



**New College Council Meeting
November 30th, 2020
1:00PM - 2:00PM EST via Zoom
Chaired by Nicholas Kriss**

Call to Order: (Date and Time)

I would like to call this meeting to order on Monday November 30th, 2020 at 1:06 PM

Council Members:

Voting Members: Matthew Mohammed, Shenali Don, Kyle Fernandes, Kevin Chan, Mohammed Obaid, Tracy Hoang, Vansh Chopra, Nabih Tariq, Maritza Mohammed, Elena Oganyan, Casey Medina, Rachel Trinh

Non-Voting Members: Alexis Marticorena, Josh Raghurai, Kyra Bendastos, Victoria Hanna, Krista Lopiccolo

Absent: Negar Fathi and Filomena Pestana

Announcement of Proxies:

None

Speaker Remarks:

- If you wish to obtain the floor, quietly raise your hand or leave a message in the zoom chat
- To avoid constant circling of a topic at hand, I will end the discussion so we move forward to a solution or table the topic.
- Please refrain from making any side remarks, murmurs, sighs, chuckles or anything of that nature. We aim to be as professional as possible and want to get business dealt with so such behaviour must be avoided. If need be, one warning will be given, and anything after that you will be asked to leave the meeting
- Please remain seated with your camera on throughout the entire meeting unless it is an emergency.



Adoption of the Agenda

Motion Date: Monday November 30th, 2020

Motion: Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted as presented.

Moved By: Matthew Mohammed

Seconded By: Maritza Mohammed

This motion has been: Passed

In favour: 11

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

Minutes from Previous Meeting

Motion Date: Monday November 30th, 2020

Motion: Be it resolved that the minutes from the previous two meetings be adopted as presented.

Moved By: Maritza Mohammed

Seconded By: Mohammed Obaid

This motion has been: Passed

In favour: 11

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

None



Financial Updates

- **Executives:**
 - None
- **Athletics:**
 - None
- **Social:**
 - None

Consultation with Jair and Jeffery Collins

- Jeffery Collins
 - “Jair will facilitate the presentation and then we have a couple questions for you all afterwards.”
- Jair
 - “We’re here to talk about Presidential Regulation 4, for those of you that don’t know Presidential Regulation 4 is the guiding policy for student council. The current Presidential Regulation 4 has been active since 1989 and it talks about faculty, college and many other things. We are doing this consultation because this policy was created in 1989 and has not been updated since. One of the major issues of the policy is that it gives very limited definition of how we can address any issues of concerns that are brought to us. What happens right now, if an organization is not following its constitution, we look into it and the organization can lose its status or the levy can be withheld but we would like to make it a more transparent and clear process. Jeff has sent a survey to undergraduate / graduate student population and over 3000 students have filled it out. There has been group consultations, open forums and town halls. After all these consultations, the next step would be to create a draft regulation which will be sent out again for review. Jeff will share some questions with you, and he will be taking some notes. In terms of your feedback, you have 2 questions for you all and give us your answer form the perspective of a student leader but also as a general student as well.”
- Jair
 - “The first question is as follows: As the leader of a student government, what is your responsibility that you have to your members?”
- Josh Raghurai
 - “A responsibility that I find is not apart of my job description but plays a major role in my responsibilities as O-Chair would be building the New College Community and making sure the students in their first years can build a strong social network. Which is something that I find helps with mental health seeing as you can reach out to people in a similar situation as yours. Having this network is vital for them seeing as they are coming from high school into University which is such a big leap for many people. In my position I find that it is my responsibility to make those connections as easy as possible for the students entering their first year by creating spaces for those connections to happen.”
- Kyle Fernandes
 - “I am the VP Social of New College, so I feel my responsibility is providing constituents with a wide variety of events and especially now more than ever due to our online setting. I’ve seen throughout these past couple months, providing these events to constituents has



been very helpful seeing as online schooling is difficult. I've been told people have a hard time managing and coping with the online setting and that the events were helpful to them. As a leader in the New College Community it's up to the council to provide these constituents with events where they can have fun, where I can create an open space for them to express themselves, meet new friends and make those connections within the New College Community as well as with the other college systems by doing collaborative events with some of the other colleges."

- Nicholas Kriss
 - "My responsibility would be to try and make as much of a welcoming space as possible to as many constituents as possible. My main thing is different areas of student government cover different areas of the student landscape for example, the faculty with SCOLAPS and YFS is much broader than the 7000 students that New College has. Us representing the all the New College Constituents that we have creates a much smaller, closer nit community that doesn't go as deep as niche topics that clubs get into, but it is not as broad as the massive areas that you are studying which is SCOLAPS."
- Alexis Marticorena
 - "My responsibility would be to provide students with workshop opportunities because a lot of students that come in aren't aware that New College provides a lot of workshops. Seeing as I am the YFS director I give them those resources. As well seeing as campus is so big everyone feels like they don't have anyone to talk to so as a council it makes it really easy for them to come and talk to us. Since we're older years some of us can even help them with academic things that they may not know about such as the classes York has to offer and how York works in terms of credits with classes. Myself as a director I feel as though it's important for them to have the understanding that we are here to provide all the events to continually give them that space to connect with others but we also have a lot of knowledge that allow them to get answers about advising, workshops, the things that the library provides and the things that new college provides. For example, during frosh, the first-year students have many questions and since we're in those programs we can help relate to them as well as answer those questions."
- Casey Medina
 - "Part of our role as the Athletics department is that we provide students with sports activities to be able to come together and interact with people that they have things in common with. For example, if you enjoy basketball you can interact and connect with other students that also enjoy basketball to create those connections. I think my role as a member of student council is to provide a safe space for students and for students to ask their questions because I know school can be overwhelming because of how big it is. Being able to be a source to answer people's questions and help them where ever they need for the students to be successful in school."
- Maritza Mohammed
 - "For me taking this position and what I've seen from this position in the past years before getting it was to make a change, to always plan ahead for the college not only for the year you're elected but to make the college better for future years. With that being said, I believe that transparency is a big thing between your council and your constituents. This year, we made a website and we started putting our meeting minutes on our website. Those things I think matter a lot because that's where our motions are passed for money,



that's where we talk about difficult topics or changes that are happening within our college. It's a big thing for my position to maintain that transparency for the constituents to be able to see the minutes if they want to know more about certain topics."

- Krista Lopiccolo
 - "I think in general, we all have our individual specialties but beyond our role our main responsibility to our constituents would be to create that welcoming space, to be that day-to-day point of contact for anything whether it is for school or social aspects. It's kind of just being that first point of contact and being accessible to students. Making sure that they have someone to go to even if they don't know anyone else. For example, I have knowledge on elections, Casey has knowledge on athletics and Kyle has knowledge on the social aspect so it's about being able to connect them to different things as well as being accessible.
- Victoria Hanna
 - "To add on to what Josh said as well, as the other O-Chair, it was our privilege to introduce all of the students to our community. I know we all we're in their place once and it was very scary obviously everyone was feeling very different emotions but the whole idea for me at least to be apart of this community is to continue their connection throughout the year. The whole purpose of having events throughout the year is to create that bond, to further their connections with each other, encourage them to take on leadership opportunities and it just opens up a whole new part of that educational experience in university which allows you to learn so much more about yourself and helps you strengthen your abilities."
- Jair
 - "As a student you pay various fees to student organizations, what are your expectations of these groups?"
- Maritza Mohammed
 - "In terms of the student part of it, I would like to know where that money is going. Showing the breakdown of the dental and where your money is going is good to know. As from the organization's perspective, I would like my constituents to know where their money is going and what their spending it on. When it comes to break-downs of events, if their breaking even or spending less and so on, they should be able to have that information to know that their money is going to the right places and that we're not just spending it on the people that are on council rather we are spending it on the public."
- Mohammed Obaid
 - "Going off what the President just said, my expectation is transparency. Knowing how the money is being spent, is that the best possible option for it to be spent on, making sure that my money as a student is distributed well to my benefit and to everyone else around me."
- Jair
 - "This is just a follow-up question based on what both of you said, what does transparency look like for you?"
- Maritza Mohammed
 - "For us, at least last year when I was VP Social, whenever anyone would ask me a question about a trip. I was always open about how much the bus costs, how much hotels cost and if we're breaking even. As for this year, one big thing is just showing in our



meeting minutes, the motion for the money and where it is going when we say our motivation. This year especially with everything being online, the money that we decided to spend is going back to the students, it's not to privilege council it's always at our events to give something to the students. When it comes to audit wise, for us in the past, we never really shared that information with our constituents, that's something that even as a council member in the past, I never really knew anything about that. But this year since we started doing our audit and even our audit from last year, both myself and Mo have tried to update our council and constituents as much as possible. We're still working on our end of year audit from last year, so it's not fully done yet but when it does get done, we do wish to update our constituents on our website and let them know. Again, that's something I think the constituents should know because all that money is being reviewed and it is all of their money and not ours."

- Tracy Hoang
 - "As an international student myself, having to pay double or triple the amount of money I would have to pay for a course, I really want to know where my money is going where my extra fee I'm paying is going. Even if I'm not on council, to see on the website where my money is going and how it's going to be spent, helps me feel more at ease. Even last year as a first-year student, I was skeptical about going to frosh, but I put in the money and I got what I expected. My experience in high school was not the best but I can now say being apart of New College and attending the events is worth it and helped me realize how much I benefited from it."
- Maritza Mohammed
 - "One thing outside of colleges, that is more for clubs, YFS and other organizations. I think for smaller organizations, we don't really see budget wise where their money goes all the time. I've only seen it because I'm on council now and to affiliate with clubs we get to see it but when it comes to what they use it for and how their process works, it's not always clear. One big thing especially with affiliation, we look through their constitutions and what me, VP Academics and VP Operations have seen, their constitutions aren't always as fair as it should be. Sometimes their Execs have double the votes then the rest of the general members, sometimes it'll be the way their election process works, even if they do have their constitution set, they don't always follow it because some of the clubs I've talked to don't necessarily follow what's written in their constitution. I don't know if that's for all clubs, this is just about some of the ones that I've seen so far."
- Matthew Mohammed
 - "I think my biggest expectation as to where my fees are going is how it will benefit me at York. For example, when I came to frosh and I was wondering how it will benefit me and 2 minutes in I realized that these are the people I will be seeing for the next 4 years, in my classes and throughout my day. With clubs, I started going to them with the mentality of "why am I doing this" and then I realized what they can do for you and how it can be future building. My biggest expectations of these groups are to help me develop as a student into something more down the line."
- Nicholas Kriss
 - "I just wanted to build off of what the Commuter Representative was saying (Tracy Hoang), personally I'm one of the longest tenured York constituents on the council at the



moment, I've been here since before SCI was implemented. I personally have found a second family in New College and not just the council. In the College as a whole, I have met some of my best friends which I will cherish for the rest of my life, and I don't think I would've gotten that opportunity if I was never introduced to the college at frosh. I speak for myself here, I really found myself a second family, a home away from home. When I don't want to be at home for any reason, I have somewhere where I can go, and I know I will be loved and accepted no matter what. That is what I really think sets not only the colleges but New College especially apart from any other organization."

- Jair
 - "That is all for our questions, thank you so much for your engagement and your feedback. If you have anything you would like to add later feel free to get in touch with me or Jeff."
- Nicholas Kriss
 - "I just had a question; do you have any sort of idea as to what the new Presidential Regulation 4 will look like?"
- Jair
 - "The purpose of it is to make it clearer, if you look at it right now, some of the language is dated. It talks about a student government for the faculty of science which doesn't exist. The idea of it is to have a little bit more transparency. We're trying to build a framework that encompasses everybody which would make it a much clearer process."
- Jeffery Collins
 - "The goal of the new draft is to support foundational requirements and a lot of which is taken from the feedback which you give to focus on the need for transparency and making sure that the processes are clear so that it can be sustainable from year to year. In terms of what the draft will look like, I don't exactly know what it will look like yet but there will be a period where you get to see it. In the next semester we're hoping to have a draft published which will be available on the website for commentary and feedback for around a month."
- Maritza Mohammed
 - "Once that draft is posed for a month will you be doing more consultations afterwards?"
- Jeffery Collins
 - "This semester I've gone into every college council and every faculty council. There has been a lot so we might make it a little bit easier in the sense of maybe doing an open forum but if there's anytime you request a meeting and you want to chat with Jair and I, we will be happy to set something up so you can ask questions and so that we can provide clarity."
- Nicholas Kriss
 - "I have 2 questions for both of you: What do you think represents York? What do you think sets York apart from any other University?"
- Jair
 - "I would say it's the notion that there's a large population that are very socially justice minded and care about other people, about how they feel and how they want to make people feel welcome. York is a large commuter school, people on average commute 45 minutes each way, their working usually so people's time is very much taken up and the fact that we have so many students and so many different avenues. That even though



people are busy with various things they want to feel engaged in the campus beyond just going to class and I think that it's just phenomenal. The other piece of what sets York apart is the idea that it doesn't matter where you come from, you can be what you want to be, and you can experience what you want to experience when you're here. We're considered a Liberal Arts University as opposed to U of T which is most science based but it doesn't mean we don't have great science programs. At York you have a freedom of you can be what you want to be and live the experiences that you want to."

- Jeffery Collins
 - "I went to York in which I was heavily involved. I was an O-Chair, I was YODA chair in my day and I have worked in post secondary for the past 4 years and I could tell you that I as a student have gotten a very unique experience through the college system that I haven't seen in my job working anywhere else or as a student when I was in college and I think that the uniqueness of the college system is something I've always appreciated. Everyone operates so uniquely but you all the same themes in what I'm hearing back."
- Jair
 - "I'll give you one example, orientation, at every other institution across Canada orientation can either run centrally or de-centrally. We run a hybrid model where it's centrally coordinated but it's operated by the individual colleges and faculties. It is unique, and I love it. Thank you all so much for having us and if you have any questions, we are just an email away."

Department Updates **President's Update**

- Orientation Video
 - Maritza Mohammed
 - "Orientation is different than what it was in September and in the summer. We aren't going to do a slideshow instead we're doing a video. Our VP Promo and Director Promo will be making that video. Everyone else will be needing to take a video introducing themselves and we will add clips from last year as well. This will be done over December because it needs to be ready for the Friday before school starts."
- Fall Check-ins/2on1s
 - Maritza Mohammed
 - "The VP Operations and I will be checking in on all of y'all to make sure you are ready for winter and to give you all feedback from the fall semester. A heads-up honorarium is coming up, and a lot of you have questions so the execs will be



going over that in December. We will also give you a checklist of what you need to do so that it's a little easier."

- Winter Semester Promo
 - Maritza Mohammed
 - "As you know in the fall semester, we did takeovers of each council member. Next semester, I'm thinking of doing vlogs. This isn't mandatory you don't need to do the vlogs if you don't want to."
- Secret Santa
 - Maritza Mohammed
 - "I was wondering if you all wanted to do a Secret Santa. We can use amazon and ship it to each others house. Once the packages are received, we can do a zoom call and open everything up. I will talk about this further on the council group chat."
- Hump Day
 - Maritza Mohammed
 - "Hump Day is this Wednesday; the schedule will be posted later today. You all did the doodle, so I expect all of you to show up. VP Operations and I will be there to check and see if you're there."
- Hiring update
 - Maritza Mohammed
 - "We have hired a couple new people, we have Nicholas McFarlane and Brandon Damico as our Social representatives. We hired Blake Donovan and Elsie Benko as our athletic representatives. We also found a Pond Representative so everybody welcome Farzana Jalal. We will be doing training for the next month before winter starts. There will also be a motion to appoint Farzana as our Pond rep for the rest of the semester. As you all know, appointing means that they are on the council doing their job, but they don't have a vote."

VP Finance Update

None

VP Operations Update

- Attended academic clubs fair
- Attended MSS's Panel Night
- Attended athletics trivia night #5 (and will be attending #6 tonight)
- Held interviews along side VP's and the President

Social Update

- Attended athletics bingo night
- Hosted several events this month (Among us Wednesdays, Movember Fundraiser, Collab with Schulic, Bubble tea event and so on. Today is the last day for November Donations so get your donations in, we will match what you donate.
- Several sayu meetings
- Attended lounge hours
- Planned frost week along with director social and O-Chairs
- Winter semester; there will be no formal and no trip in the winter due to COVID-19



Athletics Update

None

Promotions Update

- Attended Movember Modness Event
- Attended Virtual Lounge
- Created Hump Day Cafe event poster
- Director of Promotions created posters for the Anti-Black Racism Series
- Attended IMLeagues Bingo & Trivia night

Academics Update

- Planned and hosted the virtual clubs fair
- Attended the among us event

Orientation Chair Update

- Coordinated with the social department, VP finance and the President to determine Frost Week budget

College Head Update

None

Motions

Motion Date: Monday November 30th, 2020

Motion: Be it resolved New college Council reimburses Judy Mohammed for printer ink.

Motivation:

- Maritza Mohammed
 - “If you didn’t know already, Judy is my mom, seeing as I can’t spend money on the printer ink, she spends it for me.”

Moved By: Mohammed Obaid

Seconded By: Maritza Mohammed

This motion has been: Passed

In favour: 11

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0



Motion Date: Monday November 30th, 2020

Motion: Be it resolved that NCC spends no more than \$50 for Netflix Party event

Motivation:

- Kyle Fernandes
 - “Usually we don’t host events in December but because we are online, we decided to do a Netflix Party event in December. We will be watching a holiday movie on the 23rd of December, anyone is welcome to join. The \$50 will be used as a giveaway. To add, this is council’s last chance to attend a social event. If you only attended one so far, you need one more to meet honorarium.”

Moved By: Kyle Fernandes

Seconded By: Mohammed Obaid

This motion has been: Passed

In favour: 12

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion Date: Monday November 30th, 2020

Motion: Be it resolved that NCC spends no more than \$2100 for frost week

Motivation:

- Kyle Fernandes
 - “Frost week will be the first week back to school, it consists of 5 events being: a scavenger hunt, speed friending event, jeopardy, cards against humanity and Netflix party. The total for all this comes up to \$2050 but we are motioning it for \$2100.”

Moved By: Kyle Fernandes

Seconded By: Mohammed Obaid

This motion has been: Passed

In favour: 11

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0



Motion Date: Monday November 30th, 2020

Motion: Be it resolved New College Council reimburses Judy Mohammed for uber eats gift cards for lounge hours.

Motivation:

- Maritza Mohammed
 - “The plan was to buy one large one but then the secretary and I tried, and it wasn’t working. Now, my mom and I will buy gift card and we will do \$25 each time. So, we will be reimbursing her for the total of \$500 for the gift cards.”

Moved By: Maritza Mohammed

Seconded By: Mohammed Obaid

This motion has been: Passed

In favour: 11

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion Date: Monday November 30th, 2020

Motion: Be it resolved New College Council appoints Farzana Jalal as Pond Representative for the 2020/2021 Council Term.

Motivation:

- Maritza Mohammed
 - “The VP Operations and I held interviews, she was the only one that applied but I was very impressed with her interview.”

Farzana exits meeting and re-enters once motion is complete.

Moved By: Maritza Mohammed

Seconded By: Matthew Mohammed

This motion has been: Passed

In favour: 11

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0



Adjournment

Motion Date: Monday November 30th, 2020

Motion: Be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned at 2:08PM

Moved By: Kyle Fernandes

Seconded By: Tracy Hoang

This motion has been: Passed

In favour: 11

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0