



Meeting/Committee: Advocacy Committee

Date: 08/11/2022

Recorded By: Tomila Sahbaei

Attendance:

Present: Erin Co; Dana Turdy; Mimi Neufeld (Policy Advisor); Kaysan Adriyanto; Thomas Dunsmore; Sagorika Haque; Matthew Ho (guest)

Absent:

Regrets: Julia D, Julia W, Maddie E, Sadhvi S,

Call to Order:

- a. The meeting called at: 6:04 PM (Mover – Kaysan; Secunder – Thomas)
- b. End meeting time at: 7:00 PM

Last Meeting's Minutes Approval

Be it resolved that the August 4th Meeting Minutes are approved (Mover – Dana; Secunder – Kaysan)

Agenda Adoption

Unanimous consent.

Agenda Item (Submitter, Time)	Actions and Conclusions
Review of ESG Principles Report (Dana, 6:06 PM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Humans rights violations are not part of the principles● Council passed motion for the advocacy committee to advocate to the University to incorporate human rights into their principles<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Letter to BoG○ Statement<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Could follow up Palestine statement○ Deadline is August 30th; council is on August 17th and 31st (flexible)● Matthew: involvement of other groups into the ESG advocacy

- [w](#) Info on BOG Investments.docx from Mimi on specifically what criteria has to be met for UBC to divest from companies
 - Need to submit a robust proposal including specific actions; comprehensive case for divestment (meeting 5 different criteria); referendum (by faculty, student, or staff)
 - For example, with Fossil Fuels there was a problem with proving divestment would achieve the outcome of helping the environment
- To include in report – what exactly does it look like to include human rights in ESG principles
 - companies directly or indirectly violating policies
 - resource – [UN page overview](#)
- **Erin Co gives Dana permission to call on members to speak**
- possible to ask council for more time
- thoughts for now about how to about this
 - Sagorika – two-pronged approach; go to board, collaborating with student groups
 - Thomas – student opinion would be strong, shows the University what students want; research based
 - need to mobilize students and student groups
- motion does not call for committee to put forward a motion with the proposal
- AMS submitted divestment case for fossil fuels in 2014 but lawyers said it was not feasible; this changed in 2019 when the University agreed to divest
- [Responsible investment update](#)
- update to council before going to external groups

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● one of the criteria to be mindful of is financial risk ● Motion to ask council to extend deadline for ESG report (Mover – Dana; Seconder – Erin; passed unanimously). Motion will be brought to council next week
<p>Campus Safety Vision Statement (Erin and Mimi; 6:52 PM)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● last updated in 2009; position statement to replace ● values on what having a respectful campus community looks like ● position statement on what our values are on sexualized violence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ workplace one is newer ● advocomm to retire 2009 document so that the newer policies can be added ● Motion brought forward by Mimi – Be it resolved that the AMS retired the 2009 Campus Safety Vision Statement (Mover – Erin; Seconder – Dana; passed unanimously)
<p>VPX Updates (Erin, 6:57 PM)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Opioid crisis submission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ consulted with groups like GYDT ○ draft of written statement will be brought to next advocomm meeting ● BC Budget submission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ finance committee took most recommendation – housing; BC access grant ○ Recommendations from the VPX: 1) Create a comprehensive, standardized educational plan and toolkits targeted towards post-secondary students with information on harm reduction resources, services, and safer substance use strategies. The creation of these tools would allow all British Columbian post-secondaries to easily access, facilitate, and distribute crucial information to their respective

	<p>communities. This should be developed in partnership with local harm reduction organizations and student advocacy groups to adequately represent lived experiences and the perspectives of those who are most impacted. 2) In consideration of the province’s newly mandated program on drug decriminalization for simple possession, we urge the government to listen to the concerns of substance users, advocates, and harm reduction organizations regarding the 2.5g threshold. We also ask the province to shift their investments into community-based alternatives rather than relying on heavy police involvement. 3) Scale-up drug testing as an emergency intervention through continued support for drug checking initiatives, as well as provide fentanyl drug test strips to pharmacies across BC for distribution to increase accessibility and normalization of drug checking services.</p>
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Notes:

Meeting time to remain the same until summer ends

SUMMARY: ACTION ITEMS

**update to include incomplete action items from last meeting(s)*

**completed items should be marked with a check: ✓*

Action Item	Person Responsible	Deadline	Completed?
Initial research of adding human rights based to ESG report	AUA Office and anyone from the committee that would like to contribute		



organize how Advocomm can do the work of the ESG report (send email early next week to committee)	Mimi	Early next week	