**Smith Commerce Society General Assembly**

**Sunday, January 31st, 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. **Speaker’s Business – Jordana Borzellino, Lori Garnier Curriculum Presentation**
4. **Statements by Members**
   * Sebastian Monsalve – President
   * Michelle Kong – Vice President Student Affairs
   * William Van Vliet - Vice President of Operations
   * Kayvon Mihan – Advisory Board Chair
   * Calvin Schilstra & Mac Dean – Senators
   * Joshua Cheung – Lower AMS Representative
   * Victoria Macerola - COMM '22 President
   * Mahir Hamid – COMM’24 President
5. **Motions**
   * Michelle Kong & Caitlyn Baillie – QCLS Rebrand
   * Roya Shidfar – Monetary Policy
   * Roya Shidfar – OverFlo
6. **Discussion Items**
   * Dante Aralihalli – Elections Reform

Dante: We have been looking at how we can modernize assembly. The first piece here in on ranked choice voting. From implementing this we hope to increase turnout, increase candidacy pool, limit the viscerality of elections, and ensuring the winner is elected with majority support. The next piece is campaign structure. This includes: establishing a set election day, lower signature threshold, increasing campaign time, creating an election committee, and mandating at least 1 debate/town hall before the election

Grace: I wanted to speak to the ending slate elections. I understand the engineering decision but am wondering if ending election would take away some of the democratic system.

Dante: That’s a great point. There are downsides, but this way we can feel we strike a good balance. Personally, I think this is better than what we currently have in process

Tara: When would the president elect choose their VP? I am just a bit confused about the timeline.

Dante: After the set election day, the president confirming the choices the first assembly would make sense

Will: I wanted to thank Dante for the work being done. I feel like optimally we really need to recognize the work being done in AB. I really like a lot of these suggestions. I think they do preserve and uphold democracy.

Seby: My comment is on ending slate elections. Have you had a chance to talk to Engsoc?

Dante: I have not. However, we have consulted other student bodies.

Seby: I think with a lot of teams moving towards slate, it would not make sense to move away from it. Back to Grace’s point, there are certain items where executive will have key power. For things of that magnitude, I think all students should have a say on finance decisions and other important things.

Dante: The thing I consider is to what extent the student body has in the current system. I think there are legitimate questions that we should further address.

Tara: The way I see this is that the VP positions somewhat get a free ride. There becomes a question of accountability.

Dante: I see where you’re coming from. However, I don’t necessarily agree that this is what would happen in practice.

Julien: I personally do not think doing it this way would change much. I think this way would allow for maintaining the status quo, while also adding new democratic practices.

1. **Close of Assembly**

Bill Le

Speaker of the Assembly

Smith Commerce Society

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Seby Monsalve**

**Position:** President

**Reporting Date:** Sunday, January 31st, 2021

**ITEMS TO REPORT? Yes**

Hi Assembly,

I hope week 3 is treating everyone well! A friendly reminder to change your Zoom name to include your pronouns and ComSoc position, additionally if you have the capacity to do so we would greatly invite you to join with cameras on. Below are a couple of updates and highlights from the Presidential Portfolio.

**Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Indigenization**

Kelly with the support of a broader working group is planning an Art Therapy Night with an Indigenous Art Therapist on March 6th, 2021. Students will have a chance to participate in art as healing where they can explore self-care, the importance of balance between business and life, and speak with other students who understand their shared experiences in a safe space. Additionally, Kelly is leading the planning and execution of panel series centring Indigenous voices traditionally marginalized from educational institutions on February 27th, March 13th and March 27th. This series will feature three different panels: Indigenous law and legal practices, Indigenous economic practices, and Indigenous medical practices.

**External Student Relations**

Amanda and Sam are supporting a larger ComSoc working group preparing to support students with March Hiring. The March Madness, an event targeted to COMM24 to learn more about extracurricular executive hiring (from networking, to interview preparation, to application workshops), ESROs will be focusing on providing a voice for external opportunities to ComSoc. This includes gathering hiring information about AMS clubs and teams, their hiring process and schedule, and communicating this knowledge with COMM24.

**Academics**

Jordana continues to work with the Smith EDII Research and Thought Leadership Working Group and the Center of Social Impact to organize a speaker’s series of EDII scholars and thought leaders. Additionally, Jordana our sole student representative on the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC) will be presenting today with Executive Director of Smith Commerce, Lori Garnier on the new curriculum changes that will be deployed September 2021.

**Environment**

Libby is working on supporting Ary as we move to make Goodes Cafe and other Queen’s Hospitality locations more sustainable. Libby is collaborating with the AMS Environmental Coalition to bring forward an event and conference eco-certificate and promote use of the AMS Sustainable Action Fund. Finally working to bring another cooking challenge to commies with some exciting prizes!

**Ombudsperson**

Congratulations to Claire with the support of Mahir and Sanuree on an incredibly successful Wellness Week! Thank you for those Assembly members that engaged and participated - your support towards you fellow executive members did not go unnoticed. The week included a networking night, yoga classes, cooking classes, a wellness workshop and an Among Us social. Additionally, students were able to sign up for a Wellness Package to be delivered to their home, which included an assortment of self-care products all manufactured and created by Black and Indigenous owned businesses. Claire continues to connect with students that present ideas for ratification and support students till access to resources on and off-campus.

**Talent Strategy**

TSO's are working on March Hiring logistics. Shoutout to Josh and Brooke who are really taking a lead on the preparation process. The team is also working on finalizing co-chair training resources for March and working on compiling external resources for co-chairs looking to provide training to their executives upon hiring.

Thank you, everyone, for your labour and care towards improving and enhancing the student experience for our peers!

Seby

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS?** Yes

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT? No**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE? No**

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Michelle Kong**

**Position: Vice** President of Student Affairs

**Reporting Date:** Sunday, January 31st, 2021

**ITEMS TO REPORT:**

Hi lovely people! Not too much to report!

**Career Mash-up |** Mel and Kira, the Interns and CROs, alongside the CAC are planning Career Mash - up, an event geared towards exploring careers in different industries in a stress - free environment. NEW DATE: March 3 rd @ 5: 3 0pm

**March Hiring Prep Week |** During the week of February 22nd ComSoc will be putting on a full week of events geared at helping first years become inform ed about execs that interest them. The week will kick - off with a interviewing & networking tips workshop on February 23rd and an Exec Networking Fair on Feb 25th. We are also creating a March Hiring Guide complete with exec descriptions and interviewing tips! Shout out to the amazing working group: Ethan, Vic, Annabelle, Jenny, Mahir, TS Team and ESROs!

**Executive Purview Realignment |** Alex, Emily and I will be tackling the classification of our executives, more specifically what purview they fall into.

**Society Events |** Congrats to the QCIB, QRF and QEC Co - Chairs who ran great conferences this month! Next up we have QMAC to round out the January conferences! Lots of other amazing events being run in the near future by our executives such as the QWIL x QCIR Indigenous Women in Business and Law Panel

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS: Yes**

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT: No**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE: No**

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Will Van Vliet**

**Position:** Vice President of Operations

**Reporting Date:** Sunday, January 31st, 2021

**ITEMS TO REPORT:**

Hey everyone, happy week three!

**Policy & Elections:**To align with a sudden spurt in demand for exec elections, Emily and the TSOs pushed back election timelines by three days, so that nomination packages are due this Sunday. Massive shoutout to Emily for all her work as she runs point on another round of very successful elections! Once nomination forms are complete, expect to see more election resources distributed.

Emily has also been working alongside Nameera and a group on campus to evaluate the efficacy of first-year positions relative to membership programs and is also working with  AB in evaluating ComSoc policy from a holistic lens.

**Blog Content:**Riya and Lauren, alongside the CROs, are working to amplify our blog presence, soliciting resources and publications from ComSoc executives and students alike to showcase the exceptional work done by students at Smith. If anyone at Assembly, is interested in publishing content or sharing previous work done for the ComSoc Bloc, feel free to reach out to either Riya or Lauren!

**Business Administration:**Lauren and Aidan have been working on putting together a first-year quarantine guide that provides lower years with recommendations on how to propel through the second semester as well as what they can expect when they are back on campus.

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS: Yes**

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT: No**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE: No**

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Kayvon Mihan**

**Position:** Advisory Board Chair

**Reporting Date:** January 29th, 2021

**ITEMS TO REPORT?**

Hi everybody, thanks for coming out.

- Election reform consultations have been ongoing and have yielded great feedback thus far from our CPRO, elected members, and the advisory board. Dante will lead a discussion item tonight regarding some of the recommendations and considerations. The goal is for these adjustments to take effect for the march election cycle, not the executive elections.

- Meena, Debbie, Dante, Tara & I had a meeting to discuss the inclusion of EDII mandates in policy for AB hiring, and the consensus came to leaving It out of policy to maintain the fluidity of the progressive movement - but to build in best practices/considerations for hiring and focus on inclusivity for the advisory board. There will be more updates as the policy project progresses.

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS?**

**Yes**

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT?**

**Yes**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE?**

**No**

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Calvin Schilstra & Mac Dean**

**Position:** Senators

**Reporting Date:** Sunday, January 31st, 2021

**ITEMS TO REPORT:**

**ITEMS TO REPORT:**

***Senate Meeting – January 26th, 2021***

The Senate meeting began with the ‘polishing of the chain’ ceremony held to reconfirm the promise of the friendship wampum that was presented to Queen’s on behalf of the Clan mothers at Tyendinaga and the Katarokwi Grandmother’s Council in 2017. This serves as a reminder that the relationship between Queen’s and Indigenous peoples is ongoing and not just a moment in time.

Regular Agenda Motions and Reports

* The Senate Committee on Academic Procedures proposed that the 2021 Fall Term break would occur over the four days following Thanksgiving. Classes are therefore proposed to commence the day following Labour Day.

Regular Agenda Administration Reports

* Senate reviewed and made recommendations for the new *Harassment and Discrimination Prevention and Response Policy*.
* This policy will be replacing the previous *Harassment/Discrimination Complaint Policy and Procedure* and *Interim workplace Harassment & Discrimination Policy*.
* The new policy is meant to take a more all-encompassing yet supportive approach.
* This policy is open for review and consultation from the Queen’s community until January 29th at which point it will be revised and then released again for further response on February 22nd.
* The link to the policy and the feedback forms are available [here](https://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/policies/consultation-harassment-discrimination).

***Other Things to Note:***

* There are currently some Senate Committee vacancies. The positions and descriptions can be found on the university’s governance portal [here](https://queensuniversity.civicweb.net/Portal/BoardApplication).
* Principal Deane will be hosting a town hall event on February 9th to continue the conversation regarding the foundations for Queen’s strategy stemming from his “Conversation” with the Queen’s community.

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS:**No

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT:**No

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE:**No

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Angie Tang**

**Position:** Upper AMS Representative

**Reporting Date:** Sunday, January 31st, 2021

**ITEMS TO REPORT:** None

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS:** No

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT:** None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE:** None

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Joshua Cheung**

**Position:** Upper AMS Representative

**Reporting Date:** Jan, 28th, 2021

**ITEMS TO REPORT:**

As we near the end of January, Seby and I are very excited to introduce the **ComSoc Coffee Chat Initiative**, an internal coffee-chat between lower and upper-year ComSoc members.

**Goal**:

**Mentorship** program between lower and upper-year ComSoc members aimed to **connect** and offer **unique** experiences.

Provides **lower-year** members with the opportunity to **build** **network** and **learn** from upper-year **experiences**.

Provides **upper-year**members with the opportunity to **fresh** **ideas** while gaining **insight** about lower-year perspectives.

**Dates:**

To be determined – in the coming weeks.

First Coffee Chat: **Week 1**

Second Coffee Chat: **Week 2**

Third Coffee Chat: **Week 3**

**Gift Cards:**

Coffee chats will be provided with a **$30 gift card** to Starbucks or Tim Hortons.

Get hyped ComSoc! Looking forward to chatting with you all soon.

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS:** Yes

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT:** None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE:** None

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Georgia Rae**

**Position:** Comm ’21 President

**Reporting Date:** Sunday, January 31st, 2021

**ITEMS TO REPORT: None**

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS: No**

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT: No**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE: No**

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Victoria Macerola**

**Position:** Comm ’22 President

**Reporting Date:** Sunday, January 31st, 2021

**ITEMS TO REPORT:**

Hi everyone! Not a tonne to report on my end; thinking that having a guest speaker come in (virtually) and speak to the class on resilience, grit, motivation etc to help raise spirits and speak to all the challenges and obstacles we have had to over come this year might be interesting for the year. So for now I am:

•Looking Into potential speakers for a guest speaker event for COMM'22

•Reaching out to people this week

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS:**

Yes

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT:**

None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE:**

None

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Aryamaan Ghosal**

**Position:** COMM '23 President

**Reporting Date:** Sunday, January 31st, 2021

**ITEMS TO REPORT: Yes**

**"End Paper Cups" Project**

I have received feedback on the proposal from all project partners and will be refining the document prior to presenting and sending it to Hospitality Services.

**International Student Support**

I have initiated conversations with Dean Brenda Brouwer, VP International, AMS Commissioners, and Senior Admin members on the topic of providing equal support for all international students. This was due to the reduction in tuition only for international PhD students which affected many other international students not enrolled In a PhD program.

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS: No**

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT: No**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE: No**

**ASSEMBLY REPORT**

**Name: Mahir Hamid**

**Position:** COMM ’24 President

**Reporting Date:** Sunday, January 31st, 2021

**ITEMS TO REPORT:**

**Wellness Week!**

* 6 events: the first is a network night
* Now our first event is to break the barrier between younger students and older students.
* Yoga Tuesday
* Cooking with Khrish
* Making Poke bowls
* Yoga Thursday
* Among Us Social

**Electoral Reform with AB**

* increasing accountability within year presidents
* making sure they are part of the day to day operations of comsoc
* Hosted consultations

**Electoral Reform with AB**

* increasing accountability within year presidents
* making sure they are part of the day to day operations of comsoc

**INCLUDED IN STATEMENT BY MEMBERS: Yes**

**MOTIONS TO PRESENT: No**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO RAISE: No**

**ASSEMBLY MOTION**

**Being put forth by: Michelle Kong and Caitlyn Baillie**

**Being put forth on:** Sunday, January 31st, 2021

**WHEREAS**Queen’s Commerce Leadership Summit’s (QCLS) name is no longer reflective of the committee’s mandate, mission and vision

**AND**a rebrand would not result in significant financial impact or loss of brand equity

**BIRT**Queen’s Commerce Leadership Summit (QCLS) be rebranded to Smith Leadership in Business Conference (SLBC) as per Section 5.5 of Operations Policy.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Key Definitions:**

Rebranding shall be defined as a change in the name of a ComSoc ratified committee.

**Resources:**

Operations Policy Section 5.5

Eleni: Given the current circumstances, we think this is a good time for strategic growth. By doing it now, we are preserving another year of connections. In terms of selecting our name, we have grown from a summit, we want a clear definition of value, and to expand our reach. This is part of the reason we took Commerce out. This helps to promote inclusivity, suggesting it is not an exclusive commerce-only.

Julian: We will now shift our logo to a black background and will add further elements to our graphics.

Eleni: It is really important for us going forward that we leverage remote opportunities, highlight positive change, and values in action.

Julian: For next steps, we want to rollout the rebrand, assuming it is processed. This will be a one-week process. Once complete, we will begin reaching out to previous partners, as well as hiring BA’s from different schools and backgrounds.

Bill: Perfect. We will now open it up to questions. If there are none, we will motion to discussion. Motion passed.

Seby: MKV is in favor of this. This is super exciting that this executive is a trailblazer of moving towards Smith as opposed Commerce.

Bill: Motion to move to vote. Motion passed

**Motion Passed (100% favor)**

**ASSEMBLY MOTION**

**Being put forth by: Roya Shidfar**

**Being put forth on:** Sunday January 31st, 2021

**WHEREAS** current Monetary Policy prohibits student clubs from using the Student Venture Fund, which is counterintuitive to the purpose of the fund, which is to result in the betterment of the lives of Commerce students

**AND** Monetary Policy currently states that:

3.1.2 The Student Venture Fund is to be allocated to those projects which have returns to Commerce students. As such, the Student Venture Fund shall:

1. Be allocated to projects which can be implemented within 3 months of approval.
2. Be allocated to ventures that have the opportunity to improve the learning experience of Commerce students as decided by Assembly.
   1. The Student Venture Fund shall not be allocated to personal interest groups unless it can be objectively and measurably proven that that interest group’s venture will benefit the School of Business and its student body beyond its cost.
   2. Any Commerce student can apply for the Student Venture Fund should the allocation meet the specified criteria outlined in Section 2.3.
   3. Commerce Society Committees and Conferences are not permitted to apply for the Student Venture Fund.

**BIRT** the following change be made in the Monetary Policy:

3.1.2 The Student Venture Fund is to be allocated to those projects which have returns to Commerce students. As such, the Student Venture Fund shall:

1. Be allocated to projects which can be implemented within 3 months of approval.
2. Be allocated to ventures that have the opportunity to improve the learning experience of Commerce students as decided by Assembly.
   1. The Student Venture Fund shall not be allocated to personal interest groups unless it can be objectively and measurably proven that that interest group’s venture will benefit the School of Business and its student body beyond its cost.
   2. Any Commerce student can apply for the Student Venture Fund should the allocation meet the specified criteria outlined in Section 2.3.
   3. **Commerce Society Committees and Conferences are permitted to apply for the student venture fund if the proposal is for a capital asset or experience that can benefit students, and can objectively be measured by the assembly to improve the learning experience of Commerce students (subject to meeting the criteria)**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Resources:**Monetary Policy Section 3

**Context:**Very little use by individual students, takes a lot of resources to implement idea

**Rationale:**Can better support student innovation

Roya: I am going to give a super quick 10-minute presentation on why this change is being proposed. Last year, there was a change made to SVF that changed to being accessible to individual students, as opposed to executives. If you were on assembly last year, the fee was decreased for the SVF. Year after year, there is underutilization of this. Current policy prohibits executives and conferences from applying for this benefit. I propose this gets resolved. Any comments, questions, or concerns?

Bill: Any questions? Alright, motion to move to discussion. Motion passed. Motion to move to vote. Motion passed

**Motion Passed (70% favor)**

**ASSEMBLY MOTION**

**Being put forth by: Roya Shidfar**

**Being put forth on:** Sunday January 31st, 2021

**WHEREAS** The Commerce Society first-year student body could benefit from a dedicated mental health support service dedicated to helping students talk through everyday challenges

**AND** There is no existing Commerce Society application available

**BIRT** the SVF is charged $9,000 + HST to support the service offered by the Overflo app for first-year Commerce students

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Resources:**Monetary Policy Section 3

**Context:**To be offered for 11-weeks to first year students before bringing further rolled out in subsequent years

Roya: So, I will not be the one presenting this one. We have 2 members of QCMHA that will be talking about overflow. I will wrap up the end

Keaton: Thank you Roya. Can I share my screen? Can everyone see this? Good. Avina go ahead

Avina: I will start off. I just want to say thank you for everyone being here. We will go over overflo and why it should be implemented and why we want to seek funding. As a service, it is a dedicated mental health wellness service, designed to talk students thru everyday challenges. It is not a therapy or crisis service, but it remains confidential. When we go to assess the services Overflo provides, we can DM discussions via synchronous and asynchronous forms. Something else to note is that Overflo is super flexible with providing one form or a hybrid version, based on what Smith students need. Previously, this has been integrated in an all-boys private school. In the Smith community, we do not currently have a support system in place. We conducted a survey and saw that 89% of students would be interested in using this service. In fact, 30% students ranked their mental health at a 5 or lower. This is alarming.

Keaton: In total, we will need $9000 to run this initial trial program for this service. Some similar services we found were mytexttherapy.com and Hasu. Overflo is a combination of both of these services for significantly less. After today, we are hoping to give the go-ahead to Karen and notify first years of this service. After the 11 weeks, we are hoping to see a success story in that there is a need for this service. During this trial run, the service will only be available to first-year students.

Bill: Mahir, go ahead.

Mahir: I want to thank you for your presentation. Since it is targeted towards first years, I would like to know how successful this was in the private school.

Keaton: So, we didn’t get success rates from Karen. But what do you mean by success?

Mahir: Success as in students not just using the app, but

Keaton: Karen is trained in crisis support and helping people thru problems. At first, she will be helping. If volume increases, there will be others to respond.

Mahir: In terms of EDII crisis concerns, does Overflo address these concerns?

Avina: Essentially, the goal of this trial is to ascertain some of the issues that are causing mental health issues. Overflo will keep all the information confidential, but if we see trends, we can tailor future programs. While we can’t directly impact right now, gaining more insight will be helpful.

Meena: Thank you for the presentation. My question builds off Mahir. Who is actually on this team of responders? Building on the topic of EDII, research shows that there is a lower success rate if the responder does not fall within this demographic.

Avina: I can’t give you a specific demographic. Communication with Karen has told us that they are paid. We don’t have any specific knowledge of demographic but can ask Karen and get back to you.

Bill: Angelina

Angelina: I think this initiative is needed within the Smith community. I was just wondering if this will be expanded to the rest of the community after the trial period. I think this is important, regardless of age/year.

Avina: We would absolutely love to expand this service within the community, assuming we have the funding.

Georgia: Roya might be able to jump on this too. You said that if less than 40 people use this, the cost might go down. What if more than this want to use it?

Roya: The intention we have is potentially bringing another motion forward if this is the case.

Libby: This is really great. Sorry my camera is not turned on, my wifi is not great. You mentioned that the coaches cannot practice outside of the province. How will this work for international students? Are there limitations?

Avina: Yes, it will be available to all students. Because they are coaches, they can still respond.

Tara: One question I have is have you had in-depth conversations with the Commerce Office? Are they interested in the possibility of implementing it forward?

Keaton: We are hoping that they will see the response and begin answering our emails.

Seby: Do you have visibility about the insurance Karen has?

Keaton: There is an insurance plan. The cost includes this and most of this cost is directly from the insurance.

Bill: We will move to discussion. Dante, go ahead.

Dante: Hi everyone. There were a lot of great questions that were asked, especially regarding EDII. That being said, I think there are a lot of questions that still need to be addressed. However, I am in favor of this. Action is imperative and I think this program has the ability to increase the quality of life for students.

Bill: Thanks Dante, Meena

Meena: I agree with Dante. I was hesitant to say I was in support of this motion at first. Let’s be honest, SVF has the money for this trial. It’s hard to judge before we actually try. At this time, I think we really need to monitor the progress. While this presentation was happening, I was googling information of the team and could not find much. I am strongly urging we monitor the trial and see if it is successful.

Georgia: I fully believe this is important. One aspect I cannot wrap my head around is the liability aspect. Before I felt confident voting on this, I would want to know more about the liability aspect.

Bill: Seby

Seby: Honestly, I agree with you Georgia. I am fearful of this conversation of liability. I agree this is needed but do want to caution about the potential implications for Comsoc. For small things, Zoom included, there is a long process for something small. To Meena’s early point about EDII personnel, we are agreeing to add this new system and I am not sure about if this will fulfill it.

Libby: Just building off Meena and Seby, I do not want to call out the private school, but I am not sure that these coaches would be effective in this case. I am not sure if this was the best used example

Michelle: For me, this is definitely a lot of questions I have. This seems to be similar to many others. I am not sure I feel comfortable voting on this at this time. Because of the uncertainty, I am wary of this.

Will: Correct me if I am wrong, but I think the liability here would be transferred to a third party. I know there are members of QCMHA that are here and perhaps they have more information.

Aryamaan: I will be as quick as possible. My main concern is how much experience the coaches actually have with international students, as well as equity issues.

Kayvon: I think there is a pretty significant need for further clarification. That being said, I want to make an amendment and keep the motion alive by adding a pending review section. This way, we can make sure we have more clarity.

Bill: Just to show that change there. Kayvon, go ahead.

Kayvon: There have been a lot of questions about liability and the mental health coaches. In response, Seby asked who will actually determine if this review will go forward. The main roadblock I think is figuring out if we are avoiding harming people.

Seby: Can I contribute here? I think this is a matter of due diligence. There are very actionable things we need from Karen. Can we bring this back next assembly?

Roya: We did want to roll this out in a time sensitive matter. Could we look at having AB or MKV conduct a review? Our next assembly is not for a few weeks.

Meena: When you say due diligence Roya, are you saying that we do the review or QCMHA does?

Seby: We could call and SGM for this at any time by MKV or signatures.

Keaton: As soon as you guys have the questions for us, we can pass them along to Karen. This will be very quick.

Libby: I don’t know if this is friendly to anyone, but if we cannot host SGM, can we just pass along all the information and have voting members vote? That way, people could have the information addressed without waiting for SGM

Bill: Another thing we need to keep in mind is that, if we bring this to SGM, anyone can vote.

Seby: I would like to motion to table this to an SGA to be scheduled

Bill: Motion passed