University of Toronto Graduate Students’ Union
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
Hybrid, on Zoom and in person (Grad loft, 16 Bancroft Avenue)
Monday, April 15th, 2024 7.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. EST

7.00 p.m. - Meeting comes to order

1. Meeting Comes to Order
   a. Appointment of Meeting Chair (Discussion and Decision, Page 2)
   b. Appointment of Equity Officer (Discussion and Decision, Page 2)
   c. Land Acknowledgement and Equity Statement (Commitment, Page 9)
   d. Adoption of Agenda (Discussion and Decision, Page 2)
   e. Approval of Minutes (Discussion and Decision, Page 2)
      i. Board of Directors meeting March 18th, 2024
   f. Guests and Media (Discussion and Decision, Page 2)

2. Ratification of Election & Referenda Results (April 8, 2024, Page 3)

3. Transition between Boards and Elections (Information and Discussion)

4. Finance motions (Discussion and Decision, Page 4)

5. Discipline of the Member L. Alexandrova (Discussion and Decision, Page 6)
   a. In-camera session
   b. Ex-camera session

6. Ongoing internal and membership issues (Information and Discussion, Page 8)

7. Bylaw and Policy changes (Discussion and Decision, Page 9)
   a. Bylaw 4.9: Board of Directors Chair
   b. Bylaw 6 and Policy G5: Committees and Caucuses
   c. Policy O9.3 and form: Consent to Act
   d. Policy O16: Appointment of the Equity Officer
   e. Policy G9.2: Land Acknowledgement and Equity Statement

8. Endorsement of Bill C-233 (Discussion and Decision, Page 10)

9. Other Business

10. Adjournment
Motions for consideration - Item 1

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors appoints Nour Alideeb as Chair for this meeting.

Moved; F. Krannich

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors appoints Gadfly Stratton as Equity Officer for this meeting.

Moved; F. Krannich

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approves the agenda as amended.

Moved; F. Krannich

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approves the minutes for the Board of Directors meeting as presented in Item 1e of the agenda.

Moved; F. Krannich

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors moves to seat all guests with speaking rights limited to 30 seconds per speech and with a two strike conduct rule to be facilitated by the meeting Chair.

Moved; F. Krannich
Motion for minutes - Item 2

WHEREAS the UTGSU ran General Elections and Referenda with voting days from March 26-29, 2024; and

WHEREAS the voter turnout was 7.6%; and

WHEREAS the referendum results indicate a majority vote in favour of increasing the Sexual Education Centre levy; and

WHEREAS the referendum results indicate a majority vote in favour of establishing a levy fee for Regenesis Toronto; therefore

BIRT the Elections and Referendum results be ratified as presented in the SimplyVoting Report; and

BIRT the Elections and Referendum Report be accepted; and

BIFRT the incoming Executive Committee and Executive Director be tasked with updating or establishing Memorandums of Understanding with the Sexual Education Centre and Regenesis Toronto.

Moved: Kevin Xie    Seconded: Zoya Tawhidi

Motion voted through email from April 6, 2024, 5.11 pm to April 9, 2024, 11.59 pm.
Result:
Motions for consideration - Item 4

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors ratify the FY2024 Mid-Year Finance Statement as presented.

Moved; Z. Tawhidi

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approves the allocation of $5,000 from the Unrestricted Surplus Fund to the Graduate Community Development Fund as the contribution of SGS.

Moved; Z. Tawhidi

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approve the allocation of $500 from the Unrestricted Surplus Fund to the Campaigns budget line as contribution by SGS.

Moved; Z. Tawhidi

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approve the allocation of $45,000 from the Unrestricted Surplus Fund to the Black Graduate Students’ Excellence Bursary Fund.

Moved; Z. Tawhidi

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approve the allocation of $250,000 from the Unrestricted Surplus Fund to the Director's Liability Fund.

Moved; Z. Tawhidi

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approve the allocation of $250,000 from the Unrestricted Surplus Fund to the Building, Planning & Accessibility Fund.

Moved; Z. Tawhidi

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approve the allocation of $100,000 from the Unrestricted Surplus Fund to the UTGSU Reserve Fund.

Moved; Z. Tawhidi

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approve the policy for the International Graduate Student Bursary as presented.
BIFRT the UTGSU Board of Directors approves the allocation of $90,000 from the Unrestricted Surplus Fund to the International Graduate Student Bursary Fund.

Moved; Z. Tawhidi
Motions for consideration - Item 5

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors moves in-camera at ___ pm, with the meeting Chair, the Equity Officer and the Executive Director present.

Moved; F. Krannich

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors moves ex-camera at ___ pm.

Moved; F. Krannich

**WHEREAS** an internal investigation has been conducted regarding the behavior of the Member Lynne Alexandrova ('the Respondent') during their time as UTGSU President before their suspension, and

**WHEREAS** the UTGSU Board of Directors has recognized that the allegations raised by the complainant Executive Members and the former Executive Director have been substantiated on a balance of probabilities, and

**WHEREAS** the UTGSU Board of Directors has passed a motion to authorize disciplinary action against the Respondent in accordance with UTGSU Bylaw 10.5.2.1 on its meeting on March 18, 2024, and

**WHEREAS** the Respondent has been provided with fourteen (14) days notice, including the reasons for the proposed disciplinary action and the contact information to sent a written submission, as stipulated in UTGSU Bylaw 10.5.2.2, therefore

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors enacts Bylaw 10.5 to discipline Lynne Alexandrova in their role as a Member of the UTGSU, to impose the following sanctions, effective immediately after passing this motion:

1. In accordance with Bylaw 10.5.3.1.4 deem the Respondent ineligible to be a candidate for Director and Officer positions

2. In accordance with Bylaw 10.5.3.1.3 prohibit the Respondent from:

   a. Attending, both in person and virtually, meetings of the UTGSU Board of Directors, the UTGSU Assembly and Committees/Caucuses of the UTGSU,
b. Accessing the UTGSU Building (16 Bancroft Avenue),

c. Contacting, both verbally and in writing,
   i. Staff of the UTGSU,
   ii. Members of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee and the Executive Director, besides the designate selected by the Executive Committee,
   iii. Members of the Board of Appeals besides its Chair.

d. The Respondent shall only be allowed to contact the UTGSU regarding any of the Unions’ services through emails sent to a designate selected by the Executive Committee, which will determine by their sole authority how to proceed with any inquiries. Inquiries of the Respondent to any staff members of the UTGSU shall be denied in accordance with the Collective Agreement, 6.7 Denial of Service, which stipulates the right of employees to refuse service to individuals which behave belligerently or abusively.

e. The Respondent shall only be allowed to reach out to the Chair of the Board of Appeals regarding the filing and the processing of an appeal.

f. The Executive Director shall ban all private email accounts set up and/or used by the Respondent, from contacting or being contacted by any UTGSU email accounts. The Executive Director shall ban the Respondents official UofT email address (‘lynne.alexandrova@mail.utoronto.ca’) from contacting or being contacted by any UTGSU email accounts besides the email accounts of the Chair of the Board of Appeals and the designate selected by the Executive Committee.

Moved; F. Krannich
Motions for consideration - Item 6

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors moves in-camera at ___ pm, with the meeting Chair, the Equity Officer and the Executive Director present.

Moved; F. Krannich

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors moves ex-camera at ___ pm.

Moved; F. Krannich
Motions for consideration - Item 7

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approves the revised version of Bylaw 4.9.

Moved; F. Krannich

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approves the revised version of Bylaw 6 and Policy G5.

Moved; J. van der Veen

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approves the creation of Policy O9.3 Consent to Act, the Consent to Act form and the Confidentiality Agreement.

Moved; F. Krannich

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approves the creation of Policy O16 Appointment of the Equity Officer.

Moved; F. Krannich

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approves the revised version of Policy G9.2 Land Acknowledgement and Equity Statement.

Moved; S. Kazemi

**BIRT** the UTGSU Board of Directors approves the change of all necessary numberings of Bylaws and Policies.

Moved; F. Krannich
Motion for consideration - Item 8

**BIRT** the UTGSU endorses Bill C-223.

Moved; A. Moghadam
Land Acknowledgement and Equity Statement

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:

We acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto Graduate Students’ Union operates. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous peoples from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to operate on this land.

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 behaviour 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 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?