The meeting of the Student Council of the University of Prince Edward Island Student Union was held on Sunday, February 9, 2025. Ariana McGrattan took minutes for the meeting. Owen Brown, Chair of Council, called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

PRESENT:

George Jiang, Shreesh Agrawal, Noah Mannholland, Bheemaluxmee Damry, Mallory Travis, Lillia Curley, Ethan Drake, Adam MacKenzie, Ava Stewart, Mahjabin Bahar, Hexi Wang, Ngozi Roseanne Agunbiade, Kallie Drummond, Scott Thompson, Rose Avoine-Dalton, Jane Ripley Cooper Cox, Prantor Kumar Mondal.

ABSENT:

Hadiqa Sulman, Camille Mady, Kirsten Smith, Fatima Sadat, Anna MacLaren, Rebecca Michelin, Anusha Sivakumar, Ifeanyichukwu Praise Aniobi, Riddhima Upreti.

ALSO PRESENT:

Cezar Campeanu, Owen Brown, Ariana McGrattan, Phillip Brown, Justin McNutt, Kamran Ashrafi, Joshbir Roy.

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1 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm.

2 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Councillor Rose Avoine-Dalton/Councillor Scott Thompson: To approve the agenda of Sunday, 1, 2025.

Abstention: Adam MacKenzie, Ngozi Roseanne Agunbiade.

Motion: Carried at 6:08 pm.

3 APPROVAL OF THE PAST MINUTES

Motion: Councillor Prantor Kumar Mondal/Councillor Jane Ripley Cooper Cox: To approve the minutes of Sunday, January 26, 2024.

Abstention: Adam MacKenzie, Ngozi Roseanne Agunbiade.

Motion: Carried at 6:09 pm.

4 CITY OF CHARLOTTETOWN

A) TRANSIT

- The council raised many concerns regarding transit. We discussed expanding the routes and hours of the transit system and the number of bus stops to better accommodate students. Issues surrounding the accessibility of bus stops, particularly the ones near campus, were brought up. We pushed for the addition of transit passes to cell phones and EDI training for transit staff. The diversification of transit options (i.e. the possibility of adding trolleys or trains) was also discussed. Phillip Brown recommended we forward our concerns to Mike Cassidy of T3 Transit.

B) ENHANCED STUDENT USE OF THE BELL ALIANT CENTER

- The presenters encouraged UPEI students to utilize the Bell Aliant Center. The University is one of the stakeholders of the Bell Aliant Center, along with the cities of Stratford and Charlottetown. The aquatics facility is available to full-time students free of charge. The general public can rent the aquatics facility and ice spaces. The council brought up investing in another gymnasium and fitness room. Our concerns regarding student recreation focus more on the Chi-Wan Young Sports Center.

C) HOUSING AND THE STUDENT HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- The council brought up concerns surrounding the lack of student housing, rent control, and landlords.

Motion: VPE Shreesh Agrawal/Councillor Kallie Drummond: To grant the presenters, Phillip Brown and Justin McNutt, speaking rights.

Abstention: Ngozi Roseanne Agunbiade.

Motion: Carried at 6:09 pm.

Motion: Councillor Ava Stewart/Councillor Jane Ripley Cooper Cox: To remove the presenters' speaking rights.

Motion: Carried at 7:06 pm.

Motion: Councillor Kallie Drummond/Councillor Ava Stewart: To take a 5 minute recess.

Motion: Carried at 7:06 pm.

5 EXECUTIVE REPORTS

a) PRESIDENT

- Reporting Period: Jan. 27 - Feb.9
- Overview: Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee, Strategic Planning workshops with the Steering committee, Board of Governors and Senate, Meeting with GSA, Housing Meeting with Tara and Austin, Presentation to Standing committee on Education and Economic Growth, Black History Month, Strategic Enrollment Management Committee, Alumni Board, Senate Steering and Nominating Committee, Board of Governors Meeting
- Key Activities / Projects:
    - On Jan. 29, Shreesh and I set up a table for the Green Square Campaign. The campaign and wearing of green square was to

show solidarity against islamophobia and remember the Quebec Mosque shooting in 2017.

- On Jan.30, Shreesh and I presented to the standing committee on Education and Economic Growth. We presented all our recommendations to the standing committee. The rationale is to tell the committee the problems in post-secondary education and recommend solutions that the committee might look at and take to the legislature sitting.We received a lot of questions on all recommendations. We will wait for the provincial budget to come out and see which of our ask is reflected.
- The three UPEI strategic planning workshops I attended all shared the same format. We went through a review on past years university achievements, UPEI mission, vision and values brainstorming, SWOT Analysis, environmental scan and UPEI priorities brainstorming. The workshop was facilitated by the Chapman group and people were split into small groups. I input students perspectives into the workshops, for example, I mentioned industry partnership will provide more research opportunity to students, but all the same time increase university influence and contribute to operation budget, I mentioned that UPEI almost have an culture that people are not sensitive to the most advanced technological changes, and that we are far removed.
- On Feb.3, I attended the Pan-African Flag raising ceremony for the start of Black History Month.

- The Strategic Enrollment Management Committee was currently reviewing a draft document of priorities before sending it to the sub-committees to discuss the tactics to accompany and accomplish the priorities. My duty is to provide undergraduate student perspective and the rationale behind the plan is to develop strategies for enrollment practices so that University has a sustainable student body.
- I gave a report to the Alumni Board to update them on student activities since December. It is required by the Alumni Board so that they have a connection and source of information on current students. The SSNC discussed the agenda items, agenda requests from senate subcommittees and finalized the agenda for the Senate meeting on Feb. 15. This was the purpose of the committee.
- On Feb. 6, the Board of Governors met. The agenda and meeting materials are attached in the appendices, which can be found on the UPEI website. All the motions proposed are passed. The Student Union also had a brief presentation to the Board about SU work and showed forth student activities.

- Key Decisions / Actions Taken:
  - The SU will not accept the current GSA proposal because of money constraints. We proposed that the VPs will incorporate more ideas from graduate students and provide more service for graduate students in each of their portfolios, for example, advocacy, events, services and funding.
- Meetings / Stakeholder Engagements:

- Housing Meeting with University. Shreesh, Tara, Austin and I had a meeting on student housing. We updated her on the meeting with the Minister of housing. We got to that the occupancy rate for On-campus residence is about 80% this year. We talked about possible ways to fill on-campus housing next year, and Tara encouraged us to put forward a proposal. Tara wanted to know what students are facing in terms of housing and promised to connect us to the Grey Group.

- Challenges / Issues:
  - In person communication with students in various faculty. Gathering students' opinions on the strategic priorities for the SU.
- Upcoming Plans / Goals:
  - Currently reaching out to the AVC Rep, Arts Rep and Music society in hope to host a social event which also includes a Q & A session and strategic priorities feedback gathering exercises. My goal is to have as many sessions as possible and try to cover as many students to improve in-person communication and feedback gathering.

b) VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC

- Reporting Period: Jan 27 -Feb 9
- Overview: Followed up with Holland College, HCSU, and College de l'Ile about the Student Housing Needs Assessment (SHNA). Met with the GSA to discuss further collaboration efforts and communication building. Met with students to discuss academic appeals x8. Attended Black History Month flag raising with the other Execs. Provided

feedback to APCC regarding the Masters of Cleantech program. Met with the VPAR to discuss SHNA, academic appeals cases, etc. Emailed the Dean of Engineering regarding course transfers from SMCS. Filmed a reel about the VPA position for upcoming elections. Looked into information for graduating students upon request. Presented to the Board of Governors with the Executive.

- Key Activities / Projects:
    - SHNA getting finalized sometime in the next two weeks. Just waiting on Neil Lovitt at Turner-Drake to synthesize the final document.
    - Academic appeals in various stages of completion.
    - Working on opening up SMCS's course transfer approval process.
- Meetings / Stakeholder Engagements:
    - Met with Dr. Greg Naterer, VPAR for our bi-weekly meeting. The topics of interest were SHNA, budding collaboration with the GSA, and what is appropriate action from a professor when students are speaking about politically charged topics.
    - Eight meetings for academic appeals with students. Information regarding these appeals are personal and sensitive.
    - Met with the GSA to discuss their proposal for GSA-specific funding, ongoing collaboration, and ways the SU can be more in touch with graduate student needs.
- External Body Work:
    - Worked with Alex LeBlanc of the Government of PEI and Neil Lovitt from Turner-Drake to gather the last necessary

information for SHNA, namely edits from Holland College & College de l'Ile.

- Challenges / Issues
    - SMCS does not want to let students from other programs get transfer credits from the UPEI Cairo Campus.
    - UPEI is starting to think about scaling back as an institution. What type of input should we as students be giving them when looking at areas to scale back?
- Upcoming Plans / Goals:
    - Get SMCS to allow Cairo Campus to be used as a transfer credit, at the very least in non-SMCS programs.

c) VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL

- Overview; Standing Committee Presentation: Presented to the provincial legislature's Standing Committee on Education and Economic Growth, focusing on student aid recommendations and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Clarified complex recommendations, followed by media engagement. Housing and Transit Discussions: Worked with UPEI officials and Mike Cassidy on improving student housing and transit options. We met with UPEI's Tara Judson and Austin Clements to discuss filling vacant residence beds while developing a proposal for future housing solutions. Governance and Strategic Planning: Worked with the Governance Committee to improve governance structures and streamline processes. Also met with President Rodgers and Bobby Cameron to discuss university strategy, student housing, and course feedback.

- Key Activities/Projects:

- George and I presented to the provincial legislature's Standing Committee on Education and Economic Growth. We focused on clarifying the more complex recommendations in our advocacy document, like removing the assumption of parental contribution in student aid assessments and the Memorandum of Understanding. Following our 10-minute presentation, we answered questions for roughly one hour. I took an interview with CBC's Sheehan Desjardins following the presentation reflecting on our recommendations and how the committee responded to them. I've been working on our submission to the standing committee following the presentation to provide the information requested.

- Meetings / Stakeholder Engagements:
  - I coordinated with Mayor Brown's office to organize a productive meeting between the Mayor and the Student Council. This involved arranging schedules, preparing agendas, and ensuring that key topics were addressed during the discussion. I had my quarterly call with Mike Cassidy, where we discussed several potential developments related to student transit and housing. We explored opportunities for improving transportation infrastructure for students, including the frequency of buses and introducing more direct routes to campus.

d) VICE PRESIDENT FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- Reporting Period: January 26th - February 7th

- Overview: Video game Co-op: put a work order for facilities to get the project going. Tool Co-op: got a clear picture of how we want to improve it - collaboration with the Service coordinator. Restructuring the Cadre: removing the website, making a linkin.bio, discussed policies for article writing and the process of publications.
- Key Activities / Projects:
    - I'm taking the lead role in both Video Game and Tool Co-op. I'm always keeping in touch with the General Manager, the President, and the Service Coordinator about any plans/changes of plans or actions. Also, due to the nature of the video game co-op project, I'm keeping in touch with the Dean of SMCS and SMCSS.
    - Cadre: publishing their articles online on a linkin.bio and completely removing the website. The reason behind this is that although on the website it says we have traffic of 900-1000 people per post last year, the traffic is not UPEI students, and it's only bots. Additionally, it's difficult to publish on the website due to the very different formatting of the website and the physical paper.
- Key Decisions / Actions Taken:
    - Decided to move the Fox and Crow Nintendo Switch over to the SMCS Student Lounge once facilities build the station for the console to be placed. Rationale: The Fox and Crow Nintendo switch has seen very limited usage, and is only taking up space, thus, we should use the switch there for the time being, and possibly expand the video game co-op in other locations on campus if we see success (project for next year's VPFA)

- Decided for the Cadre to make a linkin.bio account to post all the volume and issues for students to see. This is a much better option to the website (easier to use, more accessible to students and cadre social media, and free)

- Meetings / Stakeholder Engagements:
  - Video Game Co-op meetingsL: Talked to the following people/communities to organize logistics for how the Video Game Co-op will operate and be created: Christopher Vessey (SMCS prof), Ben Cameron (SMCS prof), Shafiqul Islam (Dean of SMCS), ITSS Helpdesk, Facilities Helpdesk, SMCSS Executive Team, UPEISU General Manager, UPEISU President, and UPEISU Service coordinator. Everyone from SMCS/SMCSS - Getting their approval and creating the vision for the project, as well as permitting them to operate the console once it becomes available. ITSS/Facilities: Understanding the process of how to make the vision possible. General Manager: Process for the work orders, how to make sure students can access the console while also keeping it safe from theft, and how to ensure students can use the console after nobody is on campus. President: Negotiating the deals and price for the TV, TV Stand, and insurance.
  - Cadre Meeting: Discussed with Imran (Editor-in-chief) the current process of how a Cadre article gets posted and his roles alongside the editors. We discussed how one of the most recent articles was heavily AI-generated and how/why this might've happened. We additionally spoke about the steps he takes to prevent this from happening in the future and his purchase of

GPTZero to make sure there is no use of AI in the articles. We set the policy to only use Grammarly and very limited use of ChatGPT (for example, reword this sentence for me, but nothing more).

- Funding Committee Meeting: Approved Support, Academic, Club, and Council Initiative club applications (emails will be sent out soon for all approved applications) Discussed reworking for AVC funding for future years for both clubs and academic enrichment funding. We exhausted all of the club funding for the year, and the form was closed until May 1st 2025. Set the final deadline for all remaining Funding forms for March 30th, 2025.
- External Body Work: GameStop: What are the best deals for the console and games we choose to buy. BestBuy: Negotiated TV Pricing and Insurance - Managed to get 135 dollars off of a deal for the following: Fixed TV mount, 55-inch Smart TV, 4-year insurance against any physical and technology damages with full credit refund in the case of any accidents

- Challenges / Issues:
  - Facilities may complete my request in one day or three weeks… and there is no certain way to speed up the process. Honours and school is taking up a lot of my time, so it's hard to focus on everything at once.
- Upcoming Plans / Goals:
  - Budget Committee meeting to discuss future budget amendments right before the break and one shortly after the break. Go with the Services coordinator to purchase items for

the Tool Co-op, a plan has been made, we just need to go and acquire the items. Hold a services table in Mcmillan Hall or somewhere else (maybe AVC) to talk about student funding and our co-ops. Put up papers with questions for students to answer (Somewhere in McMillan Hall). Work on Budget for the 2025/2026 year.

- Councillor Rose Avoine-Dalton: Can you elaborate on the fact that we're out of funding for the clubs?
- VPFA Cezar Campeneau: Yes, we have spent all the money we've allocated for club funding. We gave away more money during the fall semester as we typically have more events than in the winter. I have closed the funding application now.
- Councillor Ethan Drake: Why is the video game console being moved to the SMCS lounge?
- VPFA Cezar Campeneau: It's not being used in the Fox and Crow. The SMCS Lounge is open to all students. I have brought up revitalizing the videogame co-op to the council during previous meetings.

Motion: Councillor Jane Ripley Cooper Cox/Councillor Adam Makenzie: To limit any discussion about the video game console to another two minutes.

Abstention: Lillia Curley.

Motion: Carried at 7:35 pm.

e) VICE PRESIDENT STUDENT LIFE

- Reporting Period: January 26 - February 9
- Overview: In-person board meetings for COCA. BHM-Kickoff. AfroFusion Pub.
- Key Activities / Projects:

- Love & Sex Week: -Ensuring communication with SVPRO and Operations manager, while presenting suggestions and concerns shared by the advisory committee.Booked Photobooth for 'Cookies & Flowers' on Feb 14th. Following up on the bookings and orders made through Mike, the operations manager. Booth to promote Love & Sex week, will share calendars with Residence & Brazilian society to be set at the frontdesk where they will have a valentine card workshop for the week.
- Future Indigenous Planning: Organizing Indigenous events, while working with Corrine and Robbie for the 1st event. The workshop will be led by Robbie and Corrine, while I organize food, location, appreciation for elder and relevant items as needed. Plan a movie night with suggestions from Kallie. Post a poll on the UPEISU story for votes to decide on the film. Collaborate with Campus Life to have the film displayed on their inflatable projector.

- Key Decisions / Actions Taken:
  - Increased budget for BHM kick-off to $3,000 to cover food expenses. We were able to increase the budget with the $1,000 contribution from ISO and Student Engagement office.
- Meetings / Stakeholder Engagements:
  - Future Indigenous Planning meeting: [Attendees: Kallie Drummond (indigenous Rep), Mallory Travis (Arts Rep), Corrine Chappel (Indigenous Affairs Advisor), Robbie Squires (Indigenous Student Association founder). Requested meeting to gain an understanding on what the UPEISU could do to

support and organize Indigenous events to encourage an environment of learning through workshops and activities. The meeting agenda shared by Kallie detailed current projects for students,required support, advertisement, and set up. Discussed a variety of ongoing and potential activities consisting of the IKERAS Minors meet & Greet, a Beadwork workshop, Dreamcatcher workshop, Storytelling, Soup for soul, movie viewing. Finalized 2 events to be organized for March.

- VPPC Search committee meeting: [Attendees: Dave Nazareth (organizer, Andrea Patrick (President's assistant),Charlene VanLeeuwen (Teaching & Learning program coordinator), Donald MacKenzie (Board of gov member), Dan Hurnik (Health Management Professor), Karen Morse (Academic Success coordinator), Kelly Drummond (HR Director), Miles Turnbull (Dean of Education), Sobia Ali-Faisal (EDI Director), Dr.Wendy Rodgers (UPEI President)]. Details discussed are confidential. This was the last meeting of the committee and this VPPC search committee is now closed.
- Event Planning meeting: [Attendees: Melissa (General Manager), Mike (Operations manager), Leena (Communications Manager)]. Weekly meeting organized to ensure coordination for all events. Discussed bookings for Love & Sex Week with Drag queens. Covered SVPRO involvement, they will share information about hygiene care for adult toys and a pamphlet for hygiene care that will go with the prizes for Bingo & Trivia winners. Mike will be selecting pairings for Wine & Cheese night. Leena has posters set up for advertising

around campus. Shared that Photo Booth bookings for 'Cookies and Flowers', 'Glow Wet/Dry' and 'Casino Night' have been made. VPSL and SVPRO will pass out cookies, flowers and cards on concourse. Buses for Ski trip on Feb 19th have been booked by Melissa. Glow wet/dry supplies consisting of glow sticks & stickers to be ordered. Inquired about space bookings for Dreamcatcher workshop & Movie viewing. Decided on hosting 'UPEISU Spirit week' on the week of March 24th.

- External Body Work:
    - COCA in-person board meeting [Attendees: Jennifer Wanke(Executive Director), Crystal Benn (COCA Chair & Central Regional Representative),Delane Howie (Treasurer & Western Regional Representative), Alyshia Holden (Director & Western Regional Representative), Hayley Press (Vice Chair & Central Regional Representative), Danny Connelly (National Conference Chair), Andy Hall (Future National Conference Chair)] Day 1 Objective: Defining goals for COCA and target audience to focus on. Discussion: Moving the in-person Board meeting to July to allow board members more time to plan after the meeting. Day 2 Objective: COCA member incentives, rewards programs, COCA Bursaries, Filming Review. Discussion: Creating structured incentives for associates, Programs to engage members and support collaboration. Conditional COCA support to members to allow for equal regional representation on board. Themes of filming content, outlining roles, and detailing script. Day 3 Objective: 2024 Conference Updates, Registration, Showcasing, Education,

Sponsorship, Role of Board & Review Financials. Discussion: Venue compatibility for conference. Shared personal experience with “Bounce” as we discussed sponsorships. Defining the role of board members with Regional Meetings, AGM, engagement & messaging. Submitted votes after reviewing previous year’s financials and reviewed upcoming conference financials. Engagement activities for members attending the national conference. B-roll filming. Day 4 Objective: Set up and film for promotional content. Discussion: Answered questions about COCA and shared my experience as the Eastern regional representative on the board, while adding my experience as a student executive as this was an on-going question/concern that I had with other students attending the conference previously regarding how the role could be managed.

- Conference / Major Event:
    - BHM Flag Raising
    - BHM Kick-off
- Upcoming Plans / Goals:
    - Check in with the BHM advisory committee to get feedback on the events conducted. Meet Clubs & events coordinator and set timing & agenda for Clubs Committee meeting. Organize bi-weekly meetings with the MHWC coordinator (who has been moved to my supervision), request a report about the events and workshops organized this year based on a report template that will be shared with the coordinator. Planning for UPEISU

Spirit week in March. Deciding on activities to book for events that week.

Motion: Councillor Jane Ripley Cooper Cox /Councillor Rose Avoine-Dalton: To approve the executive reports.

Abstain: Noah Mannholland.

Motion: Carried at 7:37 pm.

6 CLUBS AND SOCIETIES RATIFICATION

Presented by the chair of council due to the VPSL's absence.

Motion: Councillor Jane Ripley Cooper Cox/Councillor Ava Stewart: To ratify the 2831 Christian Club.

Abstention: Scott Thompson.

Motion: Carried at 7:40 pm.

7 PARKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTATION REVIEW

- Key takeaways: UPEI's parking pass fee is relatively low compared to other Atlantic Canadian universities. Parking, in general, operates in a deficit. Students will now get a warning before their car is towed (one ticket in advance). The University sells more passes than parking spots.

- Councillor Lillia Curley: This issue is more so the lack of parking spots, not the cost of the passes.
- Councillor Ethan Drake: Having a short term solution for students (i.e. carpooling) would be extremely helpful.

8 NEW BUSINESS

- Councillor Hexi Wang: Can we make a committee to deal with the issues surrounding transportation?
- Councillor Lillia Curley: What is the goal of the committee?
- Councillor Hexi: to discuss transit problems with the transit company (t3).
- Councillor Scott Thompson: Point of Information, who is on the parking committee?
-President George Jiang: The associate VP of Facilities, myself, councillor Mallory, a professor from the kinesiology department, and some other university staff members.

Motion: Councillor Adam MacKenzie/Councillor Ava Stewart: To table the proposed motion regarding creating a transit committee until the next meeting.

Motion: Carried at 8:00 pm.

-Councillor Jane Ripley Cooper Cox: Can we have faster approval for the councillor initiative funding please?
-VPFA Cezar Campeneau: My apologies, I had some issues regarding the approval process for the initiative funding,

- Councillor Ngozi Roseanne Agunbiade: Could we have a committee about housing?
-VPE Shreesh Agrawal: I believe that would be an issue for the external steering committee.
-Chair: We can discuss this further after the meeting via email if you'd like, Councillor Agunbiade.

9 ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Councillor Jane Ripley Cooper Cox/Councillor Ava Stewart: To motion to adjourn the meeting.

Abstention: Ethan Drake.

Motion: Carried at 8:01 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Signatures

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President

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Chair of Council