Extended Health and Dental Plan Committee Meeting

**Date:** September 16\(^{th}\), 2014  
**Time:** 11:00 am – 12:30 pm  
**Venue:** SUB 266J

**Present:**

**Voting Members:** Colúm Connolly, Mateusz Miadlikowski, Christopher Roach (Chair), Tanner Bokor

**Non-Voting Members:** Ahmed Mitraoui, Sophia Haque, Keith Hester, Daniel Levangie, Lev Bukhman

**Regrets:** Steven Pi

1. **Call to Order**

   The meeting was called to order at 11:07 pm.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

   BIRT the agenda is adopted as presented.

   Moved: Colúm; Seconded: Mateusz
   **PASSES** (4 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

3. **Referendum Options – Discussion**

   - The Chair summarized the discussion from the last committee meeting – that the committee agreed bringing forward a referendum question around the creation of a two-tiered Extended Health and Dental Plan (EH&DP) is preferred over trying to increase the plan fee.
   - Lev and Sophia presented on a proposal prepared by StudentCare on what this two-tiered plan would look like at UBC as well as the potential timeline for implementation.
   - The committee unanimously agreed that this was an option they would like to pursue. The committee further agreed that ideally they would like to be ready to propose a referendum question for the 2015 election however the most important thing is to do it right so if it could not be ready until the 2016 elections that was ok.

4. **EH&DP Commissioner Update – Information**

   - The Chair presented the proposal for the EH&DP Commissioner position which would be tasked with the bulk of the work collecting data and holding focus groups with students to see if they would like a two-tiered system and what they would like it to look like.
   - A committee member proposed that the position should be under the Executive Director as opposed to any of the AMS Executive or Chair of the Committee as it would help expedite the hiring of the person. The Chair asked if any of the committee had any concerns with this – none were raised.
After discussion on this topic the committee agreed that hiring a commissioner for this project was the most effective way to best prepare for a referendum question.

The Chair expressed interest in making slight modifications to the proposed position and project description based on the information presented by StudentCare. The Chair further stated that if there were no concerns, they would send out the position and project proposal by the end of the week and hold an electronic vote about using funds from the reserve fund to support this position and their associated costs – none were raised.

5. EH&DP Bursary Update – Discussion
- The EH&DP Coordinator gave an update on the current status of the bursary application process and reported that no major problems with the process have arose yet.
- The Chair asked when the Coordinator would have all the data finalized and ready to be presented to the Committee in order to allow them to make a decision on bursary allocation – the Coordinator replied that all the work should be done on this by early to mid-October. The Chair stated the next Committee meeting would be held after this in order to approve the bursary applications as soon as possible.
- The Chair commented that they would like to see the formula for the calculation of un-met need redone to better represent the costs associated with living in Vancouver and UBC but was looking for the Vice-President Finance (VPF) and AMS Finance department to take the lead on this.
- The Committee agreed this should be done but not until November after the 2014 bursaries are decided on.
- The Coordinator stated that the payment for the individual helping out with the behind the scenes programming of the bursary application process still has not been paid their honorarium from the previous year. The VPF stated that they can be paid however the individual would need to submit an invoice to the AMS to do so before they can write a check.

- The Chair proposed that the committee needed to develop a new timeline which the committee would follow in order to decide on changes to the plan. The Chair proposed that in an ideal situation, the committee would spend their terms researching this topic and their last decision as members would be to vote on changes to the plan. The Chair further commented that the idea time to make this decision would be around the end of April which works well as the AMS Executive’s transition time is the end of April and the GSS Executive’s will likely be the same within a year.
- StudentCare expressed agreement that this would be the ideal system for them and that it should be feasible in terms of negotiating with the Insurance Provider.
- The Chair asked the committee members to start thinking about who would be the best people for the Committee to meet with in the future in order to help inform them on student health concerns.
- The Chair further commented this should be the Committee’s next major project once the Commissioner is hired all of the bursaries have been distributed – the Committee agreed.

7. StudentCare Survey Update – Discussion
- Sophia and Lev informed the Committee that StudentCare’s annual survey used to assess student’s thought and opinion on the EH&DP was almost ready but they would like the Committee’s opinion on it before starting.
- The Chair asked what was the latest StudentCare needed to hear back from the Committee – Sophia replied that mid-October was the latest. The Chair promised they would get feedback by then.

8. **Dental Hygiene Service Proposal** – Discussion
- The Chair presented a proposal submitted to the EH&DP in which a dental hygiene service company would come to the SUB and offer free dental cleaning to student enrolled in the plan. This would be achieved by offering to refund the 30% of “costs” that were not covered under the plan back to students.
- Sophia commented that the same company tried to offer this back in 2011 and that they suggest against it for three reasons: 1) it could have the same effects on dental rates as the previously potential dental clinic in the AMS Nest, 2) the service offered only includes dental cleaning, not dental health check-ups and students might leave without knowing they have cavities or other dental health problems, and 3) we should be promoting student to get full health check-up.
- The Chair agreed and expressed concerns about the company’s proposed pricing model as it could negatively affect our relationship with Pacific Blue Cross.
- The Chair asked the committee their opinion on the proposal – the committee unanimously agreed it should be turned down and asked the Chair to inform the company of its decision.

9. **StudentCare Monthly Claims Summary** – Discussion
- Sophia presented data from the preliminary analysis of the 2013-2014 year for the EH&DP and informed the committee the final version will be ready for the October committee meeting.

BIRT the committee meeting be adjourned.

Moved: Chris; Seconded: Tanner
**PASSES** (4 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

The meeting adjourns at 12:27 pm.
1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 pm.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

BIRT the agenda is adopted as presented.

Moved: Tanner; Seconded: Colúm
PASSES (5 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

3. **Student Bursary Distribution** – Discussion and Motion

- The Extended Health and Dental Plan (EH&DP) Coordinator reported that 408 individuals had submitted applications for the EH&DP Bursary and presented the list of each individual’s financial need as determined by the EH&DP formula.
- The Chair explained to the committee the process and reasoning the 2013-2014 EH&DP Committee changed the formula and adjudication process for allocating the bursary.
- The Committee discussed if they were happy with the previous Committee’s unmet need cut-off point and discussed the merits to changing it to be more liberal amount. After a long discussion the following motion was moved:

BIRT the Extended Health and Dental Plan Committee allocated a full bursary to all individuals whose financial need, as calculated through the Plan’s internal formula, was more than $+4,000 (living away from parent’s home) and $+2,000 (living at parent’s home).

Moved: Colúm; Second: Chris
PASSES (5 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

4. **EH&DP Commissioner Update** – Information
- The Chair gave an update to the Committee on the Commissioner position that was approved at the previous meeting stating that the process is currently going through the AMS HR process to ensure the job description is properly done. 
- The Chair further stated that once the AMS Executive Director has returned from vacation the position will be posted online and the hiring process will start.

5. Student Care Survey – Discussion
- The Chair informed the Committee that StudentCare is finalizing the annual AMS/GSS EH&DP survey and that StudentCare wanted input from the Committee on what they would like changed or any problems they have with the survey. 
- Sophia gave the Committee an overview of the survey and explained StudentCare’s rational for all changed compared to last year’s survey. 
- A member of the Committee requested that the survey (question #21) expand on what “preventative” and “basic” dental coverage is so student can better answer the question. 
- Sophia asked the committee if they would prefer a telephone-based survey or an online-based one. After discussion the committee decided that an online-based survey was ideal and that the next survey to be launched around the potential new two plan option should be a telephone-based one. 

6. EH&DP Enrolment Policies – Special Circumstance Groups – Discussion
- The Chair presented to the Committee the concerns the AMS has around students who are enrolled in the plan, specifically senior students who don’t pay tuition, exchange students, and 3rd/4th year UBC medical students. The major issue presented was if these students should eligible for the EH&DP. 
- After long discussion the Committee agreed that so long as they are AMS member and are paying all AMS fees, they should not be barred from any of the benefits of membership – one of those being the EH&DP. 

7. StudentCare Contract – Discussion
- Sophia brought to the Committee’s attention that StudentCare’s contract as Administrator of the AMS/GSS EH&DP ends August 2016 and because they were planning on investing up to $100,000 into office renovations in their new location in The Nest, they wanted to ensure they would be using the space for more than a year. 
- A member of the committee asked how long the renewal would be for – it was answered that it would be the standard 5 year contract.

At this point in the meeting the member of the StudentCare team excused themselves from the meeting due to conflict of interest.

At this point in the meeting the committee went offline to discuss the contract. 

- The Committee agreed that assuming there were no hiccups in the discussions between the AMS and StudentCare, a tentative contract should be available for the Committee by the next meeting.
The AMS President explained that they would like to have the Committee view and endorse the contract before it goes forward to the AMS Council for official approval – the committee agreed.

BIRT the committee meeting be adjourned.

Moved: Tanner; Seconded: Colúm
PASSES (5 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

The meeting adjourns at 2:06 pm.
Extended Health and Dental Plan Committee Meeting

Date: November 24th, 2014  Time: 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm  Venue: SUB 266J

Present:
Voting Members: Mateusz Miadlikowski, Steven Pi, Christopher Roach, Tanner Bokor

Non-Voting Members: Ahmed Mitraoui, Sophia Haque, Keith Hester

Regrets: Colúm Connolly

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:08 pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda

BIRT the agenda is adopted as presented.

Moved: Tanner; Seconded: Mateusz
PASSES (4 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

3. Approval of Minutes

BIRT the following committee meeting minutes are accepted as presented:
“Health and Dental Plan Committee_Minutes_20140916”
“Health and Dental Plan Committee_Minutes_20141020”
- It was noted that in the October 20th meeting minutes the representative from StudentCare stated StudentCare would be making “up to $100,000” in office renovations, not “approximately $150,000”. The changes were accepted.

Moved: Mateusz; Seconded: Steven
PASSES (4 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

4. EH&DP Commissioner Update – Information
- It was reported that the EH&DP Commissioner position would be posted online and through AMS channels before the end of the month with the intention of hiring them before the end of the academic semester.
- A member of the Committee asked if it would still be possible for a proposal to be ready for the referendum. There was disagreement among members if this would be possible considering the time constraints. The members however agreed that the decision on this would need to be made
early next year, closer to the election period with mid-February being the latest possible point to make a decision on this.

5. **EH&DP Survey – Update**

- An update on the EH&DP survey ran by StudentCare was given – the survey is currently up and running and a few people have already started to fill it out. The GSS has disseminated it via their communication channels while the AMS reported it will be doing the same by the end of the week.
- A member of the Committee asked if there was a back-up plan to ensure that we get high numbers of students filling out the survey – the AMS President replied that they were planning on renting a booth in the main concourse of the SUB and have the AMS Street Team with iPads getting students to fill it out. The Chair further commented that it will be important for both Societies to make this a priority over the next few weeks to ensure there is high turn-out and that the data from the survey will be useful.

6. **Medical Undergraduate Society Involvement in Plan Future – Discussion**

- A member of the Committee raised the point that the Medical Undergraduate Society (MUS) was interested in investigating the possibility of having a permanent spot on the Committee due to concerns about potential changes to the plan and how it might affect 3rd and 4th year medical students. As such they would like to be kept up-to-date on Committee on-goings.
- The Chair stated that as the Administrative Agreement was recently redone there would likely be little interest in reopening it for Committee compositions, however they thought there might be an option which would work for everyone. They suggested that regardless of whether the AMS Councillor position is held by someone from the MUS, an MUS representative be added to the mailing list in order for them to be kept up-to-date on the Committee on-goings and so they know when meetings will be.
- A committee member asked if the meetings were open to anyone – the Chair replied that they are open to any AMS or GSS member.
- There was agreement that the proposed plan would work and that the MUS representative would provide the Chair with the MUS-based email which they would like to be added to the email list.

7. **Leave of Absence Students – Motion**

- The representative from StudentCare explained that as per the AMS Bylaws, leave-of-absence students are not considered AMS members and thus are not applicable for the EH&DP – something that has come to their attention during the opt-out period. At the moment five students have emailed StudentCare requesting to be kept on the plan during their leave-of-absence.
- The AMS President stated that the AMS is looking into reviewing the AMS policies on leave-of-absence students to allow them the opportunity to remain members of the AMS during their time away from UBC.
- A member of the Committee asked how this process should look. The Chair replied they thought the student on the leave should be eligible for the Plan on the condition they pay the AMS General Membership fee – there was general agreement amount the Committee.
The representative from StudentCare explained that the Committee has the ability to re-enrolled these 5 student if wishes and that they were hoping the Committee would be able to make a decision as soon as possible so it may be conveyed to the students.

BIRT the AMS/GSS Extended Health and Dental Committee allows AMS students on a leave of absence to self-enroll into the AMS/GSS Extended Health and Dental Plan for the 2014-2015 plan term.

Moved: Tanner; Seconded: Mateusz
PASSES (3 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

8. AMS-StudentCare Contract – Motion
- For this portion of the meeting the representative form StudentCare stepped out of the room and the Committee went offline as it was discussing matters pertaining to an AMS Contract.

BIRT the AMS/GSS Extended Health and Dental Committee endorses the AMS’ proposed contract with StudentCare and recommends to the AMS Council they approve the contract as presented.

Moved: Tanner; Seconded: Steven
PASSES (3 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

BIRT the committee meeting be adjourned.

Moved: Tanner; Seconded: Steven

The meeting adjourns at 1:46 pm.