

Opening & Closing Plenary Minutes

Annual General Meeting · Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario
Wednesday, August 18 to Friday, August 20, 2021 – Virtual Meeting

CALL TO ORDER - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2021 THIS MEETING IS CALLED TO ORDER AT 1:13PM.

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

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 | Absent |
| Local 19 | University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union | Absent |
| Local 20 | Nipissing University Student Union | Present |
| Local 24 | Ryerson Students' Union | Absent |
| Local 25 | Ontario College of Art and Design Student Union | Present |
| Local 27 | Queen's University Society of Graduate and Professional Students | Absent |
| 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 | Present |
| Local 48 | University of Windsor Graduate Students' Society | Absent |
| Local 49 | University of Windsor Students' Alliance | Absent |
| Local 54 | University of Guelph Central Student Association | Present |
| Local 56 | Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students' Association | Present |
| 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 | Absent |
| Local 88 | Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones de l'Université Laurentienne | Present |
| Local 92 | Student Association of George Brown College | Present |
| Local 93 | Glendon College Student Union | Proxy |
| 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 X University | 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 | Absent |
| 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 |
| Local 115 | X University Graduate Students' Union | Proxy |

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

3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROXIES

A voting member that is unable to attend all or portions of a general meeting may appoint another voting member to act as its proxy for some or all the meeting, in accordance with Bylaw III. Any appointments will be announced at this time.

Weiler announced the Federation was in receipt of three proxies - Local 115 sent a proxy to Local 105, Local 93 sent a proxy to Local 68 and Local 62 sent a proxy to Local 54 for the duration of the 2021 Annual General Meeting.

4. RATIFICATION OF PLENARY SPEAKER

The Plenary Speaker will be ratified at this time.

2021/08:001 MOTION

Local 78 /Local 92

Be it resolved that Francis Pineda be ratified as the Plenary Speaker for the 2021 Annual General Meeting.

2021/08:001 CARRIED

5. EXECUTIVE AT-LARGE WELCOMING REMARKS

Weiler and Abdillahi provided welcoming remarks.

6. OVERVIEW OF PROCEDURES

a. Virtual Meeting Logistics

Weiler provided logistical information for this meeting.

b. Rules of Order and Plenary Procedures

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

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

Pascale Diverlus and Chrys Saget-Richard, Support and Anti-Harassment Advisors for the meeting introduced themselves and provided an outline of their duties as the Support and Anti-Harassment Advisor.

d. Presentation by the Federation's Staff Relations Officer

Weiler provided an overview of her role as the Staff Relations Officer at the 2021 Ontario Annual General Meeting.

7. RATIFICATION OF NEW MEMBERS

The plenary will consider the ratification of new members at this time.

2021/08:002 MOTION

Local 99 /Local 78

Be it resolved that X University Graduate Students' Union be ratified as full members of the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario.

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2021/08:002 CARRIED

8. ADOPTION OF PLENARY AGENDA

The plenary will consider the plenary agenda; changes or additions to the agenda may be proposed at this time.

2021/08:003 MOTION
Local 68 /Local 56

Be it resolved that the 2021 Annual General Meeting plenary agenda be adopted as presented and as amended.

2021/08:004 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 97/ Local 56

Be it resolved that motion 2021/08:015 be moved up on the plenary agenda as the first item under section 12(C).

CARRIED

2021/08:003 CARRIED

9. ADOPTION OF GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

The plenary will consider the general meeting agenda; changes or additions to the agenda may be proposed at this time.

2021/08:005 MOTION
Local 68 /Local 106

Be it resolved that the 2021 Annual General Meeting meeting agenda be adopted as presented.

2021/08:005 CARRIED

10. ADOPTION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The plenary will consider the minutes of the previous general meeting.

2021/08:006 MOTION
Local 109 /Local 105

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

2021/08:006 CARRIED

11. PREPARATIONS FOR ELECTIONS

a. Ratification of Electoral Officer

The Electoral Officer will be ratified at this time.

2021/08:007 MOTION
Local 25 /Local 106

Be it resolved that Diana Idibe be ratified as the Electoral Officer for the 2021 Annual General Meeting.

2021/08:007 CARRIED

b. Overview of Election Schedule and Procedures

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

c. Adoption of Caucus and Constituency Group Meeting Agendas

The plenary will consider the caucus and constituency group meeting agendas prepared by the Executive Committee. Any changes or additions to the agendas may be proposed at this time.

2021/08:008

MOTION

Local 78 /Local 115

Be it resolved that the 2021 Annual General Meeting Caucus and Constituency Group meeting agendas be adopted as presented.

2021/08:008

CARRIED

12. CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS SERVED

a. Motions from previous general meetings with recommendations from the Ontario Executive Committee

2021/08:009

ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO DEFEAT MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW

MOTION

Local 99/Local 68

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

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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.

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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.

2021/08:009 **CARRIED**

2021/08:010 **ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO DEFEAT MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW**

MOTION

Local 56/ Local 78

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

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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

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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;*

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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.

2021/08:010 CARRIED

2021/08:011 ONTARIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO DEFEAT MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW MOTION

Local 115/ Local 25

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.

2021/08:011 CARRIED

2021/08:012 MOTION TO RECESS

Local 68/ Local 78

Be it resolved that the plenary recesses

CARRIED

b. Motions with recommendations from the Ontario Executive Committee

2021/08:013 MOTION

Local 78/Local 25

Be it resolved that the audited financial statements ending June 30, 2020 be recommended for ratification at the 2021 Annual General Meeting.

2021/08:013 CARRIED

2021/08: 014 MOTION

Local 25/Local 97

Be it resolved that the Ontario Executive Committee recommend that Grant Thornton LLP be appointed as auditors to conduct the audit for financial statements ending on June 30, 2021.

CARRIED

2021/08: 015 MOTION

Local 97/ Local 56

Whereas Indigenous communities across Turtle Island have recently started the process of locating unmarked graves at former Residential Schools;

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario is committed to supporting, Indigenous led Initiatives;

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario acknowledges that the provinces are responsible for education of elementary and high school students regarding the history of residential schools;

Whereas Article 74 of the Truth and Reconciliation calls to Action states that: We call upon the federal government to work with the churches and Aboriginal community leaders to inform the families of children who died at residential schools of the child's burial location, and to respond to families' wishes for appropriate commemoration ceremonies and markers, and reburial in home communities where requested;

Whereas Article 75 of the Truth and Reconciliation calls to Action states that: We call upon the federal government to work with provincial, territorial, and municipal governments, churches, Aboriginal communities, former residential school students, and current landowners to develop and implement strategies and procedures for the ongoing identification, documentation, maintenance, commemoration, and protection of residential school cemeteries or other sites at which residential school children were buried. This is to include the provision of Calls to Action| 9 appropriate memorial ceremonies and commemorative markers to honour the deceased children;

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Whereas the Article 62.i of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action states: Make age-appropriate curriculum on residential schools, Treaties, and Aboriginal peoples' historical and contemporary contributions to Canada a mandatory education requirement for Kindergarten to Grade Twelve students;

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students – Ontario partner with the Ontario Circle of First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Students to create a template letter to call on the Federal, Provincial governments/ministers to fully implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission calls to action # 74:75 by August 31, 2021;

Be it further resolved that Canadian Federation of Students – Ontario share this letter with member locals and encourage them to submit this letter or a similar letter to the governments/ministers;

Be it further resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students – Ontario make a donation of \$1500 to The Legacy of Hope Foundation;

Be it further resolved that Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario encourage member locals to make donations to The Legacy of Hope Foundation or local Indigenous community organizations that are doing the work to locate the unmarked graves;

Be it further resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario partner with the Ontario Circle of First Nations, Metis and Inuit Students to create a template letter to the Ontario Minister of Education calling on them to implement Article 62.i of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action;

Be it further resolved that Canadian Federation of Students – Ontario share this letter with member locals and encourage them to submit this letter or a similar letter to the governments/ministers;

2021/08:016 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 82/ Local115

Be it resolved that motion 2021/08:015 be amended to include:

Be it further resolved the member locals be encouraged to work with Indigenous student organizations on their campuses and local indigenous communities to ensure the work of member locals is rooted in anti-oppression and uplifts indigenous self-determination, and that work for Indigenous students be indigenous led.

Be it further resolved that they are done in good faith by assuring that work is not performative but actually empowers and comes from indigenous students and communities.

CARRIED

2021/08:015 CARRIED

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2021/08:017 MOTION

Local 56/ Local 109

Whereas climate change is of critical importance as it impacts the lives of all people globally; and

Whereas the Canadian government has put forward a goal of reaching net-zero by 2050; and

Whereas colleges and universities across Canada are working to address climate change through sustainability policies, offices and more; and

Whereas students and students' unions have been at the forefront of change in efforts for systematic change at colleges and universities for years and are active in action-based campaigns; and

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario does not have an active campaign that meets the calls to action from campus climate groups; and

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario campaign, *Students for Sustainability* is lackluster and has not be updated since it was established; therefore

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario create and update a climate justice action campaign; and

Be it resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario works in collaboration with coalition partners in development of the campaign; and

Be it further resolved that the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario create climate action campaign materials for Ontario member locals including factsheets and electronic templates.

2021/08:017 CARRIED

2021/08:018 MOTION

Local 105/ Local 109

Whereas Wreckonconciliation U, a group of Indigenous students, staff and locals from X University (formerly Ryerson University) have put forward a campaign to change the name of the University; and

Whereas this name change is being proposed because Egerton Ryerson, the universities namesake, was an architect of the Residential Schooling genocides against Indigenous peoples; and

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Whereas one of the calls to action from the campaign is asking student groups, unions, and instructors to stand in solidarity with this demand; and

Whereas CESAX and other allied organizations posted statements and sent letters to the President of X University (Mohamed Lachemi) in support of this demand; and

Whereas as a provincial student movement we must stand in solidarity with Indigenous students, and against settler-colonial violence at large; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation write a statement and letter to the president of X University (Mohamed Lachemi) in support of the university name change; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write letters to the X University administration supporting changing the name of the university.

2021/08:018 CARRIED

2021/08:019 MOTION

Local 98/ Local 106

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

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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, 2022; and

Be it further resolved that 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

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Be it further 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 further 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 further 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 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 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.

2021/08:020 MOTION TO REFER

Local 68/ Local 78

Be it resolved that motion 2021/08:019 be referred to Closing plenary.

2021/08:019 REFERRED

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2021/08:021 MOTION TO RECESS

Local 78/Local 92

Be it resolved that this meeting recesses.

CARRIED

This meeting recessed at 5:11pm.

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CALL TO ORDER – Friday, August 20, 2021

Pineda resumed the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

1. CLOSING REMARKS FROM ELDER

Grandmother Roberta provided closing remarks.

Closing Plenary Speaker Francis Pineda introduced himself.

2. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

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

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 | Absent |
| Local 19 | University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union | Absent |
| Local 20 | Nipissing University Student Union | Absent |
| Local 24 | Ryerson Students' Union | Absent |
| Local 25 | Ontario College of Art and Design Student Union | Present |
| Local 27 | Queen's University Society of Graduate and Professional Students | Absent |
| Local 30 | Laurentian University Students' General Association | Absent |
| Local 32 | Lakehead University Student Union | Absent |
| 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 | Absent |
| Local 54 | University of Guelph Central Student Association | Absent |
| Local 56 | Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students' Association | Present |
| 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 | Absent |
| Local 85 | Saint Paul University Students' Association | Absent |
| Local 88 | Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones de l'Université Laurentienne | Present |
| Local 92 | Student Association of George Brown College | Present |
| Local 93 | Glendon College Student Union | Proxy |
| 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 |

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| | |
|--|---------|
| Local 102 Brock University Graduate Students' Association | Absent |
| Local 105 Continuing Education Students' Association of X University | 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 | Absent |
| 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 |
| Local 115 X University Graduate Students' Union | Proxy |

Pineda announced that quorum has been met to continue the meeting.

01:53pm – Local 94 joined the meeting.

3. SUPPORT AND ANTI-HARASSMENT PROCEDURES FOR CLOSING PLENARY

The Support and Anti-Harassment Advisors reviewed procedures and conduct for Closing Plenary.

4. OVERVIEW OF ELECTION PROCEDURES

The Electoral Officer provided an overview of the election procedures.

5. BUSINESS TABLED FROM OPENING PLENARY

2021/08:019 MOTION

Local 98/ Local 106

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

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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, 2022; and

Be it further resolved that 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 further 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 further 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

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programmers where possible, and provide recommendations on any bylaw and policy changes that would be necessary to enable online voting; and

Be it further 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 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 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.

2021/08:022 MOTION TO EXTEND

Local 78/Local 25

Be it resolved that the speaker's list be extended by one

2021/08:022 CARRIED

2021/08:019 DEFEATED

2021/08:023 MOTION

Local 98/ Local 56

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; and

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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, 2022; and

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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 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.

2021/08:023 DEFEATED

2021/08:024 MOTION

Local 98/ Local 56

Whereas Bylaw II, section 4.e.iv tasks the Chief Returning Officer with “deciding the number and location of polling stations”; and

Whereas students who attend the member local school have a deeper understanding with regards to accessibility of campus locations; and

Whereas student leaders have greater familiarity with the needs of their respective school communities; and

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Whereas student leaders are equipped with the resources, awareness, tools, and networks to engage fellow students of the membership to exercise their voting rights; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw II, section 4.e be amended to read:

e. Chief Returning Officer

For each vote to decertify, a Chief Returning Officer shall be appointed in accordance with the Bylaws of the Canadian Federation of Students.

The Chief Returning Officer shall oversee the referendum and be responsible for:

- i. Establishing the notice requirement for the referendum in accordance with the Bylaws of the Canadian Federation of Students;
- ii. Establishing the campaign period in accordance with Section 5.b of this Bylaw;
- iii. Approving all campaign materials in accordance with Section 5.b of this Bylaw and removing campaign materials that have not been approved;
- iv. ~~Deciding~~ **Approving** the number and location of polling stations **as proposed by the member local representative and ratified by the Board of the member association;**
- v. Setting the hours of voting in accordance with Section 5.e of this Bylaw;
- vi. Overseeing all aspects of the voting;
- vii. Counting the ballots following the vote; and
- viii. Establishing all other rules and regulations for the vote

2021/08:025 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 56/Local 98

Be it resolved that motion 2021/08:024 section e (iv) be amended to “iv. Deciding the number and location of polling stations as proposed by the member local representative and ratified by the board of the member association;”

2021/08:026 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 97/Local 56

Be it further resolved that section e (iv) in motion 2021/08:025 be amended to iv. Deciding the number and location of polling stations in consultation with the representative of the local board;

2021/08:026 DEFEATED

2021/08:025 DEFEATED

2021/08:024 DEFEATED

2021/08:027 MOTION

Local 98/ Local 56

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Whereas Bylaw II, section 5.c reads “for any decertification vote ratified at a annual general meeting of the Federation, the decertification shall take effect on June 30, provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.”; and

Whereas Bylaw II, section 5.d reads “for any decertification vote ratified held at an annual general meeting of the Federation, the decertification shall take effect on August 30, provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.”; and

Whereas the sole difference between Bylaw II, section 5.c and Bylaw II, section 5.d is the month outlined as “June” and “August”, respectively; and

Whereas misinterpretation arises when there are duplicate versions of the same bylaw section; and

Whereas there is disparity on the dates on which decertification takes effect and by extension, conflicting subsections of Bylaw II, section 5; and

Whereas the Bylaw I, section 7.c of the Canadian Federation of Students Constitution and Bylaws (as amended at the November 2019 National General Meeting) states:

“7. Procedure for Application for Withdrawal

c. The decertification shall take effect on June 30 following the ratification of the vote to decertify provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.”; therefore

Be it resolved that that Bylaw II, section 5.d be struck as Bylaw II, section 5.c prevails; and

Be it further resolved that Bylaw II, section 5 be amended to read:

5. Procedure for Application for Decertification

- a. Following the holding of a vote on decertification in accordance with Bylaw 2, Section 5 pursuant to which it is determined that membership shall not continue, the applicable member local association is required to send a letter by registered mail notifying the Federation of its intention to decertify from the Federation. Within ninety (90) days of the receipt of such letter, the Executive Committee will examine the notification to determine whether it is in order, and will make a recommendation to the voting members of the Federation concerning the decertification.
- b. At the opening plenary of the next general meeting of the Federation, ratification of the decertification vote shall be put to a vote.
- c. For any decertification vote ratified at an annual general meeting of the Federation, the decertification shall take effect on June 30, provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.

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- d. ~~For any decertification vote ratified held at an annual general meeting of the Federation, the decertification shall take effect on August 30, provided that all outstanding membership fees payable to such date shall have then been received by the Federation.~~

2021/08:028 MOTION TO REFER

Local 97/Local 56

Be it resolved that motion 2021/08:027 be referred to the Ontario Executive committee for consideration .

2021/08:027 REFERRED

2021/08:029 MOTION

Local 98/ Local 56

Whereas ability issues present themselves in various forms including, but not limited to physical, psychological, neurological, learning, hearing, and visual; and

Whereas the Ontario Human Rights Commission defines “disability” as “[covering] a broad range and degree of conditions, some visible and some not visible. A disability may have been present from birth, caused by an accident, or developed over time.”; and

Whereas the validity of non-visible disabilities continues to face societal stigmatization; and

Whereas constituency groups function as safe and inclusive spaces for discussion of the issues of the Ontario General Meeting; and

Whereas non-specific language on the membership of the Students with Disabilities Constituency Group gives way to ambiguity and cause delegates to question their eligibility to participate and sense of belonging in said constituency group; therefore

Be it resolved that the section c. iii of the Constituency Groups Terms of Reference in the Operations Policy be amended to read as follows:

c. The Students with Disabilities Constituency Group

iii. Membership

Members of the Constituency Group are all individuals concerned with **visible or non-visible** ability issues present at a general meeting of the Federation and who choose to be members.

2021/08:030 MOTION TO REFER

Local 97/Local 56

Be it resolved that motion 2021/08:029 be referred to the Ontario Executive committee in discussion with constituency groups to decide.

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2021/08:031 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 56/ Local 78

Be it resolved that motion 2021/08:029 be referred to the Ontario Executive committee for decision in discussion with the disability constituency group to decide at a special disability group meeting.

2021/08:031 CARRIED

2021/08:029 REFERRED

2021/08:032 MOTION TO RECESS
Local 68/Local 88

CARRIED

2021/08:033 MOTION
Local 98/ Local 56

Whereas Bylaw XXI, section d. permitted the at-large Ontario Executive members to unilaterally make the decision to table all non-emergency motions presented at the August 2021 Ontario General Meeting due to the force majeure of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas any amendment, repeal, or suspension to the Bylaws and Operations Policy related to the structure and logistics of the Annual General Meeting heavily impacts the member local attendees of the Annual General Meeting; and

Whereas member local representatives on the Executive Committee are the primary coordinator and point of contact for member local delegations attending the Annual General Meeting; and

Whereas the first commitment under the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario's Statement of Principles is "to organize students on a democratic, cooperative basis in advancing our own interests, and in advancing the interests of our community;" and

Whereas decisions concerning the Bylaws of the Federation must be presented and voted upon by the Ontario Executive Committee in order to preserve democratic integrity; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw XXI, section d. be amended to read as follows:

BYLAW XXI – AMENDMENTS OF THE BYLAWS

a. The Bylaws of the Federation may be repealed or amended by a majority of the Executive Committee, with the exception of the Banking Bylaws, enacted by a majority of the Directors at a meeting of the Executive Committee. Such Bylaws and amendments shall remain in force until the first General Meeting of the members subsequent to their enactment that must ratify the changes by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

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- b. The Bylaws of the Federation may be repealed or amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at any General Meeting.
- c. Written notice of amendment or addenda to these Bylaws must be delivered by email, fax or mail to the head office of the Federation not less than six (6) weeks prior to a General Meeting and must be sent to member local associations at least four (4) weeks prior to the General Meeting.
- d. In the event of force majeure, **at-large members of the Executive Committee may propose a temporary suspension of sections of the Bylaws and Operations Policy related to the structure and logistics of the AGM, to be ratified by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Committee.**

2021/08:034 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 97/ Local 56

Be it resolved that motion 2021/08:033 be amended to 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 by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the executive committee.

2021/08:034 CARRIED

2021/08:033 CARRIED

2021/08:035 MOTION

Local 109/Local 78

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted students' unions' abilities to outreach, lobby and put pressure on decision-makers at post-secondary institutions across Ontario; and

Whereas it is crucial for member locals to diversify the ways in which they campaign, improve membership engagement, lobby and develop membership lists; and

Whereas New/Mode is an online platform offering a large range of tools to conduct online campaigns, such as but not limited to targeted emails, petitions, personalized calls, tweet storms, letters to editors, fax storms; and

Whereas New/Mode is an organization that aligns with students' unions values and supports various progressive organizations and coalition partners including the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), the Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL), Greenpeace, the Sunrise Movement; and

Whereas the current cost of a New/Mode subscription is expensive for most member locals with 1 live action costing USD\$ 99 per month, and 10 live actions costing USD\$ 833 per month, bringing the cost down to USD\$ 83.3 for each live action; and

Whereas member locals have greater purchasing power when we order in bulk; therefore,

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Be it resolved that the Federation explore the feasibility of bulk purchasing a New/Mode network accounts to reduce the individual cost for member locals; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be given the opportunity to express their interest in having access to a New/Mode account through the ethical purchasing network order guide every year.

2021/08:035 CARRIED

2021/08:036 MOTION

Local 68/Local 93

Whereas post-secondary institutions have always been oppressive and violent for Black students to engage with; and

Whereas we are seeing a rise in anti-Black racist attacks on Black students in post-secondary institutions and a decline of Black students entering and engaging with this movement; and

Whereas in recognition of this a National Black Caucus was created to ensure that Black students in the Federation would have a platform; and

Whereas the National Black Caucus makes space for representatives from Provincial components' Black Caucuses; and

Whereas Ontario does not currently have a dedicated student representative or institutional space specially dedicated to the interests of Black students; and

Whereas the recent year in which there was large scale organizing to the violence experienced by Black students both on and off-campus necessitates such a representative and space; and

Whereas the creation of a Caucus and a designated representative shall enable the Ontario component to engage in the sort of organizing that is necessary for supporting Black students ; and

Be it resolved that the Operations Policy - Constituency Groups be amended to include:

i. The Ontario Black Caucus

i. Name

The organization shall be known as the Ontario Black Caucus.

ii. Objectives

- The objectives of the Constituency Group shall be:
- To accept the principles and purposes of the Federation;
- To promote communication and cooperation between Black Student groups in post-secondary education institutions across Ontario;

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- To act as an agent of social change as defined by Black individuals who are present at a General Meeting of the Federation;
- To provide a forum for Black students to discuss issues concerning Black students;
- To represent Black students' interests and concerns within the Federation, and work in conjunction with other relevant provincial and national Black student organizations;
- To facilitate communication between Black student groups and other student groups; and
- To do all other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of such objectives.

iii. Membership

Members of the Constituency Group are all individuals who self-identify as Black including but not limited to those present at a general meeting of the Federation and who choose to be members.

iv. Rights and Privileges of Members

Members of the Constituency Group have the following rights and privileges:

- To attend any meeting of this Constituency Group and to speak to any matter or motion that may arise.

The remaining rights and privileges of members, including, but not limited to the right to elect a Commissioner and the right to vote at a Constituency Group meeting shall be determined by the Constituency Group.

v. Meetings

Meetings of the Constituency Group may take place at any General Meeting of the Federation at which members of the Constituency Group are present.

Meetings may also be called outside of the General Meeting. Meetings of the Constituency Group shall be announced by word of mouth and/or by print.

vi. The Ontario Black Caucus Chairperson

The Ontario Black Caucus Chair shall be elected by and from the membership of the Ontario Black Caucus at the Annual General Meeting.

The term of office of the Ontario Circle of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students Constituency Commissioner shall commence at the close of the Annual General Meeting at which they are elected and shall expire at the close of the subsequent Annual General Meeting.

vii. Duties of the Chairperson

The duties of the Chairperson shall be:

- To act as the spokesperson of the Ontario Black Caucus on issues of concern to the Constituency Group;
- To implement campaigns as determined by the Constituency Group;
- To communicate with the Federation's Ontario office, the Executive Committee, the constituency group commissioners, participants at general meetings and member associations on issues of the Constituency Group;

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- To act as the primary liaison between the National Black Caucus of the Federation and its members in Ontario; and
- To act as the official representative of Ontario Black students on the National Black Caucus Steering Committee.

Be it further resolved that the Council of Constituency representatives' composition be amended to include:

- Ontario Black Caucus Chairperson;

Be it further resolved that elections for the Ontario Black Caucus Chairperson be held at the Ontario Annual General Meeting 2021;

Be it further resolved that elections for the Ontario Black Caucus Chairperson be held at the Ontario Annual General Meeting 2021;

Be it further resolved that the Ontario RISE Summit Committee membership, Co-Chairs be amended to include:

- Ontario Black Caucus Chairperson

Be it further resolved that Bylaw VII.2 be amended to include:

- g. Ontario Black Caucus Chairperson

Be it further resolved that Bylaw VII.3b be amended to:

The term of office of the Ontario Circle of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students' Commissioner, Ontario Black Caucus Chairperson, Constituency Coordinator and Women's Commissioner shall commence at the close of the Annual General Meeting at which they are elected and shall expire at the close of the subsequent Annual General Meeting.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw VIII be amended to include:

6. Election of the Ontario Black Caucus Chairperson

The Ontario Black Caucus Chairperson shall be elected by secret ballot vote of The Ontario Black Caucus at the Ontario Component Annual General Meeting.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw IX be amended to include:

6. Removal of the Ontario Black Caucus Chairperson

The Ontario Black Caucus Chairperson may be removed from their position before the expiry of their term as prescribed in the respective constitution and bylaws. Members of the Constituency Group and self-identifying Black students within the Federation who study in Ontario may, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at a general meeting or by a vote by mail conducted by the Executive Committee following receipt by the Executive Committee of a petition signed by not less

than one-half (1/2) of the member associations requesting that the members of the electing body invoke their impeachment procedures.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw XVIII be adopted:

BYLAW XVIII – DUTIES OF ONTARIO BLACK CAUCUS CHAIRPERSON

1. General Duties

The Ontario Black Caucus Chairperson shall possess and exercise such powers and perform such duties and responsibilities as may be assigned to them from time to time by Bylaw, policy and the Executive Committee.

To act as the spokesperson of the Ontario Black Caucus on issues of concern to the Constituency Group;

To implement campaigns as determined by the Constituency Group;

To communicate with the Federation's Ontario office, the Executive Committee, the constituency group commissioners, participants at general meetings and member associations on issues of the Constituency Group;

To act as the primary liaison between the National Black Caucus of the Federation and its members in Ontario; and

To act as the official representative of Ontario Black students on the National Black Caucus Steering Committee.

2021/08:037 MOTION TO REFER

Local 97/Local 82

Be it resolved that motion 2021/08:036 be referred to the racialized constituency group for discussion and recommendation to then be referred to the Ontario Executive Committee for decision, and that further, a special meeting of the racialized constituency group be held for the purpose of discussing the motion.

2021/08:038 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 68/Local 78

Be it resolved that the motion 2021/08:036 be referred to the Ontario Executive committee for decision.

2021/08:038 CARRIED

2021/08:036 REFERRED

5. PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

2021/08:039 MOTION TO ADOPT
Local 78/Local 25

Be it resolved that the 2021-2022 Executive Committee Report be adopted as presented.

2021/08:039 CARRIED

6. PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF 2021-2022 BUDGET

The Treasurer and the Financial Coordinator presented the 2021-2022 budget.

2021/08:040 MOTION TO ADOPT
Local78 /Local 99

Be it resolved that the 2021-2022 budget be adopted as presented.

2021/08:040 CARRIED

Abstention: Local 98

2021/08:041 MOTION TO RECESS
Local 82/ Local 105

2021/08:041 CARRIED

7. PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF THE 2021-2022 CAMPAIGNS GUIDE

The Executive Committee presented the 2021-2022 Campaigns Guide.

2021/08:042 MOTION TO ADOPT
Local 92/Local 78

Be it resolved that the 2021-2022 Campaigns Guide be adopted as presented.

2021/08:042 CARRIED

8. PRESENTATION OF THE ELECTORAL OFFICER'S REPORT

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

2021/08:043 MOTION
Local 78 /Local 25

Be it resolved that **Mitra Yakubi** ratified as Chairperson for the 2022-2023 term; and

Be it further resolved that **Sarah Abdillahi** be ratified as the National Executive Representative for the 2022-2023 term; and

Be it further resolved that **Camille Duhaime** be ratified as the Treasurer for the 2022-2023 term.

2021/08:043 CARRIED

9. EXECUTIVE CLOSING REMARKS

10. OTHER BUSINESS

2021/08:044 MOTION

Local 105/Local 115

Whereas the Federal government has called a snap election for September 20, 2021, a 35-day campaign period which is the bare minimum campaign period; and

Whereas Elections Canada, with the aid of the Federation, launched a trial of the *Vote on Campus Program* in the 2015 Federal Election at 39 campuses, accounting for 70,000 votes; and

Whereas Elections Canada, with the aid of the Federation, continued the *Vote on Campus Program* in the 2019 Federal Election at 119 campuses, accounting for 110,000 votes; and

Whereas the *Vote on Campus Program* allowed students to go to special advanced polls on campus to be able to cast special ballots in their home riding, regardless of current geography; and

Whereas the *Vote on Campus Program* was essential for creating avenues for students to better access advanced voting, vote in the riding they may have just moved from, and generally created more access to participate in Canadian democracy; and

Whereas the decision of the Federal government to call a snap election during a pandemic has made it difficult for Elections Canada to organize the *Vote on Campus Program* which includes hiring hundred of returning officers, coordinating with space bookings and security planning, and many other logistical pieces; and

Whereas students in many post-secondary campuses are in periods of transition such as moving to new cities, adjusting to post-secondary experiences, adjusting to post-secondary experiences during a pandemic and facing extreme levels of stress and isolation; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation condemn the Federal government for calling an unscheduled Federal Election that further marginalizes students from voting in their home ridings; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation send a letter to Elections Canada advocating for better election preparedness for the *Vote on Campus Program*; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation draft a media release on the impacts of unscheduled Federal Elections and impacts on Elections Canada *Vote on Campus Program*; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to write op-eds to local media.

2021/08:044 CARRIED

2021/08:045 MOTION

Local 68/ Local 109

Whereas on August 14, 2021, the Taliban captured Kabul and all major cities in

Afghanistan by Taliban forces, leaving millions of Afghanistan people being killed, starved, displaced, and facing other forms of human rights violations;

Whereas Afghanistan has endured the past 20 years involving war, terrorism, and imperial governments occupying such as the United States and the withdrawal of the United States, resulting in the Taliban forces taking over cities in Afghanistan with little resistance;

Whereas the people of Afghanistan have and continue to face the effects of imperialism; Whereas CFS-Ontario has a stance on being anti-imperialist and anti-oppressive;

Whereas the people of Afghanistan are continuing to be silenced by Taliban forces and further imperial governments impacting their ability to spread awareness;

Whereas many students that attend Ontario post-secondary education have friends and families affected by the human rights violations taking place in Afghanistan;

Be it resolved the CFS Ontario releases a statement educating, raising awareness, and affirming solidarity with the people of Afghanistan; and

Be it further resolved CFS Ontario publishes a visual with resources for Afghanistan onto their social media; and

Be or further resolved that member locals be encouraged to release similar resources and statements in solidarity with the Afghan community.

2021/08:046 MOTION TO AMEND

Local 78/Local 68

Be it resolved that motion 2021/08:044 be amended to include: “Be it further resolved that CFS Ontario donates \$1500 to an organization which is raising funds for Afghan people.”

2021/08:046 CARRIED

2021/08:045 CARRIED

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

12. ADJOURNMENT

2021/08:047 MOTION

Local 78 /Local 25

Be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned at 4:28 pm.

CARRIED

This meeting is adjourned at 4:28 pm.