**Minutes**

Fall Election Candidate’s Forum 2019

**Bryce:** Welcome to fall elections forum! This is how it works; they have 3 minutes for opening statements, and I will give hand signals of how much longer they have. We will then go into questions and we will alternate who answers first for each question. The floor will be open to everyone to ask questions and the questions need to be asked to both teams, not just one so that it stays equitable. We will play out how much time we have for questions and then we will finish with closing statements.

**Opening Statements: First Year Representatives**

1. Avery Desrosiers and Hanna Siowikowska

**Both:** We got Hanna, ya ya, We got Hanna, ya ya

She’s Fun and Fresh, she’s the best

Cheer,Cheer,Cheer,Cheer,Cheer,Cheer,Cheer

We got Avery, ya ya, We got Avery, ya ya

She's rad and bad,  she's never sad

Cheer,Cheer,Cheer,Cheer,Cheer,Cheer,Cheer

We’re coming to CESA, ya ya , We’re Coming to Cesa ya, ya

We’re on our way to make your day

Cheer,Cheer,Cheer,Cheer,Cheer,Cheer,Cheer

**Both:** What’s up Con Eddies,

**Slowikowska:** I’m Hanna Slowikowska

**Desrosiers:** and I’m Avery Desrosiers

**Both:** and we’re shaking and shimming our way into CESA.

**Slowikowska:** As you might have heard we’re running for CESA First Year Reps.

**Desrosiers:** After getting rejected from the pom team

**Slowikowska:** and getting absolutely demolished in innertube water polo, we’re now here for our final attempt.

**Desrosiers:** Coming into university, we’ve come up with a very creative and unique motto that we’re trying to fulfill in our first year:

**Both:** “you miss 100% of the shots you don’t take” -

**Slowikowska:** We have some pretty awesome events that we are hoping to share with our fellow Con Eddies this year.

**Desrosiers:** With all the connections we have, we have scheduled a private concert

**Slowikowska:** with the one and only,   
**Both:** Beyonce!

**Desrosiers:** Well, actually we don’t have the budget for that but we do have some pretty fun events and fundraisers we are hoping to host.

**Slowikowska:** This holiday season we want to share some Con-Ed love and creativity by making holiday cards for the patients at KGH who are not able to be at home for the holidays. It’s a great way to get involved and give back to our neighbours here at Queen’s.

**Desrosiers:** Another way to easily contribute to the Kingston community is by running a drive for feminine hygiene products, as we often neglect the fact that not everybody is able to afford these necessary items.

**Slowikowska:** For our Class of ‘23 B.Edder4U fund, we plan to host a Polar Plunge challenge at the pier this January.

**Both:** We don’t know about you guys, but we sure want to see Josh, Jules, Jacob, Emily, Mads divin’ into the polar plunge.

**Desrosiers:** Our events are sure to contribute to amazing causes all while being a lot of fun for our Con-Ed community.

**Slowikowska:** So, vote for us October 1st and 2nd, you will not be disappointed!!

**Both:** “Were Running, For First Year Reps”

“Cesa’s what it’s all about”

“We got, the power”

“C’mon Frosh, vote for us”

Were smart, we read our books

About to fail this Psych midterm

We got, a headache

“C’mon Frosh,  please vote for us”

We’re bad, I skipped Film

I just failed my chem quiz

Why, you ask

Because this was time consuming

We’re funny, we’ll make you laugh

Our cheers are kind of really bad

We got, the humour

“C’mon Frosh, vote for us”

2.Sarah Folcarelli and Sebastian Krewdel

**Folcarelli:** I am Sarah and this is Seb. We had a few ideas about bringing con-ed closer together, you see other faculties that have these cliques and we want to bring first years closer with upper years. Students will start to miss home and we want to make events that will bring people together past just their frosh groups.

**Krewdel:** We want to have a lot of socials and make them faculty focused, like maybe a movie night. We want to open to the voice of students by doing online polls so we aren’t the only ones making decisions. Other examples include a barbecue, potentially a dance to have social events to get to know each other as we were focused on our frosh groups and even in prof class, we sit in the same small tables. Faculty focused events would be nice to have meet and greets with upper years to give specific advice for PJ or IS. Combine this with a pizza party as a small meet and greet people might be encouraged by the promise of something to eat.

**Questions**

**Lerant:** What will you do if you plan a social but no one shows up due to a larger event at the same time?

**Krewdel and Folcarelli:** This is a very good question.If a social were to occur at the same time we would check for conflicting events.We are in Con-ed government therefore it’s important for us to communicate with other events and in the moment, we would form a consensus to make a big event or take people from other event to ours. The main idea is that people are getting together as a group at a social so that’s the important part. If it was a big event we would post it on social media so that people could be more aware and come to ours.

**Desrosiers and Slowikowska:** If not possible to plan ahead, when orientation week they talked about one event when only one person showed up so we would just let it be. We are both positive so staying positive and try to make it most out of it.Things can get out of our control at a certain point and so important it’s to stay consistent. If you put effort into something, you will get something out of it. We would try our best to be in contact with other student governments or to combine events.

**Graham:** During applications for Orientation week, both of you may apply to become teach. Now there is one of 4 realities if you both apply: you both are hired, you’re hired but your partner is not, your partner I hired but you are not, neither of you are hired How would you plan to foster a community the caters to those who both did and did not get hired when the time comes?

**Desrosiers and Slowikowska:** Within the two of us, we have only known for 4 weeks but we have a good understanding so we would be happy for each other but would love to do it together. Important to remember there is a reason if someone is not hired but there’s always next year so we would look on the bright side and think of other opportunities. For the con-ed community, it is an exciting time, it is challenging and upsetting but everyone is going to support and no one would look down on you. I don’t think this will make or break friendships

If one of my peers didn’t get teach but I did, I would never look down on them, the con-ed community is supportive. It’s important to remember for those that did get on, it’s okay to be happy but also remember that others that didn’t get on. Those who didn’t get it, remember that it is important not to be bitter. We would encourage this upon that time period.

**Krewdel and Folcarelli:** We met in grade 9, we were never close, but one of our big things was trying new things and we would both be happy for each other to see them trying it.I would live through Sebastian as we didn’t know what would happen and so I would want to hear about his time, and we would be supportive. Especially during frosh week there are so many positions, get emails from Jazz all the time about different opportunities to volunteer. This all goes beyond being a teach, you just have to be supportive. Motivation is important as well, if you don’t get it one year, you can get it another year, you can support your other team member and help motivate them.If we were to both get it that would be awesome, and we can support other frosh leaders. Teaches that as well could happen like someone being sick and so possible situation where another person would be available for someone to step up.

**Vidad:** What would you say is your partner’s greatest strength and weakness?

**Krewdel and Folcarelli:** Working with Seb, I procrastinated so his greatest strength is his support.Coming into tonight we didn’t have sheets and he said it was okay because we are going to do great, he told me that we would speak from our heart.His weakness is overtalking and adding too much. One of Sarah’s biggest strengths is her confidence, even if she is nervous, she gets things done, when we are talking to others it is important to have a partner to with what you’re talking about and to get the point across. Her biggest weakness is word vomit and the fact that we have a plan and then it’s challenging sticking with one, but we can build on that**.**

**Desrosiers and Slowikowska:** Hannah’s greatest strength is that she’s hard working, she was on me right away about working on this first year rep position. Always working 100% she is so funny, I always pee myself when she talks.Hannah’s weakness is that she is too critical on herself, sometimes when things don’t go right it is hard but with her hard work that makes it okay.Avery and I just met each other 4 weeks so we don’t have anything we hate, but Avery is always determined and hyped about everything. She’s never done anything like this before but the next day she had plans and ideas and was like yes let’s do it.The bad or critical thing I have is because sometimes I am intimidated that you are doing so well and that I put it on you and that’s kind of bad thing on me not you**.**

**Lingarajan:** The Student Choice Initiative. Do you know what is it? The First Year Rep Budget has been reduced by 50%. You have now 100$. There is a viability for a less amount. What avenues will you take to optimize your money, so that you can have great year events that are diverse, accessible, and fun.

**Desrosiers and Slowikowska:** We both are unaware of the Student Choice Initiative, but we would like to know more about what it is. A lot of the events we were planning we were hoping to do at a low cost.Our advertising social and polar plunge would be no cost. We would plan on making a spread sheet to plan for costs and supplement those. There are lots of resources for us to use since we are paying tuition, there are a lot of things on campus that don’t cost money or that can add a few dollars which can help the event**.** Money isn’t important.

**Krewdel and Folcarelli:** We can host things that are minimal amount of money, maybe come play games. We can definitely fundraise as well.Soccer game intermural or something where we can come together and fundraise together and use the money later on.For example, if we have a club on campus with a DJ that could be cheaper for our events. Or use a student who knows that area so there are ways around the expenses.

**Lerant:** You get negative feedback from one of your events. How do you process it and go forward?

**Krewdel and Folcarelli:** The biggest thing is communication so the great thing is so we could talk to upper year con-eddies like Grace.If we get negative feedback, we can communicate with them or they can help us with new ideas. We also want to make polls or reaching out during emails to make sure that there is good communication with first years which would help this.

When responding to emails it is good to be positive going into it like saying “thank you for taking notice on something that you could have done better” and then say “okay we will speak with other members of government to see what we can do to potentially address that” and not seem like you are coming at them. Make sure we are saying how can we help you and everyone’s voices are heard.

**Desrosiers and Slowikowska:** Obviously negative feedback can be hurtful, but we would take note and when we plan our next event try to make it for next time. Polls are great idea to see what people like. Not everyone can be happy so it’s important we’re fixing things that we can on our part.If it is constructive it is good to take it as you will grow from it.I am sure you all know how it is good because you use it to grow. Sometimes it can be an email that is not relevant to what you are said but you can’t please everyone so it is good to consider the feedback.

**Closing Statements**

1. Avery Desrosiers and Hanna Siowikowska

**Siowikowska:**

As first year reps it is important to be open and base on what you guys want when planning. We are open people, so we want people to talk to us. We are social people.

**Desrosiers:** Our events goals are to give back. Kingston is a decently small community. KGH is our neighbour, so we can give back to the community and have an enjoyable time. We want to make this year memorable and want to grow ourselves, we have never been on council before.

**Siowikowska:** It is nice to meet people, we are our representatives, so you are the voice, we are representing you.

2. Sebastian and Sarah

**Krewdel:** In conclusion we want to strengthen bonds beyond 1st year. It is a bigger community of all of Con-Ed that we want to strengthen with communicationamongst first, second, third and fourth years. There are students out there who don’t have social media, reaching out with people that aren’t on social media with emails. We want to focus on establishing that strong sense of community with people.

**Folcarelli:**

Yeah, nothing further to add, you covered it