

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 14a
February 17, 2026 – 6:00 pm
Microsoft Teams



Attendance – February 17, 2026

Board of Directors			
At-Large Representatives (Elected)		Present / Regrets	Arrived / Departed
Jonah Greenhut	College of Arts	Regrets	
Vacant	College of Arts		
Yael Lazebnik	College of Biological Science	Regrets	
Alex Song	College of Biological Science	Present	
Ethan Warren	College of Computational, Mathematical, and Physical Sciences	Present	a: 1:24pm
Tiffany Mares	College of Computational, Mathematical, and Physical Sciences	Present	
Marcus Aldred-Ganhao	College of Engineering	Present	
Michael Spurek	College of Engineering	Regrets	
André Rowe	College of Social and Applied Human Sciences	Present	
Samiya Shakeel	College of Social and Applied Human Sciences	Present	
Vacant	Gordon S. Lang School of Business and Economics		
Hollie Martin	Gordon S. Lang School of Business and Economics	Regrets	
Vacant	Ontario Agricultural College		
Vacant	Ontario Agricultural College		
Vacant	Ontario Veterinary College		
Vacant	Ontario Veterinary College		
Member College Government Representatives (Appointed)		Present / Regrets	Arrived / Departed
Vacant	College of Arts Student Union		
Susannah Polack-Finley	College of Biological Science Student Council	Regrets	
Huraimah Fatima	College of Engineering and Physical Sciences Student Council	Regrets	
Vacant	College of Social and Applied Human Sciences - Student Alliance		
Vacant	Lang Students' Association		

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 14a
 February 17, 2026 – 6:00 pm
 Microsoft Teams



Reese Fletcher	Student Federation of the Ontario Agricultural College	Regrets	
Vacant	Central Veterinary Student Association		
Student Organization Representatives (Appointed)		Present / Regrets	Arrived / Departed
Branden Newman	Indigenous Student Society (ISS)	Regrets	
Acacia Small	Guelph Black Students Association (GBSA)	Regrets	
Ellie Mendelovitz	Guelph Queer Equality (GQE)	Present	
Adam Venter	Guelph Resource Centre for Gender Empowerment and Diversity (GRCGED)	Present	
Joshua Jacinto	International Student Organization (ISO)	Present	
Keira Gayowsky	Interhall Council (IHC)	Regrets	
Vacant	Guelph Campus Co-op		
Ashley Ames	Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG)	Present	
Brendon Gallacher	Student Senate Caucus	Present	
Noel Johnston	Board of Governors	Present	
Executive (Ex-officio, Non-voting)		Present / Regrets	Arrived / Departed
Nate Broughton	President	Present	
Pawandeep Singh	Vice President Student Experience	Present	
William Coleman	Vice President Academic	Present	
Vacant	Vice President External		

Staff	Position
Christopher Yendt	Chair
Colleen Bovay	Policy & Transition Coordinator
Nikki Tu	Scribe

Guest	Affiliation

*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 # 14a
February 17, 2026 – 6:00 pm
Microsoft Teams



Summary of Resolutions

14a.2.1 Approve the Agenda

MOTION: to suspend the CSA Rules of Order section 7.1 for the consideration of item 14a.11.1.

Motion Carried

MOTION: That the agenda for the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 14a on February 17, 2026, be approved as printed and distributed.

Motion Carried

14a.11.1 Approve Press Release re. Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security's Announcement

Note: Consideration of this item requires suspension of section 7.1 of the CSA Rules of Order.

WHEREAS the Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security (MCURES) has announced a new funding package for post-secondary institutions, including the University of Guelph;

WHEREAS this funding package, while injecting new operating dollars into the University, also introduces a 2-per-cent annual tuition hike and significantly alters the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) by capping grants at 25 per cent and mandating at least 75 per cent be loans;

WHEREAS these policy changes will result in increased costs and a greater debt burden for University of Guelph students;

WHEREAS the CSA has a mandate to represent and amplify the voices of our membership to decision-makers, including the municipal, provincial, and federal governments; and

WHEREAS timely responses and ongoing advocacy efforts related to this announcement may be required between regularly scheduled Board meetings, and the CSA's existing statement making process limits the organization's ability to act quickly on urgent matters, regardless of the impact on our membership as a whole;

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 14a
February 17, 2026 – 6:00 pm
Microsoft Teams



BE IT RESOLVED that the CSA Board of Directors receive the draft press release regarding the Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security's Announcement as information;

FURTHER that the CSA Board of Directors approve the draft press release for immediate public release through the CSA's website and social media channels;

FURTHER that the Executive Committee be empowered to direct additional public actions related to this issue, including (but not limited to) events and public statements, consistent with the position of the press release and the CSA Mandate.

Motion Carried

14a.15 Adjournment

MOTION: That the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 14a on February 17, 2026, be adjourned at 1:27pm.

Motion Carried

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 14a
February 17, 2026 – 6:00 pm
Microsoft Teams



Agenda – February 17, 2026

14a.0	Call to Order	
14a.1	Land Acknowledgement William Coleman	
14a.2	Adoption of the Agenda 14a.2.1 Approve the Agenda 14a.2.2 Declarations of Conflicts	
14a.3	Ratifications and De-Ratifications	
14a.4	Comments from the Chair 14a.4.1 Introductions and Pronouns	
14a.5	Approval of Past Minutes	
14a.6	Executive Committee Minutes	
14a.7	Executive Updates	
14a.8	Director Reports	
14a.9	CSA Service Update and Report	
14a.10	Committee Updates and Reports	
14a.11	Business 14a.11.1 Approve Press Release re. Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security's Announcement	
14a.12	New Business	
14a.13	Announcements	
14a.14	In Camera Session	
14a.15	Adjournment	

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 14a
February 17, 2026 – 6:00 pm
Microsoft Teams



Minutes – February 17, 2026

14a.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:06pm.

14a.1 Land Acknowledgement

Member William Coleman presented the following Land Acknowledgement:

Good afternoon, folks, while we are gathered here, I would like to acknowledge the land on which the University of Guelph is situated, where the CSA does its work, and where we learn at work, though we're not here today. Universities have historically been a part of the systemic oppression of our Indigenous peoples in Canada, and the University is of no exception to this, and it is important that as an organization we continue to be a force for anti-oppression and the voice of advancing indigenization, equity, diversity and inclusion on our campus. As a Student Union, we have the privilege of working with the university and with our students to continue to improve service and support across campus.

We also have a responsibility to our community to continue to up support and uplift diverse forces to push for further changes that would contribute to reconciliation. The University of Guelph is a part of the treaty lands, Mississaugas of the Credit, and is the traditional territories of the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabe people.

We'd like to recognize the role that indigenous knowledge and philosophies have on this land today. As we start today's board meeting, we should take time to reflect on what we're able to accomplish and how we're able to contribute to reconciliation on our campus and within our organization. Thank you.

14a.2 Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: to suspend the CSA Rules of Order section 7.1 for the consideration of item 14a.11.1.

Moved: Noel Johnston

Seconded: Adam Venter

The President, Nate Broughton, stated that the ministry made this announcement on Thursday; affecting nearly 100% of our membership. All domestic students are affected even if they are not using OSAP. There has been student outcry, and the President has

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 14a
February 17, 2026 – 6:00 pm
Microsoft Teams



received 10 emails asking what CSA is doing to address this situation. We need to help students feel supported, listen to concerns, and advocate for them. We have talked about mitigating reputational risk, and the risk is high if we do not address this as soon as possible. Usually, this would go through Statement Making Committee, but this does not require stakeholder communication or specific external consultation, as all students are affected. In alignment with our mandate, this is why we are bringing this motion forward.

Member Mendelovitz added that they have heard some rumours circulating about students organizing a strike.

Member Johnston inquired if he needs to declare a conflict, based on his role on the Board of Governors. The Chair clarified this motion is just suspending the rules of order, so it's not needed at this stage.

Motion Carried

14a.2.1 Approve the Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda for the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 14a on February 17, 2026, be approved as printed and distributed.

Moved: Noel Johnston

Seconded: Alex Song

Motion Carried

14a.2.2 Declarations of Conflicts

Member Johnston declared a conflict with item 14a.11.1.

14a.3 Ratifications and De-Ratifications

No Ratifications or De-Ratifications were considered.

14a.4 Comments from the Chair

No comments from the Chair were received.

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 14a
February 17, 2026 – 6:00 pm
Microsoft Teams



14a.4.1 Introductions and Pronouns

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

14a.5 Approval of Past Board Minutes

No Past Board Minutes were considered.

14a.6 Executive Committee Minutes

No Executive Committee Minutes were received.

14a.7 Executive Updates

No Executive Updates were received.

14a.8 Director Reports

No Director Reports were received.

14a.9 CSA Service Update and Report

No CSA Service Updates or Reports were received.

14a.10 Committee Updates and Reports

No Committee Updates or Reports were received.

14a.11 Business

14a.11.1 Approve Press Release re. Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security's Announcement

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MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 14a
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Moved: Nate Broughton, President

Seconded: Adam Venter

The President, Nate Broughton, and VP Academic, William Coleman, have done some calculations regarding this announcement. Around 55% of total OSAP dollars on campus are loans and 45% are grants. The President stated this significantly affects students, cumulating with folks graduating with \$7,000 or more in debt than prior to this change. A memo was sent out on Friday detailing the announcement from the ministry, since then, we have heard many students to speak out about these changes with many calling for protests. Our ability to adapt to this is limited so we proposed this motion. We are working with the Canadian Student Federation (CFS) and they are meeting again

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 14a
February 17, 2026 – 6:00 pm
Microsoft Teams



today. Things are changing every day and that is why we added the last line of this motion to allow Executives to continuously adapt.

Member Venter inquired how often are we corresponding with CFS and their timelines. The President stated that over the long weekend, he was working and corresponding multiple times a day. We may receive better timelines this week now that we're past the long weekend.

The President further stated that since people are calling for protests; there is some action at Queen's Park. However, the MPPs are not in session until late March. This may be relevant to consider in the timelines.

Member Johnston asked if he can be part of this motion. The Chair explained he can be part of the conversation but should abstain from voting.

Noted abstentions from Member Johnston and Member Aldred-Ganhao.

Motion Carried

14a.12 New Business

No New Business was considered.

14a.13 Announcements

No Announcements were received.

14a.14 In Camera

No In-Camera Session was held.

14a.15 Adjournment

MOTION: That the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 14a on February 17, 2026 be adjourned at 1:27pm.

Moved: Noel Johnston

Seconded: Ash Ames

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 14a
February 17, 2026 – 6:00 pm
Microsoft Teams



Motion Carried

Approved by the Board of Directors

Date: March 25, 2026

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Christopher Yendt
Board Chair

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Colleen Bovay
Policy & Transition Coordinator