



University of Alberta Students' Union

**ABORIGINAL
RELATIONS &
RECONCILIATION
COMMITTEE
(ARRC)**

**10 December 2021
4:00pm
Google Meet/In-Person**

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree.

These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

ATTENDANCE

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT
Simran Dhillon		Y
Christopher Beasley		Y
Serena Manansala Yabut		N
Latiya Northwest		N
Shailley Peacock		N
Danielle Lapatack		N
Talia Dixon		Y
Malijha Moyan		Y
Vaughn Beaulieu Mercredi, Chair		Y
Andrew Batyicki		N
Emily Kimani		Y

MINUTES (ARRC 2021-07-M)

2021-07/1

INTRODUCTION

2021-07/1a

Call to Order

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI called the meeting to order at 4:14 P.M.

2021-07/1b

Approval of Agenda

KIMANI/DIXON MOVE TO approve the agenda.
CARRIED

2021-07/1c

Approval of Minutes

DIXON/KIMANI MOVE TO approve the minutes from the last meeting.
CARRIED

2021-07/1d

Chair's Business

2021-07/2

QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

Indigenous Celebration Week

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: Notes that Indigenous Celebration Week is happening in January. ARRC would like to provide some guidance to a few events at Indigenous Celebration Week, such as the Indian Taco Lunch, particularly because there have been concerns raised about how the fry bread tacos will be made.

DIXON: Jeremy, the head chef at the Students' Union, is willing to make the fry bread tacos. However, Jeremy is a white man, which may cause some concerns about the authenticity around the preparation for the fry bread tacos.

Questions if, to rectify this situation, should someone of Indigenous descent supervise Jeremy while he is cooking the fry bread tacos? Or should someone teach him how to authentically make fry bread before the event?

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: The main issue surrounding the fry bread taco event is authenticity. If Indigenous students find out that the fry bread was made without some input from an indigenous student or group, there could be some upset.

MOYAN: Native Delights, a First Nation food truck, serves bannock burgers and fry bread. They could be a useful resource to utilize for this situation.

BEASLEY: Inquires if Native Delights could be asked to help out at the fry bread taco event.

DIXON: Suggests that there is not enough budget to afford Native Delights. Most of the budget for Indigenous Celebration Week has already been allocated and there is very little wiggle room to work with.

BEASLEY: Wonders if compensation could instead be provided through exposure?

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: Currently, the indian fry bread taco event is only scheduled for an hour, so exposure will be limited and may not meaningfully compensate Native Delights.

Reiterates that there are a couple of viable options available to ARRC regarding the fry bread taco event. DIXON and himself could take over the SU Kitchen and personally cook the fry bread tacos or an indigenous representative could supervise Jeremy to make sure that the fry bread tacos are authentically made.

DHILLON: Questions if the best option would be having an indigenous individual walk through crafting an authentic fry bread recipe with the SU kitchen staff the day before the event.

KIMANI: Likes the instructional approach suggested by DHILLON.

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: Suggests that the indigenous representative, instructing the SU kitchen staff, could be an indigenous student or potentially an elder.

DHILLON: Wonders if there are any liability risks in having an instructional person in the SU kitchen while staff members are cooking.

DIXON: Will talk to Jeremy about the liability risks.

2021-07/3

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2021-07/3b

UASU Governance Restructuring Task Force (GRTF) Recommendations

BEASLEY: Students' Council is under consideration for restructuring and re-sizing. ARRC needs a strong voice in restructuring efforts to help ensure greater indigenous representation on Students' Council.

DIXON: Questions what the objective of this conversation is and wonders if this committee item was put forward at the behest of MONTEIRO or LEY. .

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: Answers in the negative regarding whether this committee item was put forward by MONTEIRO or LEY. Suggests that GRTF as a way to decolonize Students' Council by increasing indigenous student representation, which makes it a meaningful discussion item.

DIXON: Agrees that council restructuring is a good step towards decolonizing Students' Council.

KIMANI: States that herself and DIXON will work on completing recommendations regarding what Students' Council should like after restructuring, particularly in regards to EDI. The focus will be on creating a greater diversity of voices and opinions, beyond just race and gender.

DIXON: Furthers that diversity is about quality and not quantity. Questions if consultation in regards to GRTF included ASC.

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: Is not aware of any ASC consultation.

BEASLEY: Notes that consultation might have just been an email.

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: Questions how ARRC can play a role in GRTF moving forward.

Suggests, because so many committee members are missing from this meeting, that discussion continues in the winter semester.

DHILLON: States that it would be valuable to bring MONTEIRO to the conversation when the committee next meets in January.

DIXON: Agrees.

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: A lettucomet will be sent out at the beginning of January to determine the committee's meeting schedule for the winter semester.

Asks that, until then, the committee starts thinking about ways that Students' Council and the Students' Union can operate within an Indigenous context.

2021-07/4

ADJOURNMENT

BEAULIEU-MERCREDI: Adjourned the meeting at 4:34 P.M.