



**Office of the AMS President
End of Year Goals Update
April 2023**

Goal A

Affordability & Accessibility

Goal B

EDI-Centered Operations

Goal C

Increased Mental Health Support and Harm Reduction Services

Goal D

Health and Dental Reform

Goal E

Transparent and Accountable Governance

Goal F

Review of Governance, Services, and AMS Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP)

Highlights over the term

Artwork Sale
First Pride Pit Night
Sex Positivity Campaign
Accessible Block Party ticket prices in years
Management Restructure
Hiring of a new MD
Enhanced Quarterly Reporting System
Reviving Interfaculty Cup
VP, Student Life Caucus
VP Finance Caucus
Indigenous Cultural Month
\$700,000 cut in the Operating Budget's Deficit
Great Trek Celebration, 100 Year Anniversary
AMS Indigenous Finance Guidelines
Quorate AGM (only 2 in 42 years)
Awards Reception, Constituency of the Year Award, Just Desserts Awards
Black Community Market
Policy to compensate equity-deserving groups almost completed
Pride Parade Application
Nest kept open 24/7 for the first time during exams
Completion of Governance Review
Completion of Services Review
Completion of AMS Strategic Plan
Establishment of Student Businesses Form
Permanent Mental Health Coverage Increase
Increased Food Security Funding
Progress on Implementation of SATF Recommendations
Planning of move of Blue Chip to PieR²
Commencement of Creation of New Mediterranean Restaurant
Passing of all AMS Referendums including the largest fees increase on the ballot
Overhaul of reimbursement system- fixed once and for all

GOALS

A: Affordability & Accessibility

A1: Secure a commitment from the University to build low-cost, high-density housing on campus through the Housing Action Plan Review and Campus Vision 2050 (UBC's 10 year review of the UBC Vancouver Campus Plan and Land Use Plan).

Status: In Progress

Campus Vision 2050 process is not finished yet but we have made our position clear through non-negotiables and submissions to the Board.

A2: Ensure the AMS secures a seat on the Student Affordability Plan Implementation Committee, serving to provide strong representation on behalf of the AMS to see through the realization of the Task Force's recommendations.

Status: Completed

We were able to secure a seat on the committee and I serve as the AMS representative on the SATF Recommendations Implementation Committee.

A3: Secure increased funding for Food Security Services on Campus.

Status: Completed

Secured an additional \$500,000 for food security initiatives, including the AMS Food Bank. **Also have confirmed that the AMS Food Bank will have at least \$350,000 secured from UBC for the next fiscal year (23/24).**

A4: Increase the number of childcare services on campus (more spaces)

Status: Completed

The childcare services (Osprey Day Care Centre located on the 4th floor of the Nest) has been back in operation since the beginning of this year after we started discussions with UBC regarding this service not being offered anymore. They are operating from 4-6:30 PM Mondays to Fridays.

A5: Advocate for a Review of Policy LR10 'Financial Aid Policy' to allow international students to obtain eligibility for need-based financial aid.

Status: Incomplete

This is still an ongoing priority that I have approached through the SATF Implementation Committee, but it is viewed as more of a long-time priority for UBC, and therefore, the review did not commence this year. However, we have

successfully included them in the recommendations and they will hopefully be worked on by next year's VPAUA.

A6: Demand accessible emergency bursaries for students whose home countries are experiencing a traumatic event/situation (e.g. war, natural disaster, etc.).

Status: Complete

Total increase in funding for scholarships including emergency bursaries is about \$139 million for fellowships, scholarships, and bursaries, which is a \$17 million increase from last year. We have also advocated for counseling

B: EDI-Centered Operations

B1: Create an internal policy to compensate equity-deserving groups and individuals for the work they do in contributing to initiatives in the AMS.

Status: Near-Complete

This Policy is at its near final, if not final draft. With ensuring proper time for research on other similar policies and in-depth conversations with UBC on their practices, analysis of institutional plans with respect to EDI, this has been a comprehensive process. We are looking forward to the permanent Equity Specialist that will be joining us on May 8th to hit this one home.

B2: Create a full-time Equity and Inclusion permanent staff to oversee equity initiative implementation despite annual executive turnover.

Status: Completed

Equity & Inclusion Specialist will begin their role in the next couple of months, with a major aspect of their role in embedding equity, diversity, and inclusion principles within all levels of AMS.

B3: Embed the Indigenous Strategic Plan into all AMS operations, such as budget planning, business operations, and advocacy.

Status: In-Progress

Indigenous Strategic Plan has been incorporated into different levels of Equity Action Plan, including through our newly-created Indigenous Finance Guidelines. The AMS will continue to work on indigenizing our advocacy, operations, and governance.

B4: Ensure increased staff capacity for the Centre of Accessibility is established by advocating for a CFA budget increase to address accommodation issues faced by disabled students.

Status: Forfeited

The Center for Accessibility leadership indicated that they did not want more funding for increased capacity, which led to the UBC Leadership not including this ask in the FY 23/24 Budget

B5: Collaborate with climate groups on campus like the UBC Sustainability Initiative and UBC Climate Hub to move beyond carbon neutrality as well as continue the work in the implementation of the Climate Emergency Task Force recommendations.

Status: Complete

The UBC Budget approved for FY 23/24 contains funding for the implementation of the Climate Emergency Task Force Recommendations as a result of my and the VP AUA's advocacy.

B6: Implement the UBC Indigenous Finance Guidelines where applicable in the AMS.

Status: Complete

My team, Kamil Kanji, Joshua Kim, and Alexis Vollant and I created these guidelines in September of 2022.

B7: Facilitate mandatory opportunities regarding educational workshops and training sessions regarding equity, diversity and inclusion principles for all levels of AMS Staff (permanent & student), AMS Service volunteers, Constituency Executives.

Status: Complete

For the first time, we ran organization-wide training on EDI for all AMS Staff including student executive portfolios, services, and food and beverage. With the Constituency conference being held on April 28th, 2023, we will have accomplished our goal of extending this training to the incoming constituency executives as well.

C: Increased Mental Health Support and Harm Reduction Services

C1: Comprehensively review the student psychology coverage in the AMS/GSS Health and Dental Plan and explore potential changes to maximize access to mental health resources for students.

Status: Completed

The student psychology coverage within the AMS/GSS Health and Dental Plan has been permanently increased to \$1,250. Further exploration is being made to determine the feasibility of further increases.

C2: Create a coordinated strategy with the UBC VPS Office to enhance AMS and UBC-offered mental health services including the Health and Dental Plan's coverage.

Status: Incomplete

UBC denied our request.

C3: Secure the creation and implementation of compassionate housing policies (Medical Amnesty Policy).

Status: Near-Complete

A lot of work has been put into opening up the possibility of rewording housing contracts under UBC SHCS. The topic does seem to spark discussion and therefore has been a lengthy process, it is near-complete as the AMS has made its position clear to the VPS Office and SHCS Leadership as well. Next year's team should be able to hit this one home.

C4: Ensure spectrometer testing (safe drug testing) is available on or closer to campus.

Status: Transitioned to Appropriate Actors

The UBC Social Justice Centre and other resource groups have taken the initiative on this project, however, we have been actively collaborating with UBC Wellness Centre and AMS Events to encourage safe usage and enhance access.

C5: Provide widespread access to Naloxone training, Naloxone kits, and Fentanyl strips in the Nest and across campus through regular booting during potential high usage times and easy access through AMS Services.

Status: Completed

AMS Peer Support has completed this task as well as SASC. Fentanyl strips are continued to be available in front of the Services office. Naloxone training and kits are provided through SASC and Peer Support. When it comes to numbers, in merely two months, 40 naloxone trainings were performed and, at least, 40 fentanyl testing strips were taken by students.

D: Health and Dental Reform

D1: Conduct a comprehensive review of the Health and Dental Plan to ensure financial sustainability and that services are being maximized.

Status: Completed

Passed one of the largest fee increases to ensure the Plan's survival as well as a referendum on gender-affirming coverage.

D2: Review the Health and Dental Plan financial model as a means to reduce the deficit the plan incurs on an annual basis.

Status: Completed

Successful fee referendum and worked with Studentcare to explore flexible plans to better serve students, the next team has a solid base to continue from as we have ensured the plan's survival and covered the deficit of this year.

E: Transparent and Accountable Governance

E1: Increase AMS financial discipline to create greater transparency of AMS finances and spending of student money by developing the quarterly financial reports into a holistic society wide quarterly reporting system. This reporting system will contain relevant and accessible information for our membership. Financial discipline measures will also include variance analysis between projections and actuals.

Status: Completed

Quarterly reports are now holistic reports on the society's activities, including executive work, committee work, etc. and are more accessible and digestible than ever!

E2: Remove barriers that prevent students from being able to access their funds (e.g. Sustainable Projects Fund, Resources Group Fund, etc.).

Status: Completed

Extremely high number of SPF applications show that this has been successful. The communications department has been a crucial help in lowering the barriers for students from accessing the funds by spreading awareness of the funds through newsletters and the social media campaign.

E3: Facilitate a comprehensive review of the Society's fees, businesses, services, and budget, to ensure we're reaching a financially stable position.

Status: Completed

We have cut the deficit by over \$700k and liquidated assets (sale of the artworks), and I can confidently say that the Society is now in a financially stable position.

F: Review of Governance, Services, and AMS Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP)

F1 Perform a complete and thorough assessment of the AMS Code and Bylaws to ensure the governance structure of the AMS is up to date and efficient.

- **This includes forming an Ad-Hoc Governance Review Committee through which changes will be implemented by the end of this term.**

Status: Completed

See report.

F2 Perform a no-limits triennial review of AMS Services to ensure we are delivering high-quality and accessible student services for the entire student population.

Status: Completed

Presented to the AMS Council in January.

F3 Review the efficiency of the Society's methods of supporting subsidiary organizations to improve student experience.

- **This includes collaborating with Constituencies to maximize their event and project output, providing them with the support they need to excel, and aiding them in building a vibrant campus culture.**
- **Ameliorate the reimbursement processes for constituencies and clubs through the implementation of a new financial system.**

Status: Completed

Interfaculty Cup, the creation of a new position (Constituency Relations and Projects Lead) in the President's office, bylaw changes, etc. have all contributed to the amelioration of the Society's relations with subsidiary organizations and have contributed to the efficiency of the Society's methods in supporting them.

F4 Conduct a comprehensive triennial review of the AMS Sustainability Action Plan (ASAP).

Status: In Progress

Did a lot of the engagement process, on track to having it completed. The consultation process with stakeholders, including Indigenous communities, requires great precision and should not be rushed and therefore is still in progress.