

# MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



## Attendance – October 18, 2023

<b>Board of Directors</b>			
<b>At-Large Representatives (Elected)</b>		<b>Present / Regrets</b>	<b>Arrived / Departed</b>
Jonah Greenhut	College of Arts	Present	
Vacant	College of Arts		
Daniel Spinner	College of Biological Science	Present	
Vacant	College of Biological Science		
Jake Levy	College of Engineering and Physical Sciences	Present	
Vacant	College of Engineering and Physical Sciences		
Mason Friebe	College of Social and Applied Human Sciences	Present	
Vacant	College of Social and Applied Human Sciences		
Mauricio Fernandez	Gordon S. Lang School of Business and Economics	Present	
Daniel Neiterman	Gordon S. Lang School of Business and Economics	Present	
Vacant	Ontario Agricultural College		
Vacant	Ontario Agricultural College		
Noam Einy	Ontario Veterinary College	Present	
Vacant	Ontario Veterinary College		
<b>Member College Government Representatives (Appointed)</b>		<b>Present / Regrets</b>	<b>Arrived / Departed</b>
Vacant	College of Arts Student Union		
Natalie Wilkinson	College of Biological Science Student Council	Present	
Abdul Rafe Khan	College of Engineering and Physical Sciences Student Council	Present	
Rachel Marcus	College of Social and Applied Human Sciences -Student Alliance	Present	
Ethan Gouveia	Lang Students' Association	Present	
Taylor Legge	Student Federation of the Ontario Agricultural College	Present	
Vacant	Central Veterinary Student Association (Ontario Veterinary College)		

# MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
 October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
 UC 442



<b>Student Organization Representatives (Appointed)</b>		<b>Present / Regrets</b>	<b>Arrived / Departed</b>
Samantha Scott	Indigenous Student Society (ISS)	Present	
Chikaima Ifezue	Guelph Black Students Association (GBSA)	Regrets	
Jayden Khan	Guelph Queer Equality (GQE)	Present	
Vacant	Guelph Resource Centre for Gender Empowerment and Diversity (GRCGED)		
Vacant	International Student Organization (ISO)		
Emma LeBrun	Interhall Council (IHC)	Regrets	
Naomi Amayaevbo	Guelph Campus Co-op	Present	
Eknoor Walia	Ontario Public Interest Research Group	Present	
Marcus Aldred-Ganhao	Student Senate Caucus	Present	
Vacant	Board of Governors		
<b>Executive (Ex-officio, Non-voting)</b>		<b>Present / Regrets</b>	<b>Arrived / Departed</b>
Shaima Alam	President	Present	
Vacant	Vice President Student Experience		
Junpyo Lee	Vice President Academic	Present	
Samar Tariq	Vice President External	Present	

<b>Staff</b>	<b>Position</b>
Cameron Olesen	Chair
Colleen Bovay	Policy & Transition Coordinator
Nikki Tu	Scribe

<b>Guest</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Joy Amyotte	CSA FoodBank Coordinator

*Note: If a Member arrives after the Call to Order, their arrival time (a) is shown above.  
 If they leave before Adjournment, their departure time (d) is shown.  
 If no time is shown in the column, they were present for the entire meeting.*

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

## Summary of Resolutions

### 8.2 Adoption of the Agenda

#### 8.2.1 Approve the Agenda

**MOTION:** That the agenda for the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 8 on October 18, 2023, be approved as printed and distributed.

**Motion Carried**

**MOTION:** To suspend the Rules of Order to add a new business item.

**Motion Carried**

**MOTION TO AMEND:** that the agenda be reconsidered to add 8.12.1 Statement on Israel Hamas War as a New Business Item

**Motion Carried**

**AMENDED MOTION:** that the agenda for the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 8 on October 18, 2023, be approved as amended with:

- The reconsideration of the agenda to add item 8.12.1 Statement on Israel Hamas War as a new business item.

**Motion Carried**

#### 8.3.1 Ratification of Student Senate Caucus Representative

**MOTION:** That Marcus Aldred-Ganhao be appointed as the Student Senate Caucus representative on the 2023-24 CSA Board of Directors, effective immediately.

**Motion Carried**

### 8.5 Approval of Past Minutes

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

**MOTION:** That the Minutes be approved for the following CSA Board of Directors Meeting.

8.5.1	CSA Board Meeting # 15b	March 15, 2023
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**Motion Carried**

### 8.7 Executive Updates

**MOTION:** That the following Executive Updates be received as information:

8.7.1	President	October 18, 2023
8.7.2	VP Student Experience (vacant)	
8.7.3	VP Academic	October 18, 2023
8.7.4	VP External	October 18, 2023

**Motion Carried**

### 8.10.1 Summary of Committee Appointments

**MOTION:** That the Summary of Committee Appointments, as presented in the Board Agenda Package, be received as information.

**Motion Carried**

### 8.11.1 Appoint University Centre Board Undergraduate Student Representatives

**WHEREAS** the University Centre Board requires membership of ten undergraduate students appointed by the CSA, as well as five undergraduate students as alternate members, as per the Constitution of the University Centre Board; and

**WHEREAS** the University Centre Board currently has one vacancy for an undergraduate student member and two vacancies for alternate undergraduate student members;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the following Board Director be appointed to the University Centre Board for a term of up to two years:

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



Naomi Amayaevbo
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**AND FURTHER** that the following Board Directors be appointed to the University Centre Board as alternates for a term of up to two years:

Eknoor Walia
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Rachel Marcus
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### Motion Carried

#### 8.11.2 Appoint CSA Representatives to the Athletics Advisory Council

**WHEREAS** the Athletics Advisory Council advises the President of the University of Guelph and the Director of Athletics on policy matters regarding the athletics programs and use of athletics facilities at the University of Guelph including student fees, athletics budget, new athletic centre, intramurals, and more; and

**WHEREAS** the Athletics Advisory Council requires the membership of a CSA Executive as a non-voting member and one CSA representative as a voting member to be appointed by the CSA;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the following CSA Executive and Board Director be appointed to the Athletics Advisory Council:

Junpyo Lee, VP Academic
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Jake Levy
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### Motion Carried

#### 8.12.1 Statement on Israel Hamas War

**WHEREAS** on Saturday, October 7th, Israel was invaded by Hamas terrorists;

**WHEREAS** over 1000 innocent civilians have been murdered, over 3000 innocent civilians have been injured, and over 150 innocent civilians have been kidnaped by Hamas;

**WHEREAS** on Wednesday, October 12th, former Hamas chief Khaled Meshaal called for a “day of rage” specifically targeted against Jews across the world, leading to violence, injury, and death;

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

**WHEREAS** Jewish students at the University of Guelph have been afraid to leave their homes due to the dangers of these antisemitic attacks, and many Jewish students have expressed the need for support from the CSA; and

**WHEREAS** the University has released two statements, but the CSA has yet to comment;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CSA Board of Directors receive the following two statements as information;

**FURTHER** that the following statement (statement 1) be approved and shared with the student population on the CSA Instagram account;

**AND FURTHER** that the following statement (statement 2) be approved and shared with the student population on the CSA website.

**Motion Carried**

### 8.15 Adjournment

**MOTION:** That the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 8 on October 18, 2023, be adjourned at 9:21 pm

**Motion Carried**

# MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



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## Agenda – October 18, 2023

<b>8.0</b>	<b>Call to Order</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	<b>Land Acknowledgement</b> Member Mason Friebe	
<b>8.2</b>	<b>Adoption of the Agenda</b> 8.2.1 Approve the Agenda 8.2.2 Declarations of Conflicts	
<b>8.3</b>	<b>Ratifications and De-Ratifications</b> 8.3.1 Ratify Student Senate Caucus Representative	
<b>8.4</b>	<b>Comments from the Chair</b> 8.4.1 Introductions and Pronouns	
<b>8.5</b>	<b>Approval of Past Minutes</b> 8.5.1 Meeting # 15b – March 15, 2023	
<b>8.6</b>	<b>Executive Committee Minutes</b>	
<b>8.7</b>	<b>Executive Updates</b> 8.7.1 President – October 18, 2023 8.7.2 VP Student Experience (vacant) 8.7.3 VP Academic – October 18, 2023 8.7.4 VP External – October 18, 2023	
<b>8.8</b>	<b>Director Reports</b>	
<b>8.9</b>	<b>CSA Service Update and Report</b> 8.9.1 Clubs Office Service Update	
<b>8.10</b>	<b>Committee Updates and Reports</b> 8.10.1 Summary of Committee Appointments	
<b>8.11</b>	<b>Business</b> 8.11.1 Appoint University Centre Board Undergraduate Student Representatives 8.11.2 Appoint CSA Representatives to the Athletics Advisory Council	
<b>8.12</b>	<b>New Business</b> 8.12.1 Statement on Israel Hamas War	
<b>8.13</b>	<b>Announcements</b>	
<b>8.14</b>	<b>In Camera Session</b> 8.14.1	
<b>8.15</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>	

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

## Minutes – October 18, 2023

### 8.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:14 pm.

### 8.1 Land Acknowledgement

Member Mason Friebe delivered the following land acknowledgement:

Hi everyone, acknowledging as we gather here today as the CSA Board representing students at the University of Guelph, that the university is situated on the traditional lands of the Attawandron people and the treaty lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit. It is important to acknowledge this for our meetings and voice our respect for ongoing and collective effort to strengthen and foster positive relationships with Indigenous peoples.

### 8.2 Adoption of the Agenda

#### 8.2.1 Approve the Agenda

**MOTION:** That the agenda for the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 8 on October 18, 2023, be approved as printed and distributed.

**Moved:** Jake Levy

**Seconded:** Abdul Rafe Khan

#### **Motion Carried**

Member Levy inquired regarding the possibility of adding a new business item to the agenda.

The Board Chair provided an explanation on rules for including items in the agenda and the criteria of adding a new business item, noting that the item in question does not meet the rules of time sensitive or emergency in nature. The Chair noted that a motion to suspend the rules would need to be passed before a motion to add this as a new business item could be considered.



## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

**MOTION:** To suspend the Rules of Order to add a new business item.

**Moved:** Jake Levy

**Seconded:** Daniel Neiterman

Member Levy and a couple members of the board spent the last weeks working on a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East. Member Levy attempted to get the item in the package but was unclear of the applicable deadline. Member Levy noted that CSA should make a statement and educate via social media. Jewish students feel unsafe on campus and it's important to ensure they feel support and that their safety is a concern to the CSA. The motion is to post a statement onto the CSA Instagram and website, and Member Levy noted that he would like to discuss and receive feedback.

The PTC requested for the motion and attached statements be shown to the board for review before conducting the vote to suspend the Rules of Order, given that not all members were aware of the item. The Chair concurred and the motion and statements were displayed, and members were given time to review.

The Chair reminded members that due to the rules of order, board directors would need to waive their right of being informed 48-hours ahead of the meeting. The Chair recommended a secret ballot vote for the motion to suspend the rules of order, as well as for any subsequent votes in relation to this item, due to the sensitive subject matter. No board directors objected to this recommendation. A secret ballot was conducted.

### **Motion Carried**

**MOTION TO AMEND:** that the agenda be reconsidered to add 8.12.1 Statement on Israel Hamas War as a New Business Item

**Moved:** Jake Levy

**Seconded:** Jonah Greenhut

Member Neiterman noted it is imperative to discuss about the Israel Hamas War as it is pertinent to the students on campus and that we need to hear what people say about it.

The VP External asked to have this discussion in good faith and notes that there is a disproportion of representation of everyone involved in this conflict. The VP External reminded the board of directors their privilege and ability to influence a statement that comes from an organization representing all membership.

The Chair recommended to vote on this motion through a secret ballot, which was agreed upon by members collectively.

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

### Motion Carried

**AMENDED MOTION:** that the agenda for the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 8 on October 18, 2023, be approved as amended with:

- The reconsideration of the agenda to add item 8.12.1 Statement on Israel Hamas War as a new business item.

### Motion Carried

#### 8.2.2 Declarations of Conflicts

No declarations of conflict were made at this meeting.

#### 8.3 Ratifications and De-Ratifications

##### 8.3.1 Ratification of Student Senate Caucus Representative

**MOTION:** That Marcus Aldred-Ganhao be appointed as the Student Senate Caucus representative on the 2023-24 CSA Board of Directors, effective immediately.

**Moved:** Jonah Greenhut

**Seconded:** Noam Einy

### Motion Carried

#### 8.4 Comments from the Chair

The Chair reminded everyone that we will have a training session for Robert's Rules of Order at 5:30 PM on the day of the next board meeting. If at any point during the meeting you wish to request the Speaker's List, please raise your placard. If you need to raise a Point of Information, a Point of Personal Privilege, a Point of Parliamentary Procedure, or a Point of Order, please raise your hand.

##### 8.4.1 Introductions and Pronouns

Each member provided their name, pronouns, and role on the Board.

# MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



## 8.5 Approval of Past Minutes

**MOTION:** That the Minutes be approved for the following CSA Board of Directors Meeting:

8.5.1	CSA Board Meeting # 15b	March 15, 2023
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**Moved:** Jake Levy

**Seconded:** Mauricio Fernandez

Member Fernandez noted that these minutes were shorter compared to other meetings and inquired for the reasoning.

The PTC explained that the meeting initially involved an in-camera session, which was later motioned to become public, and notes were not kept by anyone per in-camera rules. The only recorded source of information was on the recording device which we currently do not have.

Member Levy asked if minutes could be redone if we were to obtain the recording device.

The Chair responded by stating that any motion passed by the board can be brought back to the board by the motion to reconsider.

**Motion Carried**

## 8.7 Executive Updates

**MOTION:** That the following Executive Updates be received as information:

8.7.1	President	October 18, 2023
8.7.2	VP Student Experience (vacant)	
8.7.3	VP Academic	October 18, 2023
8.7.4	VP External	October 18, 2023

**Moved:** Abdul Rafe Khan

**Seconded:** Jonah Greenhut

**Motion Carried**

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

### 8.7.1 President

The President reminded everyone of the upcoming events for October including Monster Mash, Sexy Bingo, and a Hypnotist Show. In November, there will be a Taylor Swift Night.

As elections are in process, there have been great outreach with class talks and in-person stations.

For staff updates, we have hired a new foodbank assistant and front office assistant. There is a vacant clubs coordinator position and is closing this Friday.

We are planning our transition for new executives that will be ratified on November 1.

The SEIF Committee had their orientation, and we will be continuing to approve applications.

The Compulsory Fees Committee have changed their policy on their memorandum to match the CSA's policy.

Member Levy inquired about the election and whether it reached quorum.

The President mentioned she is disconnected from the process and referred to the PTC.

The PTC elaborated that quorum is going well and that the referendum needs 20% quorum, over 4000 votes. The PTC noted we can expect to use the extension period that goes until next Wednesday, given the high quorum for referendum.

### 8.7.3 VP Academic

The transition for the next VP Academic is being prepared until the last week of October.

The fall reading survey has been completed and the report will be coming out by this Friday. The results included 800 valid votes and the survey has passed. The CSA will prepare the referendum question for the upcoming winter election. If it is passed with the quorum of 20%, it will be presented to the Senate to approve or disapprove the change for the 2025-2026 calendar.

Member Greenhut inquired whether it was a close or decisive vote.

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

VP Academic responded that it was a decisive vote, with 70% of people voting “yes” on the survey.

### 8.7.4 VP External

National Day of Action on November 8 is on full action. The promotion includes CSA Instagram posts and stories, kiosk, and UC banner. The QR code to sign up is available on Instagram. The VP External encouraged the directors to do class talks.

The food bank for this month has been able to secure immense donations from Athletics and their football games.

The VP External is taking some time to revise committees such as Supplier’s Code of Ethical Conduct and Affordable Housing Task Force Committee.

We will be launching a central survey to collect feedback from students who use Guelph Transit. We got a great team from Guelph Transit working actively to support students who have expressed concerns for specific routes, capacity, bus driver and passenger etiquette and all items in between.

Member Fernandez inquired about the metrics and issue of overcapacities in buses.

The VP External explained that the metrics are not confidential, but there is no incentive to publicize as the data only makes sense when looked at internally. Nicole, the Guelph Transit Representative expressed it will be difficult to add more routes due to investment. Nicole thought it might be better to form short-term solutions such as redirecting students to the closest bus alternatives if buses are over capacity. While the budget is being sorted, the CSA will continue to identify routes that need improvement.

**MOTION:** To have a five-minute recess.

**Moved:** Jake Levy

**Seconded:** Jonah Greenhut

**AMENDED MOTION:** To have a 10-minute recess.

**Moved:** Abdul Rafe Khan

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

**Seconded:** Mason Friebe

### Motion Carried

#### 8.8 Director Reports

Member Amayaevbo attended a meeting for the Student Affordable Housing Task Force. She mentioned the council meetings were supposed to talk about building a residence near Gordon Street but there were unrelated correlations discussed. Member Amayaevbo expressed that it would be great if more CSA members can join the conversation about where juniors will be living next year.

Member Fernandez attended a Guelph City Council meeting and spoke for the development of Stone Road and Gordon Street.

#### 8.9 CSA Service Update and Report

##### 8.9.1 Clubs Office Service Update

###### (a) Extend Speaking Rights to Clubs Event Coordinator

**WHEREAS** CSA Rules of Order, Section 3.3 states that visitors can be extended speaking rights following a motion passed by the Board of Directors;

**WHEREAS** CSA Rules of Order, Section 3.9 states that presentations to the Board of Directors that are submitted in the Board package shall be limited to a maximum of ten minutes when presented at the Board of Directors Meeting;

**MOTION:** to extend speaking rights to Ana-Maria Mercu, Clubs Event Coordinator, to present the Clubs Office Service Update.

**Moved:**  
**Seconded:**

###### (b) Receive the Clubs Office Service Update Presentation

**MOTION:** to receive the Clubs Office Service Update as presented by Ana-Maria Mercu, as information.

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

**Moved:**  
**Seconded:**

The President informed the board that the Clubs Event Coordinator was unable to attend the meeting due to unforeseen circumstances and therefore would not be presenting the clubs office update as planned. She requested the procedure for tabling the item.

The Chair noted that if no one motions the item, it can simply be moved past in the agenda, and the board can move to the next agenda item.

### 8.10 Committee Updates and Reports

#### 8.10.1 Summary of Committee Appointments

**MOTION:** That the Summary of Committee Appointments, as presented in the Board Agenda Package, be received as information.

**Moved:** Jonah Greenhut  
**Seconded:** Jake Levy

**Motion Carried**

### 8.11 Business

#### 8.11.1 Appoint University Centre Board Undergraduate Student Representatives

**WHEREAS** the University Centre Board requires membership of ten undergraduate students appointed by the CSA, as well as five undergraduate students as alternate members, as per the Constitution of the University Centre Board; and

**WHEREAS** the University Centre Board currently has one vacancy for an undergraduate student member and two vacancies for alternate undergraduate student members;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the following Board Director be appointed to the University Centre Board for a term of up to two years:

# MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



Naomi Amayaevbo
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**AND FURTHER** that the following Board Directors be appointed to the University Centre Board as alternates for a term of up to two years:

Eknoor Walia
Rachel Marcus

**Moved:** Junpyo Lee, VP Academic  
**Seconded:** Jake Levy

The VP Academic noted that some of the prior UC Board Members who initially planned to return to the UC Board for the 2023-2024 year are no longer returning, which is why there are additional vacancies. He noted the importance of having the positions filled to represent the student voice adequately on the UC Board.

**Motion Carried**

## 8.11.2 Appoint CSA Representatives to the Athletics Advisory Council

**WHEREAS** the Athletics Advisory Council advises the President of the University of Guelph and the Director of Athletics on policy matters regarding the athletics programs and use of athletics facilities at the University of Guelph including student fees, athletics budget, new athletic centre, intramurals, and more; and

**WHEREAS** the Athletics Advisory Council requires the membership of a CSA Executive as a non-voting member and one CSA representative as a voting member to be appointed by the CSA;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the following CSA Executive and Board Director be appointed to the Athletics Advisory Council:

Junpyo Lee, VP Academic
Jake Levy

**Moved:** Junpyo Lee, VP Academic  
**Seconded:** Jake Levy

**Motion Carried**



## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

### 8.12. New Business

#### 8.12.1 Statement on Israel Hamas War

**WHEREAS** on Saturday, October 7th, Israel was invaded by Hamas terrorists;

**WHEREAS** over 1000 innocent civilians have been murdered, over 3000 innocent civilians have been injured, and over 150 innocent civilians have been kidnaped by Hamas;

**WHEREAS** on Wednesday, October 12th, former Hamas chief Khaled Meshaal called for a “day of rage” specifically targeted against Jews across the world, leading to violence, injury, and death;

**WHEREAS** Jewish students at the University of Guelph have been afraid to leave their homes due to the dangers of these antisemitic attacks, and many Jewish students have expressed the need for support from the CSA; and

**WHEREAS** the University has released two statements, but the CSA has yet to comment;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the CSA Board of Directors receive the following two statements as information;

**FURTHER** that the following statement (statement 1) be approved and shared with the student population on the CSA Instagram account;

**AND FURTHER** that the following statement (statement 2) be approved and shared with the student population on the CSA website.

**Statement 1:** To be shared on the CSA Instagram:

The CSA Board of Directors strongly condemns the horrific massacre perpetrated by Hamas, an Internationally designated terror group, against innocent Israeli civilians, as well as citizens from 35 other countries, in which over 1,000 innocents were killed. As has been repeatedly echoed by Canadian public figures, organizations, and politicians, the actions of Hamas can only be classified as “evil,” and those who support these vile acts have no place in Canada or at the University of Guelph.

We are also concerned about the rising rate of antisemitism both locally and globally since Hamas’s senseless act of terrorism. We need to make sure to stand against all acts of hate and violence. The CSA has zero tolerance for antisemitism, Islamophobia, and bigotry of any kind.

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

We are deeply concerned about the escalation of violence and the increasing humanitarian crisis in the region. We hope that soon we will see a cessation of bloodshed, and we continue to yearn for the day of peace in the Middle East.

**Statement 2:** To be shared on the CSA website and linked to from the Instagram post:

The CSA Board of Directors strongly condemns the horrific massacre perpetrated by Hamas against innocent Israeli civilians, on a holy Jewish holiday, in which over 1,000 innocent civilians were killed on residential streets, in their homes, and while attending a music festival. There should never be any justification whatsoever for the murder, torture, rape, and the abduction of innocent civilians to be held as hostages. There is a great importance in calling out pure evil where and when it exists, as this practice allows us to stand in unity against actions that are wrong by any universal standard of morality and to demand accountability and justice from those responsible for the evil. As has been repeatedly echoed by Canadian public figures, organizations, and politicians, the actions of Hamas can only be classified as “evil,” and those who support these vile acts have no place in Canada and no place at the University of Guelph.

Hamas is a genocidal and internationally recognized terrorist organization, whose founding charter openly calls for the annihilation of the country of Israel as well as the extermination of the Jewish people worldwide. It is alarming and saddening to see the countless reports of recent “rallies” worldwide celebrating the vile and inhumane attack perpetrated by Hamas, in which some participants have called for antisemitic violence. We are also concerned about the rising rate of antisemitic incidents that have been occurring globally since Hamas’s senseless act of terrorism. These troubling and ongoing antisemitic incidents worldwide are horrific and are stark reminders of our responsibility to stand up for the Jewish members of our community in times in which they feel unsafe, attacked, and threatened. We need to make sure to stand against all acts of hate and violence. The CSA has zero tolerance for antisemitism, Islamophobia, and bigotry of any kind.

We are concerned about the lives of innocent Palestinian civilians in Gaza. Innocent Palestinians should not be used as civilian shields by Hamas, nor should they be forced to remain in terrorist-embedded territories for the purposes of shielding members of Hamas and their infrastructure. Countless Palestinian lives have been lost as a result of Hamas’s evil reign of power. We are deeply concerned for innocent Palestinian civilians whose lives have now been threatened due to the horrific actions of Hamas and the subsequent humanitarian crisis.

We yearn for the day of peace in the Middle East and hope for the cessation of bloodshed.

**Moved:** Jake Levy

**Seconded:** Noam Einy

**Motion Carried**

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

Member Levy encouraged everyone to ensure the conversation does not escalate due to the sensitive nature of topics that will be discussed. Member Levy explained that 11 days ago, Hamas started throwing rockets in Israel and kidnapped civilians. He stated there had been a massive rise of antisemitism and Jewish students are scared to be on campus. Member Levy expressed that as the CSA, it is imperative to show Jewish students that they are an important part of the organization as they are often ousted and not a part of the community. This is an opportunity to show Jewish students that we are here for them, understand them, and are willing to support in however way they need.

**MOTION:** To extend the President's speaking time to 7 minutes

**Moved:** Shaima Alam, President

**Seconded:** Daniel Neiterman

### **Motion Carried**

The President shared that the CSA exists as the student union to fill in the gaps the university leaves in supporting students. Our mandate is to promote a positive atmosphere of acceptance, inclusion, belonging and safety on campus. While representing all undergraduate students of UofG and amplifying their voices to be decision makers.

Last week, at the beginning, a statement was being developed by our VP External, and was in process to seek consultation. The statement would extend our support of students who feel unsafe, condemning violence against innocent people, and connecting to resources we can give. However, keeping in mind the mandate, seeing the statements released by the university, and understanding that we are not equipped within our executive team or staff, or trained enough to be an actual resource for students. And that is what we have been doing with students who ask for support, we have been connecting them. When a student felt unsafe to come to campus on Friday, we had to go up the ladder of admin to release more communications and increase security for students. Hence, it was decided to not release a statement when it does not do any work in solving the issue. Since it is not changing anything or getting across to a decision maker.

Our role to represent all students and improving the student experience does not play a part into releasing statements about high sensitivity complex issues happening outside of campus when the university is supporting students in this situation. We will do everything in our capacity to not have hate crimes occur against anyone on campus and will keep advocating to the university to ensure the safety of our students. If students feel uncomfortable talking to a university staff to bring up their concerns, they can come to us to amplify their voice for support. This is a statement that can be crafted. A statement of condemning violence against innocents, and letting students know we will not tolerate

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



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discrimination or hate crimes of any kind. To do this statement right, with details, we should be consulting representatives of the student groups impacted, we should not speak on behalf of groups without hearing their voices.

The President acknowledged that the statement at hand was written with a lot of work but as an organization with great responsibility of representing students, we should not release a statement that has not been looked at with great thought, and multiple voices. In this situation, it is very important for the integrity of this entire organization, that we do our due diligence to get this right. We cannot exclude other voices, just because they do not have seats on the board. Every student group is our constituency. As of right now, the statement brought forward by a member goes into depth of the violence against Jewish people, but there is not the same depth of details given for the violence against Palestinians. The President noted she is not someone who represents either group, so she cannot be the one to say how it should be worded. Therefore, the statement cannot be edited within this meeting.

The President noted that groups from both sides need to be asked, like Hillel, Guelph Palestinian Association, MSA. If we are to release a statement that simply condemns violence and sends resources as mentioned before, it can make sense to be a straightforward motion posting. But a statement that is clearly going into details and condemning specific groups need to be workshopped, thought on, and consulted on before posting to reduce the damage on the organization and our members and students. Something this complex could not be crafted and decided to be posted within one board meeting.

The President stated opposition to the motion being passed to directly post the statement as it is. If the motion were to fail, the board and executives could create a subcommittee to have a conversation about what the statement can be, with consultation from multiple voices, so that educated, informed, and inclusive language and messaging can be used. Due diligence can be taken to uphold our mandate, to work in the interests of students, to ensure we are saying something of substance, we are making it clear that we will fight to create a safe campus. In this way, we are not accidentally oppressing any student groups on campus because we did not give them a chance to have a say.

Board members are expected to act in the best interest of the organization. The fall-out of posting statements of this nature, especially without consultation from other groups, will harm the organization and its members. The statement as is could harm and be alienating, triggering, or silence other voices across campus. Members will lose trust in our ability to follow with due diligence and will not want to engage with their union, will not want to work with us in the future, will not use the services we provide, and it will follow us throughout the year and probably more.

**MOTION:** To extend the President's speaking time by 30 seconds.

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



**Moved:** Jonah Greenhut

**Seconded:** Noam Einy

### **Motion Carried**

This is something the CSA has done wrong before, posting statements without consultation and it resulted in death threats to the executives, people being pushed to resignation, and retraction of the statement. Let us show the students that we as an organization have learned from our mistakes.

The Chair clarified that a motion does not have to fail to go to committee. Available options include sending this motion to a particular committee, create a committee for this item, motion to table this to a specific time or indefinitely.

**MOTION:** To extend Member Neiterman's speaking time to 7 minutes

**Moved:** Daniel Neiterman

**Seconded:** Jonah Greenhut

### **Motion Carried**

Member Neiterman stated that this is not an issue of Israel or Palestine which tends to be the discussion that is occurring in media. It tends to also divide lots of people. This is a discussion about rights from wrong or moral vs immoral. There is a lot of people in the board as well as the community who have spoken to us about being strongly impacted and have had lost family members, have lost people very close to them because of this.

Hamas, an internationally recognized terrorist organization, went into Israel through the border. They went in and started massacring civilians in their homes. This is not a question of Israel or Palestine. Member Neiterman heard the term complex issue to describe this statement, it is a complex issue when you look at the standpoint of Israel and Palestine. But it is not a complex issue when you look at it from right versus wrong.

Having people killed on the streets regardless of your political standing is, is wrong and deserves to be called out. Hamas was elected in 2006, it is in its 19th year of a 4 year term. Member Neiterman read a couple of notes from the founding charter of Hamas, "Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it." The second note read is, "The day of judgement will not come about until Muslims fight Jews and kill them. Then the Jews will hide behind rocks and trees and they will cry out, 'Oh Muslim, there is a Jew hiding behind me. Come and kill him.'" This shows the type of behaviour perpetrated against the Jewish people living in Israel. Civilians who have nothing to do with the conflict of Israel and Palestine. These are

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

innocent civilians, these are family members of people in this room, and these people did nothing to deserve it.

Member Neiterman reiterated that Hamas is funded by Iran and how there are protests the Islamic Republic of Iran, for the way they govern their citizens. Hamas is directly funded by Iran which is the largest state-sponsored terrorism in the world. Member Neiterman elaborated that saying this is a two-sided issue is a slippery slope when it comes to terrorism. What happened to Israel, proportionally, was the worst terrorist attack in history. It was 11 times worse than the September 11 attacks when you factor in the proportion of Israel to the United States. It would be the equivalent if the September 11 attacks killed 40,000 people. There are not two sides when it comes to terrorism. There can be a separate discussion about problems in the world and how to overcome those problems. We cannot denounce this act of terrorism by saying this is a complex issue.

Previous speakers have mentioned that a more positive way forward would be to create a committee and to discuss a solution. The whole issue is that Jewish people feel targeted. After the terrorist act, Hamas called for an International Day against Jewish people worldwide. There were hate crimes against Jewish people on every country in the world. Jewish people feel unsafe and unheard. Member Neiterman noted past instances when the CSA has posted political statements without bringing it to a committee, such as the conflict in Ukraine. Member Neiterman noted his support for the motion and noted that if any members have an idea to change the statement, they would be happy to discuss the change.

**MOTION:** To extend the VP External's speaking time to 7.5 minutes

**Moved:** Samar Tariq, VP External

**Seconded:** Noam Einy

### **Motion Carried**

The VP External wanted to express that anything she says is perspective-sharing and an attempt to get everyone on the right page. She wanted to address the concerns of the previous speakers. First, "this is not an Israel or Palestine conflict. This is a separate issue." She noted that it is important to recognize that both countries are experiencing great human lives being lost now. The second point she addressed was "Hamas being a terrorist organization," She asked the board to consider going back to another point being made about this not being a complex issue. When we talk about Hamas being a terrorist organization but then also say it is not a complex issue, it willingly negates us from discussing the context that Hamas was elected in 2007 and the average age in Palestine is 18, meaning more than half the population has never voted in an election. This calls for not viewing Hamas as a terrorist organization now but rather when it was illegally put into

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

power by various complex methods. The humanitarian neglect is to be noticed in the circumstance that occurred in 2007 when Hamas was not voted in ethically. Yet, the world turned a blind eye. Now, we are facing the repercussions of what the international and humanitarian law should have stopped in 2007. It would be more productive to spend our time debating where international leaders went wrong so when we grow up, we learn the true cause of conflict and hard decision-making.

The VP External noted the prior statement “this is about right from wrong,” She noted agreement, however, with this statement, we cannot boil it down to just being right and wrong because there is pertinent context missing. There have been credible resources which entails numerous war crimes being conducted from both sides. To mention war crimes from only one side and ignore the other will irrefutably hurt our membership. This would also put us in line with spreading non-transparent information to the degree we all know. I would like to add that anything we choose to keep out does not stop our membership from not noticing because we are watching this happen. Let’s give everyone who will view this statement the credibility that they will do their own research and so the claims have to be backed up by primary resources as well as be equally representative of both sides. If we put out a statement without acknowledging the innocent Palestinian lives being lost at the rate they are being lost, our membership will question us about the numbers being released.

The VP External noted that in terms of mentioning the September 11 attacks in this context, it is extremely hurtful to the Muslim membership. Following 9/11, the Middle East got attacked and invaded. Many civilian lives were lost. If we want to talk about a terrorist attack, the U.S. detonated two nuclear bombs in August 1945 in Japan. That killed 129,000 people and 9/11 killed fewer. Every life matters equally, but terrorism does not start at 9/11. It started way before.

To address why we did not do a committee for Ukraine, Ukraine was backed by Western powers, Palestine is not. When we mention the atrocities disproportionately, we are making the same mistake that has happened in the past. One side does not have equal power to the opposing side. The least we can do is extend our due diligence in transparent statistics and describe the atrocities equally.

**MOTION:** To extend Member Amayaevbo’s speaking time to 5 minutes

**Moved:** Naomi Amayaevbo

**Seconded:** Noam Einy

**Motion Carried**

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

Member Amayaevbo noted that the statement as proposed is understandable, but we must remember that we are an organization that represents people. Everything the previous speakers mentioned are facts, but we need to remember that as an organization, we need to be neutral to a conversation. If we are putting out the facts about what is happening in Israel, we need to put out facts about what is happening in Palestine. There are a lot of references to the Japanese war, 9/11, and everyone who chooses one side keeps forgetting that one is always a retaliation of the other. At the end of the day, it is fight happening on both sides. There is a whole history of how Palestine and religion goes back to how in the Bible the land was given to a certain person and then a group decided to take over the land. Overtime, it became a war back and forth into two groups of people to who owns the land. We need to remember that there was a time where Palestine was suffering more than when the Israel people were suffering.

Member Amayaevbo noted that we cannot just put out a statement that supports one side when we are an organization that is supposed to be neutral. Both sides need to be in the statement. Not only are Israeli students scared, but Palestinian students are scared as well. There are many religions that have different perspectives on what is right and wrong. The statement looks very one-sided when it supports only one group, it should include both peoples' wrongs and perspectives. We have to be specific about whether we are choosing sides and no organization that shares vital information should choose a side.

Member Aldred-Ganhao reminded everyone that when you search up this conflict, it does not come up as the Israel Palestine War, it comes up as the Israel Hamas War. This is a conflict between Israel and a terrorist organization. It is not about the people of Palestine; it is about fighting against terrorism and brutal tyrants hiding behind women and children while using them as shields to protect themselves. Member Aldred-Ganhao noted his recommendation for the board to support the motion and put forward the statement.

Member Rafe Khan acknowledged that many people have families in Israel and Palestine. He noted that the statement as it stands right now would jeopardize the safety of a lot of students on campus from both sides. It is wrong that many innocent people, including children and women, have to go through this. We need to make the statement more transparent. It should not only address issues Israeli students are facing but Palestinians as well. Member Rafe Khan noted that as a student organization, we represent everyone, and that putting out the statement as it could harm a lot of people.

Member Neiterman acknowledged the concerns that members have voiced. In regard to how the motion may not be representative of the two groups, he reiterated that this is not about Israel versus Palestine, this statement is about standing up for the civilians who are murdered in a terrorist attack by a terrorist organization. He asked to separate the fact that we are not discussing Israel and Palestine or the struggles of both groups of people in the last 70+ years. We are talking about a situation where the largest terrorist attack in



## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



---

modern history was perpetuated on a bunch of innocents who had nothing to do with the conflict. The reason why the 9/11 example was brought up was because it puts things into perspective. There are not two perspectives here, there is a moral wrong and evil. Hamas hurts Palestinian civilians as well. They set up their infrastructure that they shoot into Israel in residential buildings and hospitals. They want Israel to have a problem at neutralizing the threat they pose. This is not a moral equivalence issue.

**MOTION:** To extend Member Neiterman's speaking time by 2 minutes

**Moved:** Noam Einy

**Seconded:** Jake Levy

### **Motion Carried**

Member Neiterman agreed there is always complexity in situations, but that does not mean we cannot take a step back to recognize evil from not evil, right or wrong. Member Neiterman referenced the point of how the CSA did not have a committee because Ukraine was backed up by western powers. He asked why there was no committee for the Russian students that were underrepresented in the statement brought by the CSA, and argued that Russia was in the moral wrong, there was no debate about Russia creating a terror act. He questioned why we are talking about the importance of being there for the Jewish community, but we are bringing up a point of creating a committee when we did not do it previously for statements for Iran, Ukraine and Russia.

**MOTION:** To have a 10-minute recess

**Moved:** Daniel Neiterman

**Seconded:** Jake Levy

### **Motion Carried**

**MOTION:** To table the item

**Moved:** Junpyo Lee, VP Academic

**Seconded:** Abdul Rafe Khan

VP Academic motivated to table this motion to the next board meeting as there was no notice for board members to have enough time to research about this matter. Some board members are getting emotional, and the VP Academic noted that in order to ensure the safety of everyone, it will be better to table the motion.

## MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



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### Motion Defeated

**MOTION:** To call the question

**Moved:** Jake Levy

**Seconded:** Rachel Marcus

Per the earlier recommendation of the Board Chair that had no objections from members, the board conducted a secret ballot vote for this item.

### Motion Carried

## 8.13 Announcements

Members provided personal updates and information regarding their involvement in groups on campus.

The PTC reminded everyone that when sitting on the board, there are certain obligations to represent and act in the best interest of their constituency, whether a college, student government, or student organization, as well as act in the best interest of the CSA. It is important to act as impartial as possible as it is part of the code of conduct.

Member Aldred-Ganhao is the President of Table Tops Game Media and invites everyone to attend. There is a \$5 membership fee to attend all events.

Member Gouveia mentioned there is a Breaking Barriers and Creating Connections Event hosted by the Lang Student Association.

Member Marcus reminded everyone there is a Meet the Prof Night tomorrow for CSAHS and an upcoming Mock Trial.

Member Neiterman reminded everyone there is a Lang Tax Conference on November 4. There is a Case Competition, and the winning team gets \$1500. There is a Pumpkin Carving Event on October 26.

Member Einy mentioned there is an upcoming OVC Industry Day that is open to all students.

Member Walia mentioned OPIRG will be collaborating with the CSA for the National Day of Action to advocate for affordable and accessible education on November 8.

# MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 8  
October 18, 2023 – 6:00 pm  
UC 442



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The Chair encouraged everyone to spread the word about elections for the appointment of more board members.

## 8.14 In Camera

No In-Camera session was held at this meeting.

## 8.15 Adjournment

**MOTION:** That the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 8 on October 18, 2023 be adjourned at 9:21 pm.

**Moved:** Abdul Rafe Khan

**Seconded:** Jake Levy

**Motion Carried**

<b>Approved by the Board of Directors</b>	<b>Date: February 28, 2024</b>
Signed: _____ Cameron Olesen Board Chair	Date: _____
Signed: _____ Colleen Bovay Policy & Transition Coordinator	Date: _____