



Meeting/Committee: Advocacy Committee

Date: October 12th, 2022

Recorded By: Tomila Sahbaei

**Attendance:**

**Present:** Erin, Dana, Mimi (Guest – Policy Advisor), Charlene, Kaysan, Mathew, Sagorika, Alex, Maddie Sides and Yasmina Seifeddine (Guests – Climate Justice UBC)

**Absent:**

**Regrets:** Julia Wang

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**Call to Order:**

- a. The meeting called at: 5:08 pm
- b. End meeting time at: 6:00 pm

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**Last Meeting's Minutes Approval**

- Motion to approve last committee meeting's minutes was brought forward by Dana. Be it resolved that the September 26th, 2022 minutes are approved. (Unanimous consent; Mover – Matthew; Seconder – Kaysan; 5:10 pm)

**Agenda Adoption**

Unanimous approval (Mover – Erin; Seconder – Kaysan) (5:10 pm)

<b>Agenda Item (Submitter, Time)</b>	<b>Actions and Conclusions</b>
<b>Land Acknowledgement (Dana, 5:08)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Indigenous Cultural Month book fair in lower atrium of the NEST until Friday</li></ul>
<b>RBC (Dana; 5:10)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Campaign led by Climate Justice UBC; related to meetings over summer and emails</li><li>- Council decided to refer this campaign to Advocacy Committee</li><li>- VanCity is an alternate option; but feasibility for is a main concern and VanCity may not be able to accommodate our scale of operations</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AMS has a loan with RBC, renegotiating this loan would most likely result in higher interest and cost student money.</li> <li>- Keith met with VanCity</li> <li>- AMS ended eHub partnership with RBC</li> <li>- RBC's tenancy – AMS cannot end their lease in the Nest without being in violation of the tenancy agreement</li> <li>- Guest comments             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- When was Keith's meeting with VanCity and was it with the credit union or Vancity investment bank (VCIB)?</li> <li>- Vancity's offer to open an AMS account; can future investments go to this account?                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Erin: Better to connect with Finance Committee on this</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Alex: Have any other student unions or universities ended their agreements with these banks yet?                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Guests: Campaign is happening in other universities too but none have switched banks yet</li> </ul> </li> <li>- RBC currently under investigation; funds Coastal Gaslink pipeline and line 3 pipeline; net-zero target emissions can not be met if RBC is investing in pipelines</li> <li>- Advocacy standpoint – AMS Statement condemning RBC's practises</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Advocacy pieces of the campaign; next steps             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Feasibility of making a statement can be further explored; possible to bring to council or leave for advocomm</li> <li>- Support echoed for statement; how to make a statement without shaming students for using these banks ; possibility of a collaborative process</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Important to get a legal opinion on what can and can't be said</li> <li>- Statement to reflect AMS values while also acknowledging union's constraints</li> <li>- Timeline would be late November/early December</li> <li>- Refer to Finance Committee for financial issues</li> <li>- Have to follow CM-1 – AMS policy on making statements</li> <li>- Be it resolved that Advocacy Committee refers the statement on RBC fossil fuel investments to the VP Academic and VP external offices for final approval by the committee (Mover – Sagorika; Seconder – Kaysan; approved with unanimous consent)</li> </ul>
<b>VP Academic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tuition consultation closes October 31st; also gives opportunity to discuss</li> </ul>
<b>VP External</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provincial lobby week</li> <li>- ABCS and Erin will be training people on lobbying</li> <li>- Positive responses about meeting with minister of finance, going to committee meetings</li> </ul>