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**Alma Mater Society of UBC Vancouver  
Funds and Fees Report  
FY 2023/2024**

Prepared by the AMS Finance Office

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## Section 1 - Introduction

### 1.1 - Message from the Vice President Finance

As the Vice President Finance for the UBC Alma Mater Society, I am excited to share the strides we've made this year in enhancing our financial operations and the positive impacts these changes are creating within our community.

In our commitment to evolve and improve, we've undertaken significant updates to our funding criteria. These updates ensure a more strategic allocation of resources, directly aligning with the needs and values of our student body, clubs, and organizations. It's crucial for us that the beneficiaries of our funds recognize the AMS's essential role in their achievements, fostering a greater sense of collaboration and community.

Recognizing the diverse needs of our funded initiatives, we've introduced more robust templates for larger funds. This initiative aims to streamline the funding process, making it more accessible and efficient for our student organizations. By doing so, we facilitate a clearer path from proposal submission to project execution, ensuring that valuable community projects receive the support they need without unnecessary hurdles.

A landmark achievement for us this year has been the establishment and reinforcement of a health and dental reserve. This move not only secures the future of these vital services but also underlines our commitment to the health and well-being of our members.

Additionally, we are proactively working to repurpose dormant funds. By reallocating these resources, we aim to invigorate under-supported areas of our community, ensuring that our financial resources are used effectively and respond to current student needs.

These initiatives reflect our dedication to not just financial transparency and accountability but also to the strategic enhancement of the UBC student experience. We are proud of the progress we've made and remain committed to the continuous improvement of our financial practices to better serve our members.

For further details or if you have any questions, I encourage you to reach out to me at [vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca](mailto:vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca) or to my AVP Funds at [avpfunds@ams.ubc.ca](mailto:avpfunds@ams.ubc.ca).

Warmest regards,  
Abhi Mishra  
Vice President Finance

## 1.2 - Acknowledgements

This report was jointly created by the following members of the AMS Finance Office:

### VP Finance

**Abhi Mishra**

Vice President Finance  
[vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca](mailto:vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca)

### AMS Funds Team

**Naton Ting**

Funds and Grants Administrator  
[fundsandgrants@ams.ubc.ca](mailto:fundsandgrants@ams.ubc.ca)

**Gavin Fung-Quon**

AVP Funds  
[avpfunds@ams.ubc.ca](mailto:avpfunds@ams.ubc.ca)

## Section 2 - AMS Funds

### 2.1 - Overview of AMS Funds

Below are funds that are defined in AMS Code.

Fund	Administering Body	Recommending Body	MoU	Source
<b>Athletics and Intramurals</b>	FinCom	n/a	No	Referendum
<b>Bike Kitchen</b>	FinCom	n/a	No	Referendum
<b>Campus Culture</b>	FinCom	n/a	No	Referendum
<b>Capital Projects Fund</b>	Council	FinCom/Exec	No	Referendum
<b>Childcare</b>	Council	FinCom/Exec	No	Referendum
<b>CiTR</b>	CiTR	n/a	Yes	Referendum
<b>Clubs Benefit</b>	FinCom/FundsSub	n/a	No	Code
<b>Comp Athletics</b>	FinCom/FundsSub	n/a	No	Code
<b>Const. Aid</b>	FinCom/FundsSub	n/a	No	Code
<b>Contingency</b>	Council	FinCom	No	Code
<b>Election Reserve</b>	Council	AdvoCom/Exec	No	Code
<b>Endowment</b>	Council	FinCom	No	Bylaws
<b>Fin Assistance</b>	Council	FinCom/Exec	No	Referendum
<b>Grad Class Fund</b>	FinCom and Student Life Committee	n/a	No	Code
<b>Health Dental</b>	AMS/GSS H&D Com	n/a	Yes	Referendum
<b>Health Plan Assistance</b>	AMS/GSS H&D Com	n/a	Yes	Code
<b>Impact Grant</b>	FinCom	n/a	No	Code
<b>Indigenous</b>	Indigenous Committee	n/a	No	Referendum
<b>Int'l Projects</b>	Council	AdvoCom/Exec	No	Referendum
<b>Lobbying</b>	Council	AdvoCom/Exec	No	Referendum
<b>Ombuds</b>	Council	Exec	No	Referendum
<b>Repairs/Replace</b>	Council	OpsCom,FinCom,Exec	No	Bylaws
<b>Resource Groups</b>	RGAC	n/a	No	Referendum
<b>Resource Groups Event</b>	RGAC	n/a	No	Code

<b>Sexual Assault Initiative Fund (SAIF)</b>	FinCom	SASC	No	Code
<b>Sexual Assault Support Centre (SASC)</b>	Council	FinCom	No	Referendum
<b>Spec. Bursary</b>	Council	FinCom/Exec	No	Bylaws
<b>Student Initiatives</b>	FinCom/FundsSub	n/a	No	Code
<b>Student Legal</b>	SLFS	n/a	Yes	Referendum
<b>SUB Art</b>	OpsCom	n/a	No	Bylaws
<b>SUB Renewal Subsidy</b>	FinCom	n/a	No	Code
<b>SUB Renewal</b>	Council	Exec	Yes	Code
<b>Sustainability Projects</b>	FinCom/SPFSub	n/a	No	Referendum
<b>Sustainable Food</b>	FinCom	n/a	No	Referendum
<b>Thrift Store</b>	FinCom	n/a	No	Referendum
<b>WUSC</b>	FinCom	WUSC club at UBC	Yes	Referendum

Legend:

- FinCom - Finance Committee
- FundsSub - Funds Subcommittee (under authority of Finance Committee)
- SPFSub - SPF Subcommittee (under authority of Finance Committee)
- AdvoCom - Advocacy Committee
- OpsCom - Operations Committee
- Exec - Executive Committee
- RGAC - Resource Group Allocation Committee

## 2.2 - Fund Balances

The following balances reflect the posted fund transactions in the 2023/24 Fiscal Year. This covers a period from May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 to February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### Athletics and Intramurals Benefit Fund

The current balance of the Athletics and Intramurals Benefit Fund is at \$1,175,452.46 after allocations from UBC, with the full amount expected to be transferred to UBC Recreation before the end of the fiscal year.

### Bike Kitchen Fund

The Bike Kitchen Fund currently has a reserve balance of -\$145,590.39.

### Campus Culture and Performance Fund

The Campus Culture and Performance Fund currently have a reserve balance of \$219,229.87.

The first installment from UBC was \$150,000.00 which was distributed evenly to the fee receiving clubs in Term 1. The second installment from UBC was \$30,991.67, with the amount expected to be distributed to the fee receiving clubs soon.

### Capital Projects Fund

The current reserve balance of the Capital Projects Fund is \$587,224.84.

This fund has allocations totalling \$552,344.72 YTD, and expenditures of \$373,600 YTD.

To ensure sustainability of the Fund, Council shall not spend more than fifty percent (50%) of the annual intake of the Fund. Of the remaining fifty percent (50%), twenty percent (20%) shall remain in the Fund and thirty percent (30%) shall be transferred to the Student Union Building Repairs and Replacement Fund.

### Childcare Fund

There has been 6 recorded fund usage to date, with \$1,500.00 being disbursed per applicant. Total fund expenditure is \$9,000.00 YTD. Reserve Balance is \$ 354,201.20

### CiTR Fund

Total allocation for the CiTR fund is at \$369,487.48 YTD. No expenditures have been made YTD.

### **Clubs Benefit Fund**

The Clubs Benefit Fund has received a total of \$45,384.66 YTD in allocations. Fund expenditure is at \$66,438.32 YTD. Expenditures on student projects only includes projects that have been completed with a final report submitted.

Current reserve balance is \$663,741.22.

### **Competitive Athletics Fund**

The Student Initiative Fund has expenditures totalling \$6,184.78 YTD. Expenditures only includes projects that have been completed with a Final Report submitted.

Current reserve balance is \$206,763.50.

### **Constituency Aid Fund**

The Constituency Aid Fund has no activity YTD. Current reserve balance is \$25,923.62.

There is no annual allocation into the fund.

### **Contingency Fund**

The Contingency Fund has no activity YTD. Current reserve balance is \$1,010.95

### **Election Reserves**

#### **Municipal Election Fund:**

No activity YTD, reserve balance is \$37,913.89.

#### **Provincial Election Fund:**

No activity YTD, reserve balance is \$28,967.90.

#### **Federal Election Fund:**

No activity YTD, reserve balance is \$29,405.72.

### **Endowment Fund**

The Endowment Fund recently received \$2,420,000.00 from closing the sale of three pieces of artwork from the AMS Permanent Art Collection.

The total allocations are \$2,420,000.00 YTD. Current reserve balance is \$5,065,065.30.



### **Financial Assistance Fund (Student Aid Bursary Fund)**

The Financial Assistance Fund received allocations from UBC totalling \$663,493.25 YTD, and expenditures totalling \$858,000.00 YTD. Current reserve balance is \$1,033,887.61.

### **Graduating Class Fund**

The Graduating Class Fund has received allocations of \$23,641.34 YTD, and expenditures of \$1,244.94 YTD. Current reserve balance is \$202,352.79.

### **Health and Dental Fund**

#### **Dues to Studentcare**

Dues to Studentcare amount is \$14,844,031.53 as of February 6, 2024. The AMS paid 4,869,516.00 YTD and amount payable by end of the policy year \$9,974,515.53.

This account is a holding account before Studentcare invoices AMS for the Health and Dental Plan.

Expected Reserve Balance: \$435,440.72

The account is used to hold money in the case that the Health and Dental Plan has more claims than premium collected.

Note:

Balances in this fund are subject to reconciliation at the end of the fiscal and policy year.

Received one-time payment of \$501,120 from UBC.

### **Health and Dental Plan Assistance Fund**

The Health and Dental Plan Assistance Fund expenditures total \$44,616.00 YTD.

The allocations to the Health and Dental Plan Assistance Fund from the Health and Dental Fee are decided annually by the AMS/GSS Health and Dental Committee.

### **Impact Grant**

The Impact Grant has no activities YTD. Current reserve balance is \$3,065.30.

### **Indigenous Fund**

The Indigenous Fund received allocations from UBC totalling \$60,977.95 YTD, and expenditures totalling \$60,495.00 YTD. Current reserve balance is \$129,431.22.

### **International Projects Fund**

The International Projects Fund received allocations from UBC totalling \$18,466.35 YTD. There have been no recorded expenditures YTD. Current reserve balance is \$77,272.13.

### **Lobbying Fund**

The Lobbying Fund has no activities YTD. Current reserve balance is \$2,769.70.

### **Ombudsperson Reserve Fund**

The Ombudsperson Reserve Fund received allocations from UBC totalling \$70,486.52 YTD, and expenditures totalling \$19,854.17 YTD. Current reserve balance is \$50,632.35.

### **SUB Repairs/Replacement Fund**

The SUB Repairs/Replacement Fund(s) received no allocations YTD, and expenditures totalling \$77,691.33. Asset depreciation accounted for an additional expenditure of \$30,526.29 YTD. Current reserve balance is \$585,169.54.

### **Resource Groups Reserve Fund**

The Resource Groups Reserve Fund received allocations from UBC totalling \$111,678.43 YTD, and expenditures totalling \$119,980.00 YTD. Current reserve balance is \$343,966.41.

### **Resource Groups Event Fund**

This fund was closed in 2020. There is no remaining balance.

### **Sexual Assault Initiative Fund (SAIF)**

The SAIF received allocations from the SASC Fund totalling \$691,882.74 YTD, and expenditures totalling \$12,600 YTD. Current reserve balance is \$639,234.96.

### **Sexual Assault Support Centre Fund (SASC)**

The SASC Fund received allocations from SAIF totaling \$949,050.00 YTD. Of this, \$855,627.00 has been transferred to SASC's operating budget.

Current reserve balance is \$16,163.92.

### **Special Bursary Fund**

The Special Bursary Fund has seen no activity YTD. Current reserve balance is \$961,005.09.

### **Student Initiative Fund**

The Student Initiative Fund has expenditures totalling \$6,083.68 YTD. Expenditures only includes projects that have been completed with a Final Report submitted.

Current reserve balance is \$12,746.68.

### **Student Legal Fund**

The Student Legal Fund received allocations from UBC totalling \$56,482.82 YTD. There have been no recorded expenditures YTD. Current reserve balance is \$56,482.82.

### **SUB Art Fund**

The SUB Art Fund received allocations totalling \$300.00 YTD, and expenditures totalling 726.18 YTD. Current reserve balance is \$20,960.57.

### **Sustainability Projects Fund**

The Sustainability Projects Fund received allocations from UBC totalling \$89,495.65 YTD, and expenditures totalling \$32,286.62 YTD. Asset depreciation accounted for an additional expenditure of \$265.72 YTD.

Expenditures on student projects only include projects that have been completed with a Final Report submitted.

Current reserve balance is \$487,015.75.

### **Sustainable Food Access Fund**

The Sustainable Food Access Fund has received allocations from UBC totalling \$24,053.59 YTD, with downstream allocations to fee receiving groups totalling \$10,700.00 YTD. Current reserve balance is \$43,882.85.

### **Permanent Thrift Store on Campus Fund**

The Permanent Thrift Store on Campus Fund has received allocations from UBC totalling \$61,482.94 YTD, and expenditures totalling \$30,000.00 YTD. Current reserve balance is \$146,520.79.

## WUSC Fund

The WUSC Fund has received allocations from UBC totalling \$358,030.24 YTD, and expenditures totalling \$171,137.77 YTD. Current reserve balance is \$463,017.57.

## Section 3 - AMS Fees

### 3.1 - Fees Overview

Below are the fees assessed in 2023-24.

Fee	Description	Amount	Admin Body	Opt-Out/ Subsidy	Contact
<b>AMS Membership Fee</b>	Used to fund the major operations of the AMS Student Government. Supporting a wide variety of lobbying efforts, advocacy initiatives and supporting projects and salaries by students for students.	\$48.23	AMS Council	AMS Fees Subsidy	vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca
<b>Capital Projects Fund Fee</b>	Used to finance specific capital projects to strengthen the AMS's infrastructure. Such as renovations and expansion to physical spaces operated by the AMS like the Nest.	\$9.34	AMS Council	AMS Fees Subsidy	vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca
<b>AMS Financial Assistance Fund Fee</b>	Used to provide bursaries to UBC students in financial need. All students can apply to receive bursaries based on their financial need through UBC.	\$12.00	UBC Awards and Development	AMS Fees Subsidy	Enrolment Services Advisors.
<b>Athletics and Intramural Fee</b>	Used to benefit the Athletics and Intramurals programming offered by UBC Recreation.	\$21.00	UBC Recreation	AMS Fees Subsidy	vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca
<b>Ombudsperson Fee</b>	Used to provide funding for ombudsperson services to UBC students. The Ombudsperson works to ensure that all members of the UBC community are treated with fairness, equity and respect in their living, working and learning environment.	\$1.26	AMS Council	AMS Fees Subsidy	ombudsperson@ams.ubc.ca
<b>Sexual Assault Support Services Fee</b>	Used to fund the Sexual Assault Support Centre (SASC). Providing sexual assault support services and awareness initiatives to students and members of the campus community.	\$17.10	AMS Council	AMS Fees Subsidy	sasc@ams.ubc.ca
<b>SUB Renewal Building Fee</b>	Used to contribute to the costs of construction and development of the new Student Union Building known as the AMS Nest.	\$100.00	AMS Finance Committee	AMS Fees Subsidy	vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca

<b>Student Refugee Fund (WUSC) Fee</b>	Used to fund the UBC branch of the World University Services Canada (WUSC) to support refugee students at UBC.	\$6.40	AMS Finance Committee	AMS Fees Subsidy	vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca
<b>Resource Groups Fee</b>	Used to ensure adequate funding for Student Resource Groups. These AMS resource groups aim to support, protect, and celebrate the different backgrounds and beliefs of its membership. The Resource Groups are The Pride Collective at UBC, Disabilities United Collective (DUC), The UBC Social Justice Centre, The Student Environment Centre (SEC), and The Women's Centre.	\$1.98	AMS Resource Groups Allocation Committee (RGAC)	Opt-Out Available; AMS Fees Subsidy	vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca
<b>Climate Action Fee</b>	Used to support student-led sustainability projects as outlined by the Sustainability Projects Fund. This fee and fund finances projects of environmental, social and economic sustainability within the UBC community.	\$1.60	AMS Finance Committee	AMS Fees Subsidy	sustainability@ams.ubc.ca
<b>International Projects Fund Fee</b>	Used to fund students on campus with an international focus in collaboration with UBC. Projects include conferences, speakers, and events that promote global dialogue and understanding at UBC. This also contributes to the Global Lounge Fund in conjunction with UBC.	\$0.33	UBC Global Lounge	AMS Fees Subsidy	Global.lounge@ubc.ca
<b>Bike Kitchen Fee</b>	Used to provide programs that aid in accessible and affordable transportation through the AMS Bike Kitchen.	\$4.17	AMS Bike Kitchen/Co-Op	Opt-Out Available; AMS Fees Subsidy	admin@thebikekitchen.ca
<b>Clubs Benefit Fee</b>	Used to fund AMS clubs which request funding support for specific events, activities and programs, as well as club infrastructure purchases like equipment and furniture.	\$0.80	AMS Finance Committee	AMS Fees Subsidy	fundsandgrants@ams.ubc.ca
<b>CiTR Fee</b>	Used to support the campus-based, student-run community radio station, CiTR. For alternative and locally-based programming access to students for training and participation in media.	\$6.55	CiTR Radio	Opt-Out Available; AMS Fees Subsidy	hello@citradio.ca

<b>Student Legal Fund Fee</b>	Used to finance legal cases brought by and for the AMS members for the purpose of improving education and the accessibility to education at UBC Vancouver.	\$1.00	Student Legal Fund Society	AMS Fees Subsidy	vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca
<b>Campus Culture and Performance Fee</b>	Used to support the following AMS clubs: the UBC Film Society, The Blank Vinyl Project, the UBC Debate Society, UBC Slam, The UBC Jazz Club, the UBC Players' Club, and the UBC Musical Theatre Troupe.	\$3.21	AMS Finance Committee	Opt-Out Available; AMS Fees Subsidy	fundsandgrants@ams.ubc.ca
<b>Health and Dental Plan</b>	Used to provide Health & Dental Plan coverage for expenses such as most prescription drugs, travel health insurance, vision, and dental care in addition to basic medical care covered by the MSP for AMS members.	\$338.00	AMS/GSS Health and Dental Committee	Opt-Out subject to eligibility; H&D Fee Subsidy	health@gss.ubc.ca
<b>Graduating Class Fee</b>	Used to provide funding for gifts to the University each year on behalf of the graduating class as administered by the Vice-President Administration in consultation with graduating students. This fee is only charged to students in their final year of university.	\$3.00	AMS VP Admin	AMS Fees Subsidy	vpadmin@ams.ubc.ca
<b>Constituency Fees</b>	Used to collect fees and fund constituencies (student associations and undergraduate societies) across the UBC campus. This fee varies based on the specific constituency to which students belong.	Varied	Varied	N/A	vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca
<b>Sustainable Food Access Fund Fee</b>	Used to increase affordability of the following four sustainable food outlets: Agora Café and UBC Sprouts (Student run initiatives which offer affordable, organic, locally sourced food at on-campus cafes), UBC Farm and Roots on the Roof, (campus food growing operations that offer farmers markets and veggie box programs)	\$0.43	AMS Finance Committee	AMS Fees Subsidy	vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca

<b>Indigenous Student Fund</b>	Used to fund Indigenous student support and initiatives. Such as supporting Indigenous Clubs, the Indigenous Committee, conference sponsorships, events and more.	\$1.09	AMS Indigenous Committee	AMS Fees Subsidy	vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca
<b>Permanent Campus Thrift Shop Fee</b>	Used to support the construction, establishment and operations of an on-campus thrift store (Get Thrifty), until financially self-sustaining.	\$1.09	AMS Finance Committee	Opt-Out Available; AMS Fees Subsidy	vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca
<b>New Recreation Centre Fee</b>	Used to contribute to the construction of the new student fitness and recreation building at UBC Vancouver.	\$10.00	UBC Recreation	AMS Fees Subsidy	vpfinance@ams.ubc.ca
<b>U-Pass Fee (per term)</b>	Used to pay for the U-Pass BC Program which provides students with universal, accessible, and affordable access to public transit across the Metro Vancouver Region.	\$180.40	AMS and UBC	U-Pass Subsidy; Exemptions subject to eligibility.	vpexternal@ams.ubc.ca
<b>Ubyyssey Fee</b>	Used to fund the operations of the Ubyyssey Newspaper. The Ubyyssey Newspaper is an independent, autonomously run media publication which provides reporting and news about issues on campus	\$7.86	Ubyyssey	N/A	business@ubyssey.ca



## Section 4 – Recommendations

### **Reform Advocacy Funding with ELFF:**

The AMS should re-establish the broader Elections and University Lobbying and Advocacy (EULA) Fund by reallocating funds from the Membership Fee. This strategic move aims to centralize resources for more impactful advocacy and election-related activities. By dividing the fund into distinct streams for lobbying and elections, the AMS ensures continuous advocacy efforts alongside specific election-related activities. Setting clear allocation guidelines and regularly reviewing funding caps will ensure the EULA Fund remains responsive to current advocacy needs and effective in its mission.

### **Strategic Expansion of International Projects Fund:**

To enhance the global engagement of UBC students, the AMS must increase the visibility and accessibility of the International Projects Fund. Encouraging collaborative, sustainable projects through simplified application processes and targeted marketing strategies can significantly extend the fund's impact. Furthermore, supporting academic and community-based research projects will deepen the understanding of global issues within the UBC community. By fostering partnerships with organizations like UBC's International Student Development Office, the AMS can broaden the fund's reach, making a more substantial contribution to global dialogue and understanding.

### **Optimize Ombudsperson Services:**

The Ombudsperson's office plays a vital role in ensuring fairness and support for students navigating university challenges. By expanding training for the Ombudsperson and their staff in areas such as conflict resolution and mediation and enhancing the office's visibility through improved marketing and technology solutions, the AMS can make these essential services more accessible to students. Establishing an emergency support fund for students facing immediate financial hardships due to administrative errors or disputes will further enhance the support network available to the UBC student body.

### **Enhancing Campus Safety with SAIF Funding for Safewalk:**

Allocating ten percent of the Sexual Assault Initiative Fund (SAIF) to the AMS Safewalk program can significantly enhance campus safety and take a proactive stance against sexual assault. This funding can support the extension of Safewalk hours and increase volunteer recruitment and training, ensuring the service is readily available to students when needed most. By integrating technology, such as a user-friendly mobile app, Safewalk can improve accessibility and efficiency for students seeking safe escorts across campus. Training for Safewalk volunteers can be enhanced with trauma-informed practices and sexual assault prevention education, equipping

them to offer supportive and informed assistance. Strengthening collaborations with campus security and local law enforcement can further enhance the effectiveness and reach of the Safewalk service. Investing SAIF resources in Safewalk aligns with the fund's mission to prevent sexual violence and promote a safe campus environment.

**Implement Quarterly Reporting for All Funds:**

To ensure transparency and accountability, the AMS should implement a system of quarterly reporting for all funds, including the EULA Fund, the International Projects Fund, Ombudsperson Services, and SAIF-funded initiatives. These reports should detail fund allocations, project outcomes, and the overall impact of these initiatives on the UBC community. Regularly assessing the effectiveness of funded projects and services will enable the AMS to make informed decisions about future allocations, ensuring that student fees are being used in the most impactful way.