

**BOARD OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, November 6, 2023 – 11:30 am
McGreer 100, Bishop's University, Sherbrooke, Quebec

ATTENDANCE:

Name	Position	P/R/A*	Attendance P/R/A
Sophia Stacey	President	P	4-0-0
Christine Lépine	VP, Academic Affairs	P	4-0-0
Olivia Woods	VP, Student Life	P	4-0-0
Brandon Leblanc	Director of Finance	P	4-0-0
Bryn Empey	Director of Events	P	4-0-0
Taylor Morgan	General Councilor	P	3-0-0
Sasha Kardos-Machado	General Councilor	P	3-0-0
Roser Rise	First Year Rep	Regrets	2-1-0
Sarah Jewett	On-Campus Rep	P	3-0-0
Chloé Rouleau	Environmental Sustainability Rep	P	3-0-1
Irma Susset	Equity Rep	P	4-0-0
Irmah Alao	Ethnic Diversity Rep	P	3-0-0
Marie Constance Hountondji	Health & Wellness Rep	Regrets	2-1-1
Drew Henkel	Indigenous Student Rep	P	4-0-0
Fiona Gaombalet	International Student Rep	P	3-0-0
Cleo Wulder	Business Senator	P	4-0-0
Martina Berkers	Education Senator	P	4-0-0
Elodie Lescuré	Graduate Student Senator	P	3-1-0
Sonoma Brawley	Humanities Senator	P	3-1-0
Sienna Longo	Natural Sciences Senator	P	4-0-0
Chelsea Sheridan	Social Sciences Senator	P	4-0-0
Jordan Messier	Chair	P	3-0-0
Erin Mallory	General Manager	P	4-0-0
Karen Dymond	Secretary General	P	4-0-0

*P=Present, R=sent their regrets, A=Absent

*As per Specific Bylaw 13.10.ii, electronic participation is noted in the minutes.

Observers / Guests: Alex Mador, Toast Radio Manager

1.0 Opening

1.1 Welcome & Confirmation of Quorum

Jordan called the meeting to order at 11:30 am and welcomed our guest to the meeting. Quorum was confirmed with 17 voting members present.

1.2 Land Acknowledgement

Chelsea offered a Land Acknowledgement.

1.3 Approval of the agenda

MOTION: Moved by Christina, seconded by Sarah, to approve the agenda as presented. CARRIED (17-0-0).

1.4 Approval of previous minutes – October 16, 2023

MOTION: Moved by Sasha, seconded by Irmah, to approve the minutes of the meeting held October 16, 2023, as presented. CARRIED (17-0-0).

2.0 Filling vacancies on BSR

No current vacancies.

3.0 Departmental Updates

Written reports were circulated in advance. Instead of offering verbal reports, questions were invited.

- 3.1 President – Sophia announced that she and Christina will attend CASA's Advocacy Week and invited BSR members to provide input on any issues that they want raised at the national or provincial level.
- 3.2 Vice-President of Academic Affairs – Christina shared that Student Success Week will be voted on at the next Senate in November, to decide if fall reading week will be permanent.
- 3.3 Vice-President of Student Life – Olivia made members aware of opportunities to volunteer. She is working with Erin regarding reports of drink spiking occurring recently. In collaboration with the VP Student Affairs, and to improve student safety, Naloxone Kits will be placed around campus.
- 3.4 Director of Finance – Brandon shared that he is doing cost/benefit analysis of SRC events and activities if the government's tuition increases affect enrolment, as lower enrolment would significantly decrease the SRC's budget.
- 3.5 Director of Events – Bryn provided a recap on the success of FallFest and the collaboration with Recruitment for Open House.
- 3.6 Toast Radio Manager – Alex highlighted his shows and partnerships he is trying to create. He invited BSR members to contact him to do a show. He will be back for the next meeting to discuss new branding for the radio.

4.0 Reports from Standing Committees / Recurring Items

4.1 Club Motions (Olivia) – None.

4.2 Gaiter Grants Committee (Brandon) – There will be grants to approve at next week's BSR.

4.3 Appointments Committee

4.3.1 Ratification of committee appointments

A complete list of appointments was provided in advance of the meeting.

Sophia reported that senate appointments were finalized over the summer, other committees were filled in consultation with various board members.

Élodie asked if there were still positions to be filled that board members could

help with. Sophia asked that she discuss with Christina. Sexual Culture Committee doesn't currently have a board member on it, Olivia has been filling that role but it would be good to have a Board member – asked for someone to take on this role; speak to Olivia or Sophia if interested.

MOTION: Moved by Taylor, seconded by Cleo, to ratify the committee appointments as presented. CARRIED (17-0-0).

- 4.4 Green Levy Committee – Chloé reported that they held an info session last week and will have another this week. The first meeting will be in early December to evaluate project applications.
- 4.5 Residence Student Life Committee – Olivia reached out to Residence Life to add individuals to the committee. The first meeting will be organized soon.
- 4.6 Mental Health Committee (Marie Constance) – Nothing to report.
- 4.7 EDI Committee (Irma/Irmah) – Nothing to report.

5.0 Reports from Ad-Hoc Committees

- 5.1 Finance Committee (Brandon) – Nothing to report but need 4 students to sit on the committee. Invited BSR members to apply if they are interested.
- 5.2 Gait Renovation Consultation Committee – Brandon presented the mandate and proposed membership- the GM, GMOS, Dir of Events, Gait Staff, a BSR member and a student at large.
- 5.3 Menstrual Equity Committee – Olivia reported that the committee met for the very first time a week ago. They reviewed steps and created timeline for implementation. They met with the head of Custodial team and products will be placed in bathrooms across campus.
- 5.4 SafeDrive Committee – Sophia reported that the committee met once in October. They developed a list of tasks and divided tasks up to complete before the next meeting in a few weeks. They would like to launch the service in February.
- 5.5 Sexual Culture Committee – Olivia reported that the Chairs would like the SCC would like to become a standing committee of the SRC. They will present this to the board at a future meeting. Nov 9 is Take Back The Night, starting at 6:30 pm in Optimist Field.
- 5.6 Proposal to Strike Environmental Policy Committee – – Chloe and Olivia recommended rewriting the SRC Environmental Policy (2012) and Green Event Checklist that any SRC event or SRC Extra Group event needs to follow. In its current state, the checklist is unachievable. Both documents will be updated and presented to the BSR for approval.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Chloe, to strike the Environmental Policy Ad-Hoc Committee. CARRIED (17-0-0).

6.0 Question Period

It was suggested that BSR members be added at this time to the committees that have openings. The floor was opened for volunteers.

Sash and Drew will join the Gait Consultation Committee.

Cleo and Irmah will join the Sexual Culture Committee.

Sarah will join the Environmental Policy Committee.

Cleo will send an email invitation to students in the Williams School of Business for the Finance Committee.

7.0 Unfinished Business

7.1 New Group Status – proposed addition to Operating Policy Section 3: Extracurricular Groups
Olivia presented an addition to the SRC Operating Policy Section 3: Extracurricular Groups to include a category of New Group Status. This matches the SRC Extra Manual adopted at the last BSR.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Sasha, that the SRC Operating Policies Section 3: Extracurricular Groups be changed as follows:

Part II: Creation of new groups, 4 e:

To strike “probation period” and replace it with “New Group Status”.

Part III: Group Status, 2 a, Probationary Status:

To strike “A new group is automatically placed on probationary status upon ratification”.

Part III: Group Status:

To add the following, between Sloth Status and Dissolution:

4. New Group Status
 - a. A new group will be automatically placed on *New Group Status* upon ratification for a four-month period.
 - b. Groups will remain on *New Group Status* until four (4) months from the ratification date as determined by the SRCCEM.

During this four (4) month period, the following rules apply:

 - They will not be permitted to create group merchandise.
 - They will not be permitted to access the major or minor grants from the Gaiter Grants Committee but will be eligible to apply for only the New Group Grant.
 - They are permitted to use free print credits.
 - At the discretion of the SRCCEM, groups may be permitted to fundraise and use SRC services as outlined in Article 4 of the Manual.
 - c. At the end of the four (4) month period, the Group will present to the Board of Student Representatives what they have achieved and demonstrate the continuity of their Group to obtain *Active Group Status*. Groups are encouraged to work alongside the SRCCEM to accomplish this.

MOTION CARRIED (17-0-0).

7.2 Tuition Crisis – Update and Discussion

Sophia provided an update on the status of the tuition crisis and the SRC's response to date: Bishop's stands to lose approximately 90% of out-of-province students, which are 30% of our student population. This would result in significantly less income for the SRC, less budget for events and services from both SRC and Bishop's. The proposed increase could impact the survival of Bishop's and impacts students' sense of belonging.

An Open Letter was published in major media and local media outlets.

Through meetings with McGill and Concordia's student unions, it was decided to put forth one unified petition. The petition can be found on the Assemblée Nationale du Quebec website at <https://www.assnat.qc.ca/en/exprimez-votre-opinion/petition/Petition-10517/index.html>. It was launched on Oct 27 and is open until Nov 27, with the goal of 30,000 signatures, currently at 12,000 signatures. The petition will be presented to the Assemblée within weeks of the close of the petition.

The protest in Montreal on Monday October 30 was organized by independent students and Bishop's had approximately 200 students plus staff and faculty in attendance. The SRC sent 4 buses of students and Bishop's sent a bus for staff and faculty.

The SRC had a presence at the Community Leaders' Press Conference on Tuesday October 31.

A discussion was held, resulting in the key ideas listed below:

Mobilization in Quebec City, perhaps when the petition is presented in Quebec City.

Mobilization on-campus or nearby, since not everyone could go to Montreal.

BSR could have a table in the SUB promoting the petition.

Posters printed with QR code up around campus.

Opportunities at Advocacy Week to reach out to the national level and to other provinces.

Reach out to smaller universities - QSU represents mainly large universities, but not the smaller ones.

Brendan contacted all of the universities and CEGEPS in Quebec by email to share the petition.

BSR members and students can reach out to their high schools or home communities to get those students involved in the petition.

MOTION: Moved by Sophia, seconded by Sonoma, to strike an Ad-Hoc Committee for Tuition Increase Response that will be in place until the issue is resolved or until the end of the 2023-24 term, with 6 BSR members with the SRC President as chair. CARRIED (17-0-0).

Board members who will participate on this committee are Sonoma, Martina, Chloé, Sarah, Chelsea, and Sophia. The committee will present a written document clarifying their role at the next BSR. Sienna volunteered as an alternate for the committee.

For future crises and issues, it was suggested that the BSR create a procedure for establishing a stance on an issue. Élodie had ideas with how the SRC can respond in a more inclusive way. A consultation with grad students who have been involved with other student unions may be considered for input on this idea.

8.0 New Business

None.

9.0 Any other business / Announcements / Toot Your Own Horn

Sarah invited members to a Murder Mystery event on Friday in Patterson.

Sonoma announced that the Whit & Wimsey Group, in collaboration with English Department and the Art Hive are hosting a Poetry Hive and all are invited.

Blood Drive is November 8 and volunteers are needed.

Jordan asked for input on Informal Board Bonding events that you may be interested in. Members requested doing a poll for availability. It was suggested that Poley, a feature on TEAMS, be used.

10.0 Date of Next Meeting – November 13, 2023 – 11:30 am – 1:00 pm, McGreer 100.

11.0 Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Sarah, to adjourn the meeting. CARRIED (17-0-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.