

Member associations in attendance to business:

- Capilano Students' Union (by Maia Lomelino)
- Graduate Student Society of UBC Vancouver (by Ashni Gill)
- Kwantlen Student Association (by Jeremy Law, then Lesli Sangha)
- University of the Fraser Valley Student Union Society (by Duncan Herd)

Member associations absent:

- Langara Students' Union

Individuals in attendance to business:

- Aryanna Chartrand, student (Capilano Students' Union)
- Jaya Dhillon, board member (Kwantlen Student Association)
- Grace Dupasquier, chairperson (officer)
- Ashni Gill, board member (Graduate Student Society of UBC Vancouver)
- Christopher Girodat, executive director (Capilano Students' Union)
- Nikiel Lal, board member (UFV Student Union Society)
- Jeremy Law, student (Kwantlen Student Association)
- Duncan Herd, board member (by UFV Student Union Society)
- Maia Lomelino, board member (by the Capilano Students' Union)
- Joshua Millard, executive director-designate (staff)
- Zabir Montazar, board member (Capilano Students' Union)
- Trevor Morten, director of finance and operations (officer)
- Anna-Elaine Rempel, executive director (staff)
- Shanti Scarpetta-Lee, director of research & campaigns (officer)

\* denotes partial attendance

## 1. Call to Order

The chairperson called the meeting to order at 3:43pm, and a quorum was present.

## 2. Land Acknowledgement

The chairperson acknowledged that the land on which the Alliance is gathering for this general meeting on the stolen, ancestral, and unceded sovereign lands of various

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Indigenous nations, and noted the thousands of years of work that Indigenous peoples have put into the stewardship of these stolen lands. The chairperson encouraged delegates from member associations to consider how best to navigate doing work to decolonize while navigating within colonial systems.

### **3. Introductions**

There was a round of introductions.

### **4. Adoption of the Agenda**

#### **SAGM-20210523-01: MOTION**

**Moved by the UFV Student Union Society**

**Seconded by the Capilano Students' Union**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted**

**CARRIED**

### **5. Overview of Meeting Procedures**

The chairperson advised that the member associations would be invited to adopt special rules of order as a procedure to follow for today's elections of officers. The chairperson also advised that when a decision is proposed, (a) a motion is moved (as in, a proposal is made), (b) a motion or proposal is then debated and discussed, and (c) only after a proposal is made and debated or discussed is a vote then taken.

#### **SAGM-20210523-02: MOTION**

**Moved by the UFV Student Union Society**

**Seconded by the Kwantlen Student Association**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following rules apply to officer elections at this semi-annual general meeting:**

- a. Prior to the commencement of voting for the Officers, there shall be time for nominee speeches and questions to the nominees.
  - i. Each nominee shall be given two minutes to give a speech.
  - ii. Following speeches, there will be a question period.
  - iii. Any delegate, including those nominated for a position, may ask a question.
  - iv. Those nominated for a position will be limited to one question.
- b. Ballots shall be prepared by the Executive Director as follows:

- i. “None of the above” shall be listed as a choice for each position and nominees shall be listed alphabetically.
- ii. Where a voter’s intention is clear, that voter’s ballot shall be counted.
- c. Voting shall occur by secret ballot using a preferential voting system.
  - i. Each member association shall be entitled to cast one, and only one, ballot.
  - ii. In the event that only one nomination is received for a given position, then the member association shall vote by way of a “YES” or “NO” ballot to approve or reject the candidate, and the candidate shall be declared elected where a majority of valid votes cast approve of them.
  - iii. In the event that more than one nomination is received for a given position, then the member associations shall rank their choices for each position using natural numbers with one (1) representing the first choice, and increasing numbers representing less desirable choices.
    1. A candidate shall require a majority of voters to indicate them as their first choice in order to be elected.
    2. In the event that no candidate receives a majority of first place votes, the candidate with the fewest first place votes shall be eliminated.
    3. Any voter who has indicated an eliminated candidate with a number shall have the candidate marked with the next highest number following the number by which the eliminated candidate has been indicated take the place of the eliminated candidate, and so on, in such a way that all candidates indicated by that voter as less desirable than the eliminated candidate are registered as being one (1) step more desirable than originally indicated.
    4. Where all remaining candidates have an equal number of first place votes, or where the remaining candidate with the fewest first place votes is tied with another remaining candidate, the candidate that had the fewest first place votes on the first count in which a differential existed shall be eliminated.
    5. Where all remaining candidates have an equal number of first place votes, or where the remaining candidate with the fewest first place votes is tied with another remaining candidate, and where this tie has existed on every count, the Elections Administrator shall start the election process for the position again by opening the floor for nominations.
    6. Where “None of the Above” is declared victorious, no further candidates shall be declared victorious and the Elections Administrator shall start the election process for the position again by opening the floor for nominations.

**SAGM-20210523-03: AMENDMENT**

**Moved by the Capilano Students’ Union**

**Seconded by the Kwantlen Student Association**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the motion be amended by replacing the words  
“two minutes” with the words “five minutes”  
AMENDMENT CARRIED**

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**6. Presentation of Annual Reports by Outgoing Officers**

**a. Annual Report of the Chairperson**

The members received a presentation about the 2020-2021 year in review.

The chairperson noted that the Alliance is a colonial institution, and that it is challenging to intersect that reality with the organization’s goal of advocating for the students who need the organization's support the most in a way that is non-colonial.

The chairperson provided highlights to member associations:

- The Alliance provided a submission to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services recommending priorities for the provincial budget.
- The Alliance provided a submission to the provincial government on the importance of data collection and reporting for more effectively responding to sexualized violence and post-secondary institutions across the province.
- The Alliance consulted with member associations on developing advocacy priorities for upcoming lobbying with provincial policy-makers after the election, and from these consultations the Alliance was able to determine priorities.
- The Alliance adopted its first five-year strategic plan.
- The Alliance collaborated with other provincial student organizations to develop the *Shared Perspectives* publication to demonstrate where there are common perspectives among the country’s diverse student groups.

**b. Annual Report of the Director of Research and Campaigns**

The director of research and campaigns provided highlights to member associations:

- The Alliance collaborated with the BC Federation of Students in running the *Take it Over* campaign, a voter mobilization campaign, when the legislative assembly was dissolved and a snap election was called.
- The Alliance conducted its annual Lobby Days series of lobbying meetings with provincial ministers and legislators; the volume of work organizing Lobby Days during a pandemic was an unpredictable and frustrating experience, but the Alliance did an excellent job of running this lobby conference. With the support of over 30 delegates and volunteers, the Alliance met over 50 MLAs in two days.
- The Alliance's asks included: (a) encouraging a consultative post-secondary funding review process, with a focus on an international education strategy; (b) additional funding for mental health; (c) expanding eligibility criteria for graduate student grants, and especially for non-STEM students; (d) conducting a province-wide survey on the experiences of disabled students; and (e) recommending that the province renew funding for sexualized violence, and that the province implement the eleven standards for sexualized violence policies.
- In March, the provincial government announced the expansion of the graduate scholarship program, including \$3.75 million over two years and 250 new scholarships, with minimum scholarships of \$15,000 each.
- The Alliance has been conducting consultations with students over the past several months, including surveys and focus groups with Indigenous and disabled students. There were no Indigenous focus group participants, but focus groups for students with disabilities were fairly successful.
- The director of research and campaigns recommended that the Alliance continue to focus on identifying new ways to meaningfully include Indigenous students in the Alliance's work, without creating additional labour for Indigenous students.
- The director of research and campaigns recommended that the Alliance ensure that anti-oppression training is included in training for member associations and the Alliance's leadership each year.

**c. Annual Report of the Director of Finance and Operations**

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The director of finance and operations provided highlights to member associations:

- The Alliance restructured its committees (the executive committee, the advocacy committee, and the internal review committee) in order to provide more structured and meaningful mandates for each of the committees, and noted that the committees have now been actively meeting between a weekly and monthly basis depending on the volume of work at the time. Committees now also elect vice-chairs in order to ensure that committees continue to run smoothly.
- The Alliance revised its bylaws at its November 2020 annual general meeting including housekeeping amendments, creating an “observer status” option for prospective members who may not be ready for full membership, and clarifying the processes by which member associations join or leave the Alliance.
- The Alliance increased organizational capacity by implementing a gradual fee increase over a two-year period with the approval of member associations at a recent special general meeting. This capacity increase has allowed for hiring a full-time executive director at a living wage.
- The Alliance has been developing changes to its *Regulations* to update obsolete or irrelevant provisions, and addressing gaps in internal procedures.

At the conclusion of the officers’ annual reports, the chairperson took a moment to thank the Alliance’s leadership team for the volume and depth of the work that the officers have done over the course of a personally challenging pandemic year.

Members took note that Anne-Elaine Rempel is the mitochondria of the Alliance.

**SAGM-20210523-04: MOTION**

**Moved by the Kwantlen Student Association**

**Seconded by the Capilano Students’ Union**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting be recessed for five minutes**

**CARRIED**

The meeting recessed at 4:40pm.

The chairperson called the meeting back to order at 4:45pm.

## 7. Officer Elections

### a. Election of the Chairperson

**SAGM-20210523-05: MOTION**

**Moved by the UFV Student Union Society**

**Seconded by the Kwantlen Student Association**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT nominations for Chairperson be opened  
CARRIED**

The chairperson invited nominations:

- The Capilano Students' Union nominated Aryanna Chartrand.

Having called for nominations three times and hearing no further nominations from the floor, and without objection, the chairperson declared the closure of nominations.

Aryanna Chartrand provided a candidate's statement.

There was a question and answer period:

- In response to a question, Aryanna Chartrand indicated that they are hoping to serve more than one term of office in students' union leadership.
- In response to a question, Aryanna Chartrand thanked the outgoing leadership team, before indicating that their top three priorities during the next term would be positioning student associations with respect to child care; improving the Alliance's equity-based and Indigenous student consultations, and establishing relationship-building with various nations; and graduate studies.

An election was conducted via secret ballot.

The executive director declared Aryanna Chartrand to be elected.

### b. Election of the Director of Research and Campaigns

**SAGM-20210523-06: MOTION**

**Moved by the Capilano Students' Union**

**Seconded by the UFV Student Union Society**

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**BE IT RESOLVED THAT nominations for Director of Research and Campaigns be opened**  
**CARRIED**

The chairperson invited nominations.

Having called for nominations three times and hearing no nominations from the floor, and without objection, the chairperson declared the closure of nominations, resulting in a vacancy in the 2021-2022 office of the director of research and campaigns.

Accordingly, the member associations were advised that the Alliance's board of directors may appoint an officer to fill the vacancy, and the chairperson noted the importance of the Alliance having a full leadership team.

**c. Election of the Director of Finance and Operations**

**SAGM-20210523-07: MOTION**

**Moved by the Kwantlen Student Association**

**Seconded by Graduate Student Society of UBC Vancouver**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT nominations for Director of Finance and Operations be opened**  
**CARRIED**

The chairperson invited nominations.

Having called for nominations three times and hearing no nominations from the floor, and without objection, the chairperson declared the closure of nominations, resulting in a vacancy in the 2021-2022 office of the director of finance and operations.

Accordingly, the member associations were advised that the Alliance's board of directors may appoint an officer to fill the vacancy. The chairperson encouraged delegates from member associations to solicit interest at their associations.

**8. Consideration of Motions on Notice**

**a. [Executive Director Governance Changes](#)**

**SAGM-20210523-08: MOTION**

**Moved by the UFV Student Union Society**



**Seconded by the Graduate Student Society of UBC Vancouver**

**BE IT SPECIALLY RESOLVED THAT Bylaws 9.5 and 9.6 be repealed, with the remaining Bylaws being renumbered accordingly**

The chairperson provided an overview of the proposed changes, namely that the job description type duties of the executive director be removed from the bylaws, and to remove references to “volunteer staff” from the bylaws, on the basis that (a) the enumerated duties of the executive director in the current bylaws are out-of-date, and (b) neither of these are appropriate for placement in governing documents.

**CARRIED**

**SAGM-20210523-09: MOTION**

**Moved by the Kwantlen Student Association**

**Seconded by the UFV Student Union Society**

**BE IT SPECIALLY RESOLVED THAT Bylaw 12.1.3 be amended to read 'Executive Director' instead of 'One Director elected by the Board', and that Bylaw 12.2 be repealed, with the remaining Bylaws being renumbered accordingly**

The chairperson provided an overview of the proposed changes, namely that the executive director become a signing officer of the Alliance in place of a board member, and that the procedures for the appointment of a board signing officer be removed.

**CARRIED**

## **9. Adjournment**

**SAGM-20210523-10: MOTION**

**Moved by the Kwantlen Student Association**

**Seconded by the UFV Student Union Society**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting be adjourned**

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 5:34pm.