

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION



**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – Nipissing University Student Union**  
October 26, 2022 - 6PM - Zoom

**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 purposes.**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – Nipissing University Student Union**  
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**Attendance:**

President:	Riley McEntee	Present
VP Finance & Administration:	Montana Taylor	Regrets
VP Advocacy & Awareness:	Harikesh Panchal	Present
VP Student Life:	Preston English	Present
Director-at-Large:	Adam Strang	Present
Director-at-Large:	Emily Cooke	Present
Director-at-Large:	Jared Gagne	Present
Director-at-Large:	Mercedes Parsons	Present
Director-at-Large:	Anna Brownlee	Present
Director-at-Large:	Josee Laforest	Regrets
CHAIR / SPEAKER:	Sami Pritchard	Chair
RECORDED BY:	Nicole Seeley	Office Administrator
NON-VOTING MEMBERS:	Madison Moore	Director-at-Large
	Sydney Jonker	Director-at-Large

**1. Formal Opening – Call to Order**

The Board of Directors meeting is called to order at 6:06PM.

**2. Land Acknowledgement**

COOKE offers a traditional land acknowledgment.

**3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

COOKE declares she has a conflict of interest for item 9.b as she is a NUSU employee and can benefit from the Performance Evaluation Policy - will abstain from voting and commenting on this matter.

**4. Adoption of Agenda**

MOTION: To adopt the agenda for the Board of Directors Meeting dated October 26, 2022, as circulated.

*Moved by STRANG;  
seconded by GAGNE.*

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carries.*

**Discussion:**

McENTEE would like to make an amendment to the agenda to change the words “Holiday Bonus Policy” to “Performance Evaluation Policy” in the motion for item 9.b as well as to add section 10.d, NUSU AGM and November Board Meeting, to the agenda for the October 26th Board of Directors Committee Meeting.

*Moved by McENTEE;  
seconded by COOKE.*

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Amendment carries.*

MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended for the Board of Directors Meeting dated October 26, 2022, as circulated.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carries.*

**5. Approval of Minutes**

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the September 28, 2022 meeting as circulated.

*Moved by GAGNE;  
seconded by STRANG.*

**Discussion:**

There is none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carries.*

**6. Executive Reports**

**a. Report From the President**

MOTION: That the report from the President dated October 26, 2022 be received.

McENTEE states that he attended the Ontario Universities’ Fair on his own time as a volunteer and found that Nipissing compares well with other universities, especially regarding student services. McENTEE states that NUSU had the Municipal Election Meet and Greet and council was 50/50 split with women and men which was exciting. He is hopeful about the relationship he will have with Mayor Cherico. He was also able

to help organize the Leisure Farms event and we sold out of tickets which was great and it was a really good event.

*Moved by COOKE;  
seconded by PARSONS.*

**Discussion:**

There is none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carries.*

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

MOTION: That the Report from the Vice-President Finance and Administration dated October 26, 2022 be received.

*Moved by GAGNE;  
seconded by BROWNLEE.*

**Discussion:**

There is none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carries.*

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

MOTION: That the Report from the Vice-President Advocacy and Awareness dated October 26, 2022 be received.

PANCHAL states that the majority of the work he is doing is surrounding advocacy for international students. There is another Town Hall coming up on November 3rd for international student feedback. During the Campaigns and Green Initiatives Committee Meeting, they discussed doing a campaign on recycling, pushing for biodegradable items/reusable items for the cafeteria and doing a community cleanup before it gets too cold. Academic week was October 17-20 and we gave away prizes for students who attended events. Prizes included an Amazon Kindle and school supplies/NUSU merch. Wellness Week is also coming up November 21-25. We are planning to have a Sexy Bingo night and Trivia night. Lastly, there is a Diwali event happening November 4 which is open to all Nipissing students.

*Moved by COOKE;  
seconded by BROWNLEE.*

**Discussion:**

There is none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carries.*

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

MOTION: That the Report from the Vice-President Student Life dated October 26, 2022 be received.

ENGLISH states that Sarah McGowan and him have been meeting with Sarah Tedesco and Sarah Cantin discussing O-Week and wrapping things up. They are working on getting being an O-Week leader RSD approved. For student groups, he has been approving events, helping with finances and helping to plan events. The Social Committee did not meet this month because they couldn't reach quorum, but it will be rescheduled. We are looking to bring back NUSU Crew and get it RSD approved, which is a group of volunteers who want to help out with events. Once it's finalized it will be shared with the Board of Directors.

*Moved by BROWNLEE;  
seconded by COOKE.*

**Discussion:**

There is none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carries.*

**7. Committee Reports**

**a. Governance Committee**

MOTION: BIRT the report from the Governance Committee dated October 18, 2022 be received.

McENTEE states that the Governance Committee looked at the Performance Evaluation Policy and gave good feedback and made some changes. It was then brought back to the Committee and was approved. We also talked about the Food Bank Policy and new Dating and Relationships Policy.

*Moved by GAGNE;*

*seconded by STRANG.*

**Discussion:**  
There is none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carries.*

**b. Campaigns and Green Initiatives Committee**

MOTION: That the report from the Campaigns and Green Initiatives Committee dated October 21, 2022 be received.

PANCHAL states that the Campaigns and Green Initiatives Committee went over campaigns that happened in the last month and brainstormed new ideas including a recycling campaign, getting biodegradable items in the cafeteria, and doing a community cleanup. Students in Jamie Murton's class gave presentations for the community garden. These plans will eventually be implemented for the community garden.

*Moved by COOKE;  
seconded by BROWNLEE.*

**Discussion:**  
There is none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carries.*

**8. Question Period**

**9. Business Arising from the Minutes**

**a. NUSU Vehicle Update - Cost**

**Discussion:**  
McENTEE states that he spoke to Montana and there were two bills for the repairs of the chewed wires of the company vehicle, one for \$47 and one just under \$2000. The cost wasn't covered under insurance.

**b. Performance Evaluation Policy**

MOTION: BIRT the Board of Directors approve the Performance Evaluation Policy, as

recommended by the Governance Committee.

*Moved by BROWNLEE;  
seconded by PARSONS.*

**Discussion:**

McENTEE would like to make an amendment to the agenda to change the words “Holiday Bonus Policy” to “Performance Evaluation Policy” in the motion for item 9.b. McENTEE states that they made it explicit in the policy that NUSU Executives are not to conduct performance evaluations for NUSU employees who are Nipissing University students.

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda as amended for the Board of Directors Meeting dated October 26, 2022, as circulated.

*Moved by McENTEE;  
seconded by PARSONS.*

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carries.*

**MOTION:** BIRT the Board of Directors approve the Performance Evaluation Policy as amended, as recommended by the Governance Committee.

*Moved by BROWNLEE;  
seconded by PARSONS.*

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Amendment carries.*

**10. New Business**

- a. **Next land acknowledgment will be from Josee Laforest**
- b. **Canadian Federation of Students National General Meeting (CFS NGM)**

**Discussion:**

McENTEE states that CFS NGM is coming up next Friday and it is a 5 day conference. Riley, Montana, Josee and Jared are attending. CFS made the arrangements and are paying for it. They will be flying from North Bay to Toronto to Ottawa since there are no direct flights or buses from North Bay to Ottawa. This will be national advocacy for the government. If you see UMSU (University of Manitoba Student Union) and CUSA

(Carleton University Student Association) in the news, please know that it is separate from NUSU.

PARSONS states that international students are a group we should be advocating for.

### **c. Discussion, Food Bank Policy**

#### **Discussion:**

McENTEE states that they spoke with the Governance Committee about this and they gave us the general consensus that phasing out the gift cards should be okay. Food bank usage has tripled since last year, and we are going through our budget. We can't keep gift cards without dipping into other areas of the budget. The NUSU executives hope to phase out the gift cards and focus more on food. We won't vote on it until the December Board Meeting, but we want to let you know now and get your consent so that we can give students two month notice. Upon phasing out the gift cards, we will offer items such as gluten free items, which students normally use the gift cards to purchase.

PARSONS asks if we think removing the gift cards will solve the problem or will we need to increase the budget anyway since we would be purchasing more food

McENTEE states that students can take two bags of groceries and a gift card right now so it should solve the problem.

COOKE states that they have put up a survey to get feedback from students using the foodbank. Should work positively for us since it's not the two bags of groceries and the gift card, it would just be the two bags of groceries.

PARSONS asks about some of the things we won't be able to have in the food bank, such as meat.

McENTEE states that the gift cards were never intended for buying things like meat.

COOKE states that unfortunately we just can't offer everything. But we will have recipes posted in the food bank showing how to utilize food we have in the food bank to make nutritious meals.

PARSONS asks that for students who have dietary restrictions, you will be asking students what they use the gift card to purchase and gathering info through the survey?

McENTEE states that is correct and we will do our best to make sure we add these items to the food bank.

ENGLISH states that our food bank is low barrier and we have one of the better food banks compared to other student unions. Can share the research with the Board showing this. We try to make it as low barrier as possible while offering as much as possible.

### **d. NUSU AGM and November Board Meeting**

#### **Discussion:**

McENTEE states that the AGM is on November 16th at 6pm in person. Sami will be attending virtually. Need at least 30 people to hit quorum. NUSU will be providing free pizza. The November Board of Directors meeting will be right after in person with Sami attending virtually. This is where Sydney and Madison will be ratified and they will get speaking and voting privileges.



## 11. Adjournment

MOTION: That the Board of Directors meeting dated October 26, 2022 be adjourned.

*Moved by COOKE;  
seconded by GAGNE.*

### **Discussion:**

There is none.

*No noted abstentions.  
No noted opposition.  
Motion carries.*

6:54PM – Meeting adjourned.

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Sami Pritchard, CHAIR

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Nicole Seeley, SECRETARY