

MINUTES

74th Semi-Annual General Meeting of the British Columbia Federation of Students
Wednesday, July 25 to Saturday, July 28, 2018

OPENING PLENARY – 6:30 PM, Wednesday, July 25

18:38 the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Aran Armutlu.

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

Chairperson Armutlu acknowledged the traditional territory of the Coast Salish First Nation, on which the meeting would take place.

2. ROLL CALL OF MEMBER LOCAL UNIONS

Local 01 Okanagan College Students' Union	Present
Local 02 Selkirk College Students' Union	Present
Local 04 College of New Caledonia Students' Union	Present
Local 05 Thompson Rivers University Students' Union	Present
Local 06 Douglas Students' Union	Present
Local 10 Emily Carr Students' Union	Present
Local 12 Students' Union of UBC Okanagan	Present
Local 13 Vancouver Island University Students' Union	Present
Local 14 Northwest Community College Students' Union	Present
Local 15 North Island Students' Union	Present
Local 16 Students' Union of Vancouver Community College	Present
Local 17 Camosun College Student Society	Present
Local 20 Northern British Columbia Graduate Student Society	Present

Quorum was declared to be present.

3. RATIFICATION OF PLENARY SPEAKER AND REVIEW OF PLENARY PROCEDURES

Armutlu explained that the plenary was the formal decision-making assembly at the general meeting and that a Plenary Speaker was responsible for chairing the plenary sessions. He said the Executive Committee was recommending that Ashkon Hashemi be ratified as the Plenary Speaker for the general meeting. He said that Hashemi had a long history of involvement with the Federation, and extensive experience chairing general and board meetings for students' unions and other organizations.

2018/07:001 MOTION

Local 2/Local 16

Be it resolved that Ashkon Hashemi be ratified as the plenary speaker of the 74th Semi-Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF PLENARY AGENDA

2018/07:002 MOTION

Local 5/Local 12

Be it resolved that the plenary agenda for the 74th Semi-Annual General Meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

5. ADOPTION OF GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

2018/07:003 MOTION

Local 1/Local 15

Be it resolved that the Block Agenda for the 74th Semi-Annual General Meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

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6. OVERVIEW OF PROCEDURES

a. Rules of Order and Plenary Procedures

Hashemi provided a brief overview of Robert's Rules of Order—the system of meeting rules and procedures that the Federation employs for plenary sessions, general meeting committee meetings, and caucus meetings.

b. Anti-Harassment Procedures for the General Meeting

Secretary-Treasurer Patigdas said that the Federation strives to create an environment at its general meetings that is free of harassment. She said that Internal Affairs Policy G-2 (b) states “at each general meeting of the Federation, plenary shall strike a harassment grievances committee and ratify its members.” She said that the Committee shall be comprised of two women and one man and that two of the members shall be selected by Women's Caucus and the third shall be selected by plenary.

Patigdas reported that the Women's Caucus selected Local 1 delegate Brianne Berchowitz and Local 6 delegate Tanysha Klassen to serve as members of the Harassment Grievances Committee. She said that the general meeting would now select a third, male member of the Committee.

Local 4 delegate Michelle Frechette nominated Local 4 delegate Harman Dandiwal. Dandiwal accepted the nomination.

Local 17 delegate Ren Louie nominated Local 17 delegate Dylan Bystedt. Bystedt accepted the nomination.

A secret ballot vote was conducted. Local 4 delegate Dandiwal was elected.

2018/07:004 MOTION

Local 16/Local 6

Be it resolved that Local 1 delegate Brianne Berchowitz, Local 4 delegate Harman Dandiwal, and Local 6 delegate Tanysha Klassen be ratified as members of the Harassment Grievances Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:005 MOTION

Local 2/Local 17

Be it resolved that the ballots be destroyed.

CARRIED

c. Presentation by the Staff Relations Officer

Secretary-Treasurer Patigdas, who served as the Federation's Staff Relations Officer, provided a brief presentation on the collective agreement between the Federation and its employees as it pertains to their rights and responsibilities at general meetings.

7. ADOPTION OF 36th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

2018/07:006 MOTION

Local 12/Local 5

Be it resolved that the minutes of the 36th Annual General Meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

8. PREPARATION FOR COMMITTEES

a. Striking of General Meeting Committees

Hashemi said that as per Internal Affairs Policy G-3 the following committees are automatically struck:

- the Campaigns Committee;
- the Finance Committee;

- the Organizational and Services Development Committee; and
- the Policy Review and Development Committee.

b. Adoption of Committee Agendas

- 2018/07:007 MOTION**
Local 15/Local 16
Be it resolved that the agenda for the Campaigns Committee be adopted.
CARRIED
- 2018/07:008 MOTION**
Local 15/Local 16
Be it resolved that the agenda for the Finance Committee be adopted.
CARRIED
- 2018/07:009 MOTION**
Local 15/Local 16
Be it resolved that the agenda for the Organizational and Services Development Committee be adopted.
CARRIED
- 2018/07:010 MOTION**
Local 15/Local 16
Be it resolved that the agenda for the Policy Review and Development Committee be adopted.
CARRIED

Patigdas noted that no motions would likely be referred to Policy Review and Development Committee and encouraged delegates to attend committees that would have business to discuss.

9. PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairperson Armutlu and Secretary-Treasurer Patigdas provided an overview of the Report of the Executive Committee.

- 2018/07:011 MOTION**
Local 12/Local 16
Be it resolved that the 2017-18 Report of the Executive Committee be adopted.
CARRIED

10. CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS

a. Consideration of Motions Served by Member Local Unions

Hashemi said that the following motions had been submitted with due notice for consideration at the meeting.

- 2018/07:012 MOTION TO AMEND INTERNAL AFFAIRS POLICY**
Local 15/Local 13
- Whereas issues policy is designed to inform campaigns development as well as position papers and lobby efforts with government and other organizations; and
- Whereas Federation issues policy is reviewed and developed in the Policy Review and Development Committee of annual and semi-annual Federation general meetings, which occurs at the same time as the Campaigns Committee meeting; and
- Whereas it would be prudent for issues policy to be discussed in the context of campaign development, rather than siloed off from campaigns and government relations discussion; and
- Whereas a significant portion of the terms of reference for the Policy Review and Development involves reviewing the policy manual of the CFS and CFSS, of which Federation members are no longer members; therefore

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Be it resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 3.a. be amended to strike “iv. the Policy Review and Development Committee”; and

Be it further resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 8.d. be struck with subsequent subsections being renumbered accordingly; and

Be it further resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 8.a. be amended to read:

- a. Campaigns Committee shall:
 - i. assess the previous campaign(s) of the Federation;
 - ii. identify and recommend to the closing plenary issues which the Federation should address for the next six (6) to ten (10) months;
 - iii. formulate a plan or plans of action for addressing the identified issues; and
 - iv. review and make recommendations to the closing plenary on proposed amendments to the Issues Policy manual submitted by member locals or developed by the Executive Committee.

2018/07:013 MOTION TO REFER
Local 10/Local 17

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:012 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:012 REFERRED

2018/07:014 MOTION TO AMEND STANDING RESOLUTION
Local 15/Local 13

Whereas costs for food and incidental items continue to rise, especially in greater Vancouver; and

Whereas those receiving per diems in lieu of food being provided are expected to cover their entire food and beverage costs with the funds provided; and

Whereas the current rates don't take into account the higher food costs borne by those with food allergies and dietary restrictions; and

Whereas the current lower per diem rates skew the calculations of value perceived to be gained or lost by the provision of per diems over the procurement of catering; and

Whereas the Federation's differential rates for per diem make an assumption that those from the meeting area are functionally able to provide some meals for themselves; and

Whereas the structure of Federation meetings rarely, if ever, provides an opportunity for local meeting attendees to save the money foreseen by the policy provisions; and

Whereas other organizations, including coalition partners and several member locals, provide higher per diem rates; therefore

Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 4, Reimbursement Rates, Article 1 be amended to read:

1. Per Diems

- a. A per diem of \$52 shall be paid to Executive Committee members attending an entire, day-long Executive Committee meeting.
- b. When attending 'out-of-town' meetings or events on behalf of the Federation, members shall be paid a per diem of \$52.00 for each full day of the meeting or event unless meals were provided.
- c. When travelling to attend a meeting or event on behalf of the Federation, members shall be paid \$52.00 for each day spent travelling pro-rated for partial days.
- d. When pro-rating a full day per diem, the following calculation shall be used:
Breakfast: \$11
Lunch: \$18
Dinner: \$23

2018/07:015 MOTION TO REFER
Local 10/Local 17

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:014 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:014 REFERRED

2018/07:016 MOTION TO AMEND STANDING RESOLUTION
Local 14/Local 13

Whereas Northwest Community College has recently changed its name to Coast Mountain College;
and

Whereas the Local, in order to have a name related to that of the College, changed its name to
Coast Mountain Students' Union; therefore

Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 12 be amended to replace "Northwest Community College
Students' Union" with "Coast Mountain Students' Union".

2018/07:017 MOTION TO REFER
Local 10/Local 17

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:016 be referred to the Organizational and Services
Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:016 REFERRED

2018/07:018 MOTION
Local 6/Local 13

Whereas a number of BC post-secondary institutions lack an ombudsperson office operating
independently from the administrative structure of the respective college or university; and

Whereas the systems of administrative law within those institutions are frequently not sufficiently
independent from the administrative structures giving rise to the decisions students seek to appeal;
and

Whereas in some cases, administrative law systems at institutions are overseen by the same
senior administrator directing the staff whose decisions are being appealed or reviewed; and

Whereas students are directed to seek justice in relation to issues arising with their post-secondary
education via internal administrative justice systems at their college or university before seeking
external review by a government agency or court; and

Whereas forcing students to navigate internal systems of administrative law that are systematically
biased, in some cases embodying an obvious structural conflict of interest, is both unfair and
unjust; and

Whereas students have the right to procedural fairness, and institutions must operate by the
principles of procedural fairness; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation call on the BC government to ensure that all institutions to
provide access to independent ombudsperson services to adjudicate student appeals either by
hosting an independent ombudsperson at the institution, or providing additional resources to the
Office of the Ombudsperson of British Columbia.

2018/07:019 MOTION TO REFER
Local 10/Local 17

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:018 be referred to the Campaigns Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:018 REFERRED

2018/07:020 MOTION TO AMEND INTERNAL AFFAIRS POLICY
Local 6/Local 13

Whereas the Federation's structure regarding general meetings creates the perception that the
organization is overly bureaucratic and supports structures to limit participation; and

Whereas the Federation's structure, in reality, reflects neither of those perceptions, but rather is
open to expanded participation and simple to navigate; and

Whereas, further efficiencies and greater openness can be achieved by revising structures relating
to non-member union delegates, invitees and observers at general meetings; and

Whereas the current structures on non-member union, invitee and observer participation are
confusing and can appear contradictory; therefore

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Be it resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 1.e. Delegates' Fees for Non-Member Unions be amended to read:

e. Delegate Fees for Non-Member Unions

Should a non-member union be invited to send delegates to a Federation general meeting, they shall be charged a fee per delegate subject to the following provisions.

- i. Non-member unions with a budget in excess of \$150,000, shall be charged a fee per delegate that represents the full cost of all direct general meeting expenses.
- ii. Non-member unions with a budget of \$150,000 or less who are invited to participate in a Federation general meeting shall be charge a scaled version of the full cost-recovery fee consistent with the formula established in Article 1.d. of this policy.

Be it further resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 9, Guests/Speakers at General Meetings, be amended to read:

9. Non-Member Union Representatives

The Federation may invite non-member union representatives to participate in Federation general meetings subject to the following:

- a. Not more than six delegates from any one non-member union, and not more than fifteen total non-member union delegates, may attend any one general meeting;
- b. Non-member unions shall pay such delegates as outlined in this policy;
- c. The Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer shall have the authority to extend invitations non-member unions to participate in general meetings subject to input from the Executive Committee, who shall discuss non-member union participation in general meetings as a standard component of general meeting planning; and
- d. Non-member union delegates may participate in all parts of the meeting and shall have speaking rights, but shall not be permitted to vote.

Be it further resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 11, Invitees to General Meetings, be amended to read:

11. Invitees to General Meetings

Invitees shall be considered as those persons invited by the Executive Committee to attend general meetings free of delegate fees. Invitees may be selected from:

- a. other provincial or national student organizations;
- b. representatives of coalition partners; and
- c. representatives of other education sector partners or social movements with which the Federation works.

Be it further resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 12, Observers at General Meetings, be amended to read:

12. Observers at General Meetings

Any individual members of the Federation may attend plenary sessions of a Federation general meeting as an observer. Observers shall not have either speaking rights or voting rights.

Observers shall not be charged a delegate fee, and observer travel, accommodation and meals shall be their responsibility.

2018/07:021

MOTION TO REFER

Local 10/Local 17

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:020 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:020

REFERRED

2018/07:022

MOTION

Local 6/Local 13

Whereas the Federation Internal Affairs Policy, Section H, Alliances, outlines the principles behind the Federation's work with external organizations;

Whereas most provisions in the policy date back to the 1990s, have not been reviewed in two decades, and do not reflect current practices or organizational principles; and

Whereas the Federation's coalition work and outreach has increased in recent years, and far eclipses that the policy envisions; therefore

Be it resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section H, Alliances, be reviewed; and

Be it further resolved that any proposed amendments recommended by the Executive Committee be presented to the membership for consideration by no later than the 2019 semi-annual general meeting.

2018/07:023 MOTION TO REFER

Local 10/Local 17

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:022 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:022 REFERRED

2018/07:024 MOTION

Local 6/Local 13

Whereas Internal Affairs Policy, Section E, Hiring of Permanent Employees, contains references to the Canadian Federation of Students as well as to outdated names for coalition partners such as the College Institutes Educators' Association (now Federation of Post-Secondary Educators); and

Whereas the majority of the policy was written prior to 2000, with only one section updated in 2003; and

Whereas the Collective Agreement is due for renegotiation, a process likely to include consideration of the hiring processes used by the Federation; therefore

Be it resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section E, Hiring of Permanent Employees, be reviewed; and

Be it further resolved that any proposed amendments recommended by the Executive Committee be presented to the membership for consideration by no later than the 2019 semi-annual general meeting.

2018/07:025 MOTION TO REFER

Local 16/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:024 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:024 REFERRED

2018/07:026 MOTION

Local 6/Local 13

Whereas post-secondary institutions began increased outsourcing of services under the New Era mandates of the BC Liberal government in the early 2000s; and

Whereas part of this process was forcing institutions to accept the lowest bid by an external contractors, irrespective of other contractual terms or standards that institutions would seek to prioritize; and

Whereas this process was primarily driven by a costs-cutting agenda, and to this effect, contributed to a "race to the bottom" in lowering select industry standards, especially in the janitorial sector; and

Whereas public post-secondary institutions in BC should have a responsibility to use their public funding in a way that does not allow for workers to be exploited, or in a manner that promotes the expansion of poverty wages; and

Whereas there is a stark difference between living wages in our communities and the wages paid contract workers at public post-secondary institutions in BC, specifically those in the janitorial sector; and

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Whereas a good example of this is the firm Best Service Pros, a common janitorial firm used by such institutions as the British Columbia Institute of Technology, Vancouver Community College, Langara College, University of British Columbia - Okanagan, and Capilano University; and

Whereas Best Service Pros is alleged to have committed over 50 incidents of unfair labor practices during a recent union drive of the campus cleaners with SEIU Local 2, and acted in violation of the BC Labor Code; and

Whereas among the actions of Best Service Pros was their entry into a 10-year agreement with the Christian Labour Association of Canada (CLAC), a 'union' known to:

- work with employers to effectively undermine workers' interests;
- work with employers to limit the ability of workers to choose a union free from employer influence; and
- undermine the right of workers to freely and independently collectively bargain; and

Whereas the actions of Best Service Pros was undertaken against workers paid with public funds and funds raised from student tuition fees, making students and the public complicit in these actions against workers; and

Whereas the BC NDP government has made commitments to respect worker rights, address affordability, and end regressive labour practices championed and promoted by past governments; and

Whereas post-secondary institutions, as contracting bodies, have the power to ensure that fair wages are guaranteed and unfair labour practices prevented within a tendering or request for proposal process structure for contracts awarded by each respective institution; and

Whereas it is fundamentally unfair that our colleges and universities are balancing their budgets by contracting out work to firms who use unfair and poverty wages, and thereby contributing to poverty in our communities; and

Whereas workers should not be asked to subsidize the operations of government through poverty wages; and

Whereas the Federation stands in solidarity with the BC Federation of Labour and its members in fighting against unfair labour practices, and the use of public funds to support abusive employers;

Whereas the Federation stands in coalition with the progressive community in British Columbia calling on government to address poverty in our province, and repair the structures that create and maintain poverty; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation call on the BC government to enact legislation mandating that post-secondary institutions adopt formal living wage policies and practices to require contractors to pay regionally adjusted living wage rates to their workers; and

Be it further resolved that the Federation call on the BC government to enact legislation mandating that post-secondary institutions consider service quality, environmental standards, social responsibility standards, employment standards and labour practices, as well as costs when evaluating contracts for services that would otherwise be performed by institutional staff; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to lobby their respective institutions to adopt a living wage policy and responsible contracting policy to require that all contractors pay a living wage to their employees, and that service quality, environmental standards, social responsibility standards, employment standards and labour practices, as well as costs are considered when awarding institutional contracts.

2018/07:027 MOTION TO REFER

Local 16/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:026 be referred to the Campaigns Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:026 REFERRED

2018/07:028 MOTION

Local 16/Local 13

Whereas the BC government has mandated institutions to adopt sexual assault policies; and

Whereas Our Turn is a national coalition who has created a tool kit to help assess sexual assault policies on campuses and advocate for their creation in provinces without mandated policies; and

Whereas Our Turn provides assistance in successful implementation of policies with a survivor-focused perspective; and

Whereas Our Turn works with over 20 students' unions across the country; therefore

Be it resolved that the Our Turn coalition be endorsed; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to endorse the Our Turn coalition.

2018/07:029

MOTION TO REFER

Local 16/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:028 be referred to the Campaigns Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:028

REFERRED

2018/07:030

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS

Local 16/Local 13

Whereas the Students with Disabilities and/or Special Needs Caucus has not been amended since August 1999; and

Whereas language around accessibility since the caucus was last amended has evolved; therefore

Be it resolved that the Students with Disabilities and/or Special Needs Caucus be renamed the Accessibility Caucus and that all references to the caucus be renamed accordingly.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw 17.2 e. be amended to read

- i. to promote the principles and purposes of the Federation;
- ii. to provide a mechanism for students who identify as being deaf or hard of hearing, or having a disability or mental health issue in British Columbia to meet and discuss accessibility issues on campuses.

Be it further resolved that bylaw 17.3 e. be amended to read:

The Accessibility Caucus shall be composed of any self-identifying delegate who identifies as being deaf or hard of hearing, or having a disability or mental health issue attending meetings of the Federation. Subject to ratification by the Accessibility Caucus, the caucus may also include delegates who do not identify as being deaf or hard of hearing, or having a disability or mental health issue who may have concerns or who would like to be involved in the conversation about accessibility on campuses.

Be it further resolved that bylaw 17.5 e. be amended to read:

The Accessibility Caucus shall meet during general meetings.

2018/07:031

MOTION TO REFER

Local 16/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:030 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:030

REFERRED

2018/07:032

MOTION

Local 16/Local 13

Whereas many member locals have implemented various software and project management tools to aid day-to-day work such as Google Docs, Slack, Trello, and others; and

Whereas full features of different software result in costs for individual member local; and

Whereas the Federation's economy of scale could provide the ability to have more access to software resources among member locals; and

Whereas the Federation and member locals could do more collaboration together if like software were implemented across the different offices; therefore

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Be it resolved that an investigation into the software and project management tools used by member locals be conducted, with a report provided to the Executive Committee at the September 2018 meeting; and

Be it further resolved that an investigation be conducted to determine if bulk purchasing of the commonly-used software would result in cost-savings for member locals, with a report provided to the Executive Committee at the September 2018 meeting; and

Be it further resolved the Executive Committee be empowered to purchase select software and project management tools with cost-sharing agreements with member locals as it sees fit based on the results of the investigations.

2018/07:033 MOTION TO REFER

Local 16/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:032 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:032 REFERRED

2018/07:034 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS POLICY

Local 16/Local 13

Whereas the bylaws and policies utilize the pronouns she/her when referring to individuals of the Federation; and

Whereas better practice would be to use gender-neutral pronouns in the Federation's bylaws and policies; therefore

Be it resolved that all pronouns in the Federation's bylaws and policies be replaced with the gender-neutral pronouns they/them.

2018/07:035 MOTION TO REFER

Local 16/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:034 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:034 REFERRED

2018/07:036 MOTION

Local 16/Local 13

Whereas the high cost of textbooks has become a serious obstacle to accessing post-secondary education in British Columbia; and

Whereas the BCcampus Open Textbook Project is responsible for facilitating the creation and adoption of open textbooks at campuses across British Columbia; and

Whereas the Federation's Open Textbooks Now! campaign aims to increase uptake of open education resources (OERs) on campuses by calling for government to fund \$5 million to the Open Textbook Project; and

Whereas introductory classes are some of the most accessed classes at post-secondary institutions; and

Whereas faculty have indicated that if a quality open education resource is available for their class they are likely to use it in their classroom; and

Whereas it costs as little as \$5,000 to fund a grant towards the creation or adaption of an open textbook; and

Whereas funding the creation of OERs would enhance the Federation's lobbying pressure by demonstrating leadership in not only advocacy but also investing in saving students money; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation contribute \$10,000 to the BCcampus Open Textbook Project annually for three years for the creation and/or adaptation of no less than two open textbooks for introductory class each year.

2018/07:037 MOTION TO REFER

Local 16/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:036 be referred to the Campaigns Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:036 REFERRED

2018/07:038 MOTION

Local 13/Local 2

Whereas government relations is an integral component of the Federation's three-pronged approach to advocacy and member representation; and

Whereas making formal submissions to the MLAs and the government through public hearings and legislative committees provides a valuable opportunity to generate support among decision-makers for the Federation's positions on key issues; and

Whereas the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services is a bi-partisan committee of the BC Legislature that engages the public on service and budget priorities and then subsequently advises the BC government on provisions for inclusion in the BC budget; and

Whereas a key campaign goal of the Federation in the past decade has been the elimination of interest rates on student loans; and

Whereas this goal has broad public support, and was a campaign promise of two of three parties represented in the BC Legislature, including the governing party; and

Whereas the Mandate Letter produced by the Premier for the Minister of Advanced Education directs that interest on student loans shall be eliminated; and

Whereas the current government has not yet taken action on this issue, and in neither the 2017 BC Budget Update nor the 2018 BC Budget was the campaign promise to eliminate interest on student loans implemented; and

Whereas members view this issue as being of the utmost urgency in making education in BC affordable and equally accessible; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to make presentations to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services with a clear focus on the elimination of interest on student loans using a coordinated message, personal stories, and research.

2018/07:039 MOTION TO REFER

Local 16/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:038 be referred to the Campaigns Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:038 REFERRED

2018/07:040 MOTION

Local 13/Local 2

Whereas government relations is an integral component of the Federation's three-pronged approach to advocacy and member representation; and

Whereas meetings with elected representatives provide an opportunity to educate decision-makers on key post-secondary education issues related to access, affordability and quality, and thus enables students to influence the position of government and opposition MLAs; and

Whereas a coordinated lobby week with MLA creates opportunities to meet with a wide variety of legislators and government representatives to build momentum behind key student issues, and is an efficient way to reach a diversity of MLAs representing all areas of the province; and

Whereas a coordinated lobby session in Victoria with representatives from member locals provides local representatives an opportunity for development and government relations experience that cannot be accessed in local communities; and

Whereas the BC NDP government has committed to the elimination of interest on student loans, but has not yet implemented this promise; and

Whereas the BC NDP government has committed to the creation of a completion grant for students, a contradiction to the NDP's long-held support for up-front, needs-based grants; therefore

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Be it resolved that a Lobby Week be organized during the fall 2018 sitting of the BC Legislature; and

Be it further resolved that the fall 2018 lobby week focus on seeking a commitment on the government's timeline for the elimination of interest on student loans, and seeking support for an up-front, needs-based grants model for the government's planned completion grants; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be given the opportunity to have at least one representative attend the Lobby Week.

2018/07:041 MOTION TO REFER
Local 16/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:040 be referred to the Campaigns Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:040 REFERRED

b. Consideration of Motions Served by the Executive Committee

Hashemi said that the following motions had been submitted with due notice for consideration at the meeting.

2018/07:042 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS
Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was functionally integrated with the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) in a variety of ways; and

Whereas the current structures of the Federation include a series of provisions that define the organizations' integration, which are no longer required; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw 1.1, Canadian Federation of Students, be repealed, with remaining sections renumbered accordingly.

2018/07:043 MOTION TO REFER
Local 1/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:042 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:042 REFERRED

2018/07:044 MOTION
Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was structurally integrated with the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) in a variety of ways; and

Whereas one of the ways in which the organizations were functionally integrated was the unified and congruent rules defining membership and the processes for joining and leaving the organization; and

Whereas more than two years ago, Federation members directed that that the Executive Committee undertake a review of the provisions of Bylaw II, Membership, which has not yet occurred due to the ongoing dispute regarding national membership and an ongoing legal dispute with the Kwantlen Students Association; and

Whereas a settlement was reached in the legal matter between the Federation and the Kwantlen Student Association, who were expelled from the Federation but remain members of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas the resolution of these two outstanding matters creates an opportunity to make changes free without impacting the Federation's legal position; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw II be reviewed, and following a review by legal counsel, amendments be brought for consideration by the membership to the 2019 semi-annual general meeting.

2018/07:045 **MOTION TO REFER**
Local 1/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:044 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:044 **REFERRED**

2018/07:046 **MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS**
Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) (CFS) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the CFS; and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was functionally integrated with the CFS in a variety of ways; and

Whereas during its history as the BC Component, the Federation's issues policy focused on provincial issues with the CFS' issues policy forming the foundation of the Federation's stance on national or international issues; and

Whereas in 2011, the Federation's bylaws were updated to mandate that issues policy only consider provincial issues, and that CFS' issues policy on national and international issues would also serve as the Federation's issues policy; and

Whereas the Federation has an obligation to represent members on a wide range of issues, including those national or international in scope; and

Whereas the Federation's issues policy should be a guide to the relevant principles and advocacy goals of the organization as they relate to the campaigns and government relations work the organization plans to undertake, rather than a clearinghouse of progressive issues on a range of issues on which the Federation is unlikely to advocate; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw 4.7, Issues Policy, be amended to read:

4.7 Issues Policy

The Federation shall maintain issues policies to articulate the considered views and principled positions necessary to define the organization's long-term advocacy goals.

2018/07:047 **MOTION TO REFER**
Local 1/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:046 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:046 **REFERRED**

2018/07:048 **MOTION TO AMEND BYLAW**
Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was able to elect a BC member of the National Executive; and

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Whereas the current structures of the Federation include a mechanism to elect the BC National Executive member, which is now redundant; and

Whereas past structures of the Federation included a mechanism to have the Secretary-Treasurer serve automatically as the BC Representative on the National Executive; and

Whereas Bylaw 5.3, subsection b., contains a separate term of office of the Secretary-Treasurer that relates to the old structural alignment between the Federation and the CFS; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw 5.3 b. be repealed, with remaining sections renumbered accordingly.

2018/07:049 MOTION TO REFER

Local 1/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:048 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:048 REFERRED

2018/07:050 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS

Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was functionally integrated with the CFS in a variety of ways; and

Whereas the current structures of the Federation include a mechanism to direct the Indigenous Students' Representative to be the official liaison between the Federation and the CFS National Aboriginal Caucus as the only mechanism for national outreach; and

Whereas there are a multitude of organizations with which the Federation could and should relate on Indigenous students' issues; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw 14.4 be amended to read:

14.4 Provincial and National Outreach

The Indigenous Students' Representative shall act as the primary liaison between the Federation provincial and national Indigenous organizations, and shall work with the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer to establish and maintain positive relations with Indigenous organizations with whom the Federation works.

2018/07:051 MOTION TO REFER

Local 1/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:050 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:050 REFERRED

2018/07:052 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS

Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was functionally integrated with the CFS in a variety of ways; and

Whereas the current structures of the Federation include a mechanism to direct the Women Students' Representative to be the official liaison between the Federation and the CFS Women's Commissioner as the only mechanism for national outreach; and

Whereas there are a multitude of organizations with which the Federation could and should relate on women students' issues; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw 15.4 be amended to read:

15.4 Provincial and National Outreach

The Women Students' Representative shall act as the primary liaison between the Federation provincial and national women's organizations, and shall work with the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer to establish and maintain positive relations with women's organizations with which the Federation works.

2018/07:053 MOTION TO REFER

Local 1/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:052 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:052 REFERRED

2018/07:054 MOTION TO REPEAL INTERNAL AFFAIRS POLICY

Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was able to elect a BC member of the National Executive; and

Whereas the current structures of the Federation include a mechanism to elect the BC National Executive member, which is now redundant; therefore

Be it resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section C, Election of the British Columbia Representative on the Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services National Executive, be repealed.

2018/07:055 MOTION TO REFER

Local 1/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion-2018/07:054 be referred to the Organizational and Services Development Committee.

CARRIED

2018/07:054 REFERRED

11. LOGISTICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Armutlu and Patigdas made a series of logistical announcements.

12. RECESS

2018/07:056 MOTION TO RECESS

Local 16/Local 5

Be it resolved that the meeting recess until Saturday, July 28, 2018 AT 9:30 AM.

CARRIED

19:45 the meeting recessed.

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CALL TO ORDER – 9:30 AM, Saturday, July 28, 2018

9:46 the meeting was called to back to order by Plenary Speaker Hashemi.

2. ROLL CALL OF MEMBER LOCAL UNIONS

Local 01 Okanagan College Students' Union	Absent
Local 02 Selkirk College Students' Union	Present
Local 04 College of New Caledonia Students' Union	Present
Local 05 Thompson Rivers University Students' Union	Present
Local 06 Douglas Students' Union	Present
Local 10 Emily Carr Students' Union	Present
Local 12 Students' Union of UBC Okanagan	Present
Local 13 Vancouver Island University Students' Union	Present
Local 14 Northwest Community College Students' Union	Present
Local 15 North Island Students' Union	Present
Local 16 Students' Union of Vancouver Community College	Present
Local 17 Camosun College Student Society	Present
Local 20 Northern British Columbia Graduate Student Society	Present

Quorum was declared to be present.

2. PRESENTATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

2018/07:057 MOTION

Local 13/Local 15

Be it resolved that the 2018-19 budget be adopted.

CARRIED

2018/07:058 MOTION

Local 13/Local 2

Be it resolved that the Finance Committee Report be adopted.

CARRIED

3. PRESENTATION OF THE POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The was no report from the Policy Review and Development Committee.

4. PRESENTATION OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL AND SERVICES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

a. Proposal to investigate bulk-purchasing of online software

2018/07:032 MOTION

Local 16/Local 13

Whereas many member locals have implemented various software and project management tools to aid day-to-day work such as Google Docs, Slack, Trello, and others; and

Whereas full features of different software result in costs for individual member local; and

Whereas the Federation's economy of scale could provide the ability to have more access to software resources among member locals; and

Whereas the Federation and member locals could do more collaboration together if like software were implemented across the different offices; therefore

Be it resolved that an investigation into the software and project management tools used by member locals be conducted, with a report provided to the Executive Committee at the September 2018 meeting; and

Be it further resolved that an investigation be conducted to determine if bulk purchasing of the commonly-used software would result in cost-savings for member locals, with a report provided to the Executive Committee at the September 2018 meeting; and

Be it further resolved the Executive Committee be empowered to purchase select software and project management tools with cost-sharing agreements with member locals as it sees fit based on the results of the investigations.

CARRIED

b. Proposal to remove Policy Review and Development Committee

2018/07:012 MOTION TO AMEND INTERNAL AFFAIRS POLICY

Local 15/Local 13

Whereas issues policy is designed to inform campaigns development as well as position papers and lobby efforts with government and other organizations; and

Whereas Federation issues policy is reviewed and developed in the Policy Review and Development Committee of annual and semi-annual Federation general meetings, which occurs at the same time as the Campaigns Committee meeting; and

Whereas it would be prudent for issues policy to be discussed in the context of campaign development, rather than siloed off from campaigns and government relations discussion; and

Whereas a significant portion of the terms of reference for the Policy Review and Development involves reviewing the policy manual of the CFS and CFSS, of which Federation members are no longer members; therefore

Be it resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 3.a. be amended to strike “iv. the Policy Review and Development Committee”;

Be it further resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 8.d. be struck with subsequent subsections being renumbered accordingly; and

Be it further resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 8.a. be amended to read:

- a. Campaigns Committee shall:
 - i. assess the previous campaign(s) of the Federation;
 - ii. identify and recommend to the closing plenary issues which the Federation should address for the next six (6) to ten (10) months;
 - iii. formulate a plan or plans of action for addressing the identified issues; and
 - iv. review and make recommendations to the closing plenary on proposed amendments to the Issues Policy manual submitted by member locals or developed by the Executive Committee.

CARRIED

c. Proposal to amend per diem rates

2018/07:014 MOTION TO AMEND STANDING RESOLUTION

Local 15/Local 13

Whereas costs for food and incidental items continue to rise, especially in greater Vancouver;

Whereas those receiving per diems in lieu of food being provided are expected to cover their entire food and beverage costs with the funds provided; and

Whereas the current rates don't take into account the higher food costs borne by those with food allergies and dietary restrictions; and

Whereas the current lower per diem rates skew the calculations of value perceived to be gained or lost by the provision of per diems over the procurement of catering; and

Whereas the Federation's differential rates for per diem make an assumption that those from the meeting area are functionally able to provide some meals for themselves; and

Whereas the structure of Federation meetings rarely, if ever, provides an opportunity for local meeting attendees to save the money foreseen by the policy provisions; and

Whereas other organizations, including coalition partners and several member locals, provide higher per diem rates; therefore

Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 4, Reimbursement Rates, Article 1 be amended to read:

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1. Per Diems

- a. A per diem of \$52 shall be paid to Executive Committee members attending an entire, day-long Executive Committee meeting.
- b. When attending 'out-of-town' meetings or events on behalf of the Federation, members shall be paid a per diem of \$52.00 for each full day of the meeting or event unless meals were provided.
- c. When travelling to attend a meeting or event on behalf of the Federation, members shall be paid \$52.00 for each day spent travelling pro-rated for partial days.
- d. When pro-rating a full day per diem, the following calculation shall be used:
Breakfast: \$11
Lunch: \$18
Dinner: \$23

CARRIED

d. Proposal to update name of Local 14 in the Federation's governing documents

2018/07:016 MOTION TO AMEND STANDING RESOLUTION

Local 14/Local 13

Whereas Northwest Community College has recently changed its name to Coast Mountain College; and

Whereas the Local, in order to have a name related to that of the College, changed its name to Coast Mountain Students' Union; therefore

Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 12 be amended to replace "Northwest Community College Students' Union" with "Coast Mountain Students' Union".

CARRIED

e. Proposal to make Federation meetings more open to non-member observers

2018/07:020 MOTION TO AMEND INTERNAL AFFAIRS POLICY

Local 6/Local 13

Whereas the Federation's structure regarding general meetings creates the perception that the organization is overly bureaucratic and supports structures to limit participation; and

Whereas the Federation's structure, in reality, reflects neither of those perceptions, but rather is open to expanded participation and simple to navigate; and

Whereas, further efficiencies and greater openness can be achieved by revising structures relating to non-member union delegates, invitees and observers at general meetings; and

Whereas the current structures on non-member union, invitee and observer participation are confusing and can appear contradictory; therefore

Be it resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 1.e. Delegates' Fees for Non-Member Unions be amended to read:

e. Delegate Fees for Non-Member Unions

Should a non-member union be invited to send delegates to a Federation general meeting, they shall be charged a fee per delegate subject to the following provisions.

- i. Non-member unions with a budget in excess of \$150,000, shall be charged a fee per delegate that represents the full cost of all direct general meeting expenses.
- ii. Non-member unions with a budget of \$150,000 or less who are invited to participate in a Federation general meeting shall be charge a scaled version of the full cost-recovery fee consistent with the formula established in Article 1.d. of this policy.

Be it further resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 9, Guests/Speakers at General Meetings, be amended to read:

9. Non-Member Union Representatives

The Federation may invite non-member union representatives to participate in Federation general meetings subject to the following:

- a. Not more than six delegates from any one non-member union, and not more than fifteen total non-member union delegates, may attend any one general meeting;
- b. Non-member unions shall pay such delegates as outlined in this policy;

- c. The Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer shall have the authority to extend invitations non-member unions to participate in general meetings subject to input from the Executive Committee, who shall discuss non-member union participation in general meetings as a standard component of general meeting planning; and
- d. Non-member union delegates may participate in all parts of the meeting and shall have speaking rights, but shall not be permitted to vote.

Be it further resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 11, Invitees to General Meetings, be amended to read:

11. Invitees to General Meetings

Invitees shall be considered as those persons invited by the Executive Committee to attend general meetings free of delegate fees. Invitees may be selected from:

- a. other provincial or national student organizations;
- b. representatives of coalition partners; and
- c. representatives of other education sector partners or social movements with which the Federation works.

Be it further resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section G, Article 12, Observers at General Meetings, be amended to read:

12. Observers at General Meetings

Any individual members of the Federation may attend plenary sessions of a Federation general meeting as an observer. Observers shall not have either speaking rights or voting rights. Observers shall not be charged a delegate fee, and observer travel, accommodation and meals shall be their responsibility.

CARRIED

f. Proposal to review policy on alliances

2018/07:022

MOTION

Local 6/Local 13

Whereas the Federation Internal Affairs Policy, Section H, Alliances, outlines the principles behind the Federation's work with external organizations; and

Whereas most provisions in the policy date back to the 1990s, have not been reviewed in two decades, and do not reflect current practices or organizational principles; and

Whereas the Federation's coalition work and outreach has increased in recent years, and far eclipses that the policy envisions; therefore

Be it resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section H, Alliances, be reviewed; and

Be it further resolved that any proposed amendments recommended by the Executive Committee be presented to the membership for consideration by no later than the 2019 semi-annual general meeting.

CARRIED

g. Proposal to review policy on hiring procedure

2018/07:024

MOTION

Local 6/Local 13

Whereas Internal Affairs Policy, Section E, Hiring of Permanent Employees, contains references to the Canadian Federation of Students as well as to outdated names for coalition partners such as the College Institutes Educators' Association (now Federation of Post-Secondary Educators); and

Whereas the majority of the policy was written prior to 2000, with only one section updated in 2003; and

Whereas the Collective Agreement is due for renegotiation, a process likely to include consideration of the hiring processes used by the Federation; therefore

Be it resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section E, Hiring of Permanent Employees, be reviewed; and

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Be it further resolved that any proposed amendments recommended by the Executive Committee be presented to the membership for consideration by no later than the 2019 semi-annual general meeting.

CARRIED

h. Proposal to amend name and structure of the Students with Disabilities and/or Special Needs Caucus

2018/07:030 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS

Local 16/Local 13

Whereas the Students with Disabilities and/or Special Needs Caucus has not been amended since August 1999; and

Whereas language around accessibility since the caucus was last amended has evolved; therefore

Be it resolved that the Students with Disabilities and/or Special Needs Caucus be renamed the Accessibility Caucus and that all references to the caucus be renamed accordingly.

Be it further resolved that Bylaw 17.2 e. be amended to read

- i. to promote the principles and purposes of the Federation;
- ii. to provide a mechanism for students who identify as being deaf or hard of hearing, or having a disability or mental health issue in British Columbia to meet and discuss accessibility issues on campuses.

Be it further resolved that bylaw 17.3 e. be amended to read:

The Accessibility Caucus shall be composed of any self-identifying delegate who identifies as being deaf or hard of hearing, or having a disability or mental health issue attending meetings of the Federation. Subject to ratification by the Accessibility Caucus, the caucus may also include delegates who do not identify as being deaf or hard of hearing, or having a disability or mental health issue who may have concerns or who would like to be involved in the conversation about accessibility on campuses.

Be it further resolved that bylaw 17.5 e. be amended to read

The Accessibility Caucus shall meet during general meetings.

2018/07:059 MOTION TO REFER

Local 17/Local 5

Be it resolved that Motion 2018/07:030 be referred to the Executive Committee.

DEFEATED

2018/07:030 CARRIED

i. Proposal to introduce gender-neutral pronouns into the Federation's governing documents

2018/07:034 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS POLICY

Local 16/Local 13

Whereas the bylaws and policies utilize the pronouns she/her when referring to individuals of the Federation; and

Whereas better practice would be to use gender-neutral pronouns in the Federation's bylaws and policies; therefore

Be it resolved that all pronouns in the Federation's bylaws and policies be replaced with the gender-neutral pronouns they/them.

CARRIED

j. Proposals to remove references to the Canadian Federation of Students from the Federation's governing documents

2018/07:042 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS

Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was functionally integrated with the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) in a variety of ways; and

Whereas the current structures of the Federation include a series of provisions that define the organizations' integration, which are no longer required; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw 1.1, Canadian Federation of Students, be repealed, with remaining sections renumbered accordingly.

CARRIED

2018/07:044

MOTION

Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was structurally integrated with the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) in a variety of ways; and

Whereas one of the ways in which the organizations were functionally integrated was the unified and congruent rules defining membership and the processes for joining and leaving the organization; and

Whereas more than two years ago, Federation members directed that that the Executive Committee undertake a review of the provisions of Bylaw II, Membership, which has not yet occurred due to the ongoing dispute regarding national membership and an ongoing legal dispute with the Kwantlen Students Association; and

Whereas a settlement was reach in the legal matter between the Federation and the Kwantlen Student Association, who were expelled from the Federation but remain members of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas the resolution of these two outstanding matters creates an opportunity to make changes free without impacting the Federation's legal position; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw II be reviewed, and following a review by legal counsel, amendments be brought for consideration by the membership to the 2019 semi-annual general meeting.

CARRIED

2018/07:046

MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS

Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) (CFS) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the CFS; and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was functionally integrated with the CFS in a variety of ways; and

Whereas the during its history as the BC Component, the Federation's issues policy focused on provincial issues with the CFS' issues policy forming the foundation of the Federation's stance on national or international issues; and

Whereas in 2011, the Federation's bylaws were updated to mandate that issues policy only consider provincial issues, and that CFS' issues policy on national and international issues would also serve as the Federation's issues policy; and

Whereas the Federation has an obligation to represent members on a wide range of issues, including those national or international in scope; and

Whereas the Federation's issues policy should be a guide to the relevant principles and advocacy goals of the organization as they relate to the campaigns and government relations work the organization plans to undertake, rather than a clearinghouse of progressive issues on a range of issues on which the Federation is unlikely to advocate; therefore

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Be it resolved that Bylaw 4.7, Issues Policy, be amended to read:

4.7 Issues Policy

The Federation shall maintain issues policies to articulate the considered views and principled positions necessary to define the organization's long-term advocacy goals.

CARRIED

2018/07:048 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS

Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was able to elect a BC member of the National Executive; and

Whereas the current structures of the Federation include a mechanism to elect the BC National Executive member, which is now redundant; and

Whereas past structures of the Federation included a mechanism to have the Secretary-Treasurer serve automatically as the BC Representative on the National Executive; and

Whereas Bylaw 5.3, subsection b., contains a separate term of office of the Secretary-Treasurer that relates to the old structural alignment between the Federation and the CFS; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw 5.3 b. be repealed, with remaining sections renumbered accordingly.

CARRIED

2018/07:050 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS

Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was functionally integrated with the CFS in a variety of ways; and

Whereas the current structures of the Federation include a mechanism to direct the Indigenous Students' Representative to be the official liaison between the Federation and the CFS National Aboriginal Caucus as the only mechanism for national outreach; and

Whereas there are a multitude of organizations with which the Federation could and should relate on Indigenous student issues; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw 14.4 be amended to read:

14.4 Provincial and National Outreach

The Indigenous Students' Representative shall act as the primary liaison between the Federation provincial and national Indigenous organizations, and shall work with the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer to establish and maintain positive relations with Indigenous organizations with whom the Federation works.

CARRIED

2018/07:052 MOTION TO AMEND BYLAWS

Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was functionally integrated with the CFS in a variety of ways; and

Whereas the current structures of the Federation include a mechanism to direct the Women Students' Representative to be the official liaison between the Federation and the CFS Women's Commissioner as the only mechanism for national outreach; and

Whereas there are a multitude of organizations with which the Federation could and should relate on women students' issues; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw 15.4 be amended to read:

15.4 Provincial and National Outreach

The Women Students' Representative shall act as the primary liaison between the Federation provincial and national women's organizations, and shall work with the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer to establish and maintain positive relations with women's organizations with which the Federation works.

CARRIED

k. Proposal to repeal policy on BC Representative on the CFS National Executive

2018/07:054 MOTION TO REPEAL INTERNAL AFFAIRS POLICY

Local 2/Local 4

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) expelled all BC Federation of Students members at their general meeting held June 9, 2018; and

Whereas prior to the expulsion, the Federation served as the BC Component of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services); and

Whereas, as the BC Component, the Federation was able to elect a BC member of the National Executive; and

Whereas the current structures of the Federation include a mechanism to elect the BC National Executive member, which is now redundant; therefore

Be it resolved that Internal Affairs Policy Section C, Election of the British Columbia Representative on the Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services National Executive, be repealed.

CARRIED

2018/07:060 MOTION

Local 12/Local 6

Be it resolved that the Organizational and Services Development Committee Report be adopted.

CARRIED

5. PRESENTATION OF THE CAMPAIGNS COMMITTEE REPORT

a. Proposal to call for a provincial ombudsperson

2018/07:018 MOTION

Local 6/Local 13

Whereas a number of BC post-secondary institutions lack an ombudsperson office operating independently from the administrative structure of the respective college or university; and

Whereas the systems of administrative law within those institutions are frequently not sufficiently independent from the administrative structures giving rise to the decisions students seek to appeal; and

Whereas, in some cases, administrative law systems at institutions are overseen by the same senior administrator directing the staff whose decisions are being appealed or reviewed; and

Whereas students are directed to seek justice in relation to issues arising with their post-secondary education via internal administrative justice systems at their college or university before seeking external review by a government agency or court; and

Whereas forcing students to navigate internal systems of administrative law that are systematically biased, in some cases embodying an obvious structural conflict of interest, is both unfair and unjust; and

Whereas students have the right to procedural fairness, and institutions must operate by the principles of procedural fairness; therefore

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Be it resolved that the Federation call on the BC government to ensure that all institutions to provide access to independent ombudsperson services to adjudicate student appeals either by hosting an independent ombudsperson at the institution or providing additional resources to the Office of the Ombudsperson of British Columbia.

2018/07:061 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 1/Local 15

Be it resolved that Motion 2018/07:018 be amended to read:

Be it resolved that the Federation call on the BC government to ensure that all institutions to provide access to independent ombudsperson services to adjudicate student appeals or formal complaints either by hosting an independent ombudsperson at the institution, or providing additional resources to the Office of the Ombudsperson of British Columbia.

CARRIED

2018/07:018 CARRIED AS AMENDED

b. Proposal to lobby for living wage policies at institutions

2018/07:026 MOTION
Local 6/Local 13

Whereas post-secondary institutions began increased outsourcing of services under the New Era mandates of the BC Liberal government in the early 2000s; and

Whereas part of this process was forcing institutions to accept the lowest bid by an external contractors, irrespective of other contractual terms or standards that institutions would seek to prioritize; and

Whereas this process was primarily driven by a costs-cutting agenda, and to this effect, contributed to a “race to the bottom” in lowering select industry standards, especially in the janitorial sector; and

Whereas public post-secondary institutions in BC should have a responsibility to use their public funding in a way that does not allow for workers to be exploited, or in a manner that promotes the expansion of poverty wages; and

Whereas there is a stark difference between living wages in our communities and the wages paid contract workers at public post-secondary institutions in BC, specifically those in the janitorial sector; and

Whereas a good example of this is the firm Best Service Pros, a common janitorial firm used by such institutions as the British Columbia Institute of Technology, Vancouver Community College, Langara College, University of British Columbia - Okanagan, and Capilano University; and

Whereas Best Service Pros is alleged to have committed over 50 incidents of unfair labor practices during a recent union drive of the campus cleaners with SEIU Local 2, and acted in violation of the BC Labor Code; and

Whereas among the actions of Best Service Pros was their entry into a 10-year agreement with the Christian Labour Association of Canada (CLAC), a ‘union’ known to:

- work with employers to effectively undermine workers’ interests;
- work with employers to limit the ability of workers to choose a union free from employer influence; and
- undermine the right of workers to freely and independently collectively bargain; and

Whereas the actions of Best Service Pros was undertaken against workers paid with public funds and funds raised from student tuition fees, making students and the public complicit in these actions against workers; and

Whereas the BC NDP government has made commitments to respect worker rights, address affordability, and end regressive labour practices championed and promoted by past governments; and

Whereas post-secondary institutions, as contracting bodies, have the power to ensure that fair wages are guaranteed and unfair labour practices prevented within a tendering or request for proposal process structure for contracts awarded by each respective institution; and

Whereas it is fundamentally unfair that our colleges and universities are balancing their budgets by contracting out work to firms who use unfair and poverty wages, and thereby contributing to poverty in our communities; and

Whereas workers should not be asked to subsidize the operations of government through poverty wages; and

Whereas the Federation stands in solidarity with the BC Federation of Labour and its members in fighting against unfair labour practices, and the use of public funds to support abusive employers; and

Whereas the Federation stands in coalition with the progressive community in British Columbia calling on government to address poverty in our province, and repair the structures that create and maintain poverty; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation call on the BC government to enact legislation mandating that post-secondary institutions adopt formal living wage policies and practices to require contractors to pay regionally adjusted living wage rates to their workers;

Be it further resolved that the Federation call on the BC government to enact legislation mandating that post-secondary institutions consider service quality, environmental standards, social responsibility standards, employment standards and labour practices, as well as costs when evaluating contracts for services that would otherwise be performed by institutional staff; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to lobby their respective institutions to adopt a living wage policy and responsible contracting policy to require that all contractors pay a living wage to their employees, and that service quality, environmental standards, social responsibility standards, employment standards and labour practices, as well as costs are considered when awarding institutional contracts.

CARRIED

c. Proposal to endorse the Our Turn Coalition

2018/07:028

MOTION

Local 16/Local 13

Whereas the BC government has mandated institutions to adopt sexual assault policies; and

Whereas Our Turn is a national coalition who has created a tool kit to help assess sexual assault policies on campuses and advocate for their creation in provinces without mandated policies; and

Whereas Our Turn provides assistance in successful implementation of policies with a survivor-focused perspective; and

Whereas Our Turn works with over 20 students' unions across the country; therefore

Be it resolved that the Our Turn coalition be endorsed; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to endorse the Our Turn coalition.

CARRIED

d. Proposal to contribute funding for the creation of OERs

2018/07:036

MOTION

Local 16/Local 13

Whereas the high cost of textbooks has become a serious obstacle to accessing post-secondary education in British Columbia; and

Whereas the BCcampus Open Textbook Project is responsible for facilitating the creation and adoption of open textbooks at campuses across British Columbia; and

Whereas the Federation's Open Textbooks Now! campaign aims to increase uptake of open education resources (OERs) on campuses by calling for government to fund \$5 million to the Open Textbook Project; and

Whereas introductory classes are some of the most accessed classes at post-secondary institutions; and

Whereas faculty have indicated that if a quality open education resource is available for their class they are likely to use it in their classroom; and

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Whereas it costs as little as \$5,000 to fund a grant towards the creation or adaption of an open textbook; and

Whereas funding the creation of OERs would enhance the Federation's lobbying pressure by demonstrating leadership in not only advocacy but also investing in saving students money; therefore

Be it resolved that the Federation contribute \$10,000 to the BCcampus Open Textbook Project annually for three years for the creation and/or adaptation of no less than two open textbooks for introductory class each year.

2018/07:062 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 6/Local 12

Be it resolved that Motion 2018/07:036 be amended to read:

Be it resolved that the Federation contribute \$30,000 to the BCcampus Open Textbook Project with the direction that it be used over three years for the creation and/or adaptation of no less than two open textbooks for introductory classes.

CARRIED

2018/07:036 CARRIED AS AMENDED

e. Proposal to encourage locals to present to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services

2018/07:038 MOTION
Local 13/Local 2

Whereas government relations is an integral component of the Federation's three-pronged approach to advocacy and member representation; and

Whereas making formal submissions to the MLAs and the government through public hearings and legislative committees provides a valuable opportunity to generate support among decision-makers for the Federation's positions on key issues; and

Whereas the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services is a bi-partisan committee of the BC Legislature that engages the public on service and budget priorities and then subsequently advises the BC government on provisions for inclusion in the BC budget; and

Whereas a key campaign goal of the Federation in the past decade has been the elimination of interest rates on student loans; and

Whereas this goal has broad public support, and was a campaign promise of two of three parties represented in the BC Legislature, including the governing party; and

Whereas the Mandate Letter produced by the Premier for the Minister of Advanced Education directs that interest on student loans shall be eliminated; and

Whereas the current government has not yet taken action on this issue, and in neither the 2017 BC Budget Update nor the 2018 BC Budget was the campaign promise to eliminate interest on student loans implemented; and

Whereas members view this issue as being of the utmost urgency in making education in BC affordable and equally accessible; therefore

Be it resolved that member locals be encouraged to make presentations to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services with a clear focus on the elimination of interest on student loans using a coordinated message, personal stories, and research.

2018/07:063 MOTION TO AMEND
Local 12/Local 17

Be it resolved that Motion 2018/07:038 be amended to add:

Be it further resolved that the Federation work with non-member students' unions to coordinate messaging in presentations to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services to focus on the elimination of interest on student loans.

CARRIED

2018/07:038 CARRIED AS AMENDED

f. Proposal to hold a lobby week in fall 2018

2018/07:040

MOTION

Local 13/Local 2

Whereas government relations is an integral component of the Federation's three-pronged approach to advocacy and member representation; and

Whereas meetings with elected representatives provide an opportunity to educate decision-makers on key post-secondary education issues related to access, affordability and quality, and thus enables students to influence the position of government and opposition MLAs; and

Whereas a coordinated lobby week with MLA creates opportunities to meet with a wide variety of legislators and government representatives to build momentum behind key student issues, and is an efficient way to reach a diversity of MLAs representing all areas of the province; and

Whereas a coordinated lobby session in Victoria with representatives from member locals provides local representatives an opportunity for development and government relations experience that cannot be accessed in local communities; and

Whereas the BC NDP government has committed to the elimination of interest on student loans, but has not yet implemented this promise; and

Whereas the BC NDP government has committed to the creation of a completion grant for students, a contradiction to the NDP's long-held support for up-front, needs-based grants; therefore

Be it resolved that a Lobby Week be organized during the fall 2018 sitting of the BC Legislature; and

Be it further resolved that the fall 2018 lobby week focus on seeking a commitment on the government's timeline for the elimination of interest on student loans, and seeking support for an up-front, needs-based grants model for the government's planned completion grants; and

Be it further resolved that member locals be given the opportunity to have at least one representative attend the Lobby Week.

2018/07:064

MOTION TO AMEND

Local 1/Local 5

Be it resolved that Motion 2018/07:040 be amended to add:

Be it further resolved that member locals be encouraged to meet with their local MLAs in their region if they are unable to send a representative to the Lobby Week.

CARRIED

2018/07:065

MOTION TO AMEND

Local 12/Local 17

Be it resolved that Motion 2018/07:040 be amended to add:

Be it further resolved that Lobby Week be called Advocacy Week.

CARRIED

2018/07:040

CARRIED AS AMENDED

2018/07:066

MOTION

Local 16/Local 5

Be it resolved that the 2018-19 Campaigns and Government Relations Plan be adopted.

CARRIED

2018/07:067

MOTION

Local 2/Local 10

Be it resolved that the Campaigns and Government Relations Report be adopted.

CARRIED

6. PRESENTATION OF CAUCUS REPORTS

Caucus facilitators reported on the work of the caucuses at the meeting.

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7. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

8. LOGISTICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

A series of logistical announcements were made.

9. ADJOURNMENT

2018/07:068

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Local 4/Local 5

Be it resolved that the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

10:34 the meeting adjourned.