

**Trent Central Student Association
Emergency Meeting of the 2023-2024 Board of Directors
Friday, February 16th, 2024, at 4:00 pm- Online**

1. Call to Order

START TIME: 4:03 PM

This meeting took place online

2. Roll Call

Chair: Rob Monico

Present

TCSA President Aimee Anctil (she/her)
VP Health/Wellness Bri Policicchio (she/her)
VP Campaigns/Equity Alexx Bodden (she/her)
VP University & College Affairs Rovel Rehman (she/her)
Enviro/ Sustainability Commissioner Alyssa Scanga (she/they)
Mature Students Commissioner Chase Kilbourne (he/him)
Queer Students Commissioner Elias Malcolm (he/him)
GC President Emily Johnston (they/she)
OC Commissioner Jonathan Naylor (he/him)
LEC Prime Minister Noah Edwards (he/him)
LEC Commissioner (alternate) Dante Pio

Absent

Indigenous Students Commissioner Katie Lariviere (she/they)
Racialized Students Commissioner Furo Ibisiki (she/her)
International Students Commissioner Apoorva Kulkarni (she/her)
Part-time Students Commissioner Khidhr Alam (he/him)
On-Campus Commissioner Moez Khawar (he/him)
Off-Campus Commissioner Dustin Hannah (he/him)
GC Commissioner Meet Rajgor (he/him)
OC President Ashley West (they/them)
Traill President Aidan Cooke (he/him)
Traill Commissioner Taylor Labelle (she/her)

Regrets

LEC Commissioner Sarah Ovens (they/she)

Association Staff

General Manager Tracy Milne (she/her) Present
Resource Manager Wendy Walker (she/her) Present

Members of the Public

Kate Story (she/they) - Theatre Trent

Amy Cummings (she/her) - Theatre Trent

Evan Robbins (she/her) - Arthur Newspaper

Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay (he/him) - Arthur Newspaper

Emma Kaszecki (she/her) - Trent Graduate Students Association

Rob Hailman (he/him) - Trent Radio

Flip Walker (they/them) - Sustainable Trent

3. Land and Labour Acknowledgement

Chair Monico reads, *“The Trent Central Student Association wishes to acknowledge that we are meeting today on the traditional territories of the Mississaugueeg Anishnaabeg people of Treaty 20 and the Williams Treaty, who have been taking care of this land since creation. As visitors to these lands, we would like to acknowledge the displacement and sacrifices of all Indigenous peoples who lived, learned and gathered here, much like we are today. Peterborough, or Nogojiwanong, as it was originally called, has become home to many, and we would like to recognize the contributions made by other First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples to this community. We give further thanks to the people of Curve Lake First Nation and Hiawartha First Nations for welcoming us onto this beautiful land. While settler-colonialism is still very evident within the structure of our society and institutions, the TCSA is committed to furthering the work of a de-colonial student union and campus, in partnership with Indigenous university staff, students, and community groups.*

The Trent Central Student Association acknowledges that much of what we know of our society today, including its culture, economic growth, and development, has been made possible by the unpaid labour of Black, Indigenous, and Racialized peoples. While racism is prominent within the structure of our society and institutions, the TCSA is committed to furthering the work of an anti-racist student union and campus in partnership with Black, Indigenous, and Racialized university staff, students, and community groups.”

4. Chairs Remarks

Chair Monico welcomes everyone and informs the attendees that, because so many members of the public are present at this board meeting, we will be following Robert's Rules of Order. This is to ensure that the meeting remains on task, therefore, this meeting will have a speakers list followed.

5. Referendum

Resource Manager Walker begins welcoming everyone. They explain that the Semi-Annual General meeting (SAGM) held on Wednesday, February 14th, had a low turnout, and only some of the presented changes were passed. In particular, the bylaw package did not get passed. The Policy and Governance (POG) committee met afterward and discussed how they would be moving forward, including presenting solutions on how to increase turnout to the SAGMs. They received feedback during the SAGM where students expressed that they were not comfortable making the changes that were proposed without consulting more students, and they felt these

changes would not be a reflection of all students. The two things that POG felt were most crucial to bring forward to students to change would be the criteria for referendum petitions to be valid and considered and the Board of Director composition. Due to the nature of the questions regarding petitions, that is something that is being brought directly to the membership to be voted on. The changes to the board composition and the proposed name changes have already been endorsed by the board.

Evan Robbins mentioned that there was a lot of discussion during the SAGM and that there should be more done by POG to reach out to students during the development of policy changes; they would like to know what consultation has been done at this time since the SAGM. Resource Manager Walker responded by stating that if these questions go to referendum, they will be brought to various election events and presented to the students in attendance at that time. They also clarified that because the SAGM was two days ago, there has not been an opportunity to consult students between the SAGM and this meeting, but if the questions are approved for referendum, there will be more opportunity to get student feedback. Robbins clarified, stating that they would just like to know if there has been any consultation since the SAGM, and Resource Manager Walker responded, stating that there had not been any opportunities for consultation on the last day.

Rob Hailman asked for clarification about procedures for bylaw amendments. They would like to know what procedures are needed for a bylaw to be binding. They suggest that referenda are an opportunity for students to present bylaw changes to the board and have them pass during meetings, but it does not outline a clear process on how that is carried out. Hailman would like to know how referenda are incorporated into General Meetings. Resource Manager Walker responded by outlining Bylaw 14. They state that the Board may initiate referenda to enact bylaw changes, and this has been done in the past. There is time for referenda committees to register to campaign either for or against approved questions. The referendum would need a simple majority and reach the 15% quorum in order for the changes to be binding.

Hailman asks for clarity about bylaw 14.22. They believe that it is an ambiguous bylaw. Resource Manager Walker states that this does not apply to a specific levy or to change amounts; this just applies to the overall referendum rules. President Johnston states that because the referendum brought forward will have a direct impact on referendum rules, it may not be a wise course of action to continue pushing it forward in this way. They emphasize that this may be seen as not listening to student voices. Rob Hailman agrees with Emily's statements. They believe that things need to be done right, and that time needs to be taken to consult students appropriately. They suggest that it might be more appropriate to make these changes during the Fall SAGM and that if things are being rejected, then there may be a reason for that based on the feelings of students.

Evan Robbins asks the board members if they believe that, given that quorum was met, do they believe that this organization represents the students or works for the students. Chair Monico reminds the attendees of the meeting that it is not relevant to speak on past SAGMs and that the discussion is about the referendum. President Johnston states that if the board is to continue with the referendum, the board must consult with levy groups and students involved in levy groups. Furthermore, they are unsure if the duty to consult has been met in this situation, particularly based on the amount of feedback given. Prime Minister Edwards states that this referendum is still being sent to all the students, not just people who could attend the meeting. Flip Walker speaks in favour of the referendum question moving forward, as it is the best way to get input directly from students. They share that Sustainable Trent has limited resources, and the petition threshold being lower will be helpful and allow them to continue their advocacy work. President Anctil agrees with what has been stated.

Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay is curious whether any levy groups were consulted in the creation of this policy change, and if so, who and if not, why. They would like to know why levy groups are not consulted, especially when they could be impacted. They state that the concern is the lack of consultation with the levy communities. Commissioner Naylor states the importance of levy groups in making student voices heard in critical aspects of the university. Chair Monico would like to know if this question was directed to any specific members of the Board. Johnston-Lindsay responds that this is primarily directed at POG. Resource Manager Walker states that they have addressed this concern before and that the reason why levies were not consulted is due to the lack of a Levy Representative. They were not aware that the previous Levy Representative was no longer in their position, and they were only made aware of the new Levy Representative, David King, a week ago. Since David King is also a member of the press, it would not have been appropriate to share the materials being discussed with them. Resource Manager Walker states that the materials have been available on the website and that Johnston-Lindsay themselves were present at the last meeting to voice any levy group concerns. Johnston-Lindsay states that the presence of a Levy Representative is not the nature of what they were asking, and emphasizes that all levy group contact information is readily available, and should have been used to consult levy groups earlier. Kate Story would like clarification on why there is a sense of urgency to move forward with the referenda, particularly with the lack of levy group representation. They point out the section that states, "it could be argued that it is difficult to get ahold of 10% of the membership" and that in their experience, it is easier to reach out to people now than in previous years. Aimee: Limiting the conversation to levy group-related referendum limits the scope of interpreting what referendum questions are; referendum questions can also be about campus climate. Ultimately, our membership has grown significantly, and that threshold change supports the high volume of students being heard by the Board. Any question would still have to be answered by quorum, so it is not necessarily binding. The nature of whether that's positively or negatively impactful to levies is subjective to what questions are being posed.

Prime Minister Edwards moves that the speaker's list be closed. President Ancil seconds the motion. The motion carries.

MOTION: Be it resolved that the board approve the proposed referendum questions as presented.

Moved: Vice President Policicchio moves, Vice President Bodden seconds
Motion carries with a two-thirds majority

6. Adjournment

MOTION: Be it resolved that the February 16th, 2024, Emergency Board of Directors Meeting be adjourned.

Moved: Prime Minister Edwards moves, Vice President Bodden seconds
Motion Carries

END TIME: 4:42 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Ramsamy (she/her)
Board Secretary