

GENDER EMPOWERMENT CENTRE SAGM MARCH 31ST 2022

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: Cristina, Mack , Keelin, Flora, Lane, Anna-Elaine, Nicola (facilitator), Mado, Kai P., Paige, Zoey, Kai M. (minutes), Natasha, Simiam, Mariel, Rowan

1. *Must approve Nicola as facilitator via consensus* unanimous
2. Territory Acknowledgement (*Nicola*)
3. Introductions (*Nicola*) (10 mins)
Name, Pronouns, sun sign?
4. Overview of consensus based decision making (5 mins) (*Nicola*)
 - 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. Everyone will be granted the opportunity to voice their opinions, concerns, and provide valuable input.
 - c. 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 (Niko)
5. Approval of agenda (*Nicola*) - share in chat and with group, offer space for questions, additions, thumb vote unanimous
6. Reports (30 mins)
 - a. Overview of GEM events
 - i. Gender diversity workshop - s/o to Eric and Beau!!
 - ii. Advocacy event
 - iii. Self care valentine's event
 - iv. Work with library
 - v. Planning for showcase
 - vi. SEXPO!!
 - vii. Increase in space usage :)
 - viii. Lots of resource use - Diva cups, plan B, pregnancy tests, condoms
 1. Future - sustainable pads and tampons for the space??
 2. Cloth pad making workshop with SSD?
 - ix. Social media is "popping"
 1. Future - Tiktok, Discord?
 - x. Future workshops - revamp the Queer Sex Ed workshop?
 1. And continue GD workshop
 - xi. New purchases - Heated blankets for the space

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- Coordinator Reports (Cris) see above^^
- Work Study Reports (Beau and Mack)
 - Beau not here - Cristina provided overview
 - Huge GD and SEXPO contributions
 - Mack
 - Weekly basis - resources outside, lots of resource turnover
 - Tabling
 - Most work oriented around archival showcase for next Fall
 - Zoey has been helping with this
 - Mack has list of all archival GEM material
 - Goal is walk through gallery showcase
 - A really fascinating microcosm of feminism in this place over decades
 - We have a box of pads from the 80s! And so many VHS tapes
 - Mack has been watching VHS tapes and documenting them
 - And exploring possibility of future movie nights in the space
 - And continuing to work on Gender Euphoria Board
- Board rep Reports (Kai)
 - New board rep Introduction! (Lane) and acclamation **Lane acclaimed**
- Advocacy Group Policy Overview & Revisions (Cristina + Anna-Elaine) (20 minutes)
 - Transition from women's center to 3rd space to GEM - policy hasn't shifted accordingly
 - Weird requirements for who can be a voting member and little financial policy
 - Shift in language surrounding gender policy needs to be finalized
 - Merit in saying that ppl who share values of GEM are able to utilize this space so long as those are the values that are being presented
 - We have 9 committees, none of which are operational!
 - Adapt to 2-3 based on needs of org
 - Conflict of interest policy needs update
 - And everything needs to be in alignment with advo group policy
 - Existing policy document almost needs to be replaced in its entirety
 - This overview is not to vote in changes; just an update to keep folks in the loop
 - More input from folks interested in policy development welcome!!
 - Emergency need policy in development, will be ready soon
 - Discord creation - Keelin happy to help out!
 - Place to review policy <https://genderempowermentcentre.ca/mandate/>
- Finances (Cris and Kai)
 - Budget review and Approval
 - Sexpo came out to around \$6000, almost entirely covered by ARC and UVSS Events
 - Lighting alternatives to existing fluorescent lamps - add to furniture budget?
 - 3 votes
 - Student staff hire - **unanimous**
 - Cristina working full time - **unanimous**
 - Budget overall - **unanimous**

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* First Prize* - Kai P

- Volunteering
 - Overview
 - Updates from Volunteers
 - Keelin and Flora have updated library database
 - More direction for volunteer roles in future could be really helpful!
 - Weekly volunteer email update, or other strategies used by AVP?
 - Discord will be really helpful
 - More clarity for where to look for volunteer positions
 - Ideas for future programming and discussions

Second Prize - Paige

- Coffee Chats
- MS teams?

Last prize - Natasha

- Something that made you smile this week