

Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry
RM 1430 (Student Union Building)
Simon Fraser University
8888 University Drive
Burnaby, B.C V5A 1S6



SFU Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA)
[January 17th] at []

ATTENDEES: Adanna, Stacy, Emmanuel Anthony-Onuigbo, Anne-Marie, Nengi, Trixie, Alison, Akuol, Bam, Israel, Ruki, oluchi, naomi, Liya, Purity, Mekeil, Wai, Imnet, Nengi, Nobuhle, Joanne, Wai

MEETING AGENDA: TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SOCA recognizes we are situated on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish, the Musqueam, Kwikwetlem, Squamish, Tseil-waututh, and Katzie and we recognize the importance of this acknowledging that this land has never been granted, surrendered nor sold to any government but taken by force. You can see who's land your on using an app called <https://native-land.ca/> which is a map of Indigenous lands

ROUNDS.

(Name, Pronouns, access needs, What was the most fun part of your holiday!)

Adanna- she her access needs met, sleeping in

Stacy- she had, access needs me, not having school

Anne Marie- she her, access needs met, being with family

Trixie- she get, access needs met, being home, going on vacation, the weather,

Akuol- she her, access needs met, sleeping

Alson- he him, access needs met, sleeping in

Naomi- she her, access needs met, sleeping in

Nengi- she her, access needs met, playing games and basketball

Oluchi- she her, access needs met, Taking a break from studying

Emmanuel- he him, access needs met, going back to Nigeria, time with family

Muna- he him, access needs met, relaxing and looking forward to this job

Purity- she they he, access needs met, getting invited to a Christmas party on Christmas eve

Liya- she her, access needs met, chilling out on new years eve

Mekeil- she her, access needs met, Christmas dinner with family

Nobu- she her, have to leave early, sleeping in

Joanne- she her, access needs met, can't speak, spending time with family and the sun

Wai- she her, access needs met, being at home in Kenya

Imnet- she her, access needs met, wandering around firemen Calaveras with little cousin, sneaking into old closed down buildings and visiting cat cafés

Ruki- he, him, access needs met, reading books

Isreal- he him, access needs exist??, looking at the stars and wondering about stories

APPROVE MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

- **Approved**
 - - **NOV 22nd 2024 Meeting Minutes Agenda SFU SOCA**

REPORT OF OFFICERS

- **President**
 - Uploaded exec bio to website
 - Executed cultural night alongside team + post event checklist
 - Attended BHM planning committee meeting
 - Attended Onyx initiative sessions
 - Planning BHM
 - CBC interview liaison with yasmine
 - Email Correspondance
 - Meeting with Bukola
 - Shared events/opportunities sent to soca with general members
 - Onboarding our new support staff
 - Exec working session
 - Prepared meeting minutes
 - Placing food order for Catch ah vybez
- **Vice President**
 - Attended sfss meeting to prepare for Coordinators onboarding
 - Helping with onboarding docs
 - Met with Noëll for collab planning and supporting community days.
- **External Relations officer**
 - Organizing Financial literacy workshop with Wisdom
- **Internal Relations Officer**
 - Attended council meeting, attended bssc Onboarding meeting
- **Secretary**
 - Working on newsletter
- **Treasurer (and Finances report)**
 - Accounts balances and in and out flows (trust, levy fund, Soca Core, staff department line item, Scotiabank, outstanding/upcoming grants):
 - Trust: \$8135.02
 - Levy: \$29,134.22
 - Soca CG core fund: \$1,350.00
 - Staff Dept Levy: N/A
 - Scotiabank (external): \$2250.88
 - Grant funding: N/A
 - Cheques to be signed (include Motions Date and Number approved and person to

reimburse): N/A

- Cheque requisitions to be done: Pizza for reimbursement, and cultural night decor reimbursement.
- Other: Updated the finance tracking sheet, attended men's health talk

- **ITO:**

- Made the posters for - the events calendar, catch ah vybz, men's talk
- Posted the cultural night recap video
- Posted the black t-shirt day photo
- Made the catch a vybz promo video
- Updated the website with Muna's bio and posted on Instagram

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- **Events Coordinator:**

- Nothing to report

- **First Year Rep:**

- **Filled out the form for booking a space in the aquarium,**
- **Made posters to promote the flea market**

- **Grad Rep -**

- **Sends regrets**

- **FIC Rep**

- nothing to report

- **Execs at large Mekeil:**

- Working with bhm Committee, planning for Catch ah vybz

- **Execs at large Naomi:**

- - nothing to report!

- **Execs at large Joanne**

- Nothing to report

- **Black Student Support Coordinator**

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DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. BHM PLANNING

- **Black History Month - SOCA'S THEME OF THE MONTH- From Past to Future: Black Canadian History and Leadership"**

- Events timeline

We'll be using the same theme as SFU this time around "**From Past to Future: Black Canadian History and Leadership"**

- Feb 3rd is a panel discussion/kickoff in the SUB social stage. We hope to get some Black leaders to share their experience and talk about the ongoing Black class action where the Federline Clement is being sued for instance of discrimination, an ongoing

case since 2020. We only have one confirmed speaker. Muna has connections with a former Soca alum that he could invite, and will follow up with that. We hope to gather at least 3 speakers. We could also reach out to Odartey. We could also reach out to Brian from bcca for help with getting premeditated candidates as well

- Feb 7th is Album releasing party "The Confessions of an Antisocial Butterfly," A listening session featuring 3-4 songs from the EP. [This would be a playback of the recorded songs]. A roundtable discussion where we can dive into the themes of the project and reflect on shared experiences. Homemade treats and gift bags for attendees as a token of appreciation.
- Feb 10th @6pm - financial literacy workshop
- Feb 13th - movie night
- Feb 26th - flea market to support black owned businesses.
- Feb 26th- community kitchen with Embark and Health and counseling.
- Feb 28th- gala night

2. A Proposal For Monthly Black Community Kitchen:

- The equity department in student services asked me to create a monthly Black Community Kitchen proposal. The proposal was created and approved to be executed for January to March 2025.
- If the community could benefit from this, we could use your help in two ways.
- We require representatives (with food safety certification) from SOCA to be present at the Community Kitchen and help us complete all the paperwork to gain access to the kitchen in the SUB. Would the BSSC coordinator help with this?
- We are willing to give an honorarium to 2 persons who can assist in executing the Community Kitchen each month.
- -2 meetings with me leading up to the event. must be present at the event to set up and clean up.

3. Onyx initiative challenge: Opportunity for Black Students: Onyx Scholars Program Applications Opening Soon

- The purpose of Onyx Initiative is to expand the recruitment pipeline by offering comprehensive career development resources and forging mutually beneficial corporate, educational, and community partnerships to close the systemic gap in the hiring, retention and promotion of Black college and university students and recent graduates for roles in corporate Canada.”
- Provide Mentorship for post secondary students, thought it would be a wonderful perk for membership, they're partnering with schools all over Canada, the challenge inconclusive making videos about what Black History means to us, members are also encouraged to sign up for Mentorship on their site, Balkees attended on of their meetings and had a positive experience

4. Black History month Proposal to Host an Interrobang Session & Workshop for Executives and membership

- explore the possibility of hosting an Interrobang Session during Black History Month. I believe it would be a great opportunity for students to get to know each other, build connections, and strengthen our community.

5. **Paid Mentorship Opportunities for Black Post-Secondary Students:**

- We are a fully remote tutoring organization (composed of a number of black students and instructors) for underrepresented communities, mainly in Ontario, with over 500 sessions per month and counting.
- If you would like to learn more about the work we do at JonAyves we can always schedule a time for a Zoom meeting with myself as well as the founder of the JonAyves Learning Club, Max Roach. I already proposed a time for meeting in my email to your coordinator but I would greatly appreciate it if you could join in as well.
- Muna is meeting with them on Tuesday
- If Tuesday Jan 21st @ 4:00PM EST (1:00 PM or time) works for you then I can send over the calendar invite

6. Financial literacy workshop topics (building saving & wealth, increasing cash flow and managing debt, understanding asset accumulation strategies, fulfilling long term goals and preserving wealth and estate).

Wisdom would be available any day after 5. We have to pick a topic and communicate it to him. A tentative choice is “building wealth” or “increasing cash flow & managing debt”

7. **CJSF Pre-referendum Takeover:** next Wednesday, January 22 from 11:15am-12:15pm.

- We are not part of the decision to increase budgets, because we got ours undressed only a few years ago, while they haven't had an increase in about 10 years. They supported us at the time of our reddened, so we'll be Spring them by getting the word out and campaigning on their behalf. They'll be offering people information about their cause in front of blenz **Community days:** every Thursday for the next four weeks. The radio Takeover will just be to talk more about this. Even if we can't table with them, it could be a good idea just to show up and show support

8. Black History Month coverage at The Peak

- I'm reaching out ahead of Black History Month because I'd love to know if you and your members have any ideas or requests for coverage in the newspaper. We'd love to promote any events you have planned and highlight aspects of Black history and culture at SFU. As well, please invite your members to write for us if they're interested! We'll be putting out a call for Black writers on social media soon with more information.
- We could record the panel discussion and submit it to the Peak so they can write an article about it

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9. Clubs day: 21-22 January 11am-2pm. Table a. Come by and say hi, and get some merch

10. Catch ah vybez: a week from now Caribbean African and Nigerian, this shall be our last catch ah vybz!

Motions

1. Contingency from cultural night

Whereas SOCA celebrated cultural night on Nov 30th and initial expenses went over the anticipated budget of \$7303.

Whereas an extra \$1602.27 in expenses was incurred

Be it resolved that the excess amount will be charged from Contingency/Spill over #84 account 886/45.

**Moved by [Emmanuel] / seconded by [Anne Marie]
CARRIED unanimously**

2. Printing of SOCA's Membership Merch for BHM

Whereas BHM is coming up in the Spring semester and a list of events have been curated for this month

Whereas the printing of this merch is an avenue to raise funds that will go towards a Black Student Fund to support Students In Need of Financial Support;

Be it resolved that SOCA approves the amount of up to \$1400 for the printing of the T-shirts;

Be it further resolved that the following amounts be taken out of line item 70 "SOCA Swag" and 74 "Physical Branding" Account 815/45

Moved by (Stacy) / Seconded by(Emmanuel)

Carried Unanimously

Question: execs want more options for the soca swag, have some design suggestions for Richard

3. Motion to reimburse Stacy Kimani for meeting refreshments

Whereas Soca conducted a General meeting on Jan 17th 2025 and refreshments were needed to be bought for general members and executives.

Whereas Stacy Kimani purchased pizza for members.

Be it resolved to reimburse the amount of \$60.89 from Acct:[886/45]Line item: #81 - Meetings Vouchers and Snacks.

Moved by (Adanna) / Seconded by (Anne Marie)

Carried Unanimously

4. Motion for SOCA to get reimbursed from the trust account for \$1000 donation

Whereas a SOCA member was in deep need of financial support to pay tuition fees;

Whereas the Bursary line item #47 "Black Student Bursary Fund" was created for needs like there where students are in a position where the need emergency support

Whereas SOCA contributed \$1000 to support a student with paying tuition fees and a cheque was issued from SOCA's Scotia bank account

Be it resolved that SOCA gets reimbursed \$1000 from the trust account

Moved by [Stacy] / seconded by [Anne Marie]

Carried unanimously

Discussion: Alison to submit the cheque req

5. Reimbursement to SOCA for space shopping.

Whereas SOCA purchased foods, snacks and beverages for the space with an expense of \$426.08.

Whereas Munatsi made the purchase, SOCA has written a cheque for him.

Be it resolved to reimburse SOCA from line item #75 account 815/45.

Moved by [Anne Marie] / seconded by [Emmanuel]

Carried unanimously

6. SOCA Elections Spring 2025 and Nominating Committee

Be it resolved that SOCA calls elections for Spring 2025 as follows for the Nominating Committee to work with in line with the previous elections policies and execute the elections within these periods namely:

Nomination Period: Mar 17th to Mar 21,

Campaign Period: March 22nd to 28,

Voting Period: March 29th to April 1st

Results announced: April 3rd

as per SOCA Constitution and SFSS Bylaws

Be it further resolved that SOCA draft elections policies in line with the previous Elections Policies and approve them at the next or future meeting, and that the

Nominating Committee be struck and members be appointed at the next General Meetings in line with the SOCA Constitution Section VI.6

Moved by [Daniel] / seconded by [AnneMarie]

Carried unanimously

COMMITTEE AND SUB-ASSOCIATIONS UPDATE

- **Social Justice and Advocacy Committee**
 - Nothing to report
- **Cultural Events Committee.**
- **BSSC and Space Committee.**

- **Food Justice.**

- **NSA**

- **SSA**

ACTION ITEMS FOR EXEC

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OPEN ISSUES OR CONCERNS.

Meeting Adjourned at [6:32]

Moved by (Anne-Marie) /seconded by (Adanna)