



Important Governance Dates Winter 2026

- **General Assembly**
 - **February 2** from 6-9 pm
 - Submit motions to Speaker by **January 28**
- **Executive Elections**
 - Nomination and signature collection: **January 29 to February 12**
 - Campaign period: **February 26 to March 20**
 - Polling period: **March 9 - March 20**
- **Referendum period**
 - Final LegCo meeting to get something on the ballot: **February 12**



Reminders and Updates from Secretariat

- Proxy Procedure
 - **24 hrs in advance**
- Send **everything** to **Secretariat@ssmu.ca**
 - If you need to address one of us individually still make sure secretariat@ssmu.ca is in the TO line and write our name in the body of the email (please and thank you)



Raising a Point!

- **What is a point?**
 - A formal way for a member to interrupt proceedings in order to address an immediate procedural issue
- **Types and Examples:**
 - “Point of **order**: This motion does not have a seconder and cannot be debated”
 - “Point of **information**: how much is left in the Campus Life Fund?”
 - “Point of **inquiry**: is a simple or $\frac{2}{3}$ majority needed to pass this?”
 - “Point of **clarification**: does the amendment change the amount allotted or the date its given on?”
 - “Point of **privilege**: Can we turn the heat in the room down?”
 - “Point of **appeal**: I appeal the decision of the Chair”



What is a Point not?

- **Opinions**
 - “Can I raise a point? This is a misrepresentation of my statement”
 - “Can I make a point? I dont think X and Y should happen because Z”
- **Questions answered in debate!**
 - “Point of information: didnt we try this last year?”
- **Factual disagreement:**
 - “Point of Order: the date on this amendment is incorrect can we change it?”
 - **Factual disagreement ≠ procedural error**

TLDR; POINTS SUPERSEDE OTHER ACTIONS BECAUSE THEY REGARD PROCEDURAL MATTERS



Questions?



Standing Rules Edits:



Standing Rules Edits

- **Reorganised**
 - Standing rules will follow the natural progression of a meeting
 - References to IRs are updated to reference the correct clauses
- **Closed Laptops:**
 - Councillors are encouraged to take notes by hand for guest speakers
- **Members of the Gallery:**
 - May participate in everything that does not require the explicit power of a councilor
 - Eg. moving a motion
 - Right now: can not speak during question periods, generative debate, or debate following a motion



Standing Rules Edits

- **Speaking Time:**
 - Executive, Committee, and Councilor reports and the presentation of any business, including motions, will last a maximum of four (4) minutes and be followed by a five (5) minute question period.
- **Question Periods Following Reports & Motions:**
 - **Five (5) minutes** shall be measured by the total **duration of responses** and shall be paused during procedural matters including the recognition of inquirers and during the inquirers speaking time.
 - An inquirer shall have a maximum of **thirty (30) seconds** to pose their question to the presenter



Standing Rules Edits

- **Generative Discussion**
 - Clarifies the definition of a generative discussion item
 - (Discussion points with supporting documentation like presentations To help facilitate the generation of ideas, process of consultation, and collection of feedback)
- **Motions:**
 - Add a question and discussion period following a notice of motion
 - **Removal of Consent Items**
 - Voting on a motion can be moved to the last item on the agenda after it has been presented at any time before it is voted on



Thoughts?