

Meeting – Sept. 14, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Present:

Alex Sutherland	BOD Chair	Voting Member
Jesse Wicks	BOD Vice Chair	Voting Member
Fatima Bilal	Director	Voting Member
Avneet Brar-Sran	Director	Voting Member
Richard Hoang	Director	Voting Member
Tim Holowachuk	Director	Voting Member
Macleon Jarvis	Director	Voting Member
Shawna LeBlanc	Director	Voting Member
Charlson Reyes	Director	Voting Member
Kelly Jeed Sawadan	Director	Voting Member
Ryan Morstad	Saitsa President	Voting Member
Liam Hunter	Vice President External	Voting Member
Jasmin Bhatti	Vice President Academic	Voting Member
Jessi Leippi	Vice President Student Life	Voting Member
Joy Bowen-Eyre	Neutral Facilitator	Non-Voting
Marc Stromme	Saitsa Executive Director	Non-Voting
Rachel Paris	Saitsa Manager, Governance & Advocacy	Non-Voting
Rio Valencerina	Saitsa Coordinator, Governance	Non-Voting

Regrets:

Candy Loo Tong	Director	Voting Member
Yatendra Solanki	Director	Voting Member
Rigel Raju	Board of Governors Student Representative	Non-Voting

Guests

Husson Zaman	Saitsa Manager, Marketing and Communications
Georgia Halasan	Saitsa Coordinator, Marketing and Communications
Arek Gellatly	SAIT Student
Upneet Kaur	SAIT Student

Agenda Item

- 1.0 Call to Order:**
A. Sutherland called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.
- 2.0 Acknowledgement of Traditional Indigenous Territories:**
K. J. Sawadan gave the Acknowledgement of Traditional Indigenous Territories.
- 3.0 Conflict of Interest Check:**
A Sutherland reminded the Board to declare any conflicts of interest that may exist. A conflict of interest is anything that an individual would benefit from, or appear to benefit from.
- 4.0 Approval of the Agenda:**



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R. Morstad made the following amendments to the agenda:

- Item 9.1 was amended to read “Executive Council Hours”
- Executive Director Review and Compensation was added as item 9.2.

Motion:

To approve the agenda as amended.

**T. Holowachuk/A. Brar-Sran
Motion Carries**

5.0 Adoption of Minutes:

5.1 Regular Meeting of the Board from August 10, 2020

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the Board meeting from August 10, 2020.

**F. Bilal/C. Reyes
Motion Carries**

6.0 Student Engagement Opportunities

G. Halasan and H. Zaman spoke to the Board regarding Culture O'clock, an initiative Saitsa is working on with the SAIT International center. The purpose of the opportunity is to have students share their cultural identities with the intention of increasing cultural awareness and appreciation among students. G. Halasan encouraged interested members of the Board to contact her if they would like to participate.

R. Morstad asked H. Zaman what plans Saitsa has to tackle student apathy during the pandemic. H. Zaman responded that Saitsa has over 130 events and programs scheduled to occur throughout the year. Much of the program is geared towards participation, wellness, and collective wellbeing.

H. Zaman and G. Halasan left the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

7.0 Individual Reports:

7.1 President

Report as submitted.

R. Morstad highlighted the Alberta 2030 rework of the post-secondary system in Alberta. The membership of ASEC has listed the following priorities: Credit transferability, accountability and consultation, healthy and safe campuses, improved accessibility and quality of education, international student support, and open educational resources.

R. Morstad also highlighted the fact that SAIT is now a smoke-free campus.

7.2 Vice President Academic

Report as submitted.



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J. Bhatti highlighted her participation in orientation and classroom talks, nomination of students to sit on Academic Council, and EC work plan development.

7.3 Vice President External

Report as submitted.

L. Hunter highlighted the ASEC goals conference, and a meeting with Councillor Chahal for the Public Safety Taskforce, and the start of the Asterisk, Saitsa's upcoming podcast.

7.4 Vice President Student Life

Report as submitted.

8.0 Committee Reports:

8.1 Finance Committee

R. Morstad reported that the first draft of the Investment Policy Statement has been made and sent to Saitsa's investment advisors at BMO. The Finance Committee will meet after receiving feedback from the investment advisors for further development, and to bring the policy statement to the Board.

8.2 Governance Committee

A. Sutherland reported that the committee has not met.

R. Morstad stated that he has drafted a communications policy, and requested that it be added to the agenda of the committee.

T. Holowachuk requested a commitment for a meeting before the next regular Board meeting.

8.3 Nominations Committee

J. Wicks reported that the committee has not met.

9.0 Business Items:

9.1 Executive Council Hours

J. Leippi reiterated that the hours for the VPSL position were reduced in July in response to an apparently decreased workload due to COVID-19. J. Leippi stated that as time progressed, she was asked to participate in more meetings than what could be expected to be done during her working hours. J. Leippi asked the Board to consider increasing her hours to 20 hours per week to address these issues.

Motion:

To move in-camera without guests, Vice Presidents, R. Valencerina and R. Paris.

**R. Morstad/T. Holowachuk
Motion Carries**

The meeting moved in-camera at 6:58 p.m.

Motion:

To move ex-camera.



M. Jarvis/A. Brar-Sran
Motion Carries

The meeting moved ex-camera at 7:25 p.m.

Motion:

To increase the VP Student Life hours to 20 hours per week.

A. Sutherland/K. J. Sawadan
10-4-0
Motion Carries

Motion:

To reinstate the President to full-time hours of 35 hours per week.

A. Sutherland/L. Hunter
11-3-0
Motion Carries

9.2 Executive Director Review and Compensation

10.0 Information/Discussion:

10.1 EC Goals Presentation

R. Morstad, J. Bhatti, L. Hunter, and J. Leippi presented their goals to the Board for approval. The Executive Goals were developed over the summer with the guidance of staff. A series of questions were posed and discussion followed.

10.2 BOD Committee Appointments

Motion:

To appoint F. Bilal, K. J. Sawadan, M. Jarvis, and J. Bhatti to the following committees of the Board:

Finance Committee:

- F. Bilal
- K. J. Sawadan

Governance Committee:

- M. Jarvis

Nominations Committee:

- J. Bhatti

A. Sutherland/R. Morstad
Motion Carries

Motion:

To adjourn for a 5 minute recess.



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**A. Sutherland/L. Hunter
Motion Carries**

The meeting adjourned for a 5-minute recess at 8:20 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:25 p.m.

10.3 Budget Update

M. Stromme provided an update on the organization's budget.

Motion:

To move in-camera without guests, or R. Valencerina and R. Paris.

**A Sutherland/T. Holowachuk
Motion Carries**

The meeting moved in-camera at 8:32 p.m.

Motion:

To move ex-camera.

**C. Reyes/L. Hunter
Motion Carries**

The meeting moved ex-camera at 8:42 p.m.

Motion:

To approve adjustments to Saitsa's 2020 budget as presented.

**A Sutherland/K. J. Sawadan
Motion Carries**

ACTION: *Marc Stromme, Saitsa's Executive Director, is to present a revised budget for the remainder of the fiscal year at the December 7, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting.*

10.4 Upcoming Saitsa Events

R. Valencerina updated the Board on upcoming Saitsa events.

10.5 ED Report

M. Stromme provided his report to the Board.

Motion:

To refer the monthly financial statement presentation and overview to the Finance Committee.

**R. Morstad/L. Hunter
13-1-0**



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Motion Carries

Motion:

To move in-camera without staff.

**A. Sutherland/L. Hunter
Motion Carries**

The meeting moved in-camera at 9:08 p.m.

10.6 In-Camera

Motion:

To move ex-camera.

**A. Sutherland/T. Holowachuk
Motion Carries**

The meeting moved ex-camera at 9:43 p.m.

WHEREAS Director Yatendra Solanki has not been in attendance of the December, February, March, July, August, and September regular meetings of the Saitsa Board of Directors;

WHEREAS These six missed attendances constitute multiple violations of Bylaws 8.1e) and 8.1f), as well as the Code of Conduct & Ethics Statement;

Be it resolved that Yatendra Solanki be removed from his position as a director of the SAIT Students' Association effective immediately.

**T. Holowachuk/L. Hunter
Motion Carries**

The motion was passed by secret ballot.

11.0 Questions/Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 p.m.