



CUSA Council acknowledges and respects the Algonquin people, on whose traditional territory the Carleton University Students' Association is located.

**MINUTES OF THE
3rd REGULAR (SEPTEMBER)
CUSA COUNCIL MEETING [PUBLIC]**

25 September 2023, 6:00 PM EST, 608 Pigiaryvik

Prepared by:

Logan Breen, Vice President Internal
McKenna Bellemare, Clerk to Council



carleton university
students' association

ATTENDANCE RECORD:

Position	Councillor	Signature
President	Mohamed Faris Riazuddin	Present
<i>Vice President Finance</i>	<i>Sean Joe-Ezigbo</i>	Present
<i>Vice President Internal</i>	<i>Logan Breen</i>	Present
<i>Vice President Student Issues</i>	<i>Emilia De Jesus Peixoto</i>	Present
<i>Vice President Community Engagement</i>	<i>Patrick Ene</i>	Present
<i>Vice President Student Life</i>	<i>Eman Elnaidnay</i>	Present
Speaker	<i>Nkosi Mhlanga</i>	Present
Deputy Speaker	<i>Jayln D'Jan</i>	Present
Public Affairs (7)	Rachel Awad	Present
	Nabiha Bilgrami	Present
	Clara Borba	Present
	Keana Solimar Cavero	Present
	Michael Huynh	Present
	Aiden Rohacek	Present
	Aya Abu Sheikh	Present
FASS (8)	Tima Sakka Amini	Present
	Moobinah Faisal	Present
	Nicky Laborde	Absent
	Nkosi Mhlanga	Present
	Eddy Udo	Present
	<i>Vacant</i>	
	<i>Vacant</i>	

	<i>Vacant</i>	
Business (3)	Youssef El Nil	Present
	Diya Kulkarni	Present
	Zeba Munira	Present
Science (6)	Jayln D'Jan	Present
	Edi Ekeng	Present
	Maheeshan Sivanesan	Present
	Parihan Parihan	Present
	Kaniz Fathma Sinethyah	Present
	<i>Vacant</i>	
Engineering and Design (8)	Addy Bakshi	Absent
	Marc Anthony El Khoury	Absent
	Puru Parth Verma	Present
	<i>Vacant</i>	
	<i>Vacant</i>	
	<i>Vacant</i>	
	<i>Vacant</i>	
	<i>Vacant</i>	
Special Student (1)	<i>Vacant</i>	
BOG	<i>Mira Gillis</i>	Present
	<i>Jonathan Ojangole</i>	Present
GSA	<i>Elie Abou Zeid</i>	Absent
RRRA	Kamran Azizli	Proxy
CASG	Francesca Lepore	Proxy

*Nonvoting members in *Italics*.

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of Past Minutes
4. Presentations/Delegations
5. Executive Reports
6. External Reports
7. Council Reports
8. Announcements and Correspondence
 - a. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest
 - b. Items for Information
 - i. Notice of Resignation of Councillors
 - c. Notice of Motion
9. Question Period
10. Regular Business
 - a. Unfinished Business
 - b. New Business
 - i. Motion to Move In-Camera
 - ii. Motion to Move Out of In-Camera
 - iii. Motion to Approve the CUSA Budget for the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year
 - iv. Proclamation of a Referendum on the Unified Support Centre's Emergency Essentials Assistance Program
 - v. Motion to Declare a Position on the USC Referendum
 - vi. Motion to Adopt the Student Initiative Fund Policy
 - vii. Motion to Adopt the Academic Resilience Fund Policy
 - viii. Motion to Adopt the Accessibility Fund Policy
 - ix. Motion to Amend the Electoral Code
 - x. Motion to Adopt the Judicial Policy
 - xi. Motion to Adopt the Long-Term Strategic Plan Policy
 - xii. Motion to Appoint Two Councillors to the Academic Resilience Fund Committee

- xiii. Motion to Appoint a Councillor to the Executive Composition Committee

11. Adjournment

Meeting commenced at 6:14 p.m. Quorum was established.

Speaker Nkosi Mhlanga presides over the meeting.

1. Call to Order

Before we address the regular business of this meeting, I'd like to acknowledge that we are today gathered on the traditional territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe, lands never ceded or surrendered in peace to the Crown of Canada. Indigenous peoples living under the modern colonial state of Canada have suffered disproportionate injustice and marginalization. A mere land acknowledgement is not enough to make reconciliation and reparation to the Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island. We must stand in solidarity against colonialism and remember our responsibility to the land and the peoples who have kept it for generations—which means affirming their call for the free and unencumbered return to their ancestral land. It is also fitting, for this body of lawmakers, to remember the spirit and wisdom of Indigenous governance models—from the collaborative bicameralism of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy to the consensus-based government of the Inuit—to deliver to students a better student union.

2. Approval of the Agenda (C-23)

Be it resolved, that the agenda be approved as presented to Council, notwithstanding s. 18 of the *Council Rules of Order*.

Moved: A. Rohacek

Seconded: Z. Munira

Councillors vote by show of hands.

8 Yays, 0 Nays

3. Approval of Past Minutes (C-24)

Be it resolved, that the minutes of the [26 June 2023](#) meeting of Council be approved.

Moved: M. Huynh

Seconded: A. Rochacek

Councillors vote by show of hands.

14 yays, 0 nays

4. Presentations/Delegations

5. Executive Reports

a. Mohamed Faris Riazuddin (President)

Month in Review:

- Supporting the Executive Committee and the Executive Council.
- Staffing Updates: Charitable Initiatives Manager, Events and Programming Coordinator, Ollies Front and Back Manager.
- CUSA website rebranding: major updates, most accessible website, news sections and other major updates.
- CUSA awards.
- Flowing Rights Initiative for menstrual and reproductive Rights. Working with SEO to launch the program.
- Experience Day tours.
- Health and Dental Plan review. Plan cost changes from \$227.92 to \$183.11
- Student Union Development Summit. Presented a workshop at AMS UBC.
- CUSA classroom talks.
- CUPE 1281 collective bargaining complete.

- Executive Roadmap and Advocacy Roadmap completion.
- Updates on student jobs. Over 30+ new jobs at CUSA.
- Covering duties of ED.
- Athletics sponsorship.
- University advocacy: menstrual products and Flowing Rights initiative, pride crosswalk unveiling ceremony, supporting Ukrainian students.
- Government advocacy: connected with Shawn Menard's office for Haven parking and transit, met with Minister Jill Dunlop re: University of Waterloo attacks, reached out to Ministers Sean Fraser and Marc Miller.

Month Ahead:

- Hiring of Finance Manager.
- Support for businesses.
- Supporting the executives on their projects and initiatives: Panda game, referendum. campaigns.
- Launching the Executive and Advocacy Roadmaps.
- Continued work for The Wing Relaunch.
- Pride Crosswalk unveiling for October 10th.
- CUSA townhall for information week.
- Working with CARC to ease the process for CUSA and entities for partnerships and risk approvals.

b. Sean Joe-Ezigbo (Vice President Finance)

Month in Review:

- Successfully completed residence move-in, fall orientation, and Expo Carleton.
- Completed preparation of the 23/24 budget report and successfully passed the budget at the September Board of Directors meeting.
- In the process of completing the Haven Connect business plan to have the space operational in following weeks.

- Ongoing planning and preparation with Faris and AVP Student Funs Musab to get The Wing space operational.
- Application for YTC grant (youth-take-charge) to sponsor our campaigns.

Month Ahead:

- Budget report and council presentation.
- Completing YTC grant application.
- One-on-one meetings with business managers to ensure they are supported in every aspect.
- Completing the sample questionnaires for The Wing, drafting of a business plan, and risk assessment.

c. Logan Breen (Vice President Internal)

Month in Review:

- Attended the Student Union Development Summit.
- Policy organization and transparency completed.
- Drafting policies for Council review.
- Participation in all Fall Orientation activities, including leading CUSA's delegation to Expo Carleton.
- Meetings with numerous CUSA Clubs.
- Launch of new CUSA Clubs website.
- Procedure drafting for Clubs Oversight.
- Assisted with front desk management.
- CUSA classroom talks.
- Planning for October by-election, referendum, and campaigns.

Month Ahead:

- Organizing lead for CUSA Information Week (October 2nd - 6th).
- New CUSA awards.
- By-Election:
 - Leading effort on the USC Referendum.
 - Leading candidate recruitment.

- Leading the Get Out the Vote campaign.
- CUSA Clubs:
 - President's Meeting (September 23rd).
 - Ongoing club training sessions.
 - Storage improvements.
 - Increasing connections to clubs through social media.
 - Launch of new election platform.
 - Improved risk management procedures.

d. Patrick Ene (Vice President Community Engagement)

Month in Review:

- Service centre coordinators completed training.
- Hired and onboarded the new USC Operations Coordinator.
- Successfully got through frosh week.
- Reached out to approximately 90 embassies, high commissions and consuls.
- Reached out to various housing groups on the topic of student affairs.

Month Ahead:

- Scheduling meetings with ambassadors and commissioners.
- Preparing for CUSA information week.
- Spearheading CUSA Panda game community initiatives.
- Sorting out logistics for exam shuttle initiative.
- Ideation for Halloween initiatives.

e. Emilia De Jesus Peixoto (Vice President Student Issues)

Month in Review:

- Finalized all planning for Capital Pride, community outreach and pre-pride events facilitated.

- Successfully facilitated and attended Capital Pride, having the largest cohort of faculties and university stakeholders in attendance
- Finalized planning for the first campaign: beForeplayAsk.
- Finalized ISSO x RISE and Thrive Fair.
- Working closely with Mawandoseg to plan out OSD programming.
- Onboarding of AVP Campaigns.
- Successfully got through O week; residence move in, Frosh Programming, Canal Games, Expo Carleton, and the beForeplayAsk kickoff with Sexy Jeopardy.
- beForeplayAsk campaign successfully ran from September 7th to 15th, and on September 19th for #webelieveyou day.

Month Ahead:

- Prepping with Mawandoseg for OSD.
- Working with the Centre for Indigenous Support and Community Engagement to get All Children Matters Flag and Thunderbird Flag risen for a month after TRC day.
- Working on the Youth Take Charge Grant with AVP's to submit by September 28th.
- Planning and finalizing CU Pride Week events/ programming with the Pride Committee.
- Outreach to University of Ottawa Student Union for Panda collaboration and 'Know Your Rights' campaign.
- Mosaic Planning with RISE - outreach to community partners and cultural clubs on campus.

f. Eman Elnaidany (Vice President Student Life)

Month in Review

- Fall Orientation:
 - Fall Orientation Week was a success!
 - Met with all relevant stakeholders and had an evaluation meeting to identify areas for improvement.
 - Collaborated with all 6 service centers to show CUSA service offerings during Fall O week.
- Chonk Nation
 - Training was a success based on all feedback from volunteers and assisted them in their tasks throughout Fall O Week.
 - Established processes and routine for all volunteers with AVP SX.
 - Content creators hired, trained and established routines with AVP SX.
 - (Chonk Chats, Fun Reels)
- Panda Game
 - Working with AVP SX and Marketing coordinator to engage students and create hype before the Panda Game.
 - Collaborating with VP CE to allocate Panda Merchandise to engage students.
- Internal Partnerships
 - Ensuring a mutually beneficial partnership with the Student Experience Office on campus. Introductory meetings are held for SOAR 2023.

Months Ahead:

- Collaborating with VPSI, GSRC and SEO for various events during Pride Festival Week.
- Working and planning with all executives to ensure Chonk Nation team is allocated where needed for October: By-election, Panda, CUSA Info Week.
- Planning for the rest of fall-term and frost week in January.

6. External Reports

- a. Rideau River Residence Association
 - i. Bike sharing initiative collab with campus safety
 - ii. Volunteer program
 - iii. Hiring new student positions

- iv. Menstrual products campaign
 - v. Extensions feedback (pricing, layout, etc.)
 - vi. Reworking Caf menu design
 - vii. RRRR formal is being formalized
 - viii. Council elections completed; announced in the coming days
- b. Carleton Academic Student Government
 - i. Midst of election – departmental positions of student council
 - ii. First full Council meeting on October 11th 2023
 - CUSA and RRRR invited
 - iii. Sponsorship towards orientation activities
 - iv. Academics Initiative Fund
 - c. Graduate Students' Association
 - i. None.
 - d. Senate
 - i. None.
 - e. Board of Governors
 - i. Process of communication for various stakeholder groups regarding President hiring committee
 - Feedback welcome from students, CUSA, etc.
 - f. Board of Directors
 - i. Board-council assets
 - Committees, Board attendance records, etc.
 - ii. Approved operating budget
 - iii. Undergoing performance review period
 - iv. Approved 9 policy changes at July 2023 meeting

7. Council Reports

- a. Constituency Reports
 - i. FPA
 - ii. FASS

- iii. Business
- iv. Science
- v. FED

None.

b. Committee Reports

8. Announcements and Correspondence

a. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

b. Items for Information

i. Notice of Resignation for the following Councilors:

- Soroush Siddiq
- Sameer Khan
- Sarah Janmohamed

c. Notice of Motion

9. Question Period

10. Regular Business

a. Unfinished Business:

None.

b. New Business:

Motion to Move In-Camera (C-25)

Be it resolved, that Council move *in camera* per s. 27 (g) of the *Council Rules of Order*.

Moved: A. Rohacek

Seconded: Z. Munira

Councillors vote by show of hands.

11 yays, 0 nays

Motion to Move Out of In-Camera (C-26)

Be it resolved, that Council returns to the public session.

Moved: M. Huynh

Seconded: R. Awad

Councillors vote by show of hands.

15 yays, 0 nays

Recess beginning at 7:38 p.m. until 7:45 p.m.

Motion to Approve the CUSA Budget for the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year (C-27)

Whereas, the Vice President Finance/Secretary Treasurer has completed extensive consultations with all CUSA departments and executives regarding the budget;

And whereas, the Vice President Finance/Secretary Treasurer has drafted a budget narrative which details the philosophies and mandate of this budget;

And whereas, the Ontario *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act* requires the membership of every corporation receive information on all financial statements adopted by the Directors;

And whereas; the Association's [Budgets Policy \(F-01\)](#) further requires that Council jointly approve the Budget with the Board of Directors;

And whereas; the Finance, Fees, and Funds Committee approved of the budget unanimously;

And whereas; the CUSA Board of Directors has approved of the budget unanimously;

Be it resolved, that the budget of Carleton University Students' Association for the 2023-2024 financial year be approved.

Moved: M. Faris

Seconded: R. Awad

Councillors vote by show of hands.

15 yays, 0 nays

Proclamation of a Referendum on the Unified Support Centre's Emergency Essentials Assistance Program (C-28)

Whereas, many Carleton undergraduate students struggle with worsening food insecurity;

And whereas, demand for the USC's Emergency Essentials Assistance Program has increased in recent years;

And whereas, due to the increased demand and budget shortfalls in the Association, the USC is in need of more funding to sustain current operations in concordance with expected growth;

And whereas, a full-time Carleton undergraduate student currently pays \$1.53 per semester to the USC, by means of the Foot Patrol levy, however no student levy directly funds the USC's Emergency Essentials Assistance Program;

And whereas, an increase in funding to the USC would allow for the Emergency Essentials Assistance Program to keep pace with demand, implement administrative improvements, and cater to the diverse dietary restrictions of many students;

And whereas, the Finance, Fees, and Funds Committee voted unanimously in recommending that Council proclaim this referendum;

Be it resolved, that Council proclaims a referendum on the USC's Emergency Essentials Assistance Program during the October by-election with the following question:

"Do you support the creation of a Unified Support Centre (USC) Emergency Essentials Assistance Program levy of \$2.98 per semester, indexed to inflation, to help meet the demand for food and basic living essentials that the food hamper program provides to any undergraduate student in need?"

And the options being:

- "Yes, I support the creation of a Unified Support Centre Emergency Essentials Assistance Program levy."
- "No, I do not support the creation of a Unified Support Centre Emergency Essentials Assistance Program levy."

Moved: A. Rohacek

Seconded: R. Awad

Councillors vote by show of hands.

17 yays, 0 nays

Motion to Declare a Position on the USC Referendum (C-29)

Whereas, the Unified Support Centre is one of the Association's, if not the, most valuable and widely-utilized direct-aid services;

And whereas, the USC's Emergency Essentials Assistance Program, which provides essential food, hygiene and health products to students in need, has had a substantial increase in usage since pre-pandemic levels;

And whereas, the USC requires broader funding from the student body in order to sustain and expand its services to students that so greatly need these basic living essentials;

Be it resolved, that the Association officially endorse and support by any means deemed appropriate the “YES” campaign in the upcoming USC Emergency Essentials Assistance Program levy referendum.

Moved: M. Huynh **Seconded:** R. Awad

Councillors vote by show of hands.

17 yays, 0 nays

Motion to Adopt the Student Initiative Fund Policy (C-30)

Whereas, the current policy governing the Student Initiative Fund, [Bylaw VII](#), is set to expire in February 2024;

And Whereas, if no new policy governing the Student Initiative Fund is passed, the Fund will cease to exist;

And Whereas, the Governance and Council Operations Committee voted unanimously in recommending that Council adopt this policy;

Be it resolved, that Council adopts the [Student Initiative Fund Policy](#).

Moved: A. Rohacek **Seconded:** E. Ekeng

Councillors vote by show of hands.

14 yays, 0 nays

Motion to Adopt the Academic Resilience Fund Policy (C-31)

Whereas, the Academic Resilience Fund provides students with a beneficial resource for those suffering from financial hardship caused by unforeseen circumstances;

And whereas, the Academic Resilience Fund did not operate the past academic year but did operate under its current name in 2021/2022 and under the name “Hardship Fund” prior to 2021;

And whereas, the Academic Resilience Fund was previously governed on an ad hoc basis;

And Whereas, the Governance and Council Operations Committee unanimously in recommending that Council adopt this policy;

Be it resolved, that Council adopts the [Academic Resilience Fund Policy](#).

Moved: M. Huynh

Seconded: R. Awad

Councillors vote by show of hands.

15 yays, 0 nays

Motion to Adopt the Accessibility Fund Policy (C-32)

Whereas, the current policy governing the Accessibility Fund, Bylaw VIII, is set to expire in February 2024;

And Whereas, if no new policy governing the Accessibility Fund is passed, the Fund will cease to exist;

And Whereas, the Governance and Council Operations Committee voted unanimously in recommending that Council adopt this policy;

Be it resolved, that Council adopts the [Accessibility Fund Policy](#).

Moved: A. Rohacek

Seconded: E. Ekeng

Councillors vote by show of hands.

17 yays, 0 nays

Motion to Amend the Electoral Code

Moved: M. Huynh

Seconded: K. Solimar Cavero

Councillors vote by show of hands.

17 yays, 0 nays

Motion to Adopt the Electoral Code as Amended (C-33)

Whereas, the Chief Returning Officer has submitted his final report for 2022/2023 to the CUSA Board of Directors;

And Whereas, the Chief Returning Officer's report recommends a series of amendments to the *Electoral Code* in the following areas: definition of an eligible voter, campaign postering policy, campaign finance policy, and endorsements;

And Whereas, the Governance and Council Operations Committee voted unanimously in recommending that Council adopt this policy;

Be it resolved, that Council adopts the [Electoral Code](#) as amended.

Moved: R. Awad

Seconded: M. Huynh

Councillors vote by show of hands.

16 yays, 0 nays

Motion to Adopt the Judicial Policy (C-34)

Whereas, the *Judicial Policy* is set for regular review,

And Whereas, the CUSA Board of Directors has completed its review and has made its [recommendations](#).

And Whereas, the Governance and Council Operations Committee voted unanimously in recommending that Council adopt this policy;

Be it resolved, that Council adopts the amendments to the *Judicial Policy* and returns the policy to the Board of Directors.

Moved: A. Rohacek

Seconded: R. Awad

Councillors vote by show of hands.

13 yays, 0 nays

Motion to Adopt the Long-Term Strategic Plan Policy (C-35)

Whereas, the *Long-Term Strategic Plan Policy* is set for regular review,

And Whereas, the CUSA Board of Directors has completed its review and has made its [recommendations](#).

And Whereas, the Governance and Council Operations Committee voted unanimously in recommending that Council adopt this policy;

Be it resolved, that Council adopts the recommendations of the Board of Directors to the *Long-Term Strategic Plan Policy* and makes no further amendments.

Moved: M. Huynh

Seconded: A. Rohacek

Councillors vote by show of hands.

14 yays, 0 nays

Motion to Appoint Two Councilors to the Academic Resilience Fund Committee (C-36)

Whereas, there are two vacancies in the Academic Resilience Fund Committee.

Be it resolved, that Council appoints the following individuals to the Academic Resilience Fund Committee:

Nominees:

- Michael Huynh

Moved: A. Rohacek

Seconded: M. Faris

Councillors vote by show of hands.

15 yays, 0 nays

Motion to Appoint a Councillor to the Executive Composition Committee (C-37)

Whereas, a vacancy has occurred in the Executive Composition Committee.

Be it resolved, that Council appoints Edi Ekeng to the Executive Composition Committee.

Moved: R. Awad

Seconded: K. Solimar Caverro

Councillors vote by show of hands.

13 yays, 0 nays

Motion to Confirm New Board Directors (C-38)

Whereas, the Board Nominating Committee has completed its process and has recommended the appointment of Willem Fraser and Ruth Nobossi to fill vacancies on the CUSA Board of Directors.

Be it resolved, that Council confirms the appointment of Willem Fraser and Ruth Nobossi to the CUSA Board of Directors.

Moved: M. Huynh

Seconded: E. Udo

Councillors vote by show of hands.

15 yays, 0 nays

Motion to Remove a Councillor

Whereas, Councillor Bakshi has missed a total of three (3) Council meetings and Council training, without submitting a proxy or regrets, in addition to being unresponsive to email communications

And Whereas, the Speaker of Council has followed the Councillor Accountability and Discipline Policy in providing multiple warnings to the Councillor on attendance.

And Whereas, written notice to the Councillor has been provided regarding a motion for his removal pursuant to sections 5.7 through 5.10 of the CUSA Bylaws.

Be it resolved that, Councillor Addy Bakshi be removed from his position effective immediately and the vacacny be contested in the upcoming by-election.



carleton university
students' association

Moved: M. Faris

Seconded: Z. Munira

Councillors vote by show of hands.

14 yays, 0 nays

11. Adjournment

- a. Motion to Adjourn to a Specific Time (C-38)

Be it resolved, that Council adjourns until 6pm the 30th of October, and that this shall constitute for the purposes of the *Act* and our *Bylaws*, prior notice.

Moved: R. Awad

Seconded: E. Udo