



## UTGSU Civics Committee Meeting Highlights

**Date:** Monday, June 16, 2014

**Location:** GSU Building (16 Bancroft Ave.), Executive Office

**Time:** 3-5pm

**Chair:** Susanne Waldorf, Civics and Environment Commissioner

**Vice-Chair:** Natasha Jamal, Executive At Large

Present: Susanne, Natasha, Mehreen, Kim (UTGSU Resource Coordinator/Fieldworker)

Regrets: Derek, Philip

### Overview of the mandate of the Civics Committee and recent activities

The mandate of the Civics Committee is to engage our membership in happenings of the society around them. The chair has interpreted this broad mandate as both graduate student engagement in the UTGSU and graduate student engagement with advocacy efforts within the city. Last year the Civics Committee focused primarily on increasing graduate student engagement in the UTGSU and working on the post-residency fees campaign. We created a post-residency fees video to further the conversation on campus.

### Municipal Elections (Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>)

The Civics Committee has decided to pursue several educational/get-out-the-vote efforts for the upcoming municipal elections. We are hoping to co-host a mayoral debate on campus which a larger group of campus organizations is putting together. We also hope to produce a one-page "cheat sheet" on the different candidates which highlights the issues most important to graduate students. Additionally we want to host a mock election specifically for International Students who do not have a chance to vote. We hope to advertise the results to give voice in this election to those who otherwise don't have an opportunity to vote. In conjunction with the mock election we want to host a big get-out-the vote party for all members. We also hope to do some basic advertising of the elections to help increase voter turn-out.

### Other business/announcements & discuss next meeting date/time/agenda

The next meeting will be held sometime in August. Susanne will send out a doodle poll over the list serve to schedule the meeting.

If you would like to join the Civics Committee, please email [civics@utgsu.ca](mailto:civics@utgsu.ca) to be added to the list serve.