



**THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER**

**AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Minutes of July 21, 2023

**Attendance**

Present: Esmé Decker (President), Kamil Kanji (VP Academic & University Affairs), Ian Caguiat (VP Administration), Abhi Mishra (VP Finance), Tina Tong (VP External), Kathleen Simpson (Senior Manager of Student Services), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Regrets: Justin Lieu (Managing Director)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

**Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 10:22 am in Nest Room 3529 and over Zoom.

**Agenda**

- The agenda was approved (Esmé, Abhi).

**Minutes**

- The minutes of July 14 were approved (Esmé, Abhi).

**Code of Conduct**

- Esmé:
  - Eshana let me know of a draft Code of Conduct that was done with the lawyers last year.
  - It's similar to what's in the current Code of Procedure and Statement of Office.
  - Trying to determine the purpose of bringing in this new Code.
  - There is a page for listing current conflicts of interest; that might be the most useful new addition.
  - It also uses the term "fiduciary," which isn't in the current Code of Procedure.
  - There may be a conflict with the Bylaws, which define our Board of Directors to mean just the voting members of Council, whereas this new Code talks of Council as a whole.
  - Another proposed addition is the section on speaking with one voice.
- Kathleen:
  - That may be controversial.
- Abhi:
  - But no one on our board should publicly go against the decisions of the board.

- If you're on a board, you have a duty to support its decisions.
- Kathleen:
  - I can imagine pushback.
  - Talk of academic freedom.
- Abhi:
  - But it will still be public how people voted or spoke before the decision was reached.
- Kathleen:
  - If someone is running for election and wants to change things, there could be a problem.
- Ian:
  - Yes, I'm concerned about elections.
- Sheldon:
  - This is a question that has come up over the years: is Council a board or a political body?
- Abhi:
  - If you have a company with no unity, you will have no company left.
- Ian:
  - What do other organizations do?
  - How do they handle elections?
- Esmé:
  - I can have Josh look into what other student unions do.
  - I can ask Ayesha to bring this to Governance Committee.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 am.