



University of Alberta Students' Union

FINANCE COMMITTEE

October 05, 2023

3:00 P.M.

SUB 6-06/[Zoom](#)

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 Niitsitapi (Blackfoot), Métis, Dënesųłiné (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

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT
Levi Flaman - VP Operations & Finance (Chair)		Y
Laurel Ford - Science Councillor		Y
Michael Griffiths - VP Student Life		Y
Mason Pich - Arts Councillor		Y
Aiman Saif - Engineering Councillor		N
Colton Meronyk		N
Melissa Cyriac		Y
Marc Dumouchel (Non-Voting)		N/A
Courtney Graham		N/A
Asseel Atia		N/A

MINUTES (FC-2023-05-M)

2023-05/1 **INTRODUCTION**

2023-05/1a **Call to Order**

FLAMAN called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM

2023-05/1b **Approval of Agenda**

FORD/PICH MOVE TO approve the agenda
CARRIED

2023-05/1c **Approval of Minutes**

FORD/PICH MOVE TO approve the minutes
CARRIED

2023-05/1d **Chair's Business**

- Personal Updates

2023-05/2 **QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

2023-05/2a

- Dewey's Washroom
 - Original Motion
 - **FLAMAN/FORD MOVE TO** approve the release of funds from the Sustainability and Capital Fund not to exceed \$10,000 to pay for a Dewey's washroom upgrade Schematic Design Report.
 - Referral Motion
 - **ATWOOD/QADIR MOVE TO** send the motion back to the Finance Committee to acquire 2 additional quotes and funding options.
 - [First Quote from ARC Studio](#)
 - Second Quote
 - We have one; trying to get it from the Director of Conferencing & Events - should have it for the next meeting in two weeks
 - It's been nearly two months and there's no indication anyone else is interested; what do we want to do?
 - Keep waiting for a third (or more) that may or may not come.
 - Go back to the council and recommend we proceed with the two we have.
 - Funding options; plenty for the actual construction, but nothing for the drawing/schematics.

PICH: Suggests moving forward with the 2 quotes that are currently present as there has been a significant delay with the project already.

FORD: Agrees.

FLAMAN: Mentions that if the committee comes to an agreement at the meeting following in 2 weeks, a motion will be added to the order papers asking for Council's approval to deliberate from the 2 quotes instead of waiting for the 3rd one.

Committee agrees.

2023-05/3

OLD BUSINESS5

2023-05/4

NEW BUSINESS

2023-05/4a

FLAMAN/PICH MOVE TO strike a task force, to be housed under Finance Committee, which will be tasked with crafting a Reserve Funds and Investment Policy to be housed under Operating Policy, subject to the following terms of reference

- o [Draft Terms of Reference](#)

CARRIED

DUMOUCHEL: Mentions (from the previous year's audit report) that there is an existing investment policy, however, it was not formally approved by Council, and that there are reserves, however, there is no firm set of policies that oversees it.

Adds that the auditors are able to provide assistance; the SU could draw candidates from the university financial department; assistance was offered to give advice pro bono from a former Chief-Risk-Officer from an outside organization; could consider assistance from John Stelter (retired auditor from KPMG) as well.

Suggests that the task force include 4-6 people, including 1 or 2 people from the Audit and Finance committees as well as DUMOUCHEL and Peter Ta, the UASU Financial Controller.

FLAMAN: Mentions that there are currently 7 spots drafted for the committee (not including staff members).

PICH: Agrees to having 6-7 members on the committee.

DUMOUCHEL: States that having a larger group than 6 or 7 members might be a concern.

Committee discusses the draft terms of reference.

2023-05/5

2023-05/5a

WRAP-UP

Action Items / To-Do List

- Ask Council to proceed with just the two quotes
- Bamboo posting for SAL members for TF

2023-05/5b

Next Scheduled Meeting

- October 19, 2023, 3 PM

2023-05/6

ADJOURNMENT

FLAMAN: Adjourned the meeting at 3:45 PM