

**Minutes of the Sixteenth  
SARDP 2025-2026 Council Meeting  
February 23, 2026**

**Attendance:**

Donald Allen – Councillor	Jacq Patterson – President
Bridget Anderson – Councillor	Taya Skydan – Councillor
Nicholas Baker – Councillor	Eli Wolters – Vice President Academic
Lyan Fajardo – Councillor	Casey Zulita – Councillor
Allie Gosse – Councillor	Anne Marie Watson – Chairperson
Sage Huard – Councillor	Elizabeth Sweiger – Executive Director
Samuel Johannson – Vice President External	Marie Evangelista – Assistant Executive Director
Ruby Lindsay – Councillor	Marian Young – Secretary

Council Recessed: 7:00pm – 7:15pm

**16.0 Call to Order**

Call the meeting to order at 5:29pm

**16.1 Approval of Agenda**

25-26-140-C

Anderson, Baker

MOTION: Motion to accept the agenda as presented.

CARRIED

**16.2 Land Acknowledgment**

**16.3 Tuition and Fee Consultation**

Jim Brinkhurst, Vice President Finance and Administration, Lindsay Engel, Vice President Academic and Student Experience, and Karen Walkley, Director Resource Planning and Client Services met with Council for the annual tuition and fee consultation process. Councillors received the package from RDP at the February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 meeting.

**16.4 Approval of Meeting Minutes**

16.4.1 Minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> 2025-2026 Association Council Meeting

25-26-141-C

Allen, Lindsay

MOTION: Motion to approve the minutes of the fifteenth 2025-2026 Association Council Meetings.

CARRIED

16.4.2 Minutes of the 30<sup>th</sup> 2025 – 2026 Executive Council Meeting

25-26-142-C

Skydan, Goose

MOTION: Motion to approve the minutes of the twenty-ninth 2025-2026 Association Executive Council Meetings.  
CARRIED

**16.5 Old Business**

16.5.1 E-Motion Policy Proposal  
25-26-143-C  
Anderson, Gosse

MOTION: Motion to adopt the E-Motion Policy effective immediately.  
CARRIED

**16.6 Executive Council, Council Committee and Other Reports**

16.6.1 Executive Council Reports

- President – J. Patterson
- Vice President Academic – E. Wolters
- Vice President External – S. Johannson
- Executive Director – E. Sweiger

25-26-144-C

Allen, Skydan

MOTION: Motion to accept the Executive Council reports as presented.  
CARRIED

**16.7 Committee Minutes**

16.7.2 Advocacy Committee Minutes  
25-26-145-C  
Johannson, Gosse

MOTION: Motion to accept the Committee Minutes as presented.  
CARRIED

**16.8 Councillor Responsibilities**

**16.9 Information**

16.9.1 2026 – 2027 Executive Council Compensation Package Proposal

16.9.2 2026 – 2027 Council and Academic Council Honoraria Proposal

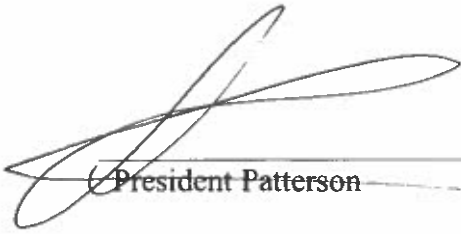
16.9.3 March Events Schedule

**16.10 Adjournment**

25-26-146-C

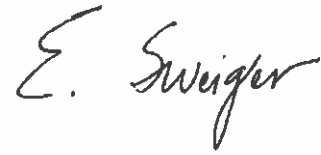
Anderson, Wolters

MOTION: Motion to adjourn at 7:55pm  
CARRIED



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President Patterson



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Executive Director Sweiger



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Chairperson Watson



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Secretary Young



## EXECUTIVE REPORT

President Patterson

**Date May 9- May 23, 2026**

Election recruitment activities with- May 9, 2026

- Hallway table time to connect with students and gain insight into running in the upcoming elections.

Meeting Marketing for Student Handbook -May 10, 2026

- Jessica and I spent a good portion of the afternoon updating the Handbook, with instructor feedback.
- We had 12 instructors and staff who have their master's give feedback on the document

Board of Governors Meeting – May 11, 2026

- CFO Jim Brinkurst will be retiring at the end of the fiscal year after serving RDP for 15 years
- People and Culture Executive Director Cristan Glass will also be retiring as of June.

President Patterson is working from home due to a chronic health condition flare-up

Upcoming:

- GRC May 23, 2026
- Nourish to flourish – new mental health and wellness committee, Feb 24, 2026
- Elections Recruitment Feb 25, 2026
- Tuition/ Fee consultation Feb 25, 2026
- Land Acknowledgment Round Tables Feb 25- 27
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As of yet, there has been no new feedback regarding the Land Acknowledgment

### WORKPLAN UPDATE:

**Goal 1: WIL**

**Updates:** Only casual conversations around WIL took place.

**Goal 2: Graduate Student Handbook**

**Updates:** The Handbook is in its last rounds of revisions. If there are no major changes or feedback by Thursday, February 26, 2025, the Handbook can go live on the SA website.



## EXECUTIVE REPORT

President Patterson

To ensure the information in the guide remains current, the president must review it annually.

Legend: Progress Neutral Halted



## **EXECUTIVE REPORT**

### **Vice President Academic's Office**

**Feb 4 – Feb 18**

#### **Scholarly Activity Committee – Feb 6**

We discussed the CAQC Handbook, approved minutes from the previous meeting, and reviewed the Committee objectives, and viewed the 24-25 Report. Some of the Committee objectives include; ensuring school standards align with CAQC requirements, support faculty in engagement in research through the development of a mentoring program for new and inexperienced faculty, strengthen data collection by reporting and reviewing the annual Scholarly Activity Survey, and updating the committee TOR to reflect expanded responsibilities (and clearly outlines quorum!).

#### **SDG Committee – Feb 9**

At this meeting, we went over the survey previously sent out and discussed our plan for the remainder of the semester. This will consist of the committee members completing a social post to educate the membership on a chosen SDG in some way, and will be posted during the SDG month of March. We will use data from the engagement on the posts for our final report. I have begun drafting the final report.

#### **Student Caucus – Feb 11**

*Present: Jacq Patterson, Sam Johannson, Nicholas Baker,  
Don Allen(Online), Bridget Anderson, Eli Wolters,  
Absent without Notice: Alexandra Gosse*

At this meeting we reviewed the agenda, and it was noted that Don was unable to attend the upcoming AC meeting due to illness, and Nicholas due to practicum. Notes were taken of Nicholas' questions regarding the four new Paramedic Programs, to ensure they are answered during the AC meeting.

#### **Campus Store Advisory – Feb 12**

- Annual deadlines for terms – 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, of May for Fall, of October for Winter, and of February for Spring/Summer.
- Campus store **Closed on March 4<sup>th</sup>** for inventory,
- And a Staff/Student appreciation sale is being planned.



## **EXECUTIVE REPORT**

### **Vice President Academic's Office**

#### **Academic Council – Feb 13**

*Present: Jacq Patterson, Sam Johannson, Bridget Anderson, Eli Wolters*

*Absent with notice: Don Allen, Nicholas Baker,*

*Absent without notice: Alexandra Gosse*

#### **Notable Actions:**

- New Indigenous Studies Minor for Bachelor of Arts in Multidisciplinary Studies, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, and Bachelor of Science in Psychology.
- Four new paramedicine programs that ladder into each other, effective Fall 2027:
  - o Emergency Medical Responder Certificate (Year 1)
  - o Primary Care Paramedic Diploma (Year 2)
  - o Advanced Care Paramedic Post-Diploma Certificate (Year 3)
  - o Bachelor of Paramedicine Degree (Year 4)

#### **Other:**

**Connect with Kristine – Feb 11**

**Advocacy Committee – Feb 13**

**Trades Completion Breakfast – Feb 18** (Huge turn out! 80+)

**CAT Fund**

#### **Workplan Update:**

**Goal 1: Increased usage of Open Educational Resources for introductory-level courses.**

Update: See below!

**Goal 2: Increased awareness of the Zero Textbook Cost Indicator.**

Update: I've begun drafting a script for two videos to be circulated during OER week in March (3-7), one focusing on OERs, and one focusing on the ZTC indicator. These will be posted on the library page, and our Socials!

**Goal 3: Increased awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals.**

Update: I've begun drafting the final report for the committee, including recommendations for the committee next year.



## **EXECUTIVE REPORT**

### **Vice President External's Office**

**Reporting Period: February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

#### **Meeting with Engineering Students**

*February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

Governance & Student Support Coordinator Young & I met with students representing the entire cohort of students within the University Transfer program. We discussed the Engineering Students' concerns regarding the final exam schedule. During the Fall 2025 final exam schedule the Engineering Students had six exams in five days, and one exam went until 10:00 PM, with the next exam beginning at 9:00 AM. This specific issue, in addition to the shortness of RDP's final exam schedule relative to many other institutions with similar programs, such as Keyano College, the University of Alberta, and Northern Lights College were the forefront of these widespread student concerns.

#### **ASEC Finance Committee**

*February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

ASEC's finance committee met to discuss a variety of topics, including what to do with a large budget surplus, member fees, and the 26-27 budget. The first matter was member fees, there were suggestions to leave membership fees flat or do a smaller raise than normal, but the Committee opted to continue with a standard 2% raise. The monetary difference between the options was not that significant. The Committee felt that small, consistent raises should be maintained to avoid potentially having a year where a larger spike in membership fees was required.

The other major item before the Committee was figuring out what to do with ASEC's cash and operating surpluses. ASEC currently has both a significant amount of cash on hand for some one-time purchases and has a projected operating revenue over the next couple of years, largely due to the addition of new members and conservative spending over the last few years. For the year-end spends the Committee leaned towards technology upgrades, substantially increasing the reserve fund, and hiring an HR firm to review ASEC's policies. For the ongoing surplus, the Committee leaned towards improving conferences, discussed the idea of eliminating or reducing conference fees, and spending on improving ASEC's digital security. Ultimately, more discussion in both the Committee and the Board is required for many of these items.



## **EXECUTIVE REPORT**

### **Vice President External's Office**

#### **Meeting with Registrar**

*February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

President Patterson and I met with Trish Nuyten, Dean of Enrolment Management & Registrar and Joseph Fittes, Associate Registrar. A student from the Engineering cohort was also present. We shared the concerns regarding the final exam schedule and noted that we had an unusually short final exam period. President Patterson and I pointed out that RDP was growing considerably, and the addition of dozens of new programs and thousands of students is in the near future. We also pointed out that concerns regarding the final exam period were not limited to Engineering students. No firm commitments to changes were made, as the difficulty of extending the final exam period is considerable.

The final exam draft schedule will be circulated amongst faculty for feedback, and while no firm commitment was made, the scheduling office is hoping to avoid scheduling a final exam to go until 10 PM if that cohort has another exam at 9 AM. We will also be reaching out to Dean of the School of Trades & Technology, David Pye, to discuss these concerns.

#### **ASEC Board Meeting**

*February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

During this meeting of the ASEC Board a number of topics were discussed. The Board approved some recommendations from the finance committee, including hiring an HR firm for a policy review, approving the 26-27 member fees, and the other year-end spends. The Board also approved ASEC's government relations strategy, and some minor policy manual amendments. The Hiring Committee also updated the Board on its progress. The HR firm hired to facilitate the candidate search was not successful, and the search for an ED will continue. Discussions around changes to the way the Chair/Vice Chair are elected were also discussed, and the need to reconfigure the sectors for Board representation was also mentioned due to the addition of two new member schools. Finally, the Board had a brief discussion about ASEC's planned response to the provincial budget, set to be released February 26<sup>th</sup>. ASEC is predicting that the budget will not be all that interesting, with funding remaining flat and few of the Mintz Panel's recommendations being implemented, if any. If the budget contains any unexpected items, the Board will convene on the 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss ASEC's response.



## EXECUTIVE REPORT

### Vice President External's Office

#### WORKPLAN UPDATE:

**Goal 2:** Investigate the need for an Advocacy Committee for the Association

**Updates:** The Advocacy Committee's report containing recommendations for the Association's 26-27 advocacy goals has been sent for inclusion on the next Council agenda. I am of the belief that the Advocacy Committee should be made a permanent committee of Council (a belief shared by the Committee, as per its report). With the submission of the report, this work goal is, in my view, completed.

**Goal 3:** Increase awareness regarding the discount programs and add 5 additional businesses providing student discounts.

**Updates:** The table planned for February 10<sup>th</sup> was cancelled, but the table on February 5<sup>th</sup> was successful.

Also, on the 10<sup>th</sup> I worked with the SA's WIL student and Membership Engagement Coordinator Walker to shoot a video promoting the student discounts that will be posted on the SA's social media accounts.

**Legend:** Progress Neutral Halted