



University of Alberta Students' Union

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

March 25, 2024

5 PM

Zoom

The University of Alberta and the University of Alberta Students' Union occupy Indigenous land in amiskwaciswaskahikan (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 nêhiyawak (Cree), the Niitsitapi (Blackfoot), Métis, Dënesųłinê (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
Victor Olsen		Y
Marc Jr. Doire		Y
Levi Flaman		Y
Michael Griffiths		Y
Brooklynn Halfe		N
Elizah McColl		Y
Mason Pich		Y

Muneeba Qadir		N
Racquel Araujo		N/A
Aseel Atia		N/A

MINUTES (ARRC-2023-08-M)

2023-08/1 INTRODUCTION

2023-08/1a **Call to Order**

THOMSON called the meeting to order at 5:10 PM

2023-08/1d **Chair’s Business**

THOMSON: The end of the school year is approaching, and THOMSON will not be on the committee next year.

2023-08/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2023-08/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2023-08/3a Financial allocation for 2023/24 school year

THOMSON: The committee needs to spend \$3,000 in the next month. One person has emailed with a grant request for their student group program, Beading with Friends. They are looking for \$500-1000 in funding.

OLSEN: Has heard great things about this program. The question is more about how much the committee wants to fund the program rather if they will fund the program.

THOMSON: Also agrees that it would be nice to fund the program the full 1000 dollars of requested funding. Beading with Friends is a space on campus that is for Indigenous students. Could set it up like a grant, if possible.

OLSEN/MCCOLL MOVE TO give Beading with Friends \$1000 to continue to create community for other Indigenous students on campus.

CARRIED

OLSEN: If there are no other ideas on how to spend the funding, the university anticipates that it’ll cost \$20,000 to install OneCard access on doors to prevent violence on campus.

GRIFFITHS: Would like to see a cost breakdown, including on how that quote was given. Will try to get that number decreased.

2023-08/3b

Recruitment

THOMSON: Indigenous students at large and ISU participants have seats to be filled for next year's ARRC committee.

OLSEN: This year the committee is trying to select and preliminarily recruit early, so that ARRC is not behind, unlike previous years. Ideally, ARRC wants to sit and collect a pool of applicants. This year ARRC accepted everyone who applied, which is not ideal.

THOMSON: Worked collaboratively with SOPHIE, the ISU president. Will help conduct interviews as a final duty before their term finishes.

OLSEN: What can be done to help ISU in their recruitment process?

GRIFFITHS: All SAL positions are posted on the job recruitment site, and it can be posted there too. Will coordinate with others, if needed.

THOMSON: Will follow up with GRIFFITHS regarding the recruitment dates. Have to submit a report, even though the committee hasn't met for a while. Would like to have a meeting in two weeks, with everyone joining.

2023-08/4

INFORMATION ITEMS

2023-08/5

ADJOURNMENT

THOMSON adjourned the meeting at 5:36 P.M.