



Student Society
of UBC Vancouver

Submission to the UBC Board of Governors regarding the Annual Tuition Increases November 7th, 2017

Dear Board of Governors,

This submission is being made on behalf of the Alma Mater Society (AMS) of UBC Vancouver in response to the consultation opened on October 10th, 2017 on the annual general tuition increase of domestic tuition by 2%, thesis-based tuition by 2%, non-instructional fees by 2%, and continuing international tuition by 2-3%.

We appreciate that the University has taken efforts to improve the annual consultation process this year. We support the enhanced level of information provided by the University online regarding the allocation of tuition and student fees.

We hope that the University will recognize the magnitude of student comments this year regarding personal finances and the fairness regarding continuing tuition increases. If the University is going to have continuing tuition increases they need to be clearly advertised to students when they initially apply to UBC. Furthermore, UBC needs to review the affect that annual increases can have on higher cost programs where a 2% increase is a significant additional burden placed on the student.

If the University is going to have annual tuition increases there needs to be a commitment for continued development and improvement of services and supporting resources that a student may access. Additionally, there should be a formal process to update students on these developments and improvements on an annual basis.

We hope to work with the University to ensure that we explore new avenues to prioritize student affordability. As per the 2014 student referendum and the AMS Policy on UBC and Student Affordability, the AMS opposes all tuition increases beyond the 2% domestic cap.

We would like to thank the Board of Governors for their continued commitment to ensuring that all student voices are heard at the Board of Governors and throughout the University. We hope to see this continue and we look forward to working with UBC to make education affordable and accessible to all current and future UBC students.

Sincerely,

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