



Meeting Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
Sheridan Student Union Incorporated (SSUI)

Meeting #:	335
Date:	February 10, 2023
Time:	7:00PM [EST]
Location:	HMC Board Meeting

Director	In Attendance	Calling In	Absent	Late (Time Arrived)
Vice-Chairperson: Shivang Shingala	X			
Om Patel	X			
Huu Luan Truong	X			
Pranesh Lakshmanasamy	X			
Abhay Bhingradia	X			
Radhika Munjal	X			
Sam (Clifford) Koabel	X			
Sanjey Sureshkumar	X			
Catarina (Nguyen) Pham	X			
Romil Pravinbhai Vadadoriya	X			
Angelina Owen	X			
Siddharth Tuteja	X			

Quorum is reached with 12 of the required 8 directors being present.

Ex-Officio Member	In Attendance	Calling In	Absent	Late (Time Arrived)
Kyle Budge, President & Board Chairperson	X			
Julia Bertola, Vice President of Community Outreach	X			
Rhema Javed, Vice President of Staff & College Engagement	X			
Jamie (James) King, Managing Director	X			
Maria Lucido-Bezely, Dean of Students	X			
Saz (Sarah) McKean, Executive Coordinator & Board Secretary			X	

Guests In Attendance	Wasiimah Joomun, Member Relations Officer at CASA
	Sana Banu, Director of Membership at CASA & President of CSI

Agenda Item 01	Call to Order
Notes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting is called to order by Kyle Budge at 7:04PM [EST]. 	

Agenda Item 02	Approval of Current Meeting Agenda		
Motion:	I move that we approve the Agenda as discussed in the meeting.		
Moved By:	Radhika Munjal	Seconded By:	Sanjey Sureshkumar
Notes:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is not a scheduled Agenda for this meeting due to some illness with Saz. Because of this, an official agenda was not able to be made on time. For this meeting, an informal agenda will be used, with the two (2) items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation by CASA An update by Kyle After Motion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no previous meeting minutes to approve this meeting, so they will be approved in the next meeting. 			
Motion Carries			
Votes:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
	14	0	0

Agenda Item 03	CASA Presentation		
Motion:	I move that the SSU Board of Directors approve the SSU submitting a requisition format membership with CASA and attending the AGM in March in order to become full members of CASA.		
Moved By:	Kyle Budge	Seconded By:	Julia Bertola
Notes:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wasiimah and Sana, representatives from CASA, present. Wasiimah shares her screen to show the “Canadian Alliance of Student Associations Presentation to Sheridan Student Union.” What is CASA? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CASA is a federal-level lobby group that helps student unions across Canada come together, discuss student issues that are important on their campuses, and create policy-based proposals for the federal government to make changes and/or to invest in. Mission: “Through its member-driven structure and grassroots approach, CASA’s mission is to advocate for students using policy development and research, awareness campaigns, government relations, and partnerships with other stakeholders.” Vision: CASA is focused on accessible, affordable, innovative, and high quality education for all post-secondary students in Canada. Core values practiced by CASA’s membership, office, and board: non-partisan, member-driven, research-based, easy-in easy-out, transparency, and 1 vote per institution. CASA has 23 full members and 11 observers. SSU is currently an observer. What does advocacy look like at CASA? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy & research. Meetings & lobbying: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> meeting with Members of Parliaments (MPs), Senators, Ministers, and another others who have the power to influence public policy related to post-secondary education; ask for the policy changes you want and explain why they are needed. sit on Parliamentary committees to make policy recommendations to the government after studying the issue and listening to the witnesses. Consultation. Partnerships: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Union Etudiante de Quebec (UEQ) partnership. They have 9 student associations in their membership. 			

- Media Engagement.
- Advocacy Campaigns:
 - Each year, CASA's National Advocacy Committee works on a campaign that is important to students.
 - 2023 Campaign: #HalfYourDegree, talking about how tuition is not the only costs associated with post-secondary education, and is asking the government to double the Canada Student grant and make it permanent.
- Records of Success
 - In October 2022, CASA met with the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of IRCC to discuss the issue of the 20 hour cut off that international students can work per week. Starting November 15, 2022, international students with approved study permits can work more than 20 hours per week in off-campus employment.
 - Early last summer, CASA helped advocate for the extended disability supports under the CSFA Program to include those with a persistent or prolonged disability, along with increasing the flexibility for documentation that can be accepted when applying for CSFA Program disability supports.
 - Successes in the last 2 years:
 - Elimination on the interest on Federal student loans,
 - \$9 billion COVID aid packages to post-secondary students and recent graduates,
 - Launch of the National Standard for Mental Health and Well Being for post-secondary students,
 - And doubling of Canada Student Grants for 2021-22 and 2022-23 academic years.
- SSU's Involvement in CASA
 - SSU decides:
 - How you join/leave CASA,
 - How you pay membership fees,
 - Who represents SSU at CASA and the reporting/communication requirements of these representatives, and
 - How SSU engages with CASA.
 - There will be a Primary Delegate and a Secondary Delegate. Their duties and what training they receive are briefly described.
 - Membership Fee Structure: Sheridan is at the cap for the number of students, therefore the SSU membership fee would be \$59 533.
 - CASA's 2022-23 timeline is briefly shown, from May: Foundations to March: AGM.
 - "Why CASA?": lists the benefits and opportunities of becoming a member of CASA, from representing Sheridan at a national level, CASA conferences, access to training and resources and networks, advanced stakeholder relations, and more.
- Kyle makes the ask: can the SSU join as members? To become members, we need Board approval.
- Kyle reiterates that the membership fee is just shy of \$60 000, and there will have to be a budget built for the two delegates that go to the conferences. We are looking at about \$80 000, for the membership fee and the costs needed for the delegates' accommodations for conferences.
- This year, we are planning to pay the membership fee out of SSU's Operating Budget, but what we want to do next year is work it in as a new fee dedicated to this, so that students know we are a part of this organization. We would build the membership fees and conference costs into that new student fee, would come out about \$3 per student, and being sure to make a clear separating between the CASA fee and our own student experience fee.

Motion Carries

Votes:	For: 13	Against: 0	Abstain: 0
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Special Instructions/Interpretations:

- *Wasiimah and Sana leave the meeting at 7:37PM.*
- *Abhay left the meeting at 8:02PM.*

Agenda Item 04

Health Centre Initiative

Notes:

- "Pee for Pizza" Initiative, an initiative the college is putting together and want student opinions.
- When asked for their opinion, the directors agree that "Pee for Pizza" sounds like you go to the washroom and can get pizza.
- This is an initiative from the Health Centre, wanting to raise awareness about STIs and wanting to ensure people know how to go get tested for STIs.

- The idea would be that students would go to the Health Centre, they would submit a urine sample, and they would get a piece of pizza.
- They want to see how it runs at Davis first, and then roll it out at HMC and TRC if Davis goes well.
- They want to get the Board's opinion on whether you think this would be something of benefit, if students would buy into this, and whether we should participate or not.
- Only support the SSU has agreed on so far is some light support in marketing it.
- The Board agree that they personally would not participate in this, and prefer to say no.
- It's intended to raise awareness for STI testing, but a person explain there is potentially better ways to do that.
- Another concern discussed, is not wanting to tie urine to food service.
- Feedback that will be brought back to the college: we can support marketing, support the advocacy and awareness around this, but not the actual event they are proposing.

Agenda Item 05

Health and Dental

Notes:

- The Board should remember that the SSU planned to extend the supplementary Health & Dental plan that domestic students enjoy to the international students.
- In conversations with the college, we have come to understand that they believe that it is not as simple as just extending the benefit to international students; they have indicated to us that they believe this might trigger a referendum, which is required under certain fee rules when you increase fees more than 20% for students.
- It's our position that it would be very difficult to run a referendum on the subject without revising our bylaws, along with requiring many months to plan.
- While we were hoping we could simply extend this benefit to international students come September, it is not as simple as that, at least from the college perspective. We have a bit of a different perspective on that, however, this is where we are in that discussion right now.
- We will likely need some extended discussions with the Board in regards to the intent of the Board surrounding international health & dental, and how hard you want us to push this at the college, because it is potentially going to be a two to three year plan to fully integrate everything.
- We are looking at a plan to integrate guard me and Student Care, to try to satisfy the college in regards to extending this benefit to international students.
- The college is looking at possibly changing the coverage with guard me a bit to get international students onto the Student Care plan, simply because the fees from guard me will be less.
- We have talked about subsidizing international fees, and reducing some coverage to make things a bit cheaper.
- Depending how much the Board wants us to push for a shorter timeline, as many on the Board are international students, we can create a committee specifically to advocate for this and create a report on how students feel about the health plan.
- If we create a report for the college, that will help us lead the conversation and help understand what students want.
- Abhay explains that for international students, they would like more coverage except the largest concern is the fee because it is already quite high. He suggests discussing further about other possibilities of balancing out the guard me and Student Care fees so there is none or not a large increase in the cost.
- Jamie suggests that next meeting, we create a proposal for a committee and make a frame of reference, a timeline, a set of deliverables, and send them off to get done what needed.

Agenda Item 06

Transportation

Notes:

- The college has also expressed interest in starting some type of shuttle bus or transit solution.
- We met with a company this morning and they offer scheduling and management services for transportation. So, they are like a consultancy group that would come in and assess all the needs of the students, figure out a proper transit schedule and route would look like. They would they suggest companies that we could use that would facilitate the transportation. We would be paying another company to run this route.
- Meeting today was more of a discovery call, to get feedback and get a feel of what is being offered. There is going to be a follow-up meeting, with a pitch, most likely mid-March.
- Kyle asks the Board to think up ideas for if you were to take a bus/shuttle/etc., how would you most like that route to work?
- We're taking a poll of what you see as being the best solution. If you know anybody else that would benefit from a shuttle bus or alternate solution as well, ask them and get their opinion on what they would like to see as the perfect solution for them.


- So when we do go and meet with this company again, we can tell them the feedback from students, and ask them what they can do for us.
- Jamie suggests to the Board, if the college and the SSU is interested in this, that some form of partnership surrounding the exploration of this should be explored if they authorize it.

Agenda Item 07		Adjournment	
Motion:	I move that we adjourn the 335th Board Meeting.		
Moved By:	Julia Bertola	Seconded By:	Shivang Shingala
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 		
Motion Carries			
Votes:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
	13	0	0
Special Instructions/Interpretations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting is adjourned by Kyle Budge at 8:39PM. 		

Referenced Documents:

- Canadian Alliance of Student Associations Presentation to Sheridan Student Union

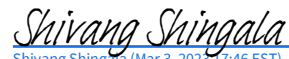
Respectfully submitted by,


[Sarah Mckean \(Mar 3, 2023 16:40 EST\)](#)

(Signature of Secretary of the Board)

Adopted by the SSU Board of Directors in the meeting of

February 24, 2023
 (Date of Meeting)


[Shivang Shingala \(Mar 3, 2023 17:46 EST\)](#)

(Signature of Board Vice-Chairperson)