

MINUTES

Title of meeting: **Recovery Committee Meeting**

Date: May 1st, 2020

Time: 11:00 am

Location: Online meeting link

(1) Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 11:00 am

(2) Roll Call

In attendance

-Sydney Snape
-Sandy Lun
-Larissa Donovan
-Sarah Ewart
-Natasha Weninger
-Sunaina Singh
-Natalie Davis
-Kyle Komarynsky
-Maximillian Cadillac-Molson
-Madeline Macey

(3) General Meeting minutes

1. Introduction

This group was formed by students for students as a grassroots support group to help TRU law students throughout COVID-19. To assist students throughout the summer at home in job searches, housing searches and other things related to COVID-19 and to assist students in their transition back to school in the fall whether that be online remotely or in person. As a committee we recognize that every individual will have different privileges and challenges during this pandemic and our goal is to help support all students and be aware of systemic issues facing marginalized groups in this process.

2. Pillars of the Recovery Committee

→ Education
→ Careers
→ Mental health
→ Community

3. Goals of this meeting

-Meant to brainstorm possible student support options that could be made available for students over the summer and into the fall should classes return in an online, remote platform.

4. Issues discussed

-Opportunity for temporary unpaid articles being granted from the Law Society of BC in an attempt to help students gain experience in the legal field in light of COVID-19 cancelling and postponing summer jobs. This proposal was discussed by the committee and many issues were raised including the issues of timing, privilege, and a lack of survey of students to determine support. The committee officially decided NOT to support this initiative.

-OCI process/Articles/Clerkships. The issue of OCI's was discussed and possible supports for students were also discussed. OCI's are currently scheduled as normal, but it may not remain that way. Support for Christi and support for students if we attend class remotely was discussed. Resume reviews, practice interviews, etc. were discussed as possible ways to help support students going through the OCI process.

-Resource App: The possibility of creating a TRU law resource app was discussed. However, because students come from across Canada and not just BC logistics were complicated, and this is a possibility to be discussed throughout the OCI process.

-Course lobbying: discussion around course offerings was had with a particular concern to the changing legal market and how that could possibly effect the need for certain courses to be offered more frequently. Reference was made to the course survey and the results.

-Obstacles to transitioning back to school were discussed including the costs of travel and housing should school resume in person, and the costs of living elsewhere should it resume online. This was determined to be an issue to be dealt with after the decision from the BC government and the school.

-The issue on mental health resources available for TRU students was discussed. If classes move online, mental health issues will arise and may not be able to be dealt with in person on campus. How can we ensure students have access to these resources? Especially for first year law students.

-If we go back to school in September how can we support students in an online environment? Are there platforms that we can use for study groups? How can we support clubs and socialization and community? AS this is a complex issue, it was briefly raised and the committee decided to discuss it at the next meeting.