



## SASKATCHEWAN POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC.

### GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

#### Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina & Saskatoon Campuses Zoom Meeting Saturday, December 3, 2022

**Present:** Executive Council  
Deep Pandya, President; Ujjval Chavda, VP Moose Jaw Campus;  
Raj Chandran, VP Prince Albert Campus; Sydney Soloway, VP Regina Campus; and  
Cecily Chartier, VP Saskatoon Campus

Campus Representatives  
Moose Jaw: Palak Halani, Rachit Mehta  
Prince Albert: Tapish Grover  
Regina: Ayomide Famuyide, Joyce Oduntan  
Saskatoon: Bernice Castro, Mickayla Maclachlan, Sahil Singh

SPSA Staff  
Carol Tetreault, General Manager, and Louie Ramos, Executive Assistant

**Regrets:** Campus Representatives  
Moose Jaw: Dakshesh Raval  
Prince Albert: Tom Varghese Manoj, Navjot Kaur  
Regina: Het Modi

**1. Subject: Call to Order**  
Deep called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

The SPSA acknowledges that we are on Treaty 4 and 6 Territory, the Homeland of the Métis. We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of this place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.

**2. Subject: Agenda**  
General Council agreed to accept the Agenda as amended.

**3. Subject: Meeting Notes**  
General Council agreed to accept the Meeting Notes as presented.



**4. Subject: Executive Council Reports**

General Council agreed to accept the Executive Council Reports as presented.

**5. Subject: Action Items**

5.1 OER & Textbook Affordability

The Academic Affairs Committee met with Donna Thiessen, Scholarly Communication Librarian regarding Sask Polytech's direction on Open Educational Resources (OERs). Sydney explained that SPT would like to promote OERs on campus by informing and engaging both instructors and students. Sydney explained that student engagement and involvement are vital to the success of OERs and that SPT is requesting SPSA's support. Committee members agreed to gather information via survey to find out how many students chose not to purchase textbooks due to costs and to inform students of the benefits of OERs. Sydney asked General Council members to forward survey question suggestions to Sydney which will be compiled and forwarded to Donna. The Academic Affairs Committee will meet with Donna again to determine next steps.

**ACTION: Academic Affairs Committee**

5.2 Tuition & Fees Concerns

Sydney indicated that some programs require students to purchase uniforms that are not included as part of their tuition and fees. The Academic Affairs Committee will look into programs that are experiencing this issue. Sydney also noted that this issue was brought forward to SPT Senior Admin during their meeting last November 22, 2022.

**ACTION: Academic Affairs Committee**

5.3 Childcare Support for Students

General Council agreed that childcare facilities on campus would be beneficial for students. One suggestion was to create a childcare facility registry on our website but it was noted that it might not be useful if there are currently no seats available. General Council agreed to forward this issue to SPT to be addressed. Deep will forward this concern to AVP Alice Miller at their next meeting.

**ACTION: Deep**

5.4 Locker Concerns

Deferred. Cecily is currently awaiting a response from Kendra Strong-Garcia, Director, Student Engagement and Learning Services. General Council agreed that Deep will forward this concern to AVP Miller.

**ACTION: Deep**

5.5 Parking Concerns

Deferred. Carol will follow up with Kendra regarding this issue.

**ACTION: Carol**

5.6 Cafeteria Concerns

Deferred. Cecily has contacted Bobbi Bates, Hospitality Services Manager regarding a trial run of increased cafeteria hours and is currently waiting for a response. Executive Council also brought this issue forward to SPT Senior Admin, who responded positively



to our suggestions and indicated that they will implement changes in the Winter Semester. Deep asked Council members to monitor their respective campus cafeterias to note any changes in the cafeteria operating hours.

**ACTION: General Council**

#### 5.7 Bylaw Amendments

Raj indicated that the Governance & Policy Committee had their first meeting and is in the process of reviewing and discussing possible amendments to the Bylaws and Policies.

**ACTION: Governance & Policy Committee**

#### 5.8 FSAA Advocacy Priorities

Each Campus Council has provided their advocacy priorities and it was agreed that provincial student advocacy and diversity and inclusion will be forwarded to the Federal Student Advocacy Alliance (FSAA).

**ACTION: Deep**

#### 5.9 SDG Accord

Deferred.

**ACTION: General Council**

#### 5.10 Committee Vice-Chair Appointments

Complete.

**6. Subject: New Business**

There are no new businesses at this time.

**7. Subject: Closed Session**

The closed session began at 9:08 a.m.

The closed session ended at 9:34 a.m.

**8. Subject: Announcements**

There are currently no Announcements at this time.

**9. Subject: Next Meeting**

Saturday, January 7, 2022, 9:00 a.m. (Tentative)

**10. Subject: Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.



Date Accepted:

Signature: