

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION



**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – Nipissing University Student Union**  
Monday, October 26th, 2020 – 5 PM – Online

**Notice: Meeting may be recorded for the benefit of the secretary. The recording secretary shall keep a record of the recording for conflict resolution and organizational**



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**Nipissing University Student Union**

**purposes.**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – Nipissing University Student Union**  
 Monday, October 26th, 2020 – 5 PM – Online

**Attendance:**

President:	Hannah Mackie	Present
VP Finance & Administration:	Ward Loveday	Present
VP Student Life:	Shannon MacCarthy	Present
VP Advocacy & Awareness:	Mykayla King	Present
Director-at-Large:	Patrick Bethune	Regrets
Director-at-Large:	Hannah Brown-Thiesen	Present
Director-at-Large:	Aamil Mohammed Ferhath	Present
Director-at-Large:	Charlotte Foster	Present
Director-at-Large:	Mercedes Parsons	Present
Director-at-Large:	Sarah Pecoskie-Schweir	Present
Director-at-Large:	Curtis Tilbury	Present
CHAIR / SPEAKER:	Sammi Pritchard	CFS Representative
RECORDED BY:	Rebecca Dubeau	Office Administrator
STUDENT MEMBERS:	There were none.	

**1. Call to Order**

The Board of Directors meeting is called to order at 5:02 PM. *MACKIE* offered a traditional land acknowledgement.

**2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

There was none.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

**MOTION:** To adopt the agenda for the Board of Directors Meeting dated October 26th, 2020, as circulated.

*Moved by MACCARTHY;  
 seconded by PECOSKIE-SCHWEIR.*



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**Discussion:**

There was none.

*No noted abstentions.*

*No noted opposition.*

*Motion carried.*

**4. Approval of Minutes from the September 16th, 2020 Meeting.**

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes from the September 16th, 2020 meeting as circulated.

*Moved by BROWN-THIESEN;*

*seconded by KING.*

**Discussion:**

There was none.

*No noted abstentions.*

*No noted opposition.*

*Motion carried.*

**5. Student Concerns**

*MACKIE* led a discussion regarding student concerns and how to guide students who have concerns.

**6. Executive Reports**

**a. Report From the President**

**MOTION:** That the report from the President dated October 26th, 2020 be received.

*Moved by MACKIE;*

*seconded by PARSONS-FICHAUD.*

**Discussion:**

There was none.



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*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carried.*

**b. Report from the Vice-President Advocacy and Awareness**

**MOTION:** That the report from the Vice-President Advocacy and Awareness dated October 26th, 2020 be received.

*Moved by KING;  
seconded by MACCARTHY.*

**Discussion:**

There was none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carried.*

**c. Report from the Vice-President Finance and Administration**

**MOTION:** That the report from the Vice President Finance and Administration dated October 26th, 2020 be received.

*FOSTER* asked if it would be easier to get some of the contract changes done before September. *LOVEDAY* said that yes, it would have been easier. In the coming months, he will be looking into new options for the student health plan provider.

*FOSTER* asked if NUSU is still with We Speak Student and whether the coverage has changed. *LOVEDAY* stated that there were no changes to the coverage. Negotiations will occur in January for next year's plan.

*Moved by PECOSKIE-SCHWEIR;  
seconded by BROWN-THIESEN.*

**Discussion:**

There was none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.*



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*Motion carried.*

*MAKIE exited the meeting at 5:28 PM.*

*FOSTER* called for a quorum count.  
*PRITCHARD* confirmed

**d. Report from the Vice-President Student Life**

**MOTION:** That the report from the Vice President Student Life dated October 26th, 2020 be received.

*Moved by MACCARTHY;  
seconded by PECOSKIE-SCHWEIR.*

**Discussion:**

*PECOSKIE-SCHWEIR* asked whether the Fall-themed Goosechase had already happened as there was no advertising for it.

*MACCARTHY* stated that something will be going out tomorrow (October 27th) as the event will take place for the remainder of this week.

*PECOSKIE-SCHWEIR* noted that the event should therefore be in the “Things to Come” section of the VPSL report, and not in the summary of things that already happened.

*PECOSKIE-SCHWEIR* asked for more clarification regarding the events that will be happening in November.

*MACCARTHY* stated that possible events include another photo contest, a yoga night, a guided meditation event, a charades night, a ski/snowshoe event where NUSU provides the rentals to students. There is also a meeting in the future for an agency that facilitates virtual events to see what they can offer (e.g. comedians, magicians, musicians) and get information on pricing for that.

*FOSTER* noted that it would be in the things to come section as it has not yet happened and requested a friendly amendment to change.

*FOSTER* noted that the only thing that happened in September was the launch of the Club Hub and otherwise, it does not seem like there was a lot else going on. *FOSTER* asked if September was a month of planning. If September was a month solely for planning, it is unclear what the Summer Events Intern was doing this summer. *FOSTER* wondered if there were other items but they did not end up making it into the report.



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*MACCARTHY* said September was for planning and to get clubs and societies organized. The Summer Event Intern's role switched from creating Fall events when everything changed with COVID. Instead, they focused on Summer events and replanned orientation week. September & October were dedicated to wrapping up orientation items and a lot of club planning. For clubs, it was a lot of time planning for virtual clubs week and trying to deliver the same quality of event online. There was a lot of planning with external groups for clubs that fell through and so the Club Hub was created in the place of those plans. Each of the groups were also met with to have everyone on the same page; many clubs did not do any transitions with their executives for this year.

*TILBURY* also noted that the "Things to Come" section of the report does not have as much detail as the rest of the Executives' reports. While *MACCARTHY* was able to answer in more detail regarding things to come when prompted, it would be important to have those details in the "Things to Come" section. Otherwise, the Board does not have any idea what the details of what is to come in the next month and does not show that there is any concrete plan.

*MACCARTHY* noted that she will add more detail to the report as friendly amendments, creating subheadings with more information about each event. Next time she promised to provide more details and be less vague.

*FICHAUD-PARSONS* asked whether or not the Instagram initiatives (e.g. the Fall photo contest) is part of the VPSL's role. If so, they should be highlighted in the report.

*MACCARTHY* noted that all of the social media initiatives as of late are part of the Communications department.

*No noted abstentions.*  
*FOSTER, PARSONS-FICHAUD, PECOSKIE-SCHWEIR, & TILBURY* oppose.  
*Motion carried.*

## 7. Terms of Reference

*MACKIE* wanted to omnibus motions 7A-G.

*LOVEDAY* noted that the Audit & Finance Terms of Reference was not included in the distributed material.

*MACKIE* noted that item 7A a would therefore be omitted from the omnibus and tabled until the



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next meeting when those materials will be distributed.

*TILBURY* noted that there were some discrepancies in the language in the terms of reference (e.g. titles in the agenda versus titles in the actual document for the Sales and Merchandise Committee and the Campaigns and Green Initiatives Committee)

*MACKIE* entertained the motion to omnibus items 7B, C, D, & F.

**MOTION:** To omnibus for adoption of items 7B, C, D, & F..

*Moved by MACKIE;  
seconded by FICHAUD-PARSONS.*

**Discussion:**

There was none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carried.*

a. **MOTION:** That the finalized terms of reference for the Audit and Finance Committee be approved by the Board of Directors.

**MOTION:** To table motion 7A for consideration at the next Board of Directors meeting.

*Moved by MACKIE;  
seconded by BROWN-THIESEN.*

**Discussion:**

There was none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carried.*

b. **MOTION:** That the finalized terms of reference for the Elections Committee be approved by the Board of Directors.



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c. **MOTION:** That the finalized terms of reference for the Governance Committee be approved by the Board of Directors.

d. **MOTION:** That the finalized terms of reference for the Social Committee be approved by the Board of Directors.

e. **MOTION:** That the finalized terms of reference for the Campaigns and Green Initiatives Committee be approved by the Board of Directors.

*Moved by MACKIE;  
seconded by KING.*

**Discussion:**

*MACKIE* motivated the motion to approve this motion. The Governance committee felt as though the Campaigns committee and the Green Initiatives committee were very similar and were combined through the terms of reference. The Green Initiatives committee never met frequently anyway and feel that the nature of it speaks to what is already being done in Campaigns.

*FICHAUD-PARSONS* that she is currently opposed to the motion and agreed with *TILBURY*'s note about consistent language. It was noted that the title should reflect what the committee does and should be consistent throughout.

*MACKIE* stated that the intention was for the title to be "Campaigns and Green Initiatives Committee" but it was named "Campaigns Committee" in error. If everyone is comfortable, it can be a friendly amendment to change the title from "Campaigns" to "Campaigns and Green Initiatives."

*TILBURY* was in favour of motion so long as the friendly amendment to the title was done. He noted the importance of the consistency of language across the documents.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carried.*

g. **MOTION:** That the finalized terms of reference for the Shine Committee be approved by the Board of Directors.





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## 8. Committees

### a. Audit & Finance Committee

*FICHAUD-PARSONS* motioned to nominate *herself* for the empty seat on this committee.

*TILBURY* motioned to nominate *himself* for the empty seat on this committee.

*FERHATH* motioned to nominate *himself* for the empty seat on this committee.

*FICHAUD-PARSONS*, *TILBURY*, and *FERHATH* gave a brief overview of why they each would like to join the Audit & Finance committee.

*FERHATH* removed his name from the nomination list.

*PECOSKIE-SCHWEIR* removed herself from the committee. There are now two spots on the Audit and Finance committee.

**MOTION:** To ratify *FICHAUD-PARSONS* and *TILBURY* to the Audit & Finance Committee, effective immediately.

*Moved by FERHATH;  
seconded by MACKIE.*

### **Discussion:**

There was none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carried.*

### b. Campaigns and Green Initiatives Committee

*BROWN-THIESEN* motioned to nominate *herself* for the empty seat on this committee.

*FOSTER* motioned to nominate *PECOSKIE-SCHWEIR* for the empty seat on this committee.

*PECOSKIE-SCHWEIR* accepted the nomination.

*FICHAUD-PARSONS* motioned to nominate *herself* for the empty seat on this committee.



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**MOTION:** To ratify *FICHAUD-PARSONS* to the Campaigns and Green Initiatives Committee, effective immediately.

*Moved by MACKIE;  
seconded by KING.*

**Discussion:**

There was none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carried.*

c. Elections Committee

*FERHATH* motioned to nominate *himself* for the empty seat on this committee.

**MOTION:** To ratify *FERHATH* to the Elections Committee, effective immediately.

*Moved by FICHAUD-PARSONS;  
seconded by BROWN-THIESEN.*

**Discussion:**

There was none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carried.*

d. Shine Committee

*FICHAUD-PARSONS* motioned to nominate *PECOSKIE-SCHWEIR* for the empty seat on this committee. *PECOSKIE-SCHWEIR* accepted the nomination.

**MOTION:** To ratify *PECOSKIE-SCHWEIR* to the Shine Committee, effective immediately.

*Moved by FOSTER;  
seconded by KING.*



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### **Discussion:**

There was none.

*No noted abstentions.*

*No noted opposition.*

*Motion carried.*

#### e. Social Committee

*FERHATH* motioned to nominate *himself* for the empty seat on this committee.

*FICHAUD-PARSONS* motioned to nominate *herself* for the empty seat on this committee.

*FERHATH* and *FICHAUD-PARSONS* gave a brief overview of why they each would like to join this committee.

The nomination went to a secret ballot.

**MOTION:** To ratify *FICHAUD-PARSONS* to the Social Committee, effective immediately.

*Moved by BROWN-THIESEN;*

*seconded by FERHATH.*

### **Discussion:**

There was none.

*No noted abstentions.*

*No noted opposition.*

*Motion carried.*

## **9. New Business**

### a. Meet your Directors/Senators

## **10. Question Period**

*FOSTER* asked if *ASHLEY LOCKE* could include some updates to include for the next board meeting.

*MACKIE* stated that she could include it in her report.



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*FOSTER* noted some things were missing on the website.  
*MACKIE* noted there were issues with the website

*FOSTER* asked what was happening with Wellness Week which traditionally happens in November.

*KING* noted that Wellness Week would be happening later in November this year and that planning is beginning.

## **11. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** That the meeting of the Board of Directors dated October 26th, 2020 be adjourned.

*Moved by MACCARTHY;*  
*seconded by TILBURY.*

### **Discussion:**

There was none.

*No noted abstentions.*  
*No noted opposition.*  
*Motion carried.*

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Sami Pritchard, CHAIR

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Rebecca Dubeau, SECRETARY



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## President's Report to the Board of Directors

Prepared by: Hannah Mackie

Monday, October 26th, 2020

### In this Report:

- Building
- Advocacy
- AGM
- ORC Committee
- Other Committees
- Meetings
- Miscellaneous

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### Building

The building project is moving faster than ever. Currently we have shifted gears to look at processes and practices that need to be in place, and the committee has been working on getting things purchased, wrapping up the loan, and doing some scenario planning for the future. I have also recently worked with Sarah to get our RFp out for some brand work and logo design surrounding the new restaurant and bar. Many exciting things to come, and we look forward to welcoming you all into the space soon.

### AGM

Thanks to everyone (Staff, Executives, Directors and our student membership) we hosted yet another successful AGM. We were able to approve our audited financials, ratify our new representatives, and provide an opportunity to engage with our students. Thank you again everyone for attending!

### Advocacy

Much of what I raised in my last report still stands true. I have been working with the team to do some large scale advocacy work in regard to online learning. Currently, we have been working with the Teaching Hub to ensure programs and products available to students are



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being made aware to students, and that more work on what these platforms can do for students is being communicated to them.

A big focus of the group this year is working to build better relationships and bridges between students and the faculty. Shannon has mentioned her work in getting societies set up with their chairs and directors for regular communication, and Mykayla and I will be attending faculty councils to engage in positive dialogue around faculty and student concerns.

One last piece is that I have been elected as the Northern Caucus Chairperson for CFS, and will be representing Northern Ontario schools for the next year, while guiding and organizing caucus meetings. I am very excited about the opportunity!

### **ORC Committee**

The ORC committee has recently halted regular meetings as the expansion of campus operations is at a standstill for the time being. New updates include the library and athletics centre being available for use, and other departments being open to students.

### **Miscellaneous**

Over the last month and a half, I have been working with the recruitment office and others to provide NUSU content for various orientation and recruitment activities and initiatives. It has been wonderful to continue to represent NUSU in this way, even if virtually!

I have also been spending time consulting with the university around best practices for our employees who are starting to return to work and getting some strong process and policy in place.

### **Elections**

The Director/Senator by-elections have wrapped up, and we have elected three more directors to our board. Aamil Mohammed Ferhath, Mercedes Fichaud-Parsons, and Curtis Tilbury. We have also elected a graduate student senator, Ashley Locke. This is the first time in a long period we have had a full slate of student senators, so we are quite excited! Welcome everyone, and we look forward to your contributions.

### **To Come**



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Next week our governance committee is meeting and I am looking forward to moving on to some policy work, which means we will hopefully have more documents for the board the next time we meet. The CFS graduate caucus National General Meeting is approaching as well, and I am currently working with Ashley Locke, our graduate representative to become familiarized with CFS and what advocacy can look like in those spaces.

As the project ensues, more and more time will be spent on the building and getting ready to welcome our team in that space, and eventually students!



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## Vice-President Advocacy and Awareness' Report to the Board of Directors

Prepared by: Mykayla King  
Monday, October 26th, 2020

September and October were incredibly busy with welcoming students back to school but in a different capacity. In this report, I outline what I have been working on regarding campaigns and academic advocacy.

### In this Report:

- Campaigns
- Student Advocacy
- Things to Come
- Sarah's Report

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### Campaigns

In September, we hosted our *'Learning Online'* campaign. This campaign consisted of 5 posts that took place at the end of September. This campaign was focused on providing students with resources and tips on how to be best prepared for the new school year, as it is online. The campaign was well-received, and the students explicitly engaged with the post about Microsoft. Students have been having a difficult time converting from the switch from the G Suite to Microsoft. We included items such as what each Microsoft Office program offers, what OneNote is and why students should utilize Microsoft Teams. Some of the other discussed topics were; Self-Care, Preparing for learning online, Tips for online classes and Communicating Online.

On September 30th, NUSU collaborated with the Equity Centre to endorse a campaign that was being run by CFS, called All out September 30th. This campaign was a virtual day of action to commemorate Orange Shirt Day and support Indigenous and Black students, staff and faculty. There were virtual sessions held over Zoom by CFS to discuss some of the crucial issues at hand. Students were also encouraged to take a picture in their orange shirts and a sign with a statement on why they are striking.

In October, we initially looked at hosting a Shine Campaign called Shinetober. This initiative will be pushed into the new year. Shinerama had their campaign for Shinetember, in





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which we shared some of it. Over the next coming weeks, I will be reviewing the potential campaigns we had planned to see where it will fit the best.

The other campaign in October is Equity for All and is happening the week leading up to Halloween. In the summer, Rebecca and I met with the Equity Centre, who provided us with great information and resources that will be utilized for this campaign. Some of the topics discussed are; What is Equity for All?, Microaggressions, Culture is not a costume, and a day of action.

### **Student Advocacy**

I have been meeting with students who have raised some concerns about online learning to assist them to the best of my ability. The Dean was made aware of these concerns and has been resolved for the most part.

I have been attending the weekly petition exec committees, AAAPC meetings, as well as Academic senate. I appreciate attending these meetings, as it helps me understand how appeals and petitions work.

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### **Things to Come**

October 26th - 29th, the Equity for all campaigns will be launched on social media.

In November, we are planning on hosting a campaign for Movember. We are still in the planning stages but should be executing this plan by the beginning of November.

### **Sarah's Report**

#### **Committees:**

##### ***Young Professionals:***

We have not really met since the last BOD meeting; however, we are trying to figure out a way to reach out to Nipissing and Canadore students to get them more involved in the community as a retention technique.

##### ***Clean, Green, Beautiful North Bay***

We have met a few times this month either as a full committee or with smaller groups to discuss the way the group will look moving forward. It has become apparent that our



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committee needs to be under the umbrella of a group and so we have been in talks with the City of North Bay. Unfortunately, it does not seem that the city has been receptive to this despite all of the work our volunteers have done only in the last two years, and one being during the pandemic. Myself and Hariett will be meeting with different city departments next week to see what can be done. We have quite a number of students who have been involved with CGB and doing pick-ups of their own, including athletic teams which has been great to see.

### ***Chamber of Commerce***

This week has been Business Week and the Chamber has collaborated with many groups in our area to provide online information sessions and other events. The Bell Evening of Excellence event took place on Monday night where local businesses and individuals were given awards. It was great to see Maggie Daniel receive the Young Professional of the Year award as she is the Chair of the Young Professionals Committee and also works for Nipissing University. I have been involved with Ontario Chamber of Commerce meetings in the past few months as well and we are currently trying to figure out the best course of action for businesses moving forward. There is a genuine concern that we are not prepared for government restrictions, mental health repercussions and higher numbers of COVID cases.

### ***Labour Market Group***

LMG has been working with myself and Yes Employment to put together sheets for students that will help them understand what they can do with their degrees. We have four done right now but are looking to do more. There is a lot of research that goes into it but we have received positive feedback from the people who have already seen it. The LMG has also been working on surveying the general business population to assess the current situation in the hopes that the raw data can provide an insight into what needs to be done not only in the Nipissing district but in Ontario.

### ***Website***

The NUSU website has been updated and has launched. We have received a lot of positive feedback from students, staff and the North Bay community. We have had a few issues on the back end that we are trying to figure out but with Rebecca's help it has been going well.

### ***Faculty Fridays***



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We have started “Faculty Fridays” where we will be featuring a faculty member each week. The reason why we are doing this is to put a “face” on the faculty member for students who are learning courses online or who want to get to know their professors more. So far we have received about 5 submissions which is good seeing as we just sent it out to them. We hope that this will help us maintain a good relationship with NUFA.

### ***NUSUTalks***

Xander has continued with NUSUTalks and so far he has interviewed:

- Cheryl Sutton (Interim President, Nipissing University)
- Dennis Chippa (Executive Director, The Gathering Place)
- Ally Harrison (President, Nipissing University Nursing Society)

Xander will be speaking to Maggie Daniel, Dr. Nathan Kozuskanich, Quintin Ashitei, and Warren (re: the student centre). Our goal is to feature a member of the Nipissing community, a faculty member, and a student and alternate.

### ***Orange Shirt Day/All Out 30/ Latinx and Hispanic Month***

We created graphics to put out about Orange Shirt Day including sharing school survivors first-hand accounts. On our “What is Orange Shirt Day?” post we had almost 1000 shares to people’s Instagram stories. We also took part in All Out 30 and joined schools across Ontario who demanded movement on items such as more Black and Indigenous faculty, teachers and staff. We also featured Latinx and Hispanic month for the first time. We received quite a bit of positive feedback about it and we will make sure to honour this month annually moving forward.

When it comes to the campaigns that we are doing regarding people’s cultural identity a lot of research is going into it and we are learning a lot. I, myself, still have much to learn but I am hoping that through campaigns like this we can help make our students feel seen and understood or educate others with this information.

### ***RFP - Logo Design***

We have sent out a Request for Proposal for logo designs for our restaurant and bar. All of the information can be found here: <https://nusu.com/rfp/>



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***Reading Week Reboot***

We promoted SLT's Reading Week Reboot sessions to help students with their academic needs.



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## **VP Finance & Administration Report to the Board**

**Prepared by: Ward Loveday**

**October 26, 2020**

Hello everyone, I hope the start to this new year and eventful year has been successful for everyone. Congratulations and welcome to Aamil, Curtis, and Mercedes, our newest Directors, as well as Ashley our Student Senator, we are happy to have you all joining us. This has been an extremely busy month for me, most of my time has been spent handling the health plan, election, and the building project. In this report I will outline the most significant details and issues I have dealt with since our last Board meeting. As well, the Audit & Finance committee did not meet this month, mainly due to everyone's very busy schedules with classes, as well as there are no new significant items to report to the committee. Our next meeting will be in the month of November, and will include our new member of the committee.

### **Overview**

- Health Plan
- Building Project
- Projects in Progress

### **Health Plan**

#### **- Student Concerns**

- Health plan coverage was delayed until after the final opt-out date to ensure that NUSU would not be required to pay for students who have used the coverage and then decide to drop out of University. Students who emailed me regarding needing their coverage activated were manually added to the insurance plan.
- Students were upset that they were forced into the plan without proof of coverage.

Unfortunately this is required by the insurance provider, in order to keep premiums low. -

#### **Contract**

- I attempted to negotiate the contract, and remove the policy that forces students to have another form of extended benefits. Unfortunately our insurance broker said that this is not possible with our current provider. As we had already entered the policy year and contract negotiations were not brought to me before September, we were unable to 'shop around'. I requested that we only sign a 1-year contract extension for this year so we would be able to re-evaluate our provider and avoid the mandatory coverage policy. Unfortunately, they refused a 1-year deal, and we were forced to sign a contract



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extension until the 2022 policy year. I will be evaluating this in the coming months to determine if there is anything else we can do to avoid this.

### **- Opt-out process**

- The opt-out process is complete, all eligible students now have coverage. There was a list of students who had unsuccessfully completed the opt-out application, however we have corrected the misinformation and their opt-outs have now been completed. Apart from the students who have had opt-out issues, the refunds should be received as scheduled, the first week of November.

## **Building Project**

### **- Loan update**

- Unfortunately due to Covid-19 and the construction delays this has caused, we have been forced to move our loan initiation date from November 1, 2020, to February 1, 2021. This has resulted in an increased interest rate, which will result in NUSU being forced to pay an increase of \$39,600 over the loan term of 25 years. Although it is unfortunate that we will have to pay this extra cost, in the long term it is rather insignificant. The push back of the loan date will have no impact on the finished construction date.

### **- Start-up Purchasing**

- We are beginning to purchase items for the restaurant and student centre start-up. Some notable purchases that have been approved this month include: the restaurant's beer draught system, the student centre signage, and various tech equipment.
- We had some furniture arrive such as couches and tables. A special thanks to some of the Nipissing Lacrosse team members, who volunteered to unload and assist with moving some of these items into the building.

### **- Opening**

- The opening of the building will still be determined by the Covid-19 protocols on campus. However progress is continuing as expected and we are hoping to welcome students into the space early into the second semester. The board will be updated when this date has been finalised.

## **Projects in Progress**

### **- Mental health Initiative**

- We were contacted by students and staff members at Nipissing University regarding students well being at this time. It was noted that many students are struggling with mental health and addictions. We are looking into how we can 'fill the gap' between our services provided by the health plan, and those offered on campus. More to come



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on this when we have established a plan to tackle the various issues addressed.

**- Policy**

- As you can imagine, the opening of the building will require a lot of new policy and procedures to ensure the safety of our students and staff, as well as the effective operation of the student centre. Over the next couple of weeks we will be producing many policies and it is our hope that the board will be engaged in this process through the various committees they sit on.



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## Vice-President Student Life's Report to the Board of Directors

Prepared By: Shannon MacCarthy  
Monday, October 26th, 2020

### This Report:

- Club Hub
- Events
- Transition Document
- Food Bank
- Warren's Report

### Club Hub

The NUSU Club Hub is a new platform that was created for Clubs and Societies to connect with their members, and students not involved in their club yet. It has worked exceptionally well to-date and received positively by Clubs and Societies. The Club Hub has the following features;

- Home Page: The home page has pictures of Clubs and Societies, a description of the Club Hub, Upcoming Events, and a Contact Form.
- Explore Clubs: This page is a list of Clubs and Societies, their contact information, and a description of their group.
- Join a Club: This page has all of the groups that students can join/request to join. In the group, there are discussions, images, posts, events, member lists, etc.
- Club Forms: This page, as the title suggests, hosts all of the forms that Clubs and Societies might need to access.
- Testimonials: This page has all of the testimonials that current and previous club members have submitted.
- Training: This will have all the training modules for Clubs and Societies to access when it becomes available.
- Contact: This is a contact sheet to contact the Vice-President Student Life, not clubs





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directly.

### Events

This month we are having a Fall Themed Goosechase. If you are unfamiliar with Goosechase, it is essentially a scavenger hunt application that students can download on their phone to submit pictures, videos, and text responses to challenges created by us. After talking with Staff, Executives, and the Social Committee, we are going to be meeting with a virtual events director to look at possible events to bring to Nipissing, as well as some passive events that students can view online.

### Transition Document

The executives had been hard at work creating their Transition Document for the incoming executives next year. This Transition Document is important because it gives all the details of the roles and responsibilities within our individual job roles, and as an executive in NUSU. It was great starting the document this early, as it lets us put things that are fresh in our minds in the text (ie. things that took place this summer).

### Food Bank

I believe this was mentioned in my previous board report, but I have taken over the Food Bank every Wednesday from Warren. Approximately the same number of students come to the Food Bank on Wednesday's (around 10 students) and fill their bags, or take a gift card to a grocery store.

### Warren's Report

September

- Worked on article with Comms for [Award Magazine](#) feature article on our building
- Dismantled our Combi oven to fit into kitchen ( I couldn't find the exact model we have, but this is the same size from a different manufacturer [SSS](#))



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- Outdoor furniture and lighting installed in courtyard
- Met with Cristin, Erika, Dave, Meghan, Melissa, and Renee from the university about our grand opening and timelines.
- Met with Ward, Hannah, Mira, Dave, and Renee to discuss building finances
- Our old nightclub lighting was returned to storage, I organized and cleaned the storage bin.
- Operable wall delivery delayed to Sept 26th
- Main reception desk delayed due to Covid outbreak with manufacturer
- Glass railings being installed
- Met with Alumni to discuss “alumni lounge” signage
- Met with Erika.L to discuss the Student Centre fundraising campaign ● Hannah and I were interviewed by YourTv
- Did a tour of the building with Deputy Minister Shelley Tapp
- Began cleaning office and moving items we won't be using into storage
- Finalizing signage package for building interior and exterior
- Booked elevator inspection
- Kitchen walkthrough with Linda Goggin, from the Health Unit
- Purchased PS4 and Computer for A/V system
- Attended Building Committee meetings
- Did another walkthrough with New Ontario - awarded them draught install contract - \$23,327.
- Stopped by Subaru - Only 2 cars attended car wash - Confirmed \$200 donation to Shinerama
- Attended real campus “session”
- Boardroom tables arrived and installed
- Remaining furniture deliveries
  - Sept 29th** - Haworth - Boardroom tables
    - Re/re scheduled for AV testing
  - Oct 7th** - Keilhauer - Lounge chairs, sofas & tables
    - I will need some assistance with offloading plz\*
  - Oct 9th** - SPEC - Coffee tables, restaurant tables & chairs
  - Oct 13th** - Technion - Office furniture
    - 2 Trailers, 8am/10am



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**Oct 22 - Uline - Banquet tables & chairs**

**Things to Come**

- Events
- Food Bank