**Constitution Proposed Amendments**

Prepared by Chair, Gabrielle da Silva, and the 2020 Constitutional Review Committee

**Proposed Amendment #1**

Chapter 2, Article 1, Section 1

S1) The student government of Victoria University shall hereinafter be known as the Victoria University Students' Administrative Council.

Proposed Amendment:

S1) The student government of Victoria College within Victoria University shall hereinafter be known as the Victoria University Students' Administrative Council.

**Rationale: VUSAC does not represent the students of Emmanuel College.**

**Proposed Amendment #2**

Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 1, Subsection F

F) “Assessor” shall refer to the VUSAC levy heads and student leaders who sit on the Council by virtue of their position or status within the Victoria College community.

Proposed Amendment:

F) “Assessor” shall refer to the VUSAC levy heads, Orientation Co-Chairs, Victoria College Dons, and UTSU Vic Directors. By virtue of their position or status within the Victoria College community, they cannot be voting members of the Council.. All assessor members have speaking rights at VUSAC meetings.

**Rationale: The Constitution needs a distinction between student leaders that can be a part of VUSAC.**

**Proposed Amendment #3**

Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 1, Subsection G

F) “Ex-officio” shall refer to members who sit on the Council by virtue of their position or status within the larger community of Victoria University.

Proposed Amendment:

F) “Ex-officio” shall refer to Victoria University staff, faculty, administration, and governing body representatives who sit on the Council by virtue of their position or status within the larger community of Victoria University. Students who represent Victoria University’s governing bodies can be voting members on Council.

**Rationale: The Constitution needs a distinction between student leaders that can be a part of VUSAC.**

**Proposed Amendment #4**

Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 1, ADD Subsection K

Proposed Amendment:

F) “Co-chairs” shall refer to non-voting hired members of council who support a VUSAC commission.

**Rationale: Co-chairs are not defined in the Constitution as it stands. A section will be added below to further define their role.**

**Proposed Amendment #5**

Chapter 3, Article 3, Section 1

S1) All undergraduate students at the University of Toronto who pay VCU fees shall be members of the VCU. This may include students registered as Victoria College students by the Registrar of Victoria College, students who live in Victoria University residences, or students who have chosen to pay into the VCU.

Proposed Amendment:

S1) All undergraduate students at the University of Toronto who pay VCU fees shall be members of the VCU. This may include students registered as Victoria College students by the Registrar of Victoria College, or students who live in Victoria University residences who pay VCU fees.

**Rationale: Added in order to solidify the distinction that *only* students who pay fees are VCU members and can vote. Students who live on Victoria University residence and do *not* pay VCU fees (dons) are not members of the VCU as per this Constitutions.**

**Proposed Amendment #6**

Chapter 3, Article 3, ADD Section 3

Proposed Amendment:

S3) All members of the VUSAC must remain members of the VCU and remain students at the University of Toronto St. George campus for their full term of office.

**Rationale: VUSAC must be represented by its own constituents, thus only those students actively paying into the VCU will be able to represent it.**

**Proposed Amendment #7**

Chapter 4, Article 4, Section 2, Subsection A

a) The Council shall be responsible for all debts incurred by itself and by all of its levy receivers. These debts shall be paid from the general reserve fund of the Council, set out by Article 7.

Proposed Amendment:

a) The Council shall be responsible for all debts incurred by itself. These debts shall be paid from the contingency fund of the Council, set out by Article 7.

**Rationale: The VUSAC should not be responsible for outstanding levy debt. The fund is referred to as the contingency fund.**

**Proposed Amendment #8**

Chapter 4, Article 4, Section 2, ADD Subsection C

Proposed Amendment:

c) The Council is not responsible for expenses incurred by the levies beyond that which is allocated to them through student incidental fees. Levies do not have the authority to sign contracts in the Council’s name.

**Rationale: The VUSAC should not be responsible for outstanding levy debt. VUSAC’s only oversight is to ratify the budget of the levy based on its allocated student fees.**

**Proposed Amendment #9**

Chapter 4, Article 4, Section 3,

a) For the period between April 1 and the end of the fiscal year (April 30), those who hold signing rights for the old council shall be bound by the decisions of the new council.

b) Signing rights are granted to the new council on the first day of the fiscal year (May 1).

Proposed Amendment:

a) The President and the Finance Chair shall have signing authority for the VUSAC.

b) In the case that the President and the Finance Chair are unable to act as a signing authority, the Bursar of Victoria University shall also have signing authority for the VUSAC.

b) For the period between April 1 and the end of the fiscal year (April 30), those who hold signing rights for the old council shall be bound by the decisions of the new council.

c) The President shall be granted signing rights on the first day of the fiscal year (May 1st). The Finance Chair shall be granted signing rights when hired, at any time after May 1st.

**Rationale: Subsection A specifies which members of council have signing authority, adding the VPI as this figures into their portfolio & will allow for members to receive their reimbursements in a timely fashion. Subsection C specifies when members get signing rights, ensuring an easy transition of power, understanding that the Finance Chair will not be hired until a time after May 1st.**

**Proposed Amendment #10**

Chapter 4, Article 4, Section 4

a) Once a month, the Finance Chair shall review their books with a representative of the Office of the Bursar to ensure that the books are up to date and that all funds are accounted for. The accounting of levy receivers will be included in this process.

Proposed Amendment:

a) Once a month, the Finance Chair shall review their books with a representative of the Office of the Bursar to ensure that the books are up to date and that all funds are accounted for.

b) Levy receivers shall be audited by the VUSAC Finance Chair and the Office of the Bursar once a semester.

**Rationale: This section is added to ensure that all bodies receiving student funding are audited regularly.**

**Proposed Amendment #11**

Chapter 5, Article 5, Section 1

S1) Regular Meetings:

1. Regular Council meetings shall be held every two weeks, excluding statutory holidays. Meetings shall be held on weeknights only. The dates of meetings are to be determined by the Chair at the beginning of the year.
2. The Chair shall call and prepare an agenda for all regular Council meetings, with the advice and approval of the Council.
3. Attendance and voting by proxy shall be permitted at regular Council meetings provided that the proxy be a voting member of council.
4. Quorum shall consist of two thirds of the voting members of the Council.
5. Minutes taken from each meeting must be posted within one (1) week of said meeting’s adjournment.
6. Motions passed at regular Council meetings are considered in effect on the fourteenth (14th) day from which they are passed, unless an open meeting to challenge the motion is requested by petition as described in Article 6 of this Constitution.
7. Email voting can occur for the Council if necessary,as outlined in Chapter 4, Section 5 of the VUSAC Council Policies.
8. An emergency Council meeting can be called if necessary, as outlined in Chapter 4, Section 3 of the VUSAC Council Policies.
9. In the case that the Chair is unable to attend a meeting, another staff member shall act as the Chair.
10. Meetings shall have a three (3) hour limit from the call to order, less the time of any recess.
	1. Any motions to extend meetings beyond the three (3) hour limit must be approved by a 3/4 majority of Council

Proposed Amendment:

S1) Regular Meetings:

1. Regular Council meetings shall be held every two weeks, excluding statutory holidays, university holidays, university closures and reading weeks. Meetings shall be held on weeknights only. The dates of meetings are to be determined by the Chair in consultation with the VUSAC Executive at the beginning of the year.
2. The Chair shall call and prepare an agenda for all regular Council meetings, with the advice and approval of the Council.
3. Attendance and voting by proxy shall be permitted at regular Council meetings provided that the proxy be a voting member of council.
4. Quorum shall consist of two thirds of the voting members of the Council.
5. Preliminary minutes taken from each meeting must be posted on the VUSAC website within one (1) week of said meeting’s adjournment, and sent to the VUSAC Chair pending ratification at the next scheduled meeting. Final minutes must be posted to the VUSAC website following their ratification.
6. Motions amending governing documents passed at regular Council meetings are considered in effect on the fourteenth (14th) day from which they are passed, unless an open meeting to challenge the motion is requested by petition as described in Article 6 of this Constitution. All other motions come into effect following the ratification of the motion.
7. Email voting can occur for the Council if necessary,as outlined in Chapter 4, Section 5 of the VUSAC Council Policies.
8. An emergency Council meeting can be called if necessary, as outlined in Chapter 4, Section 3 of the VUSAC Council Policies.
9. In the case that the Chair is unable to attend a meeting, another staff member or co-chair shall act as the Chair.
10. Meetings shall have a three (3) hour limit from the call to order, less the time of any recess.
	1. Any motions to extend meetings beyond the three (3) hour limit must be approved by a 3/4 majority of Council

**Rationale: Most of the changes above are technical in nature. Subsection A ensures that if the university closes (ie. due to extreme weather), VUSAC will not meet. Subsection E ensures that minutes are readily available to be viewed. Subsection F clarifies that regular motions passed at meetings (ie. ratifications, budgetary requests) may come into effect as soon as passed - only motions relating to amendments take 14 days to come into effect. Subsection I includes co-chairs as options to take over for the Chair.**

**Proposed Amendment #12**

Chapter 5, Article 5, Section 3

S3) Open Meetings:

1. Open meetings of the VCU can be called by a petition signed by 35 students of the VCU, submitted to the Chair. The Chair shall call the meeting within five (5) business days of the receipt of the petition. The Vice-President External shall call the open meeting if the Chair fails to do so within five (5) business days.
2. A new Chair for such a meeting shall be chosen by those present at the meeting by a majority vote. The Chair is then an ex-officio member without a vote.
3. Any member of the Council may attend open meetings.
4. Fifty students of the VCU shall constitute a quorum to open meetings.
5. Open meetings have the power to:
	1. Vote on resolutions advising the Council of their wishes.
	2. Demand the production of any minutes, records, books, or documents of the VUSAC or any of its levy receivers or affiliated organizations.
	3. Ask any questions and demand written replies of any member of the Council
	4. Appoint such committees as may become necessary to their purpose.
	5. Any actions or motions of an open meeting shall be in complete accord with the provisions of this Constitution.

Proposed Amendment:

S3) External Meetings:

1. External meetings of the VCU can be called by a petition signed by 35 students of the VCU, submitted to the Chair. The Chair shall call the meeting within five (5) business days of the receipt of the petition. The Vice-President External shall call the open meeting if the Chair fails to do so within five (5) business days.
2. A new Chair for such a meeting shall be chosen by those present at the meeting by a majority vote. The Chair is then an ex-officio member without a vote.
3. Any member of the Council may attend external meetings.
4. Thirty-five students of the VCU outside of the VUSAC shall constitute a quorum to open meetings.
5. External meetings have the power to:
	1. Vote on resolutions advising the Council of their wishes.
	2. Demand the production of any minutes, records, books, or documents of the VUSAC or any of its levy receivers or affiliated organizations.
	3. Ask any questions and demand written replies of any member of the Council
	4. Appoint such committees as may become necessary to their purpose.

Any actions or motions of an open meeting shall be in complete accord with the provisions of this Constitution.

**Rationale: Technical amendment to change the language of “open” meeting to “external” meeting, as “open” implies that general VUSAC meetings aren’t open to the public which is not the case. Section D is ensuring that quorum is a majority to VUSAC.**

**Proposed Amendment #13**

Chapter 5, Article 5, Section 4

S4) Joint Council Meetings:

1. The Council shall, in its first week of April in each year, hold a Joint Council Meeting, at which it shall dissolve itself and thereby end its term in office. Incoming Council members elected and ratified at this meeting will take office immediately upon dissolution.
2. Incoming Council members shall have votes in the Joint Council Meeting after they are ratified.

Proposed Amendment;

S4) Joint Council Meetings:

1. The Council shall, in its first week of April in each year, hold a Joint Council Meeting, at which it shall dissolve itself and thereby end its term in office. Incoming Council members elected and ratified at this meeting will take office immediately upon dissolution.
2. Incoming Council members shall have votes in the Joint Council Meeting after they are ratified.
3. Following the dissolution of the Council at the Joint Council Meeting, incumbent members are expected to transition their successors for the month of April.
	1. Both the incoming and outgoing VUSAC members are to make every effort to attend each meeting that is required of them in the month of April.

**Rationale: In order to ensure the proper transition of council members, this clause has been added.**

**Proposed Amendment #14**

ADD Chapter 5, Article 5, Section 5 and 6

Proposed Amendment:

S5) The VUSAC will hold one meeting each semester to ratify the VUSAC Budget as proposed by the Budget Steering Committee.

1. The date of the VUSAC Budget Meeting shall be determined at the discretion of the Finance Chair, VUSAC Executive, and Budget Steering Committee.
2. All VUSAC members are required to attend VUSAC Budget Meetings. This is inclusive of general attendance requirements of Council, as outlined in Chapter 6, Article 8 of the Constitution.
3. A representative from all clubs with a proposed budget in excess of $1000 are required to attend the VUSAC Budget Meeting.
4. The meeting will be chaired jointly by the VUSAC Chair and Finance Chair.

S6) The VUSAC will hold one caucus meeting per semester. These meetings will serve as a general Town Hall for the VCU.

1. All VUSAC Members, Levyheads, and Club representatives (whose budget exceeds $1000) are required to attend each caucus meeting.
2. Caucus meetings will be called to order and chaired by the VPE.
3. All VCU students have speaking rights and voting rights,

**Proposed Amendment #15**

Chapter 6, Article 6

**Chapter VI: The Council**

Article 6: Council Composition

S1) The Council shall derive policy and administer all matters of concern to the Victoria College student body.

S2) The Council shall consist of the following:

1. The following elected positions, the holders of which shall serve as voting
Executives:
	1. President
	2. Vice-President External
	3. Vice-President Internal
	4. Vice-President Student Organizations
2. The following elected positions, the holders of which shall serve as voting Commissioners:
	1. Academic Commissioner
	2. Arts & Culture Commissioner
	3. Commuter Commissioner
	4. Equity Commissioner
	5. Scarlet & Gold Commissioner
	6. Sustainability Commissioner
3. The following elected positions, the holders of which shall serve as voting members:
	1. Three (3) First Year Councillors
	2. Five (5) Upper Year Councillors
4. The following hired positions, the holders of which shall serve as non-voting members:
	1. Staff members:
		1. The Chair
		2. The Finance Chair
		3. The Office Manager
		4. The Communications Coordinator
		5. The Chief Returning Officer (CRO)
5. The following positions, the holders of which shall serve as non-voting assessor members:
	1. Levy Heads
	2. The Orientation Co-Chair
6. The following positions, the holders of which shall serve as non-voting ex-officio members:
	1. The President of Victoria University
	2. The Victoria University Dean of Students
	3. The Victoria University Campus Life Coordinator
	4. The Victoria College UTSU Representatives
	5. The Student Coordinators of the VCC, VUS, and BoR

Article 7: Term of Office

S1) The Council shall dissolve itself at the annual Joint Council meeting and end its term in office.

S2) The Executives, Commissioners and Staff shall begin their terms after their ratifications at the annual Joint Council Meeting and shall end at the next Joint Council Meeting.

S3) Council members elected in Councillor positions or in any by-elections held after the Joint Council Meeting shall begin their terms when the Council ratifies their membership and shall end upon dissolution at the next Joint Council Meeting.

S4) No person may be elected or hired for more than one position on the Council per term, inclusive of voting, non-voting, and ex-officio members.

a) In the event that there is a vacancy on the Executive following Spring Elections, the other members of the Executive may assume the duties of said position until the Fall Elections.

Article 8: Responsibilities of Council Members

S1) Council members must exercise both skill and diligence in their roles.
S2) Council members are not bound to give continuous attention to the affairs of the Council, but failure to give attention to Council affairs and/or attend meetings on a regular basis may be evidence of a lack of diligence.

S3) To fulfill their VUSAC responsibilities, members should:

1. Fulfill their specific roles on the Council.
2. Participate actively and fully in the activities of the Council, including but not limited to attending VUSAC events, completing equity training, and completing office hours as assigned by the Vice-President Internal, and
3. Keep informed as to the business and affairs of the Council, including but not limited to attending Council meetings and regularly reviewing meeting minutes.
4. Attend a minimum of three events hosted by the VUSAC Commissions, Levies, and/or Clubs per semester.
5. Submit a detailed transition report to the Vice-President Internal before April 30.

Article 9: Conflicts of Interest

S1) A conflict of interest would arise when an individual, their family member(s), employer, or an organization to which they belong stands to gain a financial benefit by the decision being made by the Council. Members in a conflict of interest situation will declare a conflict and will not be present while the decision is being made.

S2) Members who knowingly participate in decision-making in the affairs of the Council while in a conflict-of-interest may be subject to dismissal in accordance with Chapter 6, Section 4b of the VUSAC Council Policies.

S3) Members should not be in receipt of financial rewards (other than nominal and honoraria provided by the VUSAC) and/or gifts as a result of their position as a Council member. Any “gifts” in excess of a total of $25.00 should be declared to the Executive within seven (7) days of receiving such a gift. The list of gifts will be made available to members upon written request.

Article 10: Accountability

S1) All concerns regarding the performance of the President shall be directed to the Dean of Students or the Vice-President Internal, who shall take appropriate action regarding in an effort to inform the President of the concerns in a private and unattributed manner and shall receive, from the President, written notice as to how the concerns shall be addressed and/or rectified.

S2) All concerns regarding the performance of Council members other than the President shall be directed to the Vice-President Internal or the President. The Vice- President or the President shall speak in a private and unattributed manner with the member in question and shall decide upon a resolution with the member, should one be needed.

S3) Any Council member and all members of the VCU may initiate or participate in the recall of a Council member without penalty or judgment in accordance with Article 11.

Article 11: Recall Procedures

S1) Any elected Council member may be recalled by a petition signed by at least fifteen (15) percent of the VCU, as determined by the January enrollment of the current year. Signees must have their names on said petitions.

S2) The Office of the Dean of Students shall receive all recall petitions and shall:

1. Notify the Executive upon receipt of the petition.
2. Verify that at least the minimum number of students have signed said petition.
3. Secure said petition as a confidential document.
4. Ensure that said petition is kept in the Office of the Dean of Students.
5. Notify the Council member in question of the pending recall immediately upon verification.
6. Notify the Council member in question of their right to nominate one (1) member of Council to examine said petition on their behalf.

S3) Recall petitions shall not be removed from the Office of the Dean of Students, nor shall they be reproduced in any way.

S4) The names and student numbers on recall petitions shall all be verified by the Dean of Students as belonging to Victoria University students.

S5) The names and student numbers on recall petitions shall be verified randomly by one Council member who may be the representative chosen by the member in question.

S6) In order to ensure the privacy of the signees, no one shall have access to a recall petition with the exception of:

1. The Dean of Students and their assistance
2. The Executive
3. The Council member chosen (either by the member in question or, failing that, by the Executive) to verify the petition.

S7) The Executive shall, upon the completion of the necessary steps and upon acceptance of a recall petition as true and complete, notify the Council member in question of their recall. The Executive shall also announce the recall to the Council at a meeting.

S8) Upon notification of recall by the Executive, the member in question shall cease to be a Council member.

S9) If the Council member in question is an Executive member, the remaining members of the Executive will appoint a replacement to serve on the Executive for recall matters pertaining to that member.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:**

Article 6: Council Composition

S1) The Council shall derive policy and administer all matters of concern to the Victoria College student body.

S2) The Council shall consist of the following:

1. The following elected positions, the holders of which shall serve as voting
Executives:
	1. President
	2. Vice-President External
	3. Vice-President Internal
	4. Vice-President Student Organizations
2. The following elected positions, the holders of which shall serve as voting Commissioners:
	1. Academic Commissioner
	2. Arts & Culture Commissioner
	3. Commuter Commissioner
	4. Equity Commissioner
	5. Scarlet & Gold Commissioner
	6. Sustainability Commissioner
	7. Mental Wellness Commissioner
3. The following elected positions, the holders of which shall serve as voting members:
	1. Three (3) First Year Councillors
	2. Five (5) Upper Year Councillors
	3. International Councillor
4. The following hired positions, the holders of which shall serve as non-voting members:
	1. Staff members:
		1. The Chair
		2. The Finance Chair
		3. The Office Manager
		4. The Communications Coordinator
		5. The Chief Returning Officer (CRO)
	2. Co-chairs:
		1. Equity Co-Chair
		2. Sustainability Co-Chair
		3. Commuter Co-Chair
		4. Academic Co-Chair

Article 7: Term of Office

S1) The Council shall dissolve itself at the annual Joint Council meeting and end its term in office.

S2) The Executives and Commissioners shall begin their terms after their ratifications at the annual Joint Council Meeting and shall end at the next Joint Council Meeting.

S3) Council members elected in Councillor positions or in any by-elections held after the Joint Council Meeting shall begin their terms when the Council ratifies their membership and shall end upon dissolution at the next Joint Council Meeting.

S4) No person may be elected or hired for more than one position on the Council per term, inclusive of voting, non-voting, and assessor members.

1. In the event that there is a vacancy for an Executive or Commissioner role following Spring Elections, the other members of the Executive may assume the bare minimum of the duties of said position until the Fall Elections.

Article 8: Responsibilities of Council Members

S1) Council members must exercise both skill and diligence in their roles.

S2) To fulfill their VUSAC responsibilities, members should:

1. Fulfill their specific roles on the Council.
2. Participate actively and fully in the activities of the Council, including but not limited to attending VUSAC events, completing equity training, and completing office hours as assigned by the Vice-President Internal, if applicable
3. Keep informed as to the business and affairs of the Council, including but not limited to attending Council meetings, responding to email votes, if applicable, and regularly reviewing meeting minutes.
4. Attend a minimum of three events hosted by the VUSAC Commissions, Levies, and/or Clubs per semester.
5. Meet with and transition their successor and submit a detailed transition report to the Vice-President Internal before April 30
6. Make a reasonable effort to attend VUSAC’s Retreat

Article 9: Conflicts of Interest

S1) A conflict of interest would arise when an individual, their family member(s), employer, or an organization to which they belong stands to gain a financial benefit by the decision being made by the Council. Members in a conflict of interest situation will declare a conflict and will not be present while the decision is being made.

S2) Members of council and assessor members in a conflict-of-interest situation will declare a conflict and will not be present while the decision is being made.

S3) Members who knowingly participate in decision-making in the affairs of the Council while in a conflict-of-interest may be subject to dismissal in accordance with Chapter 6, Section 4b of the VUSAC Council Policies.

S4) Members should not be in receipt of financial rewards (other than nominal and honoraria provided by the VUSAC) and/or gifts as a result of their position as a Council member. Any “gifts” in excess of a total of $25.00 should be declared to the Executive within seven (7) days of receiving such a gift. The list of gifts will be made available to members upon written request.

Article 10: Accountability

S1) All concerns regarding the performance of the President shall be directed to the Dean of Students or the Vice-President Internal, who shall take appropriate action regarding in an effort to inform the President of the concerns in a private and unattributed manner and shall receive, from the President, written notice as to how the concerns shall be addressed and/or rectified.

S2) All concerns regarding the performance of Council members other than the President shall be directed to the Vice-President Internal or the President. The Vice- President or the President shall speak in a private and unattributed manner with the member in question and shall decide upon a resolution with the member, should one be needed.

S3) Any Council member and all members of the VCU may initiate or participate in the recall of a Council member without penalty or judgment in accordance with Article 11.

Article 11: Recall Procedures

S1) Any elected Council member may be recalled by a petition signed by at least fifteen (15) percent of the VCU, as determined by the January enrollment of the current year. Signees must have their names on said petitions.

S2) The Office of the Dean of Students shall receive all recall petitions and shall:

1. Notify the Executive upon receipt of the petition.
2. Verify that at least the minimum number of students have signed said petition.
3. Secure said petition as a confidential document.
4. Ensure that said petition is kept in the Office of the Dean of Students.
5. Notify the Council member in question of the pending recall immediately upon verification.
6. Notify the Council member in question of their right to nominate one (1) member of Council to examine said petition on their behalf.

S3) Recall petitions shall not be removed from the Office of the Dean of Students, nor shall they be reproduced in any way.

S4) The names and student numbers on recall petitions shall all be verified by the Dean of Students as belonging to Victoria University students.

S5) The names and student numbers on recall petitions shall be verified randomly by one Council member who may be the representative chosen by the member in question.

S6) In order to ensure the privacy of the signees, no one shall have access to a recall petition with the exception of:

1. The Dean of Students and their assistance
2. The Executive
3. The Council member chosen (either by the member in question or, failing that, by the Executive) to verify the petition.

S7) The Executive shall, upon the completion of the necessary steps and upon acceptance of a recall petition as true and complete, notify the Council member in question of their recall. The Executive shall also announce the recall to the Council at a meeting.

S8) Upon notification of recall by the Executive, the member in question shall cease to be a Council member.

S9) If the Council member in question is an Executive member, the remaining members of the Executive will appoint a replacement to serve on the Executive for recall matters pertaining to that member.

Article 12: External Members of Council

S1) The following positions will serve adjacent to council.

1. Non-voting assessor members:
	1. Levy Heads
	2. The Orientation Student Co-Chairs
	3. UTSU Vic Representatives

 b) Ex-officio members:

 i) The President of Victoria University

 ii) The Victoria University Dean of Students

 iii) The Victoria University Campus Life Coordinator

 iv) The Student Coordinators of the VCC, VUS, and BoR

**Rationale: This section has been edited for clarity and to accurately represent the make-up of council, including adding in the mental wellness commissioner, international councillor, and co-chair positions. Article 8 was updated to increase the responsibilities of members of council, including attending Retreat, transitioning successors, and responding to email votes. Article 12 was added to clearly delineate the differences between members of Council and ex-officio and assessor members, who serve adjacent to the rest of council.**

**Proposed Amendment #16**

Chapter 7, Article 13, ADD section 5.

S1) The Executive shall take on a leadership role within the Council.

S2) The Executive shall, with the assistance and advice of the Chair, ensure that the operations and activities of the Council are in accordance with the Constitution.

S3) The Executive shall manage the Council’s relations with external groups and within the University, except in areas specifically delegated in the Constitution and its policies to other Council members.

S4) The Executive shall oversee all activities of the Council and assist in their successful execution.

S5) All members of the Executive will receive one vote within the Executive voting body. In the case of a tie, the President shall receive two votes.

**Rationale: Section 5 was added to illustrate the voting scheme as it currently exists within the Executive.**

**Proposed Amendment #17**

Chapter 7, Article 14, Section 4, ADD subsections J & K

S4) The Vice-President Student Organizations:

1. Shall be a returning student at Victoria College.
2. Shall serve as a voting member of the Executive.
3. Shall be an official working liaison between the Council and its levy receivers.
4. Shall be an official working liaison with all Victoria College clubs.
5. Shall, in the summer, facilitate the process of club (re)-application and ratification.
6. Shall be a voting member of the Budget Steering Committee.
7. Shall be the Chair of the Cat’s Eye Advisory Board, as per the Cat’s Eye Operating Policy.
8. Shall organize at least two meetings a year (one per term) with each clubs’ executive.
9. Shall organize and chair a minimum of one meeting for all club heads per academic year.
10. Shall organize at least three meetings a year (one per term and one during the summer) with each set of levy heads
11. Shall work with the Equity Commissioner and Equity Co-Chair to ensure that clubs and levies meet their equity training requirements, as outlined in Chapter XI, Section 7 of the Constitution and Chapter Thirteen, Section 1c) of the Council Policies

**Proposed Amendment #18**

Chapter 8, Article 16, Sections 1, 3, 4, & 6

Article 16: Roles and Responsibilities

S1) The Academic Commissioner:

1. Shall be a liaison between the Victoria University Office of Alumni Affairs, the Victoria University Registrar’s Office, and the VUSAC, including regularly updating the VUSAC on the events and services offered by these student academic support networks.
2. Shall serve as chair of the Academic Committee.
3. Shall hire the Academic Co-Chair.
4. Shall chair the Graduation Banquet Chair Selection Committee
5. Shall be a voting member of the Graduation Banquet Committee
6. Shall put on an annual Networking dinner in conjunction with the Victoria College Alumni Office

S2) The Arts & Culture Commissioner:

1. Shall be responsible for producing the Bob Revue and selecting its directors.
2. Shall organize programming group trips that enables Vic students to access
artistic and cultural events.
3. Shall be responsible for keeping the Council informed about Victoria University productions.
4. Shall be a co-chair of the Bob Director Selection Committee, along with the
outgoing Arts & Culture Commissioner. Both shall have voting status.
5. Shall be responsible for the production of four (4) events per year (with two (2) per semester recommended) designed to showcase and enhance the artistic talents of VCU members.
6. Shall assist the Campus Life Coordinator in the planning of the Gardiner Gala and attempt to promote the relationship between the Gardiner Museum and the VCU.
7. Shall, with the assistance of the Scarlet and Gold Commissioner, be responsible for the planning of the Gardiner Gala.
8. Shall attempt to promote the relationship between the Gardiner Museum and the VCU.

S3) The Commuter Commissioner

1. Shall be responsible for encouraging the maximum participation of commuter
students in the extra-curricular life of Victoria College and shall ensure that the Council is aware of the particular concerns of commuter students.
2. Shall promote integration of commuter and residence life.
3. Shall hire a Commuter Co-Chair.
4. Shall serve as co-chair of Victoria Off-Campus Commission (VOCA) with the commuter Co-Chair.
5. Shall be a commuter student for the entire term of office.
6. Shall sit on the Dean’s Advisory Committee & Graduation Banquet Chair Selection Committee, or designate an appropriate representative
7. Shall sit on the Orientation Executive Hiring Committee, or designate a representative
8. Shall sit on the Orientation Steering Committee and the Graduation Banquet Committee.
9. Shall, along with the Commuter Co-Chair, oversee the rental of student lockers in the Goldring Student Center

S4) The Equity Commissioner

1. Shall represent Victoria College students' concerns and social justice issues regarding, but not limited to age, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic background, ability, citizenship, nationality, ancestry, and personal, political or religious beliefs. This includes listening, responding to, and interacting with the voices of the Victoria College community.
2. Shall hire an Equity Co-Chair.
3. Shall serve as co-chair of the Equity Committee with the Equity Co-Chair as outlined in Chapter 8, Section 6 of the VUSAC Council Policies.
4. Shall advise the Victoria College community of inclusiveness and equitable representation and keep up to date with current social justice issues.
5. Shall be responsible for providing the Victoria College community with
educational programs, services and events.
6. Shall be responsible for working with the President and the Campus Life Coordinator to make arrangements for Equity training for the Council and the Equity Commission.

S5) The Mental Wellness Commissioner

1. Shall collaborate with other student organizations to organize mental wellness initiatives and programming for VCU members
2. Shall publicly disseminate information about on-campus mental health resources and services available to VCU members;
	1. Shall arrange, in conjunction with the Communications Coordinator, to maintain an updated list of those resources on the VUSAC website.
3. Shall work with University administration, student societies, and other campus organizations to advocate for improvements to mental wellness services at Victoria College and the University of Toronto as a whole
4. Shall host or collaborate on at least one (1) event per semester which focus on mental wellness, stress relief, or more holistic student health and wellbeing
5. Shall host or collaborate on at least one (1) event per year which aims to break down stigma regarding mental illness or to facilitate conversations about mental health
6. Shall ensure council is aware of the particular concerns students experiencing mental illness have with regards to VUSAC’s programming and services.

S6) The Scarlet & Gold Commissioner:

1. Shall be responsible for establishing a program of social events for all Victoria College students financed by the VUSAC.
2. Shall be the chair of the Highball Committee.
3. Shall be responsible for the following social events:
	1. Back to School Pub Night
	2. Semi-Formal
	3. Highball
4. Shall be responsible for hosting a social event in the first three (3) weeks of classes to welcome students back to school.
5. Shall be responsible for planning and hosting a semi-formal event for all Victoria students to take place in the first semester.
6. Shall be responsible for planning and hosting Highball for all VCU students to take place in second semester.
7. Shall host the Affordable Formal Wear Sale
8. Shall sit the following committees:
	1. the Performing Arts Endowment Committee.
	2. The Graduation Chair Selection Committee
	3. The Graduation Banquet Committee

S6) The Sustainability Commissioner:

1. Shall represent Victoria College student concerns regarding, but not limited to: climate change initiatives, behavioural modification, energy consumption, sustainable water and food practices, community gardens, and building
 codes. This includes listening, responding to, and interacting with the voices of the Victoria College community.
2. Shall hire a Sustainability Co-Chair, who shall act as Co-Chair of the Sustainability Commission.
3. Shall serve as Co-Chair of the Sustainability Commission as per Chapter 8, Section 10 of the VUSAC Council Policies.
4. Shall be responsible for the annual review of VUSAC’s sustainability practices.
5. Shall collaborate with other student clubs and organizations on campus and off-campus to promote environmental stewardship and sustainability.
6. Shall promote sustainable behaviours and practices within the Victoria College community.

**Rationale: This section has been edited to edit the specific description of responsibilities for various VUSAC Commissioners. In particular, Section 1 updates the Academic Commissioner’s role, including hiring an academic co-chair, and putting on an annual networking dinner. Section 3 updates the role of the Commuter Commissioner, including hiring a Commuter co-chair, and outlines the committees on which the Commissioner should serve. Section 4 edited the Equity Commissioner’s portfolio, to relieve the onus of necessarily *performing* equity training for all of Council and levies, instead allowing for the Commissioner to make *arrangements* for said training. Section 6 updated the Scarlet & Gold Commissioner’s role, indicating the most important events as a part of the portfolio, codifying the Affordable Formal Wear Sale, and updating the committees on which the Commissioner should serve.**

**Proposed Amendment #19**

Chapter 9, Article 17

S1) Councillors:

1. Shall be voting members of council
2. Shall be responsible for helping with Commission and Executive portfolios as assigned by the Vice-President Internal
3. Are encouraged to create their own initiatives throughout the year

**Proposed Amendment #20**

Chapter 10, Article 18

Article 18: Membership

S1) Staff members shall refer to the Chair, the Finance Chair, the Office Manager, the Communications Coordinator, and the Chief Returning Officer.

S2) Staff members shall be appointed by the Council upon the recommendation of the Hiring Committee as outlined in the VUSAC Equitable Hiring Policy.

S3) Staff members shall receive an honorarium of $500 each from the budget of the Vice- President Internal upon completion of duties and submission of their transition report to the VPI.

**Rationale: Technical amendments & including the importance of the transition report.**

**Proposed Amendment #21**

Chapter 10, Article 19

S1) The Chair:

1. Shall assist the Executive with the enforcement and interpretation of this Constitution.
2. Shall call and prepare an agenda for regular meetings.
3. Shall run meetings according to Robert’s Rules, this Constitution, and its Council Policies.
4. Shall Ensure Meetings Remain Civil and professional.
5. Shall manage email votes.

S2) The Finance Chair:

1. Shall serve as a signing authority alongside the President.
2. Shall be responsible for drawing up and preparing the master budget for the Council.
3. Shall be responsible for the allocation of the financial resources of the Council in conjunction with the Executive and subject to the approval of Council.
4. Shall organize a financial review of the VUSAC financial operations for the fiscal year.
5. Shall designate one office hour a week for cheque writing that will be made aware to all necessary groups.
6. Shall be the non-voting Chair of the Budget Steering Committee.
7. Shall be responsible for maintaining an on-going liaison with constituent organizations concerning financial matters.
8. Shall review VUSAC’s finances with a representative from the Office of the Bursar in consultation with the VUSAC President once a month.
9. Shall co-chair VUSAC’s Budget Ratification Meeting with the Chair.

S3) The Office Manager:

1. Shall take accurate, detailed, and concise minutes of each VUSAC meeting.
2. Shall send a draft of each set of minutes within at least 72 hours following the end of each VUSAC meeting to:
	1. all VUSAC members, and
	2. all others who are recorded as having spoken at the meeting
3. Shall finalize the draft of each set of minutes, following distribution to all VUSAC and assessor members and reception of feedback, and send to the Chair to be ratified at the following VUSAC meeting and to the Communications Coordinator to be posted on the website.
4. Shall be responsible for binding the year’s minutes, allocating one copy to the VUSAC and another to the Archives at E.J. Pratt Library.
5. Shall be responsible for the management of the VUSAC Office space including decor, layout, stock, and overseeing VUSAC’s services, including printing and room booking.

S4) The Communications Coordinator:

1. Shall be responsible for the execution of the VUSAC’s policy regarding communications as defined by the current council, with a constant emphasis on the principles of approachability, accessibility, and accountability.
2. Shall be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the VUSAC website.
3. Shall promote VUSAC events primarily through all available social media platforms.
4. Shall be responsible for publishing both the fall and winter VUSAC Semi-Annual Reports, a report on past and upcoming VUSAC activities.
5. Shall coordinate the VUSAC Newsletter.

S5) The Chief Returning Officer (CRO):

1. Is bound by the rules outlined in the Elections and Referenda Code (ERC)
2. Shall not be a member of the VCU
3. Shall supervise the elections and any referenda, and as such shall not be a candidate in the elections or the responsible party for a referenda
4. Unlike other members of council, the CRO is not obligated to:
	1. Attend meetings unless an update about elections or the ERC is to be given
	2. Hold office hours
	3. Attend VUSAC events
	4. Attend VUSAC council retreat
5. The CRO must undergo equity training prior to the commencement of fall elections.
6. The CRO may resign between election periods. In such circumstances, a new CRO shall be hired for the remainder of the academic year. Resignations shall be referred to the Executive. No resignation shall be considered as tendered between two weeks prior to the commencement of the elections and the official release of results. If the CRO is unable to fulfill their duties during this time, the executive may appoint a replacement who can be a member of VUSAC/the VCU, but may not be a candidate in the election.
7. May appoint an Assistant Chief Returning Officer (ACRO) to assist in the administration of elections. The ACRO:
	1. Should be a member of VUSAC if possible; if not, they must be a member of the VCU
	2. In Spring Elections, if it is a member of VUSAC, may only be a councillor
	3. Must be approved by the Executive
	4. Must not be a candidate in the elections and, if not already, will become a neutral party for the duration of the election

**Rationale: Mainly updated with technical amendments. Section 2 was edited to update the role of the Finance Chair, adding in the performance of levy audits. Section 3 was edited to update the role of the Office Manager, adding in responsibilities in terms of minutes and overseeing the running of the VUSAC Office.**

**Proposed Amendment #22**

Chapter 12, Article 21

Article 21: Elections

S1) Dates of elections shall be specified by the CRO, subject to the approval of the Council.

S2) In the Spring, the following members shall be elected:

1. President
2. Vice-President External
3. Vice-President Internal
4. Vice-President Student Organizations
5. Academic Commissioner
6. Arts & Culture Commissioner
7. Commuter Commissioner
8. Equity Commissioner
9. Mental Wellness Commissioner
10. Scarlet & Gold Commissioner
11. SustainabilityCommissioner
12. All members of the VCC
13. All members of the VUS
14. All members of the BoR

S3) There shall be a Joint Council Meeting of the outgoing and incoming Councils, as outlined in Article 5 Section 3.

S4) In the Fall, before the fourth Friday in the academic year, the following members shall be elected:

1. Eight (8) councillors, at least three (3) of which will be first years and three (3) of which will be upper years.
	1. The guarantee of three first years and three upper years is dependent on the fact that there are three first year and three upper year candidates. Should that number not run a by-election need not be held.
	2. The CRO will make an effort that first year candidates and upper year candidates be asked questions separately in the Facebook Elections forum and at Town Hall
2. All vacant offices of the VUSAC, if any
3. The remaining student representatives of the VCC, if any
4. The remaining student representatives of the VUS, if any
5. The remaining student representatives of the BoR, if any

S5) Nominations:

1. All nominations shall be made on the form of nomination supplied by the CRO.
2. Nominations shall be signed by the nominee and by a minimum of ten (10) nominators who are members of the VCU, with the following exceptions:
	1. Nominations for First Year Councillor positions and/or student
	representative positions on the VCC, BoR, and/or VUS shall be signed by the nominee and by a minimum of five (5) nominators who are members of the VCU.
	2. Nominations for Vice-President positions shall be signed by the nominee and by a minimum of fifteen (15) nominators who are members of the VCU
	3. Nominations for President shall be signed by the nominee and by a minimum of twenty-five (25) nominators who are members of the VCU.
3. Nominations for fall elections are to open in the first week of classes and close at the end of the second week, with elections held prior to the fourth Friday in the academic year.
4. Spring Elections are to be completed by the end of March.

S6) Uncontested Elections

1. An election shall be considered an “uncontested election” if at the conclusion of the All-Candidates Meeting, it such that there are:
	1. Three (3) or more Commissioner seats with only candidate; and/or
	2. Two (2) or more Executive seats with only one candidate; and/or
	3. Three (3) or fewer candidates for First Year Councillor; and/or
	4. Five (5) or fewer candidates for Upper Year Councillor; and/or
	5. No candidates for any single Commissioner or Executive seat

b) In the case of an uncontested Spring Election, nominations shall be re-opened for a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of four (4) days.

c) In the case of an uncontested Fall Election or By-Election nominations shall be re- opened for a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of six (6) days.

d) In the case of any uncontested election, nominations shall be re-opened only for the positions which are uncontested. No campaigning from candidates in already contested positions shall be permitted until the extended nominations period closes and the campaign period officially begins.

e) Should there be no new nominees at the end of the extended nominations period, there will be no further extension of this period.

f) Beyond the extended nominations period, all other elections policies outlined in the Elections and Referenda Code shall be in full force and effect.

g) Should the nominations period be extended, the campaign and voting periods shall not be unreasonably shortened. Their new dates shall be determined by the CRO in conjunction with the Elections and Appeals Committee.

S7) By-Elections:

1. All By-Election rules and procedures shall be the same as those for any regular election, insofar as such rules and procedures are applicable.
2. By-Elections shall be held following the recalls of Council members and can be held following resignations. If a position remains vacant, that position shall be filled by Council appointment.

S8) Referenda:

1. Any student group wishing to raise their student levy, or to create a new student levy, must hold a referendum open to all members of the VCU.
2. The VUSAC may hold a referendum in order to seek the direct advice of the VCU regarding any important issues
3. The VUSAC must hold a referendum upon the receipt of a petition signed by at least 15% of the VCU calling for said referendum, according to the petition guidelines outlined in Article11.
4. Referendum results shall be considered binding by the Council for results in favour of said referendum question by a two-thirds majority of at least 10% of the VCU. Results in favour of said referendum question by a simple majority (but less than 10% of the VCU) may not necessarily be considered binding by the VUSAC, upon the discretion of the Council.

Proposed Amendments:

Article 21: Elections

S1) Dates of elections shall be specified by the CRO, subject to the approval of the Council.

S2) In the Spring, the following members shall be elected:

1. President
2. Vice-President External
3. Vice-President Internal
4. Vice-President Student Organizations
5. Academic Commissioner
6. Arts & Culture Commissioner
7. Commuter Commissioner
8. Equity Commissioner
9. Mental Wellness Commissioner
10. Scarlet & Gold Commissioner
11. Sustainability Commissioner
12. 2 UTSU Vic Directors
13. 10 members of the VCC
14. 2 members of the VUS
15. 4 members of the BoR, one of whom will serve a 2-year term.
	1. The President, in consultation with the Bursar, shall choose one of the elected students to serve the 2-year term. This student must be a returning student.

S3) There shall be a Joint Council Meeting of the outgoing and incoming Councils, as outlined in Article 5 Section 3.

S4) In the Fall, before the fourth Friday in the academic year, the following members shall be elected:

1. Eight (8) councillors, at least three (3) of which will be first years and three (3) of which will be upper years.
	1. The guarantee of three first years and three upper years is dependent on the fact that there are three first year and three upper year candidates. Should that number not run a by-election need not be held.
	2. The CRO will make an effort that first year candidates and upper year candidates be asked questions separately in the Facebook Elections forum and at Town Hall
2. One (1) International Councillor
3. All vacant offices of the VUSAC, if any
4. The remaining student representatives of the VCC, if any
5. The remaining student representatives of the VUS, if any
6. The remaining student representatives of the BoR, if any

S5) Nominations:

1. All nominations shall be made on the form of nomination supplied by the CRO.
2. Nominations shall be signed by the nominee and by members of the VCU. The number requirements of nominators are as follows:
	1. Nominations for commissioners shall be signed by a minimum of ten (10) nominators who are members of the VCU.
	2. Nominations for First Year Councillor positions and/or representatives of the VCC, BoR, and/or VUS shall be signed by the nominee and by a minimum of five (5) nominators who are members of the VCU.
	3. Nominations for Vice-President positions shall be signed by the nominee and by a minimum of fifteen (15) nominators who are members of the VCU
	4. Nominations for President shall be signed by the nominee and by a minimum of twenty-five (25) nominators who are members of the VCU.
3. Nominations for fall elections are to open in the first week of classes and shall be open for a minimum of two (2) weeks, with elections held prior to the fourth Friday in the academic year.
4. Spring Elections are to be completed by the end of March.

S6) Uncontested Elections

1. An election shall be considered an “uncontested election” if at the conclusion of the All-Candidates Meeting, it such that there are:
	1. Three (3) or more Commissioner seats with only candidate; and/or
	2. Two (2) or more Executive seats with only one candidate; and/or
	3. Three (3) or fewer candidates for First Year Councillor; and/or
	4. Five (5) or fewer candidates for Upper Year Councillor; and/or
	5. No candidates for any single Commissioner or Executive seat

b) In the case of an uncontested Spring Election, nominations shall be re-opened for a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of four (4) days.

c) In the case of an uncontested Fall Election or By-Election nominations shall be re- opened for a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of six (6) days.

d) In the case of any uncontested election, nominations shall be re-opened only for the positions which are uncontested. No campaigning from candidates in uncontested positions shall be permitted until the extended nomination period closes. Campaigning will proceed for candidates in already contested positions.

e) Should there be no new nominees at the end of the extended nominations period, there will be no further extension of this period.

f) Beyond the extended nominations period, all other elections policies outlined in the Elections and Referenda Code shall be in full force and effect.

g) Should the nominations period be extended, the campaign and voting periods shall not be unreasonably shortened. Their new dates shall be determined by the CRO in conjunction with the Elections and Appeals Committee.

S7) By-Elections:

1. All By-Election rules and procedures shall be the same as those for any regular election, insofar as such rules and procedures are applicable.
2. By-Elections shall be held following the recalls of Council members and can be held following resignations. If a position remains vacant, that position shall be filled by an Executive appointment.

S8) Referenda:

1. Any student group wishing to raise their student levy, or to create a new student levy, must hold a referendum open to all members of the VCU.
2. The VUSAC may hold a referendum in order to seek the direct advice of the VCU regarding any important issues
3. The VUSAC must hold a referendum upon the receipt of a petition signed by at least 15% of the VCU calling for said referendum, according to the petition guidelines outlined in Article11.
4. Referendum results shall be considered binding by the Council for results in favour of said referendum question by a two-thirds majority of at least 10% of the VCU. Results in favour of said referendum question by a simple majority (but less than 10% of the VCU) may not necessarily be considered binding by the VUSAC, upon the discretion of the Council.

**Rationale: Section 2 was updated to indicate the number of student representatives elected to Victoria College’s governing bodies.**

**Proposed Amendment #23**

Chapter 13, Article 22

S1) Constitutional Amendments:

1. Shall be classified either as technical amendments or amendments in principle.
	1. Technical amendments are those and only those which are amendments to clarify working definitions or ambiguities in this Constitution.
	2. All other amendments to this Constitution shall be classified as amendments in principle.
2. Must receive a 3⁄4 majority of Council in order to pass.
3. Technical amendments may be voted upon in slates, with the slate being set
by an Executive member. Any Council member may separate amendments from a slate prior to voting. This separation can be made by creating a slate, so as to create two sets of 2 amendments, or by removing individual amendments. A slate of amendments must also receive a 3⁄4 majority of Council in order to pass.
4. All amendments must follow the approval regulations outlined in Chapter 7, Section 1h of the VUSAC Council Policies.
5. An amendment shall be considered in effect in this Constitution on the fourteenth (14th) day following the Council meeting at which it was passed, unless a petition is received signed by at least fifty (50) students of Victoria University before said day, requesting an open meeting for the purpose of questioning the same amendment, as described in Article 5 Section 2.

S2) Amendments to the Council Policies:

1. All amendments to the Council Policies shall be considered only as policy amendments, with no distinction between technicality and principle.
2. All amendments to the Policies must receive a ⅔ majority of Council in
order to pass.
3. All amendments must follow the approval regulations outlined in Chapter 7, Section 1h of the VUSAC Council Policies.
4. An amendment shall be considered in effect into the Council Policies on the fourteenth (14th) day following the Council meeting at which it was passed.

S3) Amendments to the Electoral Policy shall follow the same guidelines as amendments to the Council Policies.

S4) When the Constitution and the Council Policies do not apply, the Council shall adopt the procedure outlined in Robert’s Rules of Order.

S5) Amendments to this Constitution, the Council Policies, and the Electoral Policy shall be recorded and posted on the website as appendices to the Constitution.

S6) Suspension of Council Policies

1. Individual clauses or sections of the Council Policies may be suspended by a 2/3 majority Council
2. Policy suspensions must be made proactively, before a breach of policy has occurred.
	1. Add in amending formula as noted above for Constitution and CP
3. Suspended policies from the previous term must be reviewed annually at the first Council meeting after the Joint Council Meeting, at which point a vote must occur to remove the policy from the manual. If the policy remains in effect, it may not be suspended for the duration of the term.
4. Clauses or sections of the Constitution may not be suspended.

**Proposed Amendments:**

S1) Constitutional Amendments:

1. Shall be classified either as technical amendments or amendments in principle.
	1. Technical amendments are those and only those which are amendments to clarify working definitions, grammar, or ambiguities in this Constitution.
	2. All other amendments to this Constitution shall be classified as amendments in principle.
2. Must receive a 3⁄4 majority of Council in order to pass.
3. Technical amendments may be voted upon in slates - a set of multiple amendments presented to council in the agenda at once
	1. Any Council member may separate amendments from a slate prior to voting.
	2. A slate of amendments must also receive a 3⁄4 majority of Council in order to pass.
4. Amendments in principle must be presented individually to the Council to consider individually.
	1. For ease of voting, members may motion to omnibus amendments in principle to be voted on all at once
	2. Any Council member may separate amendments from a slate prior to voting
5. All potential amendments must be presented as Discussion items at a VUSAC meeting before being voted on.
	1. All amendments must be taken to the Exec before being brought as a Discussion item.
	2. All amendments must be accepted by Council as Discussion items so long as they are not contrary to the object and purpose of the mandate of Council.
	3. Edits to proposed amendments must be completed and amendment drafts must be posted outside the VUSAC Office and on the VUSAC website at least seven (7) days before the Council meeting at which it will come to a vote
6. An amendment shall be considered in effect in this Constitution on the fourteenth (14th) day following the Council meeting at which it was passed, unless a petition is received signed by at least fifty (50) students of Victoria University before said day, requesting an open meeting for the purpose of questioning the same amendment, as described in Article 5 Section 2.

S2) Amendments to the Council Policies:

1. All amendments to the Council Policies shall be considered only as policy amendments, with no distinction between technicality and principle.
2. All amendments to the Policies must receive a ⅔ majority of Council in
order to pass.
3. The amending formula for the Council Policies will follow the same process as the Constitution as outlined above in Chapter 13, Article 22, Section 1, Subsection E
4. An amendment shall be considered in effect into the Council Policies on the fourteenth (14th) day following the Council meeting at which it was passed.

S3) Amendments to the Elections and Referenda Code shall follow the same guidelines as amendments to the Council Policies.

S4) Amendments to this Constitution, the Council Policies, and the Electoral Policy shall be recorded and posted on the website.

S6) Suspension of Council Policies

1. Individual clauses or sections of the Council Policies may be suspended by a 2/3 majority Council
2. Policy suspensions must be made proactively, before a breach of policy has occurred.
	1. Proposals to suspend Council Policies must go through the same process as proposals to amend the Constitution, as outlined in Chapter 13, Article 22, Section 1, Subsection E of this document
3. Suspended policies from the previous term must be reviewed annually at the first Council meeting after the Joint Council Meeting, at which point a vote must occur to remove the policy from the manual. If the policy remains in effect, it may not be suspended for the duration of the term.

Clauses or sections of the Constitution may not be suspended.

**Rationale:**

**Section 1 subsections ‘C’ and ‘D’ were updated to account for the differences between types of amendments.**

**Section 1 subsection ‘E’ was added. Part of this section comes from the Council Policies, with the rationale that information regarding amending governing documents should live in the Constitution. Section ‘E’ was updated to ensure a fair approach to amending documents, not relying on the supreme authority of the Executive, ensuring full council discussion, and mandating the posting of any proposed amendments for all to view before voting on the amendment in question.**

**Section 4 was removed to indicate the supremacy of the Constitution and Council Policies over Robert’s Rules.**

**Section 6, subsection b, item 1, indicates a clear process for the suspending of Council Policies.**

**Proposed Amendment #24**

ADD Chapter 14

*As it appeared in the Council Policies document:*

Section 1: Absenteeism

1. A cumulative record of attendance will be kept by the Secretary and attached to all minutes of Council meetings; this record will include the number of office hours missed if applicable.
2. After three inexcusably missed meetings (i.e. for reasons other than illness or bereavement), or three missed office hours the Executive will issue a warning in writing to the member in question, explaining the consequences of further absenteeism and requesting an explanation.
3. After one further missed meeting or office hour, the Vice-President Internal will request an explanation from the member in question. If this explanation is not satisfactory to the Executive, the President will make a motion to dismiss the member at the next scheduled council meeting. Should a member of the Executive be impeached, a Commissioner or Councillor will motion to dismiss the member.
4. At the meeting where the motion of dismissal is discussed, the President (in consultation with the Executive) will present the reasons for the motion of dismissal. The member in question will be given a chance to explain their reasons for missed meetings. The Council may wish to consider other contributing factors as a balancing factor to missed meetings. The motion will then be put to a vote.
	1. Where the reason for absenteeism is communicated as being due to experiences of marginalization on Council, the Council must pay particular attention to this contributing factor;
	2. Such experiences may include, but are not limited to, instances of racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, and classism;
	3. When such experiences are said to be the reason for absenteeism, the VUSAC Internal Review Committee must immediately begin an investigation into the systemic factors which led to those experiences. The Equity Commissioner will replace the Vice-President Internal as the Committee’s Chair and the Equity Co-Chair shall join its membership throughout this investigation and this investigation alone.
5. In the case of an Executive or Commissioner member’s resignation or dismissal, one or more Councillor(s) may be asked by the Executive to fulfill the duties of the resigned/dismissed member. If the Councillor(s) is (are) unable or unwilling to fulfill the position, the Executive shall convene to find an appropriate alternative.
6. When the Executive convenes to find a replacement for the resigned/dismissed member, they shall do so in consultation with the Equity Commissioner when possible.

Section 2: Non-Performance of Duties

1. If a Council member is found to be in violation of the spirit of the Constitution for non-performance of duties or is found to be detrimental to the functioning of the VUSAC, the Executive shall issue a written warning to the member in question. If the member continues to obstruct the functioning of the VUSAC, the Executive shall present a motion for dismissal of the member at the next Council meeting.
	1. Where the reason for absenteeism is communicated as being due to experiences of marginalization on Council, the Council must pay particular attention to this contributing factor;
	2. Such experiences may include, but are not limited to, instances of racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, and classism;
	3. When such experiences are said to be the reason for absenteeism, the VUSAC Internal Review Committee must immediately begin an investigation into the systemic factors which led to those experiences. The Equity Commissioner will replace the Vice-President Internal as the Committee’s Chair and the Equity Co-Chair shall join its membership throughout this investigation and this investigation alone.
2. Expulsion requires a two-thirds majority vote.

Section 3: Resignation

1. Resignations shall be referred to the Executive.
2. No resignation shall be considered as tendered between April 15 and the beginning of the Fall semester.

Section 4: Termination

1. Members who do not fulfill the requirements of their position, and do not make alternate arrangements to fulfill the requirements of their position, will be deemed as uncommitted in fulfilling the requirements for the position, and subject to dismissal.
2. Members who participate in decision-making on Council while in a conflict-of-interest will be subject to dismissal.
3. The procedure for dismissal of members will be as follows; the individual will be notified at least one week in advance that VUSAC is deliberating as to whether they will be dismissed from their position.
4. The decision to remove a member will be passed by a two-thirds vote of all VUSAC members. If the member in question is a voting member, they shall have a vote at this meeting. Should the member be removed, the position will become vacant immediately.

PROPOSED EDITS:

Section 1: Grounds for removal from office:

1. Absenteeism
	1. A cumulative record of attendance will be kept by the Chair and attached to all minutes of Council meetings; this record will include the number of office hours missed if applicable.
	2. After three inexcusably missed meetings, inclusive of the VUSAC Budget meetings (i.e. for reasons other than illness or bereavement), or three inexcusably missed office hours the Executive will issue a warning in writing to the member in question, explaining the consequences of further absenteeism and requesting an explanation.
	3. After one further missed meeting or office hour, the Vice-President Internal will request an explanation from the member in question. If this explanation is not satisfactory to the Executive, the President will make a motion to dismiss the member at the next scheduled council meeting.
2. Non-performance of duties
	1. If a Council member is found to be in violation of the spirit of the Constitution for non-performance of duties or is found to be detrimental to the functioning of the VUSAC, the Executive shall issue a written warning to the member in question. If the member continues to obstruct the functioning of the VUSAC, the Executive shall present a motion for dismissal of the member at the next Council meeting.
3. Termination
	1. Members who do not fulfill the requirements of their position, and do not make alternate arrangements to fulfill the requirements of their position, will be deemed as uncommitted in fulfilling the requirements for the position, and subject to dismissal.
	2. Members who participate in decision-making on Council while in a conflict-of-interest will be subject to dismissal.

Section 2: Procedures for Removal

1. Should a member of council be accused of any of the three grounds listed above, the procedure for removal of office will be as follows.
2. A member of the Executive shall move a motion to remove a member of council from office. Should an Executive be considered for removal, a Commissioner or Councillor will motion to dismiss the member.
3. The individual will be notified at least one week in advance that VUSAC is deliberating as to whether they will be dismissed from their position.
4. At the meeting where the motion of dismissal is discussed, the President or a member of the Executive will present the reasons for the motion of dismissal. The member in question will be given a chance to explain their reasons for absenteeism/non-performance of duties/termination. The Council may wish to consider other contributing factors. The motion will then be put to a vote.
5. The vote will require 3/4 majority to pass.
	1. Where the reason for absenteeism is communicated as being due to experiences of marginalization on Council, the Council must pay particular attention to this contributing factor;
	2. Such experiences may include, but are not limited to, instances of racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, and classism;
	3. When such experiences are said to be the reason for absenteeism, the Executive and/or the Equity Commissioner shall take all measures to refer the situation to a member of the Dean’s Office or another capable body external to the matter at hand.

Section 3: Resignation

1. Resignations shall be referred to the Executive.
2. Should the resignation occur prior to the Fall elections, an election will take place to fill the position. Should the position remain unfilled or should the resignation take place following the fall elections, members of council will assume the duties of the role to the best of their abilities.
3. If a staff member or co-chair should resign the Executive shall exercise their judgement in re-hiring someone to take their place, considering VUSAC’s Equitable Hiring Policy.

**Rationale: The substance of this amendment is almost identical to that which was found in the Council Policies - the policy was mostly edited for clarity of understanding.**

**Proposed Amendment #26**

**Chapter 7, Article 14, Section 1.**

S1) The President:

1. Shall be a returning student at Victoria College.
2. Shall act as the official spokesperson of the Council
3. Shall serve as a voting member of the Executive.
4. Shall serve as a signing authority alongside the Finance Chair.
5. Shall liaise with other student societies on campus.
6. Shall sit on the Board of Regents for a one-year term during their presidency.
7. Shall serve as the voting Chair of the Standing Committee on Development and Student Space.
8. Shall be a voting member of the Internal Review Committee.
9. Shall be a voting member of the Victoria College Orientation executive team.
10. Shall serve as a student representative on the Victoria College Council.
11. Shall serve as a student representative on the Victoria University Senate.
12. Shall represent Victoria College at meetings of student and administrative groups across campus, including meetings of the St. George Round Table and the Provost’s Undergraduate Student Advisory Group.
13. Shall have regular meetings with the President of Victoria University and Dean of Students of Victoria College
14. Shall work with the Dean of Students to coordinate meetings of the Dean’s Advisory Committee.
15. Shall be a member of the Alumni of Victoria College Executive
16. Shall be hired by the Council as the Summer Office Manager.
17. Shall, with the Vice-President Internal, be responsible for the upkeep of the Council’s internal memory system.

**Rationale: To include the President’s role in committees at Vic and broader UofT.**