part of a really big ongoing issue. I thank discussion is not one that needs to be had right here and now. There is another issue with how VUSAC responds to controversial events.
- Benjamin: I think that's a good point but for this event if we had known who was collaborating before we would have done differently. In the future we will engage council more. The judiciary is allowed to do this with extreme circumstances.
- Hannah: I think political neutrality is getting harder to have.
- George: I was going to quickly say that having outside groups be allowed to have events is supported by the Cat's Eye. There was a motion to have the constitution of the Cat's Eye changed in the Cat's Eye advisory board that didn't carry because of concerns raised by the Dean's Office. The Dean's Office had a lot of questions about that, not because they



were necessarily opposed but because they had a lot of questions about what might happen in the future with that. The Cat's Eye is on the same page with us, and much of this issue could have been avoided had they been allowed to book to non-Vic groups. Carl: I don't think the decision taken was a politically neutral one. Though I think it was the best one. I think the ideological message that we end up sending is actually anti-both sides of the issue where we don't really look like we're endorsing it and at the same time we don't really look like we're dropping it.

- Michelle: I think that moving forward we need to look at having more discussion and look at how to allocate that time to have more discussion with council, though I know that is difficult.
- Benjamin: You're right it wasn't entirely neutral. I think it was the least damaging. I think that this is good for levy autonomy and the students who expressed fears.

Hannah moves to adjourn. William seconds. Motion passes, three abstaining. Meeting is adjourned.

Meeting adjourns 8:05.