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.