

STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

Guests: Charlotte Alden (Ubysey), Annabella McElroy (Ubysey), Adrian Hung (Ubysey), Nathan Bawaan (Ubysey), Zoé Kruchten (Bike Kitchen), Andrea Alvarez (Bike Kitchen), Kamil Kanji (AMS President's office), Guest 6 (Education), Guest 5 (Pride & Trans Co), Guest 2 (Pride Collective), Guest 3 (Pride Collective), Guest 4 (Pride Collective), and many more members of the Pride Collective and the Trans Coalition, plus Sophia Haque (Studentcare), Celia Chung (Acting Managing Director), Sheldon Goldfarb (Clerk of Council), Joanne Pickford (Admin Assistant)

A) Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:14 pm.

B) Territorial Acknowledgement:

The Speaker:

- Vancouver is situated on traditional, ancestral, unceded Musqueam territory.
- What we call Vancouver is the occupied territory of the Tsleil-Waututh, Musqueam, and Squamish peoples.

C) Approval of the Agenda

1. MOVED KAYSAN ADRIYANTO, SECONDED AUDREY CHOW:

"That the relevant sections of Code be suspended re the circulation of the agenda and posting of notice for this meeting." [because the meeting was moved up to Monday, not leaving enough time to meet the Code requirements]

... No objections

2. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED RACHEL KIM:

"That the agenda be approved as presented."

... No objections

D) Membership and Attendance: Introductions, new member, declaration of vacancies

New members:

Vacancies: Architecture, Audiology, Journalism, Library-Archival, Population & Public Health, Regent, Science

Goodbyes:

E) Speaker's Business and Remarks (5 minutes)

F) Statements from Students at Large (3 minutes each)

Guest 2 (UBC Trans Coalition):

- We have been working with the Executive on bringing coverage for Trans care to UBC.
- Gender-affirming care is not covered by MSP.
- We are in a crisis of inequitable coverage: we can be hundreds of dollars out of pocket for gender-affirming procedures.
- On Friday the Health & Dental Committee recommended that there be two separate referendum questions: a general \$52.50 increase and an \$8 increase for gender-affirming care.
- The second was made conditional on the first and includes stigmatizing language.
- We objected to the language and asked that there be just one question,
- Otherwise this needlessly risks Trans students' lives.
- The decision to do this was political.
- Code does not require there be two separate questions.
- We ask Council to amend the language and combine the questions.
- The AMS says it must keep the plan accessible.
- You are choosing which students you serve.
- This is not adding something: the health plan is missing basic life-saving provisions.
- We want you to fix an incomplete plan.

Eshana Bhangu:

- I appreciate everyone coming out again.
- Our decision to make the questions separate is not due to Bylaws or Code.
- One question maintains the current plan.
- The other is an addition to the plan.
- They are two different items; that's the reason we don't want them both in the same question; it's the ethical way to do it.
- We want to make the questions clear to students.
- We are confident both questions will pass.
- We won't put a question on the ballot we don't think will pass.

Guest 2:

- We feel this is a political decision and is unethical.

Guest 6 wanted to speak on behalf of Education Councillor Damian Spence, but the Speaker said the Societies Act does not allow proxies.

Guest 3 (2nd student at large)

- We call upon Councillors to include Trans health care in one holistic question.
- Otherwise there is a gross exclusion for an under-represented, under-served population.
- This is a chance to take a stand for human rights for the most marginalized students.
- Trans health care is a human right.

- Gender-affirming care saves lives.
- The AMS and GSS can make a statement that Trans people are welcome at UBC.
- Our community needs concrete steps.
- Having one question would make a difference in our lives.
- There must not be a separate question: it will draw attention to Trans students and lead to Transphobic violence.
- 2022 was the worst year on record for Trans people.
- We have rights to non-discrimination.
- Separating health care for minority groups is against human rights.
- Gender identity is protected under federal and provincial laws.
- Separating the items into two questions means Trans lives are being put at risk.

Ayesha Irfan:

- Yield to Trans coalition.

Guest 3:

- This is basic coverage.
- Our well-being is not an add-on.
- Allyship means a chance to be more collaborative.
- We ask that you listen to Trans students.

Eshana Bhangu:

- I wholeheartedly agree with including this coverage.
- If we were in a financially sound position, this would not be an issue; we wouldn't have to go to a vote at all.
- But we have a projected deficit and have to go to a vote.
- We need to keep the questions clear; it's important to distinguish that one is maintaining the service and one is expanding it.
- We are working hard to make these questions pass.
- Some people have reached out to me about the examples in the second question, the language: we could have a productive discussion on that.

Guest 3:

- We had language approved by AMS Elections.
- The distinction you're making puts Trans students to the front and makes us f---ing targets.

The Speaker:

- I want productive debate.
- Please avoid profane language.

Guest 4 (3rd student at large):

- The Trans Coalition comes to Council today with amendments to the questions.
- They are dangerous to us in their current form, causing inconceivable harm.
- We gave warnings to the Health & Dental Committee.
- The AMS President's objections are bureaucratic and political.
- She refuses to listen to us.
- She retracted her support, placing our lives at risk.

- The President lied and lied and lied.
- Gender-affirming coverage will save lives and bring health to a discriminated against community.
- The AMS President has deceived us.
- Trans students deserve health care.

The Speaker:

- Do not make personal attacks or claim people are lying.
- Don't make allusions to motives.

Damian Spence:

- Yield to Guest 6.

Guest 6:

- The financial risk is not something to worry about.
- The Health & Dental fee covers the amount.
- We are talking about \$8 for Trans lives.

Lawrence Liu:

- This is a fixed cost and is not directly correlated with usage.
- In a year we could get this as a free cost.
- We are in a dire situation with our plan and cannot maintain current benefits.
- We do believe this will pass.

Guest 4:

- Yield to Guest 5.

Guest 5:

- Having a split question in this case is a danger to the Trans community.
- Believe us when we say that a Trans-specific question singles us out and puts us at risk.
- The more visible we are, the more violence we attract.
- We would like to request a change in the question's wording.

G) Approval of Minutes of Council and Committees

3. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED AMELIA WALKER:

"That the following minutes be accepted as presented."

Advocacy Committee minutes dated December 5, 2022	[SCD311-23]
Executive Committee minutes dated September 21, 2022	[SCD312-23]
Executive Committee minutes dated September 28, 2022	[SCD313-23]
Executive Committee minutes dated October 7, 2022	[SCD314-23]
Executive Committee minutes dated October 12, 2022	[SCD315-23]
Executive Committee minutes dated January 25, 2023	[SCD316-23]
Executive Committee minutes dated February 1, 2023	{SCD317-23}

... No objections

H) Consent Items

Consent Items Requiring a Simple Majority

Consent Items Requiring a 2/3rds Majority

4. MOVED AUDREY CHOW, SECONDED RACHEL KIM:

From the Elections Committee [SCD318-23], [SCD319-23]
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the report of the Elections Committee entitled 'Code Changes 2023: Referendum Campaigning' and thus amend the Code as recommended.

From the Elections Committee [SCD320-23], [SCD321-23]
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the report of the Elections Committee entitled 'Code Changes 2023: Instant Run-Off Voting' and thus amend the Code as recommended.
Note: Requires 2/3rds

From the Governance Committee [SCD322-23]
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the report of the Governance Committee entitled 'Code Changes 2023: Election Appeals Committees' and thus amend the Code as recommended.

From the Elections Committee [SCD323-23]
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council, on the recommendation of the Elections Committee, suspend Code Section IX, Sub-Section A, Article 2, Paragraph 9, Sub-Paragraph A to allow a one-time upper spending limit increase for individual candidates from \$450 to \$750.

From the Elections Committee [SCD324-23]
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council, on the recommendation of the Elections Committee, suspend Section IX, Sub-Section A, Article 2, Paragraph 6, Sub-Paragraph A to allow a one-time extension to the end of voting and the official campaign period from March 10th at 4 PM to March 10th at 5 PM.

From the HR Committee [SCD325-23]
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the current AVP Finance's hours be reduced to 10 hours effective upon hiring of new AVP and lasting until March 6th, 2023.

From the HR Committee [SCD326-23], [SCD327-23]
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council increase the Hatch Art Gallery Director position from 25 to 30 hours effective January 1st until the position ends in April.

... No objections

I) Presentations and Accompanying Motions

J) Executive and Committee Motions

5. MOVED RACHEL KIM, SECONDED THOMAS DUNSMORE: [SCD328-23]

From the Governance Review Committee

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 6-10, 2023 on the following question:

'Do you support and approve amending the AMS Bylaws in accordance with the changes presented in the document entitled “Bylaw Changes 2023: Indigenous Constituency and Miscellaneous Changes?” ’

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes.”

Eshana Bhangu:

- We are excited this is finally coming to fruition, especially the part about the Indigenous Constituency.
- The Indigenous Committee will become a Constituency.
- This will let them operate independently.
- The Indigenous fund will be transferred to the new Constituency.
- One change concerning the voting members of Council: the VP’s will still be voting members of Council.
 - This is because they are the only members who provide at large representation on Council.
 - There was a lot of debate on this at the committee.

6. MOVED RACHEL KIM, SECONDED THOMAS DUNSMORE:

From the Governance Review Committee

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 6-10, 2023 on the following question:

'Do you support and approve amending the AMS Bylaws in accordance with the changes presented in the document entitled “Bylaw Changes 2023: Indigenous Constituency and Miscellaneous Changes?” ’

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes.”

... Carried

For (25): Eshana Bhangu, Anisha Sandhu, Ben Du, Lawrence Liu, Erin Co, Audrey Chow, Ayesha Irfan, Mathew Ho, Kaysan Adriyanto, Cynara Onyemordi, Thomas Dunsmore, Rachel Kim, Jasneet Bal, Damian Spence, Christian Kyle, Sofia Cecic, Kana Kawanishi, Koda Tootoosis, Cissy Zhang, Maddie Elder, Amelia Walker, Rhiannon Terpstra, Cindy Wang, Salva Sherif, Jonathan De Souza

7. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED LAWRENCE LIU:

From the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Committee

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 6-10, 2023 on the following question:

'Do you support an increase of \$52.50 in the fee for the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee (\$277.50 to \$330) for the upcoming academic year to maintain similar levels of current coverage, which may include but is not limited to, dental care, drugs, and psychology coverage?

Note: If this fee increase does not pass, the AMS will be unable to maintain similar levels of current coverage, which may include but is not limited to, dental care, drugs, and psychology coverage (\$1250 for mental health), and significant cuts in coverage will be made.'

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes."

Lawrence Liu:

- We are in a dire situation with our Health & Dental plan.
- We currently have to subsidize the plan from our reserves.
- This increase will allow us to keep our current benefits.
- We will take a yes position so we can keep our current coverage.

8. MOVED DAMIAN SPENCE, SECONDED CISSY ZHANG:

"That the motion be amended so that the question says:

'Do you support an increase of \$60.50 in the fee for the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee (\$277.50 to \$338) for the upcoming academic year to maintain current levels of coverage and to include gender-affirming coverage?

Note: If this fee does not pass, the AMS will be unable to make any expansions to care and will also be unable to maintain similar levels of current coverage, which may include but are not limited to, dental care, drugs, and psychology coverage (\$1250 for mental health), and significant cuts in coverage will be made.' "

Damian Spence:

- Yield to Guest 6.

Guest 6:

- AMS Elections said this language is clear and appropriate.
- Trans health care is health care.
- This should have been in the question all along.
- Trans people are students and we need to be part of the entire community, not separate from other students.
- We need this care as much as people need dental care.

Guest 5:

- This coverage is not an add-on; this is an amendment to a plan that is incomplete.
- The plan should be inclusive of Trans care.
- This is rectifying.
- Having two questions puts us at risk for violence from far right-wing groups that have attacked us on campus.

- We ask that you please amend the question the way we ask so that we can write our own language.
- There should be nothing about us without us.
- We should have a say.
- Do not underestimate the threat of violence against us.
- It is a constant threat to our lives.

Christian Kyle:

- I don't know about the clarity of the proposed amendment.
- Combining paying off the deficit and expanding services may rile up students.
- It may lead the students to say the AMS is pushing this on us.
- Students do believe in Trans health care.
- I have faith in the student body.

Ayesha Irfan:

- How many votes are needed for a referendum question to pass?

Max Holmes:

- We need the full elections list, but it is usually about 5,000.

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- We need 8% of the student population to vote yes for the question to pass.

Guest 1:

- I am a medical student.
- I am in favour of the amendment to increase equitable access to health care.
- Students are asking for our core needs to be met.
- We are typically ignored or neglected.
- If we step forward, we put ourselves in danger.
- The system is failing us.
- We ask you not to make a barrier.
- This is an equity issue which impacts all of us.
- You have a chance to collaborate with us.

Salva Sherif:

- I worry that amending this might make people assume wrongly that instead of \$8, the \$60 is for Trans care.
- This could lead to the entire question failing.
- \$60 is quite a lot at a time of expenses.
- Combining the question might not have the effect intended.

Guest 5:

- The Trans Coalition is willing to work with Council to address the issue of clarity.
- We're willing to reword things.
- A Councillor spoke of having faith in the student body.
- As a Trans student, I do not.
- I have experienced violence, been doxed, trolled, suffered slurs.
- This is not something we're imagining.

- It is real and it is here.
- We are bringing this issue because the words put us in danger.
- It should be one question to lessen the risk against us.
- We will work for this referendum through our channels as well.

Rachel Kim:

- We can't fully understand your experience and pain.
- I do think that if we combine the questions it will not be clear how much is going to the deficit and how much to provide gender-affirming care.
- As to the examples, we can change those.

Mathew Ho:

- The main issue is whether the amended language is clear enough.
- I'm also wondering about other alternatives: mental health coverage didn't require a referendum to pass.

Guest 4:

- On the clarity issue, I'd be happy to include \$8 in brackets next to the gender-affirming care part of the motion.
- There's also the issue of the examples.
- They're not needed, and they will be sensationalized and trivialized.
- We're not aliens; we're people like anybody else.

Christina Cleveland:

- I am a medical student.
- Excluding gender-affirming care from the main question undermines the health and safety of the Trans community.

Eshana Bhangu:

- Mental health didn't go to referendum because our financials were better then.
- The Health & Dental Committee can add things without going to referendum.
- The only reason to go to referendum now is because we're in deficit.
- I could make a commitment that even if the referendum fails, we will add gender-affirming care to the plan next year when our financials are better.
- As for the examples, they do not need to be there, but we wanted a fulsome, informative question; different examples could be presented.

Guest 5:

- There are three issues:
 - Two distinct questions versus one holistic one.
 - The second question is conditional on the passing of the first question.
 - Wording issues, which we're willing to provide alternatives for.
- Also I'm wondering why the gender-affirming coverage would be going through Green Shield rather than our usual insurer (Pacific Blue Cross).

Sophia Haque:

- Pacific Blue Cross does not have this product developed; Green Shield does.

- Pacific Blue Cross is working on it, and may get there, and be able to provide it for free, but does not have it right now.

Damian Spence:

- Is there a process in the future in which this coverage could move from Green Shield to Pacific Blue Cross?

Sophia Haque:

- The short answer is Yes.
- Currently this coverage is proprietary to Green Shield, but sometime in the future when Pacific Blue Cross comes up with something, it could be included in their coverage.

Guest 3:

- Including it as one question allows for the AMS to show solidarity with the Trans community.
- Having only one question would limit the threat to our community.
- If you have confidence that both questions will pass, why don't you combine them into one item?
- Green Shield is promising coverage, so there is no risk in adding this now.
- Consider how historic this would be for the Trans community and marginalized groups.

Guest 4:

- The talk of providing more information in the question is not required by your Code.
- The more you provide, the more sensationalized it will be.
- The current separation sets the second question up to fail.
- We do not have a high level of trust in the AMS, given the way support was retracted.

Guest 2:

- My colleagues have made a strong argument on not separating these question.
- Now would be the time to figure out the language.
- Would adding a note saying \$8 out of the \$60 would be for gender-affirming care help?

Maddie Elder:

- We're messing up by not including gender-affirming care.
- I assume we all want gender-affirming care this year in our coverage.
- The Trans Coalition has done this work for us.
- There are strong reasons to combine these questions.
- There are systemic injustices for Trans people.
- This acknowledges that the AMS has failed to include gender-affirming care in the past.

9. MOVED DAMIAN SPENCE, SECONDED AMELIA WALKER:

"That the amendment be amended to add \$8 in brackets for gender-affirming care."

Guest 4:

- Does this work for everyone?

Rhiannon Terpstra:

- By putting the \$8 in brackets, isn't that creating more visibility?
- Putting more people in danger?

Guest 4:

- Including the \$8 is to make sure students don't think \$30 is going to gender-affirming care.
- I hope this sub-amendment makes it more acceptable.
- I don't think it would add visibility to us.
- The \$8 is a Starbucks order: it's maddening to have to have this discussion over \$8.

Lawrence Liu:

- I will not support this amendment.
- I still think there should be two separate questions.
- In any other year we could rubber stamp changes, but now we do have to put it to a vote and we need to be transparent: putting the questions together is not.

Max Holmes:

- To add parentheses might add confusion.

Guest 4

- It should be \$8 out of \$60.50.

10. MOVED DAMIAN SPENCE, SECONDED AMELIA WALKER:

"That the amendment be amended to add \$8 in brackets for gender-affirming care."
... Withdrawn with Council's consent

11. MOVED DAMIAN SPENCE, SECONDED SALVA SHERIF:

"That the amendment be amended to insert '[at a cost of \$52.50] to maintain current levels of coverage and to include gender-affirming coverage [at a cost of \$8]'."

Max Holmes:

- It's clear now.

12. MOVED DAMIAN SPENCE, SECONDED SALVA SHERIF:

"That the amendment be amended to insert '[at a cost of \$52.50] to maintain current levels of coverage and to include gender-affirming coverage [at a cost of \$8]'."
... Carried

For (23): Rhiannon Terpstra, Kaysan Adriyanto, Jasneet Bal, Eshana Bhangu, Audrey Chow, Erin Co, Jonathan De Souza, Ben Du, Thomas Dunsmore, Maddie Elder, Mathew Ho, Ayesha Irfan, Kana Kawanishi, Rachel Kim, Lawrence Liu, Cynara Onyemordi, Anisha Sandhu, Salva Sherif, Damian Spence, Koda Tootoosis, Amelia Walker, Cindy Wang, Cissy Zhang

Against (1): Sofia Cecic,

Abstained: Christian Kyle

13. MOVED DAMIAN SPENCE, SECONDED CISSY ZHANG:

“That the motion be amended so that the question says:

‘Do you support an increase of \$60.50 in the fee for the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee (\$277.50 to \$338) for the upcoming academic year to maintain current levels of coverage [at a cost of \$52.50], and to include gender-affirming coverage [at a cost of \$8]?’

Note: If this fee does not pass, the AMS will be unable to make any expansions to care and will also be unable to maintain similar levels of current coverage, which may include but are not limited to, dental care, drugs, and psychology coverage (\$1250 for mental health), and significant cuts in coverage will be made.’ ”

Lawrence Liu:

- I will not support combining the questions.
- In a normal year we could just add this, no questions asked, but with our deficit we can't.
- We need to keep these questions separate.
- One is keeping current levels, one is adding a new benefit.
- If we combine them, we'll be taking away student choice.
- We can't afford to add benefits now.
- If we could, there are so many things we'd like to add, like vision care or insulin, but we're in a deficit.
- This benefit is not applicable to everyone, but everyone will be paying for it.
- Students should have the choice.

Thomas Dunsmore:

- The clarity of the wording is important, but it's also important to have separate items to keep the issue clear.
- Re safety – that has not been adequately addressed and if the questions are kept separate, we need to help keep you safe.

Guest 7:

- Re intersex health care:
- Some things are covered, some are not.
- This supports intersex and two-spirited care.
- Two-spirited people need this care too.

Guest 6

- Talking about how normally adjustments could be easily done is not consistent with having the questions separate.
- A lot of things are covered now for Cis-only, not for Trans people.

Damian Spence:

- A student plan is for all students.
- For the minority, yes, everyone will be paying for it; that is exactly how insurance works.
- Is there something that says you can't add coverage when in a deficit? That you need to go to referendum?

Eshana Bhangu:

- We can only expand services when we are not spending above what we are collecting.
- Next year our deficit is projected to be \$85 per student.
- We will have to cover \$3.7 million next year.

Damian Spence:

- So we have a duty to the student body to not use all the money in the reserve.
- Is there wording that says we can't add this benefit?

Eshana Bhangu:

- Technically, it does not say that.
- But we can't do it because we won't be able to pay for our insurance.
- The insurers would stop coverage.
- We won't be able to provide Health & Dental coverage.
- We'd have to cut mental health, vision care.
- We can't afford the current plan.

Damian Spence:

- That's the whole point of asking for an increase.
- Why can we not put the gender-affirming care first?

Eshana Bhangu:

- We won't be able to pay for it.
- Students might pass the \$8 because it's lower than \$52.50, but we need the \$52.50, and even \$52.50 is not enough.
- But if we pass the \$52.50, then there can be a separate question.

Guest 4:

- The \$8 is a fixed fee from a separate insurance company.
- If the \$8 passes it would cover us for the next policy year.
- If you are endorsing these questions separately, you should endorse them together.
- Not every student uses vision care or drugs, but all pay for it.
- The same logic applies here.
- It's the social cohesion principle of health insurance.

Guest 8:

- The assumption that Trans people are different from Cis people is very upsetting.
- This should be considered not an add-on but an amendment.
- If someone has diabetes and others say, I don't, so why should we pay for insulin, that's reprehensible.

Guest 5:

- There is some coverage for Cis people for hormone imbalance, but not for Trans people.
- The way the system is set up, it discriminates against us.

Guest 9:

- You are not being transparent by holding conversations behind closed doors.

Maddie Elder:

- The dire state of our finances is not relevant: this \$8 will not cost the AMS money.
- Allyship looks like merging these two question.
- We need to be flexible; we need to be responsible to our students.

Audrey Chow:

- The overarching goal is to add gender-affirming care to our plan.
- Large fee requests have failed in the past.

Sheldon Goldfarb:

- There was a Health & Dental fee referendum question that failed in 2003.
- It asked for a \$53 increase.

Guest 10:

- Vulnerability of people of colour in this community.
- This University and this country have failed.
- Decolonization is needed.
- People come to UBC from homophobic and transphobic countries to be safe.
- People of colour need to fight for our place in this community

Guest 11:

- There is a lot of transphobia on campus.
- My Trans-focused class has had to go online because of anti-Trans hate.

Guest 12:

- This cannot wait another year.
- It was said there will be an \$80 shortfall next year.
- If \$52.50 is the suggested increase, there will still be a gap in a year.
- There will always be a reason not to do this.
- This issue is as important as the deficit.
- Let's deal with it now.

Guest 4:

- We struggle in many aspects of our lives.
- Waiting hurts us.
- We might see more of our friends die.
- All the institutions in our lives are transphobic.

Damian Spence:

- Gender-affirming care is a preventative measure for mental health care.
- It will lower the cost of mental health coverage.

Guest 13:

- We don't want to have to fight for our health care.
- You are confident the students will support both questions separately.
- I am not confident the student body will support this.
- Last year the Bike Kitchen fee did not pass.
- Transphobia is not dead.
- The Pride Collective has been targeted.
- We are not safe.
- We have to fight for our lives.
- In my home Trans stigmatization encourages violence.
- Hate and Transphobia exist.
- Please vote in favour of this amendment.

Ayesha Irfan:

- As Councillors we have privilege.
- The Trans Coalition have made it very clear that their community faces violence.
- A vote today can solidify our commitment.

Rhiannon Terpstra:

- I feel that the argument that these should be separate questions shows that some think the students will not support a gender-affirming care question.
- Don't put Trans welfare in the hands of the Cis-students who make up the majority.

Cissy Zhang:

- Why do we need two questions if gender-affirming care is going to be added anyway?
- Having two questions exposes the Trans community to danger.
- A lot of what we're saying is dissonant with what we are proposing.

14. MOVED MATHEW HO, SECONDED ESHANA BHANGU, THIRDED BEN DU:

"That the meeting enter an in camera session."

The meeting entered an in camera session at 8:58 pm.

The meeting left the in camera session at 10:12 pm.

15. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED DAMIAN SPENCE:

"That Council be extended by two hours."

... No objections

16. MOVED LAWRENCE LIU, SECONDED SALVA SHERIF:

"That the question be called."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... No objections

17. MOVED DAMIAN SPENCE, SECONDED CISSY ZHANG:

“That the motion be amended so that the question says:

‘Do you support an increase of \$60.50 in the fee for the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee (\$277.50 to \$338) for the upcoming academic year to maintain current levels of coverage [at a cost of \$52.50], and to include gender-affirming coverage [at a cost of \$8]?’

Note: If this fee does not pass, the AMS will be unable to make any expansions to care and will also be unable to maintain similar levels of current coverage, which may include but are not limited to, dental care, drugs, and psychology coverage (\$1250 for mental health), and significant cuts in coverage will be made.’ ”

... Defeated

For (4): Cissy Zhang, Maddie Elder, Amelia Walker, Rhiannon Terpstra

Against (16): Eshana Bhangu, Erin Co, Audrey Chow, Jonathan De Souza, Ben Du, Thomas Dunsmore, Mathew Ho, Kana Kawanishi, Rachel Kim, Christian Kyle, Lawrence Liu, Cynara Onyemordi, Anisha Sandhu, Salva Sherif, Damian Spence, Koda Tootoosis

Abstained: Kaysan Adriyanto

Back to the original motion on the first Health & Dental question:

18. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED LAWRENCE LIU:

From the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Committee

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 6-10, 2023 on the following question:

'Do you support an increase of \$52.50 in the fee for the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee (\$277.50 to \$330) for the upcoming academic year to maintain similar levels of current coverage, which may include but is not limited to, dental care, drugs, and psychology coverage?'

Note: If this fee increase does not pass, the AMS will be unable to maintain similar levels of current coverage, which may include but is not limited to, dental care, drugs, and psychology coverage (\$1250 for mental health), and significant cuts in coverage will be made.'

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes.”

For (19): Kaysan Adriyanto, Eshana Bhangu, Sofia Cecic, Audrey Chow, Erin Co, Jonathan De Souza, Ben Du, Thomas Dunsmore, Maddie Elder, Mathew Ho, Kana

Kawanishi, Rachel Kim, Christian Kyle, Lawrence Liu, Cynara Onyemordi, Anisha Sandhu, Salva Sherif, Koda Tootoosis, Amelia Walker

Against (2): Rhiannon Terpstra, Cissy Zhang

19. MOVED LAWRENCE LIU, SECONDED CHRISTIAN KYLE:

From the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Committee

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 6-10, 2023 on the following question:

'If the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Fee Increase Referendum is approved, do you support an additional increase of \$8 in the fee for the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee (for a total fee of \$338) for the upcoming academic year for Gender-Affirming Coverage to support Trans students on campus, which may include but is not limited to Transition surgical procedures not covered by provincial coverage and services, vocal surgeries, vaginal dilators, chest contouring, and laser hair removal?'

Note: If the separate General AMS/GSS Health & Dental Fee Increase Referendum is not approved, then this Gender-Affirming Coverage fee will not take effect.'

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes."

Eshana Bhangu:

- I call on the Trans coalition to help us amend this motion.

Guest 4:

- We presented our language at the Health & Dental meeting.
- Just end the sentence after "Gender-Affirming Coverage."
- We also want to get rid of the note saying this \$8 question is conditional on the other question passing: this one should be able to take effect alone.
- We want to add that we are extremely disappointed.

Eshana Bhangu:

- Green Shield will not offer an \$8 standalone plan.

Sophia Haque:

- The intention was always to include this in the general plan, but what levels of coverage exist in that plan is up for discussion.

Eshana Bhangu:

- The committee was quite clear that it wanted the second question conditional on the first.

20. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED ANISHA SANDHU:

"That the motion be amended so that the question reads:

'If the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Fee Increase Referendum is approved, do you support an additional increase of \$8 in the fee for the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee (for a total fee of \$338) for the upcoming academic year for Gender-Affirming Coverage to support Trans students on campus which may include but is not limited to transition surgical procedures not covered by provincial coverage?' "

21. MOVED LAWRENCE LIU, SECONDED ANISHA SANDHU:

"That the question be called."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Defeated

For (15): Jasneet Bal, Eshana Bhangu, Sofia Cecic, Erin Co, Jonathan De Souza, Ben Du, Mathew Ho, Kana Kawanishi, Rachel Kim, Christian Kyle, Lawrence Liu, Anisha Sandhu, Salva Sherif, Koda Tootoosis, Cindy Wang

Against (9): Rhiannon Terpstra, Audrey Chow, Thomas Dunsmore, Maddie Elder, Cynara Onyemordi, Damian Spence, Amelia Walker, Cissy Zhang, Ayesha Irfan

Rhiannon Terpstra:

- If the \$50 question doesn't pass, we would have to make major cuts, but we would still have a plan.
- So the \$8 fee could still exist, technically.

Guest 4:

- I don't see a logical argument for keeping this question dependent.
- We could have no general coverage and still have gender-affirming coverage.

Guest 2:

- Even if coverage dropped to \$1, the entire plan would not be nixed immediately.
- The second question does not need to be contingent; it's a political decision.

Damian Spence:

- Regardless of what would happen, even if in fact the second question would be contingent on the first one passing, there is no need to say that.

There was further discussion about removing details about gender-affirming care and agreement to change the amended question, so the motion to amend would read as follows:

22. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED ANISHA SANDHU:

"That the motion be amended so that the question reads:

'If the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Fee Increase Referendum is approved, do you support an additional increase of \$8 in the fee for the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee (for a total fee of \$338) for the upcoming academic year for Gender-Affirming Coverage not provided by provincial coverage?'

23. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED DAMIAN SPENCE:

“That the question be called.”

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... No objections

24. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED ANISHA SANDHU:

“That the motion be amended so that the question reads:

‘If the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Fee Increase Referendum is approved, do you support an additional increase of \$8 in the fee for the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee (for a total fee of \$338) for the upcoming academic year for Gender-Affirming Coverage not provided by provincial coverage?’ ”

... Carried

For (22): Rhiannon Terpstra, Kaysan Adriyanto, Eshana Bhangu, Audrey Chow, Erin Co, Ben Du, Thomas Dunsmore, Maddie Elder, Mathew Ho, Ayesha Irfan, Kana Kawanishi, Rachel Kim, Christian Kyle, Lawrence Liu, Cynara Onyemordi, Anisha Sandhu, Salva Sherif, Damian Spence, Koda Tootoosis, Amelia Walker, Cindy Wang, Cissy Zhang

Against (1): Jonathan De Souza

25. MOVED LAWRENCE LIU, SECONDED CHRISTIAN KYLE:

From the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Committee

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 6-10, 2023 on the following question:

‘If the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Fee Increase Referendum is approved, do you support an additional increase of \$8 in the fee for the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee (for a total fee of \$338) for the upcoming academic year for Gender-Affirming Coverage not provided by provincial coverage?’

Note: If the separate General AMS/GSS Health & Dental Fee Increase Referendum is not approved, then this Gender-Affirming Coverage fee will not take effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes."

26. MOVED MADDIE ELDER, SECONDED RHIANNON TERPSTRA:

“That the motion be amended to remove the conditional language in the question and the note so that they read:

'Do you support an increase of \$8 in the fee for the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee (\$277.50 to \$285.50) for the upcoming academic year for Gender-Affirming Coverage not provided by provincial coverage?

Note: If the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Fee Increase Referendum also passes, then the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee will increase by a total of \$60.50 (\$277.50 to \$338.50).' "

... Defeated

For (9): Kaysan Adriyanto, Thomas Dunsmore, Maddie Elder, Ayesha Irfan, Victor Liu, Damian Spence, Rhiannon Terpstra, Amelia Walker, Cissy Zhang

Against (15): Eshana Bhangu, Sofia Cecic, Erin Co, Jonathan De Souza, Ben Du, Kana Kawanishi, Rachel Kim, Christian Kyle, Lawrence Liu, Shisir Nurul, Cynara Onyemordi, Anisha Sandhu, Salva Sherif, Koda Tootoosis, Cindy Wang

Abstained: Audrey Chow, Mathew Ho

27. MOVED LAWRENCE LIU, SECONDED CHRISTIAN KYLE:

From the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Committee

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 6-10, 2023 on the following question:

'If the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Fee Increase Referendum is approved, do you support an additional increase of \$8 in the fee for the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee (for a total fee of \$338) for the upcoming academic year for Gender-Affirming Coverage not provided by provincial coverage?'

Note: If the separate General AMS/GSS Health & Dental Fee Increase Referendum is not approved, then this Gender-Affirming Coverage fee will not take effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes."

28. MOVED LAWRENCE LIU, SECONDED SALVA SHERIF:

"That the question be called."

Note: Requires 2/3rds

... Carried

For (18): Eshana Bhangu, Sofia Cecic, Audrey Chow, Erin Co, Jonathan De Souza, Ben Du, Kana Kawanishi, Rachel Kim, Christian Kyle, Lawrence Liu, Victor Liu, Shisir Nurul, Cynara Onyemordi, Samia Ramim, Anisha Sandhu, Salva Sherif, Koda Tootoosis, Cindy Wang

Against (9): Kaysan Adriyanto, Thomas Dunsmore, Maddie Elder, Mathew Ho, Ayesha Irfan, Damian Spence, Rhiannon Terpstra, Amelia Walker, Cissy Zhang

29. MOVED LAWRENCE LIU, SECONDED CHRISTIAN KYLE:

From the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Committee

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 6-10, 2023 on the following question:

'If the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Fee Increase Referendum is approved, do you support an additional increase of \$8 in the fee for the AMS/GSS Health & Dental Plan Fee (for a total fee of \$338) for the upcoming academic year for Gender-Affirming Coverage not provided by provincial coverage?'

Note: If the separate General AMS/GSS Health & Dental Fee Increase Referendum is not approved, then this Gender-Affirming Coverage fee will not take effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes."

... Carried

For (16): Eshana Bhangu, Sofia Cecic, Erin Co, Ayesha Irfan, Kana Kawanishi, Rachel Kim, Christian Kyle, Victor Liu, Lawrence Liu, Shisir Nurul, Cynara Onyemordi, Samia Ramim, Anisha Sandhu, Salva Sherif, Koda Tootosis, Cindy Wang,

Against (7): Rhiannon Terpstra, Kaysan Adriyanto, Jonathan De Souza, Maddie Elder, Damian Spence, Amelia Walker, Cissy Zhang

Abstained: Audrey Chow, Thomas Dunsmore, Mathew Ho

30. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED MATHEW HO: [SCD329-23], [SCD330-23]

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 6-10, 2023 on the following question:

'Do you support increasing the AMS Bike Co-op/Bike Kitchen fee to \$4.17 to support accessible and affordable Transportation through increased programming, alleviate its pandemic-related accumulated debt, and invest in sustainable and active Transportation for the UBC community?'

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes."

Andrea Alvarez (Bike Kitchen):

- Asking for the AMS to endorse our question on the ballot.
- Our main aim is to expand programming.
- We seek to empower students to fix their bikes.
- We have anti-oppressive and anti-racism values, and support sustainability and recycling.
- We offer programs for the LGBT community and also Bikes for BIPOC.
- These are costly programs.

- We are in debt.
- This would be a reinvestment in a core community service.
- We need money to hire mechanics.

Our referendum last year

- It was unsuccessful, fell 300 votes short of quorum.
- Did have a majority of yes votes.
- We can run a better campaign this year.
- More students are back on campus.
- Grants are not available to us and we are not a charity, so we need this fee increase.

New campaigning rules

- Code changes were passed in November saying that only students can campaign.
- This is impacting us; it means our non-student managers are not able to campaign.

Mathew Ho:

- Are your rates lower than at other bike shops?
- And what happens if this referendum fails?

Zoé Kruchten (Bike Kitchen):

- We would have to raise our rates, but that means turning away our poorer clientele.

Eshana Bhangu:

- I'm usually against running a referendum two years in a row, but the Bike Kitchen does good work, and last year they nearly succeeded.
- I'd prefer them not to spend their time petitioning to force the referendum; instead we can call it here, and they can spend their time campaigning.

Lawrence Liu:

- They're in dire straits because of COVID.
- They deserve a second chance.

31. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED MATHEW HO:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council, in accordance with Bylaw 4, direct the President to call a referendum to be held March 6-10, 2023 on the following question:

'Do you support increasing the AMS Bike Co-op/Bike Kitchen fee to \$4.17 to support accessible and affordable Transportation through increased programming, alleviate its pandemic-related accumulated debt, and invest in sustainable and active Transportation for the UBC community?'

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council endorse a Yes position in support of the proposed changes."

... Carried

For (20): Rhiannon Terpstra, Kaysan Adriyanto, Eshana Bhangu, Audrey Chow, Erin Co, Ben Du, Thomas Dunsmore, Mathew Ho, Kana Kawanishi, Rachel Kim, Christian

Kyle, Lawrence Liu, Cynara Onyemordi, Anisha Sandhu, Salva Sherif, Damian Spence, Koda Tootoosis, Amelia Walker, Cindy Wang, Cissy Zhang

Appointments

32. MOVED ESHANA BHANGU, SECONDED MATHEW HO:

"That Rachel Kim, Kaysan Adriyanto, Audrey Chow, and Cynara Onyemordi (4 Councillors) and Salva Sherif and Thomas Dunsmore (2 Councillor alternates) be appointed to the Elections Appeals Committees for a period immediately and ending effective April 28, 2023."

... No objections

K) Constituency and Affiliate Motions

L) Discussion and Consultation

M) President Remarks – Eshana Bhangu

- AMS awards reception Thursday.
 - Six club awards.
 - MUSA, CUS, and EUS are nominees for Constituency of the Year.
- Equity:
 - Black Community Market.
 - Revisions to the Equity Action Plan.
 - Organizing engagement with the Longhouse.
- Interfaculty cup successful.
- Still on the UBC Presidential Search Committee and the committee working on the extension of VP Students' term.
- Reforecast is going well; a Sauder Prof is helping.
 - Deficit not looking as bad as it did.

Questions

Mathew Ho:

- Is MNP still involved?

Eshana Bhangu:

- With the ERP system.

N) Executive Remarks

VP Academic & University Affairs – Anisha Sandhu [SCD331-23]

VP Administration – Ben Du [SCD332-23]

VP External Affairs – Erin Co [SCD333-23]

Mathew Ho:

- More information on the BC budget lock-up?

Erin Co:

- I am in Victoria now, in part for the lock-up, to see if we can get some substantial changes made.
- Hearing good things.
- This is a time for us to ask questions.

Ayesha Irfan:

- Has there been lobbying done since the municipal election?

Erin Co:

- Outreach to Vancouver's mayor and PoCo's mayor.
- SkyTrain.

Mathew Ho:

- Funding formula review?

Erin Co:

- The review was delayed.
- Going to make a submission.
- Will ask them to accelerate the process.

VP Finance – Lawrence Liu

[SCD334-23]

Interim Managing Director – Celia Chung

[SCD335-23]

Sr. Student Services Manager – Kathleen Simpson

[SCD336-23]

33. MOVED MAX HOLMES, SECONDED LAWRENCE LIU:

“That the agenda be amended as follows:

- Suspend Code to not have the monthly updates in camera with the Executive.
- Invoke the late night taxi rule.
- Suspend committee reports.
- Adjourn.”

... No objections

O) Other Business, Including In Camera Discussions, Notices of Motions, and Submissions

Elections Committee Update to Council

[SCD337-23]

P) Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting of Council is March 1, 2023.
The meeting adjourned at 11:45 pm.

Votes and Attendance

	Constituency	Attended	Bylaw Change: Indigenous Const	H&D Referendum Main Amendment (combine into one)	H&D Referendum Amendment to add bracketed numbers	H&D Referendum \$52.50 increase	Gender-affirming remove examples	Gender-affirming remove conditional language	Gender-affirming main vote	Bike Kitchen Referendum ?	Call the Question 1	Call the Question 2
Neal Cameron	Speaker	Y										
Eshana Bhangu	President	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Anisha Sandhu	VP Academic	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ben Du	VP Admin	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N		Y	Y	Y
Lawrence Liu	VP Finance	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Erin Co	VP External	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Kathleen Simpson	Sr. Student Services Mgr.	Y										
	Architecture											
Audrey Chow	Arts	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	N	Y
Ayesha Irfan	Arts	Y	Y		Y		Y	Y	Y			N
Mathew Ho	Arts	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	Y	N
Kaysan Adriyanto	Arts	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y		N
Cynara Onyemordi	Arts	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y
	Audiology											
Max Holmes	BoG	Y										
Georgia Yee	BoG											
Thomas Dunsmore	Commerce	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	N	N

