



Minutes

University of Victoria Students' Society Semi-Annual General Meeting
Thursday February 14, 2013 – Cinecenta 3:00pm

1. CALL TO ORDER

Coccola called the meeting to order at 3:35pm.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORIES

Coccola acknowledged the territories.

3. APPROVAL OF CHAIR

MOTION TO APPROVE JAMES COCCOLA AS CHAIR - HANNAN/MORRISON

MOTION CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

a. Agenda of 2013/02/14 SAGM

MOTION TO ADOPT AGENDA - MECH/PATERSON

MOTION CARRIED

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

a. Minutes of 2012/10/018 AGM

MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES 2012/10/18 AGM - FRANCO/FOSTER

MOTION CARRIED

6. SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

A. ELECTIONS & REFERENDA

MOTION TO OMNIBUS ALL OF SECTION A - HANNAN/YILDEROT
MOTION TO OMNIBUS CARRIED

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 1 – INTERPRETATION

BIRT the following be added to Bylaw 1, with subsequent sections renumbered:

1.7 “Chief Electoral Officer” shall refer to an individual, appointed by the UVSS Board of Directors, who is responsible for the conduct of UVSS elections and referenda.

CARRIED OMNIBUS

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 4 – GENERAL MEETINGS AND REFERENDA

BIRT Bylaw 4.7.c be struck and subsequent bylaws renumbered accordingly.

CARRIED OMNIBUS

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 4 – GENERAL MEETINGS AND REFERENDA

BIRT Bylaw 4.7 be amended to add the following:

- d. **Quorum for a referendum shall be five percent [5%] of the voting membership.**

CARRIED OMNIBUS

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 6 – ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BIRT Bylaw 6 is amended, re-organized, and renumbered as follows:

6.1 Electoral Policy of the UVSS

The Board of Directors shall set Electoral Policy to govern the elections of Directors as well as referenda within the rules set out by these bylaws.

- a. The ~~Electoral Committee~~ **Chief Electoral Officer** shall be responsible for carrying out the Electoral Policy of the UVSS.
- b. Nominees shall abide by all rules set out in the Electoral Policy

6.2 Election of At-Large and Executive Directors to the Board of Directors

At-Large and Executive Directors shall be elected by the members of the Students' Society.

6.3 Election of Constituency Organization Representatives to the Board of Directors

Constituency Organization Representatives shall be elected at a general meeting of their respective constituency organization as per the constitution of that constituency organization.

6.4 Electorate

All active members in good standing of the UVSS, as per Bylaw 2.1, may vote in any election or referenda.

6.5 Eligibility

- a. Nominees for any position on the Board of Directors must be members of the Students' Society.
- b. In order to seek election to the Board of Directors, members must be nominated by not less than fifteen [15] other members of the Students' Society.
- c. Nominees shall run for only one position on the Board of Directors.
- d. Members of the Students' Society shall not be executive directors for more than two years.

6.6 Conduct of Nominees

- a. Nominees for all positions shall not commence campaigning until after the close of nominations.
- b. Nominees shall ensure that all their campaign information is removed from public display by midnight the last day of polling.
- c. all UVSS candidates and their supporters shall not distribute material during the campaign period which has the effect or purpose of offending or demeaning a person or group of persons on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, nationality, religion, family or marital status,

physical or mental disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, or conviction for a criminal charge; or seriously threatening or intimidating a person.

- d. Nominees shall abide by all other regulations established by the ~~electoral committee~~ **Chief Electoral Officer**.

6.7 Voting

- a. The directors shall be elected by a secret ballot of the members.
- b. Students on co-op work terms will have every opportunity to vote.
- c. Members of the Students' Society may vote only once for each position in an election.
- d. If only one nomination is received for a particular Executive position, members shall be asked on the ballot to approve or disapprove of the nominee. The nominee must receive the approval of the majority of ballots cast to be declared duly elected.
- e. If only one nomination is received for each Director-at-Large position, the candidates will be acclaimed and considered duly elected.
- f. Sealed ballot boxes are to be returned to the office specified by the electoral committee. Counting of ballots will be overseen by the ~~electoral committee~~ **Chief Electoral Officer**. The nominees receiving a plurality of votes cast shall be declared duly elected.
- g. Each nominee may appoint a scrutineer to oversee the counting of ballots.
- h. Ballots shall not be destroyed without the consent of a majority of the Board of Directors.
- i. The Board of Directors may entertain a motion to destroy the ballots no sooner than fifteen [15] days following the ~~electoral committee's~~ **Chief Electoral Officer's** announcement of election results.

6.8 Maintenance of Electoral Committee

- a. The Students' Society shall maintain an electoral committee at all times. ~~which shall be responsible for the administration of all elections to fill At-Large and Executive positions on the Board of Directors.~~
- b. The electoral committee shall be comprised of three [3] directors, one of whom shall be an executive director.
- c. No member of the electoral committee shall seek re-election while serving on the electoral committee.
- d. **The Electoral Committee shall be responsible for making a recommendation to the Board of Directors for the appointment of a Chief Electoral officer, Elections Adjudicator, and Arbitration Panel members.**
- e. **The Electoral Committee shall provide administrative support and other resources to the Chief Electoral Officer as needed.**

6.9 Chief Electoral Officer

- a. The ~~electoral committee~~ **Chief Electoral Officer** shall ensure that all elections occur in the manner prescribed by this Bylaw and the policy of the Students' Society.
- b. The ~~electoral committee~~ **Chief Electoral Officer** shall determine the eligibility of all nominated candidates according to Article Four of this Bylaw.
- c. The ~~electoral committee~~ **Chief Electoral Officer** shall decide the form of the ballot provided that the nominees for each office be listed in alphabetical order by surname.
- d. The ~~electoral committee~~ **Chief Electoral Officer** shall make, in the event of a strike, circumstance beyond human control, or other event that may delay the electoral procedure, a decision as to how and when the electoral procedure may best be completed.
- e. The ~~electoral committee~~ **Chief Electoral Officer** shall submit a report on the conduct and results of all elections to the Board of Directors for ratification.

6.10 Elections Adjudicator

The Electoral Committee shall be responsible for seeking nominations for the position of the Elections Adjudicator.

- a. The Elections Adjudicator shall not be a Member as per Bylaw 2.1
- b. The Elections Adjudicator must be nominated by the Electoral Committee to the Board of Directors and be ratified by a two-thirds [2/3] vote.

6.11 Arbitration Panel

The Electoral Committee shall be responsible for seeking nominations for membership on the Arbitration Panel.

- a. The Arbitration Panel shall be comprised of three [3] members:
 - i. Members, as defined by Bylaw 2.1 shall not compose a majority of the committee;
 - ii. No member of the arbitration panel shall seek election to, or be a current member of the Board of Directors while serving on the arbitration panel;
- B. Members of the Arbitration Panel must be nominated by the Electoral Committee to the Board of Directors and be ratified by a two-thirds [2/3] vote.

6.12 Recounts

- a. A nominee may request a recount of votes cast, provided such request is made in writing to the ~~electoral committee~~ **Chief Electoral Officer** within seven [7] days following the ~~committee's~~ **Chief Electoral Officer's** announcement of election results.
- b. Each candidate may call for no more than one [1] recount.

6.13 Appeals

- a. A decision of the ~~Electoral Officers~~ **Chief Electoral Officer** may be appealed to the Elections Adjudicator.
- b. A decision of the Elections Adjudicator may be appealed to the Arbitration Panel.
- c. All decisions of the Arbitration Panel are final.

CARRIED OMNIBUS

B. CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS

**MOTION TO OMNIBUS ALL OF SECTION B - FOSTER/WILLETTS
MOTION TO OMNIBUS CARRIED**

MOTION TO AMEND SECTION 3 OF THE CONSTITUTION – DISSOLUTION OF THE STUDENTS' SOCIETY

BIRT Section 3 of the UVSS Constitution be amended as follows:

3. DISSOLUTION OF THE STUDENTS' SOCIETY

Upon the winding up or dissolution of the Students' Society, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of its debts and liabilities shall be ~~given or transferred to the Canadian Federation of Students to hold in trust until the society is re-established~~ **transferred to the University of Victoria to be held in trust. At such time as an undergraduate student society is established at the University of Victoria which meets the criteria of a student society under the University Act of British Columbia, any assets held in trust shall be transferred to the new student society.** This article is alterable.

CARRIED OMNIBUS

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 1 - INTERPRETATION

BIRT Bylaw 1.4 be struck and subsequent bylaws renumbered accordingly.

CARRIED OMNIBUS

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 7 – DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BIRT Bylaw 7.4 be amended as follows:

7.4 Official Medium of Communication

The Board of Directors shall be the recognized medium of communication between the Students' Society and:

- a) The members of the Board of Governors and Senate of the University of Victoria,
- b) Other constituent groups within the University of Victoria,
- c) The general public, and
- d) ~~Other students' unions with which the Students' Society is Federated~~ **Any other organization with which the Students' Society may be affiliated.**

CARRIED OMNIBUS

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 9 – REPRESENTATIVES ON FEDERATION COMMITTEES

BIRT Bylaw 9 be struck and subsequent bylaws renumbered accordingly.

CARRIED OMNIBUS

C. GENERAL

MOTION TO OMNIBUS ALL OF SECTION C - FOSTER/MORRISON

MOTION TO OMNIBUS CARRIED

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 5 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE STUDENTS' SOCIETY

BIRT Bylaw 5.3.c be amended as follows:

5.3 Meetings of the Board of Directors

- c) Quorum required for the transaction of business of the Board of Directors shall be:
 - i) a ~~majority of current~~ **minimum of nine [9]** directors during the months of September to April inclusive.
 - ii) a minimum of seven [7] directors during the months of May to August inclusive.

CARRIED OMNIBUS

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 5 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE STUDENTS' SOCIETY

BIRT Bylaw 5.1.b.ii. be struck and replaced with the following:

- ii. **Pride Representative**

CARRIED OMNIBUS

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 10 – ABANDONMENT OF OFFICE AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

BIRT Bylaw 10.3 be struck and subsequent bylaws renumbered accordingly.

CARRIED OMNIBUS

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW 8 – DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS

BIRT Bylaw 8.4.c is struck and moved to 8.1.f.

CARRIED OMNIBUS

The meeting lost quorum at 3:51pm.

An informal Board of Directors report and question period was held.