

TORONTO METROPOLITAN FACULTY ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEETING

December 6, 2022 – 11:00 a.m.

Zoom Video Conference

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m.

Meeting Chair Donna Koller opened the meeting, welcomed attendees and provided information on how the meeting would run.

Meeting Co-Chair Rachel Berman read the Land Acknowledgement.

1. President's Opening Remarks – Jesmen Mendoza

J. Mendoza welcomed everyone to the General Meeting.

J. Mendoza discussed how TFA Executives and Committees' have been working hard to provide support and representation to members through the bargaining process, grievances and hosting events that highlight various forms of oppression and safety issues. Members are actively being represented at Queens Park, OCUFA and CAUT. The TFA continues to challenge the Administration on a number of issues, including the low morale of members due to the lack of empathy or compassion on the difficulties of teaching and performing SRC during the pandemic. Only a minimal standard approach is applied to health and safety on the campus resulting in members having a very low morale.

J. Mendoza commented that the success of the Association is predicated on the level of involvement of its members. He wished everyone well for the holiday season and expressed hope that members will return with renewed energy and use that energy to serve on various committees in the Association. He thanked everyone for attending the TFA General Meeting.

2. Minutes of General Meeting, May 9, 2022

BIRT – Minutes of the May 9, 2022 meeting be approved as circulated (Barber/Francescucci) – CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

J. Mendoza discussed the faculty Association name change. Members were asked to vote for a new Association name and abbreviation and on October 25, 2022 the new name was revealed. On November 8, 2022, the Executive put forward a motion recommending the membership adopt the Association's new name.

BIRT, at the recommendation of the Executive, that the Association's name be amended to be Toronto Metropolitan Faculty Association, with its abbreviation to be TFA. – CARRIED

4. Treasurer's Report – Anthony Francescucci

Anthony Francescucci presented the audited financial statements for 2022, which are also contained in your package.

The TFA Executive recommends the membership's approval of the 2022 Audited Financial Statements.

BIRT, the Audited Financial Statements of the Year Ended August 31, 2022 be approved. (Francescucci/Wilson-Mitchell) – CARRIED

5. Chair, Negotiating Report – Ian Sakinofsky

I. Sakinofsky discussed plans for the bargaining process. The committee has been meeting with the departments/schools which has given the committee a unique and informative view, which the employer does not have, of the issues members are facing. There will be a survey in January 2023 following up on the department/school meetings and a Mandate Meeting on March 8, 2023 to seek approval of the bargaining platform. The committee will be meeting with various TFA Standing Committees to consult on what should be in the bargaining proposal. There will also be a meeting with the benefits consultant and a request was made for the employer to provide an up to date record of the benefits usage.

I. Sakinofsky commented that throughout departments/schools members have a number of general misgivings regarding teaching environments and workload which is so extensive that it cannot all be addressed during the negotiations process. Budget cuts are also a major issue throughout departments/schools. The committee would like to establish a Shadow Strategy Group with members who have the knowledge, expertise and interest to develop a strategy to address the University's issues and provide a reference document that cannot be ignored by the Administration. A notice will be sent out shortly regarding this group.

6. Chair, Equity – Lila Pine

At noon, time was made for L. Pine to read the names of the victims of the Montreal Massacre and Indigenous women and girls who were murdered. There was a moment of silence observed in recognition of The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

There was a discussion on safety. Members expressed concern on safety issues on campus. Many members commented on their own experiences, the issue of policing and various ideas on how to deal with these concerns.

J. Mendoza commented that there needs to be a comprehensive solution to the safety issues on campus. The TFA has filed a grievance and will be taking it to arbitration and has banded together with other campus unions to put forward a common grievance. TFA has been asking for a third party audit of physical safety on the campus. The TFA will continue to address this issue with the Administration.

7. Committee Chairs' and Officers' Reports

Reports are included in ["FACULTY NEWS LINK" - Fall 2022, Vol. 38, No. 1](#)

8. TFA Executive and Standing Committees

A list of TFA Executive and Standing Committees was attached to the agenda

9. Other Business

The Association is subject to the Ontario Not for Profit Corporations Act which was enacted in October 2021 that is the successor of the Corporations Act which is cited in the TFA Bylaw. In order to be compliant with the new Act we are required to change the TFA Bylaw and need the consent of the membership.

BIRT, References to the “Corporations Act” in Bylaw No. 1 be deleted and replaced with “*Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*”, and any consequential changes to references in the *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*. (Mendoza/Francescucci) - CARRIED

BIRT, the Executive Committee take all necessary or desirable steps to implement these resolutions, which includes the resolution on changing the Association’s name, file articles of amendment and bring the Association into compliance with the Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (Ontario) including but not limited to proposing further amendments to Bylaw No. 1, if any are required or desirable, at the next general membership meeting. (Mendoza/Francescucci) - CARRIED

10. Adjournment

J. Mendoza thanked everyone for attending and wished everyone a Happy Holiday Season.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.