

**Minutes from a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life
Held on December 2, 2022 10am
Virtual Meeting on Zoom**

PRESENT: Andrew Woodall (Chair), Lauren Broad (Secretary), Genevieve Alloï (replacing Matthew Fishman), Elana Bloom, Dianne Cmor, Lou Collin, Margaret Colton, Lauren Farley, Julie Foisy, Hua Ge, Adia Giddings, Victoria Gorman, Lawrence Khoury, Abigail Koff, Cassandra Lamontagne, Harley Martin, Laura Mitchell, Sarah Rahimi, D'Arcy Ryan, Stephanie Sarik, Amy Sharaf, Masoumeh Zaare.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Melanie Burnette, Sarah Caille, Sumaiya Gangat, Antoinette Scaringi.

ABSENT: Paul Blouin, Annette Bowen, Darren Dumoulin, Nour Shbib, Julianna Smith.

GUEST: Sabrina Catalogna (minutes).

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Sarah Rahimi motioned to approve the agenda. D'Arcy Ryan seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote:

In favour: 16
Against: 0
Abstentions: 0

The motion passed unanimously.

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair opened the meeting with Concordia's territorial acknowledgement. He welcomed the Council to the CCSL meeting and recalled that three weeks remained to the fall term. Andrew Woodall mentioned that convocation had taken place a few weeks prior and students from the John Molson School of Business, Arts and Science, and Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science crossed the stage. The Chair noted that over the past five weeks, many Student Services departments and faculties had worked to support Concordia students from Iran. The Student Emergency and Food Fund (SEFF) provided \$50,000 to roughly 500 students, faculties had worked on academic accommodations and the Student Accounts Office assisted students to ease the burden of tuition. He congratulated the student associations for successfully holding their by-elections and noted the results would be posted shortly. The Chair mentioned the new Accessibility Hub was live and the information was accessible and comprehensive. Andrew Woodall said that Student Services was working on a strategic plan and would provide an update on the vision and goals to the Council at a future meeting, as it related to CCSL. The Chair explained that the focus of the meeting was to review the Big Hairy Ideas Competition applications and to decide whether to fund them. He recalled that only voting members would be able to vote, however encouraged all members to participate in the conversation.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 21, 2022

D'Arcy Ryan motioned to approve the minutes from the meeting of October 21, 2022, seconded by Adia Giddings. D'Arcy Ryan noted a correction in Item 4, a typographical error. The motion to approve the amended minutes was put to a vote:

In favour: 16
Against: 0
Abstentions: 0

The motion passed unanimously.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21, 2022

There was no business arising from the minutes of October 21, 2022.

5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION

5.1 CCSL Sub-Committees

5.1.1 CCSL Special Projects: Discussion and decisions on the Big Hairy Ideas Competition applications

Andrew Woodall reminded the Council that the funds for the Big Hairy Ideas Competition were from the accumulation of unused CCSL Special Projects funds over several years. The total amount to disburse was \$140,000 and applications could receive up to \$45,000. The projects had to be a partnership between students and a department, staff and/or a faculty member, and have an impact across the Concordia community.

The Chair said that nineteen proposals were submitted: eight were dismissed as they did not meet the competition requirements. The sub-committee reviewed eleven proposals, with a total amount requested of \$355,000. Six of the proposals were declined, as the sub-committee felt that they were not big and hairy enough. Some were encouraged to apply to the CCSL Special Projects Fund at the February 2023 deadline. Five proposals were short-listed to be reviewed and the Council was reminded to think of factors such as the strength of the partnership, sustainability (financial, social, and environmental) and feasibility.

The applicants were asked to submit a video presentation for viewing prior to the meeting, along with their application documents. The applicants were available on Zoom for the meeting, should the Council have questions about the project. Council members directly involved with a project left the meeting during the discussion and voting for that particular project only.

The Council proceeded to review and discuss each application one at a time. They invited applicants into the Zoom meeting for any questions that arose. Following the review of the five proposals, the Council proceeded to allocate the funds.

The following provides a summary of the discussion for each project, as well as the motion put forth and approved.

Concordia Re-Tech Project (CRT): E-waste Reuse. Amount requested: \$45,000.00

The Chair noted that the sub-committee questioned storage space for the old technology and its usefulness. The Council was very enthusiastic about the project, however there were concerns over its long-term viability and financial sustainability. Overall, Council members felt that the partnerships were well-defined and that the impact across the university and environment was beneficial.

Sarah Rahimi put forth the following motion, seconded by D'Arcy Ryan:

Be it resolved that the project "Concordia Re-Tech Project (CRT): E-waste Reuse" be approved for \$45,000.00 of funding from the Big Hairy Ideas Competition.

The motion was put to a vote.

In favour: 13

Against: 0

Abstention: 2

The motion passed.

Food Systems Map. Amount requested: \$20,584.00

Andrew Woodall said that the sub-committee questioned the long-term goals of the project, the uncertainty of sustainable funding and whether Concordia students were being hired. The Council pointed out that the established partnerships were with external community members and organizations rather than with internal community members. Although Council members felt the proposal would benefit students who engaged in food and sustainability initiatives at Concordia, they wondered how it would gain attention with and impact others at the university.

Sarah Rahimi put forth the following motion, seconded by Lou Collin:

Be it resolved that no funding be approved for the project “Food Systems Map” from the Big Hairy Ideas Competition.

The motion was put to a vote.

In favour: 7

Against: 7

Abstention: 1

The motion resulted in a tie, therefore the Chair was required to vote. He voted in favour of the motion, therefore no funding would be allocated to the project.

The motion passed.

Andrew Woodall noted that perhaps there were other ways to support the project and said that he would follow up with the applicants.

Blue Bonnets Community Land Trust (Habitat Hippodrome). Amount requested: \$45,000.00

Andrew Woodall said that the sub-committee was unclear of the plan following a meeting with the city, as well as the role of students in the project, apart from the internships. The Council was concerned that if they funded the project, the sole decision-making power would remain with an external committee. They felt that the proposal for the community land trust was interesting and that institutional support would be beneficial, however the other projects under consideration would immediately impact the Concordia community more.

Adia Giddings put forth the following motion, second by Sarah Rahimi:

Be it resolved that no funding be approved for the project “Blue Bonnets Community Land Trust (Habitat Hippodrome)” from the Big Hairy Ideas Competition.

The motion was put to a vote.

In favour: 13

Against: 2

Abstention: 0

The motion passed.

BUYPOC. Amount requested: \$43,300.00

The Chair noted that the sub-committee questioned the financial sustainability model for the project, they felt that it was not clear in the budget who would receive the salary/honorarium, and wanted further details about the collaboration with Concordia staff. Andrew Woodall mentioned that the CCSL Special Projects had funded the BUYPOC project in the past. The Council noted that no other potential sources of revenue were identified. The Council felt the proposal was ambitious and that the project would have a systemic impact.

Abigail Koff put forth the following motion, seconded by Adia Giddings:

Be it resolved that the project "BUYPOC" be approved for \$43,300.00 of funding from the Big Hairy Ideas Competition.

The motion was put to a vote.

In favour: 8

Against: 5

Abstention: 2

The motion passed.

Safe(r) Spaces. Amount requested: \$45,000.00

Julie Foisy removed herself from the meeting for discussion and abstained from voting for the project, as she was directly involved. The Chair reported that the sub-committee was unclear on the strength of the partnership with the Student Success Centre (SSC). They were concerned about the financial sustainability of the initiative, and the specific changes planned for the Coop Bookstore's space were unclear. Overall, the Council was supportive of the project's objectives. They noted that no other sources of revenue were mentioned. Although the Council felt that there should have been more of an effort in reaching out to other departments, they appreciated the idea of creating a framework first.

Adia Giddings put forth the following motion, seconded by Sarah Rahimi:

Be it resolved that the project "Safe(r) Spaces" be approved for \$45,000.00 of funding from the Big Hairy Ideas Competition.

The motion was put to a vote.

In favour: 9

Against: 4

Abstention: 2

The motion passed.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 CCSL Special Projects Guidelines: Sustainable Event Guide and Certification

With little time remaining, the item was tabled until the meeting scheduled for January 20, 2023.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for January 20, 2023 on Zoom at 10:00am.

8. TERMINATION OF MEETING

D'Arcy Ryan motioned to terminate the meeting. Lauren Farley seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote:

In favour: 12

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3

The motion passed.