



BOD MEETING
Thursday, July 4, 2013 @ 1:00 pm
HUB BOARDROOM

MINUTES

PRESENT:	BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
	Kayla Fitzsimmons	President
	Corey Grist	Vice President External
	Yannick Benoit	Vice President Internal
	Andrew Deugo	Vice President Student Life
GUESTS:	None	
REGRETS WITH CONSIDERATION:	None	
SPEAKER:	Kayla Fitzsimmons	NUSU President
RECORDED BY:	Peggy Stubbert	Secretary to the Board

1. President calls the meeting to order.
2. President calls for approval of the agenda. 2nd VP Internal. Passed.
3. President moves to approve the minutes of April 18, 2013. 2nd VP Internal. Passed.
4. Motion # 2: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors approve the purchase of 2000 handbooks from the Canadian Federation of Students for a total of \$5763.00. 2nd VP Internal.
Discussion: Board agrees that this was a good decision, the costs were kept down and 2000 copies was a good start. Suggest that the process is started earlier next year, February or March.
Motion passed.

Motion # 3: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors appoint D'Agostino & Associates Barristers and Solicitors as NUSU legal counsel. 2nd VP External.
VP Student Life abstains from vote.
Motion passed.

Motion # 4: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors sponsor \$875 to the Canadore Alumni Golf Tournament. VP Internal.
Discussion: They raised 14,000 for Scholarships and Bursaries. Board agrees that it was a good event and should consider attending again. President suggests that possibly NUSU could run a golf tournament as a Shinerama fundraiser and VP Internal advises that sponsors should be approached in October/November.
Motion passed.

Motion # 5: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors approve representatives from the Canadian Federation of Students access to union information. 2nd VP External.
Discussion: CFS has counseled other councils in similar situations. They were provided with financial information only. Their mandate was to give NUSU advice on direction and autonomy regarding the relationship with the University.
Motion passed.

Motion # 6: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors approve a donation of \$500 to the Ben Kuyt memorial fund. 2nd VP Internal.

Discussion: All board members attended the memorial on May 25, 2013 and it is agreed that this should be a reoccurring donation.

Motion passed.

Motion # 7: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors appoint ACL as the provider of the Nipissing University Student Union health and dental plan for the 2013-2014 academic year. 2nd VP Student Life.

Discussion: VP External explains that this is an exciting plan with a lot of options allowing NUSU to provide better service to the students.

Motion passed.

Motion # 8: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors present a letter of compliance to the Canadore Students Representative Council (CSRC). 2nd VP Internal.

Discussion: This letter is archived with these minutes. The content was to inform the present CSRC board of the monies owed to NUSU.

Motion passed.

Motion # 9: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors appoint VP External, C. Grist as the Ontario Executive of Local 20 for the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario. 2nd VP Internal.

Motion passed.

Motion # 10: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors send VP External, C. Grist to the Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario Executive Committee meeting May 10-12 2013 with a \$40/day per diem. 2nd VP Student Life.

Discussion: Report attached.

Motion passed.

Motion # 11: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors send VP External, C. Grist to the National Shinerama Conference May 17-20 2013 with a \$40/day per diem. 2nd VP Internal.

Discussion: Report attached.

Motion passed.

Motion # 12: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NSUU Board of Directors send VP External, C. Grist to the Semi-Annual National General Meeting May 29-June 3 2013. 2nd VP Internal.

Discussion: Report attached.

Motion passed.

Motion # 13: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors approve using Nipissing University servers as IT infrastructure. 2nd VP Internal.

Discussion: Nipissing has agreed to provide a separate space at no cost which will be more efficient and allow cloud capability. This will help reduce overhead.

Motion passed.

Motion # 14: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors approve sending President, K. Fitzsimmons, VP External, C. Grist, VP Internal, Y. Benoit, and VP Student Life, A. Deugo, to the 2013 Executive Retreat at the Nottawasaga Inn, Alliston, Ontario, May 13-15, with a \$40/day per diem. 2nd VP Internal.

Discussion: Notes from conference are archived with these minutes. Board agrees that it was a great place for a conference as well as being cost effective.

Motion passed.

Motion # 15: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors approve sending VP Internal, Y. Benoit, and VP Student Life, A. Deugo, to the 2013 COCA National Conference June 20-25, with a \$40/day per diem. 2nd VP External.

Discussion: Report attached.

Motion passed.

Motion # 16: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors approve sending President, K. Fitzsimmons, VP External, C. Grist, VP Internal, Y. Benoit, NUSA representative, J. Bouwmeester, ENACTUS Representative, K. Tempelmans Plat, Students on Stage Representative, S. Lyons, Graduate Studies Representative, A. Fewkes, Residence Facilitator, R. Sell, Residence TRC President, A. Springer, Residence representative, A. Kavanagh, and Muskoka Representative, L. Cameron to the Ontario Skills Symposium in Mississauga on June 14-16, 2013. 2nd VP External.

Discussion: Friendly amendment is agreed upon by mover and seconder and is included in the final wording of this motion. Board recommends yearly attendance.

Motion passed.

Motion # 17: Moved by President, Be it resolved that the NUSU Board of Directors sponsor \$150 to the Adopt-a-Laker Golf Tournament. 2nd VP External.

Discussion: This donation is for a hole only. This is an example of NUSU supporting student athletes.

Motion passed.

5. Business Arising

- President suggests that all four board members sit down with their calendars to prepare for upcoming events.

6. Director's Reports

- May reports – attached
- June reports – attached
- Conference/Meeting reports – attached.

7. Correspondence – None.

8. Setting of the next meeting. – Thursday, August 1, 2013 @ 1 pm.

- VP Student Life expresses his concern, stating that he has sent two e-mails to the President asking for Third party mediation. President states that she only received one e-mail and then she and VP Student Life list issues they each have. President advises VP Student Life to contact Nipissing HR to set up the process. President asks that issues be brought forward during Business Arising and not at the end of the meeting.

8. Motion #18: President moves to close this meeting. 2nd VP Internal. Passed.

MINUTE AUTHORIZATION

President and Chair

Secretary



May 28 2013
Canadore Students Representative Council

Dear CSRC,

According to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), signed February 20 2013, point 13:

13. CSRC hereby acknowledges and agrees that any fees remitted by the College to them for balance of the 2012-2013 academic year shall first be applied to reimburse NUSU for outstanding amounts owed to it by CSRC and JSEC (not otherwise satisfied pursuant to paragraph 3(c), including any reimbursement arising out of shared legal costs incurred in negotiating the settlement and steps set out in this MOU.

This money was not remitted to NUSU upon the college's disbursement of advanced fees in April 2013. This was a direct violation of the MOU agreement.

As of May 23, 2013, the Honorable Judge Karam has released a sum of money from the trust fund to both NUSU and CSRC. Upon deposit of the trust fund money, NUSU requests that all debts owed by CSRC be paid to NUSU.

To our current knowledge, CSRC owes \$220,000 to NUSU. Upon further investigation, notice will be provided if there are additional amounts owed.

Due to the current financial standing of NUSU, we require this debt repaid immediately after deposit of trust funds.

Respectfully,
Nipissing University Student Union

Kayla Fitzsimmons
President

Yannick Benoit
Vice President Internal

Corey Grist
Vice President External

Andrew Deugo
Vice President Student Life



May/June Report

President – Kayla Fitzsimmons

Finances

During the past two months, we have been working on creating a budget for the 2013-14 year. Although it is still in draft form, we have changed the way money has been allocated in the past so that it is fair and accountable to the entire student body, and also takes the restructuring of the Student Centre into consideration.

While this has been taking place, we have been very meticulous about spending money, and try to save as much as possible while still spending what is needed in order to maintain a positive student experience. There are not that many expenses during the summer months compared to the school year.

NUSU has been having to transfer money into a joint account with the Canadore Students Representative Council (CSRC) in order to pay joint obligations (telephone, internet, fax, etc.), but we are working towards winding down these joint operations and splitting these costs between the two student unions.

Contracts

We have been reviewing all current contracts to determine if they are beneficial to our organization such as but not limited to cell phone plans, partnership agreements and the health plan. We have cancelled a few of these agreements to save costs and have been exploring multiple options for different services that we provide. Currently, we are working with different ATM companies to find the best option for NUSU. We have also renewed our contract with ACL Student Benefits for a new health plan that will begin in September 2013.

Legal/Grant Thornton

Due to restructuring, NUSU has required assistance from multiple professional services. We currently share legal counsel with CSRC with a firm called Baker & McKenzie LLP. We have been with this firm for a very long time, but because of their high rates, both NUSU and CSRC have obtained local counsel. NUSU is now currently working with D'Agostino & Associates LLP.

NUSU has finally stopped all litigation. We are working diligently with Nipissing University, Canadore College and CSRC to tie all loose ends so that all four parties are able to move in a positive direction.

We have been working towards minimizing legal costs and providing the best student experience possible for Nipissing University. NUSU is complying with the Employment Standards Act of Ontario and are trying to comply with the Corporations Act while striving to meet requirements of the Not-for-Profit

Corporations Act that will be in effect in the near future. All employees are being treated with the upmost respect and confidentially, and therefore we cannot release any personnel information. All other information regarding legal will be released as approved by the court and legal counsel.

Board of Governors

As President, I still on the Nipissing University Board of Governors, as well as the Audit and Finance Committee and the Plant and Property Committee. In May, the Audit and Finance Committee reviewed the budget for the 2013-14 year, which included an increase in tuition across the board. The budget did allocate money towards new initiatives, the largest being the new basketball teams. Because NUSU did not support the increase in tuition, but wanted to maintain the same or high level of student services, we abstained from our vote on both the Audit and Finance Committee and the Board of Governors.

The student seats on the Board of Governors and its committees are as follows:

Board of Governors: Kayla Fitzsimmons, Corey Grist, Yannick Benoit (observer),
Andrew Deugo (observer)
Audit and Finance: Kayla Fitzsimmons, Yannick Benoit (observer)
Plant and Property: Kayla Fitzsimmons, Yannick Benoit (observer)
Uni. Governance: Corey Grist, Andrew Deugo (observer)
Advancement: Corey Grist, Andrew Deugo (observer)

Senate

There have been two meetings of the Senate since the new term has begun. These are the year-end meetings in which the reports from committees and subcommittees are approved. The main focus of these meetings was the Nipissing University budget.

The three student Senators are myself, Yannick Benoit (chief student Senator) and Corey Grist. Four more will be elected in September.

Goals for July

Now that most of the legal issues are out of the way, we hope to fulfill the promises made in our platforms. Personally, I hope to complete a new copy of our corporate by-laws as well as create a governance package to help NUSU run in a more efficient, accountable and transparent manner.

I also plan to continue with plans for building a new student centre, as we have been in many discussions with the University since the term has begun.

Finally, I will continue to move forward with the procedures that come with restructuring so that everything is in place for September and that NUSU is able to provide the best student experience possible.

Conclusion

Overall, the four executive members have hit the ground running. The NUSU executives will continue to write monthly reports in order to update students of what is occurring within the organization. If there are any questions or comments regarding these reports, we encourage you to ask questions.

We expect to see a dramatic increase in student initiatives and involvement come September, and have been working as a team with not only ourselves, but other student groups around the school to work in the best interest of the student body.

Respectfully yours,

Kayla Fitzsimmons



VP External Report May 2013
Corey Grist

May was a very busy month. There were many conferences and outing that took up a lot of time. These include the Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario Executive Committee Meeting, Shinerama National Conference, and the Canadian Federation of Students Semi-annual General Meeting. Please see attached reports outlining the events of these meetings and conference. There was also the NUSU Executive retreat which was facilitated by the Ontario Organizer and Ontario National Representative of the Canadian Federations of Students - Ontario.

There was many of meetings and discussions surrounding the health and dental plan for the 2013-2014 year. This included the plan design, the marketing strategy, and overall implementation and transition of the online interface.

A large portion of time during May was spent on developing the StudentSaver Discount program. This included designing a merchant package, which is similar to a sponsorship package. This was necessary to be able to provide businesses across North Bay and Bracebridge with accurate information to answer their questions. To start the process, individual businesses were called and solicited for the discount. The package was then brought down to the business to review and sign. A total of 19 businesses across North Bay signed on as new partners, that include the Independent Grocer, Cecil's & the Zoo, Partners Billiard's and Bowling, and Dave's Green Papaya. A marketing campaign to work on how the studentsaver discount program will be advertised to students during the school year was began. Thoughts also were poured into how ISIC cards will be distributed and advertised to members this coming year. I am working on getting a better printer for the cards.

A Board of Governors meeting occurred, along with a few subcommittees. My role as a Student Senator continues until September, which kept me busy in different meetings including appeals and standings & petitions.

May encompassed many meetings with different administrators of the University and professionals hired for services. All of these meetings focused on the current litigation and restructuring matters that are occurring for NUSU and JSEC.

Campaigns were brainstormed during May, including Shinerama. The Shinerama conference reports highlights my thoughts, along with the CFS reports for the campaigns I would like to bring from the federation.

Overall, May was a very busy month being out of the office at different functions and traveling. A lot was accomplished in terms of the Studentsaver program and progressions on the health plan. There was a steep learning curve associated with the position and becoming up to date with all of the past and current events.

Corey Grist
Vice President External
Nipissing University Student Union



VP External Report June 2013
Corey Grist

June flew by as it was a very busy month. It seems everything takes longer than expected to be figuring out the future of NUSU and the businesses. A lot of time was spent on meeting with different professionals hired (ie lawyers and accountants) and university administrators. This was a busy time to continue executing the MOU and portions of it.

The Board of Governors meeting occurred in June, which was quite contentious due to the proposed University 2013-14 budget. A press released was prepared to inform students of NUSU's stance on the budget.

Many meetings took place involving different Senate subcommittees. Stands and petitions was in full swing as many students were asked to withdraw from the University. I advocated on behalf of all the students and really pushed to have as many as possible be permitted to remain at the University. It was extremely frustrating to see the committee decline so many appeals which, in my opinion, had valid reasons and that the students deserved a second chance. This will only fuel my desire to advocate on students' behalf. There have also been many appeal committee meetings. There have been a few individual students that require a full appeal, which takes a lot of time and effort to read all proper documentation and come to a conclusion.

June also held the Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario Skills Development Symposium at the University of Toronto Mississauga campus. This was a great conference to attend to learn a bunch about how we as Executives can do a better job at what we do. It provided us necessary skills to be awesome! See the attached report for more details.

As stated above, the restructuring process has been very time consuming. The importance of ensuing this restructuring process is completed in timely manner is of utmost importance to the integrity of the student union. This is why so much of my time has been spent dealing with these issues with other executives. The need to have the process completed by September is completely necessary to minimize the impact that students feel.

Finally, Shinerama has been a large priority in June. Working to come up with interesting ideas that will be effective has been great. The push is now to gain sponsorship and implement a few secondary fundraisers throughout the summer to prepare for the big Shine Day!

Corey Grist
Vice President External
Nipissing University Student Union



Vice-President Internal Report on May & June of 2013/14 Academic Year

May & June:

- #1. The student handbook forms a core component of our student outreach programming. It serves as a guidebook to the University and to introduce new and returning students to the incoming NUSU council and the services we offer.

The Student Handbook was a returning project this year. In the past, NUSU would produce the handbook in-house. A new producer was selected this year, being the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). The pricing was comparable to the previous costs. Included in the CFS handbook is colour printing throughout the book. This was deemed to be an attractive option and was worth any extra cost we may have incurred. Due to a build-up in credits from collection of CFS membership fees, the entire cost of the handbook, \$5,763.00, was defrayed through these monies.

Some suggestions for next year is to prepare the handbook well in advance of the start of the incoming council term, May 1st. This year, 2-3 months worth of work was condensed into 1 month. To prevent stress on next year's incoming VP Internal, work on the Handbook should begin in March.

- #2. The NUSU website, nusu.com, has for the last year been run through the company Mobile Fringe. In the opinion of the new VP Internal, the mandate of the website had gone far afield of the true purpose of a Student Union website. The extreme cost of the current developer/service provider gave extreme pause to the new VP Internal. Through extensive conversation with the NUSU board and NUSU's partners at CSRC, it was determined that the contract with Mobile Fringe would be terminated. 30 days notice was given to Mobile Fringe and payment of the required fees for the termination period was accounted for and remitted at the appropriate times.

Mobile Fringe has asserted that they are owed more money than was remitted. They assert approximately \$180,000.00 is still owed to them. NUSU and CSRC have decided to hold our position and will not waste student money in this manner. Informal quotes were gotten from web development companies, and the cost of the contract with Mobile Fringe should only have been worth \$50,000.00.

To replace our website, an option exists with the CFS. For a yearly fee of approximately \$675.00, NUSU can have multiple domains, service and repair, and development. The VP Internal and the VP External are exploring this option, and others, to ensure that Nipissing Students get an appealing and functional website.

- #3. In order to reduce business overhead, the VP Internal approached the University to negotiate acquiring "cloudspace" on the University's servers. The negotiated deal is still in the process of being finalized. The cost to the Student Union is \$0.00.

- #4. The University has donated a 60" television that was replaced in the Board of Governor's boardroom to the Student Union. The television's utility is being assessed. As it stands, there is no intended destination for it yet.
- #5. The last two Senate meetings were attended by the new VP Internal, as Chief Student Senator. The matters of import that were discussed that affect the student members were:
- a. The creation and development of a new Kinesiology program out of the new Surtees Athletics Centre
 - b. The University's 2013/14 budget was passed through the Senate which indicated the use of reserve funds to bring the deficit of the University to a manageable level.
 - c. The VP Internal continues to serve on the Appeal Committee and has participated in 4 appeal to date
 - d. The VP Internal continues to serve on the Standings and Petitions Committee and has participated in 3 official meetings.

Conclusion:

The VP Internal is continuing to make the IT infrastructure at NUSU more efficient and to cut costs to the Student Members. The VP Internal is recording serious concerns with policies that are observed through the Appeals and S&P committees, which raise concerns for their affects on our students' ability to study efficiently at NipissingU. The VP Internal continues to resolve the glaring issues with the Student Unions website and its other online presences.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signed: _____

Andrew Deugo
Vice-President Student Life
Nipissing University Student Union
July 4th 2013

May 2013

Objectives:

1. To finalize choices and positions for Frosh Leaders involved and,
-Still in progress as of June 1.
2. Begin the process of putting out a request for proposal on all items needed for Frosh Week and,
-Still in progress as of June 1.
3. Begin NUSU specific preparations for incoming New Student Orientation days.
-Early preparation stages finished; overall preparation still in progress as of June 1.

Actions to be completed;

1. Concerns had arisen regarding a number of Frosh leaders in social media postings. Although it is my stance that what they post in social media be at their discretion as we cannot regulate to the point of refusing an individual freedom of speech, statements that may be detrimental to the incoming students of Frosh week must be dispatched post-with. Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] made public statements as such. After the first, informal request to [REDACTED] to discuss the statement that she had made, followed by a second and third formalized request for meetings, Miss [REDACTED] deemed it pertinent to resign herself. As we had asked [REDACTED] to come and discuss with us the matter of why she had made the comments and she refused, my coordinators and I deemed it necessary to accept her withdrawal from Frosh. [REDACTED] replacement on Frosh in a team leader position has since been decided to be Stephen Kemp, a now returning Frosh leader from last year. In regards to the situation regarding [REDACTED] another comment had been made in social media that was deemed negative to the Frosh experience we are trying to convey. After asking [REDACTED] to come in for a meeting (and this request being tremendously received) it was decided that based on [REDACTED] attitude towards the comment, her apologetic actions, and her decision to honor my request to assist in volunteering during NSO could be used as a means of deciding whether she was still fit for the Frosh duties. I have deemed it pertinent that [REDACTED] not be removed and that she will remain [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
2. The process went well with very few bumps in the road. First was the selection of the items to be placed within the Frosh kits. After much discussion amongst my coordinators, CSRC's VP student life, and the other remaining executives we decided on a list of items that would be ultimately beneficial for the incoming students and give them value at the same time. Items such as combination book-mark quadruple color coded post-its, a laptop sleeve, sunglasses and so forth were all included. The approximated value of items enclosed within the kits was proposed to be 45-50\$. Secondly was the process of determining the items to be provided for the Frosh leaders, in an attempt to provide quality and prevent the back packs breaking like last year, items of higher quality were explored.

3. New Student Orientation days were fairly straight forward to prepare for. As the committee had suggested someone new to introduce the President of the University, it was my suggestion to have the president of the Student Union give him his introduction. Additionally it was posed that should NUSU have additional "swag" for prize donation that it should be supplied to the committee. NUSU's donation came in the form of NUSU branded scarves. The discussion for the new Student Connection session to replace the student forum also took place. Here it was decided that via an Amazing Race format students would tour different stations in teams and have small informative game sessions with respective organizations at the school. NUSU's approach to this was a game-show style Q&A.

Andrew Deugo
Vice-President Student Life
Nipissing University Student Union
July 4th 2013

June 2013

Objectives:

1. To finalize choices and positions for Frosh Leaders involved with poor academic status and,
-Completed.
2. Finalize and send out a request for proposal on all items needed for Frosh Week and,
-Completed.
3. Continue with brainstorming and possible event activities to be done during Frosh.
- Continually in progress as of July 1.
4. Continue NUSU specific preparations for incoming New Student Orientation days.
-Continual preparation ongoing, student volunteers to be used as Student Connections Leaders.

Actions to be completed;

1. During this stage of choosing students to utilize as Frosh Leaders, it was made aware to me that some students involved in Frosh were unfortunately in poor academic standing and therefore asked to withdraw from the University. In another resignation, [REDACTED] choose to withdraw based on reasoning that he did not feel comfortable paying now 120\$ to volunteer his time. With both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] being asked to withdraw the total number of bodies to replaced came to four. The finalized substitutions are as follows;
 - Two Team leaders to be replaced
 - And two Events leaders to be replaced.
2. After completing all required items needed to be included in Frosh Kits, the swag for leaders and the clothing for Execs/Coordinators, the finalized RFP was completed with CSRC and put out to the following companies.
 - Wrightway Sports
 - Promo Sport Depot
 - Cartblanche Promotions
 - And Coyote Promotions

*We are currently awaiting all finalized Requests For Proposals to be re-submitted and then make a decision accordingly.

3. With the switch of Justin Chirico as CSRC's VPSL, to now Kevin Perry new brainstorming processes and different ideas were now circulated. The preliminary planning of the week's layout and events/activities during the week was well under way. Using an "If it isn't broke don't

fix it” mentality it was decided that the current structure of the week would still be tremendously successful as it has in years past. With only minor substitutions to some nights and otherwise minute changes the schedule will roughly follow as is...

- Monday Boat Cruise, with potential for Boat to Boat Bar Night
- Tuesday Opening Ceremonies/Inflatable Games, with potential new programming for evening show
- Wednesday Beach Day, with potential for new Paint Yourself bar night and a Movie under the stars
- Thursday Muddy Olympics, with Frosh Mosh mainstage performance
- Friday Amazing Race, evening programming still under discussion
- Saturday Shinerama with Tight n Bright Tron bar night
- Sunday Closing ceremonies and potentially awards banquet with special guest/show Tony Lee

4. This process was easy to assist with. Kara Stewart the woman in charge of organizing the new Students Connection session had asked for Frosh leader assistance to tour the groups from station to station, they were jubilant to help. Ashley Couldrey, Amanda Choffe, Blair Wooley, Jordan Andrews, Brittany Emon, Joseph Johnston, Tj Fournier and many others volunteered their time further to assist us.

Meeting: Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario National Executive Committee
Date: May 10 to May 12
Delegate: Corey Grist (VP External)

Overview

This meeting was intended to ratify the 2013-14 Ontario Executive Committee and to cover all necessary orders of business. The CFS was introduced in terms of its founding principles, the preamble, bylaws and constitution. It is the largest and oldest student organization in Canada, representing 600,000 students across the nation. Through the federation, students pool resources to advocate for a more accessible and affordable post-secondary education system and to provide cost-saving and ethical services to students. The federation is not-for-profit.

Time was spent being oriented and generally prepared for the year ahead. The roles and studies of the executive committee was outline, which is structured through collective, individual, fiduciary duties, and the Code of Ethic and Confidentiality and Agreement.

An anti-oppression training then was delivered. This was presented by Gilyr Massa, Local 24, ed.communications@rsuonline.ca. Oppression is the power and the effects of domination. There are many forms of oppressions, including: racism, sexism, heterosexism, anti-Semitism, ablism, ageism, etc. Topics included race/cultural related terms, gender related terms, sexual identity related terms, ability related terms, other “isms”, Aboriginal/Indigenous terms. Discussions then broke out on how to organize inclusive events, addressing accessibility, how to become more aware of oppression in the community, and how to eliminate it.

On Saturday, a solidarity in the post-secondary education sector presentation occurred. This presentation examined the pressure on students who advocate for progressive changes to their educational experiences and the success that students have had in working with professors, staff, and other allies to build a student movement in Ontario.

A review of Federation services was then delivered. There are a large variety of services that are available to all locals and their members. Discount services were reviewed.

- The International Student Identity Card (ISIC) was highlighted along with the Studentsaver discount card. The ISIC is available to all full time members of local 20. Part time members may use a studentsaver card. The ISIC offers a number of quality discounts (such as through Porter airlines, VIA rail, Greyhound, and local discounts solicited) while the studentaver offers all of the local discounts.
- U-File is a service that students can utilize to complete and submit their taxes for free. The regular price starts at \$19.95. There is also a service available for francophone members.

The bulk buying service was then recapped:

- A handbook/dayplanner service is offered through the federation at very competitive prices. The books are completely colour, and offer student unions to customize pages. The books are made from completely recycled paper, vegetable oil ink, and recycled plastic as the coil.
- The ethical purchasing network is a services offered to members to purchase products that are ethically produced and fair-traded. Sweatshop free products include tshirts, pens, water bottles, lanyards, bags, etc.
- A website services is offered through the Federation at a very cheap rate that hosts quality websites that student unions have the power to completely control. The whole service is being overhauled to be more modern.
- The national student health network is a very large health and dental plan network that the member locals can join. It is completely not for profit.

A few logistical concerns was then discussed that includes the employer's representatives and staff relations officer, prospective membership to the CFS, member awareness strategies, round tables on committee orientation, and directors from the semi-annual Ontario meeting.

Then, important dates were discussed. The 2013 Semi-annual National General Meeting was discussed, taking place May 29 to June 2 2013. The 2013 Skills Development Symposium was highlighted. This symposium is to allow student leaders to become more acquainted with the necessary skills to function at a superior level. This is happening from June 14 to June 16. Fifteen delegates from local 20 may attend. The 2013 Ontario Annual General meeting is happening August 15 to August 18 in Markham, Ontario. Finally, upcoming executive committee meeting dates were discussed, happening October 19-20, December 7-8, and March 29-30. The Ontario semi-annual general meeting is happening January 16-19.

The Ontario campaigns was then discussed. The structure of the presentation outlined the approach to campaigns, current post secondary issues, and action plans to implement the campaigns. Produced campaigns were discussed, that include:

- Challenge homophobia and Transphobia
- Task Force on Campus Food Services
- Campus Toolkit for combating Sexual Violence

On Sunday, the Federation's finances were discussed. The budge was presented along with any outstanding fees.

Next, government relations was a topic at hand. Conversations revolved around the Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities and critics (Theresa Armstrong, NDP and Rob Leone, Conservatives), the Ontario 2013 Budge, preparing for a potential election, and other government agencies, including Contact North, Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario (HEQCO) and Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer (ONCAT).

A solidarity and outreach session then occurred, that brought forward discussion on the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA), Ontario University and College Coalition, CUPE-Ontario, OPSEU, ODL-Common Front, and Grassy Narrows.

The Federation's media strategy was reviewed and tools of how to reach an audience. Media releases and coverage was outline, along with the federation's online presence.

- Website: www.cfsontario.ca
- Media releases: <http://www.newswire.ca/en/organization/127649>
- Youtube: CFSFCEEOntario
- Twitter: CFSON
- Instagram: CFSON

A receipt of reports from local representatives was then distributed. The meeting minutes were adopted.

Implementation

All of the services and campaigns of this meeting will be included in the VP External's portfolio this coming year. Plans to make all services available to students in the goal. Many campaigns will come back to the Nipissing University campus to address issues that are prominent on campus and how to combat them.

Final Thoughts

I thought this meeting was very successful. It brought fourth a great networking opportunity to meeting other executives from varying student unions across the province. The amount of discussions that were positive to the student movement and how this can be implemented at Nipissing University was phenomenal.

Meeting: Shinerama National Leadership Conference
Date: May 17 to May 20
Delegate: Corey Grist (VP External)

Overview

The ShinCon conference included a number of networking and planning workshops that provided the basic skills and understanding of how to begin, implement, and coordinate a successful Shinerama campaign. A guest speaker, Tara Bourque, who is living with cystic fibrosis, spoke to all the Shiners about her experience living with CF and how research has dramatically changed her life. She was a recipient of a double lung transplant. Drew Dudley was the second guest speaker, who spoke about his experience with Shinerama. He was tremendously motivating and offered many good ideas of how to approach any campaign, with a focus on Sponsorship. A third very effective presentation, titled, "The Power of How" was very good eye opener to see how much fundraising and research is helping to fight cystic fibrosis. Finally, Andrew Thibodeau have a very interactive talk to get everyone motivated.

A number of workshops were initiated throughout the weekend. A workshop outlining where to start and how to get a campaign up and running was beneficial. It had many tips to begin, such as creating a critical plan and setting up a committee. The use of social media, branding, and fundraising was beneficial to help market a campaign. This mainly highlighted what materials to use and what old materials to not use. A group session focused on the best practices to handling money and how to get support for our mission of defeating cystic fibrosis. On the Sunday, there were a number of workshops that delegates can choose to go to. I attended the A-Z of Secondary Fundraisers and Money, Money, Money: where is our budget sense? These were beneficial to highlight new ideas for secondary fundraisers and how to budget for a campaign.

There was plenty of social time to meet other school delegates, talk about upcoming campaigns, and have fun.

Implementation

All of the materials will be considered and implemented into the Nipissing U and Canadore C Shinerama campaign. There are a lot of resources within the materials provided that can be used and implemented.

Final Thoughts

Most of what I learned at the conference - to me, was common sense type material. It highlighted a lot that I had already known through browsing a previous Shinerama Resource Manual. A new manual was distributed that highlighted everything, and more. The purpose of the conference seemed to be more of a team building, Shinerama love sharing, bonding experience.

The materials I received are very helpful.

Meeting: Canadian Federation of Students - 63rd National Semi-Annual General Meeting
Date: May 29 to June 2
Delegate: Corey Grist (VP External)

Overview

This was a very exciting meeting that occurred to go over at the national level the doings of the Canadian Federation of Students. The structure of meeting proceeded with an opening plenary session to push motions put forward by member locals to a respective subcommittee. A plenary is the large group of all the locals, where each local has a vote.

The organizational structure of the meeting consisted of constituency groups, caucuses, provincial components, and committees/forums. The motions would be discussed at each of these different groups. Each group elected up to three individuals to sit on one of the three committees, which would then make recommendations to the closing plenary as to either support, amend, or defeat the motion. Over the period of four days, this is what most of the discussion revolved around. There was close to 75 motions. When meetings were not occurring, there was a seminar in current issues in higher education, and panels. The panels consisted of the future of labour in Canada, copyright in the public interest, sweatshop free campuses, and the global struggle for public education, and commercialization on campus.

A number of very good motions were passed through at closing plenary based on the recommendations from each committee or forum. There was a few socials, which was very nice to network with other student leaders at other institutions.

Implementation

This meeting had a lot of interesting ideas that I would like to pursue. I had some previous knowledge on many of the campaigns CFS has developed, and I would like to bring as many as I can to the NU campus. This includes a sweatshop free campus, bottled water free, etc. Please see the 63rd Semi-annual general meeting binder for all materials distributed at the meeting.

Final Thoughts

The meeting was very interesting and it was a great opportunity to network. I learned a lot that will definitely be brought back to the NU campus. It is certainly nice to be strengthening local 20's relationship with the Federation.

In solidarity.

Meeting: Ontario Skills Development Symposium
Canadian Federation of Students

Date: June 14th, 2013 – June 16th, 2013

Delegates: Yannick Benoit, Jazmine Boumeester, Laura Cameron, Aaron Fewkes, Kayla Fitzsimmons, Corey Grist, Alison Kavanagh, Stephanie Lyons, Robyn Sell, Amanda Springer, Kurt Tempelmans Plat

Overview

The 13th Annual Ontario Skills Development Symposium was located at the University of Toronto Mississauga Campus. The conference was designed to help new student representatives with the learning curve that comes with their new position, and to provide a place for students' unions to meet, share skills and learn together.

The conference included the following workshops:

- Effective Event Planning
- Understanding the Post-Secondary Sector
- Students' Union Rights and Responsibilities
- Educate, Agitate, Organize! – Campaigns Organizing
- Successful Meetings: Participation and Facilitation
- ABCs of Contracts: How Not to Get Fleeced
- Making the News
- Students' Union Finances and Human Resources
- Building an Inclusive Student Movement

Information on the above workshops can be found in a binder in the NUSU office. Each section of the binder provides very detailed information and can be useful to any student group on campus.

Implementation

Each workshop provided information that is very relevant to a students' union. Workshops such as *Effective Event Planning*, and *Educate, Agitate, Organize!* will be very useful in planning events and campaigns throughout the year. Other workshops highlighted the importance of student government and how we can affect the university as a whole. With this information, we plan to inform students throughout the year of local and provincial issues revolving around tuition increases and government grants, and also plan to build an inclusive student movement, pursue students' goals and create a positive university experience overall.

The workshops on meetings, contracts, finances, human resources and rights and responsibilities will also be very useful in running an efficient students' union. We plan to use the knowledge we have gained to run proper Board meetings, spend our

funds wisely, create a safe environment and go through the proper stages before making any financial obligations.

Final Thoughts

In conclusion, this conference was very useful in preparing us for the year ahead. It was a great networking opportunity for not only NUSU, but also other student leaders from Nipissing University. I believe that bringing additional delegates was very beneficial, as it creates a sense of community between different student groups at both the North Bay and Muskoka campus, as well as provides an opportunity for other students to learn at no cost to their group. This conference was very informative for all that attended and it is my suggestion that it is attended with multiples delegates every year.

Report by: Kayla Fitzsimmons

#2. The two attending Delegates, Andrew Deugo and Yannick Benoit, renewed NUSU's membership with the COCA in the amount of \$339.00 incl. HST.

#3. The Conference began officially on June 21st. The majority of events took place at the Westin Nova Scotian in Halifax, NS. Key concepts that the VP Internal attended at conference were: Marketing, Clubs and Online Trends.

#4. Marketing learning sessions outlined how university student unions need to understand that word of mouth is good, but the ability to tap into the social network of your students offers unlimited potential in grabbing the attention of your audience. Ideas around how to smartly manage your social feeds and how to engage your students into being active on your social feeds were priority topics. It was discussed how having a social feed like Twitter is about more than just having one, but being active, re-tweeting your members, participating in discussions and getting your name out there.

Club learning sessions focused on several key items. The 1st topic being the need to understand what a club is and what is unique about them. The 2nd being the need to ensure that clubs remain adequately funded but ensuring that the possibility of abuse of funds remains a top priority, and in the hands of the SU. The 3rd topic was communication. It addressed the need for maintaining continuous communication, feedback and support to and from the respective organizations. Within the realm of communication, making sure that information is passed down properly from the "old guard" of a club to the new members is imperative.

Online Trends detailed the need to simplify your organization's message when it comes to your online presence. Essentially, you need a clean and simple website that will immediately tell the visitor what you do. The age of "About Us" pages is over. Smart information structures and key points of interest are the future. You want to drive people to your business, and the website is only an information system. The goal is not to drive people to your website. Several templates were discussed and evaluated. It was determined that a SU website with a mobile app for each operating system (i.e. iOS, Android & Blackberry) should **never** cost more than \$50,000.00. That is not to say that a SU should aim to spend \$50,000.00.

#5. The showcase portion of the conference gave the Delegates an opportunity to see what types of entertainment are available to SU in Canada. Many local artists (bands, comedians, and speakers) came out to Halifax to show their skill and their worth. Every night had different themes at a different venue in Halifax. The VP Student Life was charged with scoping which acts he wanted to see come to Nipissing University. An Appendix to this report will list which acts were thought to be of interest.

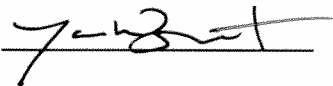
#6. The conference ended on June 24. The Delegates travelled back to North Bay on the 25th.

Conclusion:

The trip was a success. The Delegates were able to network largely with the Northern Ontario schools. Block Booking of certain acts was discussed. This would constitute savings in the order of tens of thousands of dollars, depending on how many acts were booked in an eight month cycle. The information sessions educated the delegates in their respective areas and have allowed them to begin implementing new policies and plans to better serve the student members.

Name: Yannick Benoit

Title: VP Internal

Signed: 

Andrew Deugo
Vice-President Student Life
Nipissing University Student Union
July 4th 2013

COCA IMPACT NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2013: HALIFAX

This year CSRC representatives Kevin Perry and Colby Clarke the VP student life and President respectively, attended the conference alongside myself and NUSU VP internal Yannick Benoit. Through a passport system organized by the conference we were lucky to attend a number of seminar modeled sessions that provided insight on how to greatly improve the efficiency of planning an orientation week. Different session themes included marketing, programming and events 101 and 102 as respective morning/afternoon sessions. These sessions offered a wide range of professional and student based opinions and suggestions for improvement to initiatives we would also be endeavoring in come our Frosh week and during planning beforehand. In addition to these informative learning sessions we were privileged to see a wide variety of performers via the many showcases arranged.

The sessions were exceptionally beneficial in my own opinion as I had a lot to learn of what was being discussed. Although the vast majority of what was discussed may seem common sense or simply small details but what I've managed to take away from the conference was that sometimes common sense in bookings, marketing, organization etc... is not so common. The small details often become the determining factors to success or failure, especially in events of a large magnitude. A large number of these sessions were targeted towards the major themes mentioned but specifically in regards to the little details that need to be investigated and nipped in the bud, prior to causing a conflict.

Showcases were numerous and often but amazing none the less. Bands like the Honey Runners, Bootleg glory, a number of hilarious comedic acts, alongside moving and motivational guest speakers like Molly Burke and Wayne Hoffman dating specialist all made up a menagerie of relevant and interesting acts that could be brought onto campus throughout the year. One of the more heartfelt and enlightening showcases we managed to see was that of Frank Warren. Hailed as the man to know the most secrets of anyone alive, Frank's website/movement post secret became a world wide phenomena and he is now considered a tremendous motivational speaker. His message to struggle despite adversity Given my own personal family loss during the conference I found it pertinent to do as directed by him during his presentation by writing a secret on a supplied post card and giving up the secret.

On a number of occasions other schools also differed to our reputable experience that NUSU, CSRC and the student centre have managed to garner over the years. Student executives asked our opinions, plans and outlines for our Frosh week to include different ideas that we had been developing. Some of our newer ideas for Frosh such as the "Boat to Boat cruise and Bar Night", amendments to the Muddy Olympics structure etc...

The conference was a means of establishing meaningful business relationships as well as networking opportunities both personal and business related. The atmosphere as well as people present at COCA promoted a learning environment for the betterment of all student experience on all respective campuses. Through knowledge sharing I feel that with the numerous new ideas presented at the conference we will no doubt be able to assimilate, even if only one or two, new ideas to benefit our orientation week. My future advice on sending delegates to represent us at COCA would be to include at least one professional staff member as this appears to be the protocol all other schools adhere to.

Andrew Deugo NUSU VP student life 2013-2014

NOTES

Executive Retreat, Nipissing University Students' Union
Local 20, Canadian Federation of Students
Monday, May 13, 2013 to Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Where do we see NUSU in 5 Years?

New Student Center/Services/ Space
Services/Clubs/Events
Visibility-class talks/campaigns
Diversity-events/campaigns
Profile in the community
More student led initiatives
CSRC
Lobbying

Things to fix:

Proper Bylaws/ Representation
Financial Management
Up to Par with other student's unions
No lawsuits
Be realistic

Tangibles for this year

Big Picture	Tangible Goals
Financial management	First Year Announcements Legal
Profile in Community	The Wall- bookable space Bylaws
Lobbying (for reduction in tuition fees)	Improve awareness of health plan Student Centers
Visibility	Website
Increase student involvement (grads/part time)	Raise awareness for services
Transparency	Increase campaigns- on actual student issues
Communication with SUs	Committees

What is the team and how do we work together?

Portfolios:

Vice President Student Life:

1. NUSU → Education Students
2. Food Bank
3. Campus Activities (Frosh/Frost Bite/Winter Formals/Exam Snacks)

Vice President External

1. Campaigns
2. Health Plan
3. Representation (BOG, Senate)

President

1. Oversight
2. Face
3. Staff/Legal

Vice President Internal

1. Chief Student Senator
2. Handbook
3. IT/Communications

Common Themes

Lobby

Legal

Even if someone is taking the lead on something others need to support. People can get territorial over portfolios, and then get shy to ask for help.

The only way to succeed is to be supportive, and open about our work.

There are some things that we each “have” to do, but should generally approach the work at one unit working towards a goal, rather than four units working towards a goal. No one should have a veto power because it’s a team effort/team goals.

How are we going to communicate?

How do you like to be communicated to, when are you a bad communicator?

Corey- Good: Prefers to be told bluntly **Bad:** Is not direct

Kayla- Good: One on One **Bad:** doesn't speak out
Yannick- Good: Situational **Bad:** Strongly Opinionated/Know-It-All
Andrew- Good: Open Forum **Bad:** Responsiveness/Tunnel Vision

20% of the membership Loves you and knows who you are
20% Hates you
60% Doesn't know who you are (this is who we want to focus on)

Want to have weekly meetings
One-on-One Biweekly Meetings with Kayla

Ask Kayla what she thinks.
Send a text message to Yannick if he's talking too much.
Check in with Andrew once a week if he hasn't followed up on emails.

Don't pick sides- you're on the students' side

95% Space- Giving people space to do things their way because it'll end up looking
95% the way you want it but the 5% means a lot to the other person.

What I did/What I'm doing- Meetings are not about what you did, it's about what
you're doing so it doesn't become a reporting mechanism. Should be talking about
strategies to support each other.

Meetings don't need to be formal. There are some specific things that maybe a
committee needs to meet every month, but other than those types of things,
informal check-ins help to keep the team together.

When you're in those meetings, you might disagree. When the meetings are done,
everyone needs to own the decision, no matter if you agreed or disagreed with it
(decide on the play and then all go out on the field and execute it).

Should be having preps and debriefs- figuring out who is good cop bad cop, or what
the game plan is. After the meeting should have a debrief. Get in this habit for almost
everything.

Find space where you don't talk about work. Try to do one non-work activity per
month and each gets a turn picking the activity.

How the Student Union is Perceived

(Highlighted we want to keep, strike through get rid of)

Secretive
Useless
Event Focused

Snacks
Hard Working
Open to talk
Opportunist
Boys Club
Cliquey
Hope/Faith
Dictatorship
Rogue
Exclusive
Elitism
Nepotistic
Professionalism
Friendly
Roudy
Nonexistent
Business opportunity
Fundraising Focus
Always Asking
Staff Run
Too Much Power
Responsible

Campaigns

Shinerama- Car wash/yellow shirts/ baseball game/shinerama gala

Movember- mustache pageant

Drag Queen/King show

Tenants rights- work with student development and services office (?)/ have 2 per year. September and January.

Task Force on Campus Food- Use info that was already collected and collect our own.

Stop the Hikes

Run for the cure

Sweatshop Free Campus

Townhall on student concerns- One for grad students

Grad student issues- Post Residency Fees

Language Poster

Material/ Support Campaign:

Homophobia and Transphobia

Justice for Aboriginal Students

Create Campaigns Committee

Events

NUSU Classic's

Frosh Week (need to do anti-oppression/discrimination training with leaders)

Shinerama

Themed Formals (maybe should remove the themes)

Frostbite

Movember

Pub nights (need more unthemed pubnights)

Wonderland Halloween Haunt

Food Drive

Toronto Trip

Dinner and a Show

New Events That Could Be Added

Open Mic/Nipissing Idol/ Nipissing's Got Talent

Club night or day at the wall/ Or bookable space

Guest Speakers (Academic)

Video Games

Sporting Event

Human Risk/Man Hunt/Capture the Flag

Zumba/Yoga/Self-Defense Classes

Tivia

Bingo

Cultural Fashion Show

Welcome Pow wow

Reality/Game Show (Price is Right)

Mini Putt at the Wall

Notes: Improve inclusiveness, increase appeal for upper year students, work with residence, make an events calendar to understand capacity and timing, increase alternative programming

Additionally, chants should be changed to avoid using discriminatory language. Needs to be inclusive for everyone.

Services

Health Plan

How can it be improved? Promotion (Presentation at Frosh Week, Orientation Day with Parents, Posters), consider moving away from flexplan that can be hard for students to navigate

The Wall

How can it be improved? Less themed Pub Nights, More Gluten Free/Veg/Vegan/Kosher/Halal food options

Pal's

How can it be improved? Prices (look at mark up), more collaboration with food bank

Pita Pizza

How can it be improved? Promotion

Convenience Card

How can it be improved? Get rid of it

International Student Identity Card

How can it be improved? Fix Printer, Promotion, Visits from CFS

Student Saver

How can it be improved? Wider Distribution of ISIC

Handbook

How can it be improved? Better Promotion (By tabling, orientation day promotion, club day, frosh)

Website

How can it be improved? Switch providers, get a customizable service, downloadable forms

Faxing/Photocopying

How can it be improved? Promotion

Bus Pass

How can it be improved? Promotion

Notes:

Put Brought to you by your Students' Union on every service/ everything that can be branded