



Bilan Arte, Chairperson
Canadian Federation of Students(-Services)
338 Somerset Street West
Ottawa, Ontario
K2P 0J9

March 1, 2016

Chairperson Arte,

Today we received a package of *Public Education for the Public Good* documents from your office. It has been some time since the last correspondence from your office, so I am writing to follow up about outstanding concerns the Students' Union of Vancouver Community College has with the Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services.

Please know that, at the current time, our organisation is not interested in engaging in any dialogue with the National Executive or any other representative or body of the Canadian Federation of Students or Canadian Federation of Students-Services. As you of course know, the fundamental relationship of trust and respect that existed between the Students' Union of Vancouver Community College and the Canadian Federation of Students/Canadian Federation of Students-Services was washed away by the actions of you and other representatives of the National Executive, its employees, and those employed by other components of the Federation. I write you now only to follow up on our previous unanswered queries, and the yet unanswered queries of our provincial students' union.

Until such time as the students of Vancouver Community College have answers and action from the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) National Executive, we will continue under the assumption that you are working in contempt of members.

continued...

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Broadway Office
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Please provide an answer to the following:

1. Why has the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) not produced audited financial statements since November 2014, despite it being a legal requirement for fee collection in our province and a matter of basic financial transparency?
2. Why was no *Campaigns and Government Relations Strategy* produced for the 2015-2016 academic year, despite the preamble to the Bylaws requiring this to be done?
3. Why have member local unions been barred, either through contempt or incompetence on the Federation's part, from access to services, including the International Student Identity Card?

Please respond to our correspondence dated May 27, 2015 (enclosed) regarding violations of Federation democracy and union busting by members of the National Executive.

Please respond to our correspondence dated June 4, 2015 (enclosed) regarding violations of Federation democracy and silencing of Aboriginal students at Vancouver Community College.

Please respond to our correspondence dated August 14, 2015 (enclosed) with a number of questions yet unanswered.

Please fulfill the following demands, as outlined in the October 11, 2015 letter from the then-Canadian Federation of Students-British Columbia (enclosed):

- *creation of a campaign strategy that seeks to achieve our ultimate goal, as outlined in the Preamble to the Bylaws, through political initiatives with principled immediate demands, detailed immediate tasks, and common support*
- *recognition of the election of Aboriginal Students' Representative Tl'ehskwiisimka Marshall, and the recognition of the election of Women's Representative Shayli Robinson*
- *resignation of Bilan Arte and Anna Dubinski in acknowledgement that they have misled the membership of the Federations, failed to share information with other members of the National Executive, and are otherwise incapable of executing their duties*
- *removal of Toby Whitfield from the payroll of the Canadian Federation of Students and/or Canadian Federation of Students(-Services)*
- *removal of Jessica McCormick from the payroll of the Canadian Federation of Students and/or Canadian Federation of Students(-Services)*
- *public acknowledgement that directors of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) were aware of the use of funds not represented in the annual audited financial statements*
- *affirmation of the principle of "One Local, One Vote", including the limitation of no more than three votes afforded to organizations representing students of one post-secondary institution*

continued...

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In addition to these actions, the Students' Union of Vancouver Community College demands an apology to the students of Canada from you, Bilan Arte, for your leadership role in undermining the student movement. Over the course of the last year and a half, you have failed to respond to members' questions or to take responsibility for the destabilization and instability in the student movement that your actions caused. Rather than communicate with members in British Columbia respectfully, you have built petty personal relationships with individuals and attempted to have them undermine our unity. You have lied to the members of our students' union directly. Ms. Arte, you are the Chairperson of a cross-Canada organisation calling for accountability and important investments on the part of the federal government at a time that you yourself have not produced basic financial documents for members in two years. It shames the student movement and makes students seem disconnected from reality.

Until such time as these demands have been fulfilled, and the frankly bullying culture that has developed at meetings of the Canadian Federation of Students is resolved, our organisation will continue not to participate in the Federation.

Sincerely,



Sara Bigler
Chairperson
Students Union of Vancouver Community College

cc: Simka Marshall, Chairperson of the British Columbia Federation of Students
cc: member local unions of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services)
cc: media and news resources of the student movement

encl.

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October 11, 2015

Members of the National Executive,

I am writing to you on behalf of the more than 200,000 members of the Canadian Federation of Students-British Columbia to inform you that, at our 68th Semi-Annual General Meeting, a vote of no confidence in your body was unanimously adopted. The resolution included a provision that is the purpose for me writing to you today and, specifically, the British Columbia member local unions' position on the state of the Federations.

Member local unions in British Columbia unanimously adopted the following demands of the National Executive, in order that BC member locals are able to continue participating in the Federations:

- *creation of a campaign strategy that seeks to achieve our ultimate goal, as outlined in the Preamble to the Bylaws, through political initiatives with principled immediate demands, detailed immediate tasks, and common support;*
- *recognition of the election of Aboriginal Students' Representative Tl'ehskwiisimka Marshall, and the recognition of the election of Women's Representative Shayli Robinson;*
- *resignation of Bilan Arte and Anna Dubinski in acknowledgement that they have misled the membership of the Federations, failed to share information with other members of the National Executive, and are otherwise incapable of executing their duties;*
- *removal of Toby Whitfield from the payroll of the Canadian Federation of Students and/or Canadian Federation of Students(-Services);*
- *removal of Jessica McCormick from the payroll of the Canadian Federation of Students and/or Canadian Federation of Students(-Services);*
- *public acknowledgement that directors of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) were aware of the use of funds not represented in the annual audited financial statements;*
- *affirmation of the principle of "One Local, One Vote", including the limitation of no more than three votes afforded to organizations representing students of one post-secondary institution;"*

For new members of the National Executive not familiar with how BC member locals came to this point, please see the attached chronology, which formed part of the Report of the Executive Committee adopted at the most recent British Columbia general meeting.

As most of you observed, all BC delegates walked out of the 67th Semi-Annual National General Meeting in June as a result of, among other reasons, not being able to safely and effectively participate in the meeting. Following the meeting, not a single call was received by any member local or by their central office, from any member of the National Executive, in order to understand the concerns of BC members or their motivations for leaving the meeting.

Canadian Federation of Students-British Columbia

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Similarly, the at-large members of the National Executive were aware of the motions coming forward to the 68th semi-annual BC general meeting for more than three weeks prior. Yet no effort was made to reach out to any member of the BC Executive Committee or to any BC member local. It was not until two hours before the commencement of the general meeting that National Chairperson Bilan Arte emailed select BC member locals. Rather than explore issues of concern or address the months of outstanding questions from BC Representative on the National Executive Jenelle Davies, this communication was used as yet another means to attack Ms. Davies, an elected representative of BC member local unions who Ms. Arte attempted to blame for her own misconduct and lack of action.

The email continued the inexcusable trend of bullying Ms. Davies has experienced from other members of the National Executive and constitutes a further attempt to avoid accountability by seeking to discredit those asking questions. This action by Ms. Arte, and without oversight by the National Executive, perfectly exemplifies the lack of leadership and accountability that has come to define the National Executive in the past year.

BC member local unions are increasingly concerned about the direction, lack of leadership and lack of accountability among the at-large members of the National Executive, and the inability or unwillingness of the National Executive to uphold its responsibilities and execute its authority. The mistreatment of employees and the absence of strategic political organizing, coupled with the complete lack of financial accountability has led members in BC to take action to protect the BC organization from the irresponsible actions of the National Executive, and particularly those of the at-large members. By continuing to do nothing to address the issues facing the organization, remaining silent in the face of undemocratic and unaccountable actions by the at-large members, and either directly or passively approving the at-large officers' campaign of bullying against BC member local unions and representatives, you have failed to uphold your fiduciary responsibilities, and reaffirmed the need for Canadian Federation of Students-BC to protect itself and its member locals from your negligence.

As an example of types of actions that have brought BC member local unions to this point, I would highlight the ongoing failure of the National Executive to hold the at-large members responsible for failing to engage in democratic hiring processes. The National Executive is the sole body with the legal authority to hire employees of the Federations, and with which the ultimate power rests for all such decisions. Continued failure to uphold its authority over this and other human resource and labour relations matters is a clear statement that the National Executive is failing to execute the functions for which it, collectively, is responsible. The dereliction of your most basic fiduciary duties in regards to staff management is representative of equivalent failures in other areas, including but not limited to membership organizing, financial management, democratic decision-making, campaigns and government relations planning and strategy, legal affairs, and internal communication.

Please also accept this as notice that delegates to the 68th Semi-Annual BC General Meeting voted unanimously to censure the National Executive, and in particular, Chairperson Bilan Arte and National Treasurer Anna Dubinski. It is the position of the members in British Columbia that their actions in particular have proven that neither are capable of fulfilling their roles on the National Executive. Both National Treasurer Dubinski and National Chairperson Arte have failed to provide basic information to the membership, and have shown a complete lack of accountability in refusing to provide answers to the numerous questions about staffing, finances, and other related Federation issues to BC member locals, and to the BC representative on the National Executive. The full text of each motion is attached.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tl'ehskwiisimka Marshall', written in a cursive style.

Megan Tl'ehskwiisimka Marshall
Chairperson

RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING NATIONAL EXECUTIVE ACCOUNTABILITY

68th Semi-Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students-British Columbia
Thursday, August 13 to Sunday, August 16, 2015

Members at the 68th semi-annual general meeting of Canadian Federation of Students-British Columbia adopted the following resolutions unanimously.

1. MOTION TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE IN CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS(-SERVICES) NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

2015/08:022 MOTION (AS AMENDED)
Local 33/Local 73

Whereas there is a vast and growing divide in the political perspective and goals of the representatives of member local students' unions in the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services);

Whereas the Preamble to the Bylaws of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) outlines the founding principles as 1) to organise students on a democratic, cooperative basis in advancing our own interests, and in advancing the interests of our community; 2) to provide a common framework within which students can communicate, exchange information, and share experience, skills and ideas; 3) to ensure the effective use and distribution of the resources of the student movement, while maintaining a balanced growth and development of student organisations that respond to students needs and desires; 4) to bring students together to discuss and cooperatively achieve necessary educational administrative, or legislative change wherever decision-making affects students; 5) to facilitate cooperation among students in organising services which supplement our academic experience, provide for our human needs, and which develop a sense of community with our peers and other members of society; 6) to articulate the real desire of students to fulfil the duties, and be accorded the rights of citizens in our society and in the international community; 7) to achieve our ultimate goal—a system of post-secondary education which is accessible to all, which is of high quality, which is nationally planned, which recognizes the legitimacy of student representation, and validity of student rights, and whose role in society is clearly recognized and appreciated;

Whereas the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) no longer upholds the principles outlined in the Preamble to the Bylaws, thus fails to represent those committed to their advancement;

Whereas Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario staffperson Toby Whitfield has been engaged by some individual members of the National Executive to assist with their particular political agenda within the Canadian Federation of Students, resulting in labour relations strife and violations of Federation democracy;

Whereas Bilan Arte and Anna Dubinski, along with former National Chairperson Jessica McCormick, have lied, withheld information, and otherwise made it impossible for other members of the National Executive to uphold their fiduciary duty to the Canadian Federation of Students;

Whereas Bilan Arte and Anna Dubinski, along with former National Chairperson Jessica McCormick, lied to members of the Canadian Federation of Students at the 67th semi-annual general meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students;

Whereas at the 67th semi-annual general meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services), delegates representing BC members were subject to collective and individual disrespect, belittling, ad hominem attacks, and other intolerable interactions;

Whereas, at that same meeting, an announcement was made during the plenary session that unaccounted moneys of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) existed, which were being used for purposes unreported to members (including at the 67th semi-annual general meeting itself);

Whereas, at that same meeting, it became clear that the personal desires of some had come to supersede the supremacy of democracy within the structure of the Federations, including electoral fraud in the nomination of positions to the National Executive and the duty of the National Executive to uphold its fiduciary responsibility as well as report its activity to members; therefore,

Be it resolved that commitment to the founding principles of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) as outlined in the Preamble to the Bylaws be affirmed;

Be it further resolved that a letter be sent to the National Executive of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) declaring:

1. that member local unions of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) in British Columbia have no confidence in the National Executive;

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68th Semi-Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students-British Columbia
Thursday, August 13 to Sunday, August 16, 2015

2. that member local unions of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) in British Columbia demand of the National Executive that the following conditions be made to exist:
 - creation of a campaign strategy that seeks to achieve our ultimate goal, as outlined in the Preamble to the Bylaws, through political initiatives with principled immediate demands, detailed immediate tasks, and common support;
 - recognition of the election of Aboriginal Students' Representative T'ehskwiisimka Marshall, and the recognition of the election of Women's Representative Shayli Robinson;
 - resignation of Bilan Arte and Anna Dubinski in acknowledgement that they have misled the membership of the Federations, failed to share information with other members of the National Executive, and are otherwise incapable of executing their duties;
 - removal of Toby Whitfield from the payroll of the Canadian Federation of Students and/or Canadian Federation of Students(-Services);
 - removal of Jessica McCormick from the payroll of the Canadian Federation of Students and/or Canadian Federation of Students(-Services);
 - public acknowledgement that directors of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) were aware of the use of funds not represented in the annual audited financial statements;
 - affirmation of the principle of "One Local, One Vote", including the limitation of no more than three votes afforded to organisations representing students of one post-secondary institution;
3. that the letter express BC member local unions' dismay at the lack of democracy and accountability displayed by the at-large members of the National Executive including, and as exemplified by, their hiring of multiple employees without authority from, or ratification by, the National Executive; and,

Be it further resolved that an investigation be launched into the establishment of a national organisation for the purpose of representing post-secondary students.

2. MOTION TO CENSURE THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

2015/08:024

MOTION

Local 33/Local 73

Whereas the National Executive of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) has for many months failed to respond to the official inquiries of students' unions in British Columbia;

Whereas Jenelle Davies, BC Representative on the National Executive, has been unable to secure the information she requires for the fulfillment of her duties from former-National Chairperson Jessica McCormick, National Chairperson Bilan Arte, National Treasurer Anna Dubinski, or any of the other members of the National Executive;

Whereas former-National Chairperson Jessica McCormick, National Chairperson Bilan Arte, National Treasurer Anna Dubinski, and National Deputy Chairperson Anne-Marie Roy have seemingly done nothing to reverse the ongoing anti-union agenda in the Federation's National Office;

Whereas the actions of former-National Chairperson Jessica McCormick, National Chairperson Bilan Arte, National Treasurer Anna Dubinski, and National Deputy Chairperson Anne-Marie Roy are not reflective of the founding principles of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) and incongruent with a progressive student movement: therefore

Be it resolved that the National Executive of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) be censured;

Be it further resolved that a letter be sent to the employees of the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) apologizing for the treatment they have suffered at the hands of the National Executive.

3. MOTION TO CENSURE NATIONAL CHAIRPERSON BILAN ARTE

2015/08:026 MOTION

Local 33/Local 73

Whereas National Chairperson Bilan Arte has consistently failed to uphold the values of the Canadian Federation of Students, including by engaging in union busting and defending the actions of other union busters working in the National Office;

Whereas National Chairperson Bilan Arte engaged in election fraud at the June 2015 meeting of the National Aboriginal Caucus resulting in the silencing of the voice of British Columbia's aboriginal students within the structure of the Federations; therefore,

Be it resolved that Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) National Chairperson Bilan Arte be censured.

4. MOTION TO CENSURE NATIONAL TREASURER ANNA DUBINSKI

2015/08:028 MOTION

Local 33/Local 73

Whereas Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) National Treasurer Anna Dubinski lied to the membership of the Federations at the June 2015 national general meeting by claiming that nationwide ISIC discounts had been secured that in fact had not been, resulting in expenses from misprinted documents and a lack of trust;

Whereas National Treasurer Anna Dubinski has acted, claiming to represent the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) as its Staff Relations Officer, in a manner that violates the union oriented principles of the Federation, including terminating long-time employees without discussing the matter without National Executive or having the authority to do so;

Whereas National Treasurer Anna Dubinski has refused to provide BC Representative on the National Executive Jenelle Davies with financial information she requires for the fulfillment of her duties, and to which she is entitled access under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act;

Whereas National Treasurer Anna Dubinski has admitted to failing to maintaining up-to-date financial records for the Canadian Federation of Students(-Services), including lying about this work and blaming her failures on former National Treasurers; therefore,

Be it resolved that Canadian Federation of Students(-Services) National Treasurer Anna Dubinski be censured.



Crisis of Leadership in the CFS-FCEE

Samantha Welsh <executivedirector@suvcc.ca>

Wed, May 27, 2015 at 12:46 PM

To: j.mccormick@cfs-fcee.ca, Bilan Arte <b.arte@cfs-fcee.ca>, a.dubinski@cfs-fcee.ca
Cc: generalmanager@ubcsuo.ca, z.crispin@selkirkstudents.ca, executivedirector@cncsu.ca, Nathan Lane - TRUSU Executive Director <execdir@trusu.ca>, Tim Rattel <executivedirector@douglasstudentsunion.ca>, Tracy Ho <collegerelations@douglasstudentsunion.ca>, Arzo Ansary <external@kusa.ca>, "lori@ecsu.ca" <lori@ecsu.ca>, berchowitz@ocsu.ca, Michael Olson <michael.olson@viusu.ca>, organiser@nwccsu.ca, Samantha Welsh <executivedirector@suvcc.ca>, sandy@nisu.ca, Michel Turcotte <turcotte@camosun.bc.ca>, president.acadsa@acad.ca, pres@gsa.ucalgary.ca, gsa.common@usask.ca, president@ussu.ca, chair@cfsmb.ca, vpe@umsu.ca, pres@busu.ca, vpss@theuwsa.ca, cfs@theuwsa.ca, AGEE@collegeboreal.ca, gsao@brocku.ca, vpx@gsacarleton.ca, pres@gsacarleton.ca, council@gcsu-aecg.ca, direducation@sagbc.ca, gsa@uoguelph.ca, general@lusu.ca, csacad@uoguelph.ca, sgapresident@laurentian.ca, gsa@laurentian.ca, aef@laurentienne.ca, sk_condratto@laurentian.ca, dx_vares@laurentian.ca, lamps@laurentian.ca, macgsa@mcmaster.ca, ocadsu@ocadsu.org, president@nusu.com, president@sfoo.ca, info@gsaed.ca, info@sgps.ca, info@mycesar.ca, president@rsuonline.ca, vp.equity@rsuonline.ca, info@scsu.ca, president@scsu.ca, operations@scsu.ca, Barrah@scsu.ca, Vivek@scsu.ca, spusapres@ustpaul.ca, terri@utsu.ca, president@utsu.ca, vpinternal@utsu.ca, internal@utgsu.ca, president@utmsu.ca, areej@utmsu.ca, VPexternal@utmsu.ca, prezgss@uwindsor.ca, opus@uwindsor.ca, uwsa@uwindsor.ca, info@yugsa.ca, generalinfo@wugsa.ca, executivedirector@yfs.ca, vpopoperations@yfs.ca, gsa@upei.ca, gm@upei.ca, president@ksu.ca, externalvp@ksu.ca, journalismrep@ksu.ca, communicationsvp@ksu.ca, president@mountstudents.ca, president@sunscad.org, frontdesk@munsu.ca, external@munsu.ca, engineeringrep@munsu.ca, advocacy@munsu.ca, president@gsumun.ca, internal@gsumun.ca, misu@mi.mun.ca, cnoel@grenfell.mun.ca, "j.davies@cfs.bc.ca" <j.davies@cfs.bc.ca>, Simka Marshall <s.marshall@cfs.bc.ca>, tylercooke@safe-mail.net

re: Leadership Crisis in the Canadian Federation of Students

Hello from Local 73, the Students' Union of Vancouver Community College. We would like to add our perspective to the ongoing conversation about issues in the Canadian Federation of Students.

Local 73 would like to acknowledge the integrity of those who brought to light the recent questionable actions of the National Executive Committee. Our local and our membership as a whole expect a greater level of transparency and accountability from our National Executive Committee, and we appreciate the actions of those bringing these allegations forward.

As a local we are concerned about the impact the recent actions of the National Executive will have on the student movement, the joint cause that unifies us. It is apparent to members that the actions and offences committed by the National Executive are in direct conflict to the mission and values of the CFS-FCEE. We feel that the anti-worker actions of National Chairperson Jessica McCormick, National Deputy Chairperson Bilan Arte, and National Treasurer Anna Dubinski undermine the validity of the organization. We are concerned about the ability and credibility of Canadian Federation of Students National Executive,

and the impact the National Executive's recent actions will have on the membership.

As a local we do not feel that the actions of the National Executive are best representing our memberships' interests; nor the founding missions and values of the Canadian Federation of Students. The Federation was founded with the principles of the CFS-CFEE "to organize students on a democratic, cooperative basis in advancing our own interests and in advancing the interests of our community".

It is our belief that, in context of the recent allegations, the National Executive is not representing the missions and values of the Federation.

Local 73 relies on the campaigns of the CFS to advocate to politicians that we could never reach on our own. VCC students have benefited from many of the services of the CFS. Because of our commitment to the values of the CFS we want to continue to work together, but issues with the National Executive make that very difficult. As a unionised employer, we enter dubious territory when we ask our staff to put up posters for a group that is busting its union, contracting out, and making side deals.

Local 73 has relied heavily on the trust between the membership and the CFS to guide and promote the issues that matter most to students, not only provincially, but at the federal level; where advocates, representation, and voices of authority and integrity are most urgently required.

What we find particularly concerning are the allegations of dishonesty, and a lack of transparency, as it relates to the most fundamental daily aspects of the National Executive of the Canadian Federation of students. How can we expect our members to trust and advocate for the CFS when the elected representatives and hired legal representation are working so hard to tear them down? The lack of cohesion amongst the National Executive makes us question: what happened to being a unified group of individuals working towards the common, and higher cause, of advocating for student rights? The fact of the matter is that the trust Local 73's representatives had for the CFS National Executive has evaporated and we need to see serious and immediate steps taken to make amends if we are going to resolve this crisis.

We would like to again thank those who stood up for students everywhere and called out the actions of the National Executive. We need to stand together as a unified movement, or we all lose.

We would like to encourage all member locals to continue to unite to achieve "a system of post-secondary education that is accessible to all, which is of high quality, which is nationally planned, which recognizes the legitimacy of student representation, and the validity

of student rights, and whose role in society is clearly recognized and appreciated."

In solidarity,

Samantha Welsh,

Executive Director

By resolution of the board of directors, Local 73 of the Canadian Federation of Students-BC

Samantha Welsh

Executive Director

Students' Union of Vancouver Community College

Canadian Federation of Students | Local 73

suvcc.ca



Fwd: Election Fraud at the National Aboriginal Caucus General Meeting

Thu, Jun 4, 2015 at 8:17 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Samantha Welsh** <executivedirector@suvcc.ca>

Date: Thu, Jun 4, 2015 at 11:17 AM

Subject: Election Fraud at the National Aboriginal Caucus General Meeting

To: j.mccormick@cfs-fcee.ca, Bilan Arte <b.arte@cfs-fcee.ca>, Anna Dubinski <a.dubinski@cfs-fcee.ca>, a.roy@cfs-fcee.ca, national@cfsontario.ca, chairperson@cfs-ns.ca, chair@cfsmb.ca, chair@cfs-nl.ca, Simka Marshall <s.marshall@cfs.bc.ca>, Chair@cfs-ns.ca, "j.davies@cfs.bc.ca" <j.davies@cfs.bc.ca>

Cc: cdelorme26@hotmail.com, sadielavoie@hotmail.com, chairperson@viusu.ca, Shaylirobinson@live.com, mcaveen@algonau.ca, aboriginalrep@sagbc.ca, joy.lindstrom@yahoo.ca

Dear Members of the National Executive,

It has come to our attention that the proxy vote for Local 73 at the National Aboriginal Caucus was not recognized during the National Aboriginal Caucus meeting Wednesday June 3, 2015. We are extremely disappointed in the fraudulent decision to disallow Aboriginal students from Vancouver Community College a voice, and seek investigation into the legitimacy of disallowing our memberships' voice. The SUVCC believes that our representatives acted in accordance with the bylaws of the CFS.

The proxy vote for Local 73 is comprised of students who self-identify as Aboriginal Students and who attend college which is located on land that is the traditional territory of the Coast Salish peoples, Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. These members deserve to have a voice and vote at the National Aboriginal Caucus, and the SUVCC is disappointed in the Chairperson, the National Executive, and member locals who took it upon themselves to disallow our proxy vote, as it has become clear these individuals do not feel Indigenous members should have a voice.

By excluding the proxy vote, a precedent has been created that has never before been seen at the CFS AGM or in the living history of the National Aboriginal Caucus. For over a decade proxy votes have been used to speak and vote the will of the membership, why have the member locals now denied its' members this right? Is the Federation going to continue to allow proxies at other general meetings?

We believe that there was obvious and deliberate election rigging during the meeting. The election was conducted by CFS-Ontario staffperson, Christine Bourque even though she was never appointed by the National Aboriginal Caucus to do this job. From what we understand, Mrs. Bourque has worked for CFS-Ontario for a quarter century or more, quite obviously she knows that proxy voting has always been permitted at CFS general meetings, including NAC meetings. The move to disenfranchise the locals present by proxy was orchestrated by Mrs. Bourque's daughter who was representing an Ontario local in the NAC general meeting. Reports from the NAC general meeting indicate that Mrs. Bourque did not disclose to the meeting her conflict of interest and was actively working with her daughter to illegally deny our vote.

Local 73 does not recognize the results of the vote held at the National Aboriginal Caucus General Meeting.

~~Samantha Welsh, Executive Director, Vancouver Community College~~
Vancouver Community College is a proud member of the Coastal Corridor Consortium who works to improve levels of participation and success for Aboriginal learners in post-secondary education and training in the Coastal Corridor region. I am confident they will stand in solidarity with the SUVCC when they hear that their voices were not recognized at the National Aboriginal Caucus at the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students.

Sincerely,

Samantha Welsh, Executive Director

on behalf of the Local 73, Students' Union of Vancouver Community College, delegation to the 67th semi-annual national general meeting

cc: delegates of the National Aboriginal Caucus general meeting

Samantha Welsh
Executive Director
Students' Union of Vancouver Community College
Canadian Federation of Students | Local 73
778.839.3191 | suvcc.ca



Update From Your National At-Large Executive

Christian Avendano <cavendano@suvcc.ca>

Fri, Aug 14, 2015 at 10:22 PM

To: b.arte@cfs-fcee.ca, a.dubinski@cfs-fcee.ca

Cc: generalmanager@ubcsuo.ca, z.crispin@selkirkstudents.ca, executivedirector@cncsu.ca, execdir@trusu.ca, executivedirector@douglasstudentsunion.ca, collegelrelations@douglasstudentsunion.ca, external@kusa.ca, lori@ecsu.ca, berchowicz@ocsu.ca, michael.olson@viusu.ca, organiser@nwccsu.ca, Samantha Welsh <executivedirector@suvcc.ca>, sandy@nisu.ca, turcotte@camosun.bc.ca, president.acadsa@acad.ca, pres@gsa.ucalgary.ca, gsa.common@usask.ca, president@ussu.ca, chair@cfsmb.ca, vpe@umsu.ca, pres@busu.ca, vpss@theuwsa.ca, cfs@theuwsa.ca, AGEE@collegeboreal.ca, gsaoffice@brocku.ca, vpx@gsacarleton.ca, pres@gsacarleton.ca, council@gcsu-aecg.ca, direducation@sagbc.ca, gsa@uoguelph.ca, general@lusu.ca, csaacad@uoguelph.ca, sgapresident@laurentian.ca, gsa@laurentian.ca, aef@laurentienne.ca, sk_condratto@laurentian.ca, dx_vares@laurentian.ca, lamps@laurentian.ca, macgsa@mcmaster.ca, ocadsu@ocadsu.org, president@nusu.com, president@sfsu.ca, info@gsaed.ca, info@sgps.ca, info@mycesar.ca, president@rsuonline.ca, vp.equity@rsuonline.ca, info@scsu.ca, president@scsu.ca, operations@scsu.ca, Barrah@scsu.ca, Vivek@scsu.ca, spusapres@ustpaul.ca, terri@utsu.ca, president@utsu.ca, vpinternal@utsu.ca, internal@utgsu.ca, president@utmsu.ca, areej@utmsu.ca, VPexternal@utmsu.ca, prezgss@uwindsor.ca, opus@uwindsor.ca, uwsa@uwindsor.ca, info@yugsa.ca, generalinfo@wlugsa.ca, executivedirector@yfs.ca, vpopulations@yfs.ca, gsa@upei.ca, gm@upei.ca, president@ksu.ca, externalvp@ksu.ca, journalismrep@ksu.ca, communicationsvp@ksu.ca, president@mountstudents.ca, president@sunscad.org, frontdesk@munsu.ca, external@munsu.ca, engineeringrep@munsu.ca, advocacy@munsu.ca, president@gsumun.ca, internal@gsumun.ca, misu@mi.mun.ca, cnoel@grenfell.mun.ca, Jenelle Davies <j.davies@cfs.bc.ca>, s.marshall@cfs.bc.ca

Bilan Arte,

I have some questions raised by your email and as you indicated, I am reaching out for clarification. Please read and respond to each of my questions below so I can better participate in the CFS-BC 68th AGM and respond to my membership and those I represent at Vancouver Community College.

Did you, or anyone from the National Executive, initiate any communication with the CFS-BC Executive Committee in advance of our general meeting to articulate the opinions contained in your letter?

Did you communicate with Harpal Malhi, our representative on the CFS-BC Executive Committee?
Are you in fact alluding to informal asides, rather than earnest and formal approaches?

Why was your email/letter sent to select locals, instead of all locals, if your motivation was to initiate a dialogue?

Are all locals aware of the as-yet unanswered questions put forward to the National Executive from the BC Executive?

Why was your email/letter only sent the day the general meeting started? Was this merely an attempt to "do something" that enabled you and two other directors to claim that "they had done all they could"?

Please respond not only to this, but to the many questions Ms. Dubinski and you have ignored over the past eight months put forward by your members and member locals. I would be happy to provide a list of these questions to you, should you be unable to locate them.

Sincerely

[Redacted]
Christian Avendano

Treasurer

Students' Union of Vancouver Community College

Local 73 | Canadian Federation of Students

www.suvcc.ca

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Christian Avendano

Treasurer

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