



AMS/GSS Health and Dental Plan Committee 2018/19 Report

Prepared by Kuol Akuechbeny, AMS Vice-President Finance and Chair of Health and Dental Plan Committee 2018 - 2019

The Health and Dental Plan Committee consists of members from the AMS and GSS council. The committee meets once every month. There were at total 10 meetings during the Fiscal Year 2018/19. Out of 10, 2 meetings that didn't meet quorum. The Committee members appointed by AMS Council in May 2018 were;

Membership:

- AMS president (Mariam president@ams.ubc.ca)
- AMS VP Finance(Kuol – vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca)
- AMS Councillor (Amy - msamykwan@gmail.com)
- GSS President (John – president@gss.ubc.ca)
- GSS Councillor (Soheila Zarei - soheilazareie@gmail.com)
- Plan Administrator Rep. non-voting, (Bahareh – bahareh@studentcare.net)
- AMS/GSS Health and Dental Plan Coordinator, non-voting (Ahmed – health@gss.ubc.ca)
- AMS Managing Director, Non-voting, (Keith – keithhester@ams.ubc.ca)

The active Committee members as January 2019 are;

Membership:

- AMS president (Mariam president@ams.ubc.ca)
- AMS VP Finance(Kuol – vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca)
- GSS President (John – president@gss.ubc.ca)
- Plan Administrator Rep. non-voting, (Bahareh – bahareh@studentcare.net)
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Renewal Report and 100% Flu Vaccines Reimbursement

The Health and Dental Plan Committee members discussed the report from the insurance company (TRG and Pacific Blue Cross) and renewed the deal with the insurer for the Fiscal Year 2018 – 2019. The committee also discussed the flu vaccine reimbursement coverage through Health and Dental Plan for the members and approved the 100% flu vaccine reimbursement motion; "BIRT that the committee approves Flu Vaccine Reimbursement Coverage from 70% to 100%".

Health and Dental Plan Subsidies and Survey - \$50,000 every year

The committee discussed the survey questions presented by the Health and Dental Plan Administrator and approved the motions to survey over 300 sampled students and the statistical report would brought back to the committee after the numbers are finalized; "BIRT that the Health and Dental Committee accept the survey questions as amended".

The Committee also approved the subsidies for the students that met the criteria to receiving health and Dental Plan subsidies. Health and Dental Plan committee provides \$50,000 every year from reserve fund to support students with financial need; "BIRT that the committee approves \$31,075.63 for the Health and Dental Subsidies". The committee approved \$31,075.63 to give to students with financial difficulties.



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Change in Psychology Coverage, Updates and Renewal of 2019/20 contract with the Insurer.

The committee discussed and check the numbers and approved to recommend the change in psychology coverage from \$300 \$500 to both AMS and GSS Council. The Committee received updates that AMS and GSS both approved the motions; BIRT the AMS/GSS Health and Dental Plan Committee recommended to AMS and GSS Councils increase fees plan fee by 5%.

It was confirmed that UBC would take over the cost of EmpowerMe entirely as from the Fiscal Year 2019/20 thus making the services available to all UBC students in the next Fiscal Year and beyond. The Health and Dental Plan reserve currently has a balance of about \$3.46 million thus the plan is in good state.

The committee received the report on the operations in the Fiscal Year 2018/2019 and renewed the contract with the insurer for the Fiscal Year 2019/20.

Note: As Mental Health is a continue issue on campus that need to be taken tackle by both institution bodies and individual students, the outgoing Chair of Health and Dental Plan Committee(Kuol Akuechbeny) would like to recommend to the new committee to looks into the possibility of creating AMS Mental Health Initiative Fund(MHIF) and allocate about \$25,000 to this new fund from Health and Dental Plan \$3.46 million reserve fund. This would be something similar to the SAIF that supports Sexual Assault Support Initiative and would encourage individual students and student groups to apply for the funding to pilot various projects and run programs that focus on mental health issues on campus. This can be piloted in the first year 2019/20. Since EmpowerMe cost will be taken over by UBC in this coming Fiscal Year, the plan reserve fund is in great shape, and the committee has the capacity to fund MHIF initiatives in 2019/20 without fear of negative impact on the plan funding.

In addition, the subsidies amount from the reserve fund is \$50,000 a year. However, the highest that has ever been issue to students with financial difficulties is \$31,075.63 and the balance goes back to reserve fund each year.

Items brought to council:

1. BIRT the AMS/GSS Health and Dental Plan Committee recommend AMS and GSS Councils increase fees for the plan by 5%

NOTE: Approximately 3.62% of this increase is due to increasing premium, and approximately 1.34% is based on increased psychology coverage.

Kuol Akuechbeny

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AMS Vice -president Finance and Chair of Finance Committee 2018 - 2019