



Ryerson Students' Union

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday**  
**April 5, 2017**

# AGENDA

Annual General Meeting of the Members  
Ryerson Students' Union (RSU) - Local 24 Canadian Federation of Students  
Wednesday April 5, 2017– RCC 204, Student Centre Ryerson University, Toronto, Ontario

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## CALL TO ORDER

### 1. WELCOMING REMARKS

- A. Remarks from the President, Obaid Ullah
- B. Remarks from President-Elect, Susanna Nyaga
- C. Introduction of the 2017-18 Executive Committee and Board of Directors

### 2. COMMENCEMENT

#### A. REMARKS OF CHAIR

### 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

#### A. MOTION 2017-04-05 A01:

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the November 29 2016 Semi-Annual General Meeting be adopted as presented in **Appendix A**.

**MOVED: Obaid Ullah**

**SECONDED:**

**RESULT OF VOTE:**

### 4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

#### A. MOTION 2017-04-05 A02:

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the agenda for the 2017 Annual General Meeting be adopted as presented.

**MOVED: Obaid Ullah**

**SECONDED:**

**RESULT OF VOTE:**

### 5. MOTIONS

#### A. MOTION 2017-04-05 C03 - APPROVAL OF THE AUDITORS

**WHEREAS** The RSU switched auditors last year to account for financial transparency; and

**WHEREAS** The current auditors have provided with a greater insight towards the state of the finances; and

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** The RSU appoints PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) as the auditor for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

**MOVED: Neal Muthreja**  
**RESULT OF VOTE:**

**SECONDED:**

**B. MOTION 2017-04-05: C01 – BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

**WHEREAS** the Governance Committee has recommended these amendments to the Board of Directors; and

**WHEREAS** the Board of Directors have reviewed the amendments and have recommended that the amendments be presented to the membership;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the amendments to the RSU Bylaws be accepted as presented in Appendix B.

**MOVED: Obaid Ullah**  
**RESULT OF VOTE:**

**SECONDED:**

**6. EXECUTIVE REPORT**

Members of the Executive will give verbal presentations to expand on sections of the written Executive report; the report is provided in Appendix C.

**A. MOTION 2017-04-05 R01:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Report of the Executive be accepted as presented in the booklet.

**MOVED: Obaid Ullah**  
**RESULT OF VOTE:**

**SECONDED:**

**7. OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. End of Year Gala and Student Group Awards

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION 2017-04-05: A03**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the 2017 Annual General Meeting be adjourned.

**MOVED:**  
**RESULT OF VOTE:**

**SECONDED:**

Meeting adjourned:

# APPENDIX A

## MINUTES OF THE 2016 SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



# MINUTES

## Semi-Annual General Meeting of the Members

Ryerson Students' Union (RSU) - Local 24 Canadian Federation of Students  
Monday November 29, 2016 – LIB 72, Ryerson University, Toronto, Ontario

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### CALL TO ORDER

#### 1. WELCOMING REMARKS

- A. Remarks from the President, Obaid Ullah and Acknowledgement of the Land
- B. Remarks from the Anti-Harassment Officer, Corey Scott

#### 2. COMMENCEMENT

##### A. REMARKS OF CHAIR

#### 3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

##### A. MOTION 2016-11-29 A02:

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the agenda for the November 29 2016 Semi Annual General Meeting be adopted as presented.

**MOVED: Obaid Ullah**

**SECONDED: Amar**

**RESULT OF VOTE:**

Motion

Move item 6P and 6S ahead of motion 5

Motion seconded

Result : Defeated

70 for – 102 against

Motion revisited and split the motion into two

Both motions - failed

Opposed – I disagree. Motion 6

Point of

Motion 6M to be put ahead of this

Motion passed

Motion – limit speaking time to 5 minutes per speaker and 3 speakers for and 3 against the motion

Seconded

Result of vote – Passed



**MOVED: Neal Muthreja**

**SECONDED: seconded**

Muthreja presents to the board and hands over the floor to the representative from PwC, David, to review the audit for 2015-2016 as presented.

PwC reviews the process of an audit and the result of the audit and states that the RSU has had a clean audit.

Member - Professional fees increase

Ullah – legal fees increase

Member – Concerned about an unbalanced approach. The expenditure on educational issues and advocacy has dropped significantly.

**RESULT OF VOTE: Passes**

## 6. MOTIONS

### A. MOTION 2016-11-29 M01: BYLAW AMENDMENTS

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the amendments to the RSU Bylaws be accepted as presented in Appendix D.

**MOVED: Obaid Ullah**

**SECONDED: Seconded by member**

**RESULT OF VOTE:**

Ullah reviews the by law changes as passed at the RSU Board

Amendment

Bylaw - 6.55 Board of Director expenses to be \$250, Strike changes to bylaw 5.67 and reinstate bylaw 5.68.3

Motion is Seconded

Point of information – What does this mean?

President – The expense amount was raised to \$300 in 2016 and this was not financially sustainable for the RSU.

For reinstating bylaws – We are paying fees to the CFS and if we take this out of the job requirements for the VP Education, the RSU is not accountable to students.

Against – Yes we are members of the CFS but we do not want to have a restriction on just one organisation as they are a lot of organizations out there that want to work with the RSU

For – we are still paying into the CFS, we are not members of other organizations. The RSU is suppose to represents RSU students at the CFS. Students pay for this membership.

VP Education – We do not want to limit to one organization and we want flexibility in our roles.

Board member – This was brought to the board and some members do support flexibility but students money goes to the CFS and we need to stay accountable to the students and the executives should represent the members a the CFS as paying members.

Point of interest – Are they other students' organizations we work with?  
VP Education - Canadian alliance, councils, research 15

Point of information – Are we working with them or paying membership fees to any of them?

VP Education – I've been to meetings with these organisation.

Point of information – Are they doing as much as the CFS and are you working with the CFS as the RSU rep?

VP Education – They have funding and members and they have had been considered for membership.

Point of information – If you are already meeting with other organisation ,what is the restriction?

Victoria – We do not want the by laws to say we have to work with only one organisation.

Call to question on the Amendment

Result – Passes

Vote on the amendment to except by laws with revision

6.55 Board of director - \$250

Strike changes to 5.67

5.68.3 to reinstate

Result of vote – Fails

Motion to reject 6.78

Motion Seconded

Point or information – Please read the motion

Chair reads the motion

President - It's a minimum of one and it's up the discretion of the CRO to choose the number of polling station. We are just lowering the minimum number to take into account smaller elections like the by election that will not need a minimum of 6 stations.

For – With one polling station there is a chance that it can be an accessibility issue.

Point of information – What are we changing?

Chair – The minimum number of polling stations required at the election.

President – One is the basic amount however the CRO will always chose to have as many polling stations as necessary to ensure accessibility.



VP Equity – There should be more than one but we can amend to no less than three.

Motion to Amend to no less than 3 polling stations Seconded.

For – If we can spend money on huge events we can spend money on having polling stations for the most important election of the RSU.

President– I would like to remove this amendment

Mover removes bylaw amendment 6.55

Chair accepts.

Motion to extract by 2.3c, 3.1k, 6.1, 6.78, 8.8, 8.18

Motion Seconded

Point of information – What is amendment 9.23?

2.3 – Not reasonable to bring legal action – conflict

3.1k – This should be disguised

6.1 – We should be notified and this removes the requirement to notify us at all.

6.78 – We should discuss this.

8.8 – This will limit discussion in the meeting.

President – Bylaws are suppose to be an overview of the RSU . The language in the bylaws is restrictive in these instances and we want to remove them to allow the RSU to change with the times and many of these were just outdated.

Call to question

Motion Seconded

Vote - Passes

Vote on the amendment – Fails

Point of clarification - Chair explains the amendment

Motion to revise the bylaw changes.

Motion Seconded

Vote on the motion for the revisions to the bylaws.

Result – Fails

Bylaw 2.3 C has been retracted.

Point of information – Can we extend the meeting?

Chair – Yes we can extend if the members agree/

Call to question

Motion Seconded

RESULT OF VOTE- Carries

Motion to recess for 5 minutes.

Motion Seconded

Against – Quorum may be lost if we recess.

Against – I think people can eat pizza and focus.  
Call to question  
Motion Seconded  
Result - Carries  
RESULT OF VOTE TO RECESS - Fails

RESULT OF VOTE ON BY LAWS CHANGES as amended – Carries

## **B. MOTION 2016 -11-29 M02: BICYCLE RACKS**

**WHEREAS** there is currently an insufficient quantity of free-standing non-pod style bicycle parking racks located on campus to fulfill student need, and so cyclists resort to locking bicycles to railings along the Library building and Nelson Mandela Walk, and enrollment has increased by at least 1000 students per year since 2010[1],

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** additional bicycle parking racks will be purchased and placed on campus in appropriate places along Gould St. and Bond St. in a quantity and location determined by RSU members to fulfill anticipated growth in Ryerson student enrollment.

**MOVED: Kat Northern Lights Man   SECONDED:**  
**RESULT OF VOTE: Moved to Next Meeting of the Board of Directors**

## **C. MOTION 2016-11-29 M03: HAIR SALON**

**WHEREAS** I was personally treated awfully by the Hair Salon owner on Bond Street in early October 2016; and

**WHEREAS** I had to bike all the way past Gerrard and the DVP to get a reasonable haircut at the price of \$11.00 in Chinatown on the east end of Toronto; and

**WHEREAS** students need a place for more easily accessible and affordable hair cut to look professional and be presentable to professionals when looking for a career; and

**WHEREAS** the price of haircut on the hair salon location on Bond Street is \$13.00 to \$18.00, and it is financially prohibitive and unreasonable; and

**WHEREAS** the Bond Street hair, salon presentation is unprofessional; and

**WHEREAS** the Bond Street hair salon appeared to only serve a certain ethnicity of people and hence there is inherent racism and inequality for students to access the location on campus; and

**WHEREAS** all students share a common desire to find a reasonably affordable place on campus to have a hair cut when they need it; and

**WHEREAS** this is an essential small quality of life improvement in the attempts by all students to find an affordable location on campus to get a hair cut; and

**WHEREAS** I shall be personally involved in helping the RSU find a reasonable solution to help all student have equal and affordable access to a barber on campus; and

**BE TO RESOLVED THAT** the RSU investigate the situation, and determine what can be done about it to enable students to have a simple haircut on campus, and be treated with equity and respect.

**MOVED: Xinyu Hu**

**SECONDED:**

**RESULT OF VOTE: Moved to Next Meeting of the Board of Directors**

#### **D. MOTION 2016-11-29 M04 - POOL TABLES IN THE RAM IN THE RYE**

**WHEREAS** the Ram in the Rye did not charge students and players to play pool (billiards) in the first month of school and the place was much more lively, enjoyable, relaxing, stress-free and entertaining; and

**WHEREAS** the added cost of \$2.00 for billiards per game is discouraging to students and can turn off the relaxing mood in the bar; and

**WHEREAS** pool table breakdowns and maintenance services are required and needed, I can help ensure they are being maintained in high quality in the Ram in the Rye; and

**WHEREAS** due to the last point, some students I had spoken with left the bar to go find other activities on or off campus to do for fun and relaxation; and

**WHEREAS** when money is involved in entertainment, it becomes more constrictive and unequal for all students to participate on equal footing with one another to engage in social activities; and

**WHEREAS** money creates a psychological barrier and affects gameplay and enjoyment of said game, and can create a tense and adversarial atmosphere; and

**WHEREAS** I shall personally help negotiate between the RSU and the Ram in the Rye to reach a mutual agreement to resolve this problem in a professional and as neutral a manner as possible, for the benefits of all patrons who attend the Ram in the Rye; and

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the RSU body elect to encourage the Ram in the Rye to make billiards free for all patrons, to encourage more people to attend the bar after school, and to find other ways to compensate for lost potential revenue by increasing costs in other services at the Ram in the Rye.

**MOVED: Xinyu Hu**

**SECONDED:**

**RESULT OF VOTE: Moved to Next Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**E. MOTION 2016-11-29 M05: HOT WATER DISPENSERS**

**WHEREAS** there is currently an insufficient quantity of hot water dispensers located in a place easily visible and accessible to the student body,

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** an additional hot water dispenser will be purchased and located in a location agreeable by the RSU member body and both easily accessible and visible for all student's enjoyment, possibly 1st floor podium near the HUB.

**MOVED:** Lisa Hoeg

**SECONDED:**

**RESULT OF VOTE:** Moved to Next Meeting of the Board of Directors

**F. MOTION 2016-11-29 M06: RESTRICTIONS ON COURSE SELECTION**

**WHEREAS** There is a restriction for students to choose useful courses;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the RSU lobby the University (esp Faculty of Grad Studies) to remove restrictions for Engineering Programmes.

**MOVED:** Yu Huo

**SECONDED:**

**RESULT OF VOTE:** Moved to Next Meeting of the Board of Directors

**G. MOTION 2016-11-29 M07: BYLAW AMMENDMENTS**

**WHEREAS** the RSU has primary governing documents, the By-Laws and the Policy Manual, both of which contain different methods for amending the By-Laws; and

**WHEREAS** both documents list a minimum number of days before a General Meeting for By-Law changes to be submitted; and

**WHEREAS** this meeting was not advertised with sufficient notice to meet either of the recorded time frames in the By-Law's or Policy Manual; and

**WHEREAS** this robs the membership of their right to make changes to the way the RSU is governed and run; and

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** for the duration of this Semi-Annual General Meeting, any and all rules, regardless of which governing document or documents they may be recorded in, relating to timeframes for By-Law changes to be submitted by the Membership be suspended; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the RSU be required to advertise all future Semi-Annual and Annual General Meetings with a minimum of seven (7) days notice before the minimum cut-off time for members to submit By-Law amendments;

**BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER RESOLVED** the RSU clarify which method for amending the By-Laws is the most recent, and update all other documents to reflect said version as the correct one.

**MOVED: Matthew Smith**

**SECONDED:**

**RESULT OF VOTE: Moved to Next Meeting of the Board of Directors**

#### **H. MOTION 2016-11-29 M08: VP EDUCATION RESIGNATION**

**WHEREAS** the Vice President of Education has taken more vacation days than the two weeks permitted under article 4.4, subsection b, of the Ryerson Student's Union By-Laws;

**WHEREAS** the Vice President of Education has not fulfilled responsibilities outlined under article 4.5, section C, policy iv, in the Ryerson Student's Union By-Laws in regard to participation in initiatives organised by the Canadian Federation of Students;

**WHEREAS** the Vice President of Education has publicized their repeated violation of Ryerson Non-Academic Code of Conduct policy 12, subsection d, by posting videos of themselves consuming alcohol in the Ryerson Student's Union office to social media;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the general membership requests the resignation of Victoria Morton as Vice President of Education;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** that general membership requests Victoria Morton not be appointed in any capacity to serve in the role as Vice President, Education in the interim once her resignation has been submitted.

**MOVED: Matthew Smith**

**SECONDED: seconded**

**RESULT OF VOTE: Fails**

Smith reads the motion

Chair hand over chair duties to president

Smith – Execs are permitted two weeks vacation and VP Education Morton has taken more and has been absent from office, not fulfilling her duties. Concerning the CFS – she has not worked with the CFS and has not followed these bylaws. Her job is to be the representative for Ryerson students and she has allowed Ryerson students to be unrepresented.

Morton was also caught drinking alcohol in the RSU Office – with RSU bylaws – this is against the student code of conduct and against RSU policies.

President hands over the chairing duties to the Chairperson.

Morton – I have taken unpaid vacation, the University is aware of the drinking issue. Concerning the CFS – I do not support fully the CFS and I don't think the bylaws should reflect what an elected official should support. I apologise for tweets that I made and the

drinking in office. I apologise for not representing the students at the CFS and I want to note the person who submitted this, there is a personal agenda against me.

For – I would like to talk about personal attacks against me by the VP Education which I think shows why this motion should be passed – I did a favour for a friend and went to RCDS meeting to take minutes. I was accused of altering minutes on twitter by you (Morton) and this is irresponsible of someone in your position and I felt dragged through social media was hurtful and this needs to be addressed. This is not an isolated case and this has happened often and should you apologise and be held responsible for your actions, included what is included in the motion.

Point of order – This can be discussed outside and this does not have to do with this motion.

Morton – I apologise that you were involved but it was not to you, I also contacted RCDS and Admin to clear up the issue.

Point of order

President – This has turned into a public trial and this should be ruled out of order.

Call to question

Motion Seconded

Vote - Passes

For 112- against 17

Point of order – What is due process for impeachment of an Exec.

President – The board will have a discussion on this and this is an HR issue.

Point of information – Can you explain how the process with work? Why is this not up to the membership who voted Morton in.

President – Our bylaws says it goes to the Board.

Point of clarification – I do not understand this process – is there a third party that does this? We have voted on other HR issues like salary increases.

President – The board can chose on a third party HR companies. The board is there to make these decisions on your behalf as your elected representatives.

Point of information – Can you repeat the process. This does not make sense. The elected board are friends of Morton, The membership should decide if an executive is removed from office.

Ullah – The board can be friends and they may not be friends , they are elected by the membership across campus. If you are not satisfied you can vote them out.

Point of information – If there is evidence that some one is not following the bylaws why does the board of directors have to vote on this. The organization should automatically remove the person as it says in the bylaws.

Point of Clarification – 8.8 D the meetings do in fact recognised appointments and resignations.

President – 9.6 – The impeachment processes are up to the board.

This motion is asking for a resignation.

## **I. MOTION 2016-11-29 M09: REMOVAL OF EXECUTIVE FROM OFFICE**

**WHEREAS** The RSU Executives are elected yearly by the membership, but once the Executive take office there exists no method for removing a member of the Executive from their position;

**WHEREAS** the only way currently given in the RSU By-Laws for removing an Executive requires the Board of Directors to pass a motion to remove said Executive from office;

**WHEREAS** the membership contributes a yearly levy towards the RSU, and as such should have a right to remove an Executive they feel no longer represents them or is no longer fulfilling the duties of their office;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Article 2.3 f) of the Ryerson Student's Union By-Laws be removed;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** The following be added to Article 4 of the Ryerson Student's Union By-Laws:

4.7 A member of the Executive may only be removed from office, and their position deemed vacant, through the following two methods:

**a) Removal by the Board of Directors:**

i) The Board of Directors of the RSU may remove a member of the Executive by passing a resolution, of which at least 30 days' notice must be given to the Board of Directors, by a minimum of a two thirds majority vote of the entire Board of Directors;

**b) Removal by the General Membership:**

i) The General Membership may remove a member of the Executive by a simple majority vote of Members of the RSU, voting in a referendum requested by no less than 5% of the Members of the RSU. No more than 500 members from any one faculty may be counted towards the 5%;

ii) In the event of i), the requisition must be submitted to the Chair of the Board of Directors. The Chair must then call an Emergency Board of Directors Meeting, to be called to order no less than 72 hours after the submission of the requisition. At the Emergency Meeting, the Board shall schedule the requisitioned referendum to be held no less than ten (10) days before and no more than twenty (20) days after the day of the meeting. These timings shall take precedence over those listed in Article 7.2 of these By-Laws;

iii) The referendum shall be conducted according to Article 7 of these By-Laws, and a simple majority vote shall be sufficient to remove an Executive from office. In the event of a vote in favor of removal, the Executive in question shall be suspended as soon as the result of the referendum is published, and formally removed as soon as it is ratified by the Board of Directors.

**MOVED: Matthew Smith**

**SECONDED:**

**RESULT OF VOTE: Moved to Next Meeting of the Board**

## **J. MOTION 2016-11-29 M10: EXECUTIVE SALARIES**

**WHEREAS** RSU board and executive salaries are paid for by allocation of student levies collected from the general membership

**WHEREAS** It is impossible for a closed board to make the decision to raise salaries without a conflict of interest

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Ryerson Student's Union By-Law 4.3 be amended to read as follows:

Executive members shall work a minimum forty (40) hours per week from May 1, until the end of their term in office. Executive member's salary shall be equal, and to be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors, with all decided increases not taking effect until they are ratified by the general membership at an SAGM or AGM.

**MOVED: Dylan Freeman- Grist SECONDED:**

**RESULT OF VOTE: Moved to Next Meeting of the Board**

## **K. MOTION 2016-11-29 M11: 6FEST REPORT**

**WHEREAS** 6Fest was organized by the Ryerson Student's Union and had a reported operating budget of 1.5 million dollars.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** a full breakdown of all individual sponsorship streams, and all ticket sales by type be prepared by the executive of the RSU and be presented to the general membership before the 2016-2017 AGM.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the final report should outline the amount of money paid out by the Ryerson Students' Union to those who requested a refund after purchasing a ticket to 6Fest, including any outstanding liabilities in this regard.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the breakdown of general members purchasing tickets be presented alongside the amount of non-members purchasing tickets in the report.

**MOVED: Dylan Freeman- Grist SECONDED:**

**RESULT OF VOTE: Moved to Next Meeting of the Board**

## **L. MOTION 2016-11-29 M12: RSU EVENTS – MEMBERSHIP ALLOCATION**

**WHEREAS** The Ryerson Students' Union's primary mandate is to advocate and provide benefit for its general membership.

**WHEREAS** The operations of the Ryerson Students' Union are supported financially by all general members.



**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Ryerson Students' Union Bylaw 4.5, section d, subsection ii, - under duties of the VP Student Life - be amended to read as follows:

plans and co-ordinates Ryerson Students' Union events and student life initiatives ensuring 75 percent of all spots at such initiatives be allocated to general members and student members of any collaborators.

**MOVED: Dylan Freeman- Grist SECONDED:  
RESULT OF VOTE: Moved to Next Meeting of the Board**

#### **M. MOTION 2016-11-29 M13: ANTI CHOICE**

**WHEREAS** anti-choice demonstrators have been actively displaying graphic images of late-term abortions in the middle of Gould Street on a weekly basis; and

**WHEREAS** graphic images traumatize and retraumatize students who are on campus, thus disrupting students' abilities to focus on their academic studies and negatively impacts their mental health and wellness; and

**WHEREAS** the trauma that students experience from the presence of anti-choice demonstrators creates a barrier between students and access to education on campus by creating a hostile environment due to graphic images. Further, the graphic images used by anti-choice demonstrators actively traumatizes and re-traumatizes members of the Ryerson community, particularly those who have had abortions, considered abortions or have been supports for family and friends who have sought abortions; and

**WHEREAS** the tactics of the anti-choice demonstrators aim to shame members of the Ryerson community for choices that they or people that they may know have made over their own bodies; and

**WHEREAS** the anti-choice demonstrators film and photograph students and community members without their consent, thus violating the bodily autonomy of community members; and

**WHEREAS** the rhetoric used by the anti-choice demonstrators has violated almost all sections of the Ryerson Students' Union Equity and Acknowledgement Statement; and

**WHEREAS** the lack of involvement from Security at Ryerson to remove the graphic and violent imagery on campus has caused a significant amount of distrust between students and security on campus; and

**WHEREAS** numerous Ryerson students have called on the University to have these people removed from campus; and

**WHEREAS** a group of students and community members at Ryerson University have been actively counter-protesting and providing support space when anti-choice demonstrators are on campus; therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Ryerson Students' Union openly and actively takes a pro-choice stance; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Ryerson Students' Union support the campaign organized by Ryerson students and community, by writing a public letter and offering financial resources; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Ryerson Students' Union puts pressure on Ryerson University to prevent anti-choice campaigns and signage from being present within the Ryerson University campus, particularly on Gould Street; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Ryerson Students' Union demand that Ryerson University and its security prevent anti-choice violence on campus.

**MOVED:** Jessica Ketwaroo-Green  
**RESULT OF VOTE: Carries**

**SECONDED: Motion Seconded**

Request to limit the nature of the motion.

Chair – Speakers identify if they are for or against the motion

For – Jessica – Anti choice demonstrators have been on campus and cause trauma to student and affect students mental state and wellness. Numerous students have called on the University to remove these people from campus. They have been little to no comment from the RSU Executive and I am asking the Executive to engage more and acknowledge the people who are doing the work to protect student rights. The Executive are not supporting the members or their employees.

For the motion – Underage students have been filmed without their consent. Creates unsafe space and the RSU is not doing the work with is in their policies.

Camryn – For the motion – Seeking clarification

The RSU says that you support this but has cut staff to two people and cut funding to this staff. I have been told that I should be raped again and that I should have been aborted. I have only seen one RSU Executive , Tamara –VP Equity for 6 minutes as the Equity Services staff take on these people alone. We are very stressed and we have been asking for support over and over from the Executive and we have been told to avoid the protesters.

Point of Order – Please ask for consent if you are recording.

Tamara – Who told you to stop going out.

Camryn – The GM – Natasha said to not continue going out if we feel unsafe and if we do not have the support we need.

Tamara –She does not have the authority to make those called. I have been out there more than once and timing people is inappropriate.

Marshall – Against – I think we are an inclusive school and we do not all share one belief. I respect the rights of both. If they are protesting they have the right to do that.

Taliah – Against the motion

I am the Anti Abortion leader on campus. We used pictures of first trimester abortion. We film for security reasons as they have been acts of violence. We will give access to those. We are engaging in peaceful protest on campus and we will continue to exercise our right. We do not need to permission to demonstrate on public property. We are an anti violence group and anti rape group.

Dillon - against the motion – I disagree on the labels. I think they should be a non partisan approach we should not support either side and I believe there is enough support from the security on campus. I don't think if I have to sit through other protest like the drop the fees then other people can sit through these. If you have a problem then you can go to the cops.

Point of clarification – Security has no authority since it's public property. The opposite of pro – life is not pro-choice. Pro choice means you have the right to choose.

For – Pro choice is that the individually chose what is right for you. That means that I have a right to have a choice and speak for myself. It's not against your choice to say it's wrong to say no to abortion. Pro choice means that I have the choice to choose whether I want to have a child. Anti Abortion opinions are your right but it is not your right to use these images to bully and assault others.

Point of Order – This is not relevant to motion

Speaker – it is relevant.

Member – I'm saying that you shouldn't have the right to label them anti choice. I don't like mislabelling.

Point of order – All comments have to be addressed to the Chairperson.

Amendment to the Be it Resolved Clause about the University.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ryerson Students' Union puts pressure on Ryerson University to prevent anti-choice campaigns and signage from being present within the Ryerson University campus

Motion Seconded

Amendment to the amendment – its important that Ryerson and the RSU should be involved in suspended graphical content.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ryerson Students' Union puts pressure on Ryerson University to prevent anti-choice campaigns and signage from being present within the Ryerson University campus, particularly on Gould Street; and graphic images

Motion Seconded

Point of information – Can you clarify what is graphic material.

For – I do not think we should give a blank check to the university to limit action on campus and it will set a bad precedent for the future to make use of this ability to put agendas into power. It's important that we limit the power we give to the RSU and the University. I think the amendment is a good one and I think that these graphic images can we seen as a form for harassment. We are not stopping people from their opinions but their opinions should not be at the detriment of our students.

Against – We have to get into the conversation about what constitutes graphic images and I believe that we need to focus on the issue of the motion.

Definition – Specifies anti choice graphics.

Against – I agree that broader the motion beyond the scope of anti-choice

Vote on the amendment to the amendment – Fails

Vote on the Amendment – Fails

Point of Clarification – The RSU already has a pro choice stance, the motion is to ask the exec to do more work with the students and to lobby the university about the anti choice protestors.

For the main motion – As a person who has had an abortion- seeing images like this is traumatising and these images do not portray what actually happened. The RSU has a pro-choice stance and should offer support to the members that are badly affected by these protestors.

Point of privilege – Showing approval and disagreement creates an unsafe space and I would like if the members could refrain from these actions.

**RESULT OF THE VOTE: Carries**

#### **N. MOTION 2016-11-29 M14: RSU BOARD MEETING AGENDAS AND MINUTES**

**WHEREAS** In order to make informed decisions in regards to the governance of their union the general membership needs access to information regarding their elected representatives activity as members of the Board.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Ryerson Students' Union Bylaw 5.2, section C, - under duties of the Secretary - be amended as follows

ensure that copies of all facts and minutes of all proceedings are submitted to members of the Board of Directors as soon as conveniently possible after the particular meeting has been held and that the same minutes, including all referenced appendixes, be posted for the general membership no later than 48 hours after the meeting in question.

**MOVED: Dylan Freeman- Grist SECONDED:**

**RESULT OF VOTE: Moved to next meeting of the Board**

#### **O. MOTION 2016-11-29 M15: FOSSIL FUELS DIVESTMENT**

**WHEREAS** fossil fuel corporations cause and will continue to cause environmental degradation and the displacement of and unsafe living conditions for people around the world, particularly Indigenous people and people living in the Global South, and whereas Ryerson University claims to be a progressive and forward thinking institution

that understands the science of climate change, yet has an endowment fund that holds significant investments in fossil fuel corporations; and

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Ryerson Students' Union will formally endorse the fossil fuel divestment movement, which calls on Ryerson University to stop investing in the top 200 fossil fuel corporations and include the following question on the 2017 RSU election ballot to serve as a student referendum:

Ryerson University has \$4.5 million of its endowment fund invested in the fossil fuel industry. Fossil fuel companies claim that they can extract and burn their proven reserves of fossil fuels. Proven reserves are the amount of oil, coal, and gas companies own underground. If the companies Ryerson invests in burn their proven reserves, the planet will warm by more than 4 Degrees Celsius. This is a problem because climate scientists and 150+ countries in the United Nations have promised to limit global warming to no more than 2 Degrees Celsius. These same fossil fuel companies also have a long record of taking fossil fuels from indigenous peoples' lands, or building pipelines that pollute and damage traditional territories, without the consent of Indigenous communities.

In light of the fossil fuel industries plans to burn more carbon than science says we can safely emit, there is a student led campaign asking Ryerson to divest from fossil fuel companies.

Divestment means to stop investing in something. It is an economic statement, but it is also a political and moral statement that we do not support the fossil fuel industries plans to disrupt the global climate system.

**Do you call on Ryerson to divest from fossil fuel companies whose business plans are incompatible with the United Nations' Paris Climate Agreement, and companies that do not respect the rights of indigenous peoples?**

Yes

No

**MOVED: Emma Beattie    SECONDED:**

**RESULT OF VOTE: Moved to Next Meeting of the Board**

**P. MOTION 2016-11-29 M16: HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK**

**WHEREAS** it is necessary to learn about the Holocaust; and

**WHEREAS** it is important to learn about the value of pluralism and the acceptance of diversity; and

**WHEREAS** it is important to learn about cause and affect of power of individuals, organizations, and nations; and

**WHEREAS** it is important to learn how a modern nation can utilize its technological expertise and bureaucratic infrastructure to implement destructive policies ranging from social engineering to genocide; and

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the RSU celebrate the official Canadian Holocaust Education Week (or dedicate a full five work days annually and consecutively) which numerous events/education programs are offered in collaboration with the remembrance and history of the Holocaust; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** this week is not in dedication to Anti-Zionist propaganda; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the RSU pairs with numerous organizations, but primarily make contact with UJA Federation of Greater Toronto to collaborate with events and programs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the RSU implement this motion by January 1st 2017.

**MOVED: Samantha Cooper      SECONDED: seconded**

**RESULT OF VOTE:**

Samantha cooper motivates on behalf of her motion

Amendment to the Motion 3M

MOTION 2016-11-29 M16: HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

WHEREAS it is necessary to learn about the Holocaust; and

WHEREAS it is important to learn about the value of pluralism and the acceptance of diversity; and

WHEREAS it is important to learn about the abuse of power by individuals, organizations, and nations; and

WHEREAS it is important to learn how a modern nation can abuse its technological expertise and bureaucratic infrastructure to implement destructive policies ranging from social engineering to genocide; and

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the RSU commemorate and partake in the official Canadian Holocaust Education Week (or dedicate a full five work days annually and consecutively), in which numerous events/education programs will be dedicated to remembrance and history of the Holocaust; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the programming for this week be devoted solely to Holocaust Education, referring to the time period of 1933 to 1945; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the programming involved in this week include education on Holocaust Survivors; and

**BE IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED THAT** this week focuses solely on the education of the Holocaust and not on other genocides which have taken place in the 20th and 21st century; and

**BE IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED THAT** this week be devoted to Holocaust Education without the involvement divisive political discourse; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the RSU pairs with numerous organizations, but primarily with Hillel Ryerson, a non-profit organization aimed at supporting Jewish student life on campus.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the RSU implement this motion by January 1st 2017.

MOVED: Samantha Cooper  
RESULT OF VOTE:

SECONDED:

Amendment to the Amendment

Change the first BE IT RESOLVED THAT clause and strike the proceeding BE IT RESOLVED clauses

WHEREAS it is necessary to learn about the Holocaust; and

WHEREAS it is important to learn about the value of pluralism and the acceptance of diversity; and

WHEREAS it is important to learn about the abuse of power by individuals, organizations, and nations; and

WHEREAS it is important to learn how a modern nation can abuse its technological expertise and bureaucratic infrastructure to implement destructive policies ranging from social engineering to genocide;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the RSU participates on a genocide awareness week, but also multiple events during the year that address multiple genocides such as the Holocaust, the genocide of Indigenous people, Rwandan genocide, Palestinian genocide, South Sudanese genocide, and other historical and current genocides happening around the world.

MOVED: Dahab Ibrahim

Motion Seconded

For – Ryerson is very diverse and if we focus on one it is not inclusive

Against – We already have many different weeks dedicated to the RSU and holocaust is internationally recognise and the RSU does not have anything dedicated to the Holocaust.

Call for quorum

Quorum lost – 10:12 pm

#### Q. MOTION 2016-11-29 M17: SILENCE FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

**WHEREAS** it is important to remember those that fought in the line of duty during WW1/WW2.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** official veteran poppies stations be set up a week prior of Remembrance Day to purchase and donate money in exchange for a poppy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** veteran support be offered on campus; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** educational discussions and programs be offered throughout the month of November in recognition of the history of WW1/WW2; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** on the eleventh month, on the eleventh hour, on the eleventh day, Ryerson takes a two minute moment of silence throughout the entire

school; May it be that Ryerson bodies are to be notified in advance through social media outlets, and via email; Be it resolved that an announcement will be made throughout the school when the silence will begin as well as notifications on social media outlets; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the RSU organizes such mentioned by next November 1st 2017.

**MOVED: Samantha Cooper      SECONDED:**  
**RESULT OF VOTE: Moved to next meeting of the Board**

**R. MOTION 2016-11-20 M18: CANADIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM**

**WHEREAS** it is necessary to give respect to the democratic country we live in; and

**WHEREAS** it is necessary to encourage some patriotism in the formulating of identity in Toronto known as a diverse metropolis;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the RSU plays the Canadian National Anthem throughout the entire school, every morning at 9:05am (between classes) Monday-Friday.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the RSU begin to play the anthem starting January 1st 2017.

**MOVED: Samantha Cooper      SECONDED:**  
**RESULT OF VOTE: Moved to Next Meeting of the Board**

**S. MOTION 2016-11-20 M19: - RSU "Water Bottle Free" Campaign Revision**

**WHEREAS** it is necessary to reduce the amount of plastic bottles for all types of beverages; and

**WHEREAS** the alarming rate of plastic production and usage causes environmental damage; and

**WHEREAS** using recyclable materials can help reduce pollution and provide sustainable solutions;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Ryerson sells reusable bottles for purchase at all applicable locations that sell beverages and those that do not; Ryerson to eradicate all plastic beverages and replace them with other branded beverages that provide sustainable packaging solutions that are plastic free; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the RSU make changes in their campaign by May 2017. May it be further resolved that in such a situation that this is not in RSU authority, may the RSU relaunch a new campaign called "Bottled Beverages Plastic-Free" at Ryerson.





# APPENDIX B

## BY-LAW AMENDMENTS



# BY LAW AMENDMENTS

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## Amendment 1

### Article Four (4) Officers of the Students' Union

*The General Manager, shall be an ex-officio non voting member of the Students' Union who supports the executive officers*

## Amendment 1

*4.5 The responsibilities of the respective Executive officer are as follows:*

*a) the President:*

*iii liases between ~~staff~~ General Manager and the Board of Directors*

*b) the Vice-President Operations:*

*iv. develops and recommends the annual budget to the Board of Directors in consultation with the Executive, The General Manager, Financial Controller, and Ryerson Students' Union staff where appropriate.*

## Amendment 2

### Article Nine (9) Legal and Financial

*9.5) Deeds, transfers, licenses, contracts, and engagements on behalf of the Students Union shall be co-signed ~~by any~~ two signing officers, which includes the General Manager*

*9.7) Asset Management*

*Any two ~~of the three~~ of signing officers, which includes the General Manager*

## Amendment 3

Appendix A

Terms of Reference for Standing Committee

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

5. The Board of Directors shall establish a Finance committee in accordance with the following terms of reference

a) be composed of

~~iv the Executive Director of Operations & Services and the Finance Coordinator~~  
*iv the General Manager and the Financial Controller*

f) meet before August 31st, with not less than half of the elected members of The Students' Union appointed to the committee constituting a quorum, to discuss and approve the annual operating budget that shall normally be prepared, with consultation, by the Vice President Operations and ~~the Executive Director of Operations and Services~~ *The General Manager & Financial Controller*.

#### **Amendment 4**

##### ***Article Six (6) Elections & Appointments***

6.4 The total number of Student Faculty Directors shall be determined on the basis of one Director per one thousand ~~one~~ five hundred ~~(1,100)~~ (2000) members, to be arrived at by the following formula:

Number of members of the Students' Union/~~1,100~~2000

6.5 The number of Student Faculty Directors per faculty shall be arrived at by the following formula:

Number of members in the faculty/~~1,100~~ 2000

6.6 Where the procedure followed in By-law 6.5 shall produce the remainder for a Faculty which shall be greater than or equal to five hundred and fifty ~~(>=550)~~ (>=750) then the result shall be incremented by one (1).

6.7 The number of Student Faculty Directors produced per faculty in By-law 6.5 ~~shall not exceed the combined number of Faculty Directors produced through the two (2) smallest faculties listed in By-law 6.3 combined~~ shall not exceed more than 4 directors per faculty and the number of Student Faculty Directors must not be less than two (2) directors.

***Changes for article 6 will take places for the upcoming RSU elections of 2018/2019***

#### **Amendment 5**

6.81 Results of an election that return an equality of votes for two (2) or more candidates who are running for the same office will ~~ultimately~~ be determined by *an additional day of voting. The voting day will be scheduled (1) working day after the last day of polling. In the event that that additional day of elections also results in a tie*, a coin toss that shall be administered by the Chief Returning Officer. Such a procedure will be final. ~~and binding and should take place only after a recount of the ballots confirms the result as a tie vote~~



# APPENDIX C

## END OF YEAR EXECUTIVE REPORT



# WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT

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**Dear Members,**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the 2017 Annual General Meeting! I hope you will have a chance to read over the Executive Report in your package, which outlines the things we have accomplished over our term in 2016-2017 during our time as your elected officials. Throughout the report you'll find information on many new initiatives that we've worked hard to develop, such as new programming, campaigns and services.

This is a snapshot of the collective work undertaken by our board of directors, staff, volunteers, and the Executives on your behalf. This year marks the beginning of enhanced expectations, cross-campus collaboration, and student empowerment thanks to the leadership of the Board, and the support from the general membership. As you'll see in the reports of the Executives, we made important progress on a number of student issues that have had a substantial impact on student life.

We would like to extend our sincere congratulations to the newly elected representatives of the 2017-2018 year, and look forward to a productive transitioning period for the remainder of April. Best of luck in your term ahead! It is sure to be a year filled with learning and growth. This year has been an incredible year filled with growth, challenge, teamwork, and learning. None of this would have been possible without the active engagement of our Board of Directors, support of our staff, assistance from our student volunteers, and direction from the membership. Thank you to everyone who made this year such a positive experience. It wouldn't have been the same without you!

**Obaid Ullah**  
**President 2015-2016**  
Ryerson Students' Union

**RSU EXECUTIVE 2016-2017 (L-R)**  
Victoria Morton - Vice-President Education,  
Neal Muthreja - Vice-President Operations,  
Obaid Ullah – President,  
Tamara Jones - Vice-President Equity,  
Harman Singh - Vice-President Student Life &  
Events



## **VICE-PRESIDENT EDUCATION**

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I'd like to start by thanking everyone for for allowing me to serve and grow as your VP Education and an even bigger thank you to everyone who held our team accountable this year. We know this year had its challenges and at this point I believe the best possible use we can make of it now is to learn from it. With my closing report I'd like to start by highlighting some successes and then close with some thoughts and lessons for future teams.

### **Some highlights from this year:**

- Co-lead a national movement to reform the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) resulting in the elected representatives of over half of CFS's paying members supporting it and multiple key policies being changed.
- Contributed to successful national lobbying efforts for increased funding to the PSSSP program that helps Indigenous students attend post-secondary education as well as removing interest on the Federal portion of student loans during the first six months after graduation.
- Created an ethically-sourced apparel collaboration with one of Toronto's hottest local brands, Get Fresh Co.
- Successfully pushed for funded Board of Governors student elections
- Initiated and executed one of the largest student-run electoral reform community consultations in Canada
- Currently lobbying for mental health accommodations and medical note reform on the Academic Policy Review Committee (ongoing)
- Lead budget consultations of the student body to identify and push for student priorities to be reflected in the university budget (ongoing, results to come late April/early May)

### **Some things I learned this year and hope future years bare in mind:**

- On our campus we will likely never have one generally accepted stance on how to lobby for student issues, regardless of what team gets elected each year. If the RSU wants to become a powerhouse in post-secondary education lobbying, which I truly believe it can, we're going to have to embrace these differences. Advocating for incremental changes through hand shaking and board rooms is not always just "respectability politics" and advocating for large changes through demonstrations and call-outs is not always just "making noise". An empathetic, thoughtful approach to how we address others working towards the same or similar end goals could be the difference between constructive and obstructive to each others actions.
- So often people in positions of power believe that their greater good is the real greater good, and breaking rules and limiting transparency are all just necessary evils to getting there. This is a dangerous path for any organization, CFS and RSU included. Holding those within our own communities is often the most difficult but crucial thing to do.
- It is absolutely undeniable that the CFS needs to be reformed. Regardless of where you identify with the political spectrum, so long as the power imbalance between staff and students within the Federation and many unions across the country goes unaddressed, it will never truly be a "student movement".
- Student unions are inherently advocacy based. Future RSU teams can disagree on what issues to advocate for and how to do that advocating but never lose sight of the



fact that the very concept of a union is to represent and lobby for the best interests of its constituency.

If you've taken the time to read this entire report, first of all I thank you. This year has been an opportunity I'm incredibly grateful to have had. Second of all, it probably means you're part of a small number of students who have a drive and passion to make life on campus (and beyond) a better place. The RSU has the ability to do so much and I believe in this campus's ability to get there because of people like you.

**My absolute best wishes for next year!**

**Victoria Morton**

## **MEMBER ADVOCACY**

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The Ryerson Students' Union provides academic advocacy via the Student Issues and Advocacy Coordinator, to students seeking assistance with grade and/or standing appeals, charges related to academic misconduct or non-academic misconduct, fee appeals and general concerns that may fall under University policies or procedures.

### **STATISTICS AND ANALYSIS**

Statistics continue to be collected and analyzed through an "Intake" form that is completed by students who consult with the Student Issues and Advocacy Coordinator. Since the beginning of November of 2016, approximately 200 students have sought advocacy services offered by the Students' Union. While the majority of students opt for in-person discussions the number of students who have made use of the service remotely (over phone or email) is growing. The number of students making use of the service is comparable to last year's numbers at this time.

The numbers with regard to self identification and nature of visit are generally consistent with reporting patterns as observed over the past seven years. This year there has been an increase in group/course wide complaints and concerns relating to course management issues.

Graduate students continue to access advocacy services. The two primary areas of concern for Graduate students seeking advocacy relate to issues pertaining to suspicions or charges relative to Policy 60 (academic misconduct) or academic standing issues. Supervisor/Student relations have also been a continued point of contact and discussion.

The Student Issues and Advocacy Coordinator represents full time and graduate students in hearings for Academic Integrity Council Misconduct appeals, Senate level Misconduct appeals, Senate level grade and/or standing appeals, and Yeates School of Graduate Studies grade and/or standing appeals.

### **WORKSHOPS**

In early January academic appeal workshops were presented for students interested in learning more about appealing grades and/or standing. The Students' Union held a number of these workshops in collaboration with CESAR to try to accommodate students' availability. Turnout for these workshops continues to increase.

The appeal deadline for grades and standing for the Winter 2017 semester is Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 4 pm.

## **ACADEMIC AND UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS**

### **Ombudsperson Committee**

The Vice-President Education and Student Issues and Advocacy Coordinator represent the Ryerson Students' Union on this committee. The committee's terms of reference are as follows: to ensure the incumbency of the Office of the Ombudsperson, provide any advice and guidance to the Ombudsperson when requested, approval of annual budget for the office, and to respond to any procedural breach of any of the above.

### **Ad Hoc Academic Policy Review Committee**

The Student Issues and Advocacy Coordinator is a member, along with the Vice President Education representing the RSU on this committee. Additionally, the Student Issues and Advocacy Coordinator is a member of the Academic Considerations sub-committee.

### **Senate**

The Vice President Education is an ex-officio member of Senate as a representative from the Ryerson Students' Union. The Student Issues and Advocacy Coordinator acts as a resource person for the Vice President Education with regard to their work at Senate.

# **VICE-PRESIDENT EQUITY**

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## **Position**

The Vice-President of Equity of the Ryerson Students' Union has a responsibility to ensure that all students, especially those who identify as being apart of a marginalized group have the resources and support that they need to thrive and feel safer on campus. This role attempts to address the fundamental problems within our society's dominant ideologies and promotes social justice, community-building and, ultimately equity and liberation. In this portfolio, the VP of Equity oversees the great work that our six equity service centres do. The six centres are as follows: The Centre for Women and Trans People, RyePride, The Trans Collective, The Racialised Students' Collective, The Good Food Centre and Rye Access. While the centres operate semi-autonomously, with the help of the coordinators and volunteers, under the supervision of the Equity and Campaigns Manager, the VP of Equity also provides support and resources to the centres and advocate on their behalf in all campus-wide committees and initiatives.

Over the past year, I have gotten a much better understanding of the levels of bureaucracy within the university. Understanding how to navigate the administrative landscape of the university's administration and governing bodies is crucial to making sure students' voices are heard by key decision-makers. The information that I've gathered and contacts that I've made within the university and community will be passed over to the incoming VP Equity and maintained within the institutional memory of the organization.

## **Committee Work**

In addition to supervising the Equity Service Centres, the VP of Equity also chairs the Sustainability Committee and the Equity and Social Justice Committee within the Ryerson Students' Union. As has been the case in previous years, the committee members set substantial goals at the beginning of the year, and while we weren't able to accomplish all of them, the commissioners and members have contributed to the experiential learning pillar by organizing bursaries for initiatives and research that promote EDI and sustainability. While we were able to reduce paper use and meat consumption, due to external constraints, the RSU's sustainability audit was not as comprehensive as I had hoped. However, all of the barriers and recommendations for continuing the certification process will be included in the final sustainability report and submitted to Campus Facilities and Sustainability by the end of April. Since this is the first year in the sustainability process, the report will be a good starting-point for the incoming Exec and subsequent Exec teams to build upon.

## **Select Projects and Events from December 2016 - March 2017**

### **Partnership with TranQool**

TranQool is an online platform where students can access counselling services via video conferencing in a more timely and cost-effective manner. This service is also reimbursable with the RSU's Health and Dental Plan. In an attempt to help address concerns of wait times at Ryerson's counselling services, RSU has continued to partner with TranQool during the second semester. TranQool and RSU co-hosted two events since December about "Seasonal Affectiveness Disorder" and social isolation where we were able to provide resources to students about the service and self-care tips during the winter months. We will also be hosting an event about stress management and self-care during the upcoming exam season. The founder of TranQool has confirmed that Ryerson students are using the platform consistently and feedback has been positive, so I would recommend that we continue promoting this platform. At the next All-Exec meeting (for Student Groups and Course Unions) I will be introducing the executives of each group to this platform as I recognize that the executive of these groups usually take on a mentorship role within their communities. The goal would be to give these students resources that they can relay to their members if necessary.

### **Wellness Centre**

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Wellness Centre is expected to open in September 2017. However, this semester I was able to fulfill my role in the project by gathering information on mental wellbeing concerns and resources. Along with the Wellness Centre coordinator, an online survey was conducted where we were able to get a clearer picture of students' concerns and preferred methods of addressing those concerns. This report will help us to implement relevant programming within the centre when it opens. RSU's insurance broker Gallivan also created a report based on the usage of their online platform *MyWellness*, which gave us some insight into concerns that students seek out resources for at various points of the semester. Through using both sets of data, we will be able to proactively provide programming that reflects the various concerns of students throughout the year, including but not limited to adjusting to a new environment, sleep deprivation, stress, and depression.

### **Coffee Culture Campaign**

The Cupanion travel mugs have been on sale at the Member Services Office for around one month, and RSU ran a contest on World Water Day where students were able to enter a draw to win one of 10 mugs. The mugs will be on sale at the MSO for \$13 - which was the unit price (including shipping) for 100, so students are receiving them at wholesale price. We received positive feedback about the quality and price of the mugs and will be monitoring their sales level over the next year.



### **Protests on Gould Street**

Pro-life/Anti-choice protesters have been conducted at the intersection of Gould and Victoria Streets and have been a source of trauma and contention on campus since September. While

most members of the protests are not affiliated with Ryerson University, some are Ryerson students. A group of Ryerson students and community members, referred to as the Ryerson Reproductive Justice Collective, have been counter-protesting in response. As per the motion passed at the December SAGM, the RSU has provided, funding and support to the RRJC for signage and support spaces for students. The context of the issue is that the protests take place on public property, as Ryerson does not own the pedestrian-only section of Gould or Victoria streets, meaning that the university and Ryerson security have no authority to ask them to leave. During the semester, I was able to speak with representatives from the Provost's office, Councillor Wong-Tam, the Community Response Division of the 51st Division of the Toronto Police, and representatives of Ryerson Security to get a better understanding of the scope of the issue from various relevant perspectives. After these conversations, I believe that lobbying Toronto City Council will be the most effective way to ensure that appropriate action that neither impedes the rights to peacefully protest nor allows the policing of people's bodily autonomy is taken.

### **EDI Curriulum**

As a way to fundamentally challenge systems of oppression, I approached the Office of EDI, and the Provost's Office to explore the possibility of general academic requirements for students and faculty to include EDI principles. For staff, training for new hires is available but not mandatory, so faculty and staff who may be more in need of training may not attend and have no obligation to do so. The decision to include equity/anti-oppression training in staff orientations is made by the department, so I would recommend direct contact with each department to ensure that they are prioritizing EDI principles in their trainings. For students, the opportunity to infuse more EDI principles into course content (or reserving one credit for an anti-oppression focused course) comes every several years when the program in question is under review by Senate. So I would recommend that students on contact their Senate representatives to ensure that adequate importance is being placed on equity diversity and inclusion during these program reviews.

# EQUITY SERVICE CENTRES

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The Ryerson Students' Union is committed to promoting equity and inclusion in all aspects of campus life. As such, the students' union supports six Equity Service Centres to help foster a Ryerson community which is anti-oppressive and works to create safer spaces for women, lesbians, gays, bisexuals, trans people, students with disabilities, racialised students and the ever growing population of students living in poverty. These Centres are the Centre for Women & Trans People, the Good Food Centre, the Racialised Students' Collective, RyeACCESS, RyePRIDE and the Trans Collective.

Each Equity Service Centre holds diverse membership and seeks to produce an environment of progressive social change for its membership and larger society. As such, each centre hosts events, campaigns and services to achieve such ends, as well as conducts outreach to better reach out to students with education and opportunities to engage in social justice work. Each centre is also staffed by one coordinator in the summer and two to three coordinators, during the Fall and Winter terms, who help facilitate the work of the centres, and ensure drop-in spaces uphold a mandate of anti-oppression and openness.

## Equity Service Centre Drop-in Centres

Each Equity Service Centre hosts drop-in hours on a weekly basis. Drop-in hours can be found on the centres websites and physical doors. Drop-in hours are facilitated by volunteers who have undergone training that includes anti-oppression frameworks, active listening, crisis-intervention, and other relevant topics.

## Anti-Semitism:

The Vice-President Equity, several members of the Equity Service Centres and executives of Students Supporting Israel have been meeting to discuss campaigns and issues around anti-semitism on campus. The working group has begun to look at integrating discussions on anti-semitism in training documents and presentations, as well as identify potential collaborations or areas of improvement for the Ryerson Students' Union to address anti-semitism actively in the future.

## CENTRE FOR WOMEN & TRANS PEOPLE

The Centre for Women & Trans People exists as a space for self-identified women on campus as a meeting place to gather to hang out, hold discussions, organise and mobilise. The Centre runs educational campaigns, provides services and resources to students, and hosts events that address the equity issues self-identified women face on campus and in the community.



## Reproductive Justice Campaigns:

A large focus of the Centre has been in responding to anti-choice groups on campus and re-centering reproductive justice in the Centre's work. The Centre has worked with the Ryerson Reproductive Justice Collective, the Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson and general members of the campus community to better respond to anti-choice groups on campus – including providing hand warmers, creating bigger and snazzier signage, and helping to host the Reproductive Justice Town Hall for Love, Health, Sex Week. The Centre

has also assisted in lobbying the university to better respond to anti-choice demonstrations on campus and to uphold principles of equity, diversity and inclusion by barring violent anti-choice images and conversations that have been happening regularly since September 2016.

In addition to hosting events and running campaigns, the Centre also hosts debrief space for people who feel harassed, intimidated and attacked by violent anti-choice imagery to come and debrief, relax and find a safer space to decompress.

### **Sexual Violence Policy Campaign:**

The Centre has been involved in a number of areas of the sexual violence policy since it was first implemented. The centre continues to collaborate with the Office of Sexual Violence Support & Education (OSVSE) on a number of projects and within their advisory committee. The Centre has also been active in sharing and educating students on the policy.

The Centre has been mainly focusing on the review of the policy in November 2016. The Centre participated and advertised a number of public townhalls, while also hosting two independent of the university. The Centre has also collaborated with other Equity Service Centres to collect feedback. Ultimately, a twenty-page report of recommendations from the Centre was submitted to Ryerson University. The report suggests a number of recommendations, including but not limited to: more frequent reviews of the policy, increasing staff resources for the OSVSE, and clear and concise resources that explain the multitude of resources, policies and options for justice available to survivors.

Following the initial submission, the Centre has been involved in submitting additional proposals or clarifications for the policy on December 2, 2016 and February 3, 2017.

### **December 6 Memorial:** Tuesday, December 6, 2017

The December 6 Memorial was planned with a number of campus partners to address the issue of gender-based violence on university campuses, and to remember the fourteen women who were murdered at École Polytechnique in Montreal. Annually, the Centre helps coordinate a vigil and reception with the university. This year, the Centre also hosted a screening of Gilmore Girls with the Office of Sexual Violence Support and Education, and the Racialised Students' Collective worked with Women's Health in Women's Hands to host a drop-in crafts day.

### **International Women's Day:** Saturday, March 11, 2017

The Centre helped coordinate the International Women's Day march on Saturday, March 11, 2017. The Centre coordinated a number of volunteers to help with marshalling and banner making, and hosted the post-march community fair at the Student Learning Centre. Keeping with tradition, the Centre also produced International Women's Day t-shirts that featured art by Frizz Kid and were sold at the community fair and will hopefully be available at the Member Services Office in the new year.

### **Sexual Assault Survivor Support Line:**

The Sexual Assault Survivor Support Line (SASSL) has had a complete review in the past year. This has resulted in a relaunched program that has new hours, new training modules and new operational policies that better support survivors, volunteers and coordinators. The new training has included a more thorough training that includes crisis-intervention and suicide-



intervention, anti-oppressive practices, active listening, scenarios and self-care training.

The current hours for the Fall and Winter semester are Mondays to Fridays from 12pm to 9pm.

### **Valentine's Day Campaign:**

The Centre hosted an outreach blitz with RyePRIDE to promote healthy relationships on Valentine's Day. The blitz included selling candygrams, roses and giving out information on the Our Love Is campaign and the Consent Comes First campaign.

### **Collective Meetings:**

The Centre continues to host collective meetings every other Tuesday to engage students in the Centre's work and decision-making processes. This has helped increase volunteer numbers and their engagement in the centre.

### **Student Sex Worker Collective:**

The Centre has launched a new support network for students who are or have been involved in sex work industries. The support group is open to people of all genders and is a place to discuss their work, wellbeing and build communities of support.

### **Advocacy:**

The Centre continues to do a large amount of advocacy across the university around feminism, addressing misogyny, reproductive justice and building cultures of consent. The Centre's drop-in hours are constantly being used by students who need to decompress or talk about these issues in a safer and supportive space.

A bulk of the Centre's advocacy has also been focused on addressing anti-choice demonstrators who have been coming to Ryerson once a week since late September. The Centre has supported volunteers and general community members in making and distributing signs to block or counter large graphic images that demonstrators have held up. The Centre has also provided space for community members to come together and debrief whenever these demonstrators are on campus.

## **GOOD FOOD CENTRE**

The Good Food Centre has a mandate to discuss food insecurity, student poverty, nutrition and other topics aside from just operating as a food bank. Through its various services, programming, and workshops, the Good Food Centre continues to offer emergency food relief services for Ryerson community members struggling with financial obligations, underemployment, and poverty.



### **Food Bank Program:**

The Good Food Centre has been running successfully for the past semester. Volunteers continue to be an integral part of the Centre's operations, assisting with events, intake, and weekly food deliveries from Daily Bread Food Bank. The Centre has also planned and organised new training schedules and workshops to better engage volunteers in the Centre. As well, the Centre continues to build relationships with Oakham Cafe, RU Eats and local food producers to ensure the Centre is stocked with healthier and local items.

The Good Food Centre has also added a new donation guide for campus groups, university administrators and anyone who plans to fundraise food or funds for the Centre. The guide aims to better educate donators to think of food insecurity issues when donating. The Centre has seen a huge increase in donations this past year.

### **Good Food Box:**

The Good Food Box program usage has increased in the past year. The program operates weekly, and consistently has enough participants to secure a free Large Good Food Box for the food bank. Users are able to purchase a variety of fresh, locally grown fruit and vegetable boxes at low prices.

### **Community Garden:**

The Community Garden is located on the third floor of the Student Campus Centre. Volunteers look after the garden throughout the spring, summer and fall. The food bank harvested fresh greens throughout the summer season. The Good Food Centre is currently working on recruiting volunteers for Spring and Summer operations.

### **Eat-Up Meet-Up and Community Kitchens:**

Eat-Up Meet-Up and Community Kitchens engage students in an effort to promote food literacy, healthy eating, and affordable cooking skills. The Eat-up, Meet-ups are held at the Regent Park Community Food Centre and each workshop has a specific food skill and discussion topic as a focus. The Community Kitchens are held at the Student Campus Centre and are focused more on food preparation and lighter cooking.

### **Screening of 'Edible City':** Wednesday, March 1, 2017

The Centre worked with Sustainability Matters to host a screening of 'Edible City' which is a movie about the fight for healthy and sustainable food in San Francisco. The screening followed with a panel including Arlene Throness from Ryerson Urban Farm, Reg Noble from the Centre of Studies in Food Security, and Sarah Brigel from Microbe Hub.

### **Food Security is... Campaign:**

The Centre runs a food security campaign that discusses five major factors: Acceptability, Accessibility, Affordability, Agency, and Availability. The campaign seeks to engage students in thinking about access to food holistically. The campaign has been successfully integrated into all areas of the Good Food Centre including the Hunger Report, intake-processes and new outreach materials.

### **Hunger Report:**

The Centre launched its third annual Hunger Report in November 2016. The report examines the effects and experiences of post-secondary food insecurity on campus, along with insights into its causes and potential solutions. The report compiles demographic statistics of the Good Food Centre as well as recommendations for the students' union, university and governments to improve food security and reduce student poverty. The Centre is currently completing the fourth annual report to be released in the Fall 2017 semester.

## **RACIALISED STUDENTS' COLLECTIVE**

The mandate of the Racialised Students' Collective is to provide a space for students to mobilise against racism, as well as to provide safer spaces for racialised students, in particular, to share their experiences and build community on our campus. The Collective does this by hosting a number of campaigns and events, providing services that students desire, and by creating an active voice that challenges racism and systemic oppression on and off campus.



### **Black History Month**

The Racialised Students' Collective worked with a number of campus groups and collective members to host a number of events for Black History Month – so many that planning spanned into March. The Collective also hosted an art show in Oakham Café featuring a four different local Black artists in Toronto.

- RIWC presents: Centering Black Women: Exploring Womanism: Monday, February 6th 2017
- These Words of Mine: Thursday, February 9
- Unmasking Black Masculinity Workshop: Monday, February 13
- Networking Night: My Career Journey: Tuesday, February 28
- 'The African Doctor' Movie Screening: Thursday, March 2
- Queering Black History Month: Exploring Our Queerness: African Immigrants in the Diaspora: Friday, March 10
- Organising Meeting on Black Liberation: Tuesday, March 14

Thank you to our co-organisers at the Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson, Ryerson East African Students' Association, United Black Students at Ryerson, Black Liberation Collective Ryerson, Ryerson Black Muslim Collective, and the Ryerson African Students Association.

### **'Moonlight' Screening: Monday, March 20, 2017**

Though initially planned for Black History Month, the Collective finally confirmed a screening for Oscar winning film 'Moonlight' to be shown on March 20, 2017. The screening had a huge turnout and created an opportunity for discussion after the event.

### **Collective Meetings: Every Other Week**

The Collective continues to hold collective meetings every other week. These meetings are an opportunity for students to find support, address issues, build community, and direct the work of the collective. The Collective will be launching a number of new discussion groups and campaigns based on conversations from the collective.

### **Queer & Trans People of Colour Collective:**

The Collective hosts monthly support and discussion groups for queer and trans people of colour. The Collective has also been working with the George Brown College Community Action Centre to host meetings bi-weekly alternating between campuses. The Collective hosted an outing to Buddies and Bad Times Theatre on December 2, 2016 for a viewing of 'Black Boys' and a games night at George Brown College on March 27, 2017.

### **Racialised & Indigenous Women's Collective:**

The Collective hosts monthly support and discussion groups for women and trans people of colour. The collective has held several specific events such as drop-in crafts with Women's Health in Women's Hands after the December 6 Memorial Vigil and a Conversation on Womanism during Black History Month.

### **Racialised Microaggressions Campaign:**

The Collective is continuing its microaggressions campaign where racialised and indigenous students share their everyday stories of covert racism.

### **Advocacy:**

The bulk of the Racialised Students' Collective's work is based within advocacy initiatives. The Collective operates a drop-in space where students seek support, active listening and community where they that their stories of racism will not be trivialised or dismissed. Additionally, a bulk of the Collective's work is addressing large scale racism within the media. The Collective responds to a number of media requests regularly.

### **RyeACCESS**

RyeACCESS recognises that students with disabilities have a diverse range of experiences both on and off campus. RyeACCESS works to reclaim our bodies and minds through advocacy, campaigns, outreach, education, and events. RyeACCESS focuses on both systemic and individual issues in an effort to create an equitable environment and promote the empowerment, autonomy and freedom of students with disabilities.



### **Reclaiming Our Bodies & Minds Conference: March 10-12, 2017**

The Reclaiming Our Bodies and Minds Conference (ROBAM) was initially launched by RyeACCESS in 2011 and became an inter-campus conference last year. The conference converges on topics of academia, activism, service provision and community building. Along with partners from the University of Toronto, George Brown College and York University the conference has numerous sub-committees that work on everything from soliciting more than a dozen workshops, keynotes and panelists to coordinating barrier-free space through booking ASL interpreters, live-captioning, printing braille and inverse-print designs and having personal support workers on sight. The conference is well-known within the Toronto disability community.

This year's conference spanned from March 10-12, 2017 and spent two days at the Ryerson Campus and one day at the York Campus. The conference featured a number of fantastic speakers and artists including spoken word artist Lynx Sainte-Marie, Faduma Mohamed from 'Oughtism' and actor Sage Willow.

### **American Sign Language Courses:**

RyeACCESS continues to host two separate American Sign Language (ASL) Courses on Mondays and Wednesdays. The courses continue to be popular and in demand.

## **Volunteer Meetings**

As one of the few centres that does not operate on a collective model, RyeACCESS will be hosting several volunteer meetings to discuss volunteer opportunities and strategies to better engage students in all the opportunities students have on campus and within RyeACCESS.

## **Advocacy:**

RyeACCESS experiences unique advocacy opportunities. Due to nature of the work at any point a student may enter the office to utilize our resources. Often times this will include a session of active listening, discovering what the student needs and offering resources such as counselling, referrals to advisors and finding community organizations that fit. Through these experiences RyeACCESS is able to expand the needed on hand resources as well as expand on our community contacts. Advocacy at a larger scale involves creating and implementing campaigns around sanism, audism, and ableism. This is often spurred specifically by our one-on-one discussions with students in order to have more voices involved with our work.

RyeACCESS provides educational material to help educate community members on ableism, sanism and audism. RyeACCESS has also participated in a number of campus media stories about accessibility, disability and activism on campus.

## **RyePRIDE**

RyePRIDE represents the queer and trans voices of Ryerson University. RyePRIDE offers education, advocacy and support of queer and trans people on campus. The goal of RyePRIDE is to create a safer and more positive campus environment for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities by. Resources and services are intended to build a healthy and queer-positive Ryerson community.



## **Pride Organising:**

Planning is underway for RyePRIDE's participation in Pride month this June. A number of volunteer meetings have been hosted to discuss Pride events, themes and campaigns.

## **Collective Meetings:**

RyePRIDE hosts regular collective meetings where events and campaigns are determined by members. This year, RyePRIDE has also moved from a volunteer model to a collective model of organising, which has helped build investment and capacities of volunteers. Collective meetings will often alternate their focus from planning to support discussions.

## **Coming Out Gala: Tuesday, November 29, 2017**

The Coming Out Gala was hosted at the end of the Fall term and was a huge success despite falling on the same day as the RSU Annual General Meeting. The Gala featured burlesque artist Dainty Smith.

## **Queer & Trans Histories Week: Monday, January 23 to Friday, January 27, 2017**

Queer & Trans Histories Week was a collaboration with the Equity Service Centres to promote ongoing histories and realities of queer and trans people at Ryerson.

- Queer & Trans People of Colour Collective: Monday, January 23
- Eat-up, Meet-up: Tuesday, January 24
- Winter Mix n' Mingle: Wednesday, January 25
- Queer & Trans Pop Culture Trivia: Thursday, January 26
- 'MAJOR' Movie Night: Friday, January 27
- Literary Club: 'Dry Clean' by Paul Tran: Tuesday, February 11

**Love, Health, Sex Week: Monday, February 13 to Friday, February 16, 2017**

RyePRIDE worked with the Continuing Education Students' Association of Ryerson to host the third annual Love, Health, Sex Week. RyePRIDE took the lead in organising the Valentine's Escape Room and a night of Dirty Bingo.

The 'Love' Escape Room: Monday, February 13

Ryerson Reproductive Justice Town Hall: Monday, February 13

Valentine's Candygrams: Tuesday, February 14

Crafts & Community Fair: Wednesday, February 15

Dirty Bingo: Thursday, February 16

**Our Love Is... Campaign:**

RyePRIDE continues to promote the Our Love Is Campaign that focuses on the diversity and radicalism of love. RyePRIDE worked with the Centre for Women & Trans People to hand out candygrams on Valentine's Day and talk about the Our Love Is campaign and healthy relationships.

**End the Ban Campaign:**

RyePRIDE and the Trans Collective are planning on educating and engaging the campus on issues with Canadian Blood Services ban on trans folks and men-who-have-sex-with-men from donating blood. The campaign will launch with a photo campaign and will lead into other opportunities for education and action in the coming months.

**Advocacy:**

RyePRIDE's advocacy is largely focused through outreach in the Our Love Is campaign and through one-on-one advocacy through offering drop-in space. The larger volunteer base is attributed to many students looking for a space to meet new friends and build an environment that is queer and trans positive on campus.

**TRANS COLLECTIVE**



The Trans Collective is focused on challenging transphobia, cissexism, transmisogyny, and binarism at Ryerson University. The Trans Collective offers education, advocacy, and support for trans people on campus. We have regular meetings where trans students can support and work together. We also have entertaining and educational events regularly throughout the year, to welcome new members and celebrate each other. The Trans Collective's main goals are to create trans-inclusive classrooms and campus environment, and to sustain a welcoming and respectful community by and for trans people at Ryerson.

**All-Gender Washrooms Campaign:**

The All-Gender Washroom Campaign (sometimes known as the #GiveACrap campaign) has been an ongoing project, lead by the Trans Collective, for more accessible all-gender washrooms on campus. Beginning in September 2014, the campaign has included artistic expression, direct action, negotiation with the Ryerson administration, along with discussions with the students' unions and building managers.

While Ryerson University has responded to this campaign with a series of 'Trans Awareness' events in November 2015 and has agreed to convert the existing single-stall bathrooms to be all-gender, we have not seen substantial movement within the campaign. This campaign is ongoing, as the Trans Collective works towards an equitable number of all-gender washrooms on all of Ryerson's campus.

There are now multiple single-stalled all-gender washrooms on the first and second floor of Oakham House and the universally accessible and accessible washrooms on the first and second floors are completing final construction phases.

### **All-Gender Change Rooms:**

The Collective has had a number of issues in securing, updating and maintaining all-gender change rooms in Kerr Hall. While the change room was provided last year, it was closed during the summer for renovations. Although construction is complete, the university continues to delay the project promising to open the space soon. The collective is continuing to push the university to reopen the space.

### **Discrimination in the Classroom & Safety on Campus:**

The Collective has been working with various levels of university administrators to address safety on campus and discrimination on campus. The Collective is currently looking at policies and procedures in classrooms to better support students facing transphobia and cissexism in the classroom. Additionally, the Collective has been heavily involved in trying to improve Ryerson's name change policies to be as barrier-free as possible.

The Collective has also been working with Security Services to incorporate new training around equity, inclusion and implicit bias towards marginalised people. The collective will be working with security over the summer period to provide better training and hopefully better policy.

### **Pride 2017:**

The Trans Collective is working with RyePRIDE in planning Pride Celebrations and activities in June 2017.

### **Queer & Trans Histories Week & 'Major' Movie Screening: Friday, January 28, 2017**

The Trans Collective worked with the other Equity Service Centres on Queer & Trans Histories Week from January 24-28, 2017 and specifically hosted a screening of 'Major' at the end of the week. The screening was an opportunity to learn about trans activist Miss Major and to also build a community to talk about radical and intersectional trans activism in the prison industrial system.

### **Blanket Fort Broadcast: Wednesday, February 15, 2017**

The Collective hosted a movie night where trans and non-binary students were able to watch movies and television shows and build community.

**Trans Computer Game Night:** Wednesday, March 22, 2017

The Collective hosted an eSports game night where trans and non-binary students could get together and play games together.

**Trans Collective Meetings & Trans Support Network:**

Trans Collective Meetings are opportunities for trans, non-binary, genderqueer, questioning, and otherwise non-cis students at Ryerson to gather for organising events, campaigns and activities. The Trans Support Network was created to provide a purposeful space to provide peer-to-peer support for members. The network has been able to develop tools to provide non-financial supports to assist members seeking and providing self-care supports.

**Queer/Trans Clothing Swap:**

The Collective operates a clothing swap where students can drop by to donate or pick up. The swap is currently looking for larger clothes and more 'masculine' clothes. The Collective is planning to host a clothing swap and do-it-yourself workshop in the new academic year.

**Blood Ban:**

The Collective and RyePRIDE are planning on educating and engaging the campus on issues with Canadian Blood Services ban on trans folks and men-who-have-sex-with-men from donating blood. The campaign will launch with a photo campaign and will lead into other opportunities for education and action in the coming months.

**Advocacy:**

The Collective advocates on a number of issues on and off campus. Much of the advocacy focuses around advising and pushing decision-makers to treat trans inclusion as an urgent issue. The Collective has been working on issues around washrooms, change rooms, discrimination in the classroom, name change policies and other issues with university administrators since its inception. The Collective also does a lot of one-on-one advocacy for students by providing drop-in spaces, active listening, resources and referrals.

The Trans Collective (along with RyePRIDE) has also been playing a larger role around education on campus, including advising campus groups, collaborating and providing feedback to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and hosting workshops for Residence and Orientation leaders.



# VICE-PRESIDENT STUDENT LIFE & EVENTS

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## Letter from VP Student Life & Events

Hi everyone, my name is Harman Singh and I am currently your Vice President of Student Life and Events with the Ryerson Students Union. My team and I came into office strong and united, all with both individual and collaborative ideas on how to make this year an unforgettable one for Ryerson students. We grew as a family and fed off each other's passion for creating positive change in the lives of students. Over the past two years both the RSU and the University have shown me unconditional support for my projects, which has been extremely influential and motivating.

I discovered my passion for events at 14 years old when I realized the positive impact events can have on people. What drives me is seeing smiling faces in a crowd, and knowing that I created a platform for folks to make amazing memories together.

According to the Ryerson Student Union's Bylaws the Vice President Student Life and Events is responsible for participating and providing direction as a voting member of the Executive, Student Groups, Course Unions, and Events and Entertainment Committees. The Vice President Student Life and Events plans and coordinates Ryerson Students' Union events and student life initiatives. They coordinate the programming of major entertainment events. They work in consultation with appropriate staff and committees, program events at the Student Campus Centre; is a member of the Student Centre/Palin Foundation Board of Directors; they are the liaison between Ryerson Students' Union and the Course Unions and Student Groups; they supervise the Events and Entertainment Commissioner, Student Groups and Course Unions Commissioner.

This year the Ryerson Students' Union was able to organize a ton of large and small scale events for the students. I would like to thank the Students, Ryerson Students' Union Staff, my fellow board members, the University administration and all partners on and off campus for their continued support.

Thank You  
Harman Singh

## **6 CENT**

Towards the start of the Spring/Summer term, the Ryerson Students Union came back with yet another record breaking concert styled event. With tickets priced at only six cents, sales occurred at rapid rates and accumulated a successful donation towards a local charity. 6CENT concert was headlined by DJ ESCO; the concert saw the return Drake. Starting the year off well, this concert garnered city-wide interest and brought Ryerson University to media attention yet again.

Concerts and Music Festivals have a tendency to draw out the Ryerson Crowd. Parade and Picnic 2015 had over 8,500 tickets sold in minutes. The RSU was able to establish student

engagement by releasing the tickets online and asking Ryerson Students to pick up their wrist bands right here at Ryerson. Planning and working at a Concert is something students from all faculties showed keen interest in. Ryerson University has been a great supporter of experiential learning, and the experience that students get from planning and working for the Concert will be the bridge between academics and experiential learning.

### **6FEST Pop up concert**

The 6FEST pop up launch concert, was a surprise concert put together for Ryerson Students during the Orientation Week. The concert was opened up by DJ Dattabase and French Montana made an appearance half way through the concert.

### **RSU SWAG**

The merchandising for the year includes: Handbooks, pens, t-shirt, lanyards, drawstring bags, phone cardholder sticker

Earlier this year, over 10,000 units were available in stock. Most of the handbooks were distributed to first year students during their O-Week and Week of Welcome. Pens, t-shirts, lanyards, drawstring bags and phone cardholder stickers are kept in storage to be distributed during campus group events.

### **6FEST**

6FEST was a 2-day music festival featuring some of the best local, national and international talent all genres of music. Two days of DJ's, artists, food trucks and a variety of vendors. 6FEST was located in the heart of downtown Toronto with a stunning view of the gorgeous skyline. The location was accessible through TTC, GO transit and by taxis, making it extremely convenient for all attendees. The venue was about 348,000 sq.ft comfortably housing over 20,000 attendees. 6FEST provided wheel chair accessibility throughout the music festival, and also has accessible restrooms. There was medical assistance at the festival grounds during the whole event. The Ryerson Students' Union put on one of the largest post-secondary music festivals in the Nation. Diplo, French Montana, Pusha T, GrandTheft, Thugli, Roy Woods, DVSN, and many more artists were featured at 6FEST.

### **Campus Groups**

This year Student Groups, Course Unions and Affiliate Groups have cumulatively organized 250+ events this year. Fully funded over 200 Campus groups for their events/initiatives.

## CAMPUS GROUPS

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The RSU acts as an umbrella organisation for a large number of campus groups, all of which are an essential part of student life and student involvement at Ryerson. These groups receive generous funding, services, advocacy, and administrative support from the RSU. All groups are run by student executives elected in the spring of each year. Find out more visit: [www.rsuonline.ca/campusgroups](http://www.rsuonline.ca/campusgroups)

The summer workshops' continues to be very well received by student group and course union executives. The evaluations demonstrated overwhelmingly the student group and course union executives found the variety of skill-based and information sessions useful, interactive and practical.

## COURSE UNIONS

Course Unions bring together students in a particular program, acting as a departmental council. Full-time Ryerson students are automatically members of their Course Union. Course Unions are funded by the RSU and through their own fund raising activities.

There are currently 62 active course unions up from 55 at this time last year including;

- There are 3 inactive Course Unions: Undeclared Arts, Undeclared Science and Entrepreneurship

### Course Union Achievements

- **BIOLOGY**

The Biology Course Union, which back in November raised \$550 for the Movember Foundation, and more recently has raised over \$700 for the Ryerson Students For Wishes Group, a syndicate organization of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Canada.

- **FINANCIAL MATHEMATICS**

6 students from our program (Financial Mathematics) participated in the Rotman International Trading Competition at University of Toronto; the biggest university trading competition in the world. It was an invaluable learning experience for them competing in an international setting against graduate and post graduate students from schools such as MIT, Princeton, universities from Italy, China, and etc.

- **HOSPITALITY & TOURISM**

As with past years, the RHTSS celebrated World Tourism Day on September 27th to create awareness about the benefits of tourism to Canada as well as the worldwide economy.

On Wednesday, October 26th, Ryerson Hospitality and Tourism Students' Society team members Daniel Fung, Karim Mohammadi, Charles-Albert Lefebvre and Juliann Morrison were announced finalists at the 2nd Annual STR Student Market Study Competition. Finalists were selected from 25 teams that represented leading hospitality schools worldwide.

- **PSYCHOLOGY**

The Psychology Students' Association developed a new initiative this school year aimed at touring university psychology graduate programs in Montreal. We planned an entire trip including coach bus transportation, hotel accommodations, presentations from both McGill University and Concordia University on their graduate programs, and a trip to the Biodome, engaging around 40 Ryerson students in opportunities after graduation as well as the culture within Montreal (at an accessible rate of \$70 per person).

## **STUDENT GROUPS**

The RSU sustains a large number of campus groups, all of which are an essential part of student life and student involvement at Ryerson. These groups receive generous funding, services, advocacy, and administrative support from the students' union. All groups are run by student executives elected in the spring of each year.

**There are currently 113 clubs and groups (including new student groups) – up from 96 last year.**

### **New Student Groups**

The RSU Board of Directors has ratified a total of 6 new student groups since January 2017:

**Winter Student Groups Day** – 90 groups participated (13 more than last year).

### **WINNERS of Winter Student Groups Day:**

- 1st Place: South Asian Alliance
- 2nd Place: East African Students Association
- 3rd Place: Caribbean Students' Association

### **Student Group Achievements**

- **CHESS CLUB**

The Ryerson Chess Club collaborated with RECESS, the Ryerson Engineering Society, and together they held their second annual chess tournament that was an enormous success.

- **IMPROV CLUB**

The Improv Club at Ryerson is hosting our End of the Year on April 6, 6pm at Comedy Bar (945 Bloor St W, near Ossington Station). It's open to all students, with no cover fee, to come watch and participate in Improv games and exercises.

- **LAW NETWORK**

On March 18th the Network partnered with Innocence Canada to host the first ever Wrongful Convictions Analysis Project where 3+ Professors, 10+ lawyers, and 30+ Ryerson students, studied wrongful conviction cases and identified key problems with how evidence is sometimes treated in Canada's criminal Justice System. The project's work is to be published on Innocence Canada's website, and a short film about the project is en route for being aired at Congress 2017, the largest annual gathering of academics in the country, as an example of experiential learning at Ryerson University.

- **MODEL UN**  
Ryerson's Model United Nations team successfully hosted a conference attended by delegates from 4 other GTA schools. They also attended 5 conferences across Canada winning a total of 13 awards, including "Best Small Delegation" at Queen's University.
- **MUSICIANS**  
Musicians@Ryerson successfully ran a Battle of the Bands with 6 bands that welcomed an audience of over 400 people at the Hard Rock Cafe. With a team of only 4 or 5 people in charge of everything.
- **MUSLIM**  
So the Ryerson MSA was able to raise \$6000 for Haiti through RMSA'S Haiti Charity Gala, also held a huge sandwich run through Project Downtown, Free cupcakes on Dundas to fight Islamophobia, Tazkiya Retreat where well known speakers came down to a full day retreat in collaboration with other University MSA's.
- **NEW NORMAL**  
On March 14, New Normal hosted a successful screening of the documentary 'Cowspiracy' which informed students on the environmental effects of animal agriculture. Many students participated in an engaging discussion afterwards and were inspired to learn how they could make more sustainable food choices to help preserve the environment.
- **SMASH**  
Students for Mental Awareness, Support, & Health (SMASH) has created a new event called This Is My Story, which facilitates a safe space and invites students to share their lived experiences. This Is My Story is a unique form of peer-to-peer support that provides authentic connections with emotional impacts for students, and significantly builds the community focused on wellness and mental health.
- **SOCIALIST FIGHTBACK CLUB**  
The Socialist Fightback Club helped organize maybe the largest event the Canadian left produced last year with the anti-Trump rally which garnered quite a bit of media attention, the club nearly doubled its membership and its anti-Trump town hall made national headlines and almost filled a lecture hall. Ryerson's reds will hopefully be in a strong position when the class struggle picks up in Canada!
- **SOUTH ASIAN ALLIANCE**  
We competed in the North American Culture Show a few weeks back and not only did we get second place at the dance competition, but we won best gear, best costumes, best male dancer, best finale and best spirit.

## **GRANTS**

The grant program was dramatically increased for 2016-17. In past years groups, course unions and graduate course unions were only able to apply for a maximum of \$500 per project to a maximum of \$1000 per year. This year student groups could apply for up to \$5000 per

year but not able to exceed \$3000 per semester. Course Unions could apply for \$2000 per semester and Graduate Course Unions could apply for \$1000 per semester. There was \$50,000 allocated to Course Unions and \$110,000 to Student Groups more than doubled from previous years.

Unsurprisingly, the grant program proved to be very successful for course unions and student groups; 99 were received and a total of \$161,886.94 was awarded and distributed as follows:

## **AFFILIATE GROUPS**

An affiliate group is comprised of RSU members who share an interest in academic related projects, academic programme-based issues, political views, or are a Ryerson chapter of a third-party non-profit organization. There are currently **72** affiliate groups including the new affiliate groups.

### **New Affiliate Groups for the second semester**

Friends of MSF (Doctors Without Borders)  
Stem Cell Club

### **Affiliate Group Achievements**

- The **Ryerson Campus Conservatives** have had a really great year so far. Our biggest and most successful event was hosting Mr. Wonderful himself, Kevin O'Leary. The event was very well received by students, and brought out a crowd of about 170 people.
- On Wednesday, March 15, 2017, **Canadian Obesity Network Students** and New Professionals (CON-SNP) challenged Ryerson students to take the stairs and participate in the Stairs Challenge Initiative at TRSM. The initiative promoted that physical activity can begin with simply with taking the stairs. Participants were rewarded with healthy snacks and were entered into a draw to win prizes including CONSNP merchandise, gift cards, and the grand prize - a pair of Toronto Marlies tickets!
- **Xplor Ryerson:** Our general members have won first and second place in the design competition. Where first place got all expenses paid to attend the Xploration '17 Conference. First place winners were a group of 5 first year students and group 2 winning conference passes were a team of 5 third years. Attending the conference at the end of March in Orlando, Florida.

## **GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS**

The Graduate Course Unions (CGUs) exist to help organise students within their individual graduate programmes at Ryerson. Each GCU advocates on behalf of their members to plan events, conferences and provide a forum for students within the programme to meet. The GCUs receive funding, services, advocacy and administrative support from the RSU. Currently the RSU supports 18 active Graduate Students' Associations. Five have been added in 2016-17 year:

Aerospace  
Architectural Science  
Applied Mathematics  
Chemical Engineering

Civil Engineering  
Communication and Culture  
Documentary Media  
Early Childhood Studies  
Film & Photography Preservation  
Masters of Business Administration  
Mathematics  
Media Production  
Molecular Science  
Philosophy  
Planning  
Professional Communications  
Psychology  
Spatial Analysis

## EVENTS

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### **Exam De-Stress Kit Distribution**

#### **December**

The RSU solicited a number of food, drink and discount products and coupons, bagged over 1000 kits and distributed to students during the December exam period.

### **Winter Week of Welcome 2016**

#### **Monday January 16**

##### **Winter Gould Street Festival (12-6pm)**

Gould Street

The Week of events kicked off with an outdoor Festival featuring \$3.50 Beavertails on sale all day, free skate rentals at Lake Devo, inflatable games, free gourmet hot chocolate, heated tent zone, and sponsors.

#### **Tuesday Jan 17**

##### **Campus Groups Day (11am-3pm)**

Student Centre Main Floor

Student Groups took over the main floor of the Student Centre and setup tables to promote themselves and the great work that they do over the course of the year.

#### **Wednesday January 28**

##### **Cleanups & Lineups (12-4pm)**

SLC Lobby

The RSU teamed up with Throne Barbershop to offer free and cheap barber services to students on site. RSU also hosted a pop-up shop of its merchandise collaboration with Get Fresh Co.

#### **Thursday Jan 21**

##### **Mock New Year's Party (10pm-2am)**

Ram in the Rye

The RSU organized its annual re-do of New Year's in conjunction with Residence Council. Often students leave town and don't get a chance to celebrate New Year's with their friends at Ryerson. Complete with a ball drop, noisemakers and great music, this event is designed to give students the chance to do New Year's right.

### **Culturejam Week 2016**

#### **Monday Jan 23**

##### **Culturejam Showcase (6-9pm)**

Winter Garden Theatre (189 Yonge St.)

This year's Culturejam Showcase featured sixteen groups who all put on amazing performances. All groups were extremely dedicated and brought their most talented members out for a great night. The showcase was judged by Toronto musicians, artists, poets, and dancer/choreographers. Each group vied for one of 5 awards. The event saw over 500 in attendance.



## **Tuesday Feb 2**

### **Taste of Ryerson (12-3pm)**

SCC Lobby

Eighteen Student Groups came together to offer some of their cultural food and drink for students.

## **Thursday Feb 4**

### **Culturejam Fashion Show (2pm)**

SLC Lobby

The first event of its kind, Culturejam kicked off with a fashion show featuring fashionable dress and outfits by some of RSU's student groups. This year the number of attendees jumped from 4 to 10 groups.

## **Montreal Reading Week Trip**

### **February 22-25**

To give students the opportunity to get out of the city during winter reading week, the RSU hosted a trip to Montreal. The RSU teamed up with TNT Tours and worked with the Uoft Campuses to make the trip happen and organized a variety of programming including daily tours of Old Montreal, daily free club nights, free skating events, ski trip and Quebec City tour. Students stayed together at the Hotel Gouverneur and regular shuttle service was organized to get students around the different parts of the city. For four days and three nights hotel stay, the RSU was able to offer the lowest price of \$219 per person for the trip. 80 attended from Ryerson and 450 overall.

## **Style Expo**

### **March 23 (12-5pm)**

SLC Amphitheatre

RSU hosted a style expo with a number of free services from HBC Beauty, MAC and Dior; and hair services from Taz Hair Co. The event featured a surprise pop up shop with 100milesbrand, and a photo installation showcase of street style imaging by a notable Toronto photographer.

## **Student Centre Open House**

### **March 31 (11am-6pm)**

Student Centre

The RSU, Oakham House, The Scope, Eyeopener and Continuing Education Student Association at Ryerson all teamed up to open up the doors of the Student Centre for an Open House celebrating 10 years of Student Centre being open. The event featured bands booked by the Scope playing outside the front of the building, free coffee and pastry giveaways provided by Oakham Cafe suppliers, radio making workshops, foosball and ping pong tournaments, video game tournament, board games drop-in provided by Associal of Ryerson Roleplayers & Gamers, Open Jam at the Ram in the Rye w/ Musicians@Ryerson, food specials, and a scavenger hunt with tons of prizes for students.

## **Wednesdays**

The RSU and Musicians@Ryerson host weekly Open Mic events from 8-11pm.

## VICE-PRESIDENT OPERATIONS

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Vice President of Operations, is an intense portfolio that is responsible for services, finances, day-to-day operations and any issues that arise operationally within the organization. This report will focus on the goals and achievements of the portfolio along with some recommendations for the incoming Vice President of Operations. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at [vp.operations@rsuonline.ca](mailto:vp.operations@rsuonline.ca)

### **Finance Committee**

Building on the work throughout the year, and working on the recommendations proposed last year, this year within the Finance Portfolio we –

- Hired 2 new full time staff to streamline the accounts

During summer there was no full time staff for a while and we hired a financial controller and a financial coordinator. Addition of the financial controller has helped a lot managing the rollover to the new bank, auditors and streamlining of the organizational process.

- Switched Banks from Scotia Bank to TD

Moving to the new banks enabled us to separate the accounts for student groups, general accounts and health and dental. Moreover, TD provided with lower banking costs and enabled us to earn some revenue with the money in our accounts.

- Switched to PwC for Auditing

Usually, it is a common practice to change auditors every 5 years but after 8 years with the same auditors, we moved to PwC to get a better insight into the operations and finance of the RSU.

- Student Group and Course Union Funding

There was an increase of Student Groups and Course Union funding by an additional 10% this year. Recently, there were articles circulating regarding the funding has been cut because of the deficit. However, that is untrue. The budgeted amount for the Student Groups and Course Unions Grant funding had reached its cap. Comparing the last 2 years' trend, RSU has been really generous with the funding for the Student Groups and Course Unions.

- Introduced Athletic Grant

Our Athletic groups have been representing Ryerson domestically and internationally and we wanted to support them in their endeavors. We added a pool of funding that was strictly for the Athletic groups (Recreational and Competitive).

- Announced \$15/Hr. Minimum Wage for Part-time Staff

With the cost of living rising and the added stress to excel in school, this year we made a decision to raise the minimum wage of all our part-time staff to a minimum of \$15 per hour. This has helped to provide more for the part time staff and boost their morale.

- Digitalization of Receipts and Cheque Requisition

We've been looking into Expensify but this is a project that can be passed on to the next year's Vice President of Operations.

## **Financial Information**

RSU's financial year 2016-2017 starts with the commencement of the new term (May 1<sup>st</sup>-April 30<sup>th</sup>). For the financial year 2015-2016, RSU incurred a deficit of \$800,000 according to the Audited Statements but it didn't impact the ability for the organization to function for the students.

Throughout the financial year 2016-2017, there were decisions made to keep the RSU sustainable and build back reserves. However, with the over expenditure in certain line items, the incoming RSU board will have to be more cautious with their expenditure. Because of the current trends of over-expenditure, there will be a financial policy change to include the board of directors more in decision making for big projects. Along with that, as the outgoing VP Operations, I will propose the budget for next year as well so that everyone has an idea of what it would look like.

## **Bursary Committee**

RSU provides bursary to our membership in case of an emergency. There has been a change to the program –

- Streamlined Application

There has been a change in the layout of the application but there will be another revamp of the application before the end of my term to make changes to assist the members who apply to this service.

There is \$40,000 budgeted for the whole membership in emergency grants. With rising costs of living as a student and unforeseen circumstances, this bursary is as an opportunity to give back to the students who are in need.

## **Bylaw Committee**

The Bylaw committee is responsible to inspect the RSU bylaws and governance. The major changes were proposed to the Board and now the membership took place over a series of six months, chaired by the President, and were brought forward to the Board in early October.

## **Health and Dental Plan**

Health and Dental is a service provided to all the members of RSU. Following the verdict of a referendum, the students pay into the plan which is used to cover the insurance premiums. However, not a mandatory service, the members can choose to opt-out. We've strengthened the Health and Dental plan via –

- Opt-Out Process

Based on last year's recommendations, all the students who opted out of the health and dental plan last year weren't charged for this year's plan and there were no refunds issued on RAMMS for those members. Only first year students who opted out of the service will be getting a refund through their RAMMS account and won't be charged the following years. This helped remove the long line-ups at the MSO where students would line to collect their refunds and increase the line for students who wanted to use other services at the MSO.

- MyWellness Program

After the introduction of MyWellness Program, Health and Dental Plan Coordinator, Vice President of Equity and Gallivan (Insurance Broker) executed Holistic Health fair and Mind

Fest where students were offered free massages, snacks and discounts for health services to promote the program.

- More Benefits

Focusing on providing more resources for Mental Health; we increased the Psychologist/MSW benefits increased from \$350 to \$500 without any additional charge to the students.

## **Member Service Office**

Member Services Office or the MSO, has been a hub for all the information relatable to the students, one stop-shop for TTC Metropasses, tokens or other merchandise. There has been some improvements within the MSO:

- Lineups

With the advancement in the Health and Dental plan, where the students don't have to lineup to collect their refund, that has improved the turnaround time for students to access the MSO for other stuff.

- More Merchandise

After the installation of the New POS system, more merchandise will be added to the MSO, such as our collaboration project with Get Fresh Co. that was a collaboration between VP Education and Events Coordinator and his team. There will be a rental service which has been in the works for the students led by some board members which I will be working on until the end of my term. There are other types of the services we've been looking into for our membership and would really appreciate any feedback.

## **CopyRITE**

CopyRITE has been looking to improve its printing services offered throughout the year. There are three major projects happening in CopyRITE which will be completed by the end of my term or early May.

- Self-Serve Printers

With the investment already made last year, we've been trying to work with CCS to figure out a way to make these printers accessible to the students so that it would assist in keeping the lines at the print shop to a low. The conversations with CCS has been moving a bit slow due to technical difficulties but we are gearing towards providing the self-serve printers ready as soon as possible.

- New Website

With the old website being too bulky, our Graphics Designer and Coordinator has been helping to create a sleeker website and a portal for the membership to access and order their print jobs in advance. Whereas paying online will be an add-on that will be a recommendation for the next year's VP, the website should be ready by May.

- POS System

One of the reasons for a longer turnaround time at the services has been due to the slow POS system; the system that we use to complete transactions. RSU has invested in a new POS system to enable the staff to work at a greater efficiency due to a faster system.

## **Used Book Room**

This has been one of the biggest changes in terms of the services provided to the students. At the beginning of 2016-2017 term, RSU incurred a loss of \$96,186.39 along with the sales moving on a downward slope.

We moved to an online platform based off

- Declining Trend

With students moving to an online alternative for their books, more used bookstores opening up in the vicinity providing competitive prices, there has been a downward slope in sales figures.

- Consignment Fee

RSU was taking a 25% consignment fees from the students who put their books for consignment sales. That fee was used to pay taxes and run the operations for the Used Book Room.

- Wait Period

After the books were sold, the students had to wait 2-4 weeks to collect their cheques which led to a lot of inconvenience for the folks who had to commute to pick up their cheques or inquire about their consignment.

## **Campus-Wide Booking System**

University has selected EMS as the system to map out the room booking for the whole university. The system should be in its final stages of completion. The next year's VP will be looking into it more as the system will be ready by then.

## **IT Restructure**

With an organization representing over 36,000 members, the IT state was not up to par. With difficulty accessing the network and using vulnerable systems; over the summer, we brought in a consultant and team up with CCS to enhance our systems to improve productivity.

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It has been an honor that I got a chance to serve as your Vice President of Operations. I learnt a lot about the amazing things students are achieving throughout the university and I am grateful that I got a chance to be a part of it.

To sum up, it has been an interesting year with a lot of ups and downs. Even after all that has gone down, I still believe in the Ryerson Students' Union and the ideology to support the students. We learn from our mistakes and move forward to serve our membership even better. I have faith in the incoming board and I strongly feel that a lot of good things can be achieved with the next year's board.

Even though my term is coming to an end, I will be representing the students at the Board of Governors level and will always be on the lookout to help whenever and wherever I can.

**Ryerson Students' Union Members, Bless up!**

# MEMBER SERVICES OFFICE

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The Member Services Office, located in the lobby of the Student Campus Centre, remains a hub for student discounts and information about the RSU and the Ryerson campus in general. We continue to offer many exclusive prices for our members such as event tickets, school supplies, TTC fare media, and more. It is also the main location for services such as the RSU Members' Health and Dental Plan, Campus Lost and Found, and the International Student Identity Card. We have collaborated many times this academic year with students groups to assist in the selling of event tickets as well. The Member Services Office employs 10 Ryerson students part time, in conjunction with the Career Boost program.

The most popular services continue to be:

- Discounted TTC Metropasses (Both VIP and Post Secondary)
- General Inquiries Desk
- RSU Members' Health and Dental Plan
- Campus Lost and Found
- Discounted tickets (Such as Cineplex Theatres and Absolute Comedy)
- RSU and Student Group Event Ticket Sales
- Ski Trips, Social Trips, Pub nights and other social events

## **Postsecondary Metropass**

The Postsecondary Metropass continues to be available to full-time students only. The price of \$112 increased to \$116.75 February 2017.

## **VIP Discounted Adult Metropass**

The VIP Discounted Adult Metropass is available to the entire Ryerson community: full and part time students, staff, and faculty. The price of \$124.50 increased to \$128.75 February 2017.

## **Metropass Sales**

<b>Post Secondary</b>	<b>VIP</b>
November 2015 - 407	November 2015 - 1817
December 2015 - 95	December 2015 - 1533
January 2016 - 0	January 2016 - 280
February 2016 - 293	February 2016 - 1468
March 2016 - 298	March 2016 - 1578
April 2016 – 23 (as of 5pm March 28)	April 2016 – 702 (as of 5pm March 28)
<b>Total – 1116</b>	<b>Total – 7378</b>

It is important to note that this is the final year the TTC Metropass will be sold in its current form. Throughout this year, the TTC will be transitioning to PRESTO, a prepaid card fare system, across all stations. We will update our membership as soon as we are aware of how this will affect our sales system.

## **Discounted Merchandise**

The Member Services Office continues to work hard to offer students other exclusive discounts. Again, we were able to sell discounted Toronto Raptors tickets, with a strong, positive reaction their availability. The current executive also designed a t-shirt, which the “Yonge 6 Gods” phrase, which we started selling through our office, and has been popular with the student population.

Some examples of the most popular discount examples include:

TTC Student Metropass \$112  
Savings of \$29.50

TTC VIP Adult Discounted Metropass \$124.5  
Savings of \$17

CINEPLEX Admit one \$9.50  
Savings of \$5

Absolute Comedy 2 x Admit 2 \$11.50  
Savings of \$56.50

The Member Services Office continues to raise awareness of these great savings through weekly ads in the RSU E-Newsletter, posts on the RSU Facebook page and advertisements throughout the campus.

## **Campus Lost and Found**

The Campus Lost and Found service remains very busy. We are committed to constantly improving our system, and being sure we keep open dialogues with other University departments to be sure items are dropped off here when they are found in other buildings.

Protocol is to hold on to items for at least 60 days, at which point we donate items to shelters and programs that assist those in need.

## **RSU Members’ Health and Dental Plan Info**

Member Services Office Staff are well trained in all aspects of the RSU Members’ Health and Dental Plan. Students can get information about benefits, pick up a benefit card, learn about opting in or out of the plan, file claims with our staff and speak directly with the Health and Dental Plan Administrator.

# COPYRITE PRINTING SERVICE

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CopyRITE Printing Service continues to be a valued service to the Ryerson students and the Ryerson community. This is seen daily as our student staff serves their fellow students with school projects, and the supporting bodies at Ryerson with course materials for faculty, as well as the RSU offices with campaign and advertising materials.



The closure of the Used Book Room that CopyRITE was somewhat intertwined with (sharing staff and supervisor duties) resulted in a few things as a result. One of the biggest changes was the part time staff were no longer needed to work in both areas and they were able to focus on training and working strictly for CopyRITE – aside from fielding question about the Used Book service moving online and distributing payout cheques. The Used Book Supervisor was not required anymore but CopyRITE still needed the extra support from that position and subsequently hired a part time assistant on contract to focus on marketing and promotion as well as be a lead hand for CopyRITE.

When the Used Book space was empty and was to be renovated for the new project, construction began again. This time a wall was built to separate the spaces, however that also meant new access was needed through CopyRITE's front counter. The quick solution was to remove the lower height counter at the one end, but, this still needs proper finishing as well as a bundle of wires across the access needs to be addressed. The front counter needs some reconfiguration to best serve customers as well as to incorporate new POS terminals so this can all be addressed together. The construction also left a lot of construction debris in front of CopyRITE, which was an eyesore, as well when it was mixed with the ping pong players left little room for customers to get into CopyRITE. Thankful the space was eventually cleaned up and is now monitored to keep it looking tidy.

Sales have started to rebound after last year's construction and periods of closure, and the extra construction adjacent to the space this year. Our fiscal year to date is at \$317,304 compared to last year's \$258,117 for the same period meaning an overall increase of 23%.

- November 1, 2016 – March 23, 2017 \$169,163 (+29%)  
– based on 2016 period to Mar.23
- November 1, 2015 – March 29, 2016 \$136,890 (-8%)
- November 1, 2014 – March 31, 2015 \$149,100 (-19%)

The most noticeable area that sales increased was the more than double the previous year's sales in the wide format category due in part to the closing of a local print shop on Bond St. as well as advertising banner placement focusing on wide format printing and the related student 25% discount.

- November 1, 2016 – March 23, 2017 \$36,590 (+109%)
- November 1, 2015 – March 23, 2016 \$17,466

Staffing has been good this year with consistent attendance and better training timelines that started before school began. The newer colour equipment is providing to be reliable and high



quality, while other again equipment is becoming problematic or has broken. Advertising and promotions have not been as active as was hoped and will continue to focus on this area. The website has been down for many months, however a new website and information is soon to be available with focus on online job submissions and eventually online payment. New point of sales terminals have been purchased and the supporting menu's and databases are almost complete – coupled with touch screen technology, this should make transactions more efficient and accurate.

**Projects to work on include:**

- B+W printer assessment and possible replacement due to ongoing severe jamming
- Booklet maker replacement – current unit broken needs major repair
- Front counter top reconfigure for new POS systems and better customer interaction – and to address substandard access through to the work area.
- Full implementation of the new POS system
- Relocation of the access swipe to rear door for staff entry
- Marketing and Promotion plan for the year
- Launch new website – including online job submission and online payment
- Full implementation of the self serve printers/copiers integrating Papercut submission and payment used on the Ryerson campus
- Review price points for all print products and services
- Possible new services (such as printing on pens, 3-D printing, etc) brainstorm and evaluate

## HEALTH AND DENTAL PLAN

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All full time members of the Ryerson Students' Union are automatically enrolled in the RSU's Health and Dental Plan, which offers coverage from September 1 to August 31 of each year. The Plan is designed to offer extended health & dental benefits coverage to students and to provide protection and security for eligible students to minimize the effects of injury or ailments. The Plan supplements any individual health care expenses not covered by the provincial health care plan. The RSU health and dental plan fee for Fall 2016 was \$314.00 and fee for Winter 2017 was pro-rated at amount of \$210.00. Some of the most popular items used by our membership include wisdom teeth removal, Registered Massage Therapy, prescription drugs and orthotics. With all the delisting of various services from our own OHIP, the Health and Dental Plan enhances the basic coverage students require to stay healthy and be well for their studies.

We continued with Green Shield on contract for the 2016-17 benefit year as our insurance provider. The insurance broker, Gallivan & Associates, and the RSU's VP Operations were able to secure with the university's ESSF office a new opt out refund system last year, and it continues with great success. All opt out refunds are applied to the RAMSS account, and students who opted out in the 2015-2016 were not charged the amount of the health & dental benefits, streamlining this process. There were no refund cheques issued.

Students on the plans can use their pay direct RSU Care at a pharmacy or dental office for direct billing. We continue to accept manual claims at our office and a batch is sent every evening (Monday-Friday) in the mail to Green Shield for reimbursement processing.

The RSU Executives will continue to explore avenues to improve the Members' Health and Dental Plan and ensure it remains responsive to student needs. There is a possibility that a VISION benefit will be added to our plans for 2017-18.

### **Fall 2016 Statistics**

<b>OPT OUT Breakdown</b>	<b># of students</b>
Both plans @\$314	3,100
Health only @\$135	60
Dental only @\$179	84
Total ON LINE submissions	4,257
<b>Fall 2016 enrollment</b>	<b>32,861</b>
Total credits posted to RAMSS (Includes previous opt outs)	10,962
<b>Records at Greenshield</b>	<b>21,899</b>
<b>OPT IN BREAKDOWN</b>	
Total students that applied	239
Both plans	200
Health only	14
Dental only	25
<b>ADD ON (dependents for families)</b>	
Total students applied	247
\$ amount received for payment	\$58,838

The WINTER 2016 opt out refunds for students that just started classes in January were applied on March 1, 2016 to their RAMSS accounts.

## **Winter 2017 Statistics**

Total enrollment = 426 full time students  
41 students opted out online

Please visit our site at [www.rsuonline.ca](http://www.rsuonline.ca) or go to our new site for information and details on coverage as well as materials and resources, at [www.mystudentplan.ca/rsu](http://www.mystudentplan.ca/rsu)



**[WWW.RSUONLINE.CA](http://WWW.RSUONLINE.CA)**

Please reuse or recycle this booklet after the meeting.