

###### SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, April 14th, 2022

6:30 pm, Video Conference

(Deputy) Speaker: Nick Mertin

Secretary: Matthew Sun

*Council begins, 6:35 pm.*

# I. ATTENDANCE

# II. Speaker’s Business

Nick Mertin: This was a SGM called by President Bisol to elect a new VPSA. Briefly, there is some references to council because these are run like a typical council meeting. Unlike council thought, this is a general meeting meaning every single undergraduate engineering student equally gets a vote on what’s going on here. Everyone in EngSoc gets to speak on any motion as well. Voting is through polls. I want to acknowledge Queen’s is situated on traditional Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee territory, that we are very fortunate to be learning here, and would encourage all to familiarize themselves with aboriginal history.

# III. New Business [Motion 1]

##### Motion 1

Whereas: An agenda has been made;

& whereas: we need to approve it;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Council approve the agenda for the Special General Meeting of April 14th, 2022

Moved by: Kaija “I forgot this motion” Niska Edwards

Seconded by: Nick “and we need an agenda” Mertin

**Motion passes, 6:38 pm**

# IV. Executive OATH

Standing before the membership at this SGM occurring on April 14th, 2022, I, Ali Bekheet, the incoming Vice President of Student Affairs, pledge to uphold the values, duties, and visions of the Engineering Society at Queen’s University along with any other responsibilities as a member of the executive as outlined in the constitution, by-laws, and policy manuals of the Engineering Society of Queen’s University.

# V. NEW BUSINESS [MOTIONS 2-3]

##### Motion 2

Whereas: The Engineering Society of Queen’s University needs a Vice-President of Student Affairs for the 2022-2023 year;

& whereas: since we are outside of the elections period they need to be elected at a council according to by-law;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The membership of the Engineering Society of Queen’s University elect Ali Bekheet as the incoming Vice-President of Student Affairs for the 2022-2023 year.

Moved by: Kaija “Mama Mia“ Niska Edwards

Seconded by: Jane “here we go again“ Cohen-Wallis

// Oath of the Executive //

**Motion passes, 7:03 pm**

**Election Period:**

Kaija Niska Edwards: This will be a vote of confidence for candidate Bekheet. First question, engagement has taken a huge hit over the pandemic; how will you fix this issue and address this issue within EngSoc?

Ali Bekheet: Short-term solution – better advertisement. Social media platforms and looking to new and different ways of doing it. Facebook for example, doesn’t work as much. Asking students how they feel what the best way to contact them is. Big thing is looking into mental health resources. Lack of engagement in this area and we need to remedy this. I believe that we need people to realize the added value of the Engineering Society so that they can say that I was happy to be apart of this organization. People will be more likely to give back this way and revitalize the engineering spirit. This is my long-term goal.

Kaija Niska Edwards: Equity, diversity, inclusivity, indignity, and accessibility (EDII-AS) How will you as an executive work to improve EDII-AS across the society?

Ali Bekheet: One of the things is making sure we’re giving more resources, reaching out to groups, and finding solutions for the indigenous component. Indigenous students feel like they don’t belong, and I will make it a top priority. Working with the directors, I will make sure something will be done. I am planning with working with others to address sexual violence issues as well. Unfortunately, its not the best and there’s a lot to improve there. Looking for an internal accountability system. Will work towards accessibility as well.

Kaija Niska Edwards: Being an EngSoc executive can be a stressful role, how will you ensure you take care of yourself and maintain balance?

Ali Bekheet: Work proactively. Knowing when to delegate. I have confidence in the ED team. It’s a team and I can go to them instead of it spiraling into an issue. It’s the same vice versa, they can come to me as well. Its an important aspect for a successful team. I will be trying to improve resources for all students in EngSoc.

From general members:

Julia Newcombe: All of the executive roles oversee hundreds of students; how would you describe yourself as a manager and a leader?

Ali Bekheet: The best thing I can do is communicate; it can go a long way. It is vital. When we’re all on the same page, we can get the most out of it. I believe its important to go look to making sure we’re all in this together and we strive to get the best we can. This is only doable with communication. I would like to give people freedom; I want the students to receive the tools needed to accomplish their goals. I want them to chase their passion and facilitate this for them. Helping them do what they think is best for them is what I think a good leader is about, not telling them what to do.

Alison Wong: Improving access and resources regarding mental health. I was wondering what specific initiatives you were thinking of putting in action.

Ali Bekheet: I’ve been looking throughout EngSoc as well as the EDII action plan. I want to make sure its fully accomplished. I’ve been Residence Don here and there are many resources that are overlooked. The avenues are sometimes blocked, and I want to work with the university to remove these barriers. We need to make sure there’s a clear guide and a person in the EngSoc who understands the resources available across EngSoc. We need to also look into any resources that EngSoc can implement on their own. Of course, I would need to work with the incoming executives regarding these topics.

##### Motion 3

Whereas: It’s good to own land and all incoming executives should own it;

& whereas: The Engineering Society and Research Center (Kingston) allows us to hold it;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Queen’s Engineering Society and its members recognize that Danielle Rivard, Ali Bekheet, and Evan Wray, will sit on the Engineering Society and Research Centre (Kingston) Board of Directors as of May 1st, 2021.

Moved by: Evan Wray

Seconded by: Danielle Rivard

**Motion passes, 7:09 pm**

# Vi. Statements and Questions by Members

Ali Bekheet: I’d like to thank everyone for taking time out of their day to come out to vote today, thank you for your support and I look forward to working with you all next year and over the summer. Thank you all!

##### Motion to Close:

**Motion Passes, 7:11 pm**