

MINUTES

For the Executive Committee Meeting of the British Columbia Federation of Students
Saturday, September 22 and Sunday, September 23, 2018 • Richmond

10:14 the meeting was called to order by Secretary-Treasurer Patigdas. Attendance was as follows:

Executive Members Present

Chairperson.....	Aran Armutlu
Indigenous Students' Representative	Santanna Hernandez
Representative–Local 01 Members	Jenna Brook
Representative–Local 04 Members	Michelle Frechette
Representative–Local 05 Members	Cole Hickson
Representative–Local 06 Members	McKenzie Hutchison
Representative–Local 10 Members	Joshua Ralph
Representative–Local 12 Members	Paula Tran
Representative–Local 13 Members	Chantelle Spicer
Representative–Local 14 Members	Kari Morgan
Representative–Local 15 Members	Sheldon Falk
Representative–Local 17 Members	Fillette Umulisa
Representative–Local 20 Members	Chao Wang
Secretary-Treasurer	Phoebe Lo Patigdas
Services Coordinator.....	Telka Pesklevits

Executive Members Absent

Campaigns Coordinator	Amal Alhuwayshil
Representative–Local 02 Members	Kim Thien
Representative–Local 16 Members	Monica McRae
Women Students' Representative.....	Zahra Hashemi

Staff Present

Coordinator	Steven Beasley
Executive Officer	Michael Olson
Local Staff–Local 01.....	Brianne Berchowitz
Local Staff–Local 04.....	Harnan Dandiwal
Local Staff–Local 05.....	Nathan Lane
Local Staff–Local 06.....	Tracy Ho
Local Staff–Local 12.....	Sarah Furgason
Local Staff–Local 15.....	Carissa Wilson
Local Staff–Local 16.....	Valerie Skalicky
Local Staff–Local 17.....	Michel Turcotte
Local Staff–Local 20.....	Alden Chow
Researcher.....	Laura Celeste

Quorum was declared to be present.

Patigdas acknowledged the traditional territory of the Coast Salish people.

A roundtable of introductions was conducted.

10:20 Representative–Local 16 Members Monica McRae joined the meeting.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Patigdas reviewed the agenda.

2018/09:01

MOTION

Spicer/Pesklevits

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

2. LOGISTICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Davies made a series of logistical announcements. She noted that future Executive Committee meetings would be booked at an alternate facility.

3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

a. Receipt of Resignations of Members

Patigdas reported that no resignations had been received.

b. Acceptance of New Executive Committee Members

Patigdas reported that no nominations for new Executive Committee members had been received.

4. MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

a. Welcome Week Activities

A roundtable on Welcome Week activities at member locals was held. Executive Committee members reported on types of events, and how membership in the local and the Federation was promoted to new and returning members.

b. National Organising

i. CASA Policy Conference

Ho provided a report on the CASA Foundations Conference following her attendance as a participant on behalf of Local 6. She provided information on conference sessions, activities, and attendees.

ii. Student Union Development Summit (SUDS)

Armutlu reported on the 2018 SUDS and outlined sessions, activities, and attendees.

Skalicky reported on the experience of Local 16 members at SUDS. She said that the local was disappointed in the quality of the sessions, and it was clear that registration fee revenue was going towards social activities.

Hernandez said she was disappointed in a lack of territorial acknowledgement until the end of the first day. She said some of the sessions were useful and was disappointed that participants from the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) were disruptive during useful seminars that occurred. She said that the event showed that the Federation had much to be proud of in terms of its work, and that the presence of Federation participants was positive to prevent negative comments by CFS participants.

Hutchison reported that the presentation on community organizing and public relations were positive, but also noted that the event planners and conference focused too much on socials and not enough on workshop content.

5. REVIEW OF CAMPAIGNS AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

a. 2018-19 Campaigns and Government Relations Plan

i. Central Campaigns

Grants Not Loans

Celeste reported on the development of the campaign to-date, including the focus on the elimination of interest on student loans for the fall semester. She reported on the creation of a campaign video, and the development of a website to house the email action which will be the primary action tool for the campaign.

Olson noted that the target of the campaign would be the Minister of Finance as support from Treasury Board was needed for the funding that would enable the elimination of student loan interest.

Don't Tax My Loans

Davies reported on development work done to-date for the campaign to eliminate interest on federal student loans. She said that the Federation had initial discussions with Point Blank Media and was waiting to receive a quote for the proposed work to be done. She reported on the strategy of the campaign and the ways in which the campaign will be evolved into a campaign to encourage youth participation in the federal election.

ii. Supporting Campaigns**Fairness for International Students**

Armutlu reported that the campaign's official provincial launch had taken place on August 15 at Local 17's Lansdowne campus, and provided an overview of the event and media pickup about the campaign.

Celeste reported that Federation representatives had met with BC Council for International Education representatives on August 29 to discuss the Federation's research and the Council's perspective on the future of international student fee regulations in BC.

The Executive Committee discussed local implementation of the campaign. Members reported on local and regional campaign launches, earned media, local lobbying efforts, and local campaign outreach. Members also spoke about the positive feedback about the campaign from members.

Open Textbooks Now!

Armutlu reported on implementation of the campaign and highlighted the Federation's participation in the e-Campus Summit in Toronto, a conference held by the Ontario equivalent of BCcampus. He also noted media work and the Federation's discussion with BCcampus about the Federation's decision to donate funds to directly sponsor open education resource creation. Armutlu reported that the Federation's donation had the potential to create one new open textbook, the adaptation of up to three textbooks, as well as the development of ancillary resources.

The Executive Committee discussed local implementation of the campaign, including feedback on materials, signed pledge collection, local lobbying efforts, and local campaign outreach. Several locals reported on the provision of direct funding for the creation of open education resources, and relations with institutional faculty regarding the campaign.

2018/09:02 MOTION TO RECESS

Umulisa/McRae

Be it resolved that the meeting recess for one hour.

CARRIED

13:03 the meeting recessed.

14:17 the meeting reconvened. Representative—Local 20 Members Chao Wang left the meeting.

Your City. Your Vote.

Celeste provided a report on the development and implementation of the campaign. She offered an overview of the campaign materials and campaign toolkit and guide.

Members discussed local implementation of the campaign and the different municipal election campaigns occurring in the communities in which the Federation has members.

14:31 Wang rejoined the meeting.

iii. Coalition Campaigns**Sisters in Spirit**

The Executive Committee discussed local planning for October 4 Sisters in Spirit vigils and activities.

Vote PR BC

Armutlu reported on implementation of the campaign and organizing work undertaken with the Make Every Voter Count Coalition for the Vote PR BC campaign.

Members discussed local plans for implementation and promotion of the campaign.

b. General Relations with the Government and Official Opposition

i. Update on General Relations with the Ministry of Advanced Educations, Skills, and Training and the BC Government

Armutlu reported on a meeting with the Ministerial Assistants for the Minister of Advanced Education and follow-up discussions with Ministry staff who attended the July 2018 general meeting.

The meeting discussed the Budget 2019 consultation process of the BC Standing Committee on Government Finance and Services. Members who presented prior to the meeting reported on their experiences presenting to the Committee.

ii. Update on General Relations with the Critic for Advanced Education and the Opposition

Olson reported on a meeting with Peace-River North MLA Dan Davies, BC Liberal Critic for Education. He said the meeting was positive and discussed investments in open education resources, and the economic impact of international education.

c. Update on Coalition and Solidarity Work

Pesklevits reported on the BC Federation of Labour Young Workers' School. She reported on themes discussed at the event, including student debt issues.

Armutlu reported on the work of the Tenants' Resource and Advisory Centre and their annual general meeting. He noted the range of affordable housing issues being addressed by the organization.

Patigdas reported on the launch of the Poverty Reduction Coalition's ABC Plan campaign. She also reported that the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction released a report on its province-wide consultations about poverty.

Davies reported on OurTurn and a range of internal conflicts arising within the organization.

d. Advocacy Week

Armutlu reported on preparations for Advocacy Week, scheduled for the week of October 29, 2018.

A discussion was held on local representative participation in the Week.

e. Adoption of the Campaigns, Government Relations, and Solidarity Report

2018/09:03 **MOTION**
Frechette/Tran

Be it resolved that the Campaigns, Government Relations, and Solidarity Report be adopted.

CARRIED

f. Presentation of Media Report and Press Review

Armutlu provided highlights to the Media Report and Press Review.

The meeting discussed strategies to improve media relations in smaller communities across BC.

2018/09:04 **MOTION**
Frechette/Pesklevits

Be it resolved that the Media Report and Press Review be adopted.

CARRIED

6. REVIEW OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS PART I

a. Meetings Part One: Presentation

Olson said that having now separated from Canadian Federation of Students and having resolved most outstanding legal issues, the Federation had more resources to discuss its development and evolution. He provided examples of organizational evolution topics and suggested that the current meeting discuss ways to improve meetings of the Executive Committee.

Davies reviewed the ways in which Executive Committee meetings had changed in recent years,

and outlined categories of consideration for how meetings could be improved.

2018/09:05 MOTION TO RECESS

Frechette/Pesklevits

Be it resolved that the meeting recess until 9:30am, Sunday, September 23.

CARRIED

16:57 the meeting recessed.

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9:36 the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Armutlu. Attendance was as follows:

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Chairperson.....	Aran Armutlu
Indigenous Students' Representative	Santanna Hernandez
Representative–Local 01 Members	Jenna Brook
Representative–Local 04 Members	Michelle Frechette
Representative–Local 05 Members	Cole Hickson
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Representative–Local 10 Members	Joshua Ralph
Representative–Local 12 Members	Paula Tran
Representative–Local 13 Members	Chantelle Spicer
Representative–Local 14 Members	Kari Morgan
Representative–Local 15 Members	Sheldon Falk
Representative–Local 16 Members	Monica McRae
Representative–Local 17 Members	Fillette Umulisa
Representative–Local 20 Members	Chao Wang
Secretary-Treasurer.....	Phoebe Lo Patigdas
Services Coordinator.....	Telka Pesklevits

Executive Members Absent

Campaigns Coordinator	Amal Alhuwayshil
Representative–Local 02 Members	Kim Thien
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Staff Present

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Local Staff–Local 12.....	Sarah Furgason
Local Staff–Local 13.....	James Bowen
Local Staff–Local 15.....	Carissa Wilson
Local Staff–Local 16.....	Valerie Skaliky
Local Staff–Local 17.....	Michel Turcotte
Local Staff–Local 20.....	Alden Chow
Researcher.....	Laura Celeste

Quorum was declared to be present.

6. REVIEW OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS PART I (CONTINUED)

b. Consideration of Staffing Issues*

9:37 the meeting moved in-camera. Federation and local staff left the meeting.

9:49 the meeting moved ex-camera.

2018/09:06 MOTION

Falk/Umulisa

Be it resolved that a Bargaining Committee be struck.

CARRIED

2018/09:07 MOTION

Hutchison/Frechette

Be it resolved that Armutlu, Patigdas, and Tran be assigned to the Committee.

CARRIED

9:53 Federation and local staff rejoined the meeting.

c. Canadian Federation of Students Membership

Olson reported that work to conclude the organization's relations with Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) was not progressing as expected due to refusal by CFS to discuss the details of the organizations' separation. He said that outstanding financial and other issues were flagged for CFS, and to-date CFS has refused to provide a meaningful response.

Olson said that the Federation had requested official correspondence from CFS to each respective local stating that the local had been expelled. He said that CFS representatives agreed to provide the letters but that only one letter had been received to-date.

7. REVIEW OF FEDERATION FINANCES

a. Review of 2017-18 Revenue and Expenditures

Olson provided an overview of the unaudited 12-month revenues and expenses of the Federation's 2018 fiscal year.

Member local representatives reported on adjustment to the Federation's fees at their respective local unions.

9:59 Campaigns Coordinator Amal Alhuwayshil joined the meeting.

b. Adoption of Finance Report

2018/09:08 MOTION

Tran/Umulisa

Be it resolved that the Finance Report be adopted.

CARRIED

8. REVIEW OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS PART II

Meetings Part Two: Discussion

The meeting discussed ways to improve Executive Committee meetings.

2018/09:09 MOTION TO RECESS

Hernandez/Falk

Be it resolved that the meeting recess for 45 minutes.

CARRIED

12:09 the meeting recessed.

13:03 the meeting reconvened.

9. REVIEW OF FEDERATION SERVICES

a. Student Discount Program

i. Discount Solicitation

Patigdas reported on materials produced for the services, which included a sticker, web page, rack card, and discount guide. She said that more than 350 discounts were secured for 2018/19, and that two of those were provincial-scale discounts. She highlighted the discount with Hertz car rental.

The meeting discussed materials produced to promote the service and discounts.

ii. Discount Program Development

Olson reported on discussion with Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) regarding use of the International Student Identity Card. He said that the talks reached an impasse when CFS pulled their initial cooperation proposal, and instead put forward a new set of conditions that contradicted what had been previously agreed. He said that the Federation was moving forward with a BC-specific program as directed by members.

b. Members' Handbook and Dayplanner

Armutlu reported on the Members' Handbook and Dayplanner service and invited feedback from the Executive Committee.

Members discussed increased handbook demand experienced at several member locals.

c. Membership Development Products

Patigdas reported on the Membership Development Products Service and highlighted work to execute the summer 2018 order.

The meeting discussed the service and provided feedback on the service in advance of the January 2019 order cycle.

d. Digital Services

Ready Education Mobile App

Patigdas reported on updates to the mobile application and its merger and name change. She noted planned improvements to the several elements of the online platform.

e. Insurance Services

Beasley reported on the Federation's plan performance for the 2017-18 claims year.

f. Member Support and Wellness Services

i. Mental Health and Wellness Program

Beasley reported on work to source and implement student Employee Assistance Programs (EAP) for member local unions. He reported on institutions interested in participating, the status of implementation, pricing, and options.

Members discussed the provision of student EAP services across the post-secondary sector in the province.

ii. GOeVisit

Davies reported work with GOeVisit, an online general practitioner provider who have offered to provide free access to Federations members. She provided details on the partnership and examples of materials being produced to promote the service.

The meeting discussed the promotion and operation of the service.

g. Adoption of Services Report

2018/09:10 MOTION
Alhuwayshil/Hutchison

Be it resolved that Services Report be adopted.

CARRIED

13:47 Hernandez left the meeting.

10. REVIEW OF RECENT AND FUTURE FEDERATION MEETINGS

a. 74th Semi-Annual BC General Meeting

Patigdas reported on the 74th Semi-Annual General Meeting that was held July 25 to 28, 2018 at Vancouver Island University.

i. Review of Logistics

The Executive Committee discussed the meeting logistics, including facilities, catering, and travel.

ii. Review of Workshops, Guest Speakers, and Panels

Members reviewed each workshop and session and discussed feedback from member locals' delegates about each session.

iii. Review of Committees

The meeting reviewed plenary subcommittees.

iv. Review of Plenaries

The meeting provided feedback on plenary sessions held at the meeting.

v. Review of Materials

Members provided feedback on reports, the campaign plan, and other meeting resources.

vi. Review of Social Activities

The Executive Committee reviewed social activities held at the meeting.

vii. Assignment of Responsibility for Motions

Olson reviewed the resolutions passed at the general meeting. He said that work on resolutions 2018/07:21, 2018/07:23, 2018/07:31 and 2018/07:44 would begin in the coming weeks.

b. 37th Annual General Meeting

Davies said that the 37th Annual General Meeting had been scheduled for January 10 to 13, 2019. She said that the meeting would take place at the Sheraton Hotel in Richmond, BC, and that the meeting and hotel rooms had been booked.

Members offered suggestions about sessions and guest speakers for the meeting.

11. RECEIPT OF REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**a. Report of Local Representatives****2018/09:11****MOTION**

Pesklevits/Alhuwayshil

Be it resolved that the report of Local 1 Members' Representative Brook, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

Brook highlighted sections of their report.

CARRIED**2018/09:12****MOTION**

Pesklevits/Hickson

Be it resolved that the report of Local 4 Members' Representative Frechette, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

Frechette highlighted sections of their report.

CARRIED**2018/09:13****MOTION**

Frechette/Brook

Be it resolved that the report of Local 5 Members' Representative Hickson, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

Hickson highlighted sections of their report.

CARRIED**2018/09:14****MOTION**

Falk/Tran

Be it resolved that the report of Local 6 Members' Representative Hutchison, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

Hutchison highlighted sections of their report.

CARRIED**2018/09:15****MOTION**

Umulisa/Falk

Be it resolved that the report of Local 10 Members' Representative Ralph, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

Ralph highlighted sections of their report.

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CARRIED

2018/09:16

MOTION

Brook/Hutchison

Be it resolved that the report of Local 12 Members' Representative Tran, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

Tran highlighted sections of their report.

CARRIED

2018/09:17

MOTION

Falk/Pesklevits

Be it resolved that the report of Local 13 Members' Representative Spicer, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

Spicer highlighted sections of their report.

CARRIED

2018/09:18

MOTION

Armutlu/Hutchison

Be it resolved that the report of Local 14 Members' Representative Morgan, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

Morgan highlighted sections of their report.

CARRIED

2018/09:19

MOTION

Armutlu/Pesklevits

Be it resolved that the report of Local 15 Members' Representative Falk, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

Falk highlighted sections of their report.

CARRIED

2018/09:20

MOTION

Alhuwayshil/Hutchison

Be it resolved that the report of Local 16 Members' Representative McRae, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

McRae highlighted sections of their report.

15:24 Brook, Tran, Berchowitz and Furgason left the meeting.

CARRIED

2018/09:21

MOTION

Hutchison/Pesklevits

Be it resolved that the report of Local 17 Members' Representative Umulisa, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

Umulisa highlighted sections of their report.

CARRIED

2018/09:22

MOTION

Falk/Alhuwayshil

Be it resolved that the report of Local 20 Members' Representative Wang, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

Wang highlighted sections of their report.

CARRIED

b. Report of the Chairperson

2018/09:23

MOTION

Ralph/Umulisa

Be it resolved that the report Chairperson, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

Armutlu highlighted sections of their report.

CARRIED

c. Report of the Secretary-Treasurer

2018/09:24 MOTION

Pesklevits/Wang

Be it resolved that the report Secretary-Treasurer, for the period Saturday, June 16 to Friday, September 14, 2018, be adopted.

Patigdas highlighted sections of their report.

CARRIED

12. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

2018/09:25 MOTION

Alhuwayshil/Umulisa

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held June 23 and 24, 2018, and the minutes of the meeting held July 25, 2018, be adopted.

CARRIED

13. REVIEW OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

Olson announced that the coming Executive Committee meeting would be held November 23, 24, and 25 in response to the feedback provided in an earlier part of the meeting. He said that a discussion on dates for the spring and summer meetings would be held at the next meeting.

14. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was presented.

15. ADJOURNMENT

2018/09:26 MOTION

Alhuwayshil/Falk

Be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

15:41 the meeting was adjourned.