

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 13, 5:10pm]

ATTENDEES: Laretta, Yaye, Susie, Samia, Balqees, Mugasha, Evans, Alson, Chris, Stacy, Oromiya, 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 we recognize the importance of this acknowledging that this land has never been granted, surrendered nor sold to any government but taken by force.

ROUNDS

(Name, Pronouns, Something about yourself that's not known to everyone, Access needs)

APPROVE MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

- **November 18, 2022 - Approved**
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1a4AISlelZ8ReroVDot4GLio2_0CKoGgh_mtrl_eR1nqM/edit?usp=sharing
- **December 2, 2022 - Approved**
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1liYhdMq9mtx35Eny9370dGSMqCIU_S12HDeftfeeAzn/edit?usp=sharing

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND ACTION ITEMS FOLLOW UP

- President - Laretta
 - Working with staff to plan BHM
 - Working with SFSS in relation to staff support matters
 - Onboarding with Balqees at the end on December
 - Supporting other Execs
 - Working with Staff to plan catch ah vybez
- Vice President - Sends regret
- External Relations Officer - Oromiya
 - Ethos Lab: Looking for volunteers for showing at Emily Carr
 - HeadHeartHand: Plan a meeting with them to connect on their proposal.

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- Contacted a student photographer in relation to BHM.
 - Internal Relations Officer - Sends regrets
 - Secretary - Sends regrets
 - 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: 8644.36
 - Levy: No changes
 - Soca CG core fund: 450
 - Staff Dept Levy:
 - Scotiabank (external):
 - Grant funding
 - Cheques to be signed (include Motions Date and Number approved and person to reimburse):
 - Cheque requisitions to be done
 - Other: Transferring bank signatories
 - Working on cheque reqs and expecting 2500 before February
 - Had a meeting with Araba on expenditures
 - Events Coordinator
 - Working with Marie on Comedy night with Tunji and his manager
 - Event survey on Afrobball
 - Working with Planning committee on BHM
 - First Year Rep - Vacant
 - Grad Rep - Vacant
 - FIC Rep - Absent
 - Execs at large
 - Marie
 - Making social media content for the Afrobball, taking photos of members at the Afrobball + assisting in cleanup
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CmTFPYCO8LP/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>
 - Making social media content for the \$10K SFSSxSOCA award and circulating with other CG's, DSU, FSU, SFU Sport Teams
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CnFmAZryDty/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>
 - Writing reference letters for relevant SOCA Members
 - With VP Events, Mugasha, meeting with Comedian Tunji for a Black History Month Collab to host an open mic comedy night (we will be recovering 10% of ticket sales! 🎉)

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- Working with known Amazon Labour union organizer and president of the Amazon labour union, Chris Smalls to host a possible small discussion panel between SOCA and TSSU to talk about labour union relations and importance of people power and change.
 - Tabling for Clubs Day and recruiting more members while advertising for catch a vybz.
 - Working with embark to see if they can host us in their space for catch a vybz so we can continue to advertise the rotunda community level 1 and our space.
 - SOCA representative on the upcoming SOCA BSSC Coordinator hiring where we have been reviewing the job description and adding changes reflecting conversations we've had at membership
 - Reviewing SOP's and SOCA Documents
 - Attending on-boarding and reviewing documents after
 - Message me via soca email (sfusoca@gmail.com, or @mreehad on Insta if you ever want to chat!)
 - Exec-at-large Sussie
 - Helped organized afroball
 - Worked with Marie to do the survey on food security "Seed of Change"
 - Provided an update to the food security committee and waiting to hear back from them for further action.
 - Other Assigned Members and Items
 - SOCA Black Student Support Staff
 - Supporting SOCA exec
 - Worked with the planning team on Afroball, coordinating, catering and all the planning items, social media posting for the event
 - Working with Laury, to plan Catch Ah Vybz
 - Making room reservations fr BHM
 - Social media coordination
 - Working on the walk with our elders programs, on the soca newsletter and sfss newsletter. The idea id to create a database of seniors in the community to provide coaching and mentorship with student
 - Working with SFSS on BHM events
 - Provide support with SOCA members, personal matters, hence can't disclose
 - Email correspondence.

REPORT ON SPECIFIC MATTERS

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DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Car Share Service / Fuel Reimbursement:
 - Emmanuel running errands for Catch a Vybz
 - Araba: sent an email to finance, it's a decision of the CG on reimbursement
 - Further inquiries with her supervisor. There needs to be a motion on car share services and reimbursement.
 - Balqeess: everything is motion based, there's no guarantee passing a motion before spending
- SVSPO - Sexual Violence Month Demonstration:
 - Reached out to SOCA to host a sexual violence act display.
 - Evans- is it a poster?
 - Susie: Will execs be part of the workshop?
 - Evan: Are members allowed to volunteer?
- Recap of End of Year Afrobball
 - It was a good event. A total of 50 people attended.
 - Survey - more time to newtork, dance, liked the food and was fun.
 - Stacey - The event was a nice social event and I enjoyed it. A better space next time. People complained about the cold in the Ballroom. Food was good, it was nice for people who couldn't go home. Good way to wrap up the semester.
 - Evans - more socializing throughout the event.
 - 50% didn't meet their expectations. Karaoke, best dressed, photo booth. More activities, smaller venues, need a script. Overall good event.
 - Balqeess- script is helpful, programme outline, promotions could have been better.
 - Araba: The building team told us about the heating problems, good job to the planning team, It would have been a great event, Yabome confirmed but didn't make it due to weather conditions, Most of the people who showed up where not registered so if those who registered cam we would have been at capacity. We decided to go with Dec 21st due to Instagram polls. Agree with everything everyone said
 - Balqeess - did event planners use the event planning template? Would recommend as practical tool for logistics
 - Laury - that will be handy for BHM
- Volunteers for Ethos Lab:
 - Anyway interest in volunteering for event at Emil Carr
 - Mugasha - What will volunteers be doing?
 - Laury - Oromiya can you share more details?

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- Black Healing Space - Tricia Kay
 - SOCA in discussion with SFU HCS on Black Students Healing Space. Hosting the events in the SOCA space and facilitated by Tricia Kay. Time is 3:00pm. The meeting will be hybrid
 - 26th January
 - 27th February
 - 27th March
 - 10th March
 - Topics - How to set SMART goals
 - Dating while Black
 - Tricia Kay focusing on the logistics of the event.
 - Question: Is it a drop-in or sign up?
 - Response: Not certain if it is mandatory to sign-up. However, signing up helps with planning.
 - Balqees: When everything was online, fear of zoom booming hence asking people to register and identify themselves
 - Susie: Is it a periodic?
 - Response: Yes, monthly
 - Play on - Back to School event in collaboration with UBC BSU and AAI
 - Ask for collaboration and does not include planning logistics. Don't charge when they organize events until 11 and also discount tickets for students.
 - Is SOCA interested?
 - Email from Alson to join the Executive Team.
 - Join as an executive member in the capacity of First Year representative.
 - Balqees - what ideas do you want to bring on board?
 - Alson: Bringing new ways of members to engage in the space.
 - Evans: I would like to help.
 - Response: There are volunteering opportunities to sign up. Remember to notify an executive committee member and or the coordinator in order to connect with you.
 - RR25 project with former SOCA president, Lama Mugabo ([RR25 Project with Lama Mugabo](#)):
 - Initiative building in Rwanda
 - Needs to sponsor 14 people
 - Fundraisers?
 - Bi annual conference at SFU in collab with the National University of Rwanda
 - hosting an event (conference) at SFU with the University of Rwanda

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- Mugasha - how will the 14 people be sponsored?
 - Samia - there are institutions to engage to provide funding.
 - Balqees: Think of logistics, fundraising with SOCA,
 - Samia: opportunity to set up a fundraising committee. Being writing and sending letters of fundraising to institutions.
 - Balqees: finds the idea cool and branching out with international organization
 - BHM events
 - Opening ceremony: 1500 to spend; 100 for performers and 500 in gifts and incentives to participants. Will take place at the SUB Social stage.
 - Panel Discussion: On the 15th of Feb, Location Room 4200,
 - Laury: The theme for this year's BHM is Black Resistance, if we want to go with that or a different one, asking for topic suggestions and panelists. Suggestions at the moment Efe Fruci; Tedx Speaker and Life coach
 - Suggestions for people to contact - David Chariandy, Prof. Henry Daniel, SOCA member Hope Alicia but not confirmed yet and Student representative. These panelist would be given an honorarium for their time as well
 - Balqees: cool options
 - Taking suggestions for topics.
 - Balqees: Black Global Youth Movements : 1
 - Mugasha: Prison Structures: 0
 - **Laury: Black Art: A mode of expression and disrupting systemic structures: 7 (Theme)**
 - Giovanni: Local Resistance and the wins: 1
 - Balqees: I think we should rent a lecture room like the Diamond Alumni, DFA, we are going to have to cap it but more people would like to come.
 - We chose a highlighted above
 - Jimmy: Business from Students who would like to work during BHM
 - Dance Workshop with the Choreographer (Izo DreamChaser):
 - Balqees suggested collabs with an external choreographer. Laury reached out to Isaac Gasangwa, founder of Afrobeats Van and had a zoom call with him and he said he would be interested in working with SOCA, we have to pay him for his time and \$200 is fine for hi, but dates haven't been set because the dance studio is booked but the pending dates are the 7th and 14th of Feb.
 - Evans: Are they any genres we can branch out to? I do more hip hop and not the best in Afrobeats.

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- Balkees: Loves the idea of Hip-hop culture especially for its role in Black culture
 - Laury: This is not the only workshop this semester, we have monthly workshops and this is just for february, every month a different choreographer comes in to host a workshop. Salsa and Bachata also reached out to collaborate with SOCA and can reach out to Hip Hop clubs as well to collab. We could get Petra to host a workshop as well.
 - Jimmy: Is it just dancing when you talk about Art, because I also think about business as well, for black people to learn about opportunities in Black Art.
 - Laury: Black Art is in relation to the panel discussion, art is very vast and cuts across other fields and how that would look in the context of the topic.
 - Comedy Show:
 - Mugasha: headlined by Tunji, popular on social media. There's going to be an open mic session by students. Ask anyone if they want to be involved, reach out to me, Marie and Laury. Trying to see if we can get catering. The possibility of two dates. Any questions?
 - If you want to volunteer, reach out and if you are in the planning committee, you can access the document and comment on it. If you also want to volunteer, pls reach out
 - Games & Movie Night:
 - No lot of logistics, Emmanuel and Richard are in charge. There would be a movie and also a trivia game with prizes to be won and finger foods and games.
 - Cultural Night:
 - The closing of BHM for SOCA. A formal event at the Ballroom, going to be in collaboration with the Black Caucus. It is a dinner so there would be performances, speeches. It is on the 24th of Feb during reading break from 5pm - 9:30pm. You can come dressed in formal wear or African Inspired attires and there's going to be a red carpet, a photobooth, a full on dinner. It is going to be ticketed, a \$5 fee, there would be catering for West African and East African dishes as well as Caribbean

COMMITTEE AND SUB-ASSOCIATIONS UPDATE

- Social Justice and Advocacy Committee
 - No Updates

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- Cultural Events Committee
 - BHM Planning download
 - Parties and Pub Night Committee
 - Nothing
 - BCSC Committee
 - Nothing
 - Dance Team
 - Collab for BHM with Choreographer
 - NSA
 - SSA

MOTIONS

1. **Catch Ah Vybz**

Whereas SOCA members have approved for Catch ah Vybz to be held on February 20th as part of Spring semester events,

Be it resolved that SOCA approves an amount of \$2000 to be used to fund catering and other event related costs.

Moved by [Stacey] / seconded by [Mugasha]

CARRIED Unanimously

2. **Black History Month Celebrations**

Whereas SOCA members have approved the events for the 2023 Black History Month (BHM) celebration,

Where as SOCA members approved at the October 7, 2022 general membership meeting that cultural night takes place in the Spring 2023 semester as part of BHM events,

Be it resolved that SOCA approves an amount of \$9,000 from the SOCA Black Student Support Fund in relation to cultural nights & BHM events to be used to fund the BHM activities.

Be it further resolved that SOCA approves an amount of \$1000 from the SOCA Black Student Support Fund to be used to fund games night activities as part of the BHM events.

Be it further resolved that SOCA approves a total amount of \$10,000 from the SOCA Black Students Support Fund for all the BHM related activities - Opening Ceremony, Panel Discussion, Games Night, Cultural Night etc.

Moved by [Alson] / seconded by [Mugasha]

CARRIED Unanimously

3. Collaboration with Play on, UBC BSU and AAI

Whereas SOCA members have discussed the collaboration request from Play on in relation to a Back to School event they are organizing together with UBC BSU and AAI.

Whereas SOCA members have agreed that this collaboration is relevant and ready to be a part of it.

Be it resolved that SOCA approves and gives permission for the Executive Committee representation (President and External Relations Officer) to proceed to meet with Play on to further discussions on the collaboration and planning of the event.

Moved by [Mugasha] / seconded by [Akuol]

CARRIED Unanimously

4. Car share services and fuel reimbursement (Postpone Motion)

Whereas SOCA members have discussed the issue of reimbursements for members that go on errands for the group using their own vehicles or car share services and or taxi.

Whereas SOCA members acknowledge that, reimbursement is in order.

Be it resolved that SOCA approves that members who use their personal vehicles or the services of taxi or car share be reimbursed for the cost of fuel / car share / taxi fare.

Be it further resolved beneficiary members submit all relevant receipts and documentation for reimbursement.

Moved by (Mugasha) / Seconded by [Stacey]

Discussion: Rewrite the motion and reword

5. Black Shirt Day Endorsement

Whereas Black Shirt Day, commemorating MLK (Martin Luther King)'s birthday, which is "both a day of education and remembrance, and an invitation to a necessary conversation about racial injustice",

Whereas SOCA constitutional values include: "community-building, representation, inclusivity, and social justice",

Be it resolved that SOCA endorse and promote Black Shirt Day annually.

Moved by [Balqees] / seconded by [Laury]

CARRIED Unanimously

6. Motion: Conference Microphone

Whereas SOCA holds hybrid meetings that are online and in-person for increased accessibility,

Be it resolved that SOCA approves up to \$200 for a conference microphone from the levy fund line item "Office Supplies".

Moved by [Balqees]/ Seconded by [Laury]

Carried Unanimously

ACTION ITEMS FOR EXEC

- Action Items
 - Transfer of Signatories for Scotiabank
 - Reach out to people for BHM events/ Contact people, business and volunteers

OPEN ISSUES OR CONCERNS

1. Staff Support Issues with SFSS

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Meeting Adjournment moved by [Laury] , Seconded by [Mugasha]

Meeting Adjourned at [7.47pm]