



## Concordia Student Union – Council of Representatives

### **CSU Special Council Meeting – Agenda**

**Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Room H-760, 7:00 PM, S.G.W Campus**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Canadian Federation of Students (CFS)**

**WHEREAS** the Concordia Student Union (CSU) is engaged in an ongoing lawsuit with the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) in order to get its status as a non-member recognized and respected.

**WHEREAS** the Graduate Student Association (GSA) is pursuing a similar lawsuit against the CFS

**WHEREAS** both the CSU and GSA have been collaborating on the issue of defederation from the CFS

**WHEREAS** it is in the interest of both the CSU and GSA to continue to work together

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CSU Council or Representatives allow the CSU's legal counsel to join the CSU and GSA court cases against the CFS.

- 4. Adjournment**

**Meeting called by CSU President : Schubert Laforest**

## **1. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 7:12 pm.

## **2. Roll Call**

### **Executives:**

Schubert Laforest

Alexis Suzuki

Nadine Atallah

Keny Toto

Hajar El Jahidi

Stefan Faina

Simon Pierre Lauzon

### **Councillors:**

Paul Jerajian

Chad Walcott

Ashley Walling

Anja Rajaonarivelo

Gonzalo Nieto

Caroline Bourbonniere

Carlotta Longo

Ali Talhouni

Fahd Ali Nasser

Hardial Rosner

Pierre Tardivo Martin

Chris Webster

Veryan Goodship

James Vaccaro

Benjamin Prunty

Rami Khoriaty

Jordan Lindsay

Patrick Lefebvre

## **3. Canadian Federation of Students (CFS)**

### **Schubert Laforest:**

WHEREAS the Concordia Student Union (CSU) is engaged in an ongoing lawsuit with the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) in order to get its status as a non-member recognized and respected.

WHEREAS the Graduate Student Association (GSA) is pursuing a similar lawsuit against the CFS

WHEREAS both the CSU and GSA have been collaborating on the issue of defederation from the CFS

WHEREAS it is in the interest of both the CSU and GSA to continue to work together

BE IT RESOLVED that the CSU Council of Representatives approve the CSU's legal counsel to join the CSU and GSA court cases against the CFS.

**Schubert Laforest:** Began talking about this early December. Had a meeting with the GSA and PGSS to discuss whether or not to join our cases against the CFS given that their natures are very similar. In the end, it was decided that PGSS wouldn't be joining with us, but the GSA and CSU decided to combine forces and share resources in order to pursue this lawsuit. GSA had their council meeting on Friday, whereby their motion passed unanimously to join their case with the CSU's.

**Lex Gill:** The CSU is in a lawsuit with CFS, a national lobby organization. On October 19, 2009, undergraduate students at Concordia submitted a petition to the CFS asking for a referendum on continuing membership. In March 2010, undergraduate students had a vote on continued membership, and voted overwhelmingly to no longer remain members of the CFS. Under CFS By Laws, the CSU submitted fees to the CFS a year following that and then ceased to collect the fee from students. In the CFS By Laws, it is stated that you are not allowed to hold a vote to decertify from the CFS if you owe them fees. It is the CSU's position that we have paid all the fees we have ever owed the CFS. Legal dispute has been going on since 2010. Similar situation happened with the GSA. In support of merging the two actions. The CFS' position is that our referendum was not valid on the basis that we owed them money for unpaid fees.

**Philippe Andre Tessier:** Fee question is one of the central questions that is being brought to the court. CFS is arguing that the CSU owes fees to them for the entire duration that they were members, 1998 until now.

**Nadine Atallah** moves to go into closed session  
Seconded by **Chad Walcott**

#### **VOTE**

All in favour of going into closed session: unanimous

**Motion passes**

Meeting goes into closed session at 7:25 pm.

Meeting goes into opened session at 8:52 pm.

**Nadine Atallah** calls the question  
Seconded by **Schubert Laforest**

#### **VOTE**

All in favour of calling the question: 14

Oppositions: 1

Abstentions: 2  
**Motion passes**

**VOTE**  
All in favour of the proposed motion: unanimous  
**Motion passes**

#### **4. Adjournment**

**Rami Khoriaty** moves to adjourn  
Seconded by **Chad Walcott**

**VOTE**  
All in favour of adjourning: unanimous  
**Motion passes**

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.