

AMS/GSS Extended Health and Dental Plan Committee

Date: May 19, 2021

Time: 3:03 pm – 3:33 pm

Venue: Virtual meeting

Present:

Voting Members: Mary Gan (Chair, AMS VP Finance), Kimani Karangu (GSS President), Nevena Rebic (GSS), Cole Evans (AMS President)

Non-voting Member: Ahmed Mtiraoui (Health Plan Coordinator)

Guests: Keith Hester (AMS Managing Director), Vivian Tan (GSS General Manager), Bahareh Jokar (Studentcare), Natasha Norbjerg (Hub International Insurance Brokers), Elaine Zhang (AMS Funds & Grants), Sheldon Goldfarb (AMS Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 pm.

2. Introductions

Mary had the committee members introduce themselves.

3. Agenda

The agenda was approved after an amendment to add last year's minutes (Kimani, Mary).

4. Mindful Employer Program

Natasha:

- Canada Life has brought this program to our attention.
- It provides grants for mental health initiatives.
- Only \$2,000, so they won't go far, but could be used for marketing: e.g., printing posters about increased psychology coverage.
 - Or for a consultant fee.
- Deadline is June 5: maybe someone should apply.

Mary:

- My team and I can look into this.
- Can always use more publicity.

5. Goals:

Mary:

- Mental Health Subsidy.
- Mental Health Support Network.
- Perhaps changing some service coverage: chiropractic, massage therapy.
 - Increase coverage per visit.

Keith:

- Chat with Lorris (AMS Senior Manager of Student Services) about mental health services.
- Talk of partnering with Campus Lightbox.

Mary:

- They want to be incorporated into AMS Services.

Keith:

- They want us to invest in them; they wanted a lot of money.

Mary:

- We've recommended they apply to AMS funds.

Keith:

- We may need to raise the \$50,000 for subsidies for health and dental.

Ahmed:

- Last year we received 2,000 subsidy applications.
- More people are applying.
- It used to be a couple of hundred.

Mary:

- Definitely a discussion for the future.

Ahmed:

- It opens in September, and there's another round in January.
- Last year we allowed all students to apply in January:

Mary:

- That was an exception?

Ahmed:

- Yes, for the last two years.
- We had a surplus.
- For the last two years we allowed those who didn't apply in September to apply in January.
- It's up to the committee.
- Depends on how many apply.
- The committee in the past decided to give students a second chance (in January) if they missed application deadlines in September.

Mary:

- Probably okay to make the exception.
- But starting this year, if back to normal, best to stick to strict dates, as long as there is communication to get the word out.

Bahareh:

- Virtual stakeholder conferences from Studentcare.

6. Minutes

MOVED COLE, SECONDED KIMANI:

"That the minutes from April 2020 through April 2021 be approved."

... Carried

The meeting adjourned at 3:33 pm.

