#### Board Meeting

Brandon University Students’ Union, Local 37 of the Canadian Federation of Students

**Friday January 29th, 2016 at 5 PM** – CLC Boardroom, Knowles Douglas Centre

1. **CALL TO ORDER at 5:04pm.**
2. **OPENINGS**

Those present at the meeting shall introduce themselves at this time. Regrets shall be noted.

*Present:* Nick Brown, Rhoni Mohanraj, Nataly Ore, Mercedes McLean, Jillian Vanderheiden, Mairo Ahmadu, Racheal Wu, Sheyenne Spence, Suz McFadden, Jenna Nordenbos (Illuminate), Ashlyn Pearce (The Quill)  
 *Regrets:* Jocelyn Bruce, Tyler Lischinski, Sarah Wallace

*Absent: Olumjumu Kayode Sugun*

1. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion (15-BUSU-165)** Spence/Ahmadu CARRIED  ***Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted***

**Motion to amend (15-BUSU-166)** Spence/Ahmadu CARRIED

***Be it resolved that the agenda be amended to add the following under New Business: d)KDC Appointment.***

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
2. **PRESENTATIONS AND CORRESPONDANCE**

Illuminate- Club Status Request: Jenna Nordenbos

Nordenbos said that Illuminate is a group comprised of students and some community members. The purpose of this group is to do random acts of kindness because of God’s love. What they have done so far is just handing out free stuff to students. They have handed out free coffee and hot chocolate. They want to build community between the students. Said that there is an individual from off campus who has started a church here and he wanted a way to interact with the university students as well and let them know that they have support outside of the university. Said that they held their first event to let people know who they are as a group. Said that the random acts of kindness are for anyone. They don’t have to be religious. They just want to do nice things for people. They would eventually like to team up with BUSU and be a support for BUSU events like “Crash the Courtyard” and the Holiday Potluck. Said that they want to put on a fun event at the end of each year, this year they are planning a BBQ for students.

Brown said that Illuminate has been denied club status twice based on the fact that council had some questions. This is the opportunity for council to ask some of these questions.

Wu said that the application states that it’s nondenominational, but then it’s quoting Christian scripture.

Nordenbos said that they are nondenominational in the way that anyone can join, but this Christian scripture is because of the current group of people who are running it. The people who have created the group are a group of Christians.

Spence said that she doesn’t see the difference between Illuminate and VCF.

Nordenbos said that VCF is a place where people who are already Christians can go for their weekly prayer and Bible sessions. Illuminate is not for preaching the gospel at people, they want to show people that just because they identify as Christian doesn’t mean that they are going to talk to you about God. Said that they just want to do nice things for people because they are Christians. Said that the reason that they want club status is because it makes it a lot easier to join up with other clubs at the university. Said that way they can hold joint events with other groups.

Spence asked how many people in the group are community members.

Nordenbos said that all of the executive members are BU students. There is really only one off campus person who supplies funding for the group for mentorship purposes. The rest of the membership is about 50% community and 50% students. It’s basically just for anyone who wants to come. Said that the church that they have been in communication with is called Sons and Daughters.

Vanderheiden said that the only difference she is seeing between Illuminate and Varsity Christian Fellowship is the random acts of kindness.

Nordenbos said that they had asked to work under VCF, but that they turned them down because they have certain bylaws that they have to follow as they are a chapter under an international group. With Illuminate they aren’t doing the weekly get together, they are just doing things for students. Said that both groups have the same initial belief at their core and that’s what she thinks that people can’t seem to get over, but they are different groups and they express that belief system differently.

Wu said quite a few members who are in Illuminate were on VCF last year. What has created this disconnect?

Nordenbos said that she used to be the President of VCF and they have overlapping members because they formed friendships through VCF. They have different executive members between groups though.

Mohanraj said that if you take the part out where they are Christians, then it’s a totally different club. They are doing random acts of kindness and helping other clubs with events. The overlap people are seeing is that it’s based on Christianity. VCF is a larger organization, just like with the ENACTUS group. ENACTUS can’t have other groups form under them just because there is another club that wants to be under them because they are completely different. Said that everything they do is different.

Nordenbos said that they are there for people who want to believe in Jesus, but they aren’t talking to people about it unless they want to. Said that people can just take what they have to give out if they’re wanting it and then they can just keep walking. They want to make sure that the atmosphere is open to everyone and that it’s not secluded off to certain people or for people to feel like they can only be there because they’re Christian already. Said that in VCF they had to monitor a little more what people we saying when they were sharing, but in Illuminate they want to encourage people to talk about whatever they want to talk about.

Spence asked for the significance of the name Illuminate.

Nordenbos said that they chose Illuminate because God talks about his followers being a light for him. The reason that they chose Illuminate is because they want to fill the university with the light of God in a sense, but through God’s love. The reason we want to do all of these things for students and humble themselves is because of the fact that God loves them so much. It’s about shining for God.

Vanderheiden asked what will be given to students. Will they be Christian based handouts? Wants clarity.

Nordenbos said on their list of handouts are: hot chocolate, coffee, soup, movie tickets, iPads. Never once did they mention handing out Bibles, Tracks, or any of those things. Said that there are already a number of other people who do that sort of thing, so they don’t need to create another group that does that. Said that the cups have Illuminate stickers on them. Said students who take pictures with their coffee cups with their stickers next week will be entered in to win a prize. Said that last time they handed out coffee people were asking them why and they said that they we doing it “just because” and that there was no catch. Said that they feel that there isn’t enough kindness between people just for the sake of it anymore and they want to represent that there are still people out there that care about being kind to one another.

Vanderheiden wanted to confirm that they won’t be handing out scripture or anything that could offend other students or make them feel excluded or discriminated against.

Nordenbos said that their first event was called “Discover Your Purpose” where they didn’t mention anything about Christianity. They just held a trivia night for students where they had questions that surrounded important people (ie: Amelia Earhart). They just gave out prizes to people for coming, free coffee and dainties. Their posters just said “Learn more about Illuminate: Food, Friends, and Fun” they don’t want it to be plastered saying “We believe in God, so you should believe in God too.” They don’t want to be sneaky with it either. If people ask them why they are doing this they want to say that it’s because God loves them and has called them to spread that love by doing things on this earth.

Wu asked when Illuminate started and since they started have they made any attempts to bring in other religions or cultures as a nondenominational group.

Nordenbos said that they started in September. Said that they have been talking to people with their free coffee, but they haven’t approached other groups yet because they wanted to wait until they had club status before they did that. They thought they’d have a better response with club status. Said that they really wanted to make different connections with different clubs.

Mohanraj said that he just sees this club as pure student engagement. He sees it as a group that just wants to throw events that will enhance student life. Said if he had to walk into VCF to be a member he wouldn’t know anything about Christianity, said if he walked into Illuminate he could just be a student and be a part of improving student life on campus.

1. **RECEIPT OF REPORTS**

* 1. **Executive Members and Staff**

Interim President’s Report:  
  
Brown said since last week they had a Harry Potter marathon all week. Also met with Jenna Nordenbos to talk about Illuminate. Had Senate and CAP. In CAP they discussed the goals and objectives of what CAP should be and it’s going to be a long process. On Friday he and Vanderheiden met with Tom Brophy. They had the BOG sub-committees. Last Saturday at Board of Governors they voted on the bookstore changeover and it passed with a 10 (yes) to 1 (no) vote. He was the no vote and asked for it to be recorded. On Monday he, Vanderheiden, and McFadden had a meeting with Dean Care about issues that Winnipeg students were having. It was also Mental Health Week this week with a number of successful events: Laughter Yoga, Therapy Dogs, Massage Clinic, and workshops. Had an Alumni meeting where they also discussed the roles and the objectives of the committee. On Tuesday Winnipeg students came and he gave them a tour of campus. He and Ore went and did bank related tasks with term deposits. Said that he an Mohanraj had a meeting with BU Students for Life about their club status. Had a meeting with members of CAP about non-credit certificate programs, such as: Success One and Student Leadership. Both were approved so you can get a piece of paper saying that you were part of those groups and have it show up on your transcript.

Vice-President External’s Report:

Mohanraj said that all of the club executives will be meeting with him some time next week. Said that they are giving clubs a centralized place of contact so that students know how to contact the clubs each year when there are new people. They are working on a structure for club applications. He’ll be starting planning for Multicultural Day or Week based on interest. Planning a few events to host in SUDS.

Interim Vice-President Internal’s Report:

Vanderheiden said she helped plan Mental Health Week and it went great thanks to everyone’s participation and McFadden’s planning. We even had a student post on BUSU saying “Dear BUSU, Thank you for the amazing Mental Health Week.” So it was great to see us get the recognition for that. Had a meeting with Dean Care about Winnipeg students and had a meeting with Tom Brophy. She’s been working on Family Fun Friday and had a meeting with Betty from the Library and she’s going to do something that day. Met with Michelle Besette and she’s going to connect her with 4H and a musical group. Said she is going to do face painting and balloon animals. She’s been talking with Katie from Student Services to ask her about using some Student Services people that day. Courtney Adams (who ran the Mature Student Orientation this year), she’s going to run a networking event for parents. She spoke with Kullberg’s about the cardboard that they said that they would donate for the fort. She’s booked the gym for physical activity. Booked Bailey the Bobcat to be at the gym during the physical activity so that the kids can play with the mascot that day. She’s going to be sending out donation request letters to help with lunch. Said that she will have SUDS and Food Services to show some quotes to see where they can get it cheaper. Said she’s been doing a lot with Mental Health Week this week.

General Manager’s Report:

Ore said that she and Brown went to do the term deposits for the last motion that was passed. Got some information for getting a credit card for BUSU because we are finding that most of the subscriptions that we need for the office require a credit card on file. It’s sometimes not really okay to be asking employees to put their credit card on file for these things so it may be time to get a BUSU credit card. She will keep council updated on the process. Imagenous Poster Sale is all finalized for next week. Met with the RO Krystal Kayne to go over some of the preliminary work for the elections. Going to meet again this evening so that the nomination packages are ready for Monday. Was able to help out with the Massage Clinic today and got great student feedback. Students really enjoyed it so we should keep doing this for students as it was a direct benefit for students. Said we could look into doing it around exams.

Office & Services Manager’s Report:

McFadden said that she’s been attending a few meetings with executive members that have already been mentioned. Has been attending “Yes Means Yes” meetings and they are getting things ready for the Sexual and Reproductive Health Week (#ConsentAsk4It). Had a meeting with the Women’s Collective the other day and they have done a lot of work in terms of getting the Collective up and running again. We’re going to be training willing, female staff to go up to the Women’s Collective when office hours may not be being held in the Collective office. They have packages that are pre-made for students that have tampons, pads, condoms, and more. She’s been doing shopping and running around with Vanderheiden buying things for Mental Health Week and the Food Bank. Has mostly been busy with Mental Health Week. Said she did staff reviews with the OA’s this week. All of our OA’s had really exceptional staff reviews, and if any council members want to stop by to review them, they are welcome to. Vanderheiden has been a great help with Mental Health Week and has certainly helped us all in the office. We’ve had some really great events this week. Had students show up to the workshops this week that are new faces that we haven’t seen at BUSU events.

* 1. **Canadian Federation of Students Local Representative Report**
  2. **Director Reports**
     1. Arts Director: No report.
     2. Science Director: Vacant.
     3. Health Studies Director:   
          
        Ukasoanya said that the Winnipeg students who came for the campus tour said that the tour was excellent. They wanted to extend a huge thank you to BUSU for their concern and quick response as sometimes they feel disconnected. BUSU made them feel like they were important and still part of the Brandon community. They are planning a Valentines Day event at the Winnipeg campus.
     4. Music Director: No report.
     5. Education Director: No report.
     6. Part-Time/Mature Students Director: No report.
     7. Indigenous Peoples’ Director:   
          
        Spence said she’s been super busy getting things organized in the IPC. She’s happy to say that they will be getting a new IPC Director. Hopes that with this round of hiring they will actually take the opinions of people seriously. She has been very vocal about how student success in the IPC is really dependent on having good supports and it has been lacking ever since Rhonda left.
     8. Women’s Director:   
          
        Wu said that the Women’s Collective has a social for Sexual and Reproductive Health Week on Friday February 12th. She wanted to ask council to help out if they are available. The Women’s Collective is all stocked up. There are baggies created for student visits, they get one per visit. It’s not to limit people from accessing the products, but it’s to make sure that we have enough for everyone as some people have taken all of it at once. People can come back each day. There are bags with menstrual cycle stuff that has information about Diva Cups and the Women’s Collective. There’s one for sexual health which has male and female condoms. There are pregnancy tests and Diva Cups. First official meeting was held two weeks ago and it was only her and Tomchak, but they didn’t expect many people at the first meeting. This week she attended the Gender and Women’s Studies Alliance meeting. They spoke about a few events that they are planning. She’s excited about some of the events that they are planning. The CFS Consent Culture Forum is coming up and they have 10 people from Brandon attending including her and Bruce from council.
     9. Sex and Gender Identity Based Director: Vacant.
     10. International Students Director:   
           
         Ahmadu said that she has been planning Black History Month with Ore and Mohanraj.
     11. Residence Director:   
           
         McLean said that last weekend Flora Cowan had their Winter Fun day and it went really well. They had high school kids come and spend a night and go to a Bobcat game two weeks ago and the kids seemed to enjoy it. Academic Residents Assistants are having a promotional event on Tuesday, February 2nd at 5:30pm. It’s a meet & greet with a Sundae Bar. RA selections for next year is coming up. Interviews will be on February 9th. Darrach Hall is planning an event which will be a Beer & Wings/Wine & Cheese Night in their lounge. Flora is having their Graffiti Social on February 26th. All three councils are looking into getting memorabilia for their residences.
     12. Graduate Studies Director: Vacant.
     13. Accessibility Director: Vacant.
     14. Racialized Director: Vacant.

**Motion (15-BUSU-167)** McLean/Spence CARRIED  ***Be it resolved that the reports be adopted.***

1. **REGULAR AGENDA TOPICS**
2. **Campaigns and Government Relations**
   1. **All Candidates Debate**Brown said that he has been talking to Michael Barkman who is the Chairperson for CFS MB, Dr. Kelly Saunders, Dr. Meir Serfaty in Political Science, and a representative from The Council of Canadian’s Brandon Chapter about getting an All Candidates Debate together for the provincial election that will be happening in March. We have a meeting next week about it. They plan to do a debate with both Brandon East and West combined. They will be updated with dates soon.
3. **Student Groups Promotions and Affairs**
4. **Student Services**
5. **Finance**Ore said that the two term deposits that were done, one was $75,000.00 maturing May 1st, 2016. The other was $75,000.00 which matures August 1st, 2016.
6. **Student Activities**
7. **OLD BUSINESS**
8. **Elimination of Slates**

Brown said that this is still on the agenda as we had tabled it from the last meeting. We’re discussing eliminating slates from BUSU’s election process. If we don’t have a resolution on this today, then we will be allowing slates in the election that starts on Monday.

**Motion (15-BUSU-168)** Spence/Mohanraj CARRIED  ***Be it resolved that we eliminate slates.***

McLean asked if we are one of the only student unions that still has slates.

Brown said that we are one of the few. There are few student associations and unions that still have them. Some of the larger institutions still have slates and they work for them when they have 20 people running for positions. At a smaller institution it doesn’t seem to work as well and it can be undemocratic.

Wu said most slates have run unopposed in the past few years. Doesn’t really make sense to have slates if people are unopposed.

1. **Winnipeg Campus Water Fountain**

Brown said that we had a meeting with Dean Care and the next day Winnipeg students were on campus and we had an answer. University of Winnipeg has recently installed a water fountain with bottle fill. It’s located outside the women’s washroom off the ELP corridor and it can be accessed easily as it’s by the BU washroom. It’s a new section of the Rice Building that just finished renovations.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**

* 1. **KDC to SUDS Levy Referendum**

BUSU exec was tasked by the KDC board to discuss & put forward a referendum (and its wording) asking students if they still want a part of their KDC fee to go towards SUDS. This referendum needs to be passed at a council meeting before February 12th (last day for 1st nomination period) in order to be considered in the BUSU Elections. Currently as it stands, "Knowles Douglas Student Union Centre pays fees annually to The Students Union Drinking Spot Inc. These fees are calculated as $0.10 per credit hour of classes taken by students. The amount was approved through a referendum by the students of Brandon University.”

Brown said that this came up at a KDC meeting last month. Said that the KDC Board was confused as to why they were paying SUDS approximately $5000.00 a year when they’re tenants. Our auditors told us that it was passed by referendum to have money paid to SUDS.

Ore said that this is different than the SUDS levy that already exists through SUDS. This is a levy that it paid through the KDC to SUDS and not to SUDS directly. KDC said if a levy already exists for SUDS, then they aren’t understanding why they’re still paying this levy as well.

McFadden said that students will still be paying the same amount in building fees even if that amount doesn’t go to SUDS.

Ore said that the KDC Board wants to see what students are feeling now as they might have felt that the money should go to SUDS back then, and the might not now. Said that they want to make sure that students know that this happens.

Vanderheiden said that SUDS has been losing money and if we take away that $5000.00 they are even further in the hole.

McLean asked if we are voting on what the question is or whether or not to do it.

Brown said both.

Ore said no, because it’s a KDC fee. KDC has the right to bring a referendum forward because it’s their fee and we’re essentially wording it. They have given the executive the direction to formulate the wording of the referendum question. It’s not our fee so we can’t tell them that we aren’t going to do it.

McLean said that her concern is that it has taken them this long to understand what this is. How are they going to get enough information out to other students who don’t know what they’re voting for? Said that they might not know that they are paying the money regardless and just vote it down because they think that they are paying less money.

Ore said that that’s why the KDC Board tasked us with the wording, because we know the student body better than the KDC Board does. We would educate students and then have the referendum question. Whether it passes or not is up to students.

McLean asked if when the KDC Board requested this, were they aware that the SUDS Levy that exists and this levy are both going to two entirely different things? The SUDS Levy is going toward renovations and this levy goes toward the operating budget for SUDS. Said it’s not a good argument when it’s not the same money.

Ore said that they are aware. Any concerns that council has they should send to their KDC Board representatives and they can voice the opinion of council. We have had this conversation twice and none of these concerns have been brought up, so if there is something specific they want brought up to the KDC Board they should express that.

Wu asked if they could have the KDC Board come and present at the next meeting because she doesn’t feel that we should be bringing forward a referendum question that they don’t completely understand.

Brown said that he can answer any questions.

Vanderheiden asked if we decided that we weren’t going to bring the referendum forward, can KDC just decide that they aren’t paying it anymore.

Brown said no, they tried doing that last year and our auditors told us that they couldn’t.

McFadden said that it is a KDC fee, but that she doesn’t think that the KDC Board can dictate what gets put into BUSU Elections. Said that they are separate entities and that if BUSU didn’t pass the referendum, then KDC would likely be able to hold their own referendum. Said that it’s likely more convenient to have BUSU hold it.

Ore said that we’d have to look into that. Said that KDC could bring it forward as a referendum themselves. Said because it was a BUSU referendum we may have to pass it under a BUSU election. Because we put it out there we may have the responsibility to bring it forward again. Said she’s pretty sure we’d have to do it in the election even if it is a KDC Board initiative. Said she will look into it.

Wu asked if there is a way that we can word this that would make more sense to students in terms of money because she doesn’t think that a lot of students will understand the $0.10 per credit hour thing. Said sometimes even council doesn’t understand how credit hours works.

Ore said it’s approximately $10.00 a course that students pay for the KDC building fee. $0.10 of that $10.00 goes to KDC to give to SUDS. If we were to word it differently, we can definitely make it very easy to understand. Thinks that a lot of students don’t even know that this happens. It’s the KDC Board wanting to know what students think of how this fee is dispersed. Said that the KDC wouldn’t be able to stop this fee if students voted to keep it.

Vanderheiden said that she thinks that we should table this until the next meeting.

Spence said that she agrees that it should be tabled until the next meeting so that the executive members and managers can come back with more information as they don’t fully understand what’s going on when there are differing opinions.

* 1. **ERDIE Board**

We need to strike an ERDIE Board for the purposes of adjudicating on complaints made during the upcoming BUSU Election.

Brown said that the ERDIE Board is composed of four members of the Union selected by the Selections Committee and four members of the Union that will serve as alternates.

Vanderheiden said that it can also be offered on weekends.

Wu, Ukasoanya, McLean, and Mohanraj volunteered. Ahmadu volunteered to be an alternate.

Ore said that there can only be a maximum of two council members unless the other two positions can’t be filled by random students, in which case two council members can step in.

Brown said that they were supposed to create this committee by October 7th, but it didn’t happen.

Ore said that there is still time to do a call out as the election is three weeks away.

Brown said that he would do a call out to students and if no one is interested, they will use the volunteers from tonight. Said we’ll bump Mohanraj and McLean to alternates if they do get students.

Vanderheiden said if this should have been done before October 7th then she thinks we should just go with the four people who were chosen tonight.

McLean said that they will know more than other students in terms of how elections run.

Ore said that it’s just protocol. Said that there is still a three-week period where Brown can do a call out. If no one responds, then you get four council members. Most of the time you don’t get interested students, but it’s still good to offer it to them.

**Motion (15-BUSU-169)** Mohanraj/Wu CARRIED ***Be it resolved that the President give a call out to students requesting two members for the ERDIE Board.***

***Be it further resolved that four council members be appointed to sit on the ERDIE Board if there is no student interest by the end of next week.***

* 1. **Bystander Training**

We need to pick a day that works.

Brown said that Friday evenings work for Bystander training. Asked council if it would work for them during the Friday of reading week.

Brown said that he will send out a sign-up sheet for February 19th.

* 1. **KDC Appointment**

Brown said that we have one BUSU vacancy on the KDC Board because of a director’s resignation. He would like to open it up to council for nominations.

Wu nominated Jillian Vanderheiden.

Vanderheiden accepted the nomination.

**Motion (15-BUSU-170)** Wu/Mohanraj CARRIED  ***Be it resolved that Jillian Vanderheiden be appointed as a BUSU representative on the KDC Board.***

1. **CLOSED SESSION**

**Motion (15-BUSU-171)** Wu/Spence CARRIED

***Be it resolved that the meeting move into Closed Session.***

* 1. **RISE Summit Applications**
  2. **BUSU President Update**
  3. **Event Participation**
  4. **Illuminate**
  5. **Removal of Directors**

1. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM REPORTS**
2. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mohanraj said that Black History Month starts on February 1st. Said that events will be happening. February 26th there is a movie night happening. It will be in the Louis Riel Room. Next month they will get further details.

Brown said that the next council meeting will be next Friday, February 5th at 5:00pm.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion (15-BUSU-180)** Mohanraj/Vanderheiden CARRIED  ***Be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned.***