STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

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Guests: Michael Kingsmill (AMS Design), Ross Horton (AMS General Manager), Louis Retief (AMS AVP Finance), Kathleen Simpson (AVP External), Kosta Prodanovic (Uyssey), Maja Dziok (UBC Mental Health Awareness Club), Jane Wang (UBC Mental Health Awareness Club), Namdar Shafiei (Commerce), Ryan Kamimura (Commerce), Rhoda Philip (WUSC), Mannfred Boehm (WUSC), Kuol Biong (WUSC), Mohamed Halane (WUSC), Ron Gorodetsky (Student Services Manager), Mark Bancroft (student), Tanner Bokor (student), Aloha Dave (student), Daniel Levangie (AMS Executive Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council), Joanne Pickford (AMS Admin)

A) Call to order and adoption of the agenda:

The meeting was called to order at 6:16 pm.

1. MOVED DANIEL LAM, SECONDED MATEUSZ MIADLIKOWSKI:

“That the agenda be adopted as presented.”

2. MOVED VIET VU, SECONDED DANIEL LAM:

“That the agenda be amended to add a motion after the budget motions directing the President to call a referendum on providing a new social restaurant like the former Gallery Lounge.”

Viet Vu:
- The Bring Back the Gallery campaign has collected signatures, both online and on paper that together total 1,000. About 700 of them were online, and on Friday it was ruled that online signatures are not valid, which was a surprise to us. So we’d like to have Council call the referendum or, alternatively, compel the VP Academic to accept the online signatures.

3. MOVED VIET VU, SECONDED DANIEL LAM:

“That the agenda be amended to add a motion after the budget motions directing the President to call a referendum on providing a new social restaurant like the former Gallery Lounge.”

… Carried

For (20): Jamiu Abdsalami, Rob Anderson, Bradley Balaton, Hannah Carrothers, Alan Ehrenholz, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Harry Li, Mackenzie Lockhart, Lisa Mah, Kristy McConnel, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Jeffrey Pea, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Justin Tsang, Viet Vu

Against (7): Robin Asgari, Teigan Cosgrove, Jude Crasta, Tobias Friedel, Veronica Knott, Gurvir Sangha, Ian Sapollnik
Abstained (10): Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Aaron Bailey, Alexandra Lee Mann, Quartermain Lim, Jerry Mejia, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Jenna Omassi, Hooman Shahrokhi, Angela Tien, Hussam Zbeeb

4. MOVED TOMMY REID, SECONDED MATEUSZ MIADLIKOWSKI:

“That the agenda be amended to strike the original budget amendment motion and replace it with three separate motions, one on Block Party, one to do with the VP External, and one on a budget for the referendum.”

...Carried

For (35): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Bradley Balaton, Hannah Carrothers, Teigan Cosgrove, Jude Crasta, Veronica Knott, Melissa Lachica, Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Harry Li, Quartermain Lim, Mackenzie Lockhart, Lisa Mah, Kristy McConnel, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Kimia Nozadi (proxy for Veronika Bylicki), Jenna Omassi, Katherine Pan, Jeffrey Pea, Gurvir Sangha, Ian Sapollnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Hooman Shahrokhi, Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien, Justin Tsang, Julie Van der Valk, Viet Vu

Against (1): Tobias Friedel

Abstained (1): Tobias Friedel

Abstained (2): Jerry Mejia, Hussam Zbeeb

5. MOVED AARON BAILEY, SECONDED MATEUSZ MIADLIKOWSKI:

“That the agenda be amended to remove Sections J, K, L & M (Executive Remarks, Constituency Reports, other reports).”

Aaron Bailey:
- It’s a very long agenda. The Executive have given me the okay to speak for them. Board and Senate are not meeting till later in the month.

6. MOVED AARON BAILEY, SECONDED MATEUSZ MIADLIKOWSKI:

“That the agenda be amended to remove Sections J, K, L & M (Executive Remarks, Constituency Reports, other reports).”

... Carried

For (32): Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Bradley Balaton, Hannah Carrothers, Teigan Cosgrove, Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Harry Li, Quartermain Lim, Lisa Mah, Kristy McConnel, Jerry Mejia, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Kimia Nozadi (proxy for Veronika Bylicki), Jenna Omassi, Jeffrey Pea, Tommy Reid, Gurvir Sangha, Ian Sapollnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Hooman Shahrokhi, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien, Justin Tsang, Viet Vu, Hussam Zbeeb

Abstained (5): Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Tobias Friedel, Veronica Knott, Mackenzie Lockhart, Samantha So
7. MOVED DANIEL LAM, SECONDED MATEUSZ MIADLIKOWSKI:

“That the agenda be adopted as amended.”

... Carried

For (34): Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Rob Anderson, Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Bradley Balaton, Hannah Carrothers, Teigan Cosgrove, Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Harry Li, Quartermain Lim, Lisa Mah, Kristy McConnel, Jerry Mejia, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Kimia Nozadi (proxy for Veronika Bylicki), Katherine Pan, Jeffrey Pea, Tommy Reid, Gurvir Sangha, Ian Sapolnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Hooman Shahrokhi, Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien, Justin Tsang, Viet Vu, Hussam Zbee

Against (2): Mackenzie Lockhart, Mateusz Miadlikowski

B) Membership: Introductions, new members, declaration of vacancies:

Welcome to our new Members:


Goodbyes:

C) Speaker’s Business & Land Acknowledgement (5 minutes):

- The Speaker acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the unceded land of the Musqueam people, a traditional place of learning.
- If you have amendments to the agenda, please email them in advance.

D) Statements from Students at Large (3 minutes each):

E) Consent Agenda Items

8. MOVED ADRIAN TALINGDAN, SECONDED DANIEL LAM:

“That the following consent items be accepted as presented:

Executive Committee minutes dated January 20, 2016 [SCD265-16]
Executive Committee minutes dated January 27, 2016 [SCD266-16]
Hiring Committee minutes dated January 25, 2016 [SCD267-16]
Legislative Procedures Committee minutes dated October 26, 2015 [SCD268-16]
Legislative Procedures Committee minutes dated January 22, 2016 [SCD269-16]

... Carried

For (32): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Rob Anderson, Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Bradley Balaton, Hannah Carrothers, Teigan Cosgrove,
Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz, Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Harry Li, Quartermain Lim, Mackenzie Lockhart, Lisa Mah, Kristy McConnel, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Kimia Nozadi (proxy for Veronika Bylicki), Jeffrey Pea, Gurvir Sangha, Ian Sapollnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotss), Hooman Shahrokhi, Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien, Justin Tsang, Julie Van der Valk, Viet Vu

Against (2): Mateusz Miadlikowski, Jenna Omassi

Abstained: Tobias Friedel, Veronica Knott, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Jerry Mejia

F) Presentations to Council (10 minutes for presentation, 5 minute ? period):

Defeat Depression Run/Walk 2016 – Jane Wang and Maja Dziok (UBC Mental Health Awareness Club) [SCD270-16]

- A 5k run/walk to promote mental health awareness around depression, mood disorders, etc..
- Partnering with Mood Disorders Society of Canada.
- Last year raised $13,000 for community mental health support.
- We want you to get involved.
- There are volunteer opportunities.
- Spread the word.
- Prizes for top fund-raising.
- If you show your support, that will show other students that it’s okay.

Questions
Hooman Shahrokhi:
- Are grad students excluded?

Maja Dziok:
- No, anyone can join: the whole Vancouver community.

Viet Vu asked about last year.

Maja Dziok:
- Unfortunately, on the day, it was pouring rain and cold, and we had a bad location.
- This year we’re in the Nest.

Ava Nasiri:
- What can Constituencies do? Social media, posters, newsletters?

Maja Dziok:
- Yes.

Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac:
- Jack.org is another mental health organization on campus: are you collaborating?
Maja Dziok:
- Not yet. They’re a new chapter on campus. But we’ve been talking to them.

**WUSC – Rhoda Philip & Mannfred Boehm**

**Rhoda Philip:**
- The World University Service of Canada is a non-profit organization that aims at changing life through the student refugee program.
- It gives access to universities and colleges in Canada, taking students from different parts of the world and integrating them into Canadian society.
- Since 1978 over 1,200 have benefited, including myself.
- The refugee crisis is a global issue requiring humanitarian support.
- Syria is the worst case: 4 million people have been displaced.
- What can UBC do for them?
- In the past, four students have been sponsored every year at UBC.
- The crisis is increasing, so our help must increase too.
- Can we improve our capacity?
- This year we’re running a referendum to do that.

**Mannfred Boehm:**
- Through the referendum we are reaching out to the AMS for support.
- The idea is to increase the annual fee that each UBC student pays from $2.61 to $5.22 to enhance support for refugee students at UBC.
- Currently, UBC students support four refugee students a year, for which we thank you, but more needs to be done.
- Canada is one of the countries rated the most peaceful. Canadians are a privileged people; we should reach out to others and help them out.
- Canada is not one of the top countries for accepting refugees.
- We’ve collected signatures for the referendum. Those we asked were happy to pay more. Many didn’t realize they were already paying.

**Questions**

**Jenna Omassi:**
- WUSC did collect more than a thousand signatures, so their question will be on the ballot.
- They are seeking an endorsement from the AMS.

**Viet Vu:**
- Rhoda, can you share your story?

**Rhoda Philip:**
- I was born in a displaced persons camp and grew up in a refugee camp in Kenya. My academic strengths allowed me to come to UBC.
- I got a scholarship and saw the opportunity to come here through WUSC.
- Most WUSC students were born in a refugee camp or moved there when young.

**Aaron Bailey:**
- Will the fee increase allow us to double the number of students?
Mannfred Boehm:
- In theory, yes, but because of the lack of formal support a competing priority is to enable more formal support, staffing.

Jenna Omassi:
- The University has committed to doubling the housing allowance if this question passes: two years free instead of one.
- They will also add a staff member to support the program.
- There could still be a doubling of students.

Ava Nasiri:
- Other than voting yes in the referendum, what else can we do to support you?

Rhoda Philip:
- Our club is small, and this is a large thing to handle. WUSC is not that well known on campus. Council can help us by raising awareness.

Mannfred Boehm:
- There are few people in the club. The responsibility is quite heavy. You have more access to the student body.

9. MOVED JENNA OMASSI, SECONDED VIET VU:

“That the time for questions be extended by five minutes.”

... No objections

Penny Zhang:
- Is the effort focused on Syrian refugees or other areas?

Mannfred Boehm:
- In the short term the Syrian situation is the priority. But the fee increase is permanent. It will make permanent a new amount for support.

10. MOVED JENNA OMASSI, SECONDED BRADLEY BALATON:

“That the agenda be amended to add a motion to have AMS Council endorse a Yes vote on the WUSC referendum question.”

Jenna Omassi:
- We’ve all been talking of how we should support refugee students and have engaged in a number of initiatives. This is one of the most sustainable.

11. MOVED JENNA OMASSI, SECONDED BRADLEY BALATON:

“That the agenda be amended to add a motion to have AMS Council endorse a Yes vote on the WUSC referendum question.”

... No objections
12. MOVED VIET VU, SECONDED AVA NASIRI:

“That AMS Council endorse a Yes vote on the following referendum question:

‘Do you support an increase in your AMS fees from $2.61 to $5.22 a year to allow the UBC Branch of the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) to enhance supports for refugee students at UBC.’ ”

Tobias Friedel:
• Considering the AMS’s history with endorsing or not endorsing external referendum questions, I’m wondering about the philosophy of endorsing external questions in general.
• I would like to see this Board take a neutral stand on all external referendum questions.

Ava Nasiri:
• I agree with Tobias’s sentiment; there have been some controversies in the past, one in which the question tended to isolate a certain population of students.
• If that was happening again, I’d be wary. But this question I don’t see as alienating any portion of our population. Let’s take it case by case and not decide to always be neutral.

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
• Last year we signed an agreement with WUSC and with the Canadian government. It’s an external organization, but also a regular club on campus. We handle their finances.

Viet Vu:
• It’s unfair to characterize this as external, especially since one thousand of our members signed a petition for it.
• We can take a stance on this issue.

Jenna Omassi:
• I see this endorsement in a different way. We have to recognize that the 15 students on the WUSC committee are trying to bring more refugees to this campus.
• As leaders we’ve said we care about this. We need to show that we’re doing something by putting some of our referendum Yes support to this question.
• With the small amount of resources WUSC has, our support is essential.

Ava Nasiri:
• I disagree with the notion that just because a thousand people signed the petition, then we have to support it.
• A petition adds the question to the ballot; it means students want to vote on the question. But that should not be what decides whether we should support it. We should decide based on the merits.
13. MOVED VIET VU, SECONDED AVA NASIRI:

“That AMS Council endorse a Yes vote on the following referendum question:

‘Do you support an increase in your AMS fees from $2.61 to $5.22 a year to allow the UBC Branch of the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) to enhance supports for refugee students at UBC.’"

... Carried

For (32): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Rob Anderson, Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Hannah Carrothers, Teigan Cosgrove, Jude Crasta, Veronica Knott, Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Harry Li, Lisa Mah, Kristy McConnel, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Kimia Nozadi (proxy for Veronika Bylicki), Jenna Omassi, Jeffrey Pea, Tommy Reid, Gurvir Sangha, Ian Sapollnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Hooman Shahrokhi, Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien, Justin Tsang, Viet Vu, Hussam Zbeeb

Against (1): Tobias Friedel

Abstained: Bradley Balaton, Alan Ehrenholz, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Quartermain Lim, Mackenzie Lockhart, Jerry Mejia, Katherine Pan

G) Consultation Period

H) Appointments

I) President’s Remarks (5 minutes):

Aaron Bailey:
UBC Presidential Search Committee
- Position profile finalized and released.
- The process is continuing.

Referendum campaign
- New referendum coordinator hired: Jonathan Tomalty.
- He’s hiring his team.
- Expect a presentation at our next meeting.

Food Bank campaign
- AMS Services want to thank the businesses for the Add a Dollar campaign for Food Bank.
- It averages $300 per day.

Have issued three official statements:
- Response to Board of Governors information leak.
  - It’s a follow-up to last summer’s call for greater transparency.
- Divestment (the Board of Governors’ decision to create a Sustainable Futures Fund rather than agreeing to divest from fossil fuels).
  - The AMS position is that this does not address the issue.
We’ll be working closely with UBC C350 to apply pressure to the Board.

- Destruction of Pride flag.
  - After meeting UBC and the Pride Collective, we crafted a response.
  - UBC issued a similar release.
  - The Executive met with the Pride Collective again today to discuss how to respond to this terrible act of hate.
  - We are leaving it to the Pride Collective to communicate with the media, since they are the most knowledgeable. At the same time we will provide them with communications support.
  - We are working to display a Pride flag in the Nest in solidarity.
  - We are making resources available to clubs so that they can express solidarity with the Pride Collective.
  - We will support the Pride Collective if they decide to do a flag raising ceremony later.
  - The AMS recognizes that this very visual incident draws attention to ongoing oppression. There is conversation needed on this.
  - We’re also providing support through SASC and Speakeasy, and the VP’s Academic and External will advocate.

N) Minutes of Council and Committees of Council:

O) Executive Committee Motions:

It was agreed to divide the referendum motions.

14. MOVED JUDE CRASTA, SECONDED JAMIU ABDSALAMI:

“Be it resolved that in accordance with Bylaw 4(1)(a), Council direct the President to call a referendum to continue the U-Pass program at the new price.

And be it further resolved that the referendum question read as follows:

‘Do you support and approve the continuation of the U-Pass BC program at the following prices: $39.50/month: May 2016 – April 2017, $41.00/month: May 2017 – April 2018?"

Note: If this referendum is not approved, UBC students will no longer be eligible for the U-Pass BC program.’

And be it further resolved that Council adopt a yes position for the U-Pass referendum question.”

Jude Crasta:
- This price increase is nominal, for inflation.
- This is for 24 months; then new negotiations.
- If the referendum passes, I will notify TransLink.

Ian Sapollnik:
- Will the note be on the referendum question?
Jude Crasta:
- Yes.

Hannah Carrothers
- Where will the note be placed?

Jude Crasta:
- Directly after the question. Not how it appeared on the agenda. The Yes position statement will not be on the ballot.

Abdul Alnaar:
- Has this question been successful at other schools?

Jude Crasta:
- Extremely successful.

15. MOVED JUDE CRASTA, SECONDED JAMIU ABDSALAMI:

"Be it resolved that in accordance with Bylaw 4(1)(a), Council direct the President to call a referendum to continue the U-Pass program at the new price.

And be it further resolved that the referendum question read as follows:

'Do you support and approve the continuation of the U-Pass BC program at the following prices: $39.50/month: May 2016 – April 2017, $41.00/month: May 2017 – April 2018?

Note: If this referendum is not approved, UBC students will no longer be eligible for the U-Pass BC program.'

And be it further resolved that Council adopt a yes position for the U-Pass referendum question."

... Carried unanimously

For (41): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Rob Anderson, Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Bradley Balaton, Hannah Carrothers, Teigan Cosgrove, Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz, Tobias Friedel, Benjamin Israel, Veronica Knott, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Harry Li, Quatermain Lim, Mackenzie Lockhart, Lisa Mah, Kristy McConnel, Jerry Mejia, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Kimia Nozadi (proxy for Veronika Bylicki), Jenna Omassi, Katherine Pan, Jeffrey Pea, Tommy Reid, Gurvir Sangha, Ian Sapollnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Hooman Shahrokhi, Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien, Justin Tsang, Viet Vu, Hussam Zbeeb

16. MOVED MATEUSZ MIADLIKOWSKI, SECONDED IAN SAPOLLNIK: [SCD272-16]

"Be it resolved that, in accordance with Bylaw 4(1)(a), Council direct the President to call a referendum to raise the annual AMS Membership Fee.

And be it further resolved that the referendum question read as follows:
‘Do you support and approve an increase in the annual AMS Membership Fee of $4.20, from $38.44 to $42.64, effective September 2016?

Note: This fee is indexed annually to the BC Consumer Price Index.’

And be it further resolved that Council adopt a yes position for the fee referendum question."

Mateusz Miadlikowski:

- We have financial problems, significant issues: a deficit.
- There are many possible solutions. I outlined them last time and invited Councillors to come speak to me about them. Nobody did, not from Council. Six non-Councillors came to the consultation I held and another two stopped by my office to talk.
- Projected deficits now are for $100,000 and $550,000 over the next two years, and then $900,000 in 2017-18.
- We’ve had a decreased business contribution and increased expenditures, and our funds are locked.
- Solutions:
  - Complete overhaul of fees.
  - Increase the membership fee.
  - Business review.
  - Budget cuts.
- Fee overhaul:
  - Reduce our 12 fees to four. This is a long-term project; consultation will be needed; there will be opposition.
- Increasing the general membership fee would not be a problem except for opposition. There’d be no need to consult. The referendum would be the consultation.
- Referendum to increase the general fee by $4.20 to increase our discretionary income.
- The $4.20 would produce $200,000. Hopefully we’d also get an increased business contribution and then we might be okay in the long term, but we should still look at the other options.
- This is a minor increase, so we may only need a light campaign.
- We need a long-term financial plan and an overview of finances.

Tobias Friedel:

- I am against this motion. It doesn’t address the main problem: the businesses. They need to be looked at.
- Throwing more money won’t solve the problem.

Jenna Omassi:

- The $4.20 increase will not one hundred percent cover the projected deficit.
- The main piece is proper contribution from the businesses.
- We’re not trying to skirt the issue. We’re looking at both together.
Hooman Shahrokhi:
- I disagree about the $4.20 being a minor increase. I don’t know how often there are increases, but if you did this every year, the fee would be $182 by 2030.
- How often is the fee increased?

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
- There was a CPI increase last year of 0.8%.
- In 2014 we did a general restructuring of fees, but the result was a net change of zero.
- Didn’t want to annoy any groups or provoke any resistance by reducing other fees.

Alan Ehrenholz:
- A long term review of the plan and of the businesses is a good idea, so that we’re not just making a Band-Aid solution.

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
- The idea is to give us more independence from business contributions.
- If the business contribution goes up to $1 million again, that money would go into our Endowment Fund.

Harry Li:
- Grad students pay two fees: the AMS and the GSS fees. How will you convince the grad students to go along with this?

Aaron Bailey:
- Grad students utilize the facilities.
- Safewalk, SASC, Speakeasy, and Advocacy are open to grad students and used by them.
- Without more money, Safewalk and SASC will be negatively affected. The alternative is to cut budgets.
- This is the least damaging alternative.

Ava Nasiri:
- We did receive a presentation.
- You could have come to a consultation session and provided direction.
- If we’re not to run a deficit, we need a referendum question.
- The opportunity was there to give feedback.

Mackenzie Lockhart:
- I know it’s fun to shame Councillors for not going to consultation sessions, but we didn’t go and now we have opinions.
- Better now than never.

Aaron Bailey:
- I agree. We’re debating solutions. Boards exist to provide advice and feedback. There’s no point in discussing the consultations. Let’s debate the merits of the proposal.
Viet Vu:
- What does the general membership fee look like elsewhere?

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
- It varies. Some have only one fee. The UBC SUO has one fee of close to $170.
- I’m doing my duty here and have presented the easiest solution, but I’m not going to defend it: it’s up to you to make the decision.

Hooman Shahrokhi:
- You say you didn’t want to annoy student groups.

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
- The only people who came to the consultations were groups with dedicated fees.

Jenna Omassi:
- There are long term issues:
  - Minimum wage increases: we have to make sure our students get legal and competitive salaries and can afford to work at the AMS.
  - Locked funds: groups and initiatives are looking to ensure they still have support.
- Re the grad students: Almost every student pays a society fee (AUS fee etc.) and an AMS fee. This is not unique to the grad students.
- With more money we can offer more programs.
- Looking at the long term, this is the most feasible option.

Daniel Lam:
- Will AMS wages be in line with the rest of the University?
- How much are GSS fees?

Tobias Friedel:
- The GSS has a $52 fee plus a capital fee of $6.03.

Aaron Bailey:
- The minimum wage is going up.
- Our Tier One wages (for student employees on our student government side) would be illegal. In any case, we want to raise them to match student employees’ wages in our Food & Beverage department.
- There’s incorrect information out there about UBC’s wages all being higher than ours; some UBC employees do get minimum wage.

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
- Another option is not to do anything; just make significant cuts to the budget.

Vanessa Lau:
- What cuts would be made?

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
- $400,000 worth.
• That’s up to the next Executives to decide.

17. MOVED MATEUSZ MIADLIKOWSKI, SECONDED IAN SAPOLLNIK:

“Be it resolved that, in accordance with Bylaw 4(1)(a), Council direct the President to call a referendum to raise the annual AMS Membership Fee.

And be it further resolved that the referendum question read as follows:

‘Do you support and approve an increase in the annual AMS Membership Fee of $4.20, from $38.44 to $42.64, effective September 2016?

Note: This fee is indexed annually to the BC Consumer Price Index.’

And be it further resolved that Council adopt a yes position for the fee referendum question.”

… Carried

For (27): Aiyana Anderson-Maclsaac, Rob Anderson, Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Hannah Carrothers, Teigan Cosgrove, Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Quartermain Lim, Kristy McConnel, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Jenna Omassi, Katherine Pan, Tommy Reid, Ian Sapollnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien, Justin Tsang, Viet Vu, Hussam Zbeeb

Against (2): Tobias Friedel, Hooman Shahrokhi

Abstained: Jamiu Abdsalami, Bradley Balaton, Benjamin Israel, Harry Li, Mackenzie Lockhart, Lisa Mah, Jerry Mejia, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Jeffrey Pea

18. MOVED MATEUSZ MIADLIKOWSKI, SECONDED BRADLEY BALATON: [SCD273-16]

“Be it resolved that, in accordance with Bylaw 4(1)(a), Council direct the President to call a referendum to continue the Health & Dental plan program at the new price.

And be it further resolved that the referendum question read as follows:

‘Do you support the following modification to the fee structure of the AMS/GSS Health & Dental extended health plan?

1. At minimum, the AMS/GSS Extended Health & Dental Plan fee will increase by the higher of:
   a. 0%
   b. increase of the Consumer Price Index of the previous year

2. An increase in excess of this minimum percentage and up to 5% annually may be made if approved by special resolutions of the GSS Council and of the AMS Council, provided that a recommendation for such an increase is made by the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Committee.
3. The recommendation made by the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Committee regarding fee increases will reflect the financial status of the plan as well as any coverage changes in the plan.

Note: Currently, the increase of the plan is indexed to the Health and Personal Spending component of the BCCPI which has been consistently below the BCCPI and sometimes even negative. This proposal will not be accepted until voted upon and approved by both societies’ members.’

And be it further resolved that Council adopt a yes position for the Health and Dental referendum question.”

- The Speaker noted that there is no such thing as a special resolution of AMS Council, so ordered the wording changed to say two-thirds resolution.

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
- I spoke about this previously as well.
- It’s recommended by the Health & Dental Plan Committee.
- The fee would increase 0% or by CPI, whichever is higher.
- In past years CPI has been low or even negative, which decreased our ability to provide quality services.
- We want to continue to offer quality services.
- In future if CPI is low, we will be able to raise it as much as 5% if resolutions are passed by the GSS and AMS Councils.
- If this is not approved, we may have to cut some benefits.

Viet Vu:
- The exact same wording has to be passed by the GSS.

Tobias Friedel asked that the endorsement clause be split off to be discussed separately.

The Speaker allowed that.

Ian Sapollnik:
- I’m a little bit uneasy about Council increasing fees by up to 5% annually.
- Fees are important. They should have to go to referendum so a small group is not making the decision.
- Under what conditions would the Health & Dental Committee be able to dictate an increase. What evidence would they have to supply?

Tobias Friedel:
- The committee wouldn’t dictate. It would make a recommendation.
- It would be based on price developments. If an increase in line with CPI is too low to maintain current levels of service, we would have to reduce services.

Mackenzie Lockhart
- I am also concerned about the second clause. It’s very broad. I’d be more comfortable with a different question, granting less discretion.
Aiyana Anderson-Maclsaac:
- If the Health & Dental Committee wanted to increase the fee by up to 5%, then they would present to Council and there would be a referendum?

Speaker:
- No, this is asking students to give power to the two Councils to authorize that increase without going to referendum.

Viet Vu:
- It’s giving Council the discretion to change the plan.
- The plan is currently governed by a contract between the GSS and the AMS which already allows minor changes.
- The financial status of the plan is pretty bad. There’s not a high margin between the fee charged by the insurance company and the fee the students pay.
- Students depend on this plan.
- This is not about giving Council more power; it’s about serving students better by protecting their health.

Tobias Friedel:
- How could we decrease the discretion of Council while still allowing flexibility because of CPI? Is there some middle ground?

Mackenzie Lockhart:
- I would be much more comfortable if there were a clearer mechanism for when discretion would be used: if the cost of the plan went up by a certain amount or if there were a funding gap.
- It seems now that the discretion could be used to change the plan.

Benjamin Israel:
- Has the cost of the plan ever gone above the price, CPI?

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
- Yes, CPI was negative last year.

Benjamin Israel:
- If we don’t approve this, what would happen?

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
- It would mean a cut in benefits.
- A survey showed that students are in favour of increased fees for more benefits.

Tobias Friedel:
- Significant changes can’t be made by the committee or the Councils. Only minor changes.
- Any major change must be taken to the membership of both societies.
- This does leave some discretion between “major” and “minor.”
- Boards always have to use their discretion.
Kevin Doering:
  • Why 5%?

Viet Vu:
  • We were presented with several coverage proposals and financial outlooks for the plan.
  • After looking at them all, we thought 5% was a good number.

Ian Sapollnik:
  • How would Blue Cross raise its prices?

Viet Vu:
  • They look at the amount of claims each year, and then the percentage of profit determines the cost and price the plans off that data.

19. MOVED CHRIS SCOTT, SECONDED IAN SAPOLLNIK:

  “That the motion be amended so that the second clause would allow an increase only provided that ‘the current plan is in financial jeopardy’.”

Viet Vu:
  • We put this forward not just for the financial side of the plan but to allow us flexibility about benefits.
  • Allowing us to make that decision, and not the student body, allows the minority who need specific services to use them.

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
  • What determines “financial jeopardy”? It’s still Council. You might increase benefits and say the plan is in jeopardy.

Daud Akhtar:
  • Do you see this happening repeatedly?

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
  • The beauty of this motion is that we could do it every year if needed. If not needed, it may never be used.
  • And there are many steps before we could use this.

20. MOVED ALAN EHRENHOLZ, SECONDED JEFFREY PEA:

  “That the question be called.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Defeated

For (12): Jamiu Abdalsalami, Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Rob Anderson, Robin Asgari, Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz, Kristy McConnel, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Sareena Mohammad, Jenna Omassi, Tommy Reid, Viet Vu
Against (8): Aaron Bailey, Benjamin Israel, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Mackenzie Lockhart, Ava Nasiri, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Hooman Shahrokhi, Hussam Zbeeb

Abstained: Bradley Balaton, Hannah Carrothers, Teigan Cosgrove, Tobias Friedel, Daniel Lam, Alexandra Lee Mann, Harry Li, Lisa Mah, Jerry Mejia, Jeffrey Pea, Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien

Alan Ehrenholz:
- I trust future councils to make this decision.

Benjamin Israel:
- I’d like to support the amendment.
- The student body approves fees for a reason.
- The only reason to increase fees without a referendum, under this amendment, would be financial jeopardy.
- True, all that is required is for the Councils to find financial jeopardy.
- All this does is specify a reason why fees could go up.

Mackenzie Lockhart:
- The amendment clarifies the mandate of the Health & Dental Plan Committee.
- I want the ability to collect fees to be tied to the student body.

Tobias Friedel:
- Limiting discretion is what we want, but the amendment does not do this.
- This would mislead the membership into thinking there’s a strong restriction when there is not.

Hannah Carrothers:
- If restricted to the financial side, I’m not sure it meets the needs of students.

21. MOVED AVA NASIRI, SECONDED MATEUSZ MIADLIKOWSKI:

“That the question be called.

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (29): Jamiu Abdusalmi, Aiyana Anderson-Maclsaac, Rob Anderson, Robin Asgari, Bradley Balaton, Hannah Carrothers, Teigan Cosgrove, Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Harry Li, Quartermain Lim, Lisa Mah, Kristy McConnel, Jerry Mejia, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Jenna Omassi, Jeffrey Pea, Tommy Reid, Ian Sapollnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Hooman Shahrokhi, Samantha So, Viet Vu

Against (3): Tobias Friedel, Benjamin Israel, Mackenzie Lockhart

Abstained: Hussam Zbeeb
22. MOVED CHRIS SCOTT, SECONDED IAN SAPOLLNIK:

“That the motion be amended so that the second clause would allow an increase only provided that ‘the current plan is in financial jeopardy’.”

… Defeated

For (7): Aiyana Anderson-Maclsaac, Benjamin Israel, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Mackenzie Lockhart, Kristy McConnel, Ian Sapollnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas)

Against (17): Jamiu Abdsalami, Rob Anderson, Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Hannah Carrothers, Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz, Tobias Friedel, Daniel Lam, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Sareena Mohammad, Jenna Omassi, Jeffrey Pea, Tommy Reid, Hooman Shahrokhi, Samantha So, Viet Vu

Abstained: Bradley Balaton, Teigan Cosgrove, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Harry Li, Quartermain Lim, Lisa Mah, Jerry Mejia, Ava Nasiri, Katherine Pan, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien, Hussam Zbeeb

Back to main motion:

Rob Anderson asked about the opt-in and opt-out procedures under the plan.

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
- It’s all on the plan website. If you submit documentation that you’re covered under another plan, then you can opt out.
- About 16,000 opt-out; 34,000 are covered.

23. MOVED MATEUSZ MIADLIKOWSKI, SECONDED BRADLEY BALATON: [SCD273-16]

“Be it resolved that, in accordance with Bylaw 4(1)(a), Council direct the President to call a referendum to continue the Health & Dental plan program at the new price.

And be it further resolved that the referendum question read as follows:

‘Do you support the following modification to the fee structure of the AMS/GSS Health & Dental extended health plan?

1. At minimum, the AMS/GSS Extended Health & Dental Plan fee will increase by the higher of:
   a. 0%
   b. increase of the Consumer Price Index of the previous year

2. An increase in excess of this minimum percentage and up to 5% annually may be made if approved by special resolution of the GSS Council and two-thirds resolution of the AMS Council, provided that a recommendation for such an increase is made by the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Committee.”
3. The recommendation made by the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Committee regarding fee increases will reflect the financial status of the plan as well as any coverage changes in the plan.

Note: Currently, the increase of the plan is indexed to the Health and Personal Spending component of the BCCPI which has been consistently below the BCCPI and sometimes even negative. This proposal will not be accepted until voted upon and approved by both societies’ members.

... Carried

For (29): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aiyana Anderson-Macdisaac, Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Bradley Balaton, Hannah Carrothers, Teigan Cosgrove, Alan Ehrenholz, Tobias Friedel, Benjamin Israel, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Quartermain Lim, Lisa Mah, Kristy McConnel, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Jenna Omassi, Jeffrey Pea, Tommy Reid, Ian Sapollnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien, Viet Vu, Hussam Zbeeb

Abstained: Mackenzie Lockhart, Jerry Mejia, Hooman Shahrokhi, Samantha So

24. MOVED ALAN EHRENHOLZ, SECONDED JEFFREY PEA:

“That Council adopt a yes position for the Health and Dental referendum question.”

Benjamin Israel:

- What does that mean?

Mateusz Miadlikowski:

- The resources of the AMS will be used for the Yes campaign.

25. MOVED ALAN EHRENHOLZ, SECONDED JEFFREY PEA:

“That Council adopt a yes position for the Health and Dental referendum question.”

... Carried

For (15): Jamiu Abdsalami, Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Bradley Balaton, Teigan Cosgrove, Jude Crasta, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Kristy McConnel, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Ava Nasiri, Jenna Omassi, Katherine Pan, Viet Vu, Hussam Zbee

Against (9): Rob Anderson, Alan Ehrenholz, Tobias Friedel, Benjamin Israel, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Mackenzie Lockhart, Ian Sapollnik, Hooman Shahrokhi, Samantha So

Abstained: Aiyana Anderson-Macdisaac, Hannah Carrothers, Daniel Lam, Quartermain Lim, Lisa Mah, Jerry Mejia, Sareena Mohammad, Jeffrey Pea, Tommy Reid, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien
P) Constituency and Affiliate Motions:

Q) Committee Motions:

26. MOVED BENJAMN ISRAEL, SECONDED DANIEL LAM: [SCD274-16]

From the Legislative Procedures Committee
“Be it resolved that, in accordance with Bylaw 4(1)(a), Council direct the President to call a referendum to adopt the Bylaw and Constitution revisions outlined in the documents ‘AMS Bylaws non-controversial revisions’ and ‘AMS Constitution non-controversial revisions’.

And be it further resolved that the referendum question read as follows:

‘Do you support and approve the adoption of the Bylaw and Constitutional revisions outlined in the documents “AMS Bylaws Non-Controversial Revisions” and “AMS Constitution Non-Controversial Revisions”, these revisions to take effect November 28, 2016?

Note: If this referendum is not approved, there will be multiple consequences due to the incoming Societies Act, including barring anyone under the age of 18 from serving on Council."

And be it further resolved that Council adopt a yes position for the Bylaw and Constitution revision question.”

Benjamin Israel:
- There are some cut and paste changes to make because the old Society Act is becoming the Societies Act.
- Special resolutions can now be passed by two-thirds instead of three-quarters.
- We’ve removed the obscure references to “clear days.”
- Crucially, the Societies Act says no one under 18 can serve as a Director unless a society’s bylaws say they can. So this says they can as long as they’re at least 16.
- We also say when Council Senators take office.
- We’re expanding the Budget Committee to nine members (adding one member) to make it more likely we can reach quorum, and we’ve opened up the committee to Council Senators. We didn’t see any reason why Council Senators are not allowed on the Budget Committee.

Aaron Bailey:
- Labelling the changes as non-controversial is too leading. Can we change that to Housekeeping?

27. MOVED TOBIAS FRIEDEL, SECONDED MACKENZIE LOCKHART:

“That the motion be amended to change the titles of the documents to say ‘Housekeeping and Societies Act Compliance’.”

… No objections
28. MOVED BENJAMN ISRAEL, SECONDED DANIEL LAM:

From the Legislative Procedures Committee

“Be it resolved that, in accordance with Bylaw 4(1)(a), Council direct the President to call a referendum to adopt the Bylaw and Constitution revisions outlined in the documents ‘AMS Bylaws non-controversial revisions’ and ‘AMS Constitution non-controversial revisions’.

And be it further resolved that the referendum question read as follows:

‘Do you support and approve the adoption of the Bylaw and Constitutional revisions outlined in the documents “AMS Bylaws Housekeeping and Societies Act Compliance Revisions” and “AMS Constitution Societies Act Compliance Revisions”, these revisions to take effect November 28, 2016?

Note: If this referendum is not approved, there will be multiple consequences due to the incoming Societies Act, including barring anyone under the age of 18 from serving on Council.’

And be it further resolved that Council adopt a yes position for the Bylaw and Constitution revision question.”

Mackenzie Lockhart:
- We can’t have students under the age of 16?

Benjamin Israel:
- This is the law that was passed: no one under 18 unless our bylaws say we allow directors under 18, and even then no one younger than 16. We lobbied against this change in the law. The VP External lobbied. We did get the reduction to 16 from 18.

Jude Crasta:
- We didn’t lobby. We cautioned the Ministry on what the consequences would be. There was no official position taken by the VP External.

29. MOVED BENJAMN ISRAEL, SECONDED DANIEL LAM:

From the Legislative Procedures Committee

“Be it resolved that, in accordance with Bylaw 4(1)(a), Council direct the President to call a referendum to adopt the Bylaw and Constitution revisions outlined in the documents ‘AMS Bylaws non-controversial revisions’ and ‘AMS Constitution non-controversial revisions’.

And be it further resolved that the referendum question read as follows:

‘Do you support and approve the adoption of the Bylaw and Constitutional revisions outlined in the documents “AMS Bylaws Housekeeping and Societies Act Compliance Revisions” and “AMS Constitution Societies Act Compliance Revisions”, these revisions to take effect November 28, 2016?’
Note: If this referendum is not approved, there will be multiple consequences due to the incoming Societies Act, including barring anyone under the age of 18 from serving on Council.

And be it further resolved that Council adopt a yes position for the Bylaw and Constitution revision question.” … Carried

For (31): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Bradley Balaton, Hannah Carrothers, Teigan Cosgrove, Alan Ehrenholz, Tobias Friedel, Benjamin Israel, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Harry Li, Quartermain Lim, Mackenzie Lockhart, Lisa Mah, Kristy McConnel, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Jenna Omassi, Jeffrey Pea, Tommy Reid, Ian Sapollnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Hooman Shahrokhi, Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien, Viet Vu

Abstained: Jerry Mejia

30. MOVED BENJAMIN ISRAEL, SECONDED JAMIU ABDASALAMI: [SCD275-16]

From the Legislative Procedures Committee

“Be it resolved that, in accordance with Bylaw 4(1)(a), Council direct the President to call a referendum to adopt the Bylaw revisions outlined in the document ‘AMS Bylaws referendum rules revision’.

And be it further resolved that the referendum question read as follows:

‘Do you support and approve the adoption of the Bylaw revisions outlined in the document “AMS Bylaws: Referendum Revisions”, these revisions to take effect immediately?’

And be it further resolved that Council adopt a yes position for the Referendum Rules revision question.”

31. MOVED BENJAMIN ISRAEL, SECONDED IAN SAPOLLNIK:

“That the motion be amended to add the following two clauses:

‘And be it further resolved that Council direct LPC to draft Code changes that prescribe seeking consultation with the submitter of a referendum if that referendum question is to be reworded.

And be it further resolved that Council direct LPC to draft Code changes that establish a timeline for the rewording of any referendum question to ensure transparency and accountability within the Society.’ ”

Benjamin Israel:

• The two biggest criticisms I heard after the original motion was put forward were that the referendum submitter is not involved if the question is being changed and that there is no timeline.
• I think both should be in Code; then if the rewording can’t be done in time, Code can be suspended.

Alan Ehrenholz:
• This was one of my concerns. Being included with elections can help a referendum make quorum; if a group desires to have their question run with the elections, that should be in Code.

Jenna Omassi:
• Right now I go through the petitions. It took me 14 hours for the WUSC petition.
• If someone left it to the last day, it would be unfeasible. Not fair to Council.
• This allows some leeway.

32. MOVED BENJAMIN ISRAEL, SECONDED IAN SAPOLLNIK:

“That the motion be amended to add the following two clauses:

‘And be it further resolved that Council direct LPC to draft Code changes that prescribe seeking consultation with the submitter of a referendum if that referendum question is to be reworded.

And be it further resolved that Council direct LPC to draft Code changes that establish a timeline for the rewording of any referendum question to ensure transparency and accountability within the Society.’ ”

… No objections

33. MOVED BENJAMIN ISRAEL, SECONDED JAMIU ABDSALAMI:

From the Legislative Procedures Committee
“Be it resolved that, in accordance with Bylaw 4(1)(a), Council direct the President to call a referendum to adopt the Bylaw revisions outlined in the document ‘AMS Bylaws referendum rules revision’.

And be it further resolved that the referendum question read as follows:

‘Do you support and approve the adoption of the Bylaw revisions outlined in the document “AMS Bylaws: Referendum Revisions”, these revisions to take effect immediately?’

And be it further resolved that Council adopt a yes position for the Referendum Rules revision question.

And be it further resolved that Council direct LPC to draft Code changes that prescribe seeking consultation with the submitter of a referendum if that referendum question is to be reworded.

And be it further resolved that Council direct LPC to draft Code changes that establish a timeline for the rewording of any referendum question to ensure transparency and accountability within the Society.”
Benjamin Israel:
- This bylaw amendment would put two more restrictions on referendum questions:
  - They can't be leading.
  - They can’t be illegal.
- Re not being leading: When consulting the student body, we want a fair consultation. The questions should be unbiased. There should be accountability and fairness.
- Re not being illegal: Making it clear that we won’t do it if the question is asking us to break the law.
- Currently, the only requirement is that the questions must be Yes or No questions.
- If you don’t meet that requirement, the question goes to Student Court.
- Student Court was a good idea: a quasi-independent body to interpret Code and handle referendum questions.
- But Council as the directors who hire Student Court had to approve the decisions of Student Court, and a lot of recent Student Court judgments were reversed by Council.
- Lately the positions on Student Court have not been filled.
- It makes more sense to take responsibility as Directors for the referendum questions.
- Council would have discretion to consult legal counsel or appoint a committee.
- That’s all this does.

34. MOVED BENJAMIN ISRAEL, SECONDED JAMIU ABDSALAMI:

From the Legislative Procedures Committee
“Be it resolved that, in accordance with Bylaw 4(1)(a), Council direct the President to call a referendum to adopt the Bylaw revisions outlined in the document ‘AMS Bylaws referendum rules revision’.

And be it further resolved that the referendum question read as follows:

‘Do you support and approve the adoption of the Bylaw revisions outlined in the document “AMS Bylaws: Referendum Revisions”, these revisions to take effect immediately?’

And be it further resolved that Council adopt a yes position for the Referendum Rules revision question.

And be it further resolved that Council direct LPC to draft Code changes that prescribe seeking consultation with the submitter of a referendum if that referendum question is to be worded.

And be it further resolved that Council direct LPC to draft Code changes that establish a timeline for the rewording of any referendum question to ensure transparency and accountability within the Society.”

... Carried unanimously

For (32): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Bradley Balaton, Hannah Carrothers, Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz,
Benjamin Israel, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Quartermain Lim, Mackenzie Lockhart, Lisa Mah, Jerry Mejia, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Jenna Omassi, Katherine Pan, Jeffrey Pea, Tommy Reid, Ian Sapollnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Hooman Shahrokhi, Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien, Viet Vu, Hussam Zbeeb

35. MOVED TOMMY REID, SECONDED IAN SAPOLLNIK: [SCD276-16]

From the Budget Committee

“That by recommendation of the Budget Committee the Block Party budget proposal of $438,435 be accepted and funded and the budget line be updated accordingly.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Tommy Reid:
- We expect expenses of about $438,000 for Block Party, but are also expecting revenue of $387,000 because of the bigger venue and better artists.
- The result will be a net deficit of $51,000.

Viet Vu:
- There are discrepancies in the numbers.

Daniel Levangie:
- There are vestigial numbers in the document that have been amended out. The ones in the formula are correct.

Bradley Balaton:
- Can the ticket prices be adjusted to reduce the deficit?

Aaron Bailey:
- We can make them what we want.
- Typically, we run a loss. This is more a service than a money-maker.
- We want to keep the event accessible, open to students, so keep the tickets below $50.
- We see this as the price to fill the stadium.

Jenna Omassi:
- In the budget in May Council decided it would rather run a bigger loss and make it accessible.

Aaron Bailey:
- We worked diligently to find a long-term home: Thunderbird Stadium.
- After much lobbying, UBC allowed us to use it.
- This would allow one-fifth of the students to attend: 10,000 attendees, 30% more than the biggest previous Block Party.
- This does mean more costs for security, infrastructure, etc.
• Also we’re increasing the talent budget.
• I’d like to thank Anna and her Events team for hitting a good middle ground on talent.
• This is likely to be a super event, our most successful ever.

Ian Sapollnik:
• Budget committee voted on these motions through email vote.
• We had trouble meeting quorum.

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
• We were able to meet. Quorum was present for part of the meeting.
• Then email votes because no quorum at the end.
• Every year is a gamble. In the past we’ve had profits as high as $20,000 and have also lost as much as $68,000.
• It doesn’t change the bottom line.

Chris Scott:
• There is no contingency, but lots could come up.

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
• The full budget is six pages. This is just a quick amendment to part of it.
• There is a general operating budget contingency of 5% overall.
• We can’t budget a contingency for each individual part of the budget.

36. MOVED TOMMY REID, SECONDED IAN SAPOLLNIK:

From the Budget Committee
“That by recommendation of the Budget Committee the Block Party budget proposal of $438,435 be accepted and funded and the budget line be updated accordingly.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds … Carried

For (26): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aiyana Anderson-Maclsaac, Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Bradley Balaton, Hannah Carrothers, Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz, Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alex Lee Mann, Quartermain Lim, Mackenzie Lockhart, Lisa Mah, Jerry Mejia, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Jenna Omassi, Katherine Pan, Jeffrey Pea, Ian Sapollnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carla Sotas), Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien, Hussam Zbeeb

Against (2): Tobias Friedel, Melissa Lachica

Abstained: Benjamin Israel, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Tommy Reid, Hooman Shahrokhi, Viet Vu

37. MOVED TOMMY REID, SECONDED JAMIU ABDSALAMI:

From the Budget Committee
“That by recommendation of the Budget Committee the VP External’s ‘Proposal for AMS Budget Committee for redirection of surplus funds from SUDS 2015’ be funded $7,911.65 and the budget line be updated accordingly.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Tommy Reid:
- There’s a $650 discrepancy because Budget Committee recommended a reduction.
- This concerns two trips to Ottawa.

Jenna Omassi:
- There is a Travel Policy. Normally, the process by which Executives seek funds for travel is through the Executive Committee first.

The Speaker:
- While Jenna is correct in noting the limit on Executive travel, Council may authorize additional expenditures by means of the budget or a separate resolution.

Jude Crasta:
- I will be asking the Executive about the travel. This is just adding to the budget line.

Ian Sapollnik:
- You will still have to get approval from the Executive Committee.

The Speaker:
- Jude has said he will do that. This is just adding money.

Ian Sapollnik:
- This is travel for two people. Who?

Jude Crasta:
- It’s between staff and the Unecorn chair. To be determined.

38. MOVED TOMMY REID, SECONDED JAMIU ABDSALAMI:

From the Budget Committee
“That by recommendation of the Budget Committee the VP External’s ‘Proposal for AMS Budget Committee for redirection of surplus funds from SUDS 2015’ be funded $7,911.65 and the budget line be updated accordingly.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (18): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aiyana Anderson-Maclsaac, Robin Asgari, Aaron Bailey, Hannah Carrothers, Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz, Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Quartermain Lim, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri,
Katherine Pan, Jeffrey Pea, Hooman Shahrokhi, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien

Abstained: Bradley Balaton, Tobias Friedel, Benjamin Israel, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Mackenzie Lockhart, Lisa Mah, Jerry Mejia, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Jenna Omassi, Tommy Reid, Ian Sapollnik, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Samantha So, Viet Vu, Hussam Zbeeb

39. MOVED TOMMY REID, SECONDED JEFFREY PEA:  [SCD278-16]

“That by the recommendation of the Budget Committee the Referenda budget proposal of $10,935 be accepted and funded and the budget line item be updated accordingly.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

Tommy Reid:
- It’s salaries for the Referendum Coordinator and money for promotion.

40. MOVED TOMMY REID, SECONDED JEFFREY PEA:

“That by the recommendation of the Budget Committee the Referenda budget proposal of $10,935 be accepted and funded and the budget line item be updated accordingly.

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (27): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Robin Asgari, Bradley Balaton, Hannah Carrothers, Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz, Benjamin Israel, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Quartermain Lim, Mackenzie Lockhart, Lisa Mah, Jerry Mejia, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Jenna Omassi, Katherine Pan, Jeffrey Pea, Tommy Reid, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Hooman Shahrokhi, Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Angela Tien

Against (1): Tobias Friedel

Abstained: Mateusz Miadlikowski, Ian Sapollnik, Viet Vu, Hussam Zbeeb

S) Other Business and Notice of Motions:

41. MOVED VIET VU, SECONDED MACKENZIE LOCKHART:

“That AMS Council direct the President to call a referendum on the following question:

Do you direct the AMS to provide a new, social restaurant lounge in the Nest for students with a social culture reminiscent of the former Gallery Lounge with the following conditions:
• That this business be provided as a service paid for, operated, and maintained by students.
• That the business’ food quality, menu options, capacity, and prices are competitive to the former Gallery Lounge and Koerner’s Pub.
• That AMS Council set a deadline for the project’s completion and begin construction or renovation for the project by December 2016.’”

Viet Vu:
• The Bring back the Gallery Lounge campaign wanted a referendum question put to the students.
• It started a petition and its method of collecting signatures was mainly online, though it also did some on paper.
• We have 980 to 1,000 signatures, 700 online
• There’s a hiccup, though: the VP Academic has said we can’t use online signatures.
• We did consult a number of people on this and heard different opinions.
• We are asking Council to either put this on the ballot or to accept the electronic signatures.

Aaron Bailey:
• What is your definition of a service?
• Has ABBA been consulted?
• Do you have a business plan?
• Where does Bring Back the Gallery see the money coming from?

Viet Vu:
• Businesses are to provide a financial contribution to the Society.
• Though the Gallery Lounge was a business, it was much more: almost a social enterprise.
• I don’t think we’ve consulted ABBA or have a business plan.
• We purposely want to make sure it’s done first..

Kevin Doering:
• Re funding sources, we thought from CPF (CPAC) for renovations.
• But the main thing is the culture, changing the atmosphere.

Aaron Bailey:
• Can a question bind a fund?

The Speaker:
• The question doesn’t say that.

Sheldon Goldfarb:
• A referendum question can say just about anything.

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
• So is it a business or a service? How can you call it both in one sentence?
• Services are something students pay for.
• Businesses are expected to make a profit.
Viet Vu:
- Good point.
- The campaign wanted a business that didn’t consider surplus as its only purpose.
- The Gallery was much more than a business.
- It’s possible this could provide a contribution, but that’s an incorrect way of looking at it: the Gallery was a meeting place, much more than a business.

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
- So there would be a fee paid by students, and that fee would go to the Gallery?

Jenna Omassi:
- The electronic signature piece:
  - In October, Abdul and I were approached by a group asking whether electronic signatures would be valid.
  - We said: That’s not been our practice, but come back to us so we can look at your online platform and also your question.
  - Other groups also asked. The Debate Society.
  - Abdul said that since I receive the petitions as the VP Academic, it’s my decision. I decided to stick to paper.
  - Reasons:
    - To be equitable: many of the groups were told it had to be paper, and I didn’t want to privilege one over others.
    - If online platforms are something the AMS wants, then the AMS should provide them.
    - We were concerned that an electronic signature would not match a driver’s licence signature, so the petition wouldn’t necessarily be duly signed as required by the bylaw.
  - As to the referendum question, I have similar concerns to Mat.
  - Business pillars are set by ABBA: saying a business is a service doesn’t work.
  - Focusing on the Gallery Lounge and Koerner’s: does that afford enough leeway?
  - And what if we don’t meet that deadline? Is December 2016 feasible?
  - This is a new building. We’ve been in it less than a year. There are new leasing opportunities, new space. Bringing something back is not necessarily the way to go. Looking forward is better than looking back.
  - I’m happy to meet the group about collecting signatures.
  - There’s still time to collect paper signatures.

The Speaker:
- The bylaw says petitions must be duly signed. My view is that online signatures should be accepted.
- The bylaw also says that petitions are delivered to the VP Academic. It’s up to her to decide unless Council directs otherwise.

Aaron Bailey:
- I loved the Gallery Lounge. I spent a considerable amount of time there. If anyone has a special place in their heart for the Gallery Lounge, it’s me.
I’m speaking against this specific motion for two reasons:
  o Philosophically, our role as directors is to put forward strategic direction at a high level, not to get into the minutiae of decisions.
  o It’s dangerous and unproductive for us to meddle in business operations, especially through referendums because they’re binding.
  o Also it’s irresponsible of us in a fiduciary sense.

I was in the same situation as you with the brewery petition: we had three days to collect the signatures.

It’s more than possible for you to collect a thousand paper signatures in ten days.

It’s not our place to endorse this sort of thing.

As to the motion itself: do we have concerns listing a direct competitor (Koerner’s Pub)?

What if they change their business practices?

And what version of the Gallery are you referring to? It existed for a very long time with different prices, different food choices.

You want it operated and maintained by students? Not management people? It’s unclear what these words mean.

A service is something that takes money.

A service/business hybrid with no business plan …

In the existing situation this would lead to budget cuts elsewhere.

Kevin Doering:
  The wording issues are reasonable. Koerner’s Pub is not essential to the question.
  I’d like us to focus less on wording than on campus culture.
  We’re willing to collect signatures in person, but it’s Reading Break; it will be hard to find students.
  We were under the impression that online signatures were not entirely out of the question. We’re using a platform vetted by UBC.
  The issue of defining “duly signed” is something for Student Court to decide.

Jenna Omassi:
  I was asked about this and consulted Abdul and Sheldon.
  The consensus was that it was my call to make.
  The Gallery campaign never sent me their question.
  I consulted other Executives and decided not to allow online petitions.
  Friday is when I was first asked formally, and I said Council was the right place to decide this.

42. MOVED AARON BAILEY, SECONDED VIET VU:

“That the meeting be extended by one hour.”

... Carried

For (15): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aaron Bailey, Hannah Carrothers, Alan Ehrenholz, Benjamin Israel, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Daniel Lam, Mackenzie Lockhart, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Viet Vu, Hussam Zbeeb
Against (11): Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Robin Asgari, Bradley Balaton, Jude Crasta, Tobias Friedel, Quartermain Lim, Lisa Mah, Jerry Mejia, Jenna Omassi, Katherine Pan, Hooman Shahrokhi

Abstained: Mateusz Miadlikowski

Bradley Balaton:
- What happened to the old Gallery space?

Ava Nasiri:
- The old Gallery can’t be reused because it’s in the Old SUB and the Old SUB has been given back to UBC. We can’t use the space commercially.

Benjamin Israel:
- I respectfully disagree with the Speaker. At the time the Bylaws were passed [1980], there was only paper. There’s no effective difference between paper and electronic signatures.

The Speaker:
- I agree, but I left it to the VP Academic to make the decision.

Benjamin Israel:
- Our mandate is to represent students.
- This is a petition signed by around 1,000 students.
- Whether I agree with the resolution or not, this should go to referendum.
- We’re not saying we like the question; we’re not endorsing the question.
- That would have been interfering with minutiae.

43. MOVED BENJAMIN ISRAEL, SECONDED AVA NASIRI:

“That the question be called.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds... Defeated

For (15): Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Robin Asgari, Bradley Balaton, Alan Ehrenholz, Benjamin Israel, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Vanessa Lau, Quartermain Lim, Jerry Mejia, Katherine Pan, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Viet Vu, Hussam Zbee

Against (9): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aaron Bailey, Tobias Friedel, Veronica Knott, Mackenzie Lockhart, Lisa Mah, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri

Abstained: Hannah Carrothers, Daniel Lam, Jenna Omassi, Hooman Shahrokhi
Robin Asgari:
- This Council is supposed to reflect what students want.
- But if we want a change, we can set up committees or a working group; we can’t just wave a wand.
- We need to figure out what we really want to do.

44. MOVED MACKENZIE LOCKHART, SECONDED DANIEL LAM:

“That the motion be amended to delete everything after the first reference to the Gallery Lounge, so that the question would read:

‘Do you direct the AMS to provide a new, social restaurant lounge in the Nest for students with a social culture reminiscent of the former Gallery Lounge?’ ”

Mackenzie Lockhart:
- Councillors are having problems with the details of the wording. This will remove those problems.

Kevin Doering:
- Speaking on behalf of the referendum campaign, I can say that’s fine.

Jude Crasta:
- Can he speak on behalf of the petition group?

The Speaker:
- I will allow that comment.

Mackenzie Lockhart:
- We’ve seen a lot of problems with the specifics. Everyone would be agreeable if all we were doing is directing the Society to create something reminiscent of the Gallery Lounge.

Jenna Omassi:
- Almost a thousand students signed the original petition. This changes the question they signed.

Ava Nasiri:
- Does Council have the power to amend a referendum question?

The Speaker:
- Yes. In this case it’s not a submitted petition. Council is amending its own motion.

Aaron Bailey:
- What is the definition of “a social culture reminiscent of the former Gallery Lounge”?

Mateusz Miadlikowski:
- Striking these words means the question has become meaningless. For me the Pit is reminiscent of the Gallery.
Benjamin Israel:
- What this means is if students vote Yes, it’s specific: we want a social restaurant lounge.
- I disagree with those who say we would be disrespecting students to adopt this revised version of the question.
- The students who signed the petition wanted a Gallery Lounge. If any of them are upset with the revised question, they can collect a thousand new signatures and run their own referendum. This is our question now. This would at least give students what they want.

Jenna Omassi:
- I disagree with that point. We can’t go back to the students and see if this is what they want. This amendment nullifies those thousand signatures.

Ava Omassi:
- In its current form, this was brought to Council to be put on the ballot.
- It’s something students put signatures to; they wanted it on the ballot.
- Council has every right to amend to make it palatable.
- And it says to create a new lounge, so there shouldn’t be any confusion with the Pit.

Aaron Bailey:
- I really like the amendment. It addresses the issues I raised.
- I still want a definition of the culture.

45. MOVED MACKENZIE LOCKHART, SECONDED DANIEL LAM:

“That the motion be amended to delete everything after the first reference to the Gallery Lounge, so that the question would read:

‘Do you direct the AMS to provide a new, social restaurant lounge in the Nest for students with a social culture reminiscent of the former Gallery Lounge?’”

... Carried

For (17): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aaron Bailey, Hannah Carrothers, Benjamin Israel, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Mackenzie Lockhart, Lisa Mah, Jerry Mejia, Sareena Mohammad, Ava Nasiri, Katherine Pan, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Samantha So, Viet Vu, Hussam Zbeeb

Against (3): Mateusz Miadlikowski, Jenna Omassi, Hooman Shahrokhi

Abstained: Aiyana Anderson-Maclusaac, Bradley Balaton, Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz, Alexandra Lee Mann, Quartermain Lim, Adrian Talingdan

46. MOVED VIET VU, SECONDED MACKENZIE LOCKHART:

“That AMS Council direct the President to call a referendum on the following question:
‘Do you direct the AMS to provide a new, social restaurant lounge in the Nest for students with a social culture reminiscent of the former Gallery Lounge?’

Aaron Bailey:
- What is the culture definition?

Viet Vu:
- It could mean a lot of things. It was left intentionally vague.
- Those who implement it can remember the Gallery and consult those who know.
- For each student it means different things.

Kevin Doering:
- Anyone who’s been in the Gallery knows it had a distinct culture, distinct from what’s in the Nest now.

Veronica Knott:
- Everyone has a different memory. To me the Perch is like what the Gallery was. I don’t see the point of the question.

Jude Crasta:
- I support the efforts of the campaign and the atmosphere they’re trying to achieve.
- But the way the motion is worded is too open to interpretation. Afterwards it would allow any student to say, This is not the Gallery I remember.
- One objection is fiduciary burden.
- Also I don’t feel a proper process was followed for the wording.
- Better to consult with ABBA.
- The best thing would be to bring back a petition with a thousand signatures.

Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac:
- There is lots of interest and excitement around this idea.
- I think this should be critiqued, reworded. We’re not in a state to do that tonight.
- It would be smart to take this back and consult.
- Make it as close to perfect as you can.
- Things were done in a weird order.

47. MOVED AIYANA ANDERSON-MacISAAC, SECONDED QUARTERMAIN LIM:

"That the question be called."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

For (18): Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Bradley Balaton, Jude Crasta, Alan Ehrenholz, Benjamin Israel, Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Alexandra Lee Mann, Quartermain Lim, Lisa Mah, Jerry Mejia, Ava Nasiri, Jenna Omassi, Chris
Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Hooman Shahrokhi, Samantha So, Adrian Talingdan, Hussam Zbeeb

Against (6): Jamiu Abdsalami, Aaron Bailey, Veronica Knott, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Mackenzie Lockhart, Viet Vu

Abstained: Mateusz Miadlikowski

48. MOVED VIET VU, SECONDED MACKENZIE LOCKHART:

“That AMS Council direct the President to call a referendum on the following question:

‘Do you direct the AMS to provide a new, social restaurant lounge in the Nest for students with a social culture reminiscent of the former Gallery Lounge?’

... Carried

For (11): Aaron Bailey, Benjamin Israel, Kevin Doering (proxy for Melissa Lachica), Daniel Lam, Vanessa Lau, Mackenzie Lockhart, Ava Nasiri, Katherine Pan, Chris Scott (proxy for Carly Sotas), Samantha So, Viet Vu

Against (10): Aiyana Anderson-MacIsaac, Bradley Balaton, Jude Crasta, Tobias Friedel, Veronica Knott, Quartermain Lim, Jenna Omassi, Hooman Shahrokhi, Adrian Talingdan, Hussam Zbeeb

Abstained: Jamiu Abdsalami, Hannah Carrothers, Alan Ehrenholz, Lisa Mah, Jerry Mejia, Mateusz Miadlikowski

R) Commission Minutes, Reports and Motions:

S) Other Business and Notice of Motions:

T) Discussion Period

U) Submissions:

V) Next Meeting:

Next Meeting: February 24, 2016

W) Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 pm.

X) Social Activity:
## February 10, 2016 Attendance

The Alma Mater Society of U.B.C. Vancouver – Student Council Attendance

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