

UVic Pride Collective Meeting Minutes - July 30th 2014

1. Acknowledgement of the Territories
 2. Round of Names
 3. Safer Spaces Guidelines
-

4. Announcements

- 1.) Disability and Sexuality Event Steering Committee
 - Meets Thursday July 31 at 4PM in SSD. Nobody went last time. Anybody can go this time? No
- 2.) SUB OCS committee and freestore stuff
 - Tri went to sub ocs two weeks ago. The main thing to update is information about the freestore. UVic's waste management unit has a deal with the salvation army to get rid of anything that cannot be used. The UVSS will be creating a new deal with UVic waste management to take on the task of removing things that are unusable from the freestore.... though the intent is that the freestore won't be taking things in that aren't usable. The idea is to give everything away, so that there's no waste. The intent is not to have waste deposit, but a place where students can get free furniture and things. The UVSS is going ahead with the deal for now. Tri has asked that the execs/management start conversations with other waste management options or other options for organizations in town that would be willing to take things in that we can't give away instead of the SA. The committee has also decided that we would do another check-in and review during the fall to see how the freestore has worked and to review how much had actually been given away to the SA.
- 3.) SUB Filming
 - UVSS doing a video tour of the SUB. They stopped outside Pride and gave a short description of us as part of the video tour.
- 4.) Retreat update
 - Registration is open! Organizing group recently went up to visit the caretakers and see the venue on Lake Cowichan. Everything looks in order!
- 5.) Policy Meeting
 - Policy Meeting is taking place at 10:00AM on August 6th. Please come if you can! Will be working on policies to be adopted in the fall.
- 6.) VSAC Meeting Update
 - VSAC meeting went alright, they are aware of harm they have done, and frontline workers seem like what is up is known. Disconnect between higher ups.
 - Tom - Different impression of outcome of meeting from folks at AVP. They were maybe denial of what were said about them. They think their hiring process is good. AVP has pulled out of involvement with a lot of VSAC stuff. They want to just change their image, not necessarily their practice is the impression I got.

7.) AVP launching vision for Sexualized Violence Awareness Week

- We have been invited to attend. Starts at 3PM in SUB Upper Lounge Tomorrow.

8.) Youth Outreach Committee Announcement

- Starting Youth Outreach Committee. Get started in next two to three weeks. So in that timeframe, there may be updates via the listserve, fb etc., about a meeting.

9.) Chat with Martlet re: SUB military ban

- Cal and Ori chatted with Hugo from the Martlet this morning. Military was hoping to be recruiting at career fair in SUB. Pride's board rep (Cal) made a statement to be read at the last board meeting, speaking against letting them recruit. Talked about Pride's policies which enable us to be against this, but a lot of questions from the Martlet were also "how to do you feel about this" kind of things, directed towards Cal. These were like personal thoughts, rather than what the collective thinks. Ori and Cal tried to shift the conversation away from personal opinions to collective opinions, but we'll see what the Martlet eventually publishes...

- Piotr - I was looking at anti-recruitment campaigns today. Just thinking in terms of actions we can take against the recruitment, there are a few options if we wanted to think about it. Starting a ban isn't realistic. Having a presence at their table could be good: maybe a banner like "we are not your soldiers" or maybe even a parody like, "we want more guns" or something like that. Lots of ideas of what we can do.

- Brennan - Contact VIPIRG again

- Meris - Maybe worth getting in touch with Queers for Peace.

5. Furniture

- About a month or two ago we started looking into getting some new furniture for the space. We have one height adjustable desk, which is really wonderful, and we were looking into whether the collective wanted to replace the two tables inside the office. We also were looking for new chairs and a flood lamp for the centre. We wanted to look in facilities management and their order system first to see what options we have from them. They recently got back to us with pricing quotes for height adjustable tables, chairs, and lamps. [sheets were handed out of quoted prices from facilities management].

DISCUSSION

LIGHTS

- Brennan - I like the lamp! We've talked about having a good one over in our centre because of the terrible light we have. We have members who would really benefit from this. I like the round one!

- Tri - These are expensive, do we want to buy from here? or look elsewhere? May be cheaper if we look for these ourselves rather than going with facilities management.

- Leah - I want a lamp! It'll be good for throwing shade! LOL

- Orillia - Love to have a lamp.

- Meris - Lighting in here sucks!!!! We could just ask to get ballasts on our lights here. Though they've already been looked at...

CHAIR

- Brennan - We definitely need to replace the one here in the centre. But these are too expensive. We could get one elsewhere.

DESKS

- Brennan - No thoughts on priority.
- Meris - We don't need a corner desk. Maybe get just one longer adjustable one? Longer table would be cheaper too, and that could replace both the desks inside the office,
- Orillia - We should check out other places for desks.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

- Orillia - If we go on a furniture trip, we should get drawer things.
- Brennan - Smaller lamp for the office too? Furniture shopping trip in the next couple of weeks.
- Orillia - Let's set up a working group for furniture shopping. Send out a doodle poll.

ACTION/MOTION/DECISION

- Collective consents to purchasing the round lamp from facilities! \$130
- Set up a working group to decide on chair and desk

6. Establish Volunteer Committee Meeting

- We need to establish a volunteer working group. Maybe not a committee because this is just one time planning. We need to set up our volunteer program for the fall, our internship program, as well as decide on a system/software to move our volunteer management online.

DISCUSSION

- Yeahhhhhhh we need to do this soon!

ACTION/MOTION/DECISION

- Sign up sheet sent around for folks interested. Create doodle. Set meeting time within next two weeks.

6. Advertising Opportunity In Residences

- UVSS is giving out 2100 mugs to all students in residences in the fall. Do we want to have something stuffed into the mugs?

DISCUSSION

- Meris - In the past we did condoms with Pride stickers on them.
- Tri - Do we have 2100 stickers? Do we have 2100 condoms?

- Meris - We could do paper things. Contact, events, calendar. Etc.
- Orillia - We can plan everything for a calendar to include at next E&A meeting and then print and go!

ACTION/MOTION/DECISION

- Pride will take the opportunity to advertise! We will just include paper information and a calendar of events for the fall.
-

7. Meeting w/ Ben Re: Consultation Process with the UVSS

- Tri and Orillia had a meeting with Ben to talk about consultation with Pride as well as insight into consultation and communication with advocacy groups. Next step is to set up a meeting with Ben and the execs to talk specifically about Pride and consultation. They want to set up some sort of document that will outline how best to consult and communicate with each group. At that meeting, Pride should bring a document that we've created outlining what we want to see out of communication/consultation. What does this collective want to be highlighted in that document?

DISCUSSION

- Leah - Just a simple do's and don'ts. Make it as accessible as possible. Things tend to go in one ear and out the other.
- Orillia - Highlighting when our meetings are, so they know when to expect us being able to make decisions. Emails are also a good way to communicate, but have expectations of what to expect in terms of replies.
- Tom - Lots of random folks in the centre. Don't ambush us.
- Meris - Try to talk directly to coordinators because they have phone and emails. And knowing they can pass information through coordinator to the collective. Keep in mind when we meet and when you want information from us and our own meeting schedule. Inviting you to come in to come into our space to use our services or resources, but not to interact with everyone in the space and do work.
- Brennan - Meeting times. Especially if things are going to be decided at committee meeting or board meeting, you should keep in mind our timeline. More awareness of our timeline. We are happy to consult, even on a short term basis, we are happy to give it, but don't expect it. We are there to work with the board on relevant things. Consultation is also not last minute decision making. Include with us from the beginning.

ACTION/MOTION/DECISION

- Include all of these things onto a document or at the discussion the next time we talk to Ben and the Execs about communication
-

8. VSAC Shoe Distribution

- We have the shoes now. What is the best way to distribute the shoes?

DISCUSSION

- Brennan - We should set up some ongoing times when people are available and when people can come in and try on and get shoes! We should also have some times where people can make appointments.

ACTION/MOTION/DECISION

- Ori and Brennan to figure out times.
-

9. UVision - Student Submission to UVic Administration

- UVSP is making submission to UVic for their next campus plan. They've asked whether we want to make a submission? One thought is to submit an accessibility submission regarding GIW?

DISCUSSION

- Leah - Good to submit something.
- Piotr - GIW!
- Brennan - Get in touch with Meris about this! Showers that are accessible as well. Many showers on campus aren't gender neutral. We want to have multi stall gender inclusive washroom. Use the SUB as an example.
- Orillia - Starting up a new committee for GIW
- Tri - Add this into GIWI Committee so that we can work on? or set a specific working group?
- Ori - The GIWI committee!

ACTION/MOTION/DECISION

- We want to include GIWI stuff. Will plan this out in the committee. Tri get back to UVSP about when they need submission and set up GIWI committee time.

10. Vivek Shraya Book Launch

- Tri and Liza were contacted to start planning another book launch. The last time Vivek did a book launch, it was a co-presented by UVic Pride, SOCC, AVP, PSN, and WS E&O. Looks like we'll be doing something similar this time, groups that are being asked to collaborate are UVic Pride, SOCC, AVP, PSN, Homospun, SIPCC and the QT2IPOC organizing group. We probably have the most money, so a funding request may come into pride in the future. Nothing has been planned out yet really, the next step is to have all the groups meet. There is a doodle if

anybody is interested in joining from pride! Do we want to co-present with these other groups?
The date is September 23.

DISCUSSION

- Into it!

ACTION/MOTION/DECISION

- Pride will co-present!

9. Anarchist Bookfair Launch and Request for Funding

- We have a request from an organizer for funding of travel for Indigenous folks to attend and facilitate workshops. Do we want to do this?

DISCUSSION

- Leah - This is the first time we have heard of them doing Indigenous specific things or funding. Are they using the "I" word to ward off suspicion of what the funding is for?

- Piotr - I dunno how I feel about the anarchist bookfair. Sarah Mundy is cool though.

- Sasha - Not super keen on some folks involved with it. But some folks are really cool. It gets derailed a lot. I guess it's up to us if we want to be involved in any way. There are lots of rad Indigenous and anti-colonial folks from inside our own communities they could access though. They could be supported.

- Brennan - Yeah i've heard of the event feeling unsafe. I'm not really excited they are up on the idea, we have no idea what the space is going to do. No idea how they will maintain a safer space. Sounds like they have no idea about specifics.

- Tri - Anarchist communities are notoriously white and the victoria community is no exception. Many folks have been called out on their racist and colonialist bullshit, and there has been no movement towards doing better work. Many folks claim to hold "anti-racist and anti-colonial" spaces, and yet take absolutely no leadership from Indigenous folks and people of colour. I have been to the anarchist bookfair for an ipoc event once. It was really lovely, and lots of wonderful connections were made, but it was derailed by an individual. Wondering how they are holding safer spaces and how they are going to be including Indigenous folks in their program.

- Piotr - Maybe we can ask for more details and ask who is coming? Then we could make a decision about sponsoring specific people.

ACTION/MOTION/DECISION

- We will ask Sarah for more information and revisit it if it's going to be a really rad person that they are funding.

10. Our Description in UVic Calendar

- UVic undergraduate and graduate calendars have a short description of us, this is what it looks like. They are wondering if we want to change it:

“The UVic Pride Collective advocates for queer and trans students, staff, faculty, alumni and community members. The intent of UVic Pride is to promote and provide an atmosphere that celebrates sexual, gender, and sex diversity; build community; and to be fully inclusive and supportive of all members, including people of any race, culture, ethnicity, gender, sex, colour, age, ability, class, sexuality, nationality, appearance, and religious or political affiliation. UVic Pride seeks not only to end homophobia, biphobia, transphobia, and the oppression of intersex people, but to promote social justice and combat oppression in solidarity with all marginalized groups. The Pride office is open for drop-in most days during the school year. Our services include a lending library, free safer sex and harm reduction supplies, as well as an expanding array of trans specific resources. Interested phone, email, or in person, or visit our website for more information.”

DISCUSSION

- Brennan - Description seems old. Our new one is based more on expression and marginalization and experiences, not so much based on identity.

- Orillia - What calendar? It is the undergraduate and graduate calendar that UVic produces.

ACTION/MOTION/DECISION

- Create a google doc and talk about it at the next E&A Meeting

11. International Students Orientation Conference August 28

- As part of visioning doc, we wanted to increase outreach to international students this year. Tri has been in touch with international office, and they are having an international students orientation conference on August the 28. We have been invited to table.

DISCUSSION

- Whoo hooo!

ACTION/MOTION/DECISION

- Whoo hoo Pride will table at the event.

12. Office Coordinator Taking Week starting August 13th off

- To balance currently banked hours (from overtime), and time needed for work on the Retreat and for orientation events the week after (which are outside of office hours), Tri will be taking office hours off from the 13th until the late afternoon of the 21st (day before the retreat). Not working less hours, just shifting them around to accommodate current needs.

DISCUSSION

- None

ACTION/MOTION/DECISION

- Cool

13. New Safer Spaces Policy for Centre

- Safer Spaces committee has created a new safer spaces document for our centre. This is not the safer spaces policy of UVic Pride, but the policy within the centre's space, it is the policy that is referred to at the beginning of meetings. This was never officially adopted at a general meeting, so we can change this policy at collective meetings. Policy is RESPECT acronym.

DISCUSSION

- Brennan - We like it!!

ACTION/MOTION/DECISION

- Adopted for the centre!!
