



University of Alberta Students' Union

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Monday, March 20, 2017

5:00PM

SUB 6-06

We would like to acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Dene, Cree, Sauteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge continuing colonial violence and respect Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

ATTENDANCE

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT
Robyn Paches (Chair)		Y
Victoria DeJong	Umer Farooq	Y
Franchesca El Ghossein		Y
Reed Larsen		Y
Brandon Prochnau		Y
Emil Yim	Via Phone	Y

MINUTES (FC 2016-14)

2016-14/1 INTRODUCTION

Meeting called to order at 5:06 pm.

2016-14/1a Call to Order

2016-14/1b Approval of Agenda

GHOSSEIN/FAROOQ moved to approve the agenda
Vote 6/0/0
CARRIED

2016-14/1c **Approval of Minutes**

LARSEN/GHOSSEIN moved to approve the minutes
Vote 5/0/1
CARRIED
FAROOQ ABSTAINED

2016-14/1c Approval of FC 2016-12 Minutes.

Please see FC 16-14.01

LARSEN/GHOSSEIN moved to approve the minutes
Vote 5/0/1
CARRIED
FAROOQ ABSTAINED

2016-14/1d **Chair's Business**

2016-14/2 **QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

2016-14/3 **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

2016-14/3a New Business: Budget Principals 2017-18

PACHES: We are at the point where we are start putting the budget together. The first step is the creating the principles which under bylaw is under the responsibility of VP OpFi to prepare the principles and present it to the Finance committee who then make amendments/approve before taking it to Council for approval. The budget principals are then the basis under which the the budget is created. So the second reading will be what's in the budget. So, the actual itemized budget will be what's crafted from the principles, and what will be presented to Council will be a budget report, a budget summary and the actual budgets. The principles are what you see today. I made slight word adjustments to what was sent out based on feedback from the Chair of Bylaw Committee, the Executive committee and our core managers of the SU, but the content is the same.

YIM: So you guys have a hard copy there?

PACHES: Yeah and I have it digitally which I can send you after this. So I will read out the wording changes to you. The first part is a preamble discussing

what the organization is as well as its values and what guides the organization. This is done, so we do not have to repeat ourselves in the principles. So unless there are any objections, what I would like to do today is I would like to only go through the principles that have been edited or new because principles that weren't edited or aren't new are carried on from last year and were approved last year. These are broad principles that make sense to carry forward year to year just to set our frame.

Starting from Principle 9: The only edit in here with the addition of "cost of living adjustments" because that wasn't specified in the previous principle. Sounds good?

Committee members agree.

PACHES: Onto Principle 10: This principle was simply edited for the what he projected ACPI for 2017/18 will be, so just brought up to current numbers.

PROCHNAU: Shouldn't you just say ACPI instead of saying Alberta Consumer Price Index since you have mentioned it before?

PACHES: The way we operate with our CPI in our budgeting is just ensuring we are always consistent with the language throughout the documents as it can differ so we make sure to be specific throughout the whole thing.

Principle 11: This principle was added in last year when Students' Council approved a increase to the Students' Union membership fee outside of CPI but under 10% because that over 10% would need a referendum to allow the increase and any increases over CPI must be approved by Council. The edit was "as approved by Student Council". This was changed from subject to approval by Student Council because this was only being talked about last year. This edit is for transparency and to show that it was in fact approved last year, and makes sure that is still in effect.

Principle 13: This is a new one which states, "resources will be made available for the Executive Committee to build positive relationships with important stakeholders." This point was also further edited to include examples. Examples include Faculty associations, Residence associations and members of the University of Alberta Board of Governors. The reason I added in this principle was every year, the Executive Committee, specifically the VP Academic, takes money out of their portion of the project allocation fund to take FA's out to a lunch so that we can build help build positive relationships with that group. As this money comes out of their portion of the project allocation fund, it has impeded their ability to fulfil their campaign mandate promises

GHOSEIN: And it's not sustainable.

PACHES: Yeah and it's not sustainable. So it's been an ask for a few years to put that into actual budgeting which is why this principle was added. And note, principles do not contain actual dollar amount and the amount will be decided when it is brought to the actual budget. It will be really useful because it develops that relationship between FA's and the executive committee, and helps whenever conversations need to happen between those groups

Principle 15: Context for principle 15 is principle 14. Principle 15 reads that "Recurring annual expenses of Council shall be budgeted for outside of [insert principle 14]." For the longest time, Council jackets have come outside of the \$2000 that is set aside for council engagement but those jackets are \$1600, so what we have left is \$400 for council engagement.

This principle is to make sure expenses such as the Council jackets and other expenses that recur every year are budgeted for accordingly. A big objective I had with these principles was finding things that happen every year but do not have their own budget lines and creating something so they are budgeted for on their own.

Principle 16: "Resources will be made available for the translation of all bylaws and policies into French." It's been in ask for a long time, let's do it.

Principle 18: The principle was derived from a recommendation from CAC. The principle was also further edited as per recommendation from Councillor Christensen which I fully approve of as it was really well worded. The principle now reads as, "The students' Union shall allocate resources to increase the salary of executive elected positions to bring the remuneration inline with the provincial average. I'll turn it over to Councillor Larsen (Chair of CAC) for the explanation behind this.

LARSEN: Basically, we came down to a recommendation from CAC which I believe was increasing the pay rate which the specific wording can be found in the last CAC report. It was long discussion over two meetings and this is what we came up with. The numbers were generated by Marc (General Manager), and the increase was pretty moderate overall. The provincial average is still a little bit higher.

PACHES: The plan in second principles will be to completely follow the CAC recommendation.

Principle 22: The edit was "and retention." So, previous principal was customer experience improvements.

Principle 23: The edit here is "and operational." Beforehand, it was just visual. I added that in there to ensure that when resources are being allocated to visual improvements, that they're also logistics and the performance that businesses kept in mind.

Principle 26: The edit here is the addition of “and it’s corresponding capital fundraising campaign.”

Principle 26: This was upon recommendation of Bylaw, CAC, Councillor Sunday. This principle is different than what was sent out digitally. What was sent out digitally was specifically for the Ad Hoc Committee and then, I got feedback from Councillor Christensen, the Executive Committee and our management that we should make it more broad so that once the standing committee comes to fruition, that that doesn’t limit us so we can provide honorariums for Elders to attend the meetings of the standing committee. It was brought to my attention to make it even more broad so that if we have any future committee where we’re consulting with indigenous stakeholders and they request that an Elder be present, we have the flexibility to be able to provide that cause it’s very important.

Principle 29: “Resources will be made available for piano and microwave repairs that fall under the Students’ Union responsibility.” This is another one that has always been paid for but never had a budget line for it. Similarly to the VPA and FA’s situation, the VP SL has always been tasked with funding repairs to the pianos/microwaves from their project allocation funds which is once again unsustainable and doesn’t make sense to pull out of something that’s for flexibility with campaign promises so we’re going to budget for it accordingly. This is only for microwaves that fall under Students’ Union responsibility/SU owned.

That wraps up the principles themselves. Any questions and concern?

LARSEN: I’m in favour. Everything looks good to me.

PACHES: Great, I’ll send this digitally.

I’ll move into the section for removed. There were three principles that were removed from last year’s. The first one I removed starts with “In line with operating policy 5.12.” So, it’s already in operating policy so I don’t see a point in putting it in budget principles since its already outlined in policy. Second one, “Students’ Union should allocate resources towards professional advice and services as they relate to advocacy.” Essentially, this is about the advocacy office which is in the SU structure, which is part of the preamble and essentially has been a carry over principle that is not needed so it’s been cut. Third, “New leased space shall be available in the Students’ Union building and may need to be funded accordingly.” This was added last year because we have a new space in lower level. It has now been filled by ATB so we don’t need this principle anymore.

Any other questions, comments, feedback?

PACHES/FAROOQ MOVES that Finance Committee recommend the 2017/2018 Budget principles for approval at Students' Council.

***VOTE 5/0/0
CARRIED***

Please see FC 16-14.02

2016-14/5 INFORMATION ITEMS

2016-14/6 ADJOURNMENT

2016-14/6a **Next Meeting: April 17, 2017 @ 5PM in SUB 6-06**

Meeting adjourned at 5:28 PM.

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS

MOTIONS	VOTES
<i>GHOSSEIN/FAROOQ moved to approve the agenda</i>	<i>Vote 6/0/0 CARRIED</i>
<i>LARSEN/GHOSSEIN moved to approve the minutes</i>	<i>Vote 5/0/1 CARRIED</i>
<i>LARSEN/GHOSSEIN moved to approve the minutes</i>	<i>Vote 5/0/1 CARRIED</i>
<i>PACHES/FAROOQ MOVES that Finance Committee recommend the 2017/2018 Budget principles for approval at Students' Council.</i>	<i>VOTE 5/0/0 CARRIED</i>

