



Trent Durham Student Association

55 Thornton Rd. S
Oshawa, On L1J 5Y1
905-435-5102

Meeting: BOARD MEETING			
Date: November 23rd, 2021.		Time: 8am	
Place: Zoom			
Members in attendance			
Phuong Nguyen President	Nathan R.G. Barnett VP of University Affairs	Viviana Pinheiro VP of Campus Life	Jeffrey Ross Chair of the Board
Riley Ambrose	Felicia Seucharan	Carwyn Holland	Naya McRae Ntawiha
Lalbegim Boronieva			
Members absent with regrets			
Parastoo Sadeghein	Nicholos Nauth		
Members absent without regrets			
Jessie Assaf	Andrew Rose		

1.	Call to order – 8:33am
2.	Land Acknowledgement - Presented by Nguyen (Ross was having internet issue)
3.	Roll Call
4.	Chair Remarks - Ross was appreciative of people showing up on time for 8:30 meeting
5.	Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes - October board meeting and November Emergency board meeting Motioned by Ambrose, seconded by Pinheiro - Passes unanimously
6.	Review of Action Items - None

7.	<p>Call for New Business</p> <p>Ambrose motioned to add “Trent International - discussion item” to agenda</p> <p>Motioned by Ambrose, Seconded by Pinheiro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Passes unanimously <p>Holland motioned to add “Proclamation of African descent - discussion item” to agenda</p> <p>Motioned by Holland, Seconded by Ambrose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Passes unanimously
8.	<p>Approval of Agenda</p> <p>Motioned by Ambrose, seconded by Nguyen</p> <p>Passes unanimously</p>
9.	<p>Declaration of Conflict of Interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ross has a COI on Agenda item 13 (Chair wage increase) and 15 (Moving chair position to hired) ● Nguyen has a COI on Agenda item 14 (Exec wage increase) ● Pinheiro has a COI on Agenda item 14 (Exec wage increase)
10.	<p>Executive Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of exec updates (Attached in board drives) <p>The three executives gave an update of what they have been working on over the past month.</p>
11.	<p>Board Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ntawiha spoke about the TDSA Cares committee - Nguyen spoke about committees being active (Finance, Academics, TDSA Cares).
12	<p>Wage Increase for Student Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nguyen spoke about minimum wage increasing, as a result of that we have to increase the wages of the student staff to reflect that. The increase will be proportional with the increase of minimum wage <p>Be it resolved that: The TDSA Board of Directors approve an increase in the hourly wage paid to the TDSA student staff, based on the fact that Ontario minimum wage is increasing, as of January 1st, 2022.</p>

	<p>Moved by Nguyen, seconded by Ambrose Motion passes unanimously</p>
13	<p>Wage Increase for chair</p> <p>(Ross left room due to a COI, Nguyen took over as chair)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nguyen spoke about minimum wage going up, due to that we have to increase the salary of the chair to reflect that. The increase will be proportional with the increase in minimum wage <p>Be it resolved that: The TDSA Board of Directors approve an increase in the salary paid to the Chair of the Board of Directors, based on the fact that Ontario minimum wage is increasing, as of January 1st, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moved by Holland, seconded by Ambrose - Motion passes unanimously
14	<p>Wage Increase for Executives</p> <p>(Nguyen/Pinheiro left room due to a COI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambrose spoke about minimum wage going up, due to that we should increase the salary of the executives to reflect that. The increase will be proportional with the increase in minimum wage <p>Be it resolved that: The TDSA Board of Directors approve an increase in the salary paid to the executives, based on the fact that Ontario minimum wage is increasing, as of January 1st, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moved by Ambrose, seconded by Boronieva - Motion passes unanimously
15	<p>Moving chairperson to Hired</p> <p>Be it resolved that: The TDSA Board of Directors approve the proposal to change the chairperson position from an elected position to a hired position to be presented at the General Meeting of Fall Semester 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ross spoke about his experience of benign chair • Ambrose: What do other Student Unions do? • Ross: TCSA pays their chair an honorarium, and the position is hired <p>(Barnett enters at 9:07am)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambrose spoke about the accountability piece of the chair.

- Carwyn thinks there is greater value in the chair being an elected position. Chair should be held accountable by the students and this can happen if they are elected.
- Ambrose: How do you intend to find students if they are hired vs. now being elected.
- Barnett spoke about the accountability process right now, and how the students aren't really able to hold the chair accountable at this point. In terms of finding students, he thinks we are more likely to get more students if the position is hired versus if the chair is elected.
- Holland thinks students see the chair as someone who represents them and they will feel more comfortable if the person is elected. He doesn't believe the role of the chair should be separated from the rest of the board .
- Ambrose: The chair role is the least representative of the board roles and it has a very unique skill set.
- Barnett: There is an appointment process that can be done also
- Ambrose: Half of the board wasn't elected this year, instead they were hired. I think there is merit in hiring the chair as they are also paid position
- Holland: If we do that, we will have reduced student participation as the student will somehow feel betrayed. The perception will be created that the hired chair is loyal to the board that hired them, instead of students
What we should be discussing is How to augment student participation.
A stray from standard procedure in emergency, should not influence standard procedure..always
- Nathan: This is not an emergency but an emerging trend that I have seen in the past few years.
- Ambrose: I do think we need to do better training for our board chair.
- Barnett: This organization has been without a strat plan for a while, and this is something we are dealing with. We are only 11 years old, and it makes sense that we are running into problems like this. Great that we are working on these issues at this time. Appointment and hiring of students into executive positions is common in student unions. We have the data from electing the chair, we should get the data from hiring the chair and be able to compare.
- Ambrose: I am assuming this will not take effect until the end of this chair cycle?
- Barnett: Yes
- Ambrose: I will like to see the accountability structure built into it before I vote. I would be more comfortable if the accountability structure was built into it.
- Barnett: Does the rest of the board have any preference?
- Boronieva: If I had to vote now, I would have to abstain. I see both sides
- Ntawiha: I will abstain also. I will prefer to have more information
- Seucharan: I will have to agree with the board members, more information needed.

Motion by Nguyen, Seconded by Ambrose to table this discussion

- Passes unanimously

Motion by Nguyen, seconded by Pinheiro to recess for 5 minutes.

- Passes unanimously

(Meeting starts at 9:46)

16	<p>Trent International Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ambrose would like an update on Trent International ● Barnett: Trent International is interested in coming to the Durham campus but there is no space here. The University is working on creating more physical space on campus. ● Nguyen: No particular update, as things have been super busy over the past month ● Boronieva: I am a global ambassador for the Durham campus. I have heard that the president of Trent International will be coming to Durham campus. I feel like we should have Trent International round tables. ● Barnett: Will folks be interested in us pushing for the International office to come down before the end of the semester? ● Boronieva: I feel like it would be good if they come early January so that students can ask questions in person. ● Barnett: January start has over 150 International students. I will contact Chris
17	<p>Proclamation of African descent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Holland spoke about the importance of diversity and how we need to look into the fact that racism exists. ● Barnett: This hasn't been brought up at the anti-racism task force, but I am happy to bring it up at the next meeting. In terms of TDSA action, what will you like from us? ● Holland: I think a proclamation will be good. That we stand with people of African descent. A simple statement on the TDSA site will go a long way. ● Ambrose: I know when we did the statement of the solidarity with Palestine, we had restrictions on that ● Holland: I will send something out within the next week or so
18	<p>Adjournment at 10:05am -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Motioned by Ambrose , seconded by Holland - Motion passes unanimously