



University of Alberta Students' Union

**ABORIGINAL
RELATIONS AND
RECONCILIATION
COMMITTEE
(ARRC)**

January 29, 2024

5:00 PM

Zoom

The University of Alberta and the University of Alberta Students' Union occupy Indigenous land in amiskwacišwāskahikan (Beaver Hills House), on Treaty 6 territory. From time immemorial, the banks along the river valley have been known as the Pehonan, a meeting place for the nēhiyawak (Cree), the Niitsitapi (Blackfoot), Métis, Dēnesųliné (Dene), Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and others. The University, the Students' Union and much of the city are located on the unlawfully stolen land of the forcibly removed Papaschase Cree.

We acknowledge that sharing this land gives each of us the responsibility to research the historic contexts of Treaty 6, to reflect on our personal relationships to the land, the Nations we've named, and to our roles in upholding justice on this territory. Since they began, the Students' Union and the University have benefited from historic and ongoing dispossession of land and resources from Indigenous Peoples. As a result, it is our responsibility to seek the restitution of this land and its resources. Finally, we seek to do better by working to make our learning, research, and governance align with the histories, languages, teachings, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples in the land presently occupied by the Canadian state.

We encourage critical reflection by asking the following question. In relation to the territory on which you are situated, what role do you play in strengthening the resistance and resurgence of Indigenous students within your communities?

ATTENDANCE

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT
Ella Thompson (Chair)		Y
Noor Abdelwahab		N
Marc Jr. Doire		Y
Levi Flaman		Y
Michael Griffiths		Y
Brooklynn Halfe		Y
Elizah McColl		Y
Mason Pich		N
Muneeba Qadir		Y

Courtney Graham		N/A
Racquel Araujo		N/A
Aseel Atia		N/A

MINUTES (ARRC-2023-07-M)

2023-07/1 INTRODUCTION

2023-07/1a **Call to Order**

THOMSON called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM

2023-07/1b **Approval of Agenda**

TABLED

2023-07/1c **Approval of Minutes**

TABLED

2023-07/1d **Chair’s Business**

2023-07/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2023-07/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2023-07/3a [TRC Policy](#)

GRIFFITHS: Policy Committee has been working on the First Principles of the Truth and Reconciliation Policy. It guides principles in relation to TRC and it expires in April 2024. The document outlines what the plans and intentions are for adding items to the policy. The new ARRC recommendations, that were passed last year, could be included in the document as well. The policy is called Truth and Reconciliation Commission, but the name can be adapted to reflect further decolonization and Indigenization to the policy.

THOMSON: Is weary of the name change, because a decolonization policy would have a broader, and more drastic scope than a TRC policy.

It’s Indigenous Celebration Week, and there will be many events throughout the week. On Tuesday, 8 AM there will be a pipe ceremony. Then there will be Michif Games from 1-2 PM. At 2:30-4 PM, there will be beading conversations with Indigenous artisans. Wednesday is the celebration of Indigenous languages. Thursday is the day for honouring Indigenous youth. Friday is the Indigenous artisans market from 11 AM-1 PM. The Round Dance is February 3, from 6-11 PM, open to all students and community members.

More information available:

https://www.instagram.com/p/C2aNpyhrfMA/?img_index=1

2023-07/4

INFORMATION ITEMS

2023-07/5

ADJOURNMENT

THOMSON adjourned the meeting at 5:18 PM