

Telephone: (306) 966-6960 Email: contactus@ussu.ca Website: www.ussu.ca

# Agenda University Students' Council September 18, 2025 – 6:00 PM Roy Romanow Student Council Chamber

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Land Acknowledgement
- 3. Roll Call & Quorum
- 4. Adoption of an Agenda
- 5. Council Address
  - 5.1. Ryley Cozart, Marketing and Partnership Specialist: Huskie Athletics
  - 5.2. Morgan Price, Education and Outreach Coordinator: Saskatoon Sexual Assault and Information Centre
- 6. Minutes and Reports for Information
  - 6.1. USC Minutes September 11, 2025
  - 6.2. Executive Committee Minutes & Report September 15, 2025
- 7. College/Constituency Report
  - 7.1. Agriculture and Bioresources
  - 7.2. Arts and Science
  - 7.3. Dentistry
  - 7.4. Education
  - 7.5. Edwards School of Business
  - 7.6. Engineering
  - 7.7. Indigenous Students
  - 7.8. International Students
  - 7.9. Kinesiology
  - 7.10. Law
  - 7.11. Medicine
  - 7.12. Nursing
  - 7.13. Pharmacy and Nutrition
  - 7.14. St. Thomas More
  - 7.15. Western College of Veterinary Medicine
- 8. Business
  - 8.1. Appointments for University Students' Council Committees
  - 8.2. Appointments for University Senate
- 9. New Business
  - 9.1. Discussion on Presentation from Ali Versi from Alumo
- 10. Questions, Comments, and Announcements
- 11. Adjournment

Room 110, 1 Campus Drive University of Saskatchewan Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 5A3



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# University Students' Council Minutes September 11, 2025 – 6:00 PM Roy Romanow Student Council Chamber

#### Present:

- Emma Wintermute (she/her), President
- Owen Deis (he/him), VP Operations and Finance
- Norah Jacob (she/her), VP Academic Affairs
- Emily Hubick (she/her), VP Student Affairs
- Quinten Albrecht, Agriculture and Bioresources
- Spencer Possberg, Agriculture and Bioresources
- Atharv Govardhan (he/him), Arts and Science
- Avantika Sharma (she/her), Arts and Science
- Chang Ge, Dentistry
- Melissa Fielding (she/her), Education
- Kal Ledoux, Indigenous Students
- Johnny Tootoosis, Indigenous Students
- Elmer Vincent (he/him), International Students
- Jordie Finnie (he/him), St. Thomas More
- Joel Bilyk, WCVM

#### **Also Present:**

- Ava Johnson, Chairperson
- Jason Ventnor (he/him), Communications & Marketing Manager

# Absent:

- Emma Gillingham, Arts and Science
- Sakina Abedi, Edwards School of Business
- Max Clark, Kinesiology
- Paras Sidhu, Law
- Caleb Hammond, Medicine
- Mayank Jain, Nursing
- Nguyen Tran, Nursing

# **Guests:**

• Ali Versi (he/him), Alumo

# 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

# 2. Land Acknowledgement

Chairperson Johnson stated the Land Acknowledgement .

#### 3. Roll Call & Quorum

Roll call was completed, and the list of attendees is listed on the first page of these minutes. Quorum was present.

# 4. Adoption of an Agenda

No amendments were made to the agenda.

Move to adopt the agenda as presented.

USC001	Chairperson Johnson / President Wintermute	Carried
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#### 5. Council Address

# 5.1. Welcome to University Students' Council

President Wintermute welcomed Councillors to the USC and discussed the following topics:

- Why the USSU's land acknowledgement has been changed.
- An overview of Roberts Rules of Order, including information about quorum, motions, debate, voting, points of order, and so on.
- Guests who will visit the USC in the coming year, including senior university administrators and community leaders.
- An overview of a typical USC agenda, including minutes & reports for information, business, and new business.
- USC committees.
- MSC engagement and discipline.

#### 5.2. Council Orientation

#### 5.3. Presentation from Ali Versi from Alumo

Motion to enter informality.

USC002	Chairperson Johnson / President Wintermute	Carried
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Mr. Versi is the manager of the USSU's health and dental plan. He presented on Alumo, what his role entails, and details of the USSU's plan.

- Studentcare has recently rebranded to Alumo due to a merger with other health & dental plan providers.
- Alumo is not an insurance company; as the plan manager, it is accountable to the USSU and negotiates with insurance companies.
- As manager of the health & dental plan, Mr. Versi and Alumo assist the USSU through:

- Utilization reporting.
- Trend analysis.
- Risk management.
- Financial analysis.
- Data processing.
- There are benefits to a group plan, including being cheaper per person than an individual insurance plan.
- The USSU plan includes coverage for prescription drugs, mental healthcare, dental, vision, and travel insurance, and other supplementary health benefits.
- The health & plan covers 70% of dental costs and 80% prescription drug costs. However, if a USSU member visits a healthcare provider that is part of the Alumo networks, they will save an additional 20%.
- The change of coverage deadline is October 1. This is the last day that a member can opt out of the plan, add dependents, etc.
- Statistics related to usage of the 2023-2024 USSU health & dental plan are now available. Health claims totalled approximately \$2 million, 67% of which were for prescription drugs. Dental claims totalled approximately \$950,000.
- MSCs have the following roles related to the health & dental plan.
  - Plan sponsors raising awareness about the plan and gathering feedback from constituents.
  - Policy makers designing the plan, including determining who is eligible for the plan, increasing/decreasing benefits and fees, plan structure.
- This year, the USSU's plan fee is \$483.18 and the plan cost is \$413.30, which will leave a surplus of nearly \$70 per student in the reserve fund. There are a few reasons as to why the plan fee and plan cost may be different amounts. For example, the plan fee must be set well in advance, without knowledge of recent changes in usage.

Councillor Ge asked if the plan has a limit on dental coverage.

• Mr. Versi answered yes, the limit is \$600.

Mr. Versi suggested that due to the plan's surplus for the year, the USSU could choose to increase benefits in January 2026. One option is virtual healthcare, which would give members 24/7 access to physicians and nurse practitioners. Another option is gender affirmation care.

Councillor Ledoux asked if virtual healthcare requires an appointment.

 Mr. Versi answered yes, but appointments are made quickly—always within 24 hours and can be made within an hour. VP Hubick asked if virtual healthcare can provide a diagnosis.

 Mr. Versi explained that some conditions, like ADHD, require an in-person diagnosis. For conditions that do not require an in-person diagnosis, however, a diagnosis can be provided through virtual healthcare.

Mr. Versi explained that the province offers a service similar to virtual healthcare—Saskatchewan Virtual Visit. The drawbacks to the latter service are that you must be invited by a clinic to use the service; the service is limited to clinic hours; and people not covered by provincial healthcare cannot use it.

The gender affirmation care that Alumo offers covers medical assistance and legal assistance, up to \$5000 per procedure with a lifetime maximum of \$50,000 in claims. Travel and accommodation to access services can be claimed. It was previously necessary to have a diagnosis of gender dysphoria to claim benefits, but the plan now covers individuals with gender incongruence, which does not require a mental health diagnosis. Legal assistance includes advice for an individual changing their gender and/or name.

The USSU health & dental plan is assessed twice per year, for the periods of September to December and from January to August. In January, the plan fee will be \$322.12 and plan cost will be \$275. To add virtual healthcare will be an additional \$27.30, and adding gender affirmation care will be an additional \$6.13, leaving a surplus of \$13.15 per student.

Motion to return to formality.

USC003	President Wintermute / Councillor Finnie	Carried
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# 6. Minutes and Reports for Information

# 6.1. USC Minutes – April 3, 2025

Move to adopt the USC Minutes of April 3, 2025, into the official record.

USC004	Chairperson Johnson / President Wintermute	Carried
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# 6.2. Executive Committee Minutes & Report – May 2, 2025 to September 8, 2025

President Wintermute shared an overview of what she has been working on so far in her term:

- Week at a glance posts.
- Met with most Deans.
   Setting up AOCP for monthly meetings.
- Engagement with Prince Albert campus and hoping to find an MSC from the campus.
- Addressing gender and sexual-based violence.

- Advocacy for student wages. On October 1, the USSU will host a wage equity forum.
- Working toward a collaborative relationship with the ISU.
- EDI issues.

VP Hubick shared an overview of what she has been working on so far in her term:

- Event planning.
- Welcome Week, including movie night and speed friending.
- Indigenous baker's market, October 1-3.
- Assisting the centres with events.
- Meeting with Protective Services, ISSAC, Office of Sustainability, and Peer Health.

VP Deis shared an overview of what he has been working on so far in his term:

- Dealing with all matters related to campus groups, including ratification, funding, and insurance.
- So far this year, the USSU has distributed almost \$3750 to campus groups.
- Engaging with Saskatoon Transit.
- Creating support toolkits for campus groups.
- Making amendments to executive and campus groups policies.

VP Jacob shared an overview of what she has been working on so far in her term:

- Updating the academic handbook, including creating a new section on Al usage.
- Planning academic awareness week.
- Planning a graduate opportunities workshop.
- Providing feedback to academic misconduct regulations.
- Student academic grievances and appeals.
- Exploring new undergraduate research opportunities.

# 7. College/Constituency Report

# 7.1. Agriculture and Bioresources

Councillor Albrecht reported the following:

- They welcomed first years on September 1.
- There will be an election for a first year representative next week. It will be open between Tuesday and Thursday.
- Ag Bag Drag will be on October 24.

# 7.2. Arts and Science

Councillor Sharma had nothing to report.

# 7.3. Dentistry

Councillor Ge reported the following:

- The College of Dentistry is undergoing renovations until the end of the year.
- Their first meeting is next Thursday.

# 7.4. Education

No Councillor present.

#### 7.5. Edwards

No Councillor present.

# 7.6. Engineering

No Councillor present.

# 7.7. Indigenous Students

Councillor Ledoux reported the following:

- The ISU is uniting and gaining traction.
- They hosted a BBQ today.

# 7.8. International Students

Councillor Vincent shared that INSA will have its first meeting next week.

# 7.9. Kinesiology

No Councillor present.

#### 7.10. Law

No Councillor present.

#### 7.11. Medicine

No Councillor present.

# 7.12. Nursing

No Councillor present.

# 7.13. Pharmacy and Nutrition

No Councillor present.

# 7.14. St. Thomas More

Councillor Finine reported the following:

- They will soon hold byelections for the positions of VP Events, first-year representative, and MSC. Campaigning begins next week.
- They are working on ratification.

# 7.15. Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Councillor Bilyk reported the following:

- They held their AGM about a week ago.
- They are now ratified and are starting to plan events.

#### 8. Business

#### 9. New Business

#### 9.1. USC Committees and Senate

President Wintermute shared that MSCs will be appointed to committees at next week's USC meeting. The committees included the Academic Relations Committee, Advocacy Committee, Campus Groups Committee, Code of Ethics Committee, Elections Committee, Finance and Assessment Committee, Governance Committee, Indigenous Student Advisory Committee, International Student Advisory Committee, Student Life and Sustainability Committee, and Student and City Connection Committee.

Councillor Ledoux asked what times the committees will meet.

- President Wintermute answered that most committees will meet once every three weeks.
- VP Jacob added that the times will be determined by committee members.
- VP Hubick added that meeting times will be during USSU working hours, between 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM Monday-Friday.

President Wintermute shared that two MSCs will also be appointed to the University Senate next week. The Senate meets twice per year, but Senators may serve on committees and hearing boards throughout their term.

# 10. Questions, Comments, and Announcements

- VP Deis announced that next week is Campus Groups Week.
- Councillor Ledoux asked if future USC meetings will have long presentations.
  - President Wintermute explained that presentations usually will not be that long, except for the meeting where the University President is the guest.

# 11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 PM.



# Executive Meeting Minutes for September 15, 2025

#### Present:

President/Chair – Emma Wintermute

VP Operations and Finance – Owen Deis

VP Academic Affairs – Norah Jacob

VP Student Affairs – Emily Hubick

SM Communications & Marketing – Jason Ventnor

Academic & Governance Assistant – Brock Neufeldt

# Regrets:

None

#### 1. Call to Order

President Wintermute called the meeting to order at 12:32 PM and stated the land acknowledgement.

Land Acknowledgement

# 2. Quorum

Quorum was present.

# 3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

**EXEC** 2025.09.08

VP Hubick / VP Jacob

Approved

#### 4. Roundtables

#### a. President Wintermute

- i. Meetings
  - 1. Check in with Jason Ventnor
  - 2. Executive Committee Meeting
  - 3. Meeting with Sarah Buhler (College of Law)
    - Discussed the suspension of CLASSIC program.
  - 4. Meeting with Campus Legal Services Student Clinic
    - o The clinic will be renamed and launch in January.
  - 5. Meeting with Protective Services
    - o Met the Community Resource Officer.



- 6. Senior Manager and Exec Meeting
- 7. Meeting with Morgan Price (SSAIC)
- 8. Meeting with Jason Kovitch
  - Discussed the food hamper program.
- 9. SM Committee selection meeting
- 10. Social Committee Meeting
- 11. Gender Inclusive Washroom Meeting
- 12. Meeting with Tajinder Grewal, MLA for Saskatoon University-Sutherland
  - A parallel meeting to the one with the Minister of Advanced Education.
- 13. Pre-University Student Council Meeting
- 14. University Student Council
- 15. Meeting with Emily Hubick
- 16. Student CG Support and debrief
- 17. Monthly meeting with Jay Wilson (PA Campus)
  - o Dr. Wilson hopes to have PA MSC soon.
- 18. Meeting with Jade (GENS)
  - Discussed the SSAIC project.
- 19. Meeting with Family Services (Tina)
  - Interested in collaborating with the Women's Centre.
- 20. Monthly meeting with Dallas Pelly
- 21. Monthly meeting with Angela

# ii. Projects/Initiative

- 1. SSAIC / USSU Coalition
- 2. Pay it Forward
- 3. Gender Inclusive Washroom ED Campaign
- 4. AGM 101
- ARAO training

#### iii. Events

- 1. Academic Awareness Week
- iv. Other

# b. VP Deis

- i. Meetings
  - 1. Campus Group Meeting (×3)
  - 2. Monthly Check-In with Jason Ventnor
  - 3. Planning and Priorities Committee
  - Meeting to decide which Senior Managers will serve on USC Committees
  - Meeting with Tajinder Grewal, MLA for Saskatoon University-Sutherland
  - 6. First University Students' Council Meeting



# ii. Projects/Initiatives

- 1. Campus Group Toolkits
- 2. Advanced Education Lobbying Document
- 3. Transit Advocacy
- 4. Pride Wall
- 5. USSUHub Updates
- 6. Campus Club Space Updates
- 7. Campus Groups Services Survey

#### iii. Events

1. Academic Awareness Week

#### iv. Other

# c. VP Jacob

# i. Meetings

- 1. Executive Committee Meeting
- 2. Norah/Jason Check In
- 3. Exec/SM Meeting
- 4. Meeting with Dr. Nancy Turner
- 5. Meeting with Susan Bens
- 6. Exec/SM Committee Selection
- 7. Meeting with MLA Tajinder Grewal
- 8. Research, Scholarly, and Artistic Works Committee Meeting
- 9. Pre USC Meeting with Exec, Jason V, and Chair
- 10. USC Meeting

# ii. Projects/Initiatives

- 1. Academic Awareness Week
- 2. Graduate Opportunities Workshop
- 3. Assessment Strategies
- 4. Academic Integrity Forum
- 5. Z Course Initiatives

#### iii. Events

1. Academic Awareness Week

#### iv. Other

#### d. VP Hubick

# i. Meetings

- 1. Exec Committee Meeting
- 2. Position Check-In
- 3. Meeting with Dana Kwan (Office of Sustainability)
  - Planning a sustainable craft night.
- 4. Exec/SM Meeting
- 5. Meeting with Kseniah Pidskalny
- 6. Meeting with Dana Kwan and The Sheaf



- Discussed the sustainable craft night.
- 7. Centres Meeting
- 8. SM Meeting to Discuss Committees
- 9. Meeting with Protective Services
  - Regarding the bike lock initiative.
- 10. Meeting with MLA Tajinder Grewal
- 11. Pre-USC Meeting
- 12. University Students' Council
- 13. Meeting with President Wintermute
  - Discussed a student case.
- 14. Meeting to Review Student Case

# ii. Projects/Initiatives

- 1. Contacting Welcome Week Bingo Winners
- 2. Planning Fall Term Events

#### iii. Events

- 1. Tabling for Academic Awareness Week
- 2. Supper with Studentcare Representative

#### 5. New Business

#### a. Ratifications

- i. Huskie Formula Racing
- ii. Indian Students' Association
- iii. Islamic Dawah Society
- iv. U of S Beef Team
- v. WCVM Medical Imaging
- vi. Sports Engineering Club (SPEN)
- vii. WCVM Small Animal Club
- viii. Saskatchewan Nursing Students Association Saskatoon
- ix. University of Saskatchewan Young Liberals
- x. St. Thomas More Students' Union (STMSU)
- xi. U of S Sled Dogs Quarter Scale Tractor Team
- xii. U of S Filipino Students' Association
- xiii. Hindu Students' Society

# Motion to ratify the following campus groups:

- Huskie Formula Racing
- Indian Students' Association
- Islamic Dawah Society
- U of S Beef Team
- WCVM Medical Imaging
- Sports Engineering Club (SPEN)
- WCVM Small Animal Club



- Saskatchewan Nursing Students Association Saskatoon
- University of Saskatchewan Young Liberals
- St. Thomas More Students' Union (STMSU)
- U of S Sled Dogs Quarter Scale Tractor Team
- U of S Filipino Students' Association
- Hindu Students' Society

EXECMOTION052	VP Deis / President Wintermute	Carried
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# b. Funding Requests

- i. Inspired 2 Uplift P&I (CASH) \$100
- ii. Queers in Health Science P&I (CASH) \$200
- iii. Usask Stitch Society P&I (XL) \$199.80
  - USask Stitch Society P&I (CASH) \$139.02
- iv. FABS Club P&I (CASH) \$150
- v. Biology Club P&I (CASH) \$200

Motion to approve the following funding requests:

- Inspired 2 Uplift P&I (CASH) \$100.
- Queers in Health Science P&I (CASH) \$200, on condition that they get insurance for their event.
- Usask Stitch Society P&I (XL) \$199.80.
- USask Stitch Society P&I (CASH) \$139.02.
- FABS Club P&I (CASH) \$150.
- Biology Club P&I (CASH) \$200.

EXECMOTION053	VP Deis / VP Hubick	Carried

# c. Policy Updates

i. **EXEC-6**, Sponsorship Policy

Motion to approve VP Deis's proposed amendments to EXEC-6, Sponsorship Policy.

EXECMOTION054	VP Deis / VP Jacob	Carried
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# 6. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM.