

WINTER 2021 AGM Agenda

As per bylaw 10.4 in the GEM Constitution, Quorum for the General Meetings shall be a minimum of seven general members of the Gender Empowerment Centre or 2/3 of active Collective Members.

In attendance: GEM Coordinator, GEM Board Rep, Director of Student Affairs, Four GEM Work Studies, Nine Collective Members

1. Overview of consensus based decision making
 - a. Consensus decision making is a creative and dynamic way of reaching agreement between all members of a group. Instead of simply voting for an item and having the majority of the group getting their way, a group using consensus is committed to finding solutions that everyone actively supports, or at least can live with. This ensures that all opinions, ideas and concerns are taken into account. Through listening closely to each other, the group aims to come up with proposals that work for everyone.
 - b. By definition, in consensus no decision is made against the will of an individual or a minority. If significant concerns remain unresolved, a proposal can be blocked and prevented from going ahead. This means that the whole group has to work hard at finding solutions that address everyone's concerns rather than ignoring or overruling minority opinions.
 - c. Making decisions in this way sometimes requires more discussion and can take more time, but it ensures that all folks involved are granted the opportunity to voice their opinions, concerns, and provide valuable input.
 - d. Over zoom, using thumb-ometer system - thumbs up = approved, thumbs sideways= I'd like to discuss this more/I have a question, thumbs down = I do not approve, If you have something to say, put an x in the chat and we'll get to you
2. *Must approve Teagan as facilitator via consensus - Honorarium of \$100 being provided for this work - Approved by Collective*
3. Territory Acknowledgement
4. Introductions
Name, Pronouns, something bringing you joy right now
5. Approval of agenda - share in chat, offer space for questions, additions, thumb vote
 - *Approved by Collective*
6. Reports
 - a. Coordinator Report
 - Provided update re: ongoing programming (mail out-resource program, safer sex supplies and menstrual products, workshops, resource library), space restrictions (remains closed due to Covid)
 - GEM Spotify playlist could be revitalized

- Ideas for future projects prompted by questions from members: Trans healthcare graphic, collaborations with groups including Women in STEM, Women in Science
- b. Work Study Reports
 - i. LM
 - 1. Working on resource mail out program
 - 2. Working on GEM blog content
 - ii. MC
 - 1. In editing phase of resource library search tool
 - 2. Working on resource mail out program
 - 3. Future project may include blog with film reviews
 - 4. Potential for women, non-binary, and gender nonconforming centered film fest!
 - iii. NB
 - 1. Contributed to google form for resource distribution project
 - 2. Helping Mack with finding digital resources for library
 - 3. Looking forward to working on GEM tiktok
 - iv. BH
 - 1. Interested in finding strategies to mitigate zoom fatigue re: education resources
 - a. Developing resources that are accessible whenever, such as tiktok
 - b. Project idea: bite-size sex education videos on tiktok
 - v. Board Rep Report
 - 1. Summarized the board representative role (liaison between UVSS and GEM, ARC, current work on advocacy group policy and emergency need funding policy)

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7. Prize # 1!

8. Advocacy Group Policy Overview (migrated to after Finance in agenda)

- a. Niko currently comparing this policy and GEM policies to see where they align, and where there are incongruencies - one of these places is an executive system. As we operate as a collective, our decisions will still be made through collective decision making. The UVSS defines an executive as the UVSS Board rep, plus two other undergraduate students. The purpose of this would be to expand leadership within the GEM, increasing accountability to the collective.
- b. Conversation about executive - Interim executive currently made up of Coordinator, Board Rep, Education Committee members: Kit Muir (GEM Board Rep), Lily Macgregor (GEM Education Committee member & active collective member), Mackenzie St Laurent (GEM Education Committee member & active collective member)

- c. We want to hear from you about how you would like the executive to be comprised - options for permanent exec positions such as finance rep, education rep, community engagement rep etc.
 - d. Continue conversation in coming collective meetings to create policy, position descriptions, and election process for SAGM in March
 - e. Conversation about approval, concerns to happen within GEM team
 - f. Conversations about structure of executive to occur at February Collective Meeting
9. Finance
- a. Budget Report
 - b. Re-order of resources upcoming: \$2500 for this semester for safer sex/menstrual supplies, \$1500 for campus pharmacy. Seeking approval for ordering supplies within these budgets
 - c. Seeking approval for utilizing our Accessibility fund of \$1000.00/ semester to support our upcoming mailing program: this will include shipping and mailing supplies, etc. (requires consensus decision)
 - i. *Approved by Collective*
 - d. Donation requests approved last semester
 - i. Donation of \$500 to the Unist'ot'en Legal Fund, in defence of Wet'suwet'en territory
 - ii. Donation of \$500 to the Tiny House Warriors defending Secwepemc territories
 - iii. Think about where we'd like to allocate this semester's \$1500
 - e. Emergency need fund request - policy drafting -Kit
10. Prize # 2! postponed for next AGM - *Approved by Collective*
11. Any other business, room for questions
12. Closing - what are we doing to take care of ourselves this evening/week?