1. Meeting Comes to Order

The Chair reminds everyone in the meeting of some meeting expectations before getting started. The goal is to help everyone through the agenda and complete the meeting on time.

The Chair also reminds everyone that they need to conduct themselves with respect towards their colleagues present and not present in the meeting. If they disagree, they can challenge the chair. The meeting will continue to use a strike system to address any behaviour that is contrary to the equity statement. This means if anyone is given two strikes, they will be removed from the meeting.

   a. Equity Statement (Commitment) (Page 3)

The Chair requests for people to read out the Equity Statement. Everyone agrees with the Equity statement by putting their virtual hand in Zoom.

   b. Adoption of Agenda (Discussion & Decision)

Lwanga M. moves to amend the agenda to place executive committee reports after the appointments but before the new businesses, and to amend motions 8 and 9 to receive as opposed to ratify election and referendum results. This will allow getting through the important items first. The second amendment to change the language to receive is a legal opinion through the UTGSU that was received last year. They are not required to ratify results. They only need to receive them so that the results are recorded in the meeting minutes.

Danielle K. accepts this as a friendly amendment to the motion that she originally seconded.

MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors adopt the April 27, 2023, meeting agenda as presented or amended. Moved by Lwanga M., seconded by Danielle K. Motion carries with opposition.

   c. Seating Guests (Discussion & Decision)

The Chair asks guests to introduce themselves. The guests respectively introduce themselves.
Levi Clarkson is the UTGSU executive director.

Gadfly Stratton is a PhD student in environmental science and the Equity Officer.

Lynne Alexandrova is a general member from OISE SJE and Access for Wellbeing (A4W).

MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors move to seat all guests with speaking rights. Moved by Danielle K., seconded by Neelofar A. Motion carries with no opposition and no abstention.

d. Approval of Minutes from March 13, 2023 (Discussion & Decision)

MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors approve the minutes from the March 13, 2023 Board of Directors meeting. Moved by Lwanga M., seconded by Neelofar A. Motion carries with abstentions.

e. Approval of Minutes from March 20, 2023 (Discussion & Decision)

MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors approve the minutes from the March 20, 2023 Board of Directors meeting. Moved by Lwanga M., seconded by Danielle K. Motion carries with abstentions.

2. Levy Fee Changes for FY2024

Lwanga M. mentions that at the last meeting the Board of Directors approved the levy fee changes for the financial year 2024. There was an error and the fee change for OPIRG was not added to the previous agenda. This motion is to approve the OPIRG fee increase along with the other levy fee increases that were approved at the last meeting. OPIRG’s fee increases annually with the cost of living, as per their referendum.

MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors approves a 6.0% cost of living increase to the OPIRG portion of the UTGSU fee for FY2024 to $6.31 ($5.95+0.36=6.31); and BIFRT that this fee be collected in two equal sessional amounts. Moved by Lwanga M., seconded by Danielle K. Motion carries with oppositions and abstentions.

3. Mid-Year Financial Business

Lwanga M. presents the mid-year financial statement which outlines what has been spent in the
last 6 months of the fiscal year. Under revenue, union fees are the amount for the fall check and a small residue for the 2022 summer fees. Winter checks were received after February. So, there was no winter check received by mid-year. Under interest, revenue is the interest earned from the investments. The miscellaneous is SGS’s contribution to the awards. We are happy to report that the fall 2022 levy was dispersed. The winter 2023 disbursement will occur after receiving the final winter fees. Union expenses cover the disbursements for the executives, training, and staff, and this amount was $172,375. The house expenses amounted to $26,331. It is worth noting that the audit expense happens after the mid-year. Disbursements for outreach and initiatives amounted to $7,880. The new committees under committees and caucuses introduced this year have no disbursements.

**Jesse V-V.** has two questions. First, regarding the Board of Directors honorarium, he cannot find that budget line. The second question is that in 2020 to 2021 the Complaint and Resolution Council for Student Societies assessed us and said that they would withhold a portion of our fees unless we change certain pieces of the policies. Those changes from his understanding have not occurred. He is wondering if they are withholding those fees.

**Levi C.** is not entirely sure at this moment where the honorarium is reflected in the budget line. They would like to confirm that Jesse and others will receive their honorarium by submitting the cheque requisition form that they have previously circulated.

**MOTION:** BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors approve the FY2023 Mid-Year Financial Statement as presented. Moved by Lwanga M., seconded by Danielle K. Motion carries with oppositions and abstentions.

### 4. Election Results

#### a. Election Results

**Levi C.** is a non-voting member of the Elections and Referenda Committee. They mention the first motion is to receive the election results. They circulated the document from Simply Voting that has the detailed election results. The Board is voting to officially receive those results.

**Jesse V-V.** asks for clarification on what this vote actually means. What would it mean to vote opposed?

**Levi C.** clarifies that it is important for the Board to receive the results in order to transfer the signing authority with the bank. The bank requires an official meeting minute record of who has been elected. That is why the motion is set up to specifically list the names of who has been elected. It is important for the Board to officially acknowledge that the results have been received, as documentation for the university as well.

**MOTION:** BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors receives the election results for the 2023-
2024 academic year, for the following positions:

President: Lynne Alexandrova

Vice-President External: Neelofar Ahmed

Vice-President Finance: Zoya Tawhidi

Vice-President Internal: Aanshi Gandhi

Academics & Funding Commissioner, Divisions 3 & 4: Mohammadimir Ghasemian Moghaddam

Board of Directors (Division 3): Friedemann Krannich

Board of Directors (Division 4): Rohankrishna Harikumar, Jady Liang, Vida Maksimoska, Chris Rodgers

Moved by Danielle K. and seconded by Lwanga M. Motion carries with oppositions and abstentions.

b. Referendum Results

Levi C. motivates that Bikechain ran a referendum during our election and the referendum passed, so this motion would be to receive the results. Again, it is important for the Board to officially receive the results for documentation for the university, so that they can go ahead and implement this fee increase in line with the referendum.

MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors receives the referendum results for the following question:

Preamble

Bikechain is a community bike shop serving U of T students located in the Student Commons building. We serve as a hub for cycling activity on campus by providing free bicycle lending for U of T students, educational Do-It-Yourself (DIY) repair services and affordable drop-off bicycle repairs. We also run organized group rides and offer volunteer and employment opportunities for students.

Bikechain currently collects a refundable levy fee of $0.60 per session for full-time graduate students and $0.30 per session for part-time graduate students, indexed annually to cost of living. The proposed increase is $0.90 per session for full-time
students and $0.45 per semester for part-time students.

If the increase is approved, the total fee would be $1.50 for full time students and $0.75 for part time students and would be charged to all graduate students beginning in the fall 2023 semester.

An increase in our funding would allow us to offer more educational and social programming for students, as well as to improve wages and service provision for our core programs.

Question

Do you support a levy increase to $1.50 per session for full-time graduate students and $0.75 per session for part time students, indexed annually to cost of living?

Yes - 720 (76.8%)
No - 218 (23.2%)
Abstain - 199 (17.5%)

Moved by Danielle K. and seconded by Neelofar A. Motion carries with oppositions and abstentions.

c. Finance Authority Transfer

Levi C. says that this is a standard motion that happens each year with the election results, which is to transfer the signing authority to the incoming executive team.

MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors transfer signing authority to the newly elected Executive Officers from May 01, 2023 to April 30, 2024. Moved by Neelofar A. and seconded by Danielle K. Motion carries with oppositions and abstentions.

5. Appointments
   a. Appointment to the Chair Nominating Committee

Neelofar A. motivates that they need to nominate the chair for next year to chair the Board of Directors meetings and AGM. As per policy, the chair nominating committee consists of the outgoing chair, an outgoing executive, and one other person. They will meet to review applications, conduct interviews and make a recommendation to the BOD for who to hire. Neelofar asks if anyone would like to nominate themselves, please put their name in the chat.

Adam H. puts in the chat that he can staff the extra position.
The Chair takes the chat of Adam H. as a self nomination.

Levi C. says that it would be important to have a third person on the committee.

Neelofar A. requests that we appoint the executive director to the committee. It is important that we get this committee formed so that the hiring can happen in a timely manner. The ED is already involved in the hiring for the Equity Officer and Secretary positions. It makes sense for them to join the committee and one of the incoming executives can join as well.

The Chair clarifies the exact wording of this motion to nominate the Executive Director and Adam H. to the chair nominating committee.

Jesse V-V has a point of order. He does not think we have the power to override the bylaws and how this is supposed to be set up. There should be an outgoing executive officer, not an incoming executive officer that could create a conflict of interest as the chair would be ruling on the validity of their motions in the future. Currently no one is filling the executive officer slot.

The Chair does not think this goes against anything or poses any problem. It is important to have this committee in place.

MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors appoint the Executive Director and Adam Hill to the Chair Nominating Committee. Moved by Neelofar A. and seconded by Lwanga M. Motion carries with oppositions and abstentions. Noted abstention from Adam H.

6. Reports
   a. Executive Committee Reports

Danielle K. says thanks to all the people in the space. She really appreciates it for all engagement and wellbeing of the membership.

Lwanga M. says that he was inspired by the unwavering commitment and dedication of every single person in the space. He’s filled with hope, honor and pride for the future of our community.

The Chair says thanks to everyone for their service this year.

MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors accept the Executive Committee reports up until April 18, 2023. Moved by Neelofar A., seconded by Danielle K. Motion carries with some oppositions and abstentions.

7. Other Business
The Chair reminds everyone to submit the cheque requisition form to Levi by the next day in order to receive their honorarium.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourns at 6:26pm.

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UTGSU Chairperson/ Sandhya Mylabathula

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UTGSU Secretary/ Duyen Can
G.9.2 Equity Statement

G.9.2.1 The following statement expresses the Union’s commitments to equity and informs the way in which we conduct business of the Union. The statement will be read aloud during the opening address of meetings of the membership, the Board of Directors, and at UTGSU events:

As many of our members are settlers on Turtle Island, the Union directly benefits from the colonization and genocide of the indigenous peoples of this land. It is imperative that the Union acknowledge that it is on occupied land and that to engage in acts of decolonization is an important aspect of equity work in Canada.

Student Union solidarity is based on the principle that all members deserve to be equal, respected and should be understood. As members of the Union, mutual respect, cooperation and understanding are our goals. We do not condone or tolerate behavior that undermines the dignity of any individual. Expressions of hate such as intimidation, harassment, offensiveness or hostility will not be tolerated.

We will struggle against all forms of discrimination and harassment, including but not limited to: Islamophobic, anti-Semitic, xenophobic, sexist, racist, classist, ableist, homophobic, transphobic, ageist sentiments and/or remarks. We all have an obligation to ensure that an open and inclusive space, free of hate, is established.

We support growth and understanding and believe in providing opportunities for individuals to acknowledge the impact of their remarks, with the understanding that the experiences of those impacted by discriminatory sentiments or remarks will be privileged.

If you are not here in an understanding of good faith or you have violated this understanding, you will be asked to leave. Do you agree?