

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)

[Date: 8th December, 2023]

ATTENDEES: Laury, Ruki, Daisy, Gloria, Oromiya, Alison, Akuol, Remi, Evans, Mugasha, Yaye, Amina

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, Access needs, What would you be doing for the holidays?)

- Laury, She/Her, Access needs met, Working & Travelling
- Ruki He/Him, Needs met, Staying at Home
- Daisy She/Her, Access needs met, Traveling back home
- Gloria She/Her, Needs met, Going back home
- Oromiya She/Her, Needs met, Going to Toronto and Resting
- Alison He/Him, Needs met, Chilling at home
- Akoul, She/her, Access needs met,
- Remi, They/Them, access needs are met, Traveling back home
- Evans, He/him, Access needs met, Sleeping & Eating
- Mugasha, He/Him, Needs met, Traveling back home
- Yaye, She/her, Needs met, Traveling to France
- Amina, She/her, Needs met, Not doing anything

APPROVE MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

- **November 24th - General Meeting Minutes -**
 - **17. [DRAFT] - Meeting Minutes - SFU SOCA Nov 24th**

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND ACTION ITEMS FOLLOW UP

- **President**
 - Cultural Night Execution

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-
- Email Correspondence
 - Yale Africa Sponsorship Opportunities
 - Planning BHM
 - Finance Tracking
 - Being in the space
 - Vice President
 - Sends Regrets
 - External Relations Officer:
 - Helped with Cultural Night (MCing and cleaning up)
 - Internal Relations Officer
 - Cultural Night
 - Council
 - Equity Meeting
 - Secretary:
 - Cultural Night Execution
 - Keeping the space open
 - 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: \$3,214.94
 - Levy: \$41,839.37
 - Soca CG core fund: \$1,012.23
 - Staff Dept Levy: N/A
 - Scotiabank (external): \$1,975.64 (+\$2600 approximately from Afroween)
 - Grant funding
 - Cheques to be signed (include Motions Date and Number approved and person to reimburse): Adanna, Yaye, Laretta
 - Cheque requisitions to be done: When Men Talk snacks
Cultural Night
 - Other:
 - Events Coordinator:
 - Cultural Night Execution
 - First Year Rep
 - Absent
 - Grad Rep;
 - Cultural Night Assistance
 - FIC Rep

-
- (Absent)
 - Execs at large
 - Akuol-nothing to report
 - Amina - nothing to report
 - SOCA BSSC Staff Support (Vacant)
 - ITO
 - Cultural night and editing social media content
 - Other Assigned Members and Items
 - Volunteer Coordinator (Anne Marie): Supported cultural night
 - Volunteer Coordinator (Adanna):
 - Supported with Cultural Night

REPORT ON SPECIFIC MATTERS

- N/A

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Yale Africa Conference (SOCA Sponsoring)
 - Four execs have shown interest (even though soca can't afford it) so we're seeking support from other SFU departments for funding. If the money can't be raised through sponsorships, we are asking for soca to provide \$2000 for expenses such as flight and conference tickets as well as accommodations
- BHM (Fundraising)
 - Planning 3 events, the anniversary will be the final. We plan to use it to also start a fundraiser for a black student support fund for those in need. We'll be selling soca merch to that end. All funds from sales go to the fund. The merch will be cute/cool. The price is undetermined. Exec hoodies are also being printed. But are reserved for previous years' execs. However, we plan to make new hoodies for the new team before the end of the next fiscal year
- Go Fund Me for Student
 - Another student has asked us for support. We will set up a gofundme for them and post it on our socials. Making sure to share it as well as any amount is helpful. They need about \$8000

COMMITTEE AND SUB-ASSOCIATIONS UPDATE

- Social Justice and Advocacy Committee
- Cultural Events Committee
- Parties and Pub Night Committee
- BCSC Committee

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-
- Dance Team
 - NSA
 - SSA

MOTIONS

1. Black History Month 2024

Whereas SOCA is organizing a series of events for the 2024 Black History Month (BHM) celebration,

Whereas these events will be centered around building a stronger black community and taking up space constantly

Be it resolved that SOCA approves a total amount of \$9,250 from the SOCA Black Student Support Fund for all the BHM related activities - Opening Ceremony, Panel Discussion, Games Night, Cultural Night aka 30th Anniversary etc..

Be it further resolved that this amount be taken out of line item; 34, 35, 36, 37 38.
Account 795/45

Moved by [Yaye] / seconded by [Alson]
CARRIED unanimously

2. Collaboration with Sweet x Sawa and UBC AAI

Whereas SOCA members have discussed the collaboration request from Sweet x Sawa in relation to a Back to School event they are organizing together with UBC 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 further discussions on the collaboration and planning of the event.

**Moved by [Daisy] / seconded by [Alson]
CARRIED unanimously**

3. Men's talk Social

Whereas the Men's talk would like to host a social for its consistent members as a way of fostering close knit communities

Whereas this social is to take place on the 15th of December at a location of their choosing, for a limited number of people

Be it resolved that SOCA approves that the amount of up to \$500 be allocated to this event

Be it further resolved that this amount be taken out of line item; 58 "Campaign and Advocacy Workshops" Account 820/45

**Moved by [Alson] / seconded by [Amina]
CARRIED unanimously**

4. Motion for Support to International Student in Need of Tuition Support

Whereas there's a request for financial support to help clear up the tuition debt of one of SOCA's member who is an international student;

Whereas this student has a case manager at SFU who has vetted their situation and had multiple conversations to validate their need for support;

Whereas a good portion of their debt has been cleared up, but there's a leftover of \$500 which is preventing them from enrolling in Spring classes;

Whereas prior conversations has been had that this support is only for the interim and not constant financial support as SOCA has limited resources

Be it resolve that SOCA helps clear up this student debt of \$500 in order for them to enroll in Spring class;

Be it further resolved that this amount be taken out of our core account

Moved by [Remi] / seconded by [Oromiya]
CARRIED unanimously

5. Motion to set up Go-Fund Me and Donate Support to International Student in Need of Tuition Support. (Postponed)

Whereas a member of SOCA reached out and asked for financial support with their tuition in order to enroll in future classes;

Whereas we had multiple conversations on their situation and they would appreciate this support and asks to remain anonymous;

Whereas SOCA will be setting up a Go-Fund-Me page with approval of members that encompasses their full story to support the Black student at SFU who needs financial support in paying off their tuition of \$8,000 with SFU to continue their education and fulfill their study permit requirements;

Whereas there's a Bursary line item in the SOCA BSSC levy fund budgeted has not been used and has \$2000 in it;

Whereas the "SFU Black Student Support Campaigns" line item has a total of \$600.00 Remaining;

Be it resolved that SOCA approves the amount of \$2000 to donate towards the Go-Fund Me to contribute the amount of \$8,000 for this cause with line item "48" SFU BSC Black Student Bursary Contribution as a donation via a transfer to that SFU Finance through the SFSS office or via donation to GoFundMe to a student in distress who has been liaising with the SFSS Students Advocate office

Moved by [] / seconded by []
CARRIED / NOT CARRIED

6. Yale Africa Innovation Funding Support

Whereas SOCA was extended an invite to the Yale Africa Innovation Symposium 2024, which is scheduled to take place at the Yale University Campus, New Haven;

Whereas four SOCA executives have shown interest in attending this event as an opportunity to connect with other black students and communities in North America and also equip themselves with skills gotten from the various innovation labs hosted by Yale Africa;

Whereas the total expenses of this trip is estimated around \$5000, which includes flights, accommodation and conference tickets;

Whereas SOCA executives are currently reaching out to other departments of SFU for sponsorship opportunities to help alleviate the proposed costs;

Be it resolved that in the event the sponsorships gotten from other departments is not sufficient, SOCA can support with an amount of up to \$2000 to cover any leftover expense;

Be it further resolved that this amount be taken out of the following accounts; \$500 from the core account, \$1000 from the trust account, Account 5091/Z and \$500 from line item "52", SOCA BSSC Annual Conference / Speaker Series

**Moved by [Gloria] / seconded by [Evans]
CARRIED unanimously**

7. Printing of the SOCA Executive Hoodies

Whereas the SOCA executive hoodie had a project that started at the start of last fiscal year with an approved design by executives for these hoodies.

Whereas the purchase of hoodies has been done but yet to be printed on, due to not finding a black business that can do the printing

Whereas these hoodies were initially agreed upon to be printed by a black-owned business but that is no longer feasible at the moment and will be printed by Document Solutions.

Whereas these hoodies will be given to the 2022/23 executive team, as the executive team who began the project and if there's enough room, will be made accessible to the executive team 2023/24.

Be it resolved that SOCA approves the amount of \$403.20 for the printing of these hoodies

Be it further resolved that this amount be taken out of line item 71, “Soca Swag”, Acct 815/45

**Moved by [Alson] / seconded by [Gloria]
CARRIED unanimously**

8. 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 to this month

Whereas SOCA’s 30th anniversary is coming up amongst these events and we would be printing merch to mark this milestone, which members can purchase as soon as its ready;

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 71 “SOCA Swag” and 74 “Physical Branding” Account 815/45

**Moved by [Evans] / seconded by [Gloria]
CARRIED unanimously**

ACTION ITEMS FOR EXEC

- Our exec retreat is on saturday by 6, make certain to be early.

OPEN ISSUES OR CONCERNS

1.

Meeting Adjournment moved by [Yaye] , Seconded by [Amina]

Meeting Adjourned at [6:06pm]