



17:45 – registration opens: pizza will be served until it is finished

18:10 - meeting in **Wilson Hall, New College, room 1016 (40 Willcocks St.)**

University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union
Board of Directors (General Council) Meeting Agenda
31 January 2017

**Documentation included with agenda*

1. Meeting Comes to Order

- a. Equity Statement
- b. Adoption of Agendaⁱ
- c. Roll Call: guests, proxies, and all non-voting members
- d. Approval of Minutes* and Roll Call* – 06 December 2016ⁱⁱ
- f. Unfinished Business

2. Reports

- a. Executive* and Staff Reports
- b. Course Unions
- c. Standing Committees, Ad-hoc Committees, and Caucuses
- d. Governing Council, Graduate Education Council, CUPE 3902, and USW 1998
- e. Motion to Receive Reportsⁱⁱⁱ

3. Financial Business

- a. Special Grants^{iv}
- b. Conference Grants^v
- c. Donations^{vi}

4. Elections and Referenda

- a. Notice of UTGSU Elections
- b. Part-time Students Health-insurance Annual Adjustment Referendum Question^{vii}
- c. Establishment of Campaign for above Referendum Question^{viii} *
- d. Motion for an Enhanced University of Toronto UElect System for Ranked Ballots^{ix}
- e. Motion to Strike an Online Voting Systems Sub-committee^x

5. Bylaw and Policy Amendments^{xi}

- a. Online Voting Bylaw Amendments^{xii} *
- b. Online Voting Policy Amendments^{xiii} *

6. Graduate Student Census Ad-hoc Committee, Division 1 Rep Vacancy^{xiv}7. Create a Caucus Governance Review Working Group^{xv}8. Strike a UTGSU Indigenous Caucus^{xvi} *

9. Any Other Business

10. Next Meeting – Tuesday, 28 February in Wilson Hall, New College, room 1016

11. Adjournment^{xvii} - please join us for the Council Social. The UTGSU will provide free soft drinks and snacks and one alcoholic beverage is available with ticket.

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- If you require family care subsidies please contact financeadmin@utgsu.ca.
 - If you require accessibility accommodations please contact executiveassistant@utgsu.ca.
 - For an escort after the meeting call WalkSmart at 416-978-7233.

ⁱ 1b. **Draft Motion:** BIRT (Be it resolved that) the General Council of the Union / Board of Directors adopts the agenda (as presented or as amended).

ⁱⁱ 1d. **Draft Motion:** BIRT the General Council / Board of Directors of the Union approves the 06 December 2016 minutes and roll call (as presented or as amended).

ⁱⁱⁱ 2e. **Draft Motion:** BIRT the UTGSU General Council of the Union / Board of Directors receives all reports.

^{iv.3a.} **Draft Motion:** BIRT the Finance Committee recommends to UTGSU Council/Board of Directors the approval of all Special Grants for the 2016-2017 Academic Year as presented; and BIFRT the remainder of the Special Grant funds be re-allocated to the Conference Grant Budget line for the 2016-2017 Academic Year.

^v 3b. **Draft Motion:** BIRT the Finance Committee recommends to UTGSU Council/Board of Directors the approval of all Fall Conference Grants as presented.

vi 3c. For any donations endorsed by Council, the motion should read:

Draft Motion: BIRT the UTGSU General Council of the Union endorses (amount) to go to (name of event and organization) and to be taken from the (name budget item) budget line.

vii 4b. A referendum question requires two-thirds majority vote of Council for ratification.

Draft Motion: BIRT the UTGSU General Council ratifies the following referendum question and places it on the ballot for the 2017 UTGSU election cycle:

PREAMBLE

Last year, part-time members of the University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union (UTGSU) passed a referendum authorizing the UTGSU to collect a non-academic incidental fee of \$274.02 from all part-time graduate students, for a twelve (12) month health insurance plan. The fee includes a \$4.41 administration fee and provincial sales tax. The coverage begins each year on 01 September (it began in 2016), and includes prescriptions, travel insurance, and other sickness and health benefits. The fee is refundable to part-time students if they are covered by alternative health insurance.

Similar to full-time health and dental fees (which have annual inflationary increases based on a supplementary health insurance industry adjustment), the UTGSU is seeking consent from its part-time members to authorize the General Council to approve annual inflationary increases for this fee. The total Health Insurance Fee (currently \$274.02) would be annually adjusted based on the supplementary health insurance industry rate. The purpose of this question is to avoid holding referenda every year for the changes in the premiums.

QUESTION: In order to maintain the supplementary health insurance plan for part time graduate students beyond the coverage period of 01 September 2016 to 31 August 2017, do you authorize the General Council of the Graduate Student' Union to approve an annual inflationary cost adjustment based on the supplementary health insurance industry index? The vote would require a 2/3 approval by UTGSU General Council.

Yes / No / Abstain

viii 4c. If the referendum question is non-controversial, without two clear sides, it is recommended that Council strike an Information-Based Campaign.

Draft Motion: BIRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors strikes a Part-time Student Health Insurance Annual Adjustment Yes Campaign Sub-Committee and a No Campaign Sub-Committee;

BIFRT each of these Sub-Committees be comprised of five (5) members, four (4) of which shall be appointed by the Elections and Referenda Committee, one (1) of which shall be appointed by the UTGSU General Council;

BIFRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors appoints (Name, Department) to the Part-time Student Health Insurance Annual Adjustment Yes Campaign Sub-Committee as the UTGSU General Council representative;

BIFRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors appoints (Name, Department) to the Part-time Student Health Insurance Annual Adjustment No Campaign Sub-Committee as the UTGSU General Council representative; and

BIFRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors provides financial support to both the Part-time Student Health Insurance Annual Adjustment Yes and No Campaigns, up to the amount of \$200 each.

or

Draft Motion: BIRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors deems the upcoming referendum question on Part-time Student Health Insurance Annual Adjustment an "Information-Based Campaign";

BIFRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors strikes a Part-time Student Health Insurance Annual Adjustment Information-Based Campaign Sub-Committee;
 BIFRT this Sub-Committee be comprised of three (3) members, two (2) of which shall be appointed by the Elections and Referenda Committee one (1) of which shall be appointed by the UTGSU General Council;
 BIFRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors appoints (Name, Department) to the Part-time Student Health Insurance Annual Adjustment Information-Based Campaign Sub-Committee as the UTGSU General Council representative; and
 BIFRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors supports the provision of information to the electorate by providing financial support to the Part-time Student Health Insurance Information-Based Campaign Sub-Committee, up to the amount of \$400.

- 4d. The current online voting system for elections provided by U of T is a first pass the post (FPTP) system - which does not align with the current UTGSU policy for casting physical ballots.

Draft Motion: BIRT the UTGSU puts in a formal request to the Vice-Provost, Students to enhance the functionality of the UElect System for ranked ballots.

- ^x 4e. **Draft Motion:** BIRT UTGSU General Council strikes a sub-committee to research online voting systems and propose comprehensive policy changes to the current elections and referenda policy at the end of October.

- ^{xi} 5. All Bylaw and Governing Policy amendments require a 2/3 vote of Council. Operations Policy amendments require a simple-majority vote of Council.

For each Bylaw or Policy Amendment, the motion shall read:

- ^{xii} 5a. **Draft Motion:** BIRT the Board of Directors of the Union adopts all amendments to Bylaw Article 8: ELECTIONS as presented; and
 BIFRT the Board of Directors of the Union revokes all previous policies and positions of the Union that may conflict with the following policies.

- ^{xiii} 5b. **Draft Motion:** BIRT the Board of Directors of the Union adopts all amendments to Policy G2: Elections and Referenda as presented; and
 BIFRT the Board of Directors of the Union revokes all previous policies and positions of the Union that may conflict with the following policies.

- ^{xiv} 6. **Draft Motion:** BIRT the General Council appoints (Name and department of Rep) as the Division one representative to the Graduate Student Census Ad-hoc Committee effective immediately until 31 August 2017.

- ^{xv} 7. **Draft Motion:** MOTION to strike a Caucus Governance Review Working Group
 Whereas the purview of UTGSU caucuses and (standing) committees which are not directly led by Commissioners includes necessary, and at times challenging, equity work,
 Whereas the core membership of the above bodies is comprised of UTGSU members,
 Whereas their projects can greatly benefit from the direct involvement of as well as benefit the larger UTGSU community in important ways,
 BIRT

A working group composed of current caucus-level members prepare a report to the attention of UTGSU Council, with recommendations about closer collaboration with the UTGSU leadership, including but not limited to:

- Facilitation of up-to-date online presence on the UTGSU website
- Promotion of activities through the UTGSU Digest and other UTGSU communication and info dissemination venues
- Detailed review of the current UTGSU caucus-type structures
- Streamlining the budgeting/planning of events and activities
- Periodic reports to UTGSU Council in support of the above

BIFRT the following people be appointed as Working Group members:

Amended Motion (by submitter Lynne Alexandrova) Draft Version: WHEREAS those UTGSU Caucuses and Committees that are not directly led by Executive Officers are tasked with necessary, and at times challenging equity work;

WHEREAS the core membership of the above bodies is comprised of UTGSU members, and is thereby within the proper range of UTGSU governance;

WHEREAS increased involvement of UTGSU members in the work of the above bodies will benefit the membership at large and enhance intermediate governance structures as well as the equity profile of the Union as a whole;

BIRT a working group composed of general members, including chairs or members of these bodies, be struck;

BIFRT this working group prepare a Report to the attention of the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors, with recommendations about closer collaboration with the UTGSU leadership, including but not limited to:

- Updating the presence of these bodies on the UTGSU website, Digest promotions, and similar (in collaboration with the Communications & Promotions Staff Person of the UTGSU)
- Proposing upgrades of existing structures
- Proposing upgrades of currently organized events and activities
- Presenting periodic reports to the UTGSU General Council in support of the above

BIFRT this working group be open to all UTGSU members and that its work be taken into account in POC work on UTGSU restructuring (e.g., per ONCA).

^{xvi}8. **Draft Motion:** MOTION to strike UTGSU Indigenous Caucus

Whereas equity work within UTGSU concerning Indigenous peoples in Canada is paramount in view of the UTGSU Equity Statement, which opens proceedings at each and every sitting of UTGSU Council,

Whereas UTGSU General Council has taken steps in support of urgent Indigenous causes and has passed a motion for Indigenous/non-Indigenous collaboration,

Whereas a metropolitan city such as Toronto, and the composition of the UTGSU membership comprise multiple indigeneities from around the globe,

Whereas the above in combination create rich possibilities and call for UTGSU leadership for the purpose of mutually beneficial collaborations, agreement and peace on a local, as well as national and even international scale

BIRT

UTGSU Council strike a caucus, named "Indigenous Caucus Unlimited (ICU)", with the above mandate to be listed

1. in the UTGSU By-Law under Article 6, section 6.2.6 and in compliance with Article 6, sections 6.3, 6.4, 6.6, and 6.7

2. in the UTGSU Policy under Article G5 "Caucuses" and in compliance with Article G5, section G5.7 Indigenous Caucus Unlimited (ICU)

Proposal for a new Policy section G5. 7.1 for the Indigenous Caucus unLtd.

Added text to Policy template for Caucuses in all caps:

G5.7: Indigenous Caucus unLtd (ICU)

G5.7.1 The **Indigenous Caucus unLtd** shall act as the body that coordinates efforts centered around the interests and concerns of graduate students WORKING TO PROMOTE AND ENACT NETWORKED INDIGENEITIES NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY. ~~Meetings~~ ACTIVITIES will focus on issues relevant the caucus' membership.

G5.7.1.1 ~~Meetings~~ ACTIVITIES will include social interaction, networking, ~~and~~ discussion, LOBBYING, and EVENT ORGANIZING around ~~member~~ CAUCUS issues, including potential changes that members would like to see in programming and governance at the **UTGSU**, university, city, provincial, NATIONAL and INTERnational levels.

G5.7.1.2 This Caucus shall also PERIODICALLY REPORT TO COUNCIL AND SHALL be empowered to make recommendations to Council on ~~these~~ matters PER GS.7.1.1, INCLUDING AS REGARDS DONATIONS, AWARENESS BUILDING, OR BROADER ACTIVISM.

G5.7.2 The Caucus shall, at A minimum, be open to ALL graduate students of the Union as its constituent members, AND WILL ACCEPT NONVOTING REPREENATION BY UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS, GRADUATE STUDENTS FROM OTHER UNIVERSITIES, AND THE PUBLIC.

G5.7.2.1 The Caucus may reserve the right to restrict attendance at their meetings or events to any other member of the Union OR EXTERNAL TO THE UNION, as decided by the will of the constituent members of the Caucus.

G5.7.3 Meetings of the Caucus shall be held; at least; once during each month FROM SEPTEMBER TO APRIL AND LESS OFTEN, IF AT ALL, DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS.

Amended Motion (by submitter Lynne Alexandrova) Draft Version: WHEREAS equity work within the UTGSU concerning Indigenous peoples in Canada is paramount in view of the UTGSU Equity Statement;

WHEREAS UTGSU General Council has taken steps in support of urgent Indigenous causes, has passed a motion for Indigenous/non-Indigenous collaboration, and a direct UTGSU response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC, 2015) calls to action is pending;

WHEREAS a metropolitan city such as Toronto, and the composition of the UTGSU Membership, comprise multiple indigeneities from around the globe;

WHEREAS the above in combination create rich possibilities and call for UTGSU leadership aimed at mutually beneficial collaborations, agreement and peace on a local, as well as national and even world-wide scale;

BIRT UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors adopt By-Law 6.2.X and Policy G5.X

Bylaw:

6.2 Caucuses

The following shall be Caucuses of the Union:

6.2.X Indigenous Caucus unLtd

Proposal for a new Policy section G5. 7.1 for the Indigenous Caucus unLtd., following the UTGSU Policy template for Caucuses:

G5.X: Indigenous Caucus unLtd (ICU)

G5.X.X the **Indigenous Caucus unLtd** shall act as the body that coordinates efforts centered around the interests and concerns of graduate students working to promote and enact networked indigeneities nationally and internationally. Activities will focus on issues relevant the caucus membership.

G5.X.X Activities will include social interaction, networking, discussion, lobbying, and event organizing around caucus issues, including potential changes that members would like to see in programming and governance at the university, city, provincial, national, and international levels.

G5.X.X.X This Caucus shall also periodically report to council and shall be empowered to make recommendations to Council on matters including donations, awareness building, or broader activism.

G5.X.X The Caucus shall, at a minimum, be open to all graduate students of the Union as its constituent members, and will encourage collaborations with the wider community

G5.X.X.X The Caucus may reserve the right to restrict attendance at their meetings or events to any other member of the Union or external to the Union, as decided by the will of the constituent members of the Caucus.

G5.X.X Meetings of the Caucus shall be held, at least, once during each month from September to April and less often, if at all, during the summer months.

^{xvii} 11. **Draft Motion:** BIRT the General Council meeting be adjourned at (time).