



Athabasca University Students' Union

Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at 2:00pm MST

Council:	President J. Lehmann (chair), Councillor C. Akuchie, Councillor D. Ramirez, Councillor O. Shepherd, Councillor F. Arsenault, Councillor N. Brown, Councillor A. Karien, Councillor K. Thompson
Guests:	B. Kotowich of Focused Leadership Group
Regrets:	None
Notes:	None

Agenda and Minutes

1.0 Welcome and Call for attendance

2.0 Land Acknowledgement

Athabasca University Students' Union respectfully acknowledges that we are on and work on the traditional lands of the Indigenous Peoples (Inuit, First Nations, Métis) of Canada. We also recognize that our student members span across the lands we now know as Canada and abroad, and we acknowledge and celebrate these Indigenous histories, languages, and cultures. As an organization, AUSU is committed to decolonization, reconciliation, and conciliation efforts, acknowledging that there is much to unlearn. AUSU will continuously strive to build equitable relationships with Indigenous learners at AU, as well as Indigenous members and staff within AUSU, advocate with and for Indigenous learners through consultation, and create spaces that are inclusive, respectful, and equitable.

3.0 Approval of Agenda

Motion 1: BIRT AUSU Council approves the February 18, 2026 meeting agenda.

O. Shepherd / D. Ramirez (Carried)

4.0 Approval of Minutes

Tabled until next meeting

Community Agreement

5.0 Reassertion of Community agreement

B. Kotowich

- Moderator: B. Kotowich

Old Business

6.0 Review of Action Items J. Lehmann

Note: The status of action items can be found at the bottom of the agenda.

New Business

7.0 Reserves J. Lehmann

Motion 2: BIRT AUSU Council approves the transfer of the legal reserve, staff search reserve and contingency reserve to a consolidated contingency reserve.

J. Lehmann / K. Thompson (Carried)

Motion 3: BIRT AUSU Council dissolves the voice reserve, the project reserve, and the awards reserve and directs that the current balances be rolled into the operating reserve.

J. Lehmann / D. Ramirez (Carried)

8.0 CRA Communication J. Lehmann

Motion 4: BIRT AUSU Council directs the bookkeeper to respond to the CRA and issue the payment as requested.

CRA PIER Report

O. Shepherd / F. Arsenault (Carried)

9.0 AUSU Indigenous Students Award J. Lehmann

Motion 4: BIRT AUSU Council approves the renewal of AUSU pledge to the AUSU Indigenous Students Award administered by AU.

J. Lehmann / A. Karien (Carried)

10.0 Discussion: Equity Lens B. Kotowich

- Council discussed what applying an equity lens means for AUSU and for AU students. Members considered how equity initiatives can support fairness and inclusion across the student body, and emphasized the importance of ensuring that equity efforts do not unintentionally create structural or governance challenges. Council agreed on the need for equity practices that are consistent, sustainable, and aligned with AUSU's mandate to represent all students.

Reports

11.0 None

Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting of AUSU Council will be: February 21, 2026

Motion to Adjourn

Summary of Action Items

Action Item	Status
Name	Deadline