



Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union Meeting of the Board of Directors

Location: Waterloo & Brantford Boardroom & Zoom
Date: 22-Jan-24

The Strategic Ends of the Students' Union

The Organization exists to represent, advocate for, and support the primary stakeholders, the students of Wilfrid Laurier University, and to provide them with a holistic university experience and an enhanced student life. The costs of these benefits will be justified by the results.

In no specific order of priority, students will benefit from:

- An affordable, accessible, and high quality academic experience
- A safe, sustainable, and empowering environment
- Diverse inclusive social interaction
- Products and services that cater to the financial needs of students

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnawbe and Haudenosaunee people

Start	Duration	Agenda Item	Type	Presenter	Policy Reference
8:30 PM	2 mins	Call to Order and Indigenous land acknowledgement	adm	Chair Abu-Rshaid	
8:32 PM	1 mins	Regrets	adm	Chair Abu-Rshaid	GP #2c.8
8:33 PM	2 mins	Conflicts of Interest	adm	Chair Abu-Rshaid	GP #2c.2
8:35 PM	2 mins	Adoption of Agenda MOTION that the Board of Directors adopt the agenda as presented	D	Chair Abu-Rshaid	
8:37 PM	2 mins	Adoption of the Minutes: MOTION that the Board of Directors adopt the Minutes of January 10th	D	Chair Abu-Rshaid	GP #2c.7
8:39 PM	2 mins	Comments from the Chair of the Board & CGO	fi	Chair Abu-Rshaid	
8:43 PM	4 mins	Comments from the President & CEO	fi	President Spenler	
8:47 PM	4 mins	Comments from the Executive Director & COO	fi	ED Champagne	
8:51 PM	5 mins	Elections Update	fi	CRO Cui	
8:56 PM	2 mins	In-Camera Session MOTION that the Board of Directors enters the In-Camera Session	D	Chair Abu-Rshaid	
9:50 PM	2 mins	Announcements	fi	Chair Abu-Rshaid	
9:52 PM	4 mins	Action Items Summary	adm	Chair Abu-Rshaid	
9:56 PM	2 mins	Adjournment MOTION that the Board adjourn the January 22, 2024 meeting	adm	Chair Abu-Rshaid	
Total	1 hr and 24 mins				

LEGEND:
fi, For Information
fd, For Discussion
D, Decision required
adm, Administrative task



Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union
Board of Directors
DATE: January 10th, 2024
Online via Zoom
Board of Directors Meeting

Board Members Present: Mohammad Abu-Rshaid, Daniel Rubinoff, Sebastien Corrie, Patrick Baldinelli, Hailie Ellis, Gabrielle Russo, Mitchell Baldwin, Alfredo Duncan Spizzirri, Colton Phillips, Jack Sloan, Meron Mehari, Josh Hamilton

Staff Present: President & Chief Executive Officer Megan Spenler; Policy, Research & Advocacy Director: Ian Muller; Governance Coordinator: Orlan Cui

1. **Call to Order**, Chair Abu-Rshaid

The meeting was called to order via Zoom on January 10th, 2024, at 7:00 pm. We acknowledge that the offices of the Wilfrid Laurier Students' Union are on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabe and Haudenosaunee people.

2. **Regrets**, Chair Abu-Rshaid

There are no regrets.

3. **Conflicts of Interest**, Chair Abu-Rshaid

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4. **Adoption of Agenda**, Chair Abu-Rshaid

MOTION (Director Baldwin/Director Mehari) that the Board of Directors adopt the agenda as presented. **CARRIED.**

5. **Adoption of Consent Agenda**, Chair Abu-Rshaid

MOTION (Chair Abu-Rshaid/Vice Chair Rubinoff) that the Board of Directors adopt the consent agenda as presented with the addition of GP #2e and BMD monitoring reports. **CARRIED.**

Questions & Comments:

- Director Corrie asks if the over \$10 000 list is currently up to date.
 - Chair Abu-Rshaid states that it is up to date.

6. **Comments from the Chair of the Board & CGO**, Chair Abu-Rshaid

- Directors have not answered their emails to determine a winter meeting schedule.
- The next Board meeting will potentially be held in Brantford as the Belmont is opening.
- Directors are asked to respond to their emails within 40 hours of receiving them.

7. **Comments from the President & CEO**, President Spenler

- A key upcoming event is the concert and Directors are asked to spread the word. It is being held in the Waterloo Athletic Complex and there will be transportation for Brantford students.
- The Students' Union has accepted various new clubs.

- President Spenler is having lunch with staff from Michigan State University tomorrow, to see how their Students' Union operates. President Spenler can share her findings at the next meeting.
- Currently working with ED Champagne on a lot of administration agreements with different people at the university to update the Operating Procedures Agreement.
- On Monday, President Spenler is presenting to the Student Affairs Advisory Committee to seek help funding the air handling problem. Will provide an update at the next meeting.

Questions & Comments:

- Director Spizzirri asks for a better understanding of the outline of the Facilities Asset Management Operations Agreement and its impacts considering the different avenues for financing the project.
 - President Spenler will work on an update with the Director of Finance.
- Chair Abu-Rshaid asks for a briefing for the second meeting of January on the fees that Brantford Conestoga students pay and do not pay for and the services they do and do not have access to. Potential negotiations about having them enter the SLL fund.
 - President Spenler has already had meetings with individuals at the university about Conestoga usage of different services on campus.
- Chair Abu-Rshaid asks if President Spenler thinks the Belmont will be operational to a level to host a dinner for the Directors around mid-January.
 - President Spenler believes it should work. However, is unsure of the hours and if they will be open at night. She will look into it with Michelle and will get back to the Board.

8. Comments from the Executive Director & COO

ED Champagne will be at the next meeting to update the Board.

9. Approval of the Meeting Minutes, Chair Abu-Rshaid

MOTION (Director Mehari/Director Ellis) that the Board of Directors approve the minutes for the meeting of December 14th, 2023. **CARRIED.**

10. Greek Life MOU, President Spenler

- President Spenler and the Greek Life President met before the holiday break, and he signed the agreement in the package.
- Benefits for Laurier's Students' Union
 - More open communication.
 - Monthly meetings are scheduled.
 - The Greek Life President will send President Spenler an updated list every semester of the organizations that are in Greek life, and any Greek Life members that are kicked out which will be helpful for when university departments reach out.
 - They will send a list of the members of the fraternities and sororities to the Students' Union, which will only be used if something of concern happens.

Questions & Comments:

- Vice Chair Rubinoff asks if there is a term agreement or term length for the Greek Life Council agreement.
 - Chair Abu-Rshaid states that it is renewed every May.
- Director Phillips asks if there is a concern that the next Students' Union President or Greek Life Council President will not continue the agreement.
 - President Spenler will look into adding some language that strongly encourages for the agreement to stay in place, rather than saying they have to renew it.
- Director Phillips asks if there is a way to prevent having to wait for the university to sign off.

- President Spenler: The only signing parties are President Spenler and the President of Greek Life Council. The reason the university wanted to look at the agreement this year is because of the negative press from events that occurred at other universities.
- Director Corrie asks for clarity about Section 3c which discusses the annual meeting in August with the VP of Student Affairs.
 - President Spenler believes that the biggest takeaway for Student Affairs would be to gain a general understanding of the organization's plan for the upcoming year. The three sub-points are philanthropy initiative, housing, and plans for booking spaces on campus. Student Affairs is impacted because when a community member has an issue with Greek Life, they tend to go to Student Affairs rather than the Students' Union.
- Chair Abu-Rshaid proposes that he facilitates a conversation between President Spenler, the President Elect, and the Greek Life Council President near the end of the governance year.
 - Director Phillips states that the conversation would be very beneficial to all parties and would ensure that the transition is smooth.
- Director Hamilton asks if there is a formal plan to announce the agreement to the Laurier students.
 - President Spenler states that it will not likely be announced as it does not impact the students that are not in Greek Life.
- Director Spizzirri asks how many students are in Greek Life at Laurier.
 - Director Sloan states that there would be between 400 and 500 students.

11. Winter 2024 BOD Meeting Schedule, Chair Abu-Rshaid

- LettuceMeet, a group scheduling app, was used to determine available times amongst the Directors.

MOTION (Director Bladwin/Vice Chair Rubinoff) that the Board of Directors set the meeting schedule for the Winter 2024 semester on Monday, January 22nd at 8:30 pm, bi-weekly onwards. **CARRIED.**

Questions & Comments:

- President Spenler suggests that the Board revisits the idea of a dinner at the Belmont once she has spoken with Michelle.
- Chair Abu-Rshaid states that the tentative date for dinner will be January 22nd, 2024, and if that is too soon, it will be February 5th, 2024.
- Vice Chair Rubinoff will determine a plan to transport Waterloo students to Brantford and is expected to send the plan to Chair Abu-Rshaid for approval.

12. Announcements, Chair Abu-Rshaid

No announcements were made.

13. Action Items Summary, Chair Abu-Rshaid

- Director Spizzirri informs the Board that he will be sending an email to President Spenler with comments and questions regarding the appendix packages and Board members will be carbon copied.
 - Chair Abu-Rshaid adds that the conversation can be held in-camera at the next Board meeting.
- Chair Abu-Rshaid intends to have the Direct Inspection Committees, Ownership Linkage Committee, and Campus Safety Committee meetings next week.

14. Adjournment, Chair Abu-Rshaid

MOTION (Director Ellis/Director Phillips) that the Board adjourn the January 10th, 2024, meeting.
CARRIED.

The preceding reflects an accurate and complete record of the proceedings at the
aforementioned meeting of the Students' Union Board of Directors.

Date Signed:

Mohammad Abu-Rshaid

Chair of the Board & Chief Governance Officer
2023-2024 Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union