

Minutes of the 11th
Students' Association of Red Deer Polytechnic
2021-2022 Council Meeting
Monday, February 7, 2022

Present:

Savannah Snow, President
Fellicity Arndt, Councillor
Laura Beaveridge, Councillor
Khushpreet Grewal, Councillor
Lovejeet Kaur, Councillor
Kiara Welch, Councillor
Anne Marie Watson, Chairperson
Brittany Lausen, Secretary

Brenan Fuiten, VP External
Erin Bast, Councillor
Marian Canas, Councillor
Jasmeen Kaur, Councillor
Asmi Multani, Councillor
Kindra Woodford, Councillor
Elizabeth Sweiger, Executive Director

11.0 Call to Order

A. Watson calls meeting to order at 5:36pm

11.1 Approval of Agenda

B. Fuiten adds 11.6.2 "Council Resignation". S. Snow moves 11.6.1, 11.6.2 and 11.3 above 11.2.

21-22-106-C

K. Kaur, S. Snow

Motion: Approve Agenda as amended.

Carried.

11.2 Land Acknowledgement – S. Snow

To me, reconciliation and decolonization is a personal journey that I have embarked on in the last year. When you take a look at my skin, I'm white. I have blue eyes, my hair is not naturally this dark. But when you take a look at my immediate ancestry, there is a beautiful tapestry of multiculturalism from Indigenous groups in Canada, as well as groups in Europe and Africa. In the last year, I've begun to ask myself - which is more important? The colour of my skin or the blood I share? The shield that has protected me or the suffering of my people?

You see, I was adopted by a white family. I spent quite a few years in the foster system. My skin was a shield for my younger brother and I. When I was taken from my mother, the social services worker told her, "We're lucky she looks white."

I have been fortunate, privileged, all because my physical features didn't betray my ancestry. What of the kids who do not have my privilege? Where do they end up? What of my great-aunts, their sisters and brothers? What role do I have to play in all of this? Does the guilt I feel truly belong to me?

I've been faced with all of these questions my whole life, but it wasn't until recently that I really started to consider the answers. I don't have them all yet. One thing is clear, however. I am beholden to no one to learn about my culture and reclaim my roots. I had to make this decision myself. The same stands true for others. Knowing about an issue and acknowledging an issue to search for a solution are two entirely different things.

This all being said, I give thanks for the resiliency of my ancestors. I give thanks for the survival of my people. I give thanks for the work towards truth and reconciliation. I give thanks to everyone who acknowledges there's so much work to be done. I give thanks to the hope of a brighter future for my brothers and sisters. I give thanks for the land we are so privileged to learn on; Treaty 6, Treaty 7, and Metis Ancestral lands. And lastly, I give thanks for the platform from which I speak. We have work to do. I'm proud of the Red Deer Polytechnic community. Let's continue this work - we are only at the beginning.

11.3 Guests

11.3.1 R. Holt, Associate Vice President Academic – Work Integrated Learning

R. Holt shared with Council information on the new proposed Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) Hub. The WIL hub will enable students to have authentic experience in relevant learning environments, with a focus on the integration of theory into practice contexts. The intention of Red Deer Polytechnic is to be the first post-secondary institution in Alberta to provide every single learner a work-integrated learning opportunity. Opportunities being in-person, virtual, blended, local, regional, national, and international. Work-integrated Learning will provide hands on learning, application of theory in practical setting, skill development, career clarity, employability, offset costs of education with paid opportunities.

11.3.2 S. Briggs, Registrar's Office – Fall Reading Break

S. Briggs brought the Fall Reading Break Policy for feedback from Council. Red Deer polytechnic is one of two institutions that offers Fall Reading Break in October instead of November. The current definition is a break in the Academic Term to provide students an opportunity to complete outstanding course work without the addition of new assignments or the requirement to attend classes. Council feels that reading break is a break. Having the Reading Break in October

allows students to spend more time with their families for the Holiday. Council wants Reading Break to be a mental health break for students.

11.4 Approval of Meeting Minutes

11.4.1 Approval of 2021-2022 Council Meeting Minutes #10

21-22-107-C

K. Woodford, K. Kaur

Motion: Approve 2021-2022 Council Meeting Minutes #10

Carried.

11.4.2 Approval of Executive Council Meeting Minutes #34-35

21-22-108-C

L. Kaur, K. Welch

Motion: Approve Executive Council Meeting Minutes #34-35

Carried.

11.5 Discussion

11.6 New Business

11.6.1 VP Academic Resignation

21-22-109-C

S. Snow, F. Arndt

Motion: Accept VP Academic, S. Humphrey's resignation as of February 3, 2022.

Carried.

11.6.2 Council Resignation

21-22-110-C

S. Snow, K. Welch

Motion: Accept Y. Timbol resignation from the 2021-2022 Students' Association Council.

Carried.

11.6.3 VP External Compensation

21-22-111-C

S. Snow, K. Kaur

Motion: In recognition of the additional workload, to increase VP Fuiten's wages to \$3448 per month, based on a 35-hour week, effective December 1, 2021.

Carried. B. Fuiten, abstained.

11.6.4 Bank Transfers

21-22-112-C

K. Woodford, F. Arndt

Motion: Approve \$31,000.00 from the Interac to the Chequing Account, \$29,000.00 from the savings account to the chequing account, and \$65,000 from the Savings Account to the Payroll Account.

Carried.

11.7 Old Business

11.8 Executive Council, Council Committee and Other Reports

11.8.1 Executive Council and Committee Reports

President – Savannah Snow

S. Snow presented the Print on Demand initiative to the President’s Executive Council. S. Snow will notify council when a decision has been made. S. Snow is anticipating news surrounding degrees to be coming out in the next few weeks. Alberta Student Executive Council will be hosting the Annual General Meeting March 9-11. S. Snow has been elected to be one of the two Alberta representatives for the Federal Student Advocacy Alliance. Federal Advocacy week will be happening later this month where S. Snow will meet with 50 various MPs to advocate for international student permanent residence pathways to be expanded, rural broadband, and the expansion of paid internships.

VP External – Brenan Fuiten

B. Fuiten shared that academic advising is hastening their response time. Phone messages are being answered within a half day, and emails within 24hrs. Drop in hours on campus are open Mon-Thurs 12:30-3:30PM. Online Drop in Fri 10:30-11:30 AM and 1:30-2:30PM at www.rdpolytech.ca/advising. B. Fuiten reminded council it is Black History month and encourages Council to take time in learning.

11.8.2 Operations Report – Liz Sweiger

E. Sweiger has provided Council with several proposals to be considered at the February 28th meeting. Nominations are open, E. Sweiger encourages Council to share with their friends or anyone they think would be interested in Council or Executive Council.

21-22-113-C

F. Arndt, S. Snow

Motion: Accept Executive Council, Committee, and Operations Report as presented.

Carried.

11.9 Information

- 11.9.1 Health & Dental Fees
- 11.9.2 2022-2023 Association Membership Fees
- 11.9.3 Exec Compensation
- 11.9.4 Council Honoraria
- 11.9.5 BARC Recommendations

21-22-114-C

B. Fuiten, S. Snow

Motion: Accept Information items as presented.
Carried.

11.10 Adjournment

21-22-115-C

E. Bass, F. Arndt

Motion: To Adjourn at 7:33pm
Carried.



Savannah Snow

President



Elizabeth Sweiger

Executive Director



Anne Marie Watson

Chairperson



Brittany Lausen

Secretary