

June 2023

Executive Goals

Office of the President

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Goal 1

Establishing and Strengthening Relationships

Goal 2

Student Advocacy & Collaboration with the University

Goal 3

Implementing and Clarifying AMS Plans and Policies

Goal 4

Approachable Engagement for All Students

Goal 5

Supporting AMS Services and Businesses

Appendix A

Campaign Platform

Appendix B

Removed Goals

Goal 1

Establishing and Strengthening Relationships

Main Strategic Priority: Collaborative Leadership

"We will adopt a culture of operating as one team, rather than a fragment of teams within a team."

As our various student communities have built back up over the last couple of years, this year is a perfect time for reconnecting across student groups to build power and community for student belonging and interests. We want to revitalize the communication channels between student groups in order to create a united voice and represent students as best we can in our advocacy.

Affiliates

In light of the reduction in Council seats including Affiliates seats (to increase efficiency of Council as a Board), we will ensure that this does not decrease the ability of the Affiliate College's student societies to have their voices heard within the AMS. We will do this by enacting the recommendation of the Ad-Hoc Governance Review Committee to **move relations with Affiliate Institutions' Student Societies to the President's portfolio**, by **ensuring the Affiliates Committee meets at its new monthly schedule**, and by **ensuring their Presidents are invited and encouraged to attend all Presidents Council meetings**.

Clubs

In order to support AMS Clubs in their community building work, we will work with the VP Admin office to conduct a thorough **review of all code and policies which impact AMS Clubs** to make sure all these rules are understandable and sensibly implemented. This review will **focus on policies which are typically ignored to clubs** with the goal of ensuring our clubs are the subject of **policy which does not place undue burden on student volunteers**. In addition we will introduce the **Club Award for Inclusive Excellence**, awarded to a non-Equity focused club which has done a remarkable job of creating an inclusive and supportive space for all students.

Constituencies

This year, we will continue last year's work of improving the AMS's relationship with our constituencies. We will move the scope of the Presidents Council and the various Caucuses from a space of the AMS dictating to Constituencies and instead shift to a **collaborative space where Constituencies can compare their operations and work towards common goals**. We will improve **Interfaculty Cup** by taking on the planning work in consultation with the Constituencies, with the AMS running the events and with a playoffs round to keep up the spirit and value for students to engage with through to the end of the year. We will **ensure our financial and bookings systems operate at the exceptional level established by the end of last year** to prevent student volunteers from taking on extra stress and thousands of dollars of personal debt. Overall, we will **consult Constituencies on all AMS activities which will impact them**.

UBC Fraternities and Sororities

Building up student group connections and productive working relationships, we will be in communication with the UBC Fraternities and Sororities for **wider outreach and greater usage of AMS Services that would aid in their operations and safety for students**. These services and resources include but are not limited to the **AMS Safewalk services, Harm Reduction resources and Peer Support, SASC workshops, and Naloxone training**, which we want all students to know are available to them. We will work closely with the Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils and ensure that **students are able to have fun and be safe** through a stronger relationship between the AMS and the UBC Fraternities and Sororities.

Graduate Student Society (GSS)

We will build upon the relations that have existed between the AMS and the GSS to **work collaboratively upon a greater scope of advocacy issues** that affect all students on campus. We will ensure that the **AMS executives meet regularly with their GSS counterparts** to look for any **points of cooperation and alignment in advocacy efforts and services** to be expanded or created.

UBC Residence Hall Association (RHA)

We will **re-establish relations with the UBC Residence Hall Association**, who are elected to represent all students living in UBC Residence, to **consult upon issues and concerns that students living in residences may have**, as well as **increase the AMS's visibility in residences through collaborative projects and initiatives**. We will do so by **scheduling regular meetings** with the appropriate RHA executive representative(s) to go through any advocacy concerns or supports the AMS can provide throughout the year.

Resource Groups

We will work upon building up our relations with the various resource groups on campus to **ensure that all voices are heard in the AMS consultation process for operations and advocacy efforts**. We will strive to **have a productive relationship built on clear communication** and **empower resource groups by providing them with appropriate tools** and assistance when needed and plan meetings when deemed necessary to address the concerns of resource groups that represent specific interests.

Student Legal Fund Society (SLFS)

The AMS will work with the Student Legal Fund Society on various legal advocacy workshop events and initiatives that the SLFS organizes to **enhance legal literacy and accessibility to justice on campus**. We will **provide the SLFS with spaces for booking in the Nest to host the various workshops and events** to support their initiative to improve student life and wellbeing through legal support.

Thunderbird Athletes Council (TAC)

We will establish a **new relationship with the Thunderbird Athletes Council** which represents all UBC Varsity Athletes, finding avenues for collaboration and exposing a new audience to the AMS's Services. We will ensure the TAC is able to access aid on request to assist in their mission to **establish a stronger sense of athletic pride at UBC** and to work together on any advocacy to the UBC Athletics and Recreation Department.

Goal 2

Student Advocacy and Collaboration with the University

Main Strategic Priority: Delivering Results

“We will treat our relationship with the University with respect and we will operate in good faith, appropriately following due processes with exceptional professionalism and carrying conviction to put forth our calls to action prior to escalation.”

The importance of our relationship with the University is not to be understated, as is the importance of holding the University accountable to meeting the needs of its students. The AMS is here to bring the voices of students to the table and connect the work of the University to the students it provides services for.

Action Item A

Opposing Tuition Increases

The University has consulted students and we have responded year after year that we cannot afford yearly tuition increases. This year is crucial for the University to listen to these responses as the affordability crisis continues and deepens. The President’s Office will facilitate cross-portfolio efforts and work closely with the VPAUA to **see that the Student Affordability Task Force limits tuition increases in the long-term multi-year tuition strategy** currently in the works, and with the VPAUA and VP External to **collaborate across UBC External and AMS Advocacy Executive Offices** to advocate to the provincial government about increasing government funding through grants, especially as UBC and other universities provide education for careers that the province has desperate shortages in.

Action Item B

Support for Implementation of UBC Strategic Plans

There are several plans noted in the AMS Strategic Plan that the University has drafted and finalized that we will hold the University accountable to implementing as it has promised and planned. We will also **establish a standing relationship with UBC Sustainability to ensure that implementation of the recommendations from the Climate Emergency Task Force Report** is making progress in a timely manner. Overall, we will assess where the AMS can align with these plans in our own operations and uphold a high standard of matching actions with widely approved plans.

Action Item C

Long-Term Funding for Student Food Insecurity

Food security is a fundamental need and food insecurity is a long-term affordability issue that isn't going away anytime soon. It is integral to student health and wellbeing that UBC allocates **long-term funding for food security initiatives**, equal to or more than the **\$1.91 million achieved in temporary funding by the VPAUA's Office in the 2021/22 year**, as inflation continues to affect food prices and affordability in all areas. We will **prioritize improvements to the AMS Food Bank** in order to meet student need and demand, and discuss innovative **new ways to secure funding for and ensure the UBC Administration is funding** work towards food security for all UBC students.

Action Item D

Supporting Student Interests in the SSC to IRP Transition

With the current plan from the University to transition the current SSC system to IRP (Integrated Renewal Program), the AMS will play an active role to ensure that the University includes student concerns and priorities in the new system. We will **work with the University's design and integration teams to incorporate student voices** into the development of the new system, as well as **establish a communication channel along with an information campaign for students to be aware of the IRP transition and provide feedback and concerns** via the new communication channel which will be available online. We will also **push for inclusion of a greater number of students in the consultation process** so that a diverse group of student voices are heard.

Action Item E

Securing Funding From the University for Maintenance of AMS/GSS Health and Dental Plan's Mental Health Coverage

We are seeing a mental health crisis on university campuses, including at UBC. Students are overwhelmingly utilizing and showing a need and preference for the model of the mental health coverage offered in the AMS/GSS Health and Dental Plan. This year, in order to maintain long-term financial stability for the plan and support for students' mental health, we will be **advocating to the University to contribute funding to support the AMS/GSS Health and Dental Plan's mental health coverage**. With a strong united front in advocating for University funding for mental health coverage, we will **maintain the very much-needed mental health coverage that students are relying on**.

Goal 3

Implementing and Clarifying AMS Plans and Policies

Main Strategic Priority: Exceptional Programming

"We will think forward as a steward of injecting desperately-needed energy into the student community—we will use this ambition to further propel the programming delivered from a trajectory of recovery toward an aggressive trajectory of growth."

The AMS' governing documents can be confusing and theoretically challenging, but they also set out our rules and regulations which allow us to share a collective understanding of community agreements, resources and processes available to us, and ways of operating respectfully and functionally. In order to do all this, our governing documents need to be up to date and our plans followed through on, in a way that is clearly communicated to all those affected to help rather than hinder operations, provide exceptional programming, and meet and exceed the standards of the student body.

Action Item A

Final Implementation of the Ad-Hoc Governance Review Committee Recommendations

We will **implement the final recommendations of the Committee** and ensure any required residual changes to the AMS Code and Policies are made. We will produce a final draft of the **Governance Review Report 2022/23** and will ensure the Committee's membership is consulted as their changes are implemented across the organization.

Action Item B

Implementation of the AMS Strategic Plan **THE NEXT QUINQUENNIAL: 2023-2028**

We will work to **implement the AMS Strategic Plan** finalized last year **across the AMS**. Every Executive has **tied their goals to the Strategic Priorities** within the plan, and will uphold the AMS's Mission to **improve the quality of the academic, social, and personal lives of UBC students**. We have also met with and will continue to **discuss with the AMS's Senior Managers to ensure the plan is implemented across all departments and operations** to ensure we are providing the best possible student experience we can offer.

Action Item C

Finalization of PC-6: Compensation for Consultation with Equity-Deserving Groups

We will finalize PC-6 which will **formalize the compensation process** for individuals from equity-deserving groups that were a part of last year's consultation processes. We will also **ensure that the finalized version is properly consulted on and reviewed by stakeholders** to make certain that the policy truly stands to accomplish what it strives to do – **properly compensate those who have done the emotional labour** to help AMS become an organization that upholds EDI as one of its main values.

Action Item D

Review and Update of SR-2: Records

We will update the AMS Records Policy to **match the current standards of transparency demanded by the students as well as address privacy and HR concerns** and strike a proper balance between the two. We will produce a final draft of the AMS Records Policy and **hold consultations with appropriate stakeholders** to ensure that transparency and privacy concerns are addressed.

Action Item E

Collection, Clarification, and Review of Policies that impact AMS Stakeholders

We will **compile a list of policies that require clarification or any review of the terms of reference of policies that impact AMS stakeholders**. We will **go through the Governance Committee** to ensure that the appropriate committee members are consulted and incorporate their perspectives as well as **consult stakeholders who might be affected by specific policies** to ensure that all governing documents are up to date with the current standards expected for the AMS.

Goal 4

Approachable Engagement for All Students

Main Strategic Priority: Cultivating a Sense of Belonging

"We will be intentional to create welcoming spaces that enrich the community, catering to different needs and preferences of our membership."

Student government isn't everyone's biggest passion, but in those moments where students are looking to engage, we're here to be approachable, accessible, and welcoming in connections as fellow members of the AMS. All students belong here and making sure we're open for conversation is an important first step for student connections.

Action Item A

Availability for Meetings

We aim to improve student trust in the AMS and close the gap between AMS leadership and the greater student body by **increasing commitment to direct communication with any interested student**. As AMS President, I will **hold regular office hours available to students to book and drop in to the office** to have conversations on any questions and concerns students may have for the AMS leadership. If a student is unavailable to make the set office hours, I will also make myself **available to meet outside of the office hours** to maximize the effort to truly represent and listen to fellow students.

Action Item B

Prompt Email Responses

The President's Office team will **be readily available for communications online by being prompt (i.e. within 3 business days) with our responses in email communications**, to ensure that concerns from students and student groups are dealt with punctually. We will also **further promote the contact form on the AMS website**, utilized as a general feedback and inquiries form, as well as for specific services such as the U-Pass, to raise awareness of the communication opportunities available in the digital medium and to connect students with the best person to help with their specific inquiries.

Action Item C

Timely Publishing of Minutes

We will continue to be committed to transparency and will do so by **ensuring that the publishing of Council and Committee minutes abiding by the Code** and **reminding and enforcing the timely submission of minutes from committee chairs for the timely publishing of minutes** after meetings have taken place. We will make sure that by being punctual, we are ensuring that important information pertaining to AMS governance and discussions are made known to the public, especially for time-sensitive topics.

Action Item D

Council Recaps on the AMS Website

Throughout this year, we will **make Council Recaps readily available on the AMS website in text format alongside Council meeting minutes and documents**, so that the **summarized versions of council meetings are digestible and intuitively placed on the website** and the wider student body can be **informed of the discussions and decisions made in Council**. We will be working with our Archivist/Clerk of Council to publish these Recaps on the Website in a timely manner and work with our Communications Team to promote these recaps.

Action Item E

Open Q&As and Socials with the AMS Executives

We will **organize and promote 1-2 open Q&A sessions/social events per term** for students to participate and mingle with the AMS executives so that the student body gets to know more about the Executives on a personal and a social level. This will help **bridge the gap between the leadership and the student body by making the AMS recognizable by faces** rather than a big, bureaucratic organization that is unapproachable to the public. The dual-approach to these events **aims to bring down the “wall” that stands between the students and the AMS and improve public knowledge** on what the AMS has been working on throughout the year.

Action Item F

Streamlining Opt-Out Fees

We will ensure that students have the ability to **exercise their voice** and/or **prioritize their own financial situation** by centralizing information and processes regarding opt-out student fees. We will **collect the links to all opt-out fees in one place on the AMS website** and will run an awareness **campaign** including slides on the **TVs in the Nest**. We will **collaborate with Constituencies to increase understanding of this option** to incoming first year students as often the opt-out deadline is only weeks into the term. We will **include links to all other opt-out fees collected from students** and short descriptions on what these fees go towards to **ensure students can make informed financial decisions**.

Action Item G

Increased Election Turnout

We will further aim to increase election turnout from last year so that our elective democracy continues to bloom and involve more students in the democratic processes that affect their time at UBC. We will **work with the Elections Administrator and the Elections team to discuss strategies** on how to involve a greater number of students than last year. We will also **create a strategy on how to further inform and encourage students interested in running for elections, improve public knowledge on what the AMS executives do, and work with on-campus groups such as constituencies and clubs** to encourage their membership to run for the elections to see determined students be in leadership positions.

Goal 5

Supporting AMS Services and Businesses

Main Strategic Priority: Operational Excellence

“Through innovative planning and acting with intention, we will carefully maintain our infrastructure, while also endeavoring to make improvements and additions, so every project we embark on seeks to reach its highest potential.”

The AMS is here to provide exceptional programming, services, and food outlets for students to access and feel supported by. In order for these programs to support others, it is important to prioritize the wellness of the employees and operations behind the services that students expect and depend on.

Action Item A

Improving the AMS Employee Experience

We will work upon improving the quality of experience for AMS employees by implementing a combination of initiatives to have AMS employees from Services to Food & Beverage Outlets feel supported. We will **update the AMS Personnel Handbook (last updated in 2013) to ensure the AMS onboarding process is up to date with the current standards of the organization.** We will **consolidate and connect more AMS departments, employees, and operations through Microsoft Teams** so that **communications are more streamlined and centralized.** In order to meet people where they're at and make sure the executives are approachable for questions, we will also ensure that **the Executives' contact information** are **placed in all common areas of AMS employees** for quick contact if employees require support.

Action Item B

Support for the AMS Food Bank and the Affordable Meals Program

We will further work upon fighting for food security on campus by focusing on increasing the capacity of the AMS Food Bank. We will **work on formulating partnerships with food outlets on campus (e.g. UBC Residence Food Halls)** to have **any would-be food waste donated to the AMS Food Bank,** as well as **work with the University Neighbourhood Association to collaborate on collection of food on move-out days** to be donated to the AMS Food Bank. We will also **ensure that the Flavour Lab and Porch's Affordable Meal**

program continues to be on each new menu as well as explore options to provide more affordable meal options at other locations.

Action Item C

Informed Consultation and Stability for the Health and Dental Plan

Working with the VP Finance, we will change how the Health and Dental Plan consultation process works so that the student body is knowledgeable on the current financial state of the Health and Dental Plan and the feasibility of any new changes to the Plan for the future. We will **plan informative initiatives that will help students be more accustomed** to not only what the Health and Dental Plan does for students currently, but also **the importance of fiscal security for the Health and Dental Plan**, so that during consultation processes, **students will be able to give their informed input**.

Action Item D

Wider Appeal and Access to AMS Events

We will improve the AMS Events experience for students by improving safety at the events as well as **transforming the format of our signature Welcome Back BBQ** to be more appealing to a wider audience and reduce costs. We will **increase the quantity of water stations present at large events** (e.g. Welcome Back BBQ, Block Party) as well **increase the ratio of volunteers with overdose recognition and response training** to ensure that all participants can have a safe and enjoyable experience. We will also **boost promotion for drug testing kits available for pickup in front of the AMS Services office ahead of large-scale events**.

Appendix A

Campaign Platform Quotes and Related Goals

| Quote | Related Goal |
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| <p>Collaborative relationships that respect and honour student knowledge, energy, and time</p> <p><i>See: Campaign Website - Basic Ingredients</i></p> <p>Recognizing student expertise and the work that has already been done</p> <p><i>See: Campaign Website - Basic Ingredients</i></p> | <p>Goal 1</p> |
| <p>Remy supports a tuition freeze</p> <p><i>See: Ballot Bio - Remy the Rat</i></p> <p><i>Goal edited to reflect feasibility</i></p> | <p>Goal 2A</p> |
| <p>Remy supports sustained funding for UBC’s Climate Emergency Response [and] Indigenous Strategic Plan Implementation</p> <p><i>See: Ballot Bio - Remy the Rat</i></p> | <p>Goal 2B</p> |
| <p>Advocate for annual food security funding on campus equal to 2021/22 levels by meeting with UBC leadership and collaborating with Board of Governors student representatives</p> <p><i>See: Campaign Website - Food Security</i></p> | <p>Goal 2C</p> |
| <p>The IRP (Workday Student) system will be replacing the existing Student Service Centre (SSC) in Spring 2024. The AMS will ensure UBC’s design and integration teams are aware of student concerns and priorities for continuous improvement.</p> <p><i>See: Ben Du Platform and Commitments - Operational Excellence</i></p> | <p>Goal 2D</p> |
| <p>Review the Health and Dental Plan financial model as a means to reduce the deficit the plan incurs on an annual basis.</p> <p><i>See: Eshana Bhangu - Office of the AMS President Goals 2022/23</i></p> | <p>Goal 2E</p> |

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| <p>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</p> <p><i>See: Eshana Bhangu - Office of the AMS President Goals 2022/23</i></p> | <p>Goal 3A</p> |
| <p>Create an internal policy to compensate equity-deserving groups and individuals for the work they do in contributing to initiatives in the AMS</p> <p><i>See: Eshana Bhangu - Office of the AMS President Goals 2022/23</i></p> | <p>Goal 3C</p> |
| <p>Address transparency by-laws in AMS Policy</p> <p><i>See: Campaign Website - Basic Ingredients</i></p> | <p>Goal 3D</p> |
| <p>Recognizing student expertise and the work that has already been done</p> <p><i>See: Campaign Website - Basic Ingredients</i></p> | <p>Goal 3E</p> |
| <p>Send an email or want a meeting? You can expect a response and Remy's best efforts to make things happen</p> <p><i>See: Campaign Website - Basic Ingredients</i></p> | <p>Goal 4A & 4B</p> |
| <p>Making a realistic regulated deadline for posting AMS meeting minutes</p> <p><i>See: Campaign Website - Basic Ingredients</i></p> | <p>Goal 4C</p> |
| <p>Minute-long videos will be shared with the UBC student community ... following AMS Council meetings ensuring students are frequently informed on the AMS' decision making process, in engaging formats</p> <p><i>See: Ben Du Platform and Commitments - Operational Excellence</i></p> | <p>Goal 4D</p> |
| <p>Hosting a town hall two times per semester introduces a low-barrier opportunity for community discussion and questioning on a variety of topics, with an ultimate goal of fostering productive idea sharing and gathering perspectives</p> <p><i>See: Ben Du Platform and Commitments - Feedback Mechanisms</i></p> | <p>Goal 4E</p> |

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| <p>Q: If elected, could you streamline the opt out system for the various AMS fees? ... Ultimately, I'd like a one-stop solution to opt out of whatever id like to, for however long I want to.</p> <p>A: This is definitely something we're open to. Ideally, this one-stop solution would be an online form where people can select what to opt out of and provide all of the needed documentation in one place.</p> <p><i>See: Reddit AMA</i></p> | <p>Goal 4F</p> |
| <p>Make the AMS a student union again: Increase AMS voter turnout</p> <p><i>See: AMS Website Candidate Bio - Remy the Rat</i></p> | <p>Goal 4G</p> |
| <p>A platform to bridge the organization's departments together and boost employee engagement, improve business communication within and between teams, and strengthen a culture of service to students. This will connect the gaps between all departments: student staff, business office staff, food outlets, catering and conferences, and more.</p> <p><i>See: Ben Du Platform and Commitments - Operational Excellence</i></p> <p>Incorporate anti-racism training, unconscious bias training, and bystander training about race as a part of the AMS employee onboarding process.</p> <p><i>See: Ben Du Platform and Commitments - Equity and Inclusion</i></p> | <p>Goal 5A</p> |
| <p>Additional support and emphasis will be provided to secure partnerships with the University community and beyond for the provision of food for the AMS Food Bank, and the diversion of food waste from landfills.</p> <p><i>See: Ben Du Platform and Commitments - Tackling Food Insecurity</i></p> <p>Improving and supporting food security programming such as + in collaboration with the Affordable Meals Program at Flavour Lab</p> <p><i>See: Campaign Website - Food Security</i></p> | <p>Goal 5B</p> |
| <p>This coverage adjustment consultation process will seek to accomplish two goals for the AMS/GSS Health and Dental Plan: (1)</p> | <p>Goal 5C</p> |

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| <p>to ensure the coverage for the next Policy Year is accurate to student priorities, and (2) to ensure students understand the financial realities, pressures, and implications of administering the plan</p> <p><i>See: Ben Du Platform and Commitments - Health and Wellbeing</i></p> | |
| <p>We will ensure harm reduction strategies are implemented at flagship AMS Events like Welcome Back BBQ and Block Party, such as water stations, and overdose recognition and response training (e.g., naloxone) for staff.</p> <p><i>See: Ben Du Platform and Commitments - Programming</i></p> | <p>Goal 5D</p> |

Campaign Platform Links

- [Campaign Website](#)
- [Instagram Posts](#)
- [Ballot Bio](#)
- [AMS Website Candidate Bio](#)
- [2023 Reddit AMA](#)
- [Ben Du Platform and Commitments](#)
- [Eshana Bhanu - Office of the President Goals Final Report 2022/23](#)
- [AMS Strategic Plan - The Next Quinquennial 2023-2028](#)

Appendix B

Removed Goals from Campaign Platform

- **“Publicly Displaying AMS Meeting Schedules”**
 - This would impose on the vast majority of students who use the Nest who don’t have an interest in AMS Governance as they have more important things to do and focus on. We will be adding a slide with a QR code the TV rotation which will have a link to the meeting schedules & minutes part of the website but will not make a public display.
- **“Long-term plan for divestment of AMS funds from RBC”**
 - There is no fossil-free banking institution which would be able to handle our loan, after talks with Vancity who have indicated they are unable to take it on. Additionally, considering the current interest rate situation, we will keep our loan with RBC for the foreseeable future, but will collaborate with the VP Finance on our Financial Strategic Plan overall.
- **“Reinvesting ~\$1 million of the AMS’s ~\$20 million into Vancity Community Investment Bank”**
 - Such an investment would offer significantly lower returns than our current investments with RBC, which in consideration of the AMS’s operating deficit, would put the funding of our services for students at further risk. In addition, the majority of our investments are long term and can not be moved without financial penalties. We are unable to move our investments without causing significant financial losses which would be passed onto students and as such are unable to do so. Instead, we are making sure that UBC Administration are aware of the precedent set by SFU in investing in VCIB and how this can address many broad concerns that students have shared.
- **“Improving the Health and Dental Coverage plan and increasing accessibility”**
 - In addition to our operating deficit, the Health and Dental Plan is in a separate deficit which must be stabilized before considering adding or increasing coverage. That being said, we will be working to improve the stability and model of the plan where we can afford and increase accessibility when it comes to understanding how the Plan works.