

Opening Plenary Minutes

Annual General Meeting · Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario
Wednesday, August 26 to Friday, August 28, 2020 – Virtual Meeting

1. OPENING REMARKS FROM ELDER AND INTRODUCTIONS FROM CEREMONIAL SPACE COORDINATOR

Grandmother Roberta opened the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER – Wednesday, August 26, 2020

Nagata called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

2. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

The Federation's Bylaws require that no less than one-half of the voting members of the Federation be present in person or by proxy at the general meeting for business to be conducted. A roll call of the voting members will be taken to determine attendance and to confirm quorum.

Local 1	Carleton University Students' Association	Present
Local 19	University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union	Present
Local 20	Nipissing University Student Union	Present
Local 24	Ryerson Students' Union	Absent
Local 25	Ontario College of Art and Design Student Union	Absent
Local 27	Queen's University Society of Graduate and Professional Students	Present
Local 30	Laurentian University Students' General Association	Absent
Local 32	Lakehead University Student Union	Present
Local 47	University of Western Ontario Society of Graduate Students	Absent
Local 48	University of Windsor Graduate Students' Society	Absent
Local 49	University of Windsor Students' Alliance	Present
Local 54	University of Guelph Central Student Association	Present
Local 56	Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local 62	University of Guelph Graduate Students' Association	Proxy
Local 68	York Federation of Students	Present
Local 71	Trent Central Student Association	Present
Local 78	Carleton University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 82	Algoma University Students' Union	Present
Local 84	York University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 85	Saint Paul University Students' Association	Present
Local 88	Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones de l'Université Laurentienne	Absent
Local 92	Student Association of George Brown College	Present
Local 93	Glendon College Student Union	Present
Local 94	University of Ottawa Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 97	Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students of the University of Toronto	Present
Local 98	University of Toronto Students' Union	Present
Local 99	Scarborough Campus Students' Union, University of Toronto	Present
Local 102	Brock University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 105	Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson	Present
Local 106	Organization of Part-Time University Students, University of Windsor	Present
Local 109	University of Toronto at Mississauga Students' Union	Present
Local 110	Laurentian University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 112	Association générale des étudiantes et étudiants du Collège Boréal	Absent

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Local 114 L'Association des étudiant-e-s de l'Université de Hearst

Present

Nagata announced that quorum has been met for the meeting to take place.

3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROXIES

Nagata announced the Federation was in receipt of one proxy - Local 62 sent a proxy to Local 54 for the duration of the 2020 Annual General Meeting.

4. RATIFICATION OF PLENARY SPEAKER

2020/08:001 MOTION

Local 106/Local 99

Be it resolved that Gayle McFadden be ratified as the Plenary Speaker for the 2020 Annual General Meeting.

5. EXECUTIVE AT-LARGE WELCOMING REMARKS

Nagata, Weiler and Jean-Baptiste provided welcoming remarks.

6. ADOPTION OF PLENARY AGENDA

2020/08:002 MOTION

Local 106/Local 109

Be it resolved the plenary agenda be approved as presented.

2020/08:003 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 68/Local 32

Be it resolved that the Item 9 and N03 be moved up on the plenary agenda be amended as presented.

CARRIED

7. OVERVIEW OF PROCEDURES

a. Rules of Order and Plenary Procedures

McFadden provided a brief overview of Robert's Rules of Order and meeting protocols for this meeting.

b. Support and Anti-Harassment Procedures for the General Meeting

Pascale Diverlus and Paige Galette, Support and Anti-Harassment Advisors for the meeting introduced themselves and provided an outline of their duties as the Support and Anti-Harassment Advisors.

c. Presentation by the Federation's Staff Relations Officer

Nagata provided an overview of his role as the Staff Relations Officer at the 2019 Ontario Annual General Meeting

2020/08:004 MOTION

Local 97/Local 109

Whereas the Ontario Corporations Act s. 129.1 stipulates that the Directors of a Corporation may pass bylaws to regulate "the procedure in all things at members' meetings"; and

Whereas the Ontario Corporations Act s. 129.2 stipulates that such changes remain in effect only until confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting; and

Whereas the province of Ontario is currently under an Emergency Order arising from the COVID-19 crisis; and

Whereas the CFS has a duty to protect the health of its staff, delegates and other participants who may attend a meeting; and

Whereas attendance at an in person Full Annual General Meeting could endanger the health of staff, delegates and other participants were it to be held in August, as usual; and

Whereas holding an online Full Annual General Meeting poses many logistical and accessibility challenges resulting in significant impediments to the participation of marginalized participants, in particular members of the Circle of First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Students Constituency; Part-time and Continuing Education Students, International Students, Students with Disabilities, Mature Students and others; and

Whereas these challenges of holding a Full Annual General Meeting requiring long days of online participation could pose a threat to the mental and physical health of participants; and

Whereas the Operations Policy on General Meetings stipulates that there shall be a Ceremonial Space, Ceremonial Space Coordinator, Elder and/or Indigenous Knowledge Holder at the Annual General Meeting and that this shall be done in consultation with the Circle of First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Students; and

Whereas the Circle has expressed concerns as to the feasibility of this at an August online Full Annual General Meeting; and

Whereas holding an online Full Annual General Meeting impedes the ability of participants to fully and meaningfully engage with one another as would be the case at an in-person meeting; and

Whereas as per Federation Bylaws and a previous Ontario Executive Committee motion all current elected office holders shall continue in office until the end of the next Annual General Meeting; and

Whereas, pursuant to Bylaw XX, the audited 2018-2019 financial statements, as approved by the Ontario Executive in November 2019, would normally be presented at the Annual General Meeting; and

Whereas, pursuant to Bylaw XX the voting members at each Annual General Meeting would normally appoint (or re-appoint) auditors for each fiscal year; and

Whereas it is highly desirable that the audited financial statements for the 2018-2019 fiscal year be reviewed and the auditors appointed by the membership as soon as possible; Therefore,

Be it resolved that the Bylaws and Operations Policy concerning the agenda of the August 2020 Annual General Meeting be temporarily suspended in order to permit an abbreviated agenda; and

Be it further resolved that the items for consideration at the August 26-28 Annual General Meeting be:

1. Consideration of the Audited Financial Statements for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year
2. Appointment/re-appointment of the Auditors.
3. Election of the Ontario Chairperson with a term effective immediately at the conclusion of the meeting until May 31, 2021.
4. Election of the Ontario Representative to the National Executive Committee with a term effective immediately at the conclusion of the meeting until May 31, 2021.
5. Election of the Ontario Treasurer with a term effective immediately at the conclusion of the meeting until May 31, 2021.
6. Election of the Ontario Chairperson for the 2021-2022 term
7. Election of the Ontario Representative to the National Executive Committee for the 2021-2022 term
8. Election of the Ontario Treasurer for the 2021-2022 term.
9. Consideration of the Budget
10. Other Business/emergency motions

Be it further resolved that, if so recommended by the Council of Constituency Representatives and the Ontario Executive Committee, the agenda also include the election of Constituency Reps and/or Caucus Chairs.

2020/08:005 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 68/Local 93

Be it resolved that motion 2020/08:005 be amended to include:

Be it resolved that Bylaw XXI be amended to include: "d. In the event of force majeure, sections of the Bylaws and Operations Policy related to the structure and logistics of the AGM may be temporarily suspended."

CARRIED

2020/08:006 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 68/Local54

Be it resolved that motion 2020/08:005 be amended to include:

Be it further resolved that all motions that are not deemed emergency motions be referred to Ontario Executive Committee to consider; and

CARRIED

2020/08:007 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 68/Local 84

Be it resolved that motion 2020/08:005 be amended to strike the last resolution and include:

Be it further resolved that the Constituency Group meetings, Constituency Commission meeting, and Caucus Group meetings take place no later than September 30, 2020 to conduct elections, review motions that have been referred to the Ontario Executive Committee and discuss local and campaign issues; and

Be it further resolved that the Electoral Officer appointed for the 2020 Ontario Annual General Meeting remain as the Electoral Officer to conduct the elections for Constituency Groups, Constituency Commission and the Caucus Groups; and

Be it further resolved that the Ontario Executive Committee ratify the election results for the Constituency Group Commissioners, the Constituency Commissioner and the Caucus Group Commissioners.

CARRIED

2020/08:008

MOTION TO AMEND

Local 49/Local 102

Be it further resolved that a special online meeting of the members be called in November 2020 to consider the motions referred to the Ontario Executive Committee, that are not adopted by the Ontario Executive Committee, as well as the relevant recommendations from Ontario Executive Committee.

DEFEATED

2020/08:009

MOTION TO AMEND

Local 49/Local 78

Be it further resolved that a special online meeting of the members be called in January 2021 to consider the motions referred to the Ontario Executive Committee, that are not adopted by the Ontario Executive Committee, as well as the relevant recommendations from Ontario Executive Committee.

DEFEATED

2020/08:010

CALLING THE QUESTION

Local 105/Local 68

CARRIED

2020/08:005

CARRIED

7. ADOPTION OF GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

2020/08:003

MOTION

Local 109/Local 32

Be it resolved that the 2020 Annual General Meeting alternative agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

ABSTENTIONS: LOCAL 98

8. ADOPTION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

2020/08:011

MOTION

Local 109/Local 78

Be it resolved that the 2019 Annual General Meeting minutes be adopted.

CARRIED

9. PREPARATIONS FOR ELECTIONS

a. Ratification of Electoral Officer

2020/08:012

MOTION

Local 68/Local 110

Be it resolved that Corey Grist be ratified as the Electoral Officer for the 2020 Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

ABSTENTIONS: LOCAL 98

b. Overview of Election Schedule and Procedures

The Electoral Officer will provide an overview of the election schedule and procedures.

10. CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS SERVED WITH DUE NOTICE

a. Motions referred from the Ontario Executive Committee

2020/08: 013

MOTION

Local 99/Local 92

Be it resolved that the audited financial statements ending June 30, 2019 be recommended for ratification at the 2020 Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

2020/08: 014

MOTION

Local 68/Local 105

Be it resolved that the Grant Thornton LLP be appointed as auditors to conduct the audit for financial statements ending on June 30, 2020.

CARRIED

b. Motions Submitted by Member Locals

The following motions were served by member locals with notice and shall be considered at the meeting.

2020/08: N04 MOTION

Local 109/

Whereas BIPOC communities are more often victims of police violence; and

Whereas the Peel Regional Police continues to attack the communities it is supposed to protect and support; and

Whereas on Mother’s Day, a Mississauga Mom was tasered and shot in her front porch; and

Whereas Chantell Krupka fractured her right hip due to this excessive use of force by the Peel Regional Police; and

Whereas a change.org petition called “Justice for Chantelle” has been started on her behalf; and

Whereas a GoFundMe page has also been set up to assist Chantelle and;

Whereas the donations have still not met the goal; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation write a statement in support of Chantelle which also condemns the actions of the Peel Regional Police; and

Be it further resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students- Ontario make a donation of \$500 to the “Support Chantelle” Fundraiser.

2020/08: N04 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N05 MOTION

Local 109/

Whereas Ejaz Choudry had schizophrenia and was undergoing an episode when the family called the non-emergency line for help; and

Whereas the Peel Regional Police immediately barricaded the apartment, refusing to let family members in; and

Whereas the Peel Regional Police refused to deal with the situation appropriately and fired multiple shots that led to his death; and

Whereas the National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM), The Muslim Council of Peel (MCP), and The Urban Alliance of Race Relations (UARR) have been organizing around holding the Peel Regional Police accountable; therefore

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students- Ontario donate \$200 each to NCCM, MCP and UARR for a total of \$600 to support their efforts; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to support other community organizations fighting against police violence.

2020/08: N05 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N06 MOTION

Local 105/

Whereas pathway programs exist at most post-secondary institutions to assist international students to transfer into post-secondary programs, often helping bridge language barriers and academic gaps; and

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Whereas there has been a growth of for-profit pathway programs, such as Australia-based Navitas, that create partnerships that contract-out first year post-secondary education for students who are unable to qualify for enrollment; and

Whereas Navitas currently has two standing contracts with the University of Manitoba and Simon Fraser University which makes up the second highest national revenues at 19 per cent of Navitas' total University Partnership Revenue in 2018, despite having the least amount of contracts; and

Whereas since 2006, Navitas proposals have been rejected at Carleton University, Dalhousie University, McMaster University, the University of Calgary and the University of Windsor; and

Whereas Navitas is currently discussing proposals at Western University and has fast-tracked a contract for Ryerson University to be implemented in Fall 2020 despite opposition, negative feedback and numerous unanswered questions and concerns; and

Whereas Ryerson University has been targeted as a Navitas proposal due to collective agreements with tiered units that allow for continuing education sessional workers to teach courses with minimal benefits that other sessionals and faculty would regularly have; and

Whereas students in Navitas programs are not represented by students' unions (by Navitas' demand), have varied access to student services and are often misinformed on Navitas' relationship to the post-secondary institution; and

Whereas Navitas and other private pathways programs represent a growing trend of privatization of post-secondary education, abuse of international students and cuts to education; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation oppose the development of Navitas agreements, and other private pathway industries; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation develop a campaign to oppose agreements such as Navitas that falls under both Fairness for International Students and Students & Workers United campaigns, which includes research, customizable print and digital material, presentations, member advisories and organizing guides; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation organize a petition to lobby provincial and federal governments to create public policy that promotes fairness for international students that includes international recruitment, pathway programs and access to students' unions and student services, and which restricts proposals similar to Navitas; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write letters, and organize campus labour partners, to the Western University and Ryerson University; and

Be it further resolved the Federation work with provincial and national labour unions and coalition partners to develop an organized coalition against Navitas and other private international pathway industries.

2020/08: N06 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N07 MOTION
Local 105/

Whereas pathway programs exist at most post-secondary institutions to assist international students to transfer into post-secondary programs, often helping bridge language barriers and academic gaps; and

Whereas there has been a growth of for-profit pathway programs, such as Australia-based Navitas, that create partnerships that contract-out first year post-secondary education for students who are unable to qualify for enrollment; and

Whereas Navitas currently has two standing contracts with the University of Manitoba and Simon Fraser University which makes up the second highest national revenues at 19% of Navitas' total University Partnership Revenue in 2018, despite having the least amount of contracts; and

Whereas since 2006, Navitas proposals have been rejected at Carleton University, Dalhousie University, McMaster University, the University of Calgary and the University of Windsor; and

Whereas Navitas is currently discussing proposals at Western University and has fast-tracked a contract for Ryerson University to be implemented in Fall 2020 despite opposition, negative feedback and numerous unanswered questions and concerns; and

Whereas Ryerson University has been targeted as a Navitas proposal due to collective agreements with tiered units that allow for continuing education sessional workers to teach courses with minimal benefits that other sessionals and faculty would regularly have; and

Whereas students in Navitas programs are not represented by students' unions (by Navitas' demand), have varied access to student services and are often misinformed on Navitas' relationship to the post-secondary institution; and

Whereas Navitas and other private pathways programs represent a growing trend of privatization of post-secondary education, abuse of international students and cuts to education; therefore

Whereas the International Students' Issues Policy has not been amended since SAGM 2006; therefore

Be it resolved that that the International Students' Issues Policy be amended to include:

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' ISSUES

Preamble

The participation of international students in Ontario colleges and universities:

- Fosters the international exchange and development of knowledge;
- Promotes cultural diversity and understanding within Ontario's colleges and universities, and the communities in which they are located;
- Enriches the educational experience of international students and of Canadian students and academic staff; and
- Facilitates international cooperation and development.

Federal and provincial governments, granting councils, universities and colleges, employers participating in co-operative educational programs, police authorities, and

other organizations or persons involved in the education of international students should not discriminate against international students on any grounds including race, creed, colour, ancestry, citizenship, ethnic or national origin, political or religious affiliation, belief or practice, sex, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, family relationship and responsibility, personal or social lifestyle or behaviour, or age. Colleges and universities in particular should not discriminate in the admission of, or the provision of services to, international students.

Policy

The Federation supports the:

- Rights of international students, as laid out in the national policy of the Canadian Federation of Students;
- Establishment and continuance of campus international student clubs, societies and organizations;
- Establishment and continuance of campus international student services and centres; and
- The entrenchment of international student representation within local students' unions.

The Federation opposes:

- Any and all differential tuition, ancillary or administrative fees for international students;
- Quotas placed on international student enrolment;
- Provincial health care charges for international students;
- The use of 900 series Social Insurance Numbers and other mechanisms that identify workers based on their citizenship status;
- The expulsion of international students from Canada because of unexpected financial difficulties or unanticipated cost increases;
- Discrimination against international students by federal and provincial governments, colleges, universities, granting councils, employers participating in co-operative education programs, police authorities, and other organizations or persons involved in the education of international students;
- Pathway programs that exploit international students through differential and hidden fees, differential access to student services, no students' union membership and representation, and misinformation on the pathway program and the relationship to the post-secondary institution;
- The use of xenophobic initiatives and policies that discriminate against international students; and
- The restriction or removal of financial support and funding opportunities for international students based on their status as non-citizens.

The Federation supports the establishment of public policy that ensures that:

- There are no differential fees applied to international students;
- The Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada engage in formal co-operation to establish and implement policy and programs for international students at all post-secondary institutions;
- International students are eligible for access to sufficient student financial assistance and special emergency funds in order to ensure they are able to access and maintain studies at Canadian colleges and universities irrespective of their family income background;
- International student access to colleges and universities in Canada is based on the merit of candidates, where the criteria, and judgment, of merit are to be determined by students and academic staff;
- **Restricts public college and universities from contracting out pathway programs to for-profit corporations for all or part of college or university degree;**
- The governments of Ontario and Canada provide appropriate financial assistance to ensure that students admitted to public colleges and universities in Ontario from the forty poorest countries in the world (as determined by the United Nations) are not denied access to a college or university in Ontario for financial reasons;
- International students are free to work in Ontario during the period of their studies, on the same basis as domestic students;
- Restrictions of the federal granting councils on the employment of international graduate students are abolished;
- International students are able to obtain visas, at the time of their enrolment, lasting for the duration of their studies in Canada; and
- International students receive coverage under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) that is equivalent to that for domestic students.

The Federation supports the establishment of institutional policies that ensure that:

- There are no differential fees applied to international students;
- International student access to colleges and universities in Canada should be based on the merit of candidates, where the criteria, and judgment, of merit are to be determined by students and academic staff;
- The purposes of recruiting international students are those outlined in the Preamble, not financial gain **for the institution or private for-profit businesses;**
- The employment of specialized, trained staff and the provision of support services, commensurate with the number and diversity of students recruited, to meet the special

needs of international students, and to comply with the legal duty to provide services free from discrimination;

- Academic staff are provided with resources and professional development opportunities to facilitate teaching, supervision, evaluation methods, etc. that accommodate the special needs of international students; and

- All reasonable assistance is provided to international students in their interactions with municipal, police, immigration, and other authorities and take all reasonable measures to ensure that such authorities do not discriminate against international students.

2020/08: N07 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N08 MOTION

Local 98/

Whereas Bylaw II section 2.c.i. states that “voting must be conducted by paper ballot and cannot be conducted in any other manner;” and

Whereas Bylaw II section 2.c.i. states that “voting must take place at voting stations or, subject to the agreement of the Federation, at a general meeting of the prospective member association or by mail-out ballot;” and

Whereas Bylaw II section 4.c.i. states that “voting must be conducted by paper ballot and cannot be conducted in any other manner;” and

Whereas Bylaw II section 4.c.i. states that “voting must take place at voting stations or, subject to the agreement of the Federation, at a general meeting of the member association or by mail-out ballot;” and

Whereas elections and referenda administered solely by paper ballots are inaccessible to a variety of student demographics, including but not limited to students who commute to campus, students in co-operative education programs, exchange students, students on exchange, and students enrolled solely in online courses; and

Whereas online voting increases the accessibility of elections and referenda, allowing voters to cast their ballot anywhere and at any time, provided they have an Internet connection; and

Whereas online voting is more cost-effective than elections and referenda run exclusively with paper ballots, and reduces or eliminates error in tabulating votes; and

Whereas online voting reduces the environmental impact by reducing the papers, resources, and materials used to administer an election or referendum; and

Whereas popular online voting platforms, such as SimplyVoting, use robust encryption and security measures that detect unauthorized access, eliminate ballot tampering, and reduces the chance of voter fraud; and

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly reduced on-campus operations at post-secondary institutions across Ontario; and

Whereas many Ontario post-secondary institutions will be operating remote classes in the upcoming academic year, greatly reducing the number of students on-campus; and

Whereas some students have moved residences as a result of the pandemic, and some are out-of-country as a result of the pandemic, ergo they do not have access to campus; and

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the operations of student organizations across Ontario, including the Federation; and

Whereas it is crucial that the Federation is able to adapt to the difficult circumstances presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, and support member locals in doing the same; and

Whereas online voting would allow for certification and decertification referenda to continue, at a time when it is impossible to administer referenda with paper ballots; and

Whereas it is uncertain how long the COVID-19 pandemic will last, and implementing online voting would future-proof the Federation and its member locals; and

Whereas exploring the implementation of an online voting platform could allow the Federation to provide this service at a subsidized rate to interested member locals; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation commission a report on the implementation of online voting for elections and referenda of the Federation, to be submitted to the Ontario Executive Committee by April 1, 2021; and

Be it resolved that this report explore online voting platforms and procedures used at student organizations across the country, and the voter turnout rates in those elections and referenda administered using online voting; and

Be it resolved that this report determine the feasibility of the Federation using a pre-existing online voting platform for the purposes of certification and decertification referenda as stipulated in Bylaw II, and provide recommendations on any bylaw and policy changes that would be necessary to enable online voting; and

Be it resolved that this report determine the feasibility of the Federation building a secure proprietary online voting platform for the purposes of certification and decertification referenda as stipulated in Bylaw II, contracting student and youth programmers where possible, and provide recommendations on any bylaw and policy changes that would be necessary to enable online voting; and

Be it resolved that this report determine the feasibility of the Federation providing a subsidized and secure online voting platform for member locals to use to administer their own internal elections and referenda, and provide a costed analysis for providing this service to member locals; and

Be it resolved that updates be provided to the Ontario Executive Committee on the status of this report at each meeting of the Ontario Executive Committee; and

Be it resolved that upon the receipt of this report by the Ontario Executive Committee, the Committee shall review the recommendations of this report, and take the necessary action to implement the report's recommendations, including submitting the necessary bylaw and policy changes to the next general meeting of the Federation; and

Be it further resolved that this report be presented for information at the next general meeting of the Federation; and

Be it further resolved that this report be distributed to all member locals prior to the next general meeting of the Federation; and

Be it resolved that this report be published electronically on the Federation's website in order to provide members of the Federation access to these recommendations.

2020/08: N08 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N09 MOTION

Local 98/

Whereas multiple clauses in Bylaw II section 4.a. indicate that a petition calling for a referendum on decertification from the Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario must be a physical paper petition; and

Whereas these clauses imply that an online petition would not be valid under this Bylaw; and

Whereas physical paper petitions are inaccessible to a variety of student demographics, including but not limited to students who commute to campus, students in co-operative education programs, exchange students, students on exchange, and students enrolled solely in online courses;

Whereas online petitions increase the accessibility of the democratic process, ensuring that students have the tools to start a petition and allowing students to sign a petition anywhere and at any time, provided they have an Internet connection; and

Whereas online petitions are more efficient than paper petitions, as it becomes easier to verify signatures and determine the validity of a petition; and

Whereas online petitions reduce the environmental impact by reducing the papers, resources, and materials used to organize and circulate a petition; and

Whereas organizations around the world administer online petition portals and recognize online petitions, including the Parliament of Canada through petitions.ourcommons.ca; and

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly reduced on-campus operations at post-secondary institutions across Ontario; and

Whereas many Ontario post-secondary institutions will be operating remote classes in the upcoming academic year, greatly reducing the number of students on-campus; and

Whereas some students have moved residences as a result of the pandemic, and some are out-of-country as a result of the pandemic, ergo they do not have access to campus; and

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the operations of student organizations across Ontario, including the Federation; and

Whereas it is crucial that the Federation is able to adapt to the difficult circumstances presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, and support member locals and students in doing the same; and

Whereas online petitions would allow for petitions calling for a referendum on decertification from the Federation to continue, at a time when it is impossible to administer physical paper petitions; and

Whereas it is uncertain how long the COVID-19 pandemic will last, and implementing online petitions would future-proof the Federation and its member locals; and

Whereas some member locals use petitions for their own internal processes, such as to call for referenda on fee increases or for removal from office procedures; and

Whereas exploring the implementation of an online petitions portal could allow the Federation to provide this service at a subsidized rate to interested member locals; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation commission a report on the implementation of online petitions for submission to the Federation, to be submitted to the Ontario Executive Committee by April 1, 2021; and

Be it further resolved that this report explore online petition portals, the legality and precedent of online petitions, and procedures used by organizations within the country and around the world; and

Be it further resolved that this report determine the feasibility of the Federation building a secure proprietary online petitions portal for the purposes of petitions calling for decertification referenda as stipulated in Bylaw II, contracting student and youth programmers where possible, and provide recommendations on any bylaw and policy changes that would be necessary to enable online petitions; and

Be it further resolved that this report determine the feasibility of the Federation providing access to a secure online petitions portal for member locals to use to administer petitions for their own internal processes; and

Be it further resolved that updates be provided to the Ontario Executive Committee on the status of this report at each meeting of the Ontario Executive Committee; and

Be it further resolved that upon the receipt of this report by the Ontario Executive Committee, the Committee shall review the recommendations of this report, and take the necessary action to implement the report's recommendations, including submitting the necessary bylaw and policy changes to the next general meeting of the Federation; and

Be it further resolved that that this report be presented for information at the next general meeting of the Federation; and

Be it further resolved that this report be distributed to all member locals prior to the next general meeting of the Federation; and

Be it further resolved that this report be published electronically on the Federation's website in order to provide members of the Federation access to these recommendations.

2020/08: N09 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N10 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW

Local 98/

Whereas the petitioning process required to initiate a vote of decertification as stated in Bylaw II, Section 1.a.vi requires that students collect the signatures of 15% of the population of its member local association; and

Whereas member local associations are not permitted to initiate the petition process in any official capacity, requiring student members to organize such a process independently of the member local association; and

Whereas many member local associations operate within sprawling and/or decentralized campus systems, making it difficult for their students members to mobilize any meaningful cross campus operation in a timely or feasible manner independent of the Executives and/or Board of Directors of their member local association; and

Whereas students wishing to petition the Federation to initiate the process of decertification must commit to countless hours of unpaid labor in order to obtain the proper number of signatures indicated in Bylaw II, Section 1.a.vi., especially if the member local association represents many tens of thousands of students; and

Whereas the Board of Directors of a member local association may not easily be able to obtain and/or compose a full list of its constituent members; and

Whereas an independent group of students who wish to petition the Federation with no connection to their University's administration may have an even more difficult time trying to obtain and/or compose such a list; and

Whereas the ambiguity as to the number of students affiliated with a member local association at any given time makes it difficult to ascertain what number would constitute 15% of its members; and

Whereas amending Bylaw II, section 1.a.vi to include the option of gaining a minimum number of petition signatures rather than a percentage would make it more accessible for students of a member local association wishing to initiate the process of decertification to gain the appropriate number of signatures; and

Whereas schools thinking about initiating the certification process to join the Federation, who may have concerns about the previously described difficulties and inaccessibility of the decertification process, may be more inclined to join the Federation if the process was made more accessible; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw II section 1.a. be amended as follows, and all subsequent clauses renumbered as needed:

a. Membership Status – Full Membership

i. A local students' association in Ontario is eligible to apply for full membership only if its members have approved full membership in a referendum held within the preceding nine (9) months. The referendum must have included approval of a membership fee totalling the Canadian Federation of Students fee, the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario fee, and the Canadian Federation of Students-Services fee.

ii. The official wording for a referendum to join the Federation shall include only the following:

- "Do you wish to become a member of the Canadian Federation of Students?"

iii. Full membership status becomes effective at such time as it is approved by:

- The plenary of the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario; or

- The plenary of the Canadian Federation of Students.

iv. The Federation's full membership fee for each member local association comprised exclusively of full-time students, or of both full and part-time students, shall be no less than \$2.50 per semester, or \$5.00 per academic year, per local association individual member, pro-rated as per the practice of the member local association with regard to the levying of its local association fee. The Federation's full membership fee for each member local association comprised exclusively of part-time students, shall be no less than \$1.25 per semester, per local association individual member, pro-rated as per the practice of the member local association with regard to the levying of its local association fee.

v. Beginning in 1996, the Federation's membership fee shall increase on August 1 each year by the rate of increase in the national Consumer Price Index during the previous calendar year.

vi. Students collectively belonging to a member local association will have the sole authority to initiate, by ~~not less than fifteen per cent (15%) of the students either fifteen per cent (15%) of the students or three-thousand (3000) students, whichever is less~~ and served to the Federation's Executive Committee, a vote on decertification as described in this Bylaw, and that also entails a vote on decertification in the Canadian Federation of Students, subject to compliance with the Bylaws of the national chartering organization.

vii. The students collectively belonging to a member local association have the right to have their interests represented collectively in the Federation through their member local association, but, for greater certainty, are not members of the Federation and accordingly will not have voting rights at Federation general meetings.

2020/08: N10 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N11 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW

Local 98/

Whereas Bylaw II, Section 4.a.i states that “a petition calling for a vote on decertification in the Canadian Federation of Students– Ontario” must be “circulated, collected and submitted by individuals belonging to the member local association;” and

Whereas the process of certifying a member of the Federation simply requires a vote of the local member association's board of directors as outlined in Bylaw II, Section 1.b.i. instead of a petition; and

Whereas Bylaw II, Section 1.a.vii states that “members of the Federation [...] will not have voting rights at Federation general meetings,” but are instead represented by the Executives of their local member associations at said meetings; and

Whereas local member associations that act as the sole representatives of their students at meetings of the Federation cannot trigger a referendum of decertification by way of a vote of their board of directors in the same way they can trigger a referendum on certification through an application for prospective membership; and

Whereas a referendum on decertification should be discussed with the constituents of a local member of association prior to the initiation of the decertification process; and

Whereas General Meetings are the best way for local member associations to interact with their members in determining whether their student members want to decertify; and

Whereas providing an option for a local member association's Board of Directors vote as an alternative to a petition option to decertify would save both the Federation and local member associations money in administration and staffing costs to certify petition signatures; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw II, Section 1.a be amended as follows and all subsequent clauses renumbered as needed:

1. *Membership*

General Description – There is one (1) category of member of the Federation: local student associations representing individual students who have been admitted as members by the Federation (the “member local association”). Membership entails membership in the chartering organization, Canadian Federation of Students.

a. Membership Status – Full Membership

i. A local students' association in Ontario is eligible to apply for full membership only if its members have approved full membership in a referendum held within the preceding nine (9) months. The referendum must have included approval of a membership fee totalling the Canadian Federation of Students fee, the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario fee, and the Canadian Federation of Students-Services fee.

ii. The official wording for a referendum to join the Federation shall include only the following:

- "Do you wish to become a member of the Canadian Federation of Students?"

iii. Full membership status becomes effective at such time as it is approved by:

- The plenary of the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario; or

- The plenary of the Canadian Federation of Students.

iv. The Federation's full membership fee for each member local association comprised exclusively of full-time students, or of both full and part-time students, shall be no less than \$2.50 per semester, or \$5.00 per academic year, per local association individual member, pro-rated as per the practice of the member local association with regard to the levying of its local association fee. The Federation's full membership fee for each member local association comprised exclusively of part-time students, shall be no less than \$1.25 per semester, per local association individual member, pro-rated as per the practice of the member local association with regard to the levying of its local association fee.

v. Beginning in 1996, the Federation's membership fee shall increase on August 1 each year by the rate of increase in the national Consumer Price Index during the previous calendar year.

vi. Students collectively belonging to a member local association will have the ~~sole~~ authority to initiate, by petition signed by not less than fifteen per cent (15%) of the students and served to the Federation's Executive Committee, a vote on decertification as described in this Bylaw, and that also entails a vote on decertification in the Canadian Federation of Students, subject to compliance with the Bylaws of the national chartering organization.

vii. The member local association will additionally have the authority to trigger a vote on decertification as described in this Bylaw, and that also entails a vote on decertification in the Canadian Federation of Students, subject to compliance with the Bylaws of the national chartering organization. Students may propose a motion to initiate a vote on decertification at their member local association's general meeting that must pass with a ¾ majority of those present. The motion must then pass with a ¾ majority of those present at the member local association's Board of Directors before being served to the Federation's Executive Committee.

viii. The students collectively belonging to a member local association have the right to have their interests represented collectively in the Federation through their member local association, but, for greater certainty, are not members of the Federation and accordingly will not have voting rights at Federation general meetings.

Be it resolved that Bylaw II, Section 4 be amended as follows:

4. Vote to Decertify

Students belonging to a member local association may vote on whether to decertify, by petition or by a conditioned vote of the board of directors of a member local association subject to the following rules and procedures:

Be it further resolved that a new Bylaw II, Section 4, article b. be included and all subsequent letters changed to fit the new article:

b. Vote of the Local Member Association Board of Directors

i. A decision calling for a vote on decertification in the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario, that has been approved by a ¾ majority of the local member association's General Meeting and subsequently, by a ¾ majority at the local member association's Board of Directors. A letter signed by legal counsel that witnessed both votes at the general meeting and board of directors must be delivered by registered mail to the head office of the Federation not less than six (6) months prior to the vote;

ii. The letter and decision must include the exact dates of the proposed vote, provided that there shall be no fewer than two (2) and no greater than five (5) days of voting. No vote on decertification shall be scheduled between April 15 and September 15 or between December 15 and January 15;

iii. There shall be no more than two (2) votes on decertification in any three-month period. In the event that there are more than two (2) valid letters calling for a vote on decertification during any three-month period, the Executive Committee shall:

- Consider the letters in the order in which they are received; and*
- Schedule alternate voting dates for the third and subsequent letters that call for a vote on decertification within any three-month period.*

iv. The motion to vote on decertification at a local member association must include the wording as follows: "Be it resolved that the _____ request from the Executive Committee of the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario to conduct a vote on decertification from the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario," with the blank being filled by the name of the local member association;

v. The original, unaltered letter must be delivered in its entirety. Letters that are not original copies, have been altered in any manner, or have been received by any means other than registered mail are not valid.

vi. In order to be valid, the letter must contain an original signature from legal counsel and a representative of the local member association;

vii. The Executive Committee will have the sole authority to determine whether the petition described in Bylaw 2, Section 5.a. Is in order;

viii. Failure to adhere to the provisions in Article 5(a) shall invalidate the results of the vote.

Be it further resolved that the following change be implemented into the new article "h":

h. Minimum Period Between Decertification Votes

In addition to Articles a. to h., in order for a vote on decertification to take place, a member local association may not have held a vote on decertification within the previous twenty four (24) months.

2020/08: N11 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N12 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW

Local 98/

Whereas Bylaw section 4.a.vii states that “in order to be valid, a name on a petition must be reasonably legible, include the proper full name, be accompanied by a valid and corresponding student identification number and a unique signature;” and

Whereas the requirement for members of the Federation to use their proper full name could result in transgender students being required to sign with their deadname; and

Whereas students who are members of the Federation and have chosen to reside in Canada may exclusively or frequently use a preferred or alternative name rather than their given full name; and

Whereas the student identification number is the most critical piece of information; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw II section 4.a.vii. be amended to delete the word “proper,” as follows:

vii. In order to be valid, a name on a petition must be reasonably legible, include the ~~proper~~ full name, be accompanied by a valid and corresponding student identification number and a unique signature;

Be it further resolved that “full name,” for the purposes of Bylaw II, be interpreted as the petition signer’s preferred full name.

2020/08: N12 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N13 MOTION

Local 49/

Whereas the Constitution of the Federation specifies that the Federation’s purpose is to “bring together post-secondary students from all parts of Ontario to discuss and take common, democratic positions on questions affecting students” and to “formulate a provincial program that will serve as a framework for coordinating the efforts of representative post-secondary student organizations throughout Ontario;” and

Whereas the Federation is a mechanism to bring together member locals across Ontario, and these member locals operate in common fashions and have common needs; and

Whereas each member local remits substantial sums of money to the Federation in the form of dues, and these member locals as a very minimum deserve to be able to contact fellow locals in a simple, efficient and centralized manner; and

Whereas the Federation should strive to support the student executives of member locals across Ontario in professional development opportunities, especially in their specific functional areas; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation immediately establish a centralized directory containing the name, executive role, email address, office phone number, and optionally, mobile phone number, of each student executive of each member local; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation create a Listserv or similar mechanism of mass communication consisting of all member local student executives, that each member local be entitled to send mass communications to other locals, and that this mechanism be operational no later than September 30, 2020; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation facilitate monthly meetings for each of the following functional areas, beginning in the month of October 2020: President, Finance/Operations, Student Experience, Academic Affairs, and Social Issues; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation create a Listserv or similar mechanism of mass communication consisting of the members of each of the aforementioned functional areas, that each member of a functional area be entitled to send mass communications to that functional area, and that this mechanism be operational no later than September 30, 2020.

2020/08: N13 TABLED TO CLOSING PLENARY FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N14 MOTION

Local 49/

Whereas the Constitution of the Federation specifies that the Federation’s purpose is to “promote and support the interests and activities of democratic student organizations in all programs and at all public educational institutions in Ontario;” and

Whereas the various student executives across the member locals must work closely with support staff, tending to be more experienced professionals, and fellow executives, and that these interactions may at times be challenging or daunting; and

Whereas student executives, when faced with the aforementioned challenges, would benefit from accessing HR advice that may be difficult or impossible to otherwise access, depending on the dynamics of the particular member local; and

Whereas student executives across the member locals would benefit from independent advice from external HR professionals for matters pertaining to which advice from in-house professionals or already engaged external consultants may not suffice; and

Be it resolved that the Federation contract HR support to be available to all student executives across the member locals at no cost to the member local utilizing the service; and

Be it further resolved that the aforementioned HR support be limited to phone or email support, and shall be for the provision of advice to member locals’ student executives only.

2020/08: N14 TABLED TO CLOSING PLENARY FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N15 MOTION

Local 49/

Whereas the Federation has a moral and ethical responsibility to advocate for the health and wellbeing of the post-secondary students it represents; and

Whereas Big Tobacco is an exploitative multi-billion-dollar industry in Canada that quite literally earns profit from slowly killing the consumers it addicts; and

Whereas the tobacco industry artificially increases the addictiveness of its products by design; and

Whereas second-hand smoke affects millions of innocent individuals, including children and citizens passersby in Canada and the world; and

Whereas tobacco smoke is a public nuisance on those post-secondary campuses that are not yet smoke-free institutions; and

Whereas remnants of cigarettes are harmful pollutants to wildlife and the environment, and the Federation is an environmentally responsible organization; and

Whereas the current generation of students have the power to be leaders on this issue; and

Be it resolved that the Federation immediately stand against the exploitative means of Big Tobacco, the production and sale of cigarettes and other nicotine products, and that this stance be incorporated as an Issue Policy of the Federation; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation launch a campaign to actively lobby against the tobacco industry, the sale of cigarettes, and the promotion of tobacco and nicotine products in Canada, to all levels of government; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation immediately call for the implementation of smoke-free campuses across Canada, and especially Ontario, and for the development of a practical means of enforcement of these policies; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation develop an anti-tobacco toolkit, including facts on the harms of tobacco and the tobacco industry; and

Be it further resolved that as part of the aforementioned campaign, the Federation also launch an information campaign on campuses across Ontario, raising awareness of the issues surrounding the dangers of tobacco and the tobacco industry; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation seek leave to intervene in consequential court proceedings across Canada, to advance restrictions on the tobacco industry, as well as public protections and awards in class actions or other suits for damages against tobacco companies.

2020/08: N15 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION
2020/08: N16 MOTION TO AMEND THE BYLAW

Local 49/

Whereas the Constitution of the Federation specifies that the Federation's purpose is to "bring together post-secondary students from all parts of Ontario to discuss and take common, democratic positions on questions affecting students" and to "formulate a provincial program that will serve as a framework for coordinating the efforts of representative post-secondary student organizations throughout Ontario;" and

Whereas member locals tend to have high turnover in student executive positions due to the nature of the organizations; and

Whereas effective and smooth transitions in executive roles are imperative for member locals; and

Whereas the Federation provides an effective medium of networking among the member locals; and

Be it resolved that the Federation host a two-day annual in-person transitional conference in the last week of April, beginning in 2021, consisting of all incoming and outgoing student executives from among the member locals; and

Be it further resolved that By-law III be amended by adding the following text:

c. Transitional Conference

The Transitional Conference shall take place annually in the last week of April. The Transitional Conference shall constitute a meeting of the Federation. The time and location of the conference shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Notwithstanding the definition of “delegate” as defined by By-law I, for the purposes of the Transitional Conference, a delegate must be an employee of the association in question, or has been elected to a role in the association in question and is expected to begin their role within the calendar year in which the Transitional Conference is occurring.

2020/08: N16 TABLED TO CLOSING PLENARY FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N17 MOTION

Local 49/

Whereas the Constitution of the Federation specifies that the Federation’s purpose is to “bring together post-secondary students from all parts of Ontario to discuss and take common, democratic positions on questions affecting students” and to “formulate a provincial program that will serve as a framework for coordinating the efforts of representative post-secondary student organizations throughout Ontario;” and

Whereas the Federation provides an effective medium of networking among the member locals; and

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has led to the 2020 Annual General Meeting be hosted in a virtual format, and consequently, the networking opportunity for the leaders of the various member locals has been lost; therefore

Be it resolved that the Executive Committee be directed to organize a conference to serve as a networking opportunity for the current executives of the member associations by March 31, 2021, should the Executive Committee, deem it safe to do so, having considered public health advice at the time.

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Annual General Meeting · Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario
Wednesday, August 26 to Friday, August 28, 2020 – Virtual Meeting

2020/08: N17 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N18 MOTION

Local 49/

Whereas the Constitution of the Federation specifies that part of the Federation’s purpose is to “to achieve our ultimate goal. . . [w]hich recognizes the legitimacy of student representation, and validity of student rights, and whose role in society is clearly recognized and appreciated;” and

Whereas Canada houses over half a million Sikhs, a growing and dynamic community that represents a significant population within the South Asian community, and one that has existed in Canada for over a century, actively and significantly contributing to the nation’s prosperity, and social, economic, cultural, and political fabric; and

Whereas the month of April strikes an emotional chord in the heart of every Sikh Canadian. It is in this month that Sikh Canadians celebrate Vaisakhi - sometimes called Khalsa Day - which marks the creation of the Khalsa; and

Whereas as people who have fled repression in search of democracy and freedom, Canadian Sikhs hold the right to vote and form opinions close to their hearts. Sikh Heritage Month is an opportunity to remember, celebrate, and educate future generations about Sikh Canadians and the important and valuable role that they have played and continue to play in communities across Ontario and Canada; and

Whereas the Sikh Heritage Month is both a provincially (as per Bill 52, Sikh Heritage Month Act, 2013) and federally (as per the Sikh Heritage Month Act, S.C. 2019, c. 5) recognized time of celebration and the Federation should follow suit; and

Whereas Sikh students, especially, are continuously contributing to the solidarity movements across the world and in Canada; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation recognize the Sikh history and celebrate Sikh Heritage Month for the month of April every year; and

Be it further resolved that an appropriate budget decided by the Executive Committee be allocated for the month to support member locals in celebrating Sikh Heritage Month with their student communities; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation work closely with the Canadian Sikh community and relevant Sikh community-oriented organizations.

2020/08: N18 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION

2020/08: N19 MOTION

Local 68/

Whereas Policing is an inherently violent and racist institution. The origin of armed police forces is a colonial one which exists to protect the institutions of colonialism, white supremacy, and capitalism; and

Whereas the Royal Canadian Mounted Police were originally created with the intention of kidnapping, murdering, and violently assimilating Indigenous communities; and

Whereas reformatory measures have proven to be ineffective in addressing the issues of deep-seated oppression within policing institutions; and

Whereas the police state is a violent tool created to maintain colonial power and oppression; and

Whereas Indigenous, Black, and racialized people are disproportionately represented in the prison industrial complex; and

Whereas prison labour is used as a way to legally enslave and exploit prisoners across so-called Canada for economic gain; and

Whereas Indigenous, Black, and racialized communities are disproportionately impacted by police and state violence; and

Whereas Indigenous, Black, and racialized communities are already underrepresented within post-secondary institutions, and that the additional duress of living in a racist settler colonial state impacts the success of those students; therefore

Be it resolved that the following policy be adopted:

Defunding Police, RCMP, and State Violence

Preamble

Policing and the prison industrial complex are inherently violent and racist institutions. The origin of armed police forces is a colonial one as they were created to protect the institutions of colonialism, white supremacy, and capitalism. From its US roots as a slave patrol, and its Canadian roots as an institution created to suppress and control Indigenous people - the very nature of policing serves to maintain racial inequality. It's evident that not much has changed - the suppression of workers and the tight surveillance and micromanagement of Black/ brown lives continues to be at the centre of policing via carding policies, brutal police violence, and the overrepresentation of Black and Indigenous bodies in the prison system.

Post-secondary institutions are complicit in such harm. Post-secondary institutions directly profit off of their most marginalized students and their communities, without investing in any sort of efforts intended to support those communities. It is no secret that post-secondary institutions fund large portions of their budgets with the tuition fees paid by international students. It is also no secret that the police state intentionally profiles and brutalizes racialized communities in order to maintain colonial forces of power. Many post-secondary institutions not only invest in weapons and arms manufacturers, but are actively involved in contracts with businesses that uphold the prison industrial complex. Recognizing that these institutions uphold the active oppression of their very own students, and recognizing that budgets are about priorities, we must demand that post-secondary institutions reevaluate their budgets and the budgets of the government

in order to defund the police state with the eventual goal of abolition, and invest in free and accessible education for all.

The Federation supports calls to defund the police that:

- Prioritize community-led restorative justice efforts
- Prioritize survivor-centric approaches to justice
- Create police-free, community-led, trauma-informed emergency services for mental health/psychiatric distress, and other forms of crisis.
- Invest in harm reduction, including safe supply, safe injection/inhalation sites, and harm-reduction outreach workers.
- Invest in community support for shelters, drop-ins, after-school programming in low-income, Black, and Indigenous neighborhoods.
- Create a civilian conflict resolution service to replace policing of minor by-law infractions/noise complaints
- Establish a community-based and trauma-informed emergency service for people who have experienced gender-based violence.
- Creates educational resources surrounding the abolition of state-sanctioned institutions of violence (such as prisons, the police, the RCMP, etc)
- Advocates for the allocation of police state funding into community alternatives, including but not limited to, the increase in funding for post-secondary education
- Calls for the Federation to publish an open letter to call for the defunding and eventual abolition of police forces.

The Federation opposes:

- University policies that uphold the relationships between post-secondary institutions and the police/carceral state
- University budget allotments that contribute to colonial oppressive forces within so-called Canada and across the globe
- Special constable programs and all policing on all campuses.
- Increased funding to police services regionally, provincially, or federally

2020/08: N19 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION
2020/08: N20 MOTION

Local 19/

Whereas Black students and Black tenure stream faculty are underrepresented in post-secondary institutions; and

Whereas post-secondary institutions in Ontario have long-lasting legacies of white supremacy and colonialism; and

Whereas campus police further pose a threat to Black students and support anti-Black prejudices and biases that create unsafe learning environments for marginalized and racialized students; and

Whereas the ongoing commodification of post-secondary institutions further marginalizes members of the Black community by making education unaffordable and inaccessible; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation encourage and assist member locals in lobbying the administration to hire more Black tenure stream faculty; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation assist and support member locals in calling for the removal of police forces on campus; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation continue to advocate for the elimination of tuition fees which disproportionately impact marginalized students including Black students; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation advocate for the defunding of police and the decriminalization of poverty; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation create a tool kit for member locals to access in combatting anti-Black racism on campuses.

2020/08: N20 REFERRED TO THE ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION

11. RECESS

2020/08: 015 MOTION TO RECESS

Local 98/Local 71

This meeting is recessed at 4:47pm until August 28, 2020.

Closing Plenary Minutes

Annual General Meeting · Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario
Wednesday, August 26 to Friday, August 28, 2020 – Virtual Meeting

This meeting resumed at 1:13pm.

1. CLOSING REMARKS FROM ELDER

Grandmother Roberta provided some closing remarks.

2. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

A roll call of the membership will be taken to determine attendance and to confirm that quorum is present.

Local 1	Carleton University Students' Association	Present
Local 19	University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union	Present
Local 20	Nipissing University Student Union	Present
Local 24	Ryerson Students' Union	Absent
Local 25	Ontario College of Art and Design Student Union	Absent
Local 27	Queen's University Society of Graduate and Professional Students	Present
Local 30	Laurentian University Students' General Association	Absent
Local 32	Lakehead University Student Union	Present
Local 47	University of Western Ontario Society of Graduate Students	Absent
Local 48	University of Windsor Graduate Students' Society	Absent
Local 49	University of Windsor Students' Alliance	Present
Local 54	University of Guelph Central Student Association	Present
Local 56	Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students' Association	Absent
Local 62	University of Guelph Graduate Students' Association	Proxy
Local 68	York Federation of Students	Present
Local 71	Trent Central Student Association	Present
Local 78	Carleton University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 82	Algoma University Students' Union	Present
Local 84	York University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 85	Saint Paul University Students' Association	Present
Local 88	Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones de l'Université Laurentienne	Absent
Local 92	Student Association of George Brown College	Present
Local 93	Glendon College Student Union	Present
Local 94	University of Ottawa Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 97	Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students of the University of Toronto	Present
Local 98	University of Toronto Students' Union	Present
Local 99	Scarborough Campus Students' Union, University of Toronto	Present
Local 102	Brock University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 105	Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson	Present
Local 106	Organization of Part-Time University Students, University of Windsor	Present
Local 109	University of Toronto at Mississauga Students' Union	Present
Local 110	Laurentian University Graduate Students' Association	Present
Local 112	Association générale des étudiantes et étudiants du Collège Boréal	Absent
Local 114	L'Association des étudiant-e-s de l'Université de Hearst	Absent

McFadden announced that quorum has been met for the meeting to take place.

3. SUPPORT AND ANTI-HARASSMENT PROCEDURES FOR CLOSING PLENARY

The Support and Anti-Harassment Advisors provided procedural remarks for Closing Plenary.

4. OVERVIEW OF ELECTION PROCEDURES

Electoral Officer, Corey Grist provided an overview of the election procedures.

5. BUSINESS TABLED FROM OPENING PLENARY

a. Consideration of Emergency Motions Submitted by Member Locals With Notice

The following motions were served by member locals with notice and were deemed emergency at the meeting.

2020/08: 015 MOTION

Local 49/Local 71

Whereas the Constitution of the Federation specifies that the Federation’s purpose is to “bring together post-secondary students from all parts of Ontario to discuss and take common, democratic positions on questions affecting students” and to “formulate a provincial program that will serve as a framework for coordinating the efforts of representative post-secondary student organizations throughout Ontario;” and

Whereas the Federation is a mechanism to bring together member locals across Ontario, and these member locals operate in common fashions and have common needs; and

Whereas each member local remits substantial sums of money to the Federation in the form of dues, and these member locals as a very minimum deserve to be able to contact fellow locals in a simple, efficient and centralized manner; and

Whereas the Federation should strive to support the student executives of member locals across Ontario in professional development opportunities, especially in their specific functional areas; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation immediately establish a centralized directory containing the name, executive role, email address, office phone number, and optionally, mobile phone number, of each student executive of each member local; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation create a Listserv or similar mechanism of mass communication consisting of all member local student executives, that each member local be entitled to send mass communications to other locals, and that this mechanism be operational no later than September 30, 2020; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation facilitate monthly meetings for each of the following functional areas, beginning in the month of October 2020: President, Finance/Operations, Student Experience, Academic Affairs, and Social Issues; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation create a Listserv or similar mechanism of mass communication consisting of the members of each of the aforementioned functional areas, that each member of a functional area be entitled to send mass communications to that functional area, and that this mechanism be operational no later than September 30, 2020.

2020/08: 016 MOTION TO REFER
Local 54/Local 62

Be it resolved that the Motion 2020/08:015 be referred to the Ontario Executive Committee for consideration.

DEFEATED

Abstentions: Local 71, Local 98

2020/08: 017 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 98/Local 01

Be it further resolved that student executives of each member local may decide whether or not their information will be included in the directory or the listserv; and
Be it further resolved that student executives may opt-out of the directory and the listserv at any time, at which point their information will be removed from the database and/or listserv, as applicable; and

CARRIED

2020/08: 018 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 97/Local 54

Be it further resolved that the Annual General Meeting send the motion to the Ontario Executive Committee for consideration and decision and, if appropriate implementation.

CARRIED

2020/08: 019 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 49/Local 106

Be it further resolved that notwithstanding the above clause, the clauses relating to ListServ clauses be implemented upon the adoption of this resolution.

2020/08: 020 MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION
Local 105/Local 109

CARRIED

2020/08: 019 DEFEATED

2020/08: 021 MOTION TO AMEND (RULED OUT OF ORDER)
Local 93/Local 49

Be it resolved that the Federation immediately establish a centralized directory containing the name, executive role, email address, office phone number, and optionally, mobile phone number, of selected representatives of the member locals to the CFS.

Page 4 – Closing Plenary Minutes

Annual General Meeting · Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario
Wednesday, August 26 to Friday, August 28, 2020 – Virtual Meeting

2020/08: 015 CARRIED
Abstentions: Local 98

2020/08: 022 MOTION TO RECESS
Local 97/Local 78

CARRIED

The meeting recessed at 3:32pm.

The meeting resumed at 3:47pm.

2020/08: N16 MOTION TO AMEND THE BYLAW

Local 49/

Whereas the Constitution of the Federation specifies that the Federation's purpose is to "bring together post-secondary students from all parts of Ontario to discuss and take common, democratic positions on questions affecting students" and to "formulate a provincial program that will serve as a framework for coordinating the efforts of representative post-secondary student organizations throughout Ontario;" and

Whereas member locals tend to have high turnover in student executive positions due to the nature of the organizations; and

Whereas effective and smooth transitions in executive roles are imperative for member locals; and

Whereas the Federation provides an effective medium of networking among the member locals; and

Be it resolved that the Federation host a two-day annual in-person transitional conference in the last week of April, beginning in 2021, consisting of all incoming and outgoing student executives from among the member locals; and

Be it further resolved that By-law III be amended by adding the following text:

c. Transitional Conference

The Transitional Conference shall take place annually in the last week of April. The Transitional Conference shall constitute a meeting of the Federation. The time and location of the conference shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Notwithstanding the definition of "delegate" as defined by By-law I, for the purposes of the Transitional Conference, a delegate must be an employee of the association in question, or has been elected to a role in the association in question and is expected to begin their role within the calendar year in which the Transitional Conference is occurring.

2020/08: 023 MOTION TO WITHDRAW (2020/08 : N16)
Local 49/Local 106

CARRIED

b. Consideration of Emergency Motions Submitted by Member Locals

The following emergency motion was served by a member local at Opening Plenary:

2020/08:024 MOTION

Local 99/Local 97

Whereas Regis Korchinski-Paquet was a 29 year-old Afro-Indigenous woman who tragically fell to her death on May 27th, 2020 from her apartment balcony with 6 (six) Toronto Police Services (TPS) responding officers present at her apartment at that time following a call to the TPS; and

Whereas the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) has determined this morning, Wednesday, August 26, 2020, that there are no reasonable grounds to believe that any of the officers committed a criminal offence in connection with Ms.Korchinski-Paquet; and

Whereas these SIU results seek to justify that no charges will be laid against the 6 (six) TPS officers who responded to the call; and

Whereas independent investigations, including the second autopsy, have concluded that the given evidence shows sound basis for criminal liability against the 6 (six) officers who responded to the call; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation release a statement by Friday, August 28, 2020, condemning the TPS and the SIU Report, calling for the defunding and abolishing of police, and calling for the redirecting of those funds to mental health crisis workers to respond to wellness checks instead of the police; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation endorse the Black Lives Matter Toronto, No Pride in Policing Coalitions demands on defunding the police; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation encourage member locals to release their own statements condemning the report and calling for the defunding of police to redirect the funds to mental health crisis workers to respond to wellness checks, as well as condemning the presence of on-campus police; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation extends the efforts of the existing working group of the OEC, to establish a province-wide police-free campuses working group open to all member locals who are interested in participating; and

Be it further resolved that once established, the police-free campuses working group be a space where member locals can discuss joint actions, strategies and solidarity efforts surrounding the removal of on-campus police from post-secondary institutions; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation develops educational materials surrounding anti-Black racism and anti-Indigenous racism, including but not limited to addressing police violence and the upholding of institutional and systemic racism within post-secondary education.

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2020/08:025 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 97/Local 109

Be it further resolved that the Federation encourage member locals to release their own statements condemning the report and calling for the defunding of police to redirect the funds to mental health crisis workers to respond to wellness checks **and other mental health crises**, as well as condemning the presence of on-campus police; and

2020/08:026 MOTION TO EXTEND (3 speakers for/3 speakers against)

Local 84/Local 92

CARRIED

2020/08:025 CARRIED

2020/08:024 CARRIED

6. PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF 2020-2021 BUDGET

The Executive Committee will present the 2020-2021 budget.

2020/08:026 MOTION TO ADOPT

Local 68/Local 32

Be it resolved that the budget be adopted as presented.

2020/08:027 MOTION TO EXTEND

Local 93/Local 98

DEFEATED

2020/08:026 CARRIED

Abstentions: Local 49, Local 71 and Local 98

7. PRESENTATION OF THE ELECTORAL OFFICER'S REPORT

The Electoral Officer present the electoral report for consideration by plenary.

2020/08:027 MOTION

Local 68/Local 84

Be it resolved that Sébastien Lalonde ratified as Chairperson for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 term; and

Be it further resolved that Kayla Weiler be ratified as the National Executive Representative for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 term; and

Be it further resolved that Sarah Abdillahi be ratified as the Treasurer for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 term.

CARRIED

2020/08:028 MOTION

Local 78/Local 105

Be it resolved that the ballots be destroyed.

CARRIED

8. PRESENTATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Executive Committee presented a report detailing the work of the Federation undertaken since the previous General Meeting.

2020/08:029 MOTION TO EXTEND MEETING

Local 32/Local 62

Be it resolved that the meeting be extended by 20 minutes.

CARRIED

2020/08:030 MOTION TO RATIFY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Local 92/Local 105

CARRIED

Abstention: Local 98

9. EXECUTIVE CLOSING REMARKS

Chairperson Felipe Nagata provided closing remarks.

10. ADJOURNMENT

2020/08:031 MOTION TO RATIFY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Local 71/Local 92

This meeting is adjourned at 7:00pm.