



AGM 2021 MEETING MINUTES

GROUP	Ontario Tech Student Union (OTSU) Board of Directors
LOCATION	Google Meet
DATE & TIME	November 4, 2021, 5:01–6:07 p.m.
NOTE TAKER	Human Resources Generalist & Chief Returning Officer, Jennifer Bennett
ATTENDEES	<p>Directors: Chair and Faculty of Science, Corey Law; Vice Chair and Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, Garie Kala-Ananthan; Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities, Samantha Brown; Faculty of Education, Anjum Naazneen; Faculty of Energy Systems and Nuclear Science, Petru Obreja; Faculty of Business and Information Technology, Hannah Oegema; Faculty of Graduate Studies; Parag Patel</p> <p>Executives: President, Josh Sankarlal; VP Student Affairs, Kevin Chen; VP Student Life, Amrutha Elanko; VP Downtown, Dakoda Cluett</p> <p>Staff: Interim Executive Director, Alan Griffiths; Human Resources Generalist & Chief Returning Officer, Jennifer Bennett; Financial Controller, Mayooran Thurairajah</p> <p>Guests: Laura Wilson, Baker-Tilly</p> <p>Membership: Attended by 150+ Ontario Tech Student Union general members</p>
NOTES	To view any of the documents included in the meeting material mentioned below, please contact Kylie Zamora at kylie.zamora@ontariotechu.ca .

OPENING PROCEDURES

1 CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called into order at 5:01 p.m. Quorum is met with 121 attendees.

2 TERRITORIAL RECOGNITION

3 AGENDA APPROVAL

Moved by Reeta I. and seconded by Lindsay H. Motion carried. To discuss.
(99 votes for approve. 2 votes for reject. 2 votes for abstain.)

RESOLUTION

Moved by Rahim N. and seconded by Maia J. Motion carried.
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Tech Student Union approve the agenda as presented.
(102 votes for approve. 5 votes for reject. 2 votes for abstain.)

AGENDA TOPICS

4 2020-2021 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Moved by Reeta I. and seconded by Lindsay H. Motion carried.
(90 votes for approve. 2 votes for reject. 0 votes for abstain.)

The topic below is presented by Laura Wilson, representative of Baker-Tilly. L. Wilson shared their screen and presented the financial statements.

Attendees at this point in time: 143 (does not include OTSU staff or guests).

We were selected as auditors at your last AGM. We are selected to provide the members, you, assurance that the financial statements are reliable. The financial statements presented an excess of revenue over expenses. You are a non-profit, so there is no profit motive but the excess goes into the organization's reserve funds. We will now take questions from the floor.

DISCUSSION

H. Oegema: How many years have you been auditing the organization?

L. Wilson: Since inception. We also previously audited the merged DC-UOIT SA.

Muhammad R.: Is \$500 for clubs and societies base funding going to be the same going forward?

President: Yes, as far as we know it will be the same going forward.

RESOLUTION

Moved by Alexandra S. and seconded by Rahim N. Motion carried.
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Tech Student Union approves the financial statements as presented.
(92 votes for approve. 0 votes for reject. 4 votes for abstain.)

5 CONFIRMATION OF 2021-2022 INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Moved by Lindsay H. and seconded by Alexandra S. Motion carried.
(79 votes for approve. 1 votes for reject. 7 votes for abstain.)

DISCUSSION

Rahim N.: What would happen if we didn't approve Baker-Tilly? Will you fire them?

C. Law: If you did not approve we would have to find another one and present an alternative.

L. Wilson: We thank you for your support and look forward to coming back next year to make sure your financial statements are reliable.

L. Wilson left at this point in time.

RESOLUTION

Moved by Samuel C. and seconded by Alexandra S. Motion carried.
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Tech Student Union confirm Baker-Tilly as the 2021-2022 auditors.
(88 votes for approve. 1 vote for reject. 9 votes for abstain.)

6 MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

Moved by Lindsay H. and seconded by N. O'Miller. Motion carried.
(79 votes for approve. 2 votes for reject. 7 votes for abstain.)

DISCUSSION

C. Law: Does anyone have any questions, changes, or amendments?

Attendees at this point in time: 148 (does not include OTSU staff or guests).

RESOLUTION

Moved by Lindsay H. and seconded by Alexandra S. Motion carried.
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Tech Student Union approves the 2020 annual general meeting minutes as presented.
(67 votes for approve. 1 vote for reject. 6 votes for abstain.)

7 EXECUTIVE REPORTS

*The executive team prepared a slideshow with their reports and each executive presented their respective reports.
Attendees at this point in time: 148 (does not include OTSU staff or guests).*

President: We're in our new office, open invitation for anyone who wants to come visit us. You can book an appointment online. There is a lot of room for students here and we are excited to be in this space service the members of the student union.

DISCUSSION

Lindsay H.: Have we looked at Canada Federation of Students (CFS) to join as well?

President: Great question. In our conversation about joining other student groups, we felt that we are in a good position to move forward provincially, but we do not want to focus federally yet. We have explored options federally for the future.

Anthony S.: Is the downtown committee only for downtown students?

President: We would prefer if downtown students are involved on the downtown committee, but the advocacy advisory committee is open to all students.

Attendees at this point in time: 151 (does not include OTSU staff or guests).

8 NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION

Natalie S.: I have a question. For our payment methods. I'm part of the EngSoc. Right now everything is run through Eventbrite which charges a 6% service fee. I know we talked about it previously with others on the student union and they mentioned we might have a store up by October. Where is this standing?

Interim ED: Things have been in progress, we are close to moving forward with paypal. Admin fees are certainly a concern. There are smaller fees with PayPal. We are also exploring marketplace options that can work for clubs and societies, for example Shopify and Square, to really meet the needs of clubs and societies moving forward. In the coming weeks will be announcing where we are moving forward to.

- Abiram G.: For the time being are we to expect to rely solely on Eventbrite?
- C. Law: Yes, clubs and societies are utilizing this right now until we get into alternative options.
- Taaha I.: What is the current state of in person events for clubs? I know that we can book indoor events, but why are we not allowed to book events outdoors as clubs as that is much more COVID-friendly.
- Interim ED: COVID presents a unique set of limitations for us. We are approving half a dozen to a dozen events per day for clubs to return to on-campus events. The reason we are not allowing off-campus right now is strictly because of our inability to manage COVID restrictions at off-site venues. The concerns are safety and liability. That said, we are evaluating and we think there will be some good news coming out for the Winter semester. The limitation on outdoor events is there are no bookable space outside on-campus.
- Alexandra S.: Will students be able to have a voice in the designs of Ontario Tech University merchandise and making it more affordable for students?
- Interim ED: It's the responsibility of the university controlled store—happy to relay that information to Patrica who runs the university store. I can get your contact and share.
- Colin O.: Our club has been waiting for a response for a confirmation for an in-person event since reading week. Do you know when we'll get it? It's the TTRPG club.
- Interim ED: I will look into that and get back to it for you. As a note we have added a Clubs & Society Assistant, Shay. Help has arrived – an announcement will be going out this week. We are very happy to offer this meaningful student opportunity.
- Lindsay H.: Probably best question for Dakota here. Do we have any new safety measures being put in place for downtown students?
- VP Downtown: As of right now, none that I know of. I know it is an on-going conversation, especially concerns around the parking garage and the long walk to the bus. It is still in the planning stages as of right now. Hopefully it will be implemented sooner rather than later as students start to go back in-person.
- Alexa W.: When do you think clubs will be able to have their own food/beverages instead of everything prepackaged? My club can't really do in person events until we can brew drinks.
- Interim ED: It is all about COVID and the restrictions we have on-campus. You may have noticed in your training this year with the change of food providers, students are allowed to bring in their own food. Which is a big win as in past students had to use the campus provider. We are paying attention and will keep you updated as we go along.
- John N.: Also even though we've been ratified, I can't find my club on the OTSU website (otsu.ca/clubs) The club is Beans On Campus. Is there anything that can be done about this?
- Interim ED: Expect it within the next week or so. We recently onboarded a new web developer.
- Alexandra S.: What will the OTSU do to help students with course offerings, especially in FSSH?
- VP Downtown: It was an issue brought up in the summer. The President and I met with the Office of Registrar with the lack of choices. It is still an on-going conversation and we will do our best to meet with them again to see what can be done for downtown students.

President: We know this is a problem, we are in constant communication with the Registrar. Dakota is very involved with the downtown campus and we are trying to bring this to the attention to it as often as we can.

Attendees at this point in time: 141 (does not include OTSU staff or guests).

C. Law: Feel free to reach out to them via email or book an appointment if anyone does have any further questions afterwards.

9 ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m. Moved by Lindsay H. and seconded by unidentified student. Motion carried. (67 votes for approve. 1 vote for reject. 6 votes for abstain.)