

AGENDA

Opening Plenary

November 2015 National General Meeting

1. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

The Federation's Bylaws require that no less than one-half of the voting members of the Federation having voting rights be present in-person or by-proxy at the general meeting for business to be conducted. A roll call of the voting members will be taken to determine attendance and to confirm that a quorum of voting members is present.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROXIES

A voting member that is unable to attend some or all of the general meeting may appoint another voting member to act as its proxy at the meeting in accordance with Bylaw III. Any appointments will be announced at this time.

3. RATIFICATION OF PLENARY SPEAKER

The plenary is the formal decision-making assembly at the general meeting. The Plenary Speaker chairs general meeting plenary sessions.

4. WELCOMING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS

5. ADOPTION OF THE PLENARY AGENDA

The plenary will consider the plenary agenda prepared by the National Executive. Any changes or additions to the agenda may be proposed at this time.

6. ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

The plenary will consider the proposed schedule for the four days of the general meeting. Any changes or additions to the agenda may be proposed at this time.

7. ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The plenary will consider the minutes of the previous national general meeting.

8. OVERVIEW OF PROCEDURES

- a. Rules of Order and Plenary Procedures**
- b. Anti-Harassment Procedures for the General Meeting**
- c. Presentation by the Federation's Staff Relations Officer**

9. PREPARATIONS FOR ELECTIONS

The Nominating Committee will provide an overview of the election schedule and procedures at this time.

10. ADOPTION OF STANDING PLENARY SUB-COMMITTEE AGENDAS

As per Standing Resolution 1, Section 1, the following plenary sub-committees and forum are automatically struck:

- Budget Committee;
- Campaigns and Government Relations Forum;
- Organisational and Services Development Committee; and
- Policy Review and Development Committee.

PAGE 2 – OPENING PLENARY AGENDA

34th Annual National General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services)
Sunday, November 22 to Wednesday, November 25, 2015

The plenary will consider the plenary sub-committee and forum agendas prepared by the National Executive. Any changes or additions to the agendas may be proposed at this time.

11. CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS SERVED WITH DUE NOTICE

The Federation Bylaws require that all motions except those of an emergency or procedural nature be submitted no fewer than six weeks prior to the general meeting at which they are to be considered.

a. New Motions Served with Notice

The following motions were submitted by member local associations with due notice for consideration at this meeting. They will require seconders in the opening plenary.

2015/11:N01 MOTION

Local 8/

Whereas youth unemployment rates are double the national rate; and

Whereas there has been an increase in the number of unpaid internships; and

Whereas minimum wages across the country are failing to keep pace with rising tuition and living costs; and

Whereas there is no effective federal strategy to tackle youth unemployment and underemployment; and

Whereas our members are directly impacted by rising youth unemployment, erosion of entry level paid work, and declining job quality; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation develop a campaign aimed at addressing youth unemployment and underemployment, including the following pillars: action on unpaid internships, a living wage of \$15.00 per hour, and a feasible national youth jobs strategy; and

Be it further resolved that this campaign include short, medium, and long term goals; and

Be it further resolved that this campaign be proposed at the National General Meeting in June 2016.

2015/11:N02 MOTION

Local 8/

Whereas the Ethical Purchasing Network (EPN) exists to provide materials that are ethically produced; and

Whereas the EPN helps member local students' unions purchase goods at a local rate; and

Whereas a significant portion of the Federation's membership endures extremely cold winters; and

Whereas member local students' unions have noticed an increase in requests for winter apparel; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation's Ethical Purchasing Network include the following items: mittens, scarves, tuques and hoodies/sweatshirts; and

Be it further resolved that these new items be made available for fall orientation 2016; and

Be it further resolved that these new items can be customized.

2015/11:N03 MOTION

Local 8/

Whereas ISIC UK offers a considerable range of discounts; and

Whereas ISIC UK boasts incredibly usage; and

Whereas ISIC UK offers many high quality discounts; and

Whereas the quality and quantity of discounts offered by ISIC UK exceeds ISIC Canada; therefore

Be it resolved that the National Executive be tasked with investigating the techniques and strategies employed by the UK's National Union of Students (NUS); and

Be it further resolved that the Executive-at-Large establish a stronger relationship with the NUS to aid in the study of ISIC UK's success and to build international solidarity between students.

2015/11:N04

MOTION

Local 78/

Whereas the National Graduate Caucus (NGC) has a campaign focused on the corporatization of universities, which has not been updated for several years; and

Whereas the corporatization campaign of the NGC focuses primarily on the commercialization of research and space on campus, but does not address the ways in which universities are increasingly governed as for-profit corporations and the limiting of democratic participation by students, faculty, and campus staff; and

Whereas the corporatization campaign of the NGC highlights important issues but is impersonal and without practical goals, making it difficult for locals to use the campaign as a basis for organizing; therefore

Be it resolved that the corporatization campaign of the National Graduate Caucus (NGC) be expanded to include a focus on academic governance and the rights of students to participate in the affairs of the university; and

Be it further resolved that the corporatization campaign of the NGC be expanded to incorporate practical goals for on-campus organizing; and

Be it further resolved that new materials be developed that connect the corporate agenda to students' everyday experiences on campus.

2015/11:N05

MOTION

Local 35/

Whereas education is a right; and

Whereas students with disabilities face a variety of barriers to accessing post-secondary education; and

Whereas the duty to accommodate is widely recognized in legal jurisprudence and federal and provincial human rights codes; and

Whereas post-secondary institutes have a duty to accommodate the learning needs of students; and

Whereas post-secondary policies and practices do not always live up to an acceptable standard when it comes to upholding the duty to accommodate; and

Whereas in September 2015 a student at Memorial University was denied accommodation by an employee drawing nationwide attention to an institutional failure to live up to the commitment to fully and reasonably accommodate students, therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation undertake an education and action campaign around the need for adequate policies and practices concerning accommodation for students at the post-secondary level.

2015/11:N06

MOTION

Local 35/

Whereas the Federation successfully lobbied Elections Canada to facilitate on campus voting across the country in advance of the federal election; and

Whereas in the first three days of voting more than 42,000 students voted including over 2,000 students at Memorial; and

Whereas the opportunity for students to vote on campus for their home riding will greatly improve the accessibility of voting for students; and

Whereas voting on campus was a pilot project that will likely be evaluated following the federal election; therefore

Be it resolved that Elections Canada be lobbied to make on campus voting a permanent part of its advance voting program, and

Be it further resolved that Elections Canada be lobbied to expand on campus voting to all post-secondary institutions in the country.

2015/11:N07

MOTION

PAGE 4 – OPENING PLENARY AGENDA

34th Annual National General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services)
Sunday, November 22 to Wednesday, November 25, 2015

Local 7/

Whereas marginalized groups face continuous and unique forms of oppression, marginalization, violence, occupation and silencing within our campuses and our communities; and

Whereas education about privilege, intersectionality, and prejudice is not integrated within the majority our education structure or curricula; and

Whereas anti-oppression workshops while useful, are not the definitive solution to combat discrimination within our membership; and

Whereas racialized communities, including students, have been continuously mobilizing on campaign initiatives that combat systemic and institutionalized racism and colonialism, and state sanctioned violence, most recently through campaign initiatives such as Idle No More and Black Lives Matter; and

Whereas racialized communities and anti-racism campaigns have been systematically targeted on and off campus as a means of silencing this important work; and

Whereas racialized students need spaces to be able to talk about their experiences, share stories and support each other in their work both on and off campus to combat racism and colonialism; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation host a national student summit to combat racism and colonialism both on and off campus; and

Be it further resolved the summit coincide with the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on March 21st 2016; and

Be it further resolved that the summit be hosted as a space open only to racialized students, so that they may gather, participate in story telling and share resources on combating racism and colonialism both on and off campus; and

Be it further resolved that an agenda and objectives for the summit be developed in consultation with the national racialized students representative, and the national racialized students constituency group.

2015/11:N08

MOTION

Local 37/

Whereas the OOHLALA Mobile application is not useful; and

Whereas the Federation is paying for a service that isn't benefitting members; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation end its relationship with OOHLALA Mobile as soon as possible.

2015/11:N09

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS

Local 98/

Whereas individual members have the right to start petitions to enter and leave the Federation; and

Whereas the threshold to start a vote to certify is ten percent (10%) of students and the threshold to start a vote to decertify is twenty percent (20%) of students; and

Whereas the decertification petition requires double the amount of signatures compared to the certification petition; and

Whereas the amount of signatures required to start a decertification petition is unreasonably high for larger Locals to obtain; and

Whereas the decertification process nevertheless entails a democratic referendum posed to a membership following the petition; and

Whereas members have the right to accessible, democratic bylaws; therefore

Be it resolved that the bylaws be amended such that a petition to start a vote on decertification can be called by fifteen percent (15%) of members; and

Be it further resolved that Bylaw 1.3 a. iii be amended to read as follows:

The students collectively belonging to a local student association will have sole authority to initiate a vote on decertification, as described in Bylaw I, Section 6, by submitting to the

National Executive of the Federation a petition, signed by not less than fifteen percent (15%) of such students, calling for the vote.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw 1.6 be amended to reflect this change and that the first paragraph of Bylaw 1.6 be amended to read as follows:

As per Bylaw I, Section 3.a.iii a petition calling for a vote on decertification shall be signed by no less than fifteen percent (15%) of the students collectively belonging to the member local student association and delivered to the National Executive of the Federation.

Be it further resolved that any other reference to this threshold in any operating documents or publications of the Federation be amended to reflect this change

2015/11:N10

MOTION

Local 38/

Whereas the Federation is composed of member local students' unions; and

Whereas the member local students' unions create complimentary and original Federation campaigns; and

Whereas the Federation is stronger when we are united and in solidarity;

Whereas open access to information is valued in the Federation; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation fast-track and launch an information portal that includes, blogs, video posting, messaging, graphic design and other relevant materials.

2015/11:N11

MOTION

Local 69/

Whereas the quality of French post-secondary education varies from one institution to the other; and

Whereas some students who enrolled in a programme in French end up having to complete the programme in English; and

Whereas the members of the Francophone Students Constituency Group and the Bilingualism Forum have had several discussions about the importance of accessible post-secondary education for francophone students; therefore,

Be it resolved that a working group be created to examine the state of post-secondary education in French in Canada.

12. PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

As per Bylaw V, Section 2-f., the National Executive will present a report to the plenary detailing the work of the Federation undertaken since the previous national general meeting.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

15. RECESS