**Smith Commerce Society Annual General Meeting**

**Sunday, March 21th, 2021**

Queen’s University is situated on the unceded traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, and following a forced relocation, the Haudenosaunee, peoples. To this day, it continues to be the home of the Anishinaabe and the Haudenosaunee peoples, as well as for a significant Métis community and First Peoples from other Nations across Turtle Island. In 1783, this land was colonized through the deed known as the “Crawford Purchase”. In return for this large, broad, and vague claim to territory, the Crown made a disproportionate payment in the form of blankets, clothing, guns, and ammunition.

As Commerce students, we urge you to think about how the success of Canada’s economy is directly dependent on the oppression and violent colonization of Indigenous peoples. Canada’s abundant natural resources have traditionally been stewarded and protected by Indigenous Nations since time immemorial. On the land we find ourselves on today, the Indigenous peoples protected the harvesting of land and water, along with four-legged and winged animals, with a treaty belt called One Dish One Spoon. Through the many attempts to challenge Indigenous peoples’ sovereignty over their lands and forcibly assimilate their cultures, we recognize the actions of the Canadian government as being a cultural genocide – and its effects are ongoing. As the incoming generation of young workers, it is your duty to learn about the territories you occupy, to learn about the peoples’ lands you are on, and to work towards a relationship that fosters reconciliation between all nations.

To acknowledge this traditional territory is to recognize its longer history, one predating the establishment of the earliest European contact. It is also to acknowledge this territory’s significance for the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples who lived and continue to live upon it; people whose practices and spiritualities are tied to the land and continue to develop in relationship to the territory and its other inhabitants today.

We are grateful to be able to live, learn, and play upon these lands.

This acknowledgement is only one contribution to each individual’s personal reconciliation; for what happens on and to these lands carries greater weight. Recognizing that we must make reconciliation a priority, ComSoc Assembly will work relentlessly to develop initiatives and policy to give all Commerce student a strong understanding of the importance of Indigeneity. To us, reconciliation means using our privilege to call for greater accountability amongst ourselves and our institutions, and to call for greater action to uphold Their lands and culture’s integrity.

**AGENDA**

1. **Approval of the Agenda**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
3. **State of the Union**
4. **Statements by Members**
   * Seby Monsalve – President
   * Victoria Macerola – COMM’22 President
   * Mahir Hamid – COMM’24 President
5. **Motions**
   * Dante Aralihalli, Emily Prpic, Mahir Hamid – Constitution
   * Dante Aralihalli, Emily Prpic, Mahir Hamid – Elections and Referenda Policy
   * Dante Aralihalli – Monetary Bylaw Policy
   * Emily Prpic – First Year Representative
6. **Presentations**
   * Jane Hutchings ­– Year End Audit

Jane: Hi everyone. I am going to present the year-end audit results. In terms of a brief overview, the Comsoc audit is an examination of the financial reports of an organization by someone independent of the organization. So, what is new is that CCC was added to the audit list based on recommendations from last year’s audit team. SMC was also ratified and added under the business portfolio of Comsoc. QS2i was also added based on the recommendation of the CFOS and the presence of a sperate bank account.

There are 4 different audit opinions:

1. Unqualified Opinion
2. Qualified Opinion
3. Disclaimer Opinion
4. Adverse Opinion

* All unqualified opinions

Bill: Perfect. If there are any questions, feel free to raise your hand. Tara, go ahead

Tara: I was just wondering when the audit report findings were communicated to co-chairs

Jane: Yeah, so it was all concluded Friday. Most of the outgoing co-chairs were present with the auditor, along with some of the incoming co-chairs.

* + Kayvon Mihan – AB Year in Review

Kayvon: Hey guys, I won’t overbeat everything we’ve done again. We want this to be very forward-looking to ensure we are a support body and can make goals in advance of the year, which hasn’t historically been the case. So here are some of the key updates:

Committee Reviews – Overhauled by Dante over the past 2 years to be a far more organized and quantitative process

Annual Audit – Jane conducted the year-end review

360 Review – Jane completed a full assembly review of the executive each year

Strategic Initiatives – Policy restructuring has culminated this evening

Just a couple more things. Subtle plug here, the Comsoc app would be a great add into your phone. This is something that will make communication a lot easier, especially for important information. I just want to end off by saying thank you to all the AB directors.

1. **Discussion Items**
   * Michelle Kong – ComSoc Awards

Michelle: So, the awards really highlight all the work that is put in by executives. I just have a presentation and will walk through all the nominees. At the end, there are individual awards. Feel free to give those some thought.

1. **Close of Assembly**

Bill Le

Speaker of the Assembly

Smith Commerce Society

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Kayvon Mihan**

**Position: Advisory Board Chair**

**Reporting Date: March 19th, 2020**

**ITEMS TO REPORT?**

Hi Everybody, I hope you all are having a great week 9 (I think?)!

* No exciting updates to share this week, looking forward to presenting the Advisory Board year in review to take a final look at what happened this year!

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS?**

**No**

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT?**

**Yes (Dante - Constitution)**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE?**

**No (Presentation - AB Year in Review**

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Kayvon Mihan**

**Position: Advisory Board Chair**

**Reporting Date: March 19th, 2020**

**ITEMS TO REPORT?**

Hi Everybody, I hope you all are having a great week 9 (I think?)!

* No exciting updates to share this week, looking forward to presenting the Advisory Board year in review to take a final look at what happened this year!

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS?**

**No**

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT?**

**Yes (Dante - Constitution)**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE?**

**No (Presentation - AB Year in Review**

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Victoria Macerola**

**Position: COMM '22 President**

**Reporting Date: 21/03/2021**

**ITEMS TO REPORT:**

Hi everyone!

Just want to say this is a super bittersweet moment... it means yet another is coming toa close but also gets me excited for the year to come and the new slate with so much room to accomplish things.

On my end, I just want to remind everyone that this week on Thursday (March25th) Canadian Olympian Mark Tewksbury is coming to speak virtually to the Smith Commerce Society - he is SUPER excited so I highly encourage everyone to sign up on ComSoc shop and also encourage your friends/ exec mates to sign up - he has a story you are going to want to hear. You can find the sign up on ComSoc shop!

Other than that not much else to report!

Wishing everyone an awesome end of the semester - finish strong everyone ☺

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS: Yes**

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT: No**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE: No**

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Aryamaan Ghosal**

**Position: COMM '23 President**

**Reporting Date: 18/03/2021**

**ITEMS TO REPORT: No - couple final words for the ComSoc family!**

Dear ComSoc Family,

I don't know where to start from, it has honestly been an amazing year with you all. Through the hurdles and the challenges, we finally made it to the end! You have all had an impact on me, and I could not be more grateful. Shoutout MKV for redefining what we know as ComSoc today, and their consistent hard work in ensuring that we did everything as a family. I also want to give a special shoutout to Seby, I could not be happier to have learnt so many things under his leadership, and most importantly, as a friend. I'm not done! The work and achievements of Kayvon and the whole AB team has really motivated me to further this in my journey with ComSoc. Will miss you all so much!

Anyways, too much emo for one last assembly report! I want to also congratulate BPN and new ComSoc team, I can't wait to walk into this new chapter as your ISRO. Looking forward to an amazing year ahead!

CHEERS! COMM '23 President signing out!

Ary :)

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS: Yes**

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT: No**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE: No**

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Mahir Hamid**

**Position: COMM ’24 President**

**Reporting Date: March 19th 2021**

**ITEMS TO REPORT:**

**Summary of 2nd semester**

**Policy Change – Electoral Reform**

* Presenting a motion for policy changes regarding elections and elected members

**March Hiring Madness Week**

* Working with the TSC team and VPSA team to host March Hiring Madness week!
* Interview prep event
* Exec networking night event

**Wellness week**

* Worked with Claire and Sanuree to organize a wellness week with over 5 events

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS: Yes**

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT: No**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE: No**

**ASSEMBLY MOTION**

**Being put forth by:** Dante Aralihalli, Emily Prpic, Mahir Hamid

**Being put forth on:** Sunday March 21, 2021

**WHEREAS**the structure of the current Constitution of the Smith Commerce Society is difficult to follow, complex, and does not conform to common practice with respect to organizational policy; and

**WHEREAS**the Smith Commerce Society is conducting a comprehensive review of the structure of its policy documents to rectify these concerns; therefore

**BIRT**thatthe structure of the Society’s Constitution be amended in the way prescribed by the attached document "Proposed Constitution" in the 2021-2022 academic year, and thereafter unless varied by amendment.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Key Definitions:**

**By Laws:**A new policy structure that is intended to contain all policies that reflect the relationship between ComSoc Assembly and its governing bodies with the extended parts of the society (i.e commissions and their members).

**Constitution:**A new policy structure that is intended to contain all policies that reflect the mission, purpose, and governance pillars of the society including electoral policy, and the membership and composition of governing bodies. Amendments to the constitution must be made by special resolution and are therefore subject to 2/3 majority.

**Operations Policy:**A new policy structure that is Intended to contain all policies that reflect the operation of the governing bodies of ComSoc such as the mandate of assembly positions, and the way in which governing bodies are to interact with each other on a procedural basis.

Emily: Can everyone see my screen okay? Perfect

Dante: Everything you see highlighted in blue is a new addition, everything in orange is existing policies, and yellow is stuff to re-number.

Emily: Just to begin with the preamble, it is exactly the same, but now includes the land acknowledgement statement. We also added a line about EDII to the objectives. We added the terms of assembly and removal of members to section 2. Moving into part 3, we changed the honorary membership and clarified what that means. Section 5 incorporates hiring policy. We thought it would be fitting to add it here, under membership.

Dante: So, moving on to section 8, we really just consolidated policy on AGM down. We took at quorum and moved it into ops. He rules of order and remuneration remain unchanged. In terms of budgets, this is new, but it is a practice that Kayvon talked about in consultation with the CFO’s. Fiscal policy is the same. In section 12, we added 12.01.04 just to connect everything through assembly. That’s pretty much it. As Emily mentioned, most of it was just rewriting things and consolidating things.

Bill: If anyone has any questions, feel free to raise your hand.

Omar: I just had a quick question about honorary membership. Just as a point of curiosity, can you go over what this means?

Dante: So, before there were a bunch of random people that were honorary members that could bring forth motions. We refined this down to just the dean, director, and executive director of the Commerce program. This was to really bring it down to the 3 most important people. We felt it was best to define this right down to the 3 people listed.

Bill: Anyone else? Alright, motion to end Q&A. Motion passed. Feel free to voice any comments now.

Seby: I am in support of this motion. It is coming in with a great deal of detail and preparation. MKV is 100% in favor.

Bill: Kayvon

Kayvon: Likewise, AB is 100% in favor of this motion. It is very exciting to actually see this come to fruition.

Bill: Motion to end discussion. Motion passed

MOTION PASSED (98% in favor)

**ASSEMBLY MOTION**

**Being put forth by:** Dante Aralihalli, Emily Prpic, Mahir Hamid

**Being put forth on:** Sunday, March 21, 2021

**WHEREAS**the structure of the current Elections and Referenda policy of the Smith Commerce Society is difficult to follow, complex, and does not conform to common practice with respect to organizational policy; and

**WHEREAS**the Smith Commerce Society is conducting a comprehensive review of the structure of its policy documents to rectify these concerns; therefore

**BIRT**thatthe structure of the policy document titled “Elections and Referenda Policy” be amended in the way prescribed by the attached document "Elections and Referenda Policy- Proposed Structure” in the 2021-2022 academic year, and thereafter unless varied by amendment.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fVx37reLGPHDFqJ99jUgqsU638ATZ4GpRDmyaxPgkP8/edit?usp=sharing>

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**By Laws:**A new policy structure that is intended to contain all policies that reflect the relationship between ComSoc Assembly and its governing bodies with the extended parts of the society (i.e commissions and their members).

**Constitution:**A new policy structure that is intended to contain all policies that reflect the mission, purpose, and governance pillars of the society including electoral policy, and the membership and composition of governing bodies. Amendments to the constitution must be made by special resolution and are therefore subject to 2/3 majority.

**Operations Policy:**A new policy structure that is Intended to contain all policies that reflect the operation of the governing bodies of ComSoc such as the mandate of assembly positions, and the way in which governing bodies are to interact with each other on a procedural basis.

Emily: Awesome I’ll just share my screen again for the first one. Essentially, we kept all the very high-level info that wouldn’t want to change. We tried to keep the campaigning portion to a minimum. The structure of the voting members as well has just been clarified.

**ASSEMBLY MOTION**

**Being put forth by:** Dante Aralihalli

**Being put forth on:** Sunday March 21, 2021

**WHEREAS**the structure of the new Constitution of the Smith Commerce Society required some policies to be moved to other policy documents;

**AND** most faculty societies avoid putting the exact student fee number in the Constitution; therefore

**BIRT**thatthe structure of the Society’s Monetary Bylaw Policy be amended in the way prescribed below in the 2021-2022 academic year, and thereafter unless varied by amendment.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Key Definitions:**

**By Laws:**A new policy structure that is intended to contain all policies that reflect the relationship between ComSoc Assembly and its governing bodies with the extended parts of the society (i.e commissions and their members).

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**Operations Policy:**A new policy structure that is Intended to contain all policies that reflect the operation of the governing bodies of ComSoc such as the mandate of assembly positions, and the way in which governing bodies are to interact with each other on a procedural basis.

Student Fees

1. ComSoc collects various student fees during the AMS fall opt-out period each year. The fees, their amount, and their opt-out status are listed below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Fee Name** | **Amount ($)** | **Opt-Out Status** |
| ComSoc Operating Fee | 55.00 | Mandatory |
| ComSoc Outreach Fee | 10.00 | Optional |
| ComSoc SVF Fee | 5.00 | Optional |

1. The process for adding or amending student fees can be found in section 3.04 of the Constitution.

Dante: Essentially this has to do with the exact number of the student fee. Before it was detailed in the constitution, so we just took it out and put it into the monetary policy. The process is still in the constitution, it is just the exact number that was removed. This was the approach taken by most other societies, so we felt it best reflected the circumstance.

Bill: We’ll open it up to Q&A. Feel free to raise your hand. Ok, motion to move to discussion. Motion passed. Will, go ahead

Will: All the changes and alterations were all run by MKV and we approved the changes made. MKV is fully in support of this motion

Bill: Kayvon

Kayvon: AB is also fully in support of this motion

MOTION PASSED (98% favor, 2% abstain)

**ASSEMBLY MOTION**

**Being put forth by: Emily Prpic and Nameera Manji**

**Being put forth on:** Sunday, March 21st, 2021

**WHEREAS** current Commerce Society policy does not hold Co-Chairs accountable for providing an enriching First-Year Representative experience on committees and businesses,

**AND** the Commerce Society has the ability to improve the experience for First-Year Representatives.

**BIRT** the following addition be made to Society Bylaws for the 2021/2022 year and thereafter.

3. Application Process

1. In order for First-Year Representative positions to be approved, Co-Chairs

must indicate the following information about the position(s) to the Talent Strategy team, and upon approval, must communicate the information to all prospective hires. The information provided must include, but is not limited to;

1. Experience being offered to first years (A rotational program oran assigned portfolio-specific role)
2. Specific skills needed
3. Learning outcomes
4. Reporting structure
5. Number of positions being offered

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Reference:**Operations Policy

**Context:**Currently Co-Chairs are not required to submit any plan or outline of what their First-Year Representatives will be doing.  This leads to confusion when first years apply to positions, as well as an experience that doesn’t add significant value.

**Rationale:**To allow for an overall better experience for First Years so they learn and extract value from their positions.

Nameera: Based off the discussions last week and conversations with some of the members, we have created a proposition. Currently, co-chairs are not held accountable for creating first-year rep duties.

Emily: So, we are going to incorporate this into the bylaws. It will include the application process, where co-chairs must indicate certain pieces if information to the TSOs and this must be approved and communicated to prospective hires. Moving forward, this is not a full solution to making the first year experience the best it can, but it’s a start. The goal is to really add more accountability.

Bill: We will go into Q&A

Tara: I just had a question about the first-year policy. The rule that they can only hold one position. Will this be listed as well?

Emily: Yeah, so that won’t change. It is already listed

Bill: Alrighty. If there are no more questions, motion to move to discussion. Motion passed.

Sam: I think this is a really great opportunity for first years to get involved and to have specific ways for them to build their leadership

Bill: Ethan

Ethan: On behalf of the whole Talent Strategy team, we are fully on board of this motion

Bill: Sargun, go ahead

Sargun: On behalf of all the interns, we are in support. We have had a great experience and really hope to give others the same chance.

Bill: Michelle

Michelle: I am very excited for these changes and it is amazing to see the work being put in by the younger years. That being said, MKV is 100% in support of this motion

Bill: Ok, I will now launch the poll.

MOTION PASSED (100% favor)