

**BYLAW  
COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, April 5, 2017  
6:00 PM  
Earls Kitchen + Bar, University Campus**

**ATTENDANCE**

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT
Brandon Christensen		Y
Alexander (Sandy) Brophy		Y
Brandon Prochnau		Y
Delane Howie		Y
Eilish McKinlay		Y
Reed Larsen		N
Robyn Paches		Y

**MINUTES (BC 2016-18)**

**2016-18/1     INTRODUCTION**

**2016-18/1a     Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 18:50 (6:50 PM) by CHRISTENSEN.

**2016-18/1b     Approval of Agenda**

**PROCHNAU/PACHES MOVE** to approve the agenda.

6/0/0

CARRIED

**2016-18/1c     Approval of Minutes**

**HOWIE/MCKINLAY MOVE** to approve the minutes.

5/0/1 (PACHES ABSTAINS)  
CARRIED

**2016-18/1d Chair's Business**

**2016-18/1d Attendance**

Attendance was taken. No proxies were in attendance.

**2016-18/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

**2016-18/2a Political Policy Discussion, Bylaw 100(11)(2):**

A Students' Union political policy

- a. is a directive to the Executive Committee dictating on what issues Students' Union advocacy efforts should be directed;
- b. shall be explicitly tied to a standing committee;
- c. requires the Executive Committee to submit an implementation plan to the standing committee to which it is tied;
- d. prohibits any person from representing any opinion divergent from Students' Union political policy as being the opinion of the Students' Union;
- e. is not binding on the Students' Union except as noted;
- f. is adopted, amended, or rescinded on two simple majority votes of Students' Council held not less than seven days apart; and
- g. shall expire, but may be renewed by a simple majority vote of Students' Council.

CHRISTENSEN:

Councillor Flaman brought up concerns with how the following part of Bylaw 100.

HOWIE:

I think there is multiple contradictions in the above. For example, "d" suggests that you are not allowed to be divergent from the policy however "e" says it is not binding. Kind of an interesting process.

BROPHY:

Yes, this is interesting since "e" would have alleviated the whole Law Students' Association (LSA) debacle.

CHRITSENSEN:

Flaman's concern would have been surrounding the fact that each policy

should be tied to a standing committee.

PROCHNAU:

I think all of the policies should and would be tied to the executive committee together.

HOWIE:

It is interesting that there was no mention of an expiry date on policies, just that there is one. We've been doing 3 years by default with no explanation as to why?

PACHES:

I think a consensus here is that we need to address this

*Committee agrees.*

HOWIE:

I think this should be transitioned onto the next Bylaw Committee.

CHRISTENSEN:

I will be sure to add these concerns to the transition documents.

**2016-18/3b Reflecting on the term - what worked and what didn't?**

PACHES:

I think Bylaw Committee should meet weekly to avoid 4 hour meetings. I felt this was too much.

CHRISTENSEN:

Part of the problem is that we have to take other people's schedules' into consideration. Meeting weekly is a lot to ask of people.

HOWIE:

For me, it would have been a lot more onerous on me since I was driving from Lacombe every meeting and that would have doubled the driving.

MCKINLAY:

For me, I worked away all summer so I felt there was nothing that could be done to alleviate the problems.

BROPHY:

I think we met an appropriate amount – with Bylaw, we are very focused and Type A when it comes to the wording and that is something

that can't be avoided.

CHRISTENSEN:

I agree with BROPHY, at times, we could get through 5 items in 45 minutes and other times it would take us 2 hours get through 1 item. It is so variable based on the actual content of the meeting. Although I will transition this to the next committee as a recommendation.

## **2016-18/2c    Projects for the future**

### *Elections*

EILISH:

One project for next year would be trying to consider Donald Ademaj's election suggestions

PACHES:

There won't ever be a year where Elections bylaws aren't reviewed.

### *Recall legislation*

PROCHNAU:

I ran on a process of Councillor Recall which I wanted to implement but didn't have enough time. It would have involved allowing people in a faculty or any elected position to complete a petition to have a by-election in a seat or position. It would only apply so that the election was held in the fall by-election period.

PACHES:

I think that it doesn't make sense to recall students.

HOWIE:

I agree, I don't think it makes sense.

BROPHY:

I'm generally opposed to recall legislation as a rule.

PROCHNAU:

They have it in states like British Columbia, California and other places. I just wanted to explore it as an idea.

CHRISTENSEN:

I think it is a very interesting idea and I'm always in favor of new ways to hold people accountable. The only concern I have is that with 1 year

terms it doesn't really give people time to see if they are 'good' or 'bad'.

*Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Committee*

PACHES:

I feel as though the expectations around this committee have changed from meeting to meeting. For example, when I talked to Councillor Sunday about the future standing committee he said he wanted a carbon-copy of the terms of reference. I thought that the ad hoc committee was there to establish a final framework and not just suggest the same thing.

CHRISTENSEN:

I had similar concerns about this. I feel like there needs to be room for assessment and identifying firm areas for the standing committee to address. This should be discussed at the ad hoc committee.

BROPHY:

I agree. I felt it was unprofessional for the expectations to change at the meeting where we discussed this. For example, adding voting seats at the last minute suggesting elders. Obviously, the scope hadn't been totally worked out.

HOWIE:

I think that this is certainly an area of concern and there needs to be room for compromise.

CHRISTENSEN:

The problem is I feel that there can never be compromise on this topic as otherwise if you disagree for any reason you are seen as a bigot.

PACHES:

A second example is that Councillor Sunday was very unclear on how much cost an Elder would be. He provided us with no information on this topic.

PROCHNAU:

He sold it as being relatively easy so it probably isn't that costly.

PACHES:

I had to look it up and the proposed cost was \$10,000 for this year's budget. Never did he mention this enormous cost for a new initiative.

CHRISTENSEN:

That is exorbitant. That is more than the entire Studnets' Council budget. How many meetings is that for?

PACHES:

Well obviously we cannot find that much money in the budget so I've allotted \$5,000 which should cover around 6-7 meetings including the blanket ceremonies, etc.

CHRISTENSEN:

I feel as though he was not up front with the actual scope and cost.

PACHES:

Apparently now he's suggesting having two elders, one male and one female which could further drive up costs.

HOWIE:

Also, you have to consider the Elder assistant to work with them. That has an associated cost as well.

CHRISTENSEN:

Well referring to the terms of reference which were passed at the last meeting, the Elder is not a member of the ad hoc committee so we should have enough money to cover the meetings they will attend once the ad hoc committee is put in place. Fiscally, I don't think we'll be able to afford 2 elders at this meeting.

PACHES:

It is also unclear what exactly the scope of the committee will be.

HOWIE:

I hope the committee identifies positives within the SU rather than harping exclusively on what is missing.

**2016-18/3**      **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**2016-18/3a**      **a) Bill #9 - Student Involvement Endowment Fund Amendment**

**CHRISTENSEN MOVES** to indefinitely defer the first reading of Bill #9 as bylaw committee has been unable to consider the legislation as referred by Students' Council on October 18, 2016.

1. The Student Involvement Endowment Fund has been used to support specific initiatives for the Students' Union.
2. The Student Involvement Endowment Fund has grown in scope since it was conceived in Bylaw.
3. These changes have been described in the current objectives of the society.
4. Bylaw 3000 shall be amended to reflect these changes.

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:**

CHRISTENSEN:

Since Students' Council referred this to Bylaw Committee I felt there was a need to make sure it was considered by the committee at some point. Therefore, I suggest we vote to indefinitely defer it until the future.

PACHES:

We actually no longer even need these changes and don't plan on ever bringing this up again.

HOWIE:

Why's that?

PACHES:

We looked into things and apparently, we can use SIEF as is. The goal was to use it with the Myer Horowitz Theatre renovation project since SIEF is a registered charity we can use it to collect money and issue tax receipts.

BROPHY:

I wish you would have just explained it that was from the start. That is much more clear and seems far less suspicious as previously explain.

HOWIE:

I agree!

**MOTION:**

**CHRISTENSEN/HOWIE MOVE** to indefinitely defer the first reading of Bill #9 as bylaw committee has been unable to consider the legislation

as referred by Students' Council on October 18, 2016.

6/0/0

CARRIED

**2016-18/3b Bylaw Committee standing orders – Amendments**

CHRISTENSEN:

This is just a brief update to the committee's standing orders to bring it in line with the changes brought about under Bill #12.

**MOTION:**

**CHRISTENSEN/HOWIE MOVE** to amend Bylaw Committee's standing orders mandate section to include:

e. shall review recommendations of the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (D.I.E.) Board by the end of the first August following the ruling's release.

6/0/0

CARRIED

**2016-18/4 INFORMATION ITEMS**

**2016-18/5 ADJOURNMENT**

**2016-18/5a Next Meeting:** This will be the last meeting for the 2016/2017 term.

**2016-18/5b CHRISTENSEN/BROPHY MOVE** to permit the Chair of Bylaw Committee to unilaterally approve the minutes of meeting #18, when available.

6/0/0

CARRIED

**2016-18/5b HOWIE/BROPHY MOVE** to adjourn at 7:30PM.

6/0/0

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 19:30 (7:30 PM).

**SUMMARY OF MOTIONS**

<b>MOTION</b>	<b>VOTES</b>
<b>PROCHNAU/PACHES MOVE</b> to approve the agenda.	6/0/0 CARRIED
<b>HOWIE/MCKINLAY MOVE</b> to approve the minutes.	5/0/1 (PACHES ABSTAINS) CARRIED
<b>CHRISTENSEN/HOWIE MOVE</b> to indefinitely defer the first reading of Bill #9 as bylaw committee has been unable to consider the legislation as referred by Students' Council on October 18, 2016.	6/0/0 CARRIED
<b>CHRISTENSEN/HOWIE MOVE</b> to amend Bylaw Committee's standing orders mandate section to include:  e. shall review recommendations of the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (D.I.E.) Board by the end of the first August following the ruling's release.	6/0/0 CARRIED
<b>CHRISTENSEN/BROPHY MOVE</b> to permit the Chair of Bylaw Committee to unilaterally approve the minutes of meeting #18, when available.	6/0/0 CARRIED
<b>HOWIE/BROPHY MOVE</b> to adjourn at 7:30PM.	6/0/0 CARRIED