



**THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VANCOUVER**

AMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of February 2, 2022

Attendance

Present: Cole Evans (President), Eshana Bhangu (VP Academic & University Affairs, away 11-11:20), Mary Gan (VP Finance), Lauren Benson (VP Administration), Saad Shoaib (VP External), Lorris Leung (Senior Student Services Manager), Mitchell Prost (Student Services Manager), Keith Hester (Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Recording Secretary: Sheldon Goldfarb

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 10:46 am on Zoom.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted (Cole, Saad).

Minutes

- The minutes of January 26 were approved with an addition from Eshana (Eshana, Lauren).

Masks

- Eshana:
 - Working with Mary.
 - Funding from the Health & Dental reserve: \$135,000 to buy 65,000 masks to give out to members of the UBC community.
 - Distribution stations in the Nest.
 - We got a great price.
 - We're doing a better job than UBC.
- Keith:
 - Residences?
- Eshana:
 - Great idea.
- Mary:
 - The Nest is more accessible.
- Eshana:
 - Boothing outside Nest.
 - People should know it's from the student union, not the University.

- Keith:
 - The company supplying the masks can sell us rapid test kits too.
- Eshana:
 - Great thing to have in our pocket.
 - UBC is getting rapid tests from the provincial supply, but that means they have to follow provincial rules: for symptomatic people only.
 - If UBC purchases its own test kits, they can give them out more freely.
 - Trying to push UBC to do this, but if not, it's good to have a quote for buying our own.

Thingery

- Lauren:
 - MoU from Chris Diplock.
 - The AMS is to pay for the shell of the space.
 - The Thingery will coordinate a donation drive with my team.
 - They will also finish the design and will carry \$5 million insurance.
 - The agreement to be reviewed in nine months.
- Keith:
 - Having \$5 million insurance is great.
 - We'd have to sublet the place to them for that to work: they'd have to be legally occupying it to get insurance.
 - Probably need a separate lease agreement.
- Cole:
 - Sustainability Projects Fund would be an appropriate place for funding.
 - That can be done by the Finance Committee without going to Council.
- Keith:
 - It doesn't say how much we would pay for the shell.
 - Maybe put a limit.

[Eshana leaves.]

Updates

- *Keith's update:*
 - Block Party line-up launched; 4900 tickets sold.
 - Feedback to line-up positive.
 - Wage change, as approved by Council, is being rolled out.
 - Enhancements to Health & Dental Plan.
- Cole:
 - Cap for Block Party?

- Keith:
 - 6500.
- Cole:
 - What is our decision/no-go date?
- Keith:
 - Two weeks prior, end of March.
 - If we say no, we'll have lots of costs to pay.
 - Hope that doesn't happen.
- Cole:
 - What is happening with the additional loan on the building project to alleviate the deficit?
 - Talking to RBC?
- Keith:
 - We have agreement in principle, but no numbers yet.
- Cole:
 - So it's being worked on.

- *Lauren's update:*
 - Launched Clubs Benefit grants via CampusBase:
 - Subsidizing use of Zoom, Slack Pro, etc.
 - Event assistance grant, e.g., subsidizing Dance Club classes.
 - Free masks and hand sanitizer.
 - Collegia working to open for first day back in person.
 - Hatch Art Gallery:
 - "Where Have We Been?" exhibit underway. Getting a good reception.
 - Sustainability:
 - Preparing for first week back.
 - Partnering with Constituencies.
 - Clubs Days happening:
 - Modified to work around rapid testing.
 - Will be Imagine Day style on Main Mall.
 - February 16.

- *Saad's update:*
 - Wrapping up federal lobby week. Sending letters of support to MP's.
 - Heading into provincial lobby week today.
 - Meeting the Greens.
 - NDP and Liberals next week.
 - Added Alliance of BC Students as partner.
 - Talking about students with disabilities.
 - With SASC, working with Naloxone distributor.
 - New provincial government campaign on sexual violence prevention ("Not Yes").

- Want it to be big.
 - Will do a presentation to Council.
 - TransLink:
 - Wrapping up U-Pass exemptions.
 - Then the auditing process.
 - Closing the subsidy soon.
 - Working with Utile on the housing project.
 - Making sure it does not get lost.
 - Next steps for next year.
- Keith:
 - Looking at having a booth at Block Party for Naloxone.
 - Should we also have a drug testing site?
- Saad:
 - We should. Will reach out.
 - Where is the money for fentanyl strips coming from?
- Keith:
 - Didn't know we had to buy them.
- Mitchell:
 - We received some from Eshana's office.
- Saad:
 - We should be purchasing a good amount.
 - Can use the Health & Dental Plan.
- Cole:
 - Should be looking at partnering with St. John's Ambulance, Good Night Out, etc.
- Keith:
 - Already doing that.
 - St. John's Ambulance, Red Cross.
 - If there are others, let me know.
- Saad:
 - They should be included in the branding.
 - Need to let students know about the safety initiatives.
 - If we're doing a presentation on Block Party, it should include Safety.
- *Mary's update:*
 - Q3 for February 16 Council.
 - Budget reforecast being reviewed at Fincom; probably ready for February 16.
 - Health & Dental:
 - Finalizing provider for the virtual health care system for the referendum.
- *Mitchell's update:*
 - Data issues. New system.

- Signed MoU with UBC for the AMS Food Bank and the Acadia Food Hub.
- Peer Support:
 - Harm reduction booting in Nest, February 14-18.
 - Talking of positivity, mental health.
 - Working with Law on training on Naloxone.
- eHub:
 - Working with e@UBC on mentorship, solidifying relationship.
 - Figuring out the campus ecosystem.
- Tutoring:
 - Partnering with Beyond Tomorrow's Scholars.
- SASC is organizing training about sexualized violence.
- Housing:
 - Putting a plan together.
- *Lorris's update:*
 - Collecting Services data. Finalizing vendor.
 - Recruitment plan.
 - SASC referendum question for Council.

[Eshana returns.]

- *Eshana's update:*
 - Masks.
 - UBC budget process.
 - Affordability Plan.
 - Academic Misconduct regulation.
 - Rapid testing starting February 7 at UBC:
 - We pushed for that.
 - Pushing for more access, for asymptomatic individuals too.
 - Academic Experience Survey going to Advocom.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 am.