#### Board Meeting

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

**Thursday, December 7th, 2017 at 4:30pm** – CLC Boardroom, Knowles Douglas Centre

1. **CALL TO ORDER at 4:38pm.**
2. **OPENINGS**

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

*Present:* Nick Brown, Jenna Wade, Whitney Hodgins, Laura Davidson, Sheree Blacksmith, Nataly Ore, Emily Simon, Steven Holden, Donnovan Killman (The Quill), Corey Norton, Brooklyn Friesen, Mohammed Agavi, Maya Sturrup (Phone), Natashalee Thompson (4:46pm).

*Regrets:* Meg Stade, Rebecca Storey.

*Absent:* Saint Osaretin

* 1. **Land acknowledgement**

1. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion (17-BUSU-82)** Hodgins/Davidson CARRIED ***Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted as amended.***

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of November 23rd, 2017 Minutes.

**Motion (17-BUSU-83)** Wade/Simon CARRIED

***Be it resolved that the minutes from November 23rd, 2017 be approved as amended.***

Brown said there should be information added to the point 9a. Brandon University Students for Life: Said in response to the letter from the Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms the executive acknowledged that they would be consulting with Lisa Park in regard to considering posters for approval. Said when meeting with Park, she said she would have approved the poster that BUSU initially did not approve.

1. **PRESENTATIONS AND CORRESPONDANCE**

Any presentations or correspondence shall be given at this time.

1. **RECEIPT OF REPORTS**
   1. **Executive Members and Staff**
      1. President**: Attached**
      2. Vice President Internal**: No Report**
      3. Vice President External**: Attached**
      4. General Manager**: Attached**
      5. Office and Services Manager**: Attached**
   2. **Canadian Federation of Students Local Representative Report: Attached**
   3. **Director Reports**
      1. Arts Director**: Attached**
      2. Science Director**: Regrets**
      3. Health Studies Director: **Regrets**
      4. Music Director: **No Report**
      5. Education Director**: Vacant**
      6. Part-Time/Mature Students Director:

Spoke with Librarian about creating space for families on campus.

* + 1. Indigenous Director:

BUASC may try for a potluck in January as they were unable to organize one for December due to changes to leadership.

* + 1. Women’s Director**: Vacant**
    2. Sexuality and Gender Identity Based Director:

**No Written Report Submitted.**

* + 1. International Students Director**: Absent**
    2. Residence Director**: Vacant**
    3. Graduate Studies Director**:**

A dinner will be held for Grad Students on the 18th of December.

* + 1. Accessibilities Director**: No Written Report Submitted.**
    2. Racialized Director: **No Report**

1. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM REPORTS**

Brown said BUSU stands wholeheartedly against Racism, Sexism, Homophobia, and discrimination of any kind. Said the executive and administration believed that this is a very small group of people, possibly one or two, who are spreading these racist images and materials. Said the university has circulated an email asking students not to rip down posters as there may be razor blades attached to the back. Please contact Physical Plant if you come across one of the racist posters.

Wade and Sturrup said students were approaching them

Brown said, with the exception of putting out a public statement, BUSU has taken as much action as they can. Said they have consistently asked the university to take down posters and shared as much information as possible to remedy the situation. Said the university has circulated the email to students. Said there seems to be a perception that BUSU has the ability to do more than they can. Said BUSU has limitations stipulated by the University.

Friesen asked about a proactive action to the issue.

Norton reminded council that their executives are students and don’t have the same time and resources as the university. Said the university is responsible for students’ safety and the perception of students’ safety. Said BUSU has been and will continue to advocate for students’ safety but it important to know the differences between the responsibility of the university and BUSU. Said the executive have a plan to create a response for students but the response won’t be as quick as a response from the university because of BUSU’s limited resources.

Brown said he had already made a response to a CBC interview condemning Racism, Islamophobia, and White Supremacy. Said the response to his interview was negative in that students wanted statements from people directly affected by the images/materials.

Thompson suggested responding to students concerns by explaining how BUSU has been advocating for them.

Brown said the current plan is to make a public statement in the form of a video to circulate through BUSU’s social media.

Agavi reiterated that Brown speaks for the student union and he stands behind Brown’s comments and is frustrated at the negative student responses to Brown’s interview. Said the International Students’ Collective was interested in the interview but they were unavailable during the time of the interview. Said the students and collectives were directing reporters to Brown as he speaks for the students. Asked council to explain to their constituents how much effort BUSU is putting into this issue and how hard they are working to respond to student concerns.

Holden said he felt the students wanted to assign guilt and hold those assigned accountable. Said this is contributing to a sense of justification to those who are posting these stickers for the European Brotherhood. Said bringing the dialogue back to centre, rather than polarizing conversations, will help the campus. Said the past conduct of the union speaks volume of our values and how the union does not support racism and bigotry in all of its forms. Said the responses towards BUSU on social media feed into the negativity.

Simon said, based on the comments in the Facebook group over the past few days, herself and Agavi spoke to the Dean of Students this morning and asked for a response to the students voicing their fears and opinions.

Thompson suggested that council members be involved in the video message from BUSU.

Brown said they would do their best to include as many council members as possible.

Norton suggested council members should ask students what their expectations are of BUSU in this situation. Said it seems to be unclear of what students want from BUSU in this situation. Said the comments on Facebook were more anger directed to BUSU rather than specific asks.

Sturrup said when speaking to a student, they asked for a general statement of non-support for the European Brotherhood. Said the student asked for reassurance that BUSU is advocating for them and that BUSU has a plan if the situation escalates.

Brown said after responding to many of the questions on Facebook he didn’t receive any further questions or concerns. Said the executive will work on a statement tomorrow and plans to include council as much as possible.

Norton asked for written reports from council members who gave verbal reports.

**Motion (17-BUSU-84)** Hodgins/Thompson CARRIED

***Be it resolved that the reports be adopted.***

1. **Committees**
2. **Finance & Services**

Upcoming meeting next week.

1. **Policy & Bylaw**
2. **Student Clubs, Activities, & Campaigns**
3. **OLD BUSINESS**
4. **Presidential Search Committee**

As Armando is no longer part of the BUSU Council, we need to elect another representative to the Presidential Search Committee.

**Motion (17-BUSU-85)** Hodgins/Wade CARRIED

***Be it resolved that Emily Simon be appointed to the BU Presidential Search Committee.***

1. **Draft Financial Statements**

**Motion (17-BUSU-86)** Agavi/Hodgins CARRIED

***Be it resolved that the Electronic Motion (17-BUSU-81) be ratified.***

1. **NEW BUSINESS**
   1. **BUSMEA Da Capo Donation Request**

The Brandon University Student Music Educators Association is requesting 35-50 water bottles to support their Da Capo Music Educators conference in late January. A letter is attached.

**Motion (17-BUSU-87)** Wade/Agavi CARRIED

***Be it resolved that BUSU donate up to 50 water bottles to the Brandon University Student Music Educators Association.***

The cost is $43.75 for the water bottles and the money would come out of the Donation Requests.

Brown will collect the donation to be picked up from the BUSU office.

* 1. **BUSU Fall 2017 AGM Ratification**

The BUSU Fall 2017 AGM was held on December 5th, 2017, and we need to ratify the decisions that were made there. The Minutes are attached.

**Motion (17-BUSU-88)** Hodgins/Agavi CARRIED

***Be it resolved that the minutes from the 2017 Fall BUSU AGM be ratified.***

Said she received some feedback from students saying The Queer Director didn’t include students who identify as Trans. Wade said she supported the change but wanted to bring the feedback to council.

Brown said he reached out to the LGBT Collective to make them aware of the upcoming motion but noted that none of the LGBT Collective who felt strongly about not changing the name did make any comments at the AGM. Said the CFS has changed to the language Queer in the past few years as well. Said the term has been reclaimed by the LGBT community in the last decade.

1. **BUSINESS ARISING**

The 2017-18 Budget, as of December 6th, 2017 is attached.

Ore said the budget would be posted on the website within the week. Said any questions could be directed to her.

Wade mentioned that Grant Hamilton had contacted her to see if Brandon Pride would approve the implementation of a Rainbow Crosswalk downtown when BU begins building in that area. Said she approved on behalf of Brandon Pride but wanted to confirm that she could also give her approval on behalf of BUSU.

Council was in favour of this idea.

1. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

BUSU Student Holiday Dinner will be on December 20th at 5pm in the Mingling Area. Brown said the dinner is directed to those who don’t go home for the holidays and there will be sign-up sheets in the BUSU Office, Student Services, and Office of International Activities.

Brown will be sending out volunteer information in the next week.

Wade asked if it was open to ACCSA students.

Brown said if they are living in BU residence.

Simon reminded council to send in their Winter Term Availability by Friday December 15th, 2017.

Wade said there is a social for the LGBTQIA\* Collective on the 16th.

Brown said the Grad Student International dinner is on the 18th.

Norton thanked council members for all their hard work after the past months and wished them the best of luck with their exams and final papers.

Ore said they would be receiving their tuition rebate by the 22nd of December.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn (17-BUSU-89)** Simon/Wade CARRIED

***Be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned at 5:58pm.***

**Minutes approved at meeting date: January 18th, 2018.**

**Moved by:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Simon)**

**Seconded by:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Storey)**