



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING PACKAGE
Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students of the University of Toronto
(APUS)

July 27, 2021
6:00pm
Meeting #3
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Board of Directors' Meeting #3

Dear Directors of the Board,

The following package includes all the relevant documents in anticipation of the next APUS Board of Directors' Meeting to be held on **July 27 at 6:00 pm** online via Zoom.

Included in this package:

- I. Agenda (page 3-4)
- II. Minutes Package for 2021-2022 Board Meeting #2 (page 5-14)
- III. APUS 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget (attached in follow-up email as an Excel file and as a PDF on Monday July 26, 2021)
- IV. The International Human Rights Program Director Hiring and CAUT Censure Statement (attached as a PDF)
- V. Fiduciary Duty slidedeck (attached as a Powerpoint)

Please feel free to forward any question or concerns via email to me directly.

Sincerely,

Jaime Kearns
President
Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students of the University of Toronto (APUS)
Local 97 of the Canadian Federation of Students
president@apus.ca

I. AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Land Acknowledgement (5 minutes)

3. Introduction and Access Needs (5 minutes)

4. Approval of Agenda (5 minutes)

MOTION Moved: Dhoré Seconded: Kearns

Be it resolved that the meeting agenda for Board of Directors meeting #3 be adopted as presented.

5. Approval of Minutes (5 minutes)

MOTION Moved: Acuna Seconded: Coggon

Be it resolved that the minute packages be approved as presented.

- a. Board of Directors 2020-2021 Meeting #2 – June 11, 2021

6. Business Arising from the Minutes (5 minutes)

7. Motion to Amend Bylaw 6.05 - Powers and Duties of VP External (10 Minutes)

MOTION Moved: Froom Seconded: Kearns

Whereas the President and Vice President Internal are jointly tasked with ensuring the “well-being of the overall internal operations of the Corporation” ; and

Whereas the President and Vice President Internal are jointly tasked with managing “the human resources function of the Corporation”; and

Whereas the President and Vice President Internal are jointly the signing officers of the Corporation; and

Whereas it is desirable to have clarity as to procedures should either the President or Vice President Internal be absent and unable to perform their duties; and

Whereas the bylaws currently have such procedures in the event that the President is absent and unable to perform their duties, but not the Vice President Internal; therefore

Be it resolved that Article 7.05 of the APUS Bylaws be amended as follows:

6.05 Vice-President External

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing in Section 6.02, or the ability of the Board from time to time to vary, add to or limit the powers and duties of any of the officer, the Vice President (External) shall:

(i) in the absence of the President **or Vice President Internal**, perform all duties of the President **or Vice President Internal**.

8. Toronto Labour Council Discussion (10 minutes)

9. Break (5 minutes)

10. APUS Preliminary Budget 2021-2022 (30 minutes)

MOTION Moved: Froom Seconded: Kearns

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors approve the Preliminary Budget 2021-2022, as proposed in the addendum; and

Be it further resolved that the Board cause a copy of the Preliminary Budget 2021-2022 to be sent to the Summer General Meeting for confirmation.

11. Executive Updates (15 minutes)

12. Adjournment

Minutes Package for 2021 - 2022 Board Meeting #2

Minutes of Board meeting of Friday June 11, 2021

Present: Dianne Acuna, Annie Antonenko, Jennifer Coggon, Shanti Dhoré, Susan Froom, Jaime Kearns, Richie Pynes

Speaker: Nadia Kanani, Jaime Kearns

Presenter: Hildah Otieno

Staff: Julian Oliveira

I. AGENDA

1. Call to Order

Kearns calls the meeting to order at 5:17 pm.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Dhoré reads the land acknowledgement written by Kearns.

3. Introduction and Access Needs (5 minutes)

Kearns asks folks to introduce themselves and to share any access needs.

4. Approval of Agenda (5 minutes)

MOTION Moved: Froom Seconded: Acuna

Be it resolved that the meeting agenda for Board of Directors meeting #2 be adopted as presented.

Froom makes a motion to amend the agenda. Two motions were sent out by Kearns and Froom on June 4, 2021. One motion addresses a donation to the Indian Residential School Survivors Society and the other motion addresses a donation to the Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre.

Be it resolved that the items dealing with the donations to the Indian Residential School Survivors Society and the Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre be added right after item number 10 such that the two new motions would be number 11 and number 12.

Kearns calls the vote. Everyone is in favour.

Vote carries.

The vote is held on the updated agenda.

Be it resolved that the meeting agenda for Board of Directors meeting #2 be adopted as presented. Everyone is in favour.

Vote carries.

5. Presentation and Discussion of Fiduciary Responsibilities of Board Members (50 Minutes)

The presenter, Hildah Otieno, introduces herself as the Executive Director of the Canadian Federation of Students Ontario (CFS-ON). She has been invited to give new APUS Board members a presentation on fiduciary duty. Otieno notes the presentation will be approximately 15 minutes and will focus on good governance, fiduciary duties, and liability.

Please see the slide deck.

Kearns calls a break at 5:55 p.m.

6. Break (5 Minutes)

The Board returns at 6:00 p.m.

7. Appointment of Speaker for 2021-2022 (5 minutes)

MOTION Moved: Froom Seconded: Coggon

Whereas, Article 8.01 of the APUS bylaws states that *“The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a Speaker of the Corporation who shall preside at meetings of the Board of Directors, and at the General Meetings of members;* and

Whereas, Article 8.03 of the APUS bylaws states that: *“The Speaker shall serve at the pleasure of the Board from May 1st to April 30th in any year”*; and

Whereas, Nadia Kanani has served as APUS speaker in an exemplary manner; and

Whereas the Executive Committee recommends to the Board of Directors that it appoint Nadia Kanani for another term as speaker;

Therefore:

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors appoints Nadia Kanani as Speaker of APUS for the term ending April 30, 2022.

Be it further resolved that the Board of Directors instruct the Executive Committee to fix the Speaker’s remuneration for the term ending April 30, 2022.

Kearns reads the motion.

Froom motivates. The bylaws do require that the Executive Committee recommend a Speaker. Froom recommends Nadia Kanani, whose term ended April 30, 2021.

No discussion. Everyone is in favour.

Vote carries.

Kanani takes over as Speaker.

8. Approval of Minutes (5 minutes)

MOTION Moved: Dhoré Seconded: Acuna

Be it resolved that the minute packages be approved as presented.

- a. Board of Directors 2020-2021 Meeting #8 – April 23, 2021
- b. Board of Directors 2021-2022 Meeting #1 – April 23, 2021

Kanani gives folks a few minutes to look at the minutes and asks if there are any amendments to be made.

Coggon asks for a revision. Revision is made.

Kanani calls the vote. Everyone is in favour.

Vote carries.

9. Business Arising from the Minutes (5 minutes)

Coggon thanks Oliveira for the minutes.

10. Executive Updates (15 minutes)

Kearns provides updates from the President's portfolio. Kearns attended the UofT Student Mental Advocacy & Resource Team (SMART) meeting on May 24th. Kearns has also read the anti-Black racism report and attended Executive Committee meetings. She met with Sebastien at CFS-ON, and attended the Know Your Rights Workshop. Kearns also attended the Racialized and Indigenous Student Experience (RISE), and met with the new APUS executives to go over their portfolios and training. Kearns also met with the CFS Executive for two days in May. She also attended Indigenous Hand Drumming and Committee on Athletics and Recreation (CAR). She also attended a Casa Loma escape room Executive Committee bonding activity, and helped students with the laptop program. She has been dedicating a lot of time working with Indigenous students as the CFS Circle of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students. She also attended an Office of the Vice-Provost, Students (OVPS) meeting, a management meeting, the APUS Summer Orientation, Provost's Undergraduate Student Advisory Group (PUSAG), and a Codenames practice game.

Froom provides updates from the VP Internal portfolio. Froom also participated in the APUS Summer Orientation, the OVPS meeting, and the Executive Committee envisioning meeting. Froom has had a number of Management Committee meetings, and the Executive Committee has struck a hiring committee for the Academic Advocacy position. Other management and

financial matters are being dealt with. She also attended the CFS Executive meeting. Froom had another meeting earlier this week at which the CFS general meeting date was set for August 18 - 20, 2021. It will be a two-part meeting, and from September 13 - 17, 2021 will have our Constituency and Caucus meetings. The notice will go out 8 weeks prior, which will be June 23, 2021. Together with Kearns, Froom has been doing work on bylaws and some issues that have come up at another university that not just impacts Indigenous students but also part-time students. Froom is the Part-Time and Continuing Education Caucus Chairperson and has reached out to them to sort through some of these issues. At U of T, the new Student Life long-term plan was launched back at the end of April, so Froom has been APUS' representative on that committee. Froom has also been working with other sister unions on an issue that she will get to later, about The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) statement. Froom has also attended Community Liaison Committee (CLC) meetings. At the last Library Committee, it was discussed that Gerstein Library will be reopening and allowing curbside pickup. Froom has also been helping with the hiring of a Librarian Associate. She can't speak to the details now, but it's a delightful prospect and there may be some wonderful new developments in terms of research opportunities.

Dhoré provides updates from the VP External portfolio. It's been a very busy month. It started off with the Executive Committee envisioning meeting, which included getting to hear what the other Executives want to do this year. We hold Executive Committee meetings every two weeks. The biggest part of the work Dhoré is doing is dealing with CFS. She attended a two-day orientation that Froom previously mentioned, as well as two CFS Executive meetings. Dhoré also attended RISE, the APUS Summer Orientation, and a debrief this past week. Dhoré echoes Froom's comments about the CFS Ontario General Meeting coming up in August. She also attended her first OVPS meeting. The Executive Committee is still waiting to hear back on whether students will be working online in the Fall. Dhoré also attended the Escape Room bonding activity. It was her first time and the escape room was great. She also attended a TTC Riders event and the APUS plant workshop which was great.

Coggon provides updates from the VP Events & Outreach portfolio. Coggon finished the UTILE survey and Oliveira submitted the APUS numbers. APUS did get a big increase in submissions because of the \$400 prize offered by UTILE. Coggon has been doing a lot of planning throughout the week of May 11th, including meeting on the 13th with the Sexual and Gender Diversity Office (SGDO). On May 12, Coggon had a consultation on the upcoming plant workshop with Regenesi. Coggon has been busy with orientation planning and consulting with SBA about an ASL course and an Escape Room event. The Executive Committee did a virtual Casa Loma escape room, which was a practical form of team building. However, for future escape rooms, we are going to go back to Looking Glass Adventures. Coggon noted that these virtual events offer very different user experiences. Very few, if any, have basic accessibility. Coggon attended the OVPS meeting, which was covered previously. Coggon notes that there are discussions about student unions collaborating to push for an earlier announcement about whether or not the University of Toronto will be hybrid in the Fall. Coggon has also reached out to Prevention, Empowerment, Advocacy, Response for Survivors (PEARS), and SMART about potential collaborations with Students for Barrier-Free Access (SBA). Acuna and Coggon also attended a Hart House Activity Planning Session. They made connections with different groups and committees after their presentation and made a connection with Hart House Farm. On June 10th, Acuna and Coggon also attended Fay and Fluffy, an event run through the SGDO. Coggon has also sent emails to the Family Care Office and has been working on internal planning.

Coggon highlights that the Summer General Meeting will be coming up and that APUS needs quorum.

Acuna provides updates from the VP Equity portfolio. Acuna attended the bi-weekly Executive Committee meetings and got to attend multiple RISE meetings and workshops. She also attended the CFS Know Your Rights workshop. Acuna has been in attendance for drumming every Wednesday and says it's a really nice space. Acuna also attended the executive escape room bonding event. She's also attended SMART meetings throughout May and talked about the University-Mandated Leave of Absence Policy (UMLAP). Acuna is looking at the Fall semester with the other executives, trying to get precise answers and commitments from the University of Toronto. She also got in contact with the VP Equity at the University of Toronto Mississauga Student Union (UTMSU). There is a collaboration coming up for June 21 and July 1. Acuna adds that she is also speaking with the Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU) and has had roughly three meetings so far about the events. Acuna also had an onboarding meeting with Oliveira and a mini-training with Kearns about Google Calendar. She also attended the SGDO consultation for Pride month with Coggon and notes that APUS has been advertising their events. Coggon and Acuna also attended the Hart House Activity Planning meeting where they noted what they would like from Hart House so they can plan their budget accordingly. Acuna also attended the Quarantine Green Thumb workshop and the Fay and Fluffy event.

Dhoré thanks Acuna for her work. Dhoré adds that she also had an onboarding by Kearns and Oliveira.

Acuna adds that she also attended the APUS Summer Orientation.

11. Donation to Indian Residential School Survivors Society

MOTION Moved Kearns Seconded: Froom

Whereas the Indian Residential School Survivors Society is a province of British Columbia registered charity with a 20 year history of providing services to Indian Residential School Survivors; and

Whereas APUS wishes to acknowledge the tragic legacy of Indian Residential Schools, therefore

Be it resolved that APUS donate \$1000 to the Indian Residential School Survivors Society (of British Columbia)

Kanani reads the motion.

Kearns says that a few weeks ago 215 children were found who had passed away in Kamloops. She notes that the Indigenous community didn't know the accurate numbers of children lost, so when the number of children was discovered it shocked the community. The survivors who had been in attendance at that school wanted to make a donation to the survivors.

Kanani asks if Froom would like to add anything.

Froom adds that Kearns said it very well.

Antonenko asks if APUS has begun its new budget year. Does APUS have a general maximum for donations? Towards the end of the year, if there is money left over, is APUS able to redistribute? Just a general procedural question.

Froom responds that APUS does have a commitment to support donations to Indigenous initiatives and it is an amount that APUS can afford. She adds that APUS may be able to give more in the future. APUS is in the early stages of planning the 2021 - 2022 budget, which won't come forward until the next Board meeting. The donation amount is the amount Kearns and Froom felt was feasible. They felt there was an immediate need to provide support.

Coggon speaks in favour of the motion and asks if there is a way to encourage members to look at the APUS donations in order to encourage students to donate themselves. Or are there other ways that people can commit to treaty obligations?

Froom says APUS can publish a list on our newsletter and website and encourage folks to make donations to certain charities. Kearns and Froom spent some time researching and it seemed like this one would directly be helping the survivors in British Columbia and survivors of that particular school. The organization in the next motion will help people in the Toronto area who are survivors too. It certainly is a good idea for us to talk about this throughout Indigenous History Month.

Dhoré is in favour of the motion; it helps survivors and is something that APUS can support.

Kanani calls the vote. Everyone is in favour.

The vote carries.

12. Donation to Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre

MOTION Moved Kearns Seconded: Froom

Whereas Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre "Restoration of Identity Fund" assists survivors of Indian Residential Schools living in the Toronto area; and

Whereas APUS wishes to acknowledge the tragic legacy of Indian Residential Schools, therefore

Be it resolved that APUS donate \$1000 to the Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre "Restoration of Identity Fund"

Kanani reads the motion.

Kearns motivates and brings up her fiduciary duty and questions if she may have a conflict of interest because she knows someone who is a client of the centre who may benefit from the fund.

Froom notes that at the last Executive Committee meeting they donated \$400.00 to the Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre, which was the most the Executive could do under the APUS bylaws and policies. There are so many survivors living here in the Toronto area, some of whom

could be APUS members. The money will be going to the Restoration of Identity Fund and the Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre will decide how it is spent. The Board's decision is whether or not to give them money.

Dhoré says a person only has to declare a conflict of interest if they will have direct financial gain. She doesn't think it is relevant.

Kanani says that if asked to make a judgement, she doesn't see this as a conflict of interest. It is not going directly into someone's pocket, it's to an organization.

Coggon adds that it was more an exercise in principle.

Antonenko says that the Board is trying to establish the parameters so that when they come to a boundary that is fuzzy it will help them make the determination or not. The previous presentation made her think about it more seriously. She thinks the conversation is great because it establishes the parameters better.

Kanani calls the vote. Everyone is in favour.

Vote carries.

A break occurs at 7:13 pm. The Board meeting resumes at 7:23 pm.

13. Statement Issued by APUS/CFS (20 minutes)

- a. Canadian Association of University Teachers censures U of T due to restriction of Academic Freedom
- b. Residential Schools/National Indigenous History Month
- c. Palestine
- d. Pride

Kanani clarifies that these are for discussion.

Froom speaks to topic A. Essentially, folks should be aware that there is a large controversy at the University of Toronto Law School due to a hiring process that went awry. There was a candidate that was to be hired to lead a Human Rights division within the law school who no longer was offered the position after a wealthy donor called the University and expressed concerns about the candidate's views on Palestine and Israel's occupation of Palestine. There was a report commissioned by the University that found it was legal. The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) are now boycotting U of T. Now some conferences are not happening and that is because there was a cross-Canada boycott of U of T. The University of Toronto Students' Union (UTSU), the University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union (UTGSU), UTMSU, SCSU, the York University's Graduate Students' Union (YUGSA), the Continuing Education Students' Association of X (CESAX), and CFS-ON jointly sent a letter to the president of U of T asking that Dr. Valentina Azarova be reoffered the position of director and to truly commit to decolonization. APUS has a copy of the letter that can be shared and that will go out with the PDF of Otieno's presentation. The letter was sent on behalf of APUS on May 19th.

From adds that there is a great article in the New Yorker magazine that explains the whole situation: <https://www.newyorker.com/news/our-columnists/did-a-university-of-toronto-donor-block-the-hiring-of-a-scholar-for-her-writing-on-palestine>

Kearns speaks to topic B. She has worked with CFS-ON as the Circle Rep to issue a statement for the unmarked graves. She doesn't know if the statement has gone out yet. It was posted in the APUS newsletter and website. It speaks to the unmarked graves and 215 Indigenous children lost. APUS' thoughts go out to them. She adds that there is a link to the registry for the children who were previously known to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and it shares ways to support.

From speaks to topic C. There was a statement issued by CFS-ON on solidarity with Palestine that went out on May 13th. See: <https://cfsontario.ca/2021/05/14/statement-of-solidarity-with-palestine/>

It marks the 73rd anniversary of the Israeli state and the dispossession of the Palestinian people from their lands. APUS put it out in part because of the anniversary, but also because at that time there were bombardments of Palestinian territories. There was a rally that took place on May 15th to draw people's attention to what is happening. On a broader scale, this is something that APUS is going to want to craft its own statement on. Not just an ad-hoc CFS meeting statement. This won't be done at this meeting, but something that the Executive Committee will work on over the summer. The Executive Committee is inviting board members to think about what should be going on in that statement, either in standalone meetings or the upcoming July board meeting. From is flagging that this is an issue that the Executive Committee wants to address. Certainly, APUS has taken a stance on divestment in the past.

Dhoré wonders if the Board can have a separate meeting to discuss the statement because it seems like something people want to be careful about. However, she thinks leaving it until July will be too late. She thinks that the time for APUS to make the statement has passed. She feels it could have been done earlier, not that that could have been helped. Dhoré asks if the Board is taking too long to respond to this. How does the APUS membership feel that APUS hasn't made a statement about this?

From notes that the May 13th letter that went out under the CFS-ON banner also went out under a GTA Coalition banner which included APUS, so APUS has been part of groups making statements. From agrees with Dhoré that she thinks a standalone meeting is preferable.

Acuna agrees that a separate meeting so Board members can show up and voice their opinions and thoughts is appropriate. As to Dhoré's comment about responding to this late, Acuna says that she understands but maybe it is best. Now that Palestine is not trending, it may be better to respond later so APUS can make sure these issues are still being talked about, including the censure issue. Acuna doesn't think APUS needs to follow the herd.

Kanani summarizes. Some indication has been that a separate meeting will be best to discuss the Palestine statement.

Kearns asks Oliveira to speak to topic D.

Oliveira provides an update on the Pride statement. They are currently working on guiding points for the statement, including a focus on the continued barriers that Trans, non-binary, and Two-Spirit members of the community continue to face. Especially community members who are also from the Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour communities and who may have other intersecting identities. They highlight that it is important to remember Pride is a celebration but also a time of remembrance.

Acuna asks if there have been previous Pride statements? She agrees that the statement should highlight that the month is a time of celebration and remembrance. She adds that APUS should do statements and actions past June as well, as the advocacy doesn't end. Acuna reminds folks that June is also Indigenous History Month so it is important to bring attention to that too.

Coggon says to Acuna that the VP Equity and VP Events and Outreach can work together to do future collaborations. Last year for Pride the Academic Advocacy Coordinator did a workshop on being BIPOC and surviving COVID-19. There are lots of ways to do ongoing programming.

Pyne answers Acuna's previous question APUS Pride statements. He doesn't remember anything particular about Pride month being released, but he knows that when the Orlando shooting happened APUS released a statement. He adds that APUS has released a statement for Trans day of remembrance as well. APUS does that yearly. Pyne suggests that folks take a look at those statements and reflect on them. He adds that folks should look at previous statements made on Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) and Islamophobia.

14. Upcoming Events and Opportunities (10 minutes)

Froom says there was a court victory regarding the Election Finance Act. Unfortunately, the provincial government has said it is going to invoke the notwithstanding clause to restrict political freedom of speech. They have recalled the legislature and are meeting on Monday. CFS and various labour unions are planning on packing the virtual gallery of the province of Ontario on Monday, June 14th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Froom shares the website. Please share it widely. CFS wants as many people out as possible because it is a threat not just to freedom of speech and freedom of association, but also this will be the first time in Ontario's history that the notwithstanding clause will be used. Froom is fearful that if Ford gets away with it here, they will use it again with the Student Choice Initiative. It's very dangerous, the only thing that is left for APUS to do is to use public pressure.

Kearns and Acuna speak to the upcoming Indigenous History Month events. The first event will be on June 21st and will focus on misconceptions about Indigenous issues. The second event will be on July 1st, which will be a tri-campus event that will focus on learning about the truths behind the treaties in Mississauga and Toronto.

Coggon speaks to an upcoming plant workshop with Hart House Farm on June 24. There is also a Pride Plant Macramé event on June 17th and a concert to cap off SGDO's celebration with Jeremy Dutcher. It will have a question and answer period. APUS is partnering with CESAX and doing a lot of programming for Pride. The Events and Outreach Coordinator Habiba has been advertising them on social media. Coggon highlights the Pink Washing event on June 25th.

Oliveira adds that there will also be a two-part collaboration with CESAX that centres screenings of the television show POSE followed by panel discussions. They will be happening on June 18th and June 25th.

Acuna says she signed up for a workshop with SBA and shares the link with the Board. She notes that it has been moved to this upcoming Monday and is about allyship and disrupting anti-Black racism.

Froom adds another link to an event that will focus on the CAUT censorship link and invites the Board.

15. Adjournment

Kanani calls for a motion to adjourn. Kearns moves. Coggon seconds. Everyone is in favour.

Vote carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.