

# **Audit Committee**

June 30 2022 5:00 PM SUB 6-06

The University of Alberta and the University of Alberta Students' Union occupy Indigenous land in amiskwacîswâskahikan (Beaver Hills House), on Treaty 6 territory. From time immemorial, the banks along the river valley have been known as the Pehonan, a meeting place for the nêhiyawak (Cree), the Niitsítapi (Blackfoot), Métis, Dënesųliné (Dene), Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and others. The University, the Students' Union and much of the city are located on the unlawfully stolen land of the forcibly removed Papaschase Cree.

We acknowledge that sharing this land gives each of us the responsibility to research the historic contexts of Treaty 6, to reflect on our personal relationships to the land, the Nations we've named, and to our roles in upholding justice on this territory. Since they began, the Students' Union and the University have benefited from historic and ongoing dispossession of land and resources from Indigenous Peoples. As a result, it is our responsibility to seek the restitution of this land and its resources. Finally, we seek to do better by working to make our learning, research, and governance align with the histories, languages, teachings, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples in the land presently occupied by the Canadian state.

We encourage critical reflection by asking the following question. In relation to the territory on which you are situated, what role do you play in strengthening the resistance and resurgence of Indigenous students within your communities?

#### **ATTENDANCE**

ATTENDANCE		
NAME	PROXY	PRESENT
Simran Dhillon		Υ
Fateh Arslan		Υ
Rana Thind	Charvi Dhamija	Υ
Haruun Ali		N
Milan Regmi		Υ
Abdul Abbasi		Υ
Lionel Liu		Υ
Courtney Graham		N/A

#### MINUTES (AC-2022-02-M))

**2022-01/1 INTRODUCTION** 

2022-01/1a Call to Order

DHILLON CALLED the meeting to order at 5:02 P.M.

## 2022-01/1b Approval of Agenda

**DHILLON/ARSLAN MOVED TO** approve the agenda.

CARRIED

## 2022-01/1c Approval of Minutes

**ARSLAN/DHILLON MOVED TO** approve the minutes from the last meeting. CARRIED

# 2022-01/1d Chair's Business

- 1. Check In
- 2. COFA Updates

DHILLON: Reports that she presented about the Audit Committee at CoFA. A handbook was created for the presentation, which outlined the deadlines and expectations of Audit Committee, along with all Audit Committee processes. Is currently working on setting up one-on-one meetings with the VPFs of relevant student groups to go over everything once more and to ensure that everyone is on the same page before audit deadlines start creeping up.

#### 3. VPF Updates

DHILLON: Will set up one-on-ones with all relevant student group VPFs. These one-on-one meetings will cover how each group is tracking their financials and how Audit Committee members will be able to access this information.

#### 2022-01/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

## 2022-01/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

## 2022-01/3a 1. COFA Handbook

DHILLON: Overviews the handbook, presented at CoFA, with the committee members. The handbook specifically covered the following information: What an audit is, the timelines for submitting an audit and what information is required for an audit report. Previously, only a selection of receipts were required for an audit report. However, all receipts and bank statements are now required for audit reports. After an audit request has been presented by an Audit Committee member, VPFs have 14 days to submit their financial materials for their audit report.

The deadlines for audit reports are:

Spring/Summer/Fall Audit Deadline - First Tuesday of December (December 6, 2022)

Winter Audit Deadline - First Tuesday of March (March 7, 2022)

A financial audit template is already devised and will be provided to committee members at the next Audit Committee meeting.

Audit Committee will host three financial/audit workshops throughout the year. The purpose of these workshops is to provide student groups with more information around audit processes and FAMF creations.

ARSLAN: Wants to confirm that the purpose of Audit Committee is to ensure transparency between the Students' Union and student groups.

DHILLON: Confirms that this is the case.

ABBASI: Questions if FAMFs are optional for student groups.

DHILLON: States that FAMFs are technically optional, but some faculties have caveats which forces certain Faculty Associations to pursue FAMFs.

LIU: Questions what a FAMF is.

DHILLON: Explains that a FAMF is a Faculty Association Membership Fee. Each student pays a certain amount of money, as charged to them by their Faculty Association. The FAMF provides students with services from their Faculty Associations.

ABBASI: Questions why only a few Faculty Associations are listed for renewal in this upcoming year.

DHILLON: Explains that the FAMF is run every 4 or 5 years per Faculty Association. Faculty Associations only renew their FAMF on the year that their FAMF is set to expire. FAMFs are determined at referendums. Proposed FAMF renewals must be submitted by the end of December and must run a campaign in March, which coincides with Students' Union elections.

DHAMIJA: Seeks to confirm that the final submission for FAMF renewal is at the end of the fall semester.

DHILLON: States that every student group has to have their financial reports, all receipts and bank statements, handed in to Audit Committee by the first Tuesday of December. If a student group needs to renew a FAMF, they must do a presentation regarding their FAMF renewal at Students' Council by the

start of December.

REGMI: Questions if Department Associations are audited.

DHILLON: Audit committee operates under the purview of the transparency of fees. Because Department Associations do not run fees, they are not audited.

## 2022-01/3b

#### 2. SRA assignments

DHILLON: States that members of Audit Committee cannot audit their own Faculty Association or any association that they may be executives on. Audit Committee Members are assigned the following audits:

DHILLON: ASA ARFSJ, LHSA,

ARSLAN: OASIS, LSA

REGMI: IHCC, ISU, BSA

ABBASI: MSA, ISA, ESA

THIND: HCA, ECSA, NSSA

LIU: NSA, ESS

ALI: ISSS, APSA, KSSRS

#### 2022-01/3c

# 3. Audit Walk Through - [next meeting]

DHILLON: Will set up a mock audit for the committee to go through. This is to give the committee experience with going through and completing an audit. Will provide two examples of an audit for the committee to go over - one audit will be exceptionally well done and one audit will be missing information or misrepresenting it.

Asks that committee members inform ahead of time if they will not be able to make it to the next Audit Committee meeting, as materials will be provided to supplement the hands-on activity that they will be missing if they cannot attend.

As well, the Audit Committee meeting time may be changed to 8:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M instead of the usual 5:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

#### 2022-01/4 <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

# **2022-01/4a** DHILLON ADJOURNED the meeting at 5:38 P.M.

Next Meeting: TBD