

April 18 - Collective Meeting

Call to order:

Attendance: Beau, Fernanda, Eric, Leslie, Georgia, Colby, Jazz, Jitendra,

(Underscore indicates voting members)

AGENDA:

1) Territorial acknowledgement - Beau

2) Intros & check-in

What will you do during the summer?

3) Gender Empowerment Centre (GEM) Policy Manual - Changes (Last Updated 2022) (we briefly started discussing this but did not get through it)

a) Procedure #3:

i) GEM resources (including pregnancy tests, menstrual supplies, **rectum douches, sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections (STBBIs) self-testing kits**, and safer sex supplies) will be made available to students and community members of all identities by making menstrual and safer sex supplies available outside of the GEM Lounge and other resources accessible by request via email or in the UVSS General Office.

a) Edits: available in the Gem space or upon request;
pregnancy tests also available in the UVSS General Office

b) Vote: Approved.

b) Discussion: Thoughts on this clause, is it important or exclusive?

i) **Procedure #4: In circumstances of insufficient funds or lack of access to STBBIs self-testing kits made free through provincially or federally funded programs, GEM will ensure that financial priority is given to pregnancy tests, menstrual supplies, emergency contraceptives, condoms, dental dams and lubricants, securing availability to students and community members of all identities.**

A) Edits: no edits

B) Vote: denied (will not be added).

c) All locations of the GEM policy that state: "self-identified woman, non-binary, or gender nonconforming" will be changed to

“self-identified women, transgender, non-binary or gender non-conforming.”

A) Edits: more umbrella terms? Collective will have a later discussion on the inclusion of Two-Spirit peoples and what it would look like to do that in a meaningful way

B) Vote: Approved.

4) Honorariums

a) Jayce!

i) \$100 for his outstanding creative contributions to GEM, including hosting the crochet workshop, Groovefest sound tech, decor making, and volunteering. Thank you, Jayce!

a) Approved

b) Karleena!

i) \$150 for their ongoing support and volunteer services that have collaborably sustained GEM through 2023-2024. This honorarium is representative of the extensive labour and dedication of one's time, ensuring that the centre is functional and that SEXPO 2024 was a successful program. Thank you, Karleena!

a) Approved

c) Leslie!

i) \$50 for their exceptional support during the referendum campaign. Thank you Leslie!

a) Approved.

5) Collective meeting food

a) Policy changes/ enforcements

i) Need to go through UVSS Catering, or Felicita's, or Bean There

ii) Estimated costs -

(1) Fel's → one veg tray, one Greek platter, one nachos = \$39.50 plus tax and gratuity

(a) AGM meeting cost about \$80 from Fel's

(2) Catering → crudite and dip, \$35 for a small (approx 15 people); fruit platter \$60 (or whole fruit \$1.75 a piece)

b) Need general approval for collective meeting

i) I think given these costs, a good estimate is \$60 for the collective meetings, which leaves us \$40 for in-space snacks

ii) **Vote: Approved**

6) **Demographics survey** - will be closing next week so please fill out if you haven't already

7) **Gem Journal**

- a) **Earth day and environmental justice:** Examining the intersectionality of feminism and environmentalism, focusing on eco-feminism and the impact on marginalized communities.
- b) Now available on our website.
<https://genderempowermentcentre.ca/services/the-gem-journal/>
- c) Submissions will be posted on the website instead of the Newsletter

8) Upcoming events/ initiatives

- a) AIR – do we want to continue and, if so, what are our conditions for participation
 - i) Discussion:
 - (1) We have concerns about the lack of inclusion for women and gender diverse people in Vikes spaces
 - (2) Need clarity about the role of GEM in that program
 - (3) There are other opportunities for us to provide advocacy and support
 - (4) If we continue to be involved we need autonomy to negotiate the terms of our involvement – ability to back out at any point, regular check-ins
 - (5) Vikes needs to be collecting demographic information – figuring out who is participating
 - (6) Certain days of the year to designate CARSA as a space for specific groups – ie women’s only space on IWD?
 - (a) A lot of people would hate that :/
 - b) Space changes beginning next month – just putting that out there, if you are around and want to help let me know
 - c) Pride is coming up in June – we have a \$400 budget for an event, what do we want to do?
 - i) Discussion – some ideas:
 - (1) Beach day/ pool party
 - (2) Trans rights workshop
 - (3) Drag makeup workshop
 - (4) Drag show?
- a) Crosswalk Painting consultation with Margaret August – do we want to participate and if so, what day/ time?
 - i) “after a two-year consultation, led by a committee of 2SLGBTQIA+ students, staff and faculty, we have received the recommendation report—including a recommendation to repaint

the crosswalk in collaboration with a Two Spirit designer. To this end, we are thrilled to invite you to participate in an engagement session for the design and re-painting of UVic's rainbow crosswalk led by Margaret (they/them), a Two-Spirit, Coast Salish artist from shíshálh Nation. Margaret was born in 1983 in the traditional unceded Lkwungen and W̱SÁNEĆ territories, now referred to as Victoria B.C. Margaret's work is inspired by their traditional teachings and encounters with nature.

To support Margaret's design process, we are hoping to schedule an online consultation with UVic GEM and Margaret soon. Yahlnaaw and Cassbreea will be present from EQHR to support the consultation and take notes. Please let us know if you are interested and if so, let us know your group's availability for 30 minutes to one hour on April 22 8:30am-11:30am and May 1 8:30am-4:30pm and we will schedule your engagement session.

- ii) As is EQHR's practice, we will provide your group a donation to compensate for the labour that is involved in the consultation. If students attend they will receive a \$50 one-card credit.
 - A. Edits: hybrid meeting. May 1st.
 - B. Approved

9) Other Staff Updates

- a) The Fernanda Report
- b) Work Studies - updates, intros, and goodbye to Tannaz :(

10) Collective member updates

Meeting adjourned: 5:20