

Board Meeting Report

Introduction

I am pleased to report on the outcomes of the second Board of Directors meeting of the 2026–2027 term. The meeting focused on board appointments, committee representation, and the review of the proposed 2026–2027 Preliminary Budget which was unanimously passed by the board members. Significant progress was made in filling representative vacancies, ensuring committee participation, and discussing the financial direction of the organization for the upcoming fiscal year.

Board Appointments

- The Board considered a nomination package for the position of **Interim Music Representative**.
 - The nomination package was received and verified by K. MacLaughlin on May 20, 2026.
 - The nomination was submitted by O. Massey.
 - Following discussion, the appointment was approved unanimously by the Board.
- The Board also reviewed a nomination package for the position of **HSS Representative**.
 - The nomination package was submitted by C. Damian and verified by K. MacLaughlin on May 22, 2026.
 - The nomination was brought forward for consideration during the meeting.
 - The appointment was approved unanimously by the Board.

Committee Representation Update

Sana, Director of Advocacy, presented an update on MUNSU committee representation.

- All committee positions were successfully filled.
- This achievement was particularly notable given the relatively small size of the current Board.
- Appreciation was extended to Board members who expressed interest in serving on committees and contributing to student governance.

2026–2027 Preliminary Budget Presentation

One of the most significant discussions of the meeting was the presentation by the **Director of finance Nathan Gillingham** of the proposed 2026–2027 Preliminary Budget.

Budget Overview

- The preliminary budget was prepared by former Executive Director of Finance & Services, Farhan Probando.
- This is the first MUNSU budget to be voted on by the Board of Directors since the 2021–2022 fiscal year.
- The budget aims to stabilize MUNSU's financial position while maintaining essential student services, advocacy efforts, campus programming, and operational support.

Financial Highlights

- The proposed budget projects an overall organizational deficit of approximately **\$115,398**.
- This represents a substantial improvement from:
 - **\$249,814 deficit** in 2025–2026.
 - **\$363,171 deficit** in 2024–2025.
- Administrative Services is projected to generate a surplus of approximately **\$573,867**, continuing to support key student services and operations.
- A new **\$30,000 risk contingency fund** has been included to strengthen financial resilience.

Organizational Restructuring

- MUNSU is currently undergoing significant restructuring.
- The discontinuation of CHMR-FM as a MUNSU service has resulted in the elimination or reallocation of approximately **\$298,453** in budgeted expenditures.
- Ongoing restructuring creates uncertainty regarding staffing, administrative responsibilities, and future budget projections.
- Updated financial projections are expected in the coming months and will help inform the Fall Operating Budget.

Key Financial Considerations

- Membership fee revenue remains MUNSU's largest source of income.
- Memorial University projections indicate a potential **5–7% decline in undergraduate enrolment** for Fall 2026, which may reduce fee revenue.
- Salary, benefits, and severance projections remain uncertain due to restructuring activities.

- Strategic sponsorships and partnerships are being explored, though projected revenues have not yet been finalized.
- Staffing requirements within the Breezeway continue to be assessed based on operational needs and event activity levels.
- Student funding opportunities and support programs remain a priority, with plans to review and potentially expand available funding for students, clubs, and societies.

Following a brief round of questions from Board members, the Director of Finance responded to all inquiries, after which the budget was **passed** unanimously by the Board.

Executive Committee Report

The Chair of the MUNSU Executive Committee, Nathan Gillingham, presented the following updates:

- An expenditure of **\$3,363.73** was approved for Corner Pocket Billiard Service to complete repairs on the three pool tables located in the Breezeway.
- Sanaa Mrad, Executive Director of Advocacy, has been selected as the Local 35 representative to the Canadian Federation of Students – Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Higher Talent has been retained to provide ongoing human resources support to the Executive team.
- The annual contract with the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) has been renewed.
- The Executive and Officer staff are developing an enhanced sponsorship package aimed at securing more stable organizational revenue.
- Two professional photographers have been contracted at a rate of **\$150 each** to provide official photographs for the Board of Directors.

External Affairs Presentation

The Director of External Affairs, Taqi Yeasir, delivered a presentation to the Board regarding the distinction between MUNSU Standing Committees and MUNSU Committees.

- It was noted that, according to the bylaws, each Board member is required to serve on at least two Standing Committees.
- The International Student Committee and the Inclusion Committee were identified as requiring additional chairs.
- Two Board members, Haile Cicley and O. Massey, have expressed interest in serving as Committee Chairs.

Reports and Administrative Updates

- Executive members and Board Directors submitted their respective work reports and timesheets.
- No significant questions or concerns were raised during this portion of the meeting.

Adjournment

- There being no further business, the meeting was formally adjourned.

If you have any further questions or concerns please reach out to : external@munsu.ca