

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)
[July 5th,2024] at [5:18pm]

ATTENDEES: Adanna, Emmanuel O, Alex, Alison, Jennifer, Ruki, Naomi, Laury, Mekeil, Stacy, Liya, Gloria, Araba(Staff)

MEETING AGENDA

TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SOCA recognizes we are situated on the unceded territories Coast Salish Territories of the Musqueam, Kwikwetlem, Squamish and Tsleil-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 is your fav summer activity?)

Adanna: she/her access needs met, going to the beach

Alex: he/him, access needs met, traveling

Mekeil: She/her, access needs met, hanging out with friends

Liya: she/her, access needs met, hanging out with friends/thrifting

Nobuhle: she/her, access needs met, swimming

Gloria: she/her, access needs met, swimming

Wisdom: he/him access needs met playing soccer

Stacy: she/her, needs to leave early and can't speak too much, being on the water.

Emmanuel:

Laury: she/her, access needs met, leaving soon, traveling

Naomi: she/her access needs met, none

APPROVE MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

- **Approved - June 21st, 2024**

REPORT OF OFFICERS

- President
 - Coordinating kayaking and upcoming camping event
 - Email correspondence
- Vice President
 - Followed up on cheque reqs to make sure everyone has been reimbursed

-
- Email correspondence
 - Working with Araba to ensure smooth transition
 - Worked with one of the volunteers
 - Worked with StackedCon on their upcoming fashion rehearsal in the SU, and Black Block party
 - External Relations Officer
 - Committee meeting to start next week
 - Participated in the meeting on bullying and harassment
 - Internal Relations Officer
 - Coordinating the Financial literacy workshop
 - Secretary
 - Sends his regrets
 - Published the newsletter
 - Treasurer
 - Running late
 - Events Coordinator
 - Running late
 - First Year Rep
 - Nothing to report
 - Grad Rep
 - Sends his regrets
 - Fraser International College (FIC) Rep
 - Nothing to report
 - Information Technology Officer (ITO)
 - Sends her regrets
 - Worked with StackedCon on promotion for our feed and stories
 - Made posters
 - Emailed Colour the Trails for pictures from Kayaking Event
 - Execs at large
 - Naomi - spoke to Simmi at the Women's Centre coordinator, mentioned she would liaise with the OCC coordinator on SOCA quest for an all inclusive program to benefit members of the LGBTQIA+
 - Black Student Support Centre Staff (BSSC) Staff
 - Cheque reqs
 - Internal meetings 5s and Harm Reduction
 - Working with execs - Stacy, Adanna, Alson on upcoming events, and managing the space
 - Email Correspondence
 - Support to students
 - Other Assigned Members

REPORT ON SPECIFIC MATTERS

- - Suggestion on SOCA inclusive event. Simmi suggested a movie night on July 26 to be hosted at the women's center for the queer membership
 - It is important for Black identified queer members comfortable in the SOCA space to facilitate a workshop other than hosting the event at the women's center.
 - Suggestion to have the women's center and OCC advertise and advocate for it. These are big spaces and the queer community is already comfortable being there.
 - July 6 Stackedcon will have a modeling rehearsal in the SUB. Members are welcomed to participate.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Financial Workshp

- Host 6 complimentary workshops including, building savings and wealth, Increasing cash flows and managing debts, preserving wealth among others.
- Available to collaborate with SOCA to host these workshops for students.
- Objective- leverage financial workshop months to educate members on specific topics.
- Comment: SOCA does not have financial literacy events. This only happens on demand from members or a request from an external or affiliated institution
- Facilitator - aim to go through all the workshops (6) with members
- Comment: would discuss and develop a timeline - possibly wait for the fall semester when more students are on campus
- Agreed to set up a date in August
- SOCA visibility
 - An officer from SFU student engagement mentioned SOCA had less visibility.
 - Received a survey on student engagement
 - SFU is not very involved in student engagement. They are not open and visibility with SFU is equally a challenge. The Black population in the school is significantly low, hence not much need to increase visibility for SOCA. There are also some Black students who are not willing to associate with SOCA. Suggestion for equity seeking groups to reach out to SFU and communicate to them that their constituent groups don't feel heard.
 - SFU Officer - suggested SOCA and Black students take up spaces and show up to events to inspire other Black students to do the same.
 - Suggested leveraging welcome day at FIC.

-
- SFU should invite SOCA to these suggested events. It should be accessible and inclusive
 - Universal conversation about visibility and advocacy.
 - Open conversation across all equity seeking groups

 - **SFU Student Engagement Survey**
 - The challenges if accessibility accommodations within the university
 - What ways has the university addressed these challenges?
 - New areas of accessibility you / recommendations for improving campus accessibility
 - **SFU Black Student Centre updates**
 - **Proposed Black students support centre**
 - SOCA advocated for hiring black staff, black counselors and a student support center. SFU promised to have this completed by the fall of 2023. However, they haven't lived up to their promises. It's a slap in the face that they aren't forthcoming with these consultations. Araba will reach out to black caucus, Dr Yabome, Erin, Jennifer Kandiji.
 - Space secured but not in consultation with all the groups.
 - Student services reaching out for information with the steering committee. Balqees reached out to Student services. Student Services proposed a meeting in the summer but Black Caucus steering committee was unavailable for a summer meeting. Proposed the fall in order to have more student engagement.
 - **Upcoming camping trip**
 - SOCA in collaboration with color the trails are hosting a one-day camping event.
 - SOCA would provide food
 - Adanna to share planning details

- ACTION ITEMS FOR EXEC

- Anne- Marie: (create a social media calendar so SOCA doesn't miss important Black events and to avoid what happened with the Black Healing space session).
 - Naomi to help with designing the poster.
 - July 18, 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm - next date for the Black healing space (coping with stress and anxiety)
- Wai needs to start preparations for the summer barbecue. Location is the Marine Barnet park.
- Ruki needs to be on top of the newsletter
-

OPEN ISSUES OR CONCERNS

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



-
1. Increasing SOCA's visibility. Maybe having a social committee work on promoting SOCA?
 2. Stacy joined the BIPOC committee and will provide updates later.
 3. Space shopping

Meeting Adjournment moved by [Ruki] , Seconded by [Emmanuel O]

Meeting Adjourned at [6:31pm]