

Minutes of the Special General Meeting  
 Canadian Federation of Students-Québec  
 Friday, August 3, 2007 – Montréal, Québec  
 David Thomson House. 3650 McTavish Street

1. CALL TO ORDER –

Chairperson Nina Amrov called the meeting to order at 12:25

Member Associations:

Mahdi Altalibi Secretary of meeting

Attendance:

Chairperson	Nina Amrov
Deputy Chairperson	Mahdi Altalibi
National Executive Representative	Vacant

**Local 79**

Roland Nassim  
 Amy Cox  
 Melanie Thomas  
 Ryan Chunguenguen

**Local 83**

Patrice Blais

**Local 91**

Erica Jabouin  
 Noah Stewart

**SSMU**

Max Silverman  
 Adrian Angus  
 Boris Savoie-Doyer

**DSU**

Malamo Beaumont Savvas  
 Shanice Rose  
 Ryan Solomon  
 Brandon Vergara  
 Margo Dunnet

**Observers**

Brent Farrington (CFS-National)  
 Amanda Aziz (CFS National)  
 Fehr Marouf

## 2. Adoption of the Agenda

PGSS moves to replace Nina as chair of the meeting and to put Brent Farrington in her stead.

Seconded by CSU.

CSU and PGSS vote in favor

GSA, SSMU and DSU vote against.

Motion does not carry.

Yelling match between all. Noah claims Emma, who voted for DSU, could not do so. He claims that the other DSU members present supported the motion and thus the motion should carry, not fail.

SSMU: The Board of Directors (the Executive Committee) has examined the DSU situation, in particular the document that was submitted to the CFS-Q executive by some of the DSU executives and the legal letter sent by Mrs. Beaumont. Everyone at the table is now familiar with the nature of the conflict between the DSU constitution and the claims of some DSU executives. Mrs. Beaumont has warned the CFS-Q that not recognizing her would be a violation of local sovereignty and a violation of the law, so we don't want to risk being sued because we chose to recognize an invalid document. Some DSU executives have submitted the minutes of an executive council meeting but that meeting didn't have quorum. Therefore we can't recognize that decision and we have to stick with the DSU executive which does have legal standing to represent the DSU.

CSU: We respect local authority, there needs to be a resolution. If there isn't, then anyone can come to the meeting and say they are the representative. I'm asking the new Chair to step in and chair the meeting, we had the vote.

SSMU: We had the vote but it didn't pass. Only Emma (Mrs. Beaumont) has legal authority to represent the DSU.

PGSS: But that is not for us to decide whether a document is legal or not. That's the local sovereignty of the DSU, it is not our business. We should recognize the other DSU execs.

CSU : Madam Chair, you have been removed from your duties as Chair. I ask Brent to step in.

Nina: There was no vote to appoint Brent. As the Chair, I recognized Miss Beaumont as the DSU rep, and she has voted against the motion. The motion has failed, let's move on with business.

PGSS moves to recess for 10 min, passes unanimously 12:35

Call to order 12:49

Ryan Solomon (DSU): We have a motion from the execs, this is redundant, we have to stay solid and stand together.

GSA: There is a meeting with agenda points. People would not care so much about this issue unless Dawson had the tiebreaking vote. There are problems at the DSU, they should go out, sort their problems. Otherwise nothing will get done until their problem is sorted out. A recess for ten days might be more appropriate for them to solve their problems, not 10 minutes.

Ryan (DSU): I am offended by what you said because we are in the office everyday working hard, its no secret that we have internal problems, but we did solve this problem with the resolution. We have all been working very hard, but we have a sore thumb that keeps on biting us in the... when we want to work.

CSU: This body is here to respect local autonomy. At this meeting it is very clear.... It is insulting that someone here even looked into the DSU by-laws. I would ask that we go into a vote please. Since we are all around this table.

DSU (Beaumont): I was elected Vice-President external and this is my duty. I am to vote until proven otherwise.

Ryan (DSU): I'm sorry Emma (Ms. Beaumont), our decision is final, this discussion is over. We are not dragging Dawson's name in the mud.

GSA: Motion to adjourn for two weeks. Seconded by SSMU.

Discussion about what motion is on the floor. Shouting erupts everywhere. Calls to order and decorum are not respected.

Amanda Aziz: You are in a difficult situation, if there is a contest at the Dawson level, it is not up to the CFS-Q to solve it, it is up to the Dawson Student Union. CFS executives don't get involved with that. I'm sorry I'm here and I got in a number of intense conversations. CFS can not interfere, vote to appoint someone else. You need a National Executive Representative, that has not been done. We need to do that today. You need to be represented federally, otherwise we choose a representative to represent you. This could be easily resolved if there was delegate forms sent out as usual.

SSMU: You're right. The forms are very clear about the fact that a delegate must have either the statutes or a valid decision of the appropriate body of a member local to support their voting rights. In this case, the Constitution of the DSU clearly states that the Vice-President external of the DSU shall represent the DSU at Federation meetings, and there is no valid decision saying otherwise coming from a relevant body of the DSU. I have not to this date seen the minutes of a meeting of the DSU executive with quorum removing Mrs. Beaumont as the representative from the DSU, and since she has made it very clear that she would sue the CFS-Q if we did recognize an otherwise invalid meeting, it is a bad idea to remove her in the absence of a legally valid document.

PGSS: I have a question, when we accepted last year the letter from the DSU to join, did they have quorum? We accepted the so called fraud in the past, but now it's different.

Ryan (DSU): I'm not gonna hash this again. No one here has the right to interpret our bylaws. The elderly people here seem to see things with clarity, the others don't seem to see the big picture.

Brent Farington: DSU problems are an internal matter.

CSU calls the question for Brent to chair, several hands go up.

People getting up, walking around, conversation flowing.

SSMU (Boris): Mrs. Beaumont has shown us a binding document, the DSU Constitution. Other DSU execs have not presented us any binding document whatsoever, let alone one of equal value. We need to act on legal documents, documents that are binding. Not just any minutes of any meeting.

Brent : I'm sorry, but the CFS-Q has to accept anyone the local has appointed, whether it be by a decision of an Executive committee without quorum or even if the CEO of a local sends out a letter to us. If I get a letter from the Chief executive officer of any local, I will abide by that letter, even if it does not respect the internal rules of that local.

SSMU (Boris): So what you are saying then is that the CFS-Q effectively has no place for Vice-Presidents external. Any president can override his or her external at any time by a simple letter, even if that is completely illegal in their internal structures?

Brent: Absolutely.

SSMU (Boris): So, any two or three execs from any local can override a duly elected external that otherwise has the total support of his or her Constitution?

Ryan (DSU): We are a democratic society that runs on democracy. I don't understand why this is even an issue its democracy, we are a democratic society.

Brandon (DSU): If we sent a letter saying our pet turtle was the representative, you can't say no.

SSMU: The corporations Act would say otherwise.

Margo (DSU): It's about democracy. You need to respect democracy.

SSMU: Remind me where staying in office after you've been impeached and waiting for the cops to kick you out fits in your vision of democracy?

CSU: Can Brent please step in.

PGSS: Do you have a conflict of interest Nina?

Nina: No, I'm, not in conflict of interest. I am doing my job as CFS-Q Chair.

Motion to recess for a few minutes so the Deputy Chair and the Chair can meet with the National Chair and Deputy Chair.

Call to order at 1:55

Nina: I still recognize Mrs. Beaumont's vote. We will carry on.

CSU: Challenges chair, seconded by PGSS.

CSU: It's clear we have no right to meddle in local sovereignty. We have resolutions saying Shanice is the DSU representative. It's not up to this body to decide, it's up to the DSU to decide.

Nina: There was a CFS-Q Executive meeting yesterday, the DSU motion was not recognized and it was also decided that Mrs. Beaumont will be the representative for DSU.

CSU: Calls for vote;

Nina : All in favor of sustaining the Chair's decision:

In favor: SSMU, GSA and DSU

Against : CSU and PGSS.

The Chair's decision is upheld.

GSA motions to adjourn, Seconded by SSMU.

In favor: SSMU, GSA and DSU

Against : CSU and PGSS.

Meeting adjourned at 2 PM.

COUR SUPÉRIEURE  
PROVINCE DE QUÉBEC  
DISTRICT DE MONTRÉAL

No : 500-17-038173-079

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS, QUÉBEC  
COMPONENT,

Demanderesse

c.

NINA AMROV ET AL,

Défendeurs

et

MALAMO BEAUMONT-SAWAS ET AL,

Mis en cause

No : 500-17-038176-072

FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES ÉTUDIANTES ET DES  
ÉTUDIANTS, ÉLÉMENT DU QUÉBEC ET AL,

Demandeurs

c.

GEORGES SOULE ET AL,

Défendeurs

PIÈCE D-7

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