



STUDENT SERVICES

Concordia Council on Student Life

Minutes of the Concordia Council on Student Life Held on September 26, 2025 10:00am Meeting held at SGW H-655

PRESENT: Katie Broad (Chair), Lauren Broad (Secretary), Kathy Antonopoulos (replacing Matthew Fishman), Meghan Atherton, Elana Bloom, Melanie Burnett, Maria Chitoroaga, Dianne Cmor, Beatrice Doran, Julie Foisy, Lujain Kayal, Vanessa Massot, Brad Nelson, Zoë Erika Okoye, D'Arcy Ryan, Maria Safos.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Anna Barrafato, Philippe Caignon, Sarah Caille, Lauren Farley, Nadia Hardy, Cassandra Lamontagne, Erin Mullins.

ABSENT: Darren Dumoulin, Leo Litke, Maria Oliveira, Maya Youngs-Zaleski.

GUESTS: Leanne Ashworth (CSU Housing & Job Resource Centre), Asad Duboulay and Heaven (Fine Arts Student Alliance), Preethi Srikanth (Graduate Students' Association).

1. Approval of the Agenda

D'Arcy Ryan motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Brad Nelson.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Remarks from the Chair

Katie Broad started the meeting with a Territorial Acknowledgement and welcomed everyone to a new year at the Concordia Council on Student Life. She noted that thanks to the work of many of our community members, led by Manon Tremblay and Allan Vicaire from the Indigenous Directions Office, tuitions waivers would be offered to First Nations and Inuit full-time and part-time students from Québec communities, for undergraduate and graduate programs. Reducing financial barriers had been a recommendation from the Indigenous Directions Action Plan and was seen as an essential step towards reconciliation. The Chair reminded Council members that the annual Concordia Shuffle was taking place that day, with all funds raised going to support students in various ways.

The Chair continued with several housekeeping items, explaining that the CCSL would follow Robert's Rules of Order, but more importantly, would maintain an atmosphere of respect and inclusion. Katie Broad noted that the Dean of Students Office had recently changed its name to the Office of Student Life and Engagement, a change that included the following units to now fall under its purview: NouLa Black Student Centre; the Otsenhákta Student Centre (OSC); Centre pour étudiant·es francophones (CEF); and the Concordia University Student Parents Centre (CUSP).



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The Chair congratulated the student associations for all their hard work on the various events throughout Orientation/Frosh. She thanked the Office of Student Life and Engagement (SLE), Facilities Management, Campus Safety and Prevention Services and the Designated Space Administrators for their help and support with all the student-led Orientation activities. Katie Broad announced that SLE would be hosting their annual Orientation/Frosh Thank You Event on October 10th and she encouraged those who were invited to attend.

Council members were asked to introduce themselves and give a brief description of their role at the university.

3. Umbrella Association Meet & Greet

Representatives of the four student faculty associations (Arts & Science Federation of Associations, Commerce and Administration Students Association, Engineering and Computer Science Student Association, and the Fine Arts Student Alliance) and the two student unions (Concordia Student Union and Graduate Students' Association) had been invited to the meeting. Those that were available to attend were invited to introduce themselves and gave a summary of their plans for the coming year. The Chair thanked them all for their time.

4. Approval of the Minutes from the Meeting of April 25, 2025

Maria Chitoroaga motioned to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 25, 2025, seconded by Julie Foisy.

The motion passed unanimously.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes of April 25, 2025

There was no business arising from the minutes of April 25, 2025.

6. CCSL Terms of Reference

The Chair reported that an ad-hoc committee would be tasked to review the CCSL Terms of Reference. The main purpose would be to make recommendations to the Council on the mandate of the CCSL. The purpose of the Council would remain the same: the need was to clarify how the Council would carry out its purpose. The ad-hoc committee would meet twice in the fall semester and likely one more time in the winter semester, to provide recommendations to Council before the end of the academic year. Katie Broad noted the membership for the ad-hoc committee would be: a Director from the CCSL as Chair; one undergraduate student from CCSL, one graduate student from CCSL, one faculty member from CCSL; one staff member from CCSL; and Lauren Broad as secretary. The Chair asked that interested members contact Lauren Broad after the meeting.

7. Reports and Items of Information

7.1 HOJO 2024-2025 Year-End Report & 2025-2026 Budget and Request for Funding 2025-2026

Katie Broad welcomed Leanne Ashworth, Manager of the CSU's Off-Campus Housing & Job Resource Centre (HOJO), to the meeting. She reminded everyone that the CCSL had



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historically earmarked \$20,000 from the CCSL Special Projects Fund to consider supporting a new HOJO project for the year. The funding was contingent on HOJO providing an annual presentation to the Council at the first meeting of the academic year, including the previous year's financials and a proposal for the year's project. Leanne Ashworth gave a presentation to the Council that included the HOJO 2024-2025 Annual Report and Financials, as well as the current year's budget. She gave details of the proposal for the current academic year for the project "Empowering Tenants: Concordia Student Rent Registry & Rent Control Awareness". The amount requested to the CCSL was \$19,293.00.

The Chair invited the Council to ask questions. The Council was very enthusiastic about the project and agreed that it was an important issue facing many Concordia students. They asked questions around privacy and confidentiality, expressing that it would be necessary to ensure the confidentiality of students' information. Leanne Ashworth expressed interest in working with University departments such as Legal Services to learn more about privacy issues.

D'Arcy Ryan asked if HOJO was allowed to keep their surplus budget from previous years and if so, what would it be used for. He also noted that HOJO was predicting a surplus again this year and asked if that surplus could be put towards this project. Leanne Ashworth confirmed that yes, the surplus from the previous year would be kept and that the intention was to use it for a new, updated classifieds website. Leanne Ashworth replied that after the project's budget had been created, they were informed of a potential additional source of revenue to cover other expenses for the 2025-2026 year. She added that HOJO's current annual budget would need to be updated in January to reflect an increase in other expenses, such as supplies and subscriptions, which the surplus would be used to cover.

Members of the Council were concerned about the timeline of the project, noting how long of a process it would be to navigate privacy laws. They asked if HOJO had mapped out key targets for the year and what would happen if those were not met. Leanne Ashworth responded that development, outreach and workshops could all happen during this academic year, however it was possible that the official launch to students may be delayed because of the importance of privacy and security.

The Chair thanked Leanne Ashworth before she left the meeting and explained that HOJO would be contacted the following week with the Council's decision.

The following motion was put forth by Maria Chitoroaga, seconded by Brad Nelson:

Be it resolved that:

The Concordia Council on Student Life approve a contribution of \$19,293.00 to the CSU Off-Campus Housing and Job Resource Centre (HOJO) for the "Empowering Tenants: Concordia Student Rent Registry & Rent Control Awareness Project", as outlined in the presentation to the Council at the meeting held September 26, 2025.



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A discussion ensued and the Council members agreed that the project was something that they wanted to support. However, there remained concerns around the viability of the timeline for the project and the confidentiality and security of student information. Council members also questioned why the project's budget included funding earmarked for Outreach on-campus Campaign and Workshops on Rent Control and Promotional Material. They questioned if these expenses should be included in HOJO's operating budget, rather than in the project's budget.

The motion was put to a vote:

In favour: 5

Against: 6

Abstentions: 0

The motion did not pass.

Discussion continued and the Council agreed that they did not want to delay the start of the project by not providing any funding at this time. They proposed funding part of the project, enough for the development to begin, with a request for more information at the next meeting, to address their concerns. This would allow for the possibility of full funding for the project if the Council were satisfied with an update from HOJO in November.

The following motion was put forth by D'Arcy Ryan and seconded by Vanessa Massot.

Be it resolved that:

The Concordia Council on Student Life approve an initial contribution of \$12,895.00 to the CSU Off-Campus Housing and Job Resource Centre (HOJO) for the "Empowering Tenants: Concordia Student Rent Registry & Rent Control Awareness Project". The funds shall be allocated as follows: \$9,000.00 for the Rent Registry Development; and \$3,895.00 for the Researcher-project. To access the remaining requested amount of \$6,398.00, HOJO will be required clarify the following at the November 21, 2025 meeting:

- *provide a more detailed timeline for the project, including plans for an extended project completion date if needed;*
- *consult with University Legal Services on best practices on privacy matters;*
- *provide more details on the budget allocated towards Outreach on-campus campaign, Workshops on Rent Control and Promotional Material.*

The motion was put to a vote:

In favour: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

The motion passed unanimously.



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7.2. Committee Participation Recognition Program: Review of 2024-2025 Recipients

The Chair reminded the Council that every year, financial recognition was provided to students that sit on various university bodies at Concordia. The purpose was to encourage students to be a part of university governance, recognizing the financial barriers that hinder many students from participating. For the 2024-2025 academic year, there were 36 students who received financial recognition through the CCSL Committee Participation Recognition Program (CPRP), totalling \$20,597.30. The Chair noted that students on the eligible university governing bodies would not need to apply for the CPRP, but that the Office of Student Life and Engagement would reach out to all eligible students at the end of the academic year.

7.3. CCSL Sub-Committees

7.3.1. CCSL Special Projects Committee

The CCSL Special Projects sub-committee will review the applications for the CCSL Special Projects Fund and allocate funding to student life projects. The Chair noted the time-sensitivity of confirming members for the sub-committee. A full-day review meeting was to be confirmed for late in October. The deadline for fall applications was Monday, October 6, 2025 at 5pm. Katie Broad asked members to notify the secretary after the meeting if they would like to participate.

The sub-committee included:

The Director of Student Life and Engagement or a delegate as Chair

5 undergraduate students (only 2 CSU executives)

2 graduate students

1 faculty member

1 Student Services staff member

Secretary of CCSL (voting member)

7.3.2. CCSL Awards Sub-Committee

The CCSL Awards sub-committee distributes awards to students, staff and faculty at Concordia for their outstanding contribution to student life. A soft call for nominations will begin in the fall, to try and promote awareness in the Concordia community. We will have a big publicity push starting in January and the deadline for nominations was February 2, 2026 at 5pm.

The sub-committee will meet sometime near the end of February or early March to review nominations and the Engagement Awards Celebration event will be held in mid-April 2026. The awards night will also include the Volunteer Recognition Awards, the Sustainability Champion Awards and the EHS Safety Ambassadors Awards. Anyone interested in joining the CCSL Awards sub-committee was asked to contact Lauren Broad after the meeting.

The sub-committee included:

The Director of Student Life and Engagement or a delegate as Chair

3 undergraduate students

1 graduate student



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1 Student Services staff member
1 faculty member
CCSL Secretary (non-voting)

7.3.3. CCSL Student Groups Sub-Committee

The CCSL Student Groups sub-committee will act as a consultative body to the Office of Student Life and Engagement (SLE) in approving new and disbanding existing student associations, groups and clubs. The SLE will share files with the sub-committee and it will make decisions by email, unless a Zoom meeting is needed for clarification on the application(s). Most applications were straightforward and will have already been well-vetted by the SLE. Katie Broad asked members to notify the secretary after the meeting if they would like to participate.

The sub-committee included:

The Director of Student Life and Engagement or a delegate as Chair
2 student representatives from CCSL
1 Student Services staff member from CCSL
1 Permanent Observer from CCSL
CCSL Secretary (non-voting Secretary)

8. New Business

There was no new business at the meeting.

9. Points of Interest

The following items were shared with the Council:

- September 30, 2025: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Recommended resources of information: <https://www.concordia.ca/ctl/decolonization.html>
- October 1, 2025 12h00-13h30 in the LB Atrium: Taste of a Good Cause fundraiser for Concordia's Emergency Meal Plan, with food options from Concordia's approved caterers.
- December 1, 2025: Deadline for applications for the Financial Aid and Awards Office [Application-based awards](#).

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for November 21, 2025 at 10:30am at the Loyola Campus, exact location to be confirmed.

11. Termination of Meeting

Julie Foisy motioned to terminate the meeting, seconded by D'Arcy Ryan.

The motion passed unanimously.