

GEM SAGM

March 24th, 2021 - 6-8 pm

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: Coordinator, Board Rep, 4 Work Studies, Facilitator, Three Additional General Members

Agenda Overview for Chat:

1. Territory Acknowledgement (5 mins)
2. Consensus/Collective Decision Making (5 mins)
3. Approval of Facilitator (5 mins)
4. Introductions (15 mins)
5. Approval of Agenda (5 mins)
6. Budget overview and approval (20 mins)
7. First prize! (5 mins)
8. Funding approvals - Events Budget (5 mins)
9. Advocacy Policy Overview and Approval (15 mins)
10. Second Prize! (5 mins)
11. Overview of Board Rep Position (10 mins)
12. Brief Coordinator Report (10 mins)
13. Brief Work Study Updates (10 mins)
14. Closing (5 mins)

1. Territory Acknowledgement (Niko)
2. Overview of consensus based decision making (Teagan)
 - 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
3. *Must approve Teagan as facilitator via consensus - Honorarium of \$100 being provided for this work (Niko) - Approved by Collective*
4. Introductions (Teagan)
Name, Pronouns, role if relevant, something bringing you joy right now
5. Approval of agenda (Teagan) - share in chat, offer space for questions, additions, thumb vote
6. Budget (Niko) - screen share GEM version of budget
 - We are excited for the fall, and welcoming folks back to the centre
 - Budget reflects offering our programs at full capacity, and with a considerable surplus due to low spending this past year, and historical closures, we are able to dream big
 - Overview of Revenue (Student fees, Constituency fund, Trust/Surplus)
 - Overview of Labour (Based on estimations from our accounting department)
 - Overview of Expenses (Additional Spending projected for events, programs, library, printing/binding (for relaunch of zine!) otherwise based on last year's budgets/hopes for what we could achieve)
 - Vote - Approved by Collective
7. First Prize! (Niko)
8. Approval to utilize up to \$500.00 of events budget (Niko) - the GEM is currently collaborating with the UVSS and UVic Pride to produce the first queer open mic night for Pride at UVic! Seeking approval to utilize up to \$500.00 of our remaining \$3500 events budget for this semester to support honoraria for performers, captioning services for Queer Open Mic Event - Approved by Collective
9. Advocacy Policy Overview Approval (Kit) - Brief overview of proposed changes GEM put forth since last AGM - Approved by Collective to be introduced at ARC and approved at board level
10. Second Prize! (Niko)
11. Overview of Board Rep Position (Kit) - Responsibilities, Benefits, Timeline, Vote to Re-instate Kit as Board Rep: Approved by Collective
12. Brief Coordinator Report (Niko) - Programs, Events, Projects, Collaborations, Looking toward the fall
 - a. Restock of supplies (menstrual cups, safer sex supplies, supplies from Campus Pharmacy)
 - b. Mail out program basically ready for launch
 - i. Wellness center will also be launching a mail out program (harm reduction)
 - ii. Library collection has been fully digitized and we have a collection of ebooks available - Thanks Mack!

- iii. Looking to slowly re-open the space in the fall, likely with designated office hours at the start to ensure that capacity isn't being exceeded and precautions are in place
- iv. Sits occasionally on the Sexualized Violence and Awareness committee, campaigns committee, attends coordinator meetings and occasionally attends ARC
- v. Participated in many events this year, including UVSS game night, term welcome events, and upcoming Pride at Uvic
- vi. Many education initiatives and offering of education workshops via zoom
 - 1. Honorariums for volunteer facilitators provided
 - 2. Education work study position has increased our capacity and been super valuable!
 - 3. Gender diversity workshop, sex positivity workshop, anti-oppression workshops (collab with Pride), and more all offered this past year
 - 4. Queer sex ed workshop debut upcoming!
 - 5. Exploring other areas to offer sex education
 - 6. Partnered with AVP to offer a sex positivity, gender diversity and decolonialism workshop for grad students
 - 7. Have been creating educational infographics for TDOR and IWD
 - 8. TikTok launching soon
- c. Short term goals for the GEM
 - i. Blog launch
 - 1. Film and TV reviews
 - ii. Launching TikTok
 - iii. Completing sexual health workshop and QSE workshop series
 - iv. Holding socials for community
 - v. Maintaining regular collective meetings
 - vi. Ideas for the fall: film fest, collaborations with course unions
- d. Long term goals
 - i. Regular workshops held on campus
 - ii. New whiteboard for lounge
 - iii. Regular GEM movie nights - purchasing a projector

13. Brief Work Study Updates

14. Questions

15. Closing - thank yous, reminder to vote in UVSS elections!