

**University of Regina Students' Union
Annual General Meeting
April 12th 2023, 2-5pm
Multi Purpose Room and Zoom**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpdOGorz8pEtL4ZW-uoSp6cch_B6P0xaZ](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/91891922046?pwd=Zk5aQ0p1aE5aZW9lc0ZwbnZkdjVpZ0NlZG9kZ1NjZDZkdz09)

Agenda

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**
3. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
4. **APPROVAL OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT _____ be appointed Chairperson for the 2023 URSU Annual General Meeting.

1. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Membership approves the agenda for the 2023 Special General Meeting.

2:47 pm (47.42) BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Membership approve the amendments to the 2023 Special General Meeting with the additions of House Rules as 10.1 and renumbering subsequent motions and 2023 General Elections as a discussion item at the end of the meeting

6. SPECIAL BUSINESS

10.1 CONSIDERATION OF MOTION SERVED WITH DUE NOTICE

10.1.1 Internal Forensic Investigation for URSU

WHEREAS, the Students' Union at the University of Regina, referred to as URSU, has shown disregard for its membership in terms of its management practices, including significant increases in spending without strategic planning, loss of a significant amount of money without providing an explanation, and concerns from the membership regarding financial and managerial irregularities, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has acted as a rubber stamp and taken little accountability for these issues,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT MNP be hired to conduct an "Internal Forensic Audit" to investigate URSU's internal management practices, including but not limited to hiring, HR, nepotism, funds management, budgeting, relationship and treatment of staff, and operational expenditure,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT MNP be supported by a committee consisting of one representative from each student faculty association,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT MNP shall be given any and all information required by URSU management to complete the investigation,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT MNP reports back to the membership in Fall 2023, either via email or a presentation at the Annual General Meeting, and the report will be written in a manner that all students can comprehend.

Mover: Tayef Ahmed

2:58:03 pm

motion to challenge the chair, that will determine what we do next, the chair had initially asked for a 15 minute recess to review, but it has been challenged so the next step will be a vote to challenge the chair

DEFEATED

2:59:53 pm

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The meeting continue as planned (voting against would result in a 15 minute recess as the chair reviews notice)

03:04:48 pm

BIRT Speakers are limited to 2 minutes each. Speakers must identify themselves with name, affiliation (Person X; UR Blank Club) Speakers list is 4 PRO, 4 Con, alternating and acknowledging gender parity and ethno-diversity. Un-parliamentarian language/behaviour will not be tolerated and those acting in bad faith will be asked to leave.

03:10:58 pm Motion moved, Seconded:

03:24:21 pm Amendment to remove “BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT MNP be supported by a committee consisting of one representative from each student faculty association,” and replace with “Be it resolved MNP reports back to the membership in Fall 2023, either via email or a presentation at the Annual General Meeting, and the report will be written in a manner that all the students can comprehend. Be it further resolved, MNP be supported by a committee consisting of the Board of Directors and does not compromise confidentially or create adverse legal liabilities.

Moved by Pedram Monfared Seconded:

03:27:20 pm Amendment carries

03:42:42 pm Motion to adjourn (Majority Vote)

03:43:45 pm Amendment to add “An email is to be sent to all URSU Members about the next meeting.”

03:47:32 pm Be it Resolved the this meeting be adjourned to a future date, and that notice of the future meeting be sent by email and the meeting be held in person.

03:57:39 pm Be It Resolved That the meeting be adjourned and notice for a new meeting be sent by email and held in person no later than May 29th 2023.

04:02:49 pm Amendment to reimburse students up to \$5000 under PEC funding RULED OUT OF ORDER

04:04:09 pm Motion to challenge the chair on their decision to rule the amendments reading: "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT URSU REIMBURSE THE STUDENTS 5000\$ for money spent to promote this SGM" out of order PASSED

04:23:29 pm Motion to adjourn this meeting to May 29 2023, 2pm DEFEATED 04:37:25 pm

04:38:15 Motion to adjourn meeting until May 28th at 2pm DEFEATED 04:40:44 pm

04:43:23 pm Motion to amend to "MNP be supported by a committee consisting of the Board of the Directors and of one representative from each the Student Faculty Association.

Be it further resolved that the URSU Board of Directors and the representatives of the Student Faculty Associations have equal voting power on this committee.

04:46:11 pm Amendment: BE IT RESOLVED that students groups still be involved in a committee with equal voting power split between URSU and ratified student faculty associations, clubs and service centres.

04:50:45 pm Amendment to Amendment:BE IT RESOLVED that students groups still be involved in a committee with equal voting power split between URSU and ratified student faculty associations.

05:01:25 pm Amendment to Amendment:BE IT RESOLVED that student groups still be involved in a committee with equal voting power split between URSU and ratified student faculty associations, clubs and service centres. DEFEATED 03:02:48

05:06:23 pm Motion to adjourn meeting to April 28th 3pm DEFEATED

05:28:17 pm BE IT RESOLVED THAT 10.1.2 be approved as amended

10.1.2 Governance

WHEREAS URSU is currently noncompliant with the Saskatchewan Nonprofit Corporation Act 2021;

WHEREAS member turnout in URSU elections is in the single digits;

WHEREAS URSU's governance structure has been questionable to the wider student body;

WHEREAS many student groups have lost confidence in URSU to operate with transparency;

WHEREAS URSU failed to provide necessary information to students with respect to transparency, keeping students in the dark about their business;

THEREFORE, I move to appoint a reputable consulting firm based in SK to conduct a third-party governance review to bring URSU into alignment with the Saskatchewan Non-Profit Act, 2021 and review internal policies and processes to ensure a member-centric URSU.

The (FIRM) shall be appointed by a committee consisting of one representative of each ratified student society.

The (FIRM) has member support to utilize university mailing lists to contact URSU members directly, pending University of Regina Administration approval.

The (FIRM) will prioritize consulting and working with current members, and can include URSU Staff, current and past URSU Executives or URSU Member Alumni as they deem necessary.

The (FIRM) will report back to URSU members at a Special General Meeting or next Annual General Meeting.

5:41:48 pm **Cross Contamination Food Policy**

WHEREAS a large part of URSU's membership is vegetarian and/or vegan as well as other food diverse diets, and

WHEREAS many members have various food related allergies, and

WHEREAS it would be important to develop formal operational policies with regards to food safety and security; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED THAT URSU create a cross contamination food policy to ensure URSU's services have as little cross contamination (including various allergens) as possible, using such tools as guides, marketing materials, and other methods

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT URSU work with the University of Regina and University of

Regina Food Services, as well as any other vendors on campus, to implement cross-contamination food guidelines in all food spaces on campus

Mover: Olufemi Oluyemi

05:46:06 pm **Student-Worker Solidarity**

Whereas corporations and Governments are constantly undermining worker rights

Whereas membership among labour unions has been declining in the last couple of

decades.

Whereas today's students are tomorrow's workers and it is important to promote workers rights and unions,

Be it resolved that the Student Worker Solidarity policy be approved

Be it further resolved that URSU supports various Labour Unions on campus and promotes Union Solidarity among students

Be it further resolved that the URSU run the Student Worker Solidarity Campaign.

Mover: Olufemi Oluyemi

Student Worker Solidarity Policy

Policy owner:

Director of Advocacy and Campaigns

Audience:

International Students Coordinator, International Student Members, Board of Directors, Staff, Executive

Approved:

Last Reviewed:

Review Schedule:

Introduction:

Students and Workers have a unique relationship in the labour market, as today's students become tomorrow's workers.

In the current labour market, worker protections are constantly being undermined by corporations and the government by undermining workers rights.

It is important that students understand and learn from unions regarding workers rights and labour movement.

It is important URSU works with labour unions to promote Student work solidarity on the University of Regina Campus

Mandate:

The mandate of the Student Worker Solidarity policy is to promote Unionism on campus. URSU should work with various Unions and District Labour Councils to create awareness among students about various issues faced by workers.

URSU also work with Faculty Unions and other labour unions located on University of Regina Campus to support and establish Campus Labour Council.

URSU promotes worker rights among students and and show solidarity with labour movements.

Consequences for Non-Compliance:

Members that do not abide by the Student workers Solidarity Policy and/or the Policy on Campus Groups may face disciplinary action up to and including loss of funding eligibility

05:53:02 pm **Campaign on Provincial Election and Education**

Whereas Provincial Elections in Saskatchewan are due in Summer 2024

Whereas URSU has not conducted any recent campaigns in the last Federal or Provincial elections

Be it resolved that URSU organizes Get Out the Vote Campaign for the upcoming Elections

Be it resolved that URSU plans and organizes Election campaign for 2024 Election in Saskatchewan

Be it resolved that URSU put aside \$30,000 for a Provincial Election Preparedness Fund to fund this campaign

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that URSU engage with other student organizations on the provincial election.

Mover: Olufemi Oluyemi

05:49:36 pm **Lobby Week**

Whereas URSU did not organize lobby weeks and regular Government relations in the last couple of years;

Whereas URSU Advocacy Department established relationships with MLAs from all parties in Saskatchewan Government;

Whereas URSU Advocacy organized lobby week this year in February after many years;

Be it resolved that URSU Advocacy week plans and organizes Lobby Week on an annual basis.

Be it further resolved that URSU conducts outreach to students to understand their issues and perform necessary research necessary for Lobby Week.

Mover: Olufemi Oluyemi

11. Q/A

12. 6:00pm ADJOURNMENT

Motions on Transparency

In response to concerns brought forward at the URSU AGM, the Board of Directors for the University of Regina Students' Union passed a number of motions to address the issues. These motions were voted on at a Board meeting on April 18th, 2023 and are listed below.

Motion 1

Since the board of directors is the ultimate decision-making authority of the Students' Union and is responsible for the administration of the affairs of the Students' Union. In an effort to make sure directors are able to best perform their duties, they will need to have a thorough knowledge of their responsibilities, powers and the mechanisms of the URSU process.

After each election, new board members will have at least three sessions with SLAC lawyers and URSU leadership to go over all the responsibilities and powers of the board of directors, and all the operations mechanism, URSU structure and chain of command mechanisms.

Mover: Rahima Mian

Secunder: Anastasiia Sheichuk

Motion: Carried

Abstain: Taryn

Motion 2

WHEREAS URSU is meant to serve all its members, take their feedback seriously and be accountable to their needs.

WHEREAS working towards the constant improvement of the organization's processes, their transparency and regularly reaching out to the membership with reports is essential for the organization's reputation.

WHEREAS a significant number of URSU members raised serious concerns about the URSU operations, tactics and their transparency that have not been reconciled with the membership and, therefore, severely damaged URSU's reputation.

WHEREAS its in the interest of URSU's reputation to properly review concerns from the membership and act upon improving URSU processes.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the new board will

1. Establish a biannual feedback-gathering procedure from the membership with close-ended and open-ended questions and the option of anonymity.
2. Hold biannually a meeting with the membership where ½ of the meeting URSU report on the work done for half a year in a way that all students can comprehend and discusses the survey results and present the action plan of how URSU will work on the members suggestions/concerns and ½ of the meeting Q&A.

The reasoning behind suggesting this meeting format is that the meeting time wouldn't be too long and the Q&A portion of it would be given enough time for people to voice their feedback and concerns.

Mover: Anastasiia Sheichuk

Secunder: Rahima Mian

Motion: Carried

Motion 3

WHEREAS URSU has been neglecting its responsibility for transparency towards its membership which has caused a great rift in the relationship between URSU and its membership.

WHEREAS it is the responsibility of URSU elected representatives to connect with its membership and participate in dialogue to ensure that their needs and wants are listened to and worked upon.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following are to be added to the board directors responsibilities:

In the first month after being elected, board directors have to establish connections with the student clubs or student societies respective to their faculties and have at least one meeting per month with the club members.

Every month at the board meeting, board directors have to speak for up to two minutes about the updates and concerns of their faculty members and club members.

For faculties/student groups that don't have clubs that board directors can connect with, board directors should establish their way of getting updates and concerns about the groups/faculties they represent and will have as other directors present monthly at board meetings updates and concerns for up to two minutes.

Be it further resolved that the Board meeting policy be changed to move the Board of Director reports be moved up, following the presentations.

Mover: Anastasiia Sheichuk

Secunder: Rahima Mian

Motion: Carried

Amendment: Carried

Abstain: Taryn

Motion 4

WHEREAS due transparency concerns brought up by the membership have become a big concern not only to the board but URSU as a whole.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT not only board meeting minutes and recordings be posted to their appropriate locations in a timely manner, and URSU meetings be more openly advertised to the membership as free to join.

Mover: Rahima Mian

Secunder: Anastasiia Sheichuk

Motion: Carried