



## AMS Assembly Minutes

November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Beamish Munro Hall, Queen's University, Kingston

**Minutes are tentative until approved at Assembly.**

The meeting was convened at 6:09 EST.

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** Alright, we have no mics today, so people will need to yell. Welcome to our November Assembly, the theme is cars. I appreciate so many people coming today. Let's begin with Motion 1:

**Motion #1 – Moved by Secretary Golrokhian-Sani, Seconded by AMS President Sikich.**  
*Motion for Assembly to approve the agenda of the meeting of November 3rd, 2022.*

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** All in favour? Excellent, the motion has passed.

*Motion carries.*

**Motion #2 – Moved by Secretary Golrokhian-Sani , Seconded by AMS President Sikich.**  
*Motion for Assembly to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 22nd, 2022.*

*Motion carries.*

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** Sorry, just a quick amendment to the first motion. There's a new agenda on the website where the motion is already updated. We're just moving the Speaker vote and a few fees to next Assembly. Can we revote quickly on Motion 1?

*Motion carries.*

**Motion #3 – Moved by Secretary Golrokhian-Sani , Seconded by AMS President Sikich.**

*Motion for Assembly to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 20th, 2022.*

*Motion carries.*

**Speaker's Business**

**Speaker Golrokhian-Sani:** I'll now do our land acknowledgement:

*Cataraqui or Kingston, as we understand it today, is abundant in history and modern-day traditions of many First Nations and Metis. In particular, the Alma Mater Society would like to acknowledge that it's Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee territory which Queen's University resides on. These lands surrounding the Great Lakes are immersed in thousands of generations of indigenous history, including language, art, celebrations, and resilience. We recognize that it was within the Crawford purchase of 1783 that these lands were made available for settlements, and the agreements made were upheld by the First Peoples, but not the British crown or later the Canadian government. While we work on these lands as uninvited guests we actively benefit from the oppression of indigenous peoples. Because of our settler positionality, we have an obligation to listen to indigenous voices, and we must act in ways that will condemn past and ongoing violence against indigenous peoples and support positive change.*

*As a branch of the Society that strives to connect student leaders and facilitate positive change and student advocacy on Turtle Island, we strive to maintain the core values and teachings from indigenous peoples. We are incredibly grateful for the ability to do so. As the Secretariat Office facilitates Assembly, elections and Judicial Affairs, it is our duty to ensure the voices of indigenous and marginalized peoples are amplified, as well as provide resources on how we can facilitate and help in advocacy that is important. We encourage all members of the Office as student leaders, to reflect on privileges that they have been afforded on this land, and use it to ensure campus safety, accessibility, and impact for all students. As settlers on this stolen land of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples, we must continue to educate ourselves and strive to decolonize every layer of our governance system and curricula, and to indigenize our learning. The resilience of indigenous peoples and their traditions should be applauded and inspire strength and kindness in us all. The Wampum belt covenant should be used as our compass as we navigate our journey of reconciliation with indigenous people of Canada. The Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee people had a mutual understanding of how to share the land and resources peacefully with one another. By living on this land, we must also abide by these values.*

A few other quick updates: first, I know that some people who were elected to their positions later do not have signs yet, we will have them for you at the December Assembly. We also have some material about Bus-It and the Health and Dental Plan for you to take and distribute in your faculties. And just a reminder to everyone speaking, please stand. I'll now pass it over to President Sikich.

## **President's Report**

**AMS President Sikich:** Hello everyone, thank you for being here tonight. Well, members of Assembly, it hasn't been long so I'll try to keep this brief. I don't have too many updates on the offices as of right now. I'm mostly going to talk about Homecoming events from the AMS side. The past two weekends have been quite intensive for the AMS because of the FoCo/HoCo events. We did not host any events ourselves except for the Community Cleanup on Sunday.

As feedback from that weekend, we heard that students generally thought the police presence was a bit less intrusive and aggressive than in previous years and similarly security in the Queen's Centre was managed much better than previous years. On the official Homecoming weekend, we saw smaller group of individuals attend street gatherings. VP Hu and I walked in the alumni parade to Richardson Stadium and joined the Tricolour Guard Dinner that evening. We were able to attend some of the events and meet some of our wonderful alumni which was fantastic. I, alongside other members of the University Street Party Task Force, was invited to the police station command center on the same day to allow for more critical observations of what police operations look like on Homecoming. This visit was offered by the police in what I believe is an attempt to create more transparent operations. Takeaways from this visit are yet to be fully realized, but we hope that better understanding these operations allows us to better support students and marginalized communities during these and future events. So overall, I've heard multiple accounts that information delivery and preventative care were better this year. I'm also keen on hearing your thoughts as this new method of policing. We want to hear feedback because I want that critical lens so if you have any comments or anything, please bring them up now or feel free to email me afterwards. I'll take any questions now.

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** Any questions? No, okay, we'll move onto VP-OPS Hu.

## **Vice President's Report**

**AMS VP-OPS Hu:** Hi everyone, great to see you all again. My first major update is the new position on the AMS board, the project manager for the StudioQ-PCC merger. I recently did an interview with the Journal about the position too, so it's getting lots of great publicity. We've also reviewed the consolidated budget, thanks to our Faculty Societies for help with this. I really enjoyed the HoCo Alumni Parade, it was so lively with the bands and cheerleaders, I encourage you to go in the future. I also went to the Tricolour Guard Dinner and it was super heartwarming. I want to thank all of our Commissioners for the Harm Reduction events they ran, I'm sorry I couldn't make it to any of them. As far as services are concerned, operations are in person in the Queen's Centre and Rideau Building. And as Amir mentioned, there are Bus-It and Health & Dental plan materials for all of you to take back to your faculties and distribute.

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** Okay, moving onto VP-UA Robertson.

**AMS VP-UA Robertson:** Hi everyone, I'll keep it brief since last Assembly was recent. There's been lots of great stuff in the past few weeks. In particular, the harm reduction event was fabulous, thank you to my team and to everyone who contributed to making it happen. For those who weren't there to see, we handed out free food, snacks and drinks to students on Hoco Saturday. Getting to see the smiles on students' faces, build that rapport, and enjoy being back in person was fantastic, and we hope to repeat this on St. Patrick's Day. Thank you as well to our HRC team for running our Community Cleanup, this event is a great way to show that we are invested in this community. On another note, we're preparing for our advocacy meeting at Queen's Park. We'll be meeting with MPPs, discussing advocacy points about what students need across the post-secondary education sector, and we will be collaborating with other students and other universities.

Presidents should have received an email earlier today about our Orientation Summit next week with the agenda and details. Also, I'm proud to announce that our SIC External Commissioner has been hired as of last night, they're a great person and I think they'll be a valuable addition to the team. And with that, my team is fully hired.

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** Does anyone have any questions? Alright, then we'll move onto the Chair of the Board's Report.

### **Board of Director's Report**

**Chairperson Devenny:** Thank you everyone. I am so happy to see all these new faces, this is rare, so thanks for coming tonight! Thanks to the Executives and their teams for all the fabulous events this Homecoming, it was all so beautifully done and such a nice way to welcome our alumni home. As VP Hu said, the Board has approved the Project Manager position for the PCC-StudioQ merger. This is such a great opportunity for someone going into the corporate world who wants to build skills and experience, you know, being nineteen years old and managing a huge corporate merger. We've also passed some policy changes around personnel, we're working on our new and improved risk matrix, and I'm happy to say we've wrapped up our Student Activity Fee Committee, all of those fees are going up for referendum in the next few weeks. Lastly, our audit will be revealed on December 1 at the Corporate Special General Meeting which you'll all be there for, and we'll have presentations from all of our committee chairs. There will also be food for everyone because I know it's a long night.

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** Alright, thank you Chairperson Devenny.

## **Undergraduate Trustee's Report**

Trustee Sharma sends regrets.

## **Student Senator's Report**

Student Senate Caucus Chair Matiss sends regrets.

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** I'll now call on Rector Crawford-Lem.

## **Rector's Report**

**Rector Crawford-Lem:** Thank you, I just have a few things. First, the Housing Survey has launched, you'll see the QR codes for this around campus. I will be in touch with many of you soon to talk about sharing and distributing the survey, we're hoping to get a lot of engagement. We're also going to have booths in the ARC and Co-Gro, and a door-to-door campaign too, so if students come knocking at your door asking questions don't freak out and slam the door in their faces.

Nominations are open for the Tricolour Awards, and I hope to see your names on the nomination list because the work that you do is so important for Queen's and we want to showcase it. Lately, I've been part of the Vice Provost Teaching and Learning Committee, trying to find the new head of the Teaching and Learning office. Our committee has given our recommendations to the Provost, and we've seen three of our recommendations candidates granted interviews. The joint Board-Senate Review Committee has just been struck, and President Sikich and I are on it. Principal Dean wants to come back for another term, so now it's up to the Queen's student body to give feedback to our committee on whether we want him back, and we'll give that recommendation to the Board of Trustees in March 2023, so it's a long runway to gather feedback.

## Statements by Students

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** Now we can move on to the next slide, with Statements by Students. Anyone have anything they want to bring up?

**Nursing Society President Sau:** Hello, I just wanted to quickly say that this is the second-last meeting for Dylan and I because our term runs December to December. We also have one of our first year interns here just to watch tonight, but maybe in the future she'll be sitting in my seat. Thank you to all of you for a great year, this has been a great experience.

**ComSoc President Rezvan:** Wow, okay, that's a hard act to follow. I just wanted to quickly give two updates on two cool new initiatives in Commerce. First, we've been working closely with the university to fundraise with the United Way, and we just ran a really successful fundraiser over Homecoming. We think this partnership can bring really good things for the university's relations with the community and also encourage our students to get more involved in the non-profit sector. If you're interested in collaborating with us on this, we would love that. Second, Commerce has noticed that we're lacking in engaging undergraduate students in research, so if other faculties have ideas about that I would love to hear your thoughts.

**VP-OPS Hu:** What kind of research would Commerce students engage in? I'm just asking because I'm in Health Sciences and so the research aspect is obvious, but I'm not sure what there is for Commerce students to research.

**ComSoc President Rezvan:** Resources, organizational behaviour, artificial intelligence, I think there are lots of different routes this could go. But we're finding that Commerce students are very career-focused and there are low numbers of applications for Research Assistant positions. I think a lot of people are intimidated by research, and we want to break that barrier for our students.

## Question Period

No questions raised.

## Business Arising from the Minutes

## New Business

**Motion 4 – Moved by Secretary Golrokhian-Sani , Seconded by AMS President Sikich.**

*That AMS Assembly place the following fee question on the Fall 2022 Referendum*

**Ballot:** *“Do you agree to the establishment of a \$0.15 fee (subject to individual opt-out) to support Exhibit Change?”*

**Exhibit Change Representative:** We are a club that talks about issues happening in the world, specifically social justice issues, and we try to help inform the community. We’re different from other clubs because we want to address these issues with the help of art, music, and poetry to be more engaging. We felt that by bringing students together in this way we could address these issues and spread awareness at the same time. This year, we realized there is vast opportunity to expand into different mediums, but this is expensive, so we are seeking the fee so that we can pay for supplies. We didn’t want our referendum fee to be too high because we don’t want to burden students, so we expect this to be just enough to cover our recurring and supply costs.

**Chairperson Devenny:** What has been your favourite part of being involved with Exhibit Change?

**Exhibit Change Representative:** Definitely introducing people to discussing and exploring these social issues in a new way. We like to do it through a combination of a research project and an artistic project, and in this way we get to introduce people into new interests and engage different groups of people.

**President Yung:** So you’re saying you have a \$1500 deficit and that through this fee you would expect to cover that, so what would be the profit for you from this fee?

**Exhibit Change Representative:** So we just got the Fall Experience Grant of \$1450 and that covered most of our recurring costs. We want to expand next year to include things like musical instruments and crocheting, and right now we only have one annual license with photoshop. We want to be able to afford to expand into these things and a referendum fee plus external sponsors would allow that.

**President Yung:** What’s the rationale for \$0.15 compared to \$0.20?

**Exhibit Change Representative:** So our costs this year came to \$1400 dollars, and this fluctuates about +/- \$100. We're expecting about half of the undergraduate students to opt out of the fee, so that leaves about 10,000 students x \$0.15, which would give us \$1500.

Motion carries.

**Motion 5 – Moved by Secretary Golrokhian-Sani , Seconded by AMS President Sikich.**

*That AMS Assembly place the following fee question on the Fall 2022 Referendum*

**Ballot:** “Do you agree to the establishment of a \$0.50 fee (subject to individual opt-out) to support Queen’s Model Parliament (QMP)?”

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** So Queen’s Model Parliament used to be an internal part of the AMS, but that’s changed so now they need separate funding, particularly to book venues, so that’s why the fee.

**CESA President Galvani:** Why was QMP moved outside of the Campus Affairs Commission?

**Clubs Commissioner Hughes:** This decision was made over the course of a few previous years. QMP lost some key sponsorships and went over budget for a few years, and this was a problem for Campus Affairs. Also, the AMS has been shifting activities that could be independent clubs out from under the AMS umbrella to help them be financially self-sufficient for a few years now.

Motion carries.

**Motion 6 – Moved by Secretary Golrokhian-Sani , Seconded by AMS President Sikich.**

*That AMS Assembly place the following fee question on the Fall 2022 Referendum*

**Ballot:** “Do you agree to the establishment of a \$0.25 fee (subject to individual opt-out) to support the Queen’s Cardiac Research Committee (QCRC)?”

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** QCRC is relatively new club but they have been expanding quite quickly. They promote cardiac research and run informative/outreach events. As part of their expansion, they are trying to set up conferences to share their research in a bite-sized and listener-friendly manner. They are budgeted to zero, and all their funding comes from external grants, which is why they want a fee.



Motion carries.

**Motion 7 – Moved by Secretary Golrokhian-Sani , Seconded by AMS President Sikich.**

***That AMS Assembly place the following fee question on the Fall 2022 Referendum***

***Ballot: “Do you agree to the establishment of a \$0.10 fee (subject to individual opt-out) to support Queen’s Swifties?”***

**Queen’s Swifties Representative:** Hello everyone, sorry I’m a bit nervous, I’m just a First Year Intern so I’m new to the club. We want this fee because this club is a great way to make friends, we’re really inclusive. We love Taylor Swift and we just had our first listening event a few weeks ago and it had a huge turnout. This fee is for booking spaces for events like spin classes, trivia nights, and karaoke nights. We’re not just a Taylor Swift club, we’re a club to help people make friends.

**Nursing Society President Sau:** Where do you host listening events?

**Queen’s Swifties Representative:** We did our last event in Kingston Hall, it was great.

**VP-OPS Hu:** What are you most looking forward to, should you receive the fee?

**Queen’s Swifties Representative:** Last year when the club was new, our members paid everything out of their own pocket, but this isn’t sustainable for club. We want to make sure that this club can continue and keep bringing people together through our events, so I’m looking forward to sustainable funding.

Motion carries.

## **Discussion Period**

### **A) Fall Triennial Review Groups**

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** So the fees we just voted on were for establishing clubs, this section is where we are looking to re-approve fees for established clubs who are going up for their Triennial Review.

**CRFC Manager Dina Jansen:** Hello everyone, thank you so much for inviting me tonight. Congratulations to all of the Executives and Commissioners and all of the staff and volunteer members on making coming back to campus this year such a great experience for students and alumni. Many of you are familiar faces for me, but for those that are new, I'll give some background about what CRFC is. So we are your dedicated campus radio station and the second-oldest radio station in Canada. We started out with broadcasting Queen's football games, then just started expanding to share student and community member-developed music and podcast style programming. We also offer a service that's open to all of you student leaders to use to come and do PSAs to spread the word about the initiatives that you're leading, and that's something that we can help you produce.

CFRC, unlike commercial radio stations, does not derive income from advertising. Our licensing agreement limits the number of minutes of ads we can run, so this constrains our funding considerably. We rely on a lot of grants for things like replacing equipment, paying and training new staff, and purchasing licenses. This AMS fee is the main source of our funding to cover costs. For example, this year we replaced a 30 year old soundboard and it cost us \$13,000. Maintaining our equipment is expensive and we have to find qualified people to do it, and their time is expensive. So we're asking for an optional fee from the AMS in order to be able to continue to run our station and make sure we can continue offering our services to the Queen's community.

**VP-UA Robertson:** What kind of volunteer opportunities do you have for students?

We offer a lot of volunteer and employment opportunities for students through things like FSWEP and Canada Summer Jobs. We also, as I said before, love giving students the opportunity to create programming. If you wanted to start a radio show, whether you like a particular genre of music or you want to learn how to produce a radio show, or do a podcast on a particular issue, we'll support that. We've had people come in and talk about their favorite movies or their favorite television show. We can teach you to ensure that not only do you have the technical skills to run your own programming, but the confidence to do it too. We also have behind-the-scenes opportunities for students who don't necessarily want to be on the air; technical work, sound design, research, marketing, fundraising.

**Rector Crawford-Lem:** What is the fee?

**Dina Jansen:** The current fee is \$8.22, it is an optional fee.

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** Yeah, just to clarify, all the Triennial Reviews are not motions but actually more informational for everyone here as they will go to referendum, that's already decided. That's why their fee numbers aren't on the agenda.

**Dina Jansen:** If anybody has any further questions to ask me at any time just reach out to me, I'd love to connect with you. Thank you all so very much.

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** So, for the Discussion Period, you can discuss anything, of course, but also, if any other Triennial Review club would like to speak they can do that now.

**AMS President Sikich:** I just got a report from Student Senate Caucus Chair Matiss so I'll attach that to the Assembly materials for tonight. Also one more point that I forgot to mention in my report: we're noticing an increase in buildup of garbage in our buildings, specifically the Queen's Centre as that's where our services are. We know that our Facilities Services are understaffed right now, so if you're noticing this same issue in your Faculty Society buildings, please bring this to us.

**Secretary Golrokhian-Sani:** Fantastic! Now it's getting late, can I get a motion for adjournment?

### **Adjournment**

**Moved by President Sau, Seconded by VP-OPS Hu.**

*Motion carries.*

Assembly is adjourned at 7:01 EST.