Tuesday November 28, 2006
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

2006-15/3  EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

2006-15/3a  Executive Committee – November 23, 2006
Please see document LA 06-15.01

2006-15/5  BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

2006-15/5c (iii)  Audit Committee – November 24, 2006
Please see document LA 06-15.02

2006-15/5f  University Policy Committee – November 7 and 21, 2006
Please see document LA 06-15.03

2006-15/6  GENERAL ORDERS

2006-15/6c  COURNOYER MOVED THAT Students’ Council appoint Daniel Eggert to the University of Alberta Senate.

2006-15/7  INFORMATION ITEMS

2006-15/7f  Chris Cunningham, Vice President (Operations and Finance) – Report
Please see document LA 06-15.04

2006-15/7g  Amanda Henry, Vice President (Academic) – Report
Please see document LA 06-15.05

2006-15/7h  Original First Readings for Student Loans and Income Contingent Loans Political Policies.
Please see document LA 06-15.06

2006-15/7i  Access Fund Committee presentation documents.
Please see document LA 06-15.07
Executive Committee Report to Students’ Council November 28, 2006

1. There were no motions were passed at the November 2, 2006 Executive Committee meeting.

2. There were no motions were passed at the November 9, 2006 Executive Committee meeting.

3. There were no motions were passed at the November 14, 2006 Executive Committee meeting.

4. The following motions were passed at the November 23, 2006 Executive Committee meeting:
   a. COURNOYER/POWER MOVED THAT the Students’ Union waive the room rental charge for the PowerPlant for the Journalists fro Human Rights event in January 2007.
   VOTE ON MOTION 4/0/1 (Henry abstained) CARRIED
Audit Committee
Friday November 24, 2006
2:00 pm
SUB Meeting Room (6-06 SUB)

Call to Order: Eruvbetine called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

Attendance:
   Eruvbetine
   Lewis
   Cook (for Gamble)
   Sumar (2:35pm)

1. Approval of the Agenda
   Eruvbetine/LEWIS moved to approve the agenda.
   3/0/0 CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes
   LEWIS/ERUVBETINE moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting.
   3/0/0 CARRIED

3. Announcements
   • The Chair requested that members of the Committee bring their winter schedules
ten to the next meeting so that meetings can be scheduled.
   • The Chair clarified that his role on the Committee is to facilitate the Committee in
   meeting its mandate, and asked for other members of the Committee to bring to
   the agenda issues outside the day-to-day business that should be addressed

4. Old Business
   None.

5. New Business
   (a) Credit Card Statements
       Credit cards statements were reviewed for the months of September and October.

   (b) Profit and Loss Statements
       P&Ls not available to the Committee at this time.

6. Discussion Period
   (a) Standing orders
       The Chair will create a list of issues pertinent to the mandate of the Audit
       Committee that need to be addressed in Standing Orders, and e-mail them out to
       members so they can draft new Standing Orders based on the mandate laid out in bylaw.
(b) Grant Allocation Committee (Review)
   The Chair has requested to be added to the mailing list and receive minutes, reports, etc. from GAC.

(c) Faculty Association Membership Fees
   The Chair is in the process setting up a meeting in January for the Audit Committee to discuss FAMFs with the appropriate stakeholders. Communication is ongoing with the Administrative Assistant to Students’ Council, the Vice-President (Operations & Finance), and the Vice-President (Academic).

(d) Faculty Membership Fees
   The Committee discussed ways of monitoring FMFs.

(e) CJSR Disbursement
   ERUVBETINE/LEWIS moved to have the meeting in camera.

   ERUVBETINE/LEWIS moved to have the meeting ex-camera.
   
7. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date
   A meeting was scheduled for 2:00 p.m., Friday, December 01, 2006.

   LEWIS/COOK moved to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 3:13pm.
Call to Order: ERUVBETINE called the meeting to order at 2:14 p.m.

1. ERUVBETINE/LEWIS moved to approve the agenda. 3/0/0 CARRIED

2. LEWIS/ERUVBETINE moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting. 3/0/0 CARRIED

3. ERUVBETINE/LEWIS moved to have the meeting in camera. 4/0/0 CARRIED

4. ERUVBETINE/LEWIS moved to have the meeting ex-camera. 4/0/0 CARRIED

5. LEWIS/COOK moved to adjourned at 3:13pm. 4/0/0 CARRIED

Next Meeting: Friday December 01, 2006 at 2:00pm in SUB 6-06.
Audit Committee

Hello All:

Well, in the recent past, Audit Committee has been ironing out a number of procedural difficulties. First off, Audit Comm. has elected me as the new committee Chair. Also, we are in the process of developing or explicitly writing out procedures (which will be put in Standing Orders) to accomplish the many tasks in of our mandate.

Audit Comm. has done a number of reviews. We approved the disbursal of the APIRG and Gateway DFUs. We also reviewed all of the credit card statements to date. Questions that arose have or are in the process of being settled.

The internal re-structuring, as presented to Council previously, has been temporarily put on hold. We are currently re-evaluating the efficiency vs. human factor involved in such an implementation.

Be sure to check out our minutes. If any questions arouse, please ask me during Council.

Hope you are looking forward to the Xmas break as much as I am 😊.

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University Policy Committee

The University Policy Committee met for its twelfth time on Tuesday November 7, 2006. The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:13 pm and by 5:00 pm all of its members were present.

In Executive Officer reports, Vice President Yusuf presented on the proposed rent increases by Residence Services. Vice President Henry outlined the new version of the Academic Plan, which contains some good points, but less significant content than expected. It was decided that she would report back to the committee on details regarding the new Exam Registry policy.

In New Business Dollansky introduced his proposed Community Involvement and Volunteerism Political Policy for discussion, and took it back for further tweaking. Janz outlined his proposed Wellness and Fitness Facilities Political Policy for feedback, and also decided to work on the policy further. Sumar brought to light some of the problems with the services of BearTracks and concerns over the future of BearScat. Henry mentioned her approach to the Registrars Office and how they agreed to give a presentation in the winter term. There was also discussion regarding the accuracy of course listings in the University Calendar.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.

The Committee will be meeting again on Tuesday November 21, 2006.
University Policy Committee

The University Policy Committee met for its thirteenth time on Tuesday November 21, 2006. All members except Councillors Janz and Dollansky were in attendance. The meeting was called to order by the chair at 5:06 pm.

Vice President Henry presented on her progress on the implementation of the General Elections Forum Political Policy.

In Executive Officer Reports, Vice President Henry added that the Professor of the Week is wrapping up for the fall and it has been a great success. It was also noted that the Board Finance & Property Committee approved significant rent increases.

In Old Business, as per Councillor Sumar’s request, Vice President Henry noted that there will be a presentation on Bear Tracks to Students’ Council on January 23, 2007. Councillors should prepare question in advance to ask during the presentation.

In New Business, Yusuf mention he received an email regarding the Students for Sustainability on Campus Political Policy and whether or not one could be made. He sought feedback and will follow up with the group.

There was a presentation by OmbudService Director Tyler McIntyre on the use of lawyers in University appeals. Tyler noted that there are concerns with the involvement of lawyers in student appeals, but this is not a common practice, especially when the student does not hire a lawyer.

New Business then continued with deciding on a winter term meeting schedule. It was decided that off-Council Tuesdays at 5:00 pm would be best. A discussion on University Capital Projects expenditures ensued.

In Discussion Period, it was announced that COSA will be addressing issues surrounding Academic Materials at the January 15 meeting. Vice President Henry will be sending an email to get feedback on formulating a policy on the Exam Registry.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 pm.

The next meeting of the University Policy Committee will take place on January 16, 2007.
University Policy Committee

Tuesday November 7, 2006

1. CALL TO ORDER
   The meeting was called to order at 4:13 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
   YUSUF/ERUVBETINE moved that the agenda be approved, with the removal of Old Business.  
   6/0/0 CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4. PRESENTATIONS

5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS
   a. Amanda Henry, Vice President (Academic)
   b. Omer Yusuf, Vice President (Student Life)

6. QUESTION PERIOD

7. NEW BUSINESS
   a. Community Involvement and Volunteerism
   b. Wellness and Fitness Facilities
   c. Bearscat & BearTracks
   d. Accuracy of Course Listings in University Calendar

8. DISCUSSION PERIOD -TABLED
   a. University Academic Plan (draft)
   b. Automated Course Pre-requisite Checking
   c. Academic Materials (course syllabi and student instructional support fees)

9. ADJOURNMENT
   DOLLANSKY/ERUVBETINE moved to adjourn at 5:55 pm.  
   7/0/0 CARRIED

11. NEXT MEETING
    Tuesday November 21, 2006
University Policy Committee

Tuesday November 21, 2006

1. CALL TO ORDER
   The meeting was called to order by KEHOE at 5:06 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
   HENRY/SUMAR moved that the agenda be approved
   HENRY moved to add item (d) Exam Registry to Discussion Period
   YUSUF moved to add item (d) University Capital Projects to New Business
   5/0/0 CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   SUMAR/HENRY moved to approve the minutes as presented.
   5/0/0 CARRIED

4. PRESENTATIONS
   a. Implementation Plan: General Elections Forum Political Policy (Henry)
   b. Use of Lawyers in University Appeals (presented by Tyler McIntyre at 6:04pm)

5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS
   a. Amanda Henry, Vice President (Academic)
   b. Omer Yusuf, Vice President (Student Life)

6. QUESTION PERIOD

7. OLD BUSINESS
   a. Student Access to Bear Tracks (Sumar)
   b. Bear Scat
   c. Accuracy of Course Listings in University Calendar (student complaint)

8. NEW BUSINESS
   a. Students for Sustainability on Campus
   b. Winter Term Meeting Schedule
       KEHOE/ERUVBETINE moved that the meeting schedule for the winter be as follows:
       Off-Council Tuesday’s at 5:00 pm
       5/0/0 CARRIED
   c. UPC Retreat
   d. University Capital Projects Expenditures

9. DISCUSSION PERIOD
   a. Academic Materials (course syllabi and student instructional support fees)
   b. University Academic Plan
   c. RHA Rent Increase
   d. Exam Registry

10. ADJOURNMENT
    Eruvbetine/Sumar moved to adjourn at 6:51 pm.
    5/0/0 CARRIED

11. NEXT MEETING
    January 16, 2007 at 5:00 pm.
Good evening Council,

**Power Plant**
The Bar is actually beating projections for a change however the Coffee House and Buffet are loosing money. Since both the Coffee House and the Buffet are new businesses we may want to give them time to establish themselves before we get to hasty and dismiss them as failures. We will be expanding our marketing campaign in the hopes that we will attract a larger crowd for the dinner buffet. As for the Coffee House, I have an idea… let me do some more research into it and I’ll get back to you.

**Operation Slide Show**
A marketing initiative I’ve taken on:

I would like to initiate a project that would involve showing various slides promoting University and Student’s Union events and services within all “smart” classrooms during the ten minutes in between classes. Not unlike the slides you would see when you go to your local movie theatre. It’s a passive form of information dissemination, one that I think would benefit both the University and the SU in promoting important services and events.

Imagine if you will, you’re a first year student taking Bio 107 in one of the huge Tory Lecture theatres. You arrive roughly 7 minutes before the lecture is scheduled to start. You stare up at the huge projection screen to discover an ad promoting the University’s Study Abroad program and then a slide promoting the SU’s Student Distress Center and a new slide 30 seconds after that. Being a new student, you may not have realized all of the services that the University and the SU provide. Being exposed to a series of non-intrusive slides during a time when most likely you would be staring at the ceiling waiting for class to start anyway, would be of great benefit.

Some examples of what the SU might be interested in promoting through this new medium:
- Anti Freeze
- Student Distress Center
- Safe Walk
- Our various businesses
- Revolutionary Speaker Series

Some examples of what the University might be interested in promoting:
- Academic Support Center
- CaPS
I have a had a serious of talks with Paul Sorenson (Vice-Provost Information Technology) and he is interested in the idea. However, at the moment we are having a hell of a time trying to figure out how to physically do it.

I’ll keep you posted.

**Job Registry**

Alberta is currently going through an unprecedented economic boom. Jobs are being created faster than people can fill them, consequently employers are becoming increasingly concerned about finding quality employees. Quite frankly you can’t walk across the street with out running into a help wanted sign. For the first time businesses are more concerned about advertising employment than they are with promoting their services. This is a very serious challenge for most employers including the U of A Students’ Union. However I believe that this challenge presents us with an opportunity as well.

Most post secondary students need part-time employment to cover the cost of tuition and living expenses. By creating an on-line job registry focusing on part-time employment in and around Edmonton, we can serve students by facilitating the partnership between students and employers.

What will separate our job registry with others is our focus on part-time positions and our unrestricted access to students. Post secondary students tend to have a reputation as being intelligent, reliable and hardworking – the perfect prospective employee. Employers will pay a premium to solicit job opportunities to students. Most other job registries focus on full time positions and don’t cater specifically to students.

Students will use the job registry because of it’s convenience. By reducing the time it takes to find and apply for a part time position, students will benefit by looking for a job on the registry before they take to the streets looking for those help wanted signs.

A fully automated web site like the one I am proposing would cost in and around $10,000 to create. I have already struck a potential deal with a local programming company to cover the cost of creating the site and updating it when required if we are willing to sign some sort of revenue sharing agreement. The only costs associated from our end would be to market the service. We would not only need to contact local businesses about the new service but we would have to ensure that students know about the registry as well. If we can not provide the hits to the site, businesses will not see the value of paying to have their position posted on the site.

If the student associations of all three major post secondary institutions within the city (U of A, NAIT, and Grant MacEwan) are willing to market the new job registry given a
revenue sharing agreement, we will have a target audience of roughly 70,000 ideal candidates for employment within the first day of launching the site. This equates to a huge value for local businesses in promoting their employment opportunities.

The job registry will not necessarily be limited to students because we want to generate as much traffic to the site as possible. The more traffic to the site means the more we can charge for a posting because the employer will see a greater value in the service. However, initially it will only be students who would be familiar with the site because of our limited marketing within the schools, however with time I believe word of mouth and an expanded marketing campaign will allow us to be the number one means by which Edmontonians look for part-time employment.

**Business Tax**

Well – it looks like the 2006 ARB (Assessment Review Board) decision was in our favor. However, it may not be as straightforward as we would like. Apparently the City has 30 days to appeal the ARB’s decision, and our consultant thinks they will because we have not heard from the MGB (Municipal Government Board) on 2005’s. If the MGB decision comes back the same as the ARB, then the City will more than likely withdraw their appeal. However, if the MGB does not agree with the 2006 ARB, then the appeal goes ahead and we have to fight all over again.
Sorry it’s in Late Additions – 3 pieces of info I was waiting on…

**Head Shaves Everywhere!!**

On November 24th student associations at the U of A hosted 2 head shaves to raise money for cancer research.

The University of Alberta Science Undergraduate Society (UASUS) hosted their second annual “Everything’s Better Shaven” head shave on SUB stage and raised nearly $8000 for the Kids With Cancer Society, with donations yet to be tallied. Participants in the UASUS head shave could also opt to have their body waxed to raise money for the Kids with Cancer Society.

The Engineering Students’ Society (ESS) hosted their 3rd Annual Hair Dye and Head Shave. The events raised more than $31,671 with donations still to be tallied. Proceeds went to the Alberta Cancer Foundation.

Participants in the ESS Head Shave also donated more than 50 inches of hair.

L’Association des Universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean (AUSFJ) raised $2528.28 to shave the head of their Vice President Externale, which they contributed to the ESS Head Shave.

I also agreed to shave my ‘do if the ESS managed to raise either $5000 for my head or a total of more than $30,000. Hence the baldness.

**Professor of the Week!**

This has wrapped up for the semester. Expect it back in the Winter term.

In the meantime, there will be a website – [http://www.su.ualberta.ca/maketeachingmatter](http://www.su.ualberta.ca/maketeachingmatter). Know it, love it.

Past Winners – Dr. James Talbot
- Dr. Denis Lamoureux
- Dr. Clive Hickson
- Dr. Judy Gnarpe
- Dr. Yvette D’Entremont
- Dr. Helen Vallianatos
- Dr. Al Meldrum
- Dr. Don Carmichael

**The ACADEMIC PLAN…**

The vote was cast on Monday – 70 in favour, 12 against, 2 abstentions. The discussion was very good – kudos to the undergraduates for taking the opportunity. I’m pretty sure you’ll be able to check Tuesday’s (today’s?) Gateway for more details.

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1 Late Breaking News #1
2 Late Breaking News #2
3 You guessed it – Late Breaking News #3. Ironically both the most boring and the most relevant to my job.
24/7 SUB!!
Banners/posters should be going up in the near future to advertise. They’re going to be gn“arr”lly. 4

Website Announcement!
Check out the website comments box (http://www.su.ualberta.ca/about).
I had a meeting last week and have another this week about SU wireless. You should already be noticing some improvements (if not, let me know and let anyone else who wants to know to let me know). Also, stay tuned for other potential developments. 5

Stuff you Expect to See
Meetings! Ad Nauseam!
• Provost’s Review – Sorry, can’t tell you. Really wish I could, but the Board has to talk about it first. Ask me again in 2007 and then I’ll tell you, I promise.
• GFC Meetings – mostly cancelled or upcoming. Also, see above.

Daring to Deliver
I promised I’d have it, but I’m also trying to keep this report down to two pages. Also, I can’t write anything of note here with a straight face. Sorry.

Upcoming Engagements
• GFC ASC SOS – SU Exam Registry – Will be back to ASCSOS in the near future. Hopefully in December, but no guarantees, as I may have to be at another meeting. Sigh...
• I may also have to pass on a couple of other GFC meetings – notably GFC CLE and GFC FDC.
• VP Research Search – why I might have to skip both ASCSOS and CLE. Interviews of potential candidates are coming up at some point in the next little while. Details are still tentative (and confidential, I’d bet).
• Bookstore Advisory Group/Academic Materials Delivery Advisory Group – Why I might have to skip FDC.
• TLEF Selection – delayed to December 1st.
• Information Exchange Agreement – December.
• University Key Performance Indicators and Evaluative stuff (still) = next week.
• Calgary and Lethbridge Road Trip! – A conference I was budgeted to attend was cancelled, so I’m going to meet with other VPs A from around the province instead. I promise I’ll write.

4 Is that the proper use of ‘ironically’? Can you even footnote a footnote?
4? That might have been clever or something. But I doubt it.
5 Because I know you still read these, I’ll put this down here (also, because I can’t figure out where else to put it without sounding disjointed). AICT did a test to see if the microwaves are doing anything – and the answer is a big negative. As in, microwaves have nothing to do with our wireless woes. As in, my bad (I have pictures to prove it that I will try to remember to bring to Council).
Student Loans (Principles from First Reading):

**COURNOYER MOVED THAT** Students’ Council adopt a Political Policy based on the following principles:

That the University of Alberta Students’ Union advocate for a financial aid system that:
- produces lower levels of public debt by delivering a greater proportion of non-repayable assistance up front, including but not limited to grants and bursaries; - is accessible to all Albertans based on demonstrated academic standing and addresses the real financial need,
- recognizes the complete overhead costs of education to the learner including, but not limited to rent and utility costs, textbook costs, transportation costs, food, personal care, and learning technology costs;
- better recognizes the diversity and individuality of the learner by accounting for varying living situations affected by geography, household configuration and alternate modes of study;
- includes adjustments to all forms of financial assistance to reflect rapidly changing market realities as related to the student ‘basket of goods,’ especially housing;

And that the University of Alberta Students’ Union advocate for immediate changes to the student loan system to include:
- the removal of the part-time earning exemption;
- the enhancement of scholarship exemptions and spousal working exemptions;
- the removal of the parental contribution requirement;
- to improve the remission program to be more predictable, transparent and accessible;
- to lower interest rates on the Alberta portion of all new and outstanding student loans.

Income-Contingent Loans (Principles from First Reading):

**COURNOYER MOVED THAT** Students’ Council adopt a Political Policy based on the following principles:

That the University of Alberta Students’ Union oppose the introduction of an income-contingent loan repayment scheme for the Alberta Student Loan Program that:
- Seeks to permit institutions to further increase tuition at Alberta universities;
- Through the use of annual interest rates ensures that lower-income Albertans pay more for their education than higher-income Albertans;
- Erodes the commitment of government to funding public post-secondary education or transfer the responsibility for funding from government to students and their families.
What’s the point of this Presentation?

- What is the Access Fund?
- A brief history.
- Student need vs. Endowment Fund.
- Briefing council on the current options to deciding philosophically on a conclusion that best meets student needs now and in the future regarding the spirit of the Access Fund, and the direction of a multi-million dollar enterprise.
What is the Access Fund?

- A students-helping-students initiative providing need-based bursaries from SU fees.
- Support for students who have exhausted all other means of financing their education.
- Governed by bylaws 100 and 4000, which legislate operation of the glorious Access Fund Committee.
What is the Access Fund?

- $15.75 in each Fall and Winter terms and $7.88 in each of the Spring and Summer terms.
- 5% to administration fees, 10% to an endowment fund, 85% available for granting.
- Opt out available (Dec 22 and Apr 27).
- Budget for the 2006-07 year is $950,760
A brief history

Do you support the University of Alberta Students' Union's (SU) establishment of an ACCESS FUND to provide financial need-based bursaries subject to the following four (4) conditions:

1. An increase in the SU fee of: $10.00/term for Fall/Winter semesters, and $5.00/term for Spring/Summer (Intersession) semesters.
2. Students shall be able to opt out of this fee after the fact, for philosophical or financial reasons.
3. The fee shall be indexed to the percentage increase in tuition and non-tuition fees charged by the University of Alberta.
4. The attached bylaw shall be adopted by the SU to regulate the administration of the Access Fund.
A brief history

- Ungranted funds in initial start up.
- Amount available > student need.
- Turning point in 2004-05 (the Million Dollar Giveaway!)
- Amount available < student need.
- From 2004-2006 (and now), a proration scheme has been adopted to limit funding to students.
Student need vs. Endowment Fund

- Since 2004, the Access Fund could not keep up with student need.
- In 2005-06, the AFC explored reducing the investment to the endowment fund to increase money available for disbursement.
- Endowment fund purpose = self sustaining Access Fund of the future.
Student need vs. Endowment Fund

- The endowment fund currently represents approx $1.3 million in a University reserve.
- 5-8% interest on investment, which is put back into the endowment fund.
- Currently, it’s on pace to mature for use in 20-30 years.
- What will student need look like in 30yrs?
Options to address the need

- Should it continue to grow?
- Should we use it now to address the need?
- Should we decrease or increase the money put in (the annual contribution)?
- AFC has been dealing with the question of “what to do with the endowment fund” since 2005.
Student need vs. Endowment Fund

● Should it continue to grow?
● Should we use it now to address the need?
● Should we decrease or increase the money put in (the annual contribution)?
● AFC has been dealing with the question of “what to do with the endowment fund” since 2005.
Student need vs. Endowment Fund

- Should it continue to grow?
- Should we use it now to address the need?
- Should we decrease or increase the money put in (the annual contribution)?
- AFC has been dealing with the question of “what to do with the endowment fund” since 2005.
Things to think about

1. Because current need is not met, the Access Fund fee should be increased (it decreased in 2001-02).

- But…
- It’s counter intuitive to raise fees to meet the needs of students.
- It doesn’t answer the endowment question.
Things to think about

2. Increase the contribution to the endowment fund to allow it to mature faster.

- But…
- It marginalizes the needs of students now for the sake of future students.
- It’s difficult to speculate the financial need of students in 20-30 years (i.e., tuition was approx $3000 in yr 2000).
Things to think about

3. Reduce the annual contribution to the endowment fund.
   • But…
   • It slows down the endowment fund to an unrealistic pace, depending on the reduction, and questions the purpose of this fund.
Things to think about

- The AFC will be asking council to reduce the annual contribution to the endowment fund (ie. 10% of the fee).
- This money will move into disbursement for the following year.
- The endowment will continue to generate interest, which will feed into the fee, and will not mature for 50-60 years.
Things to think about

- If council approves, then all is good.
- If council refuses, then there is the option for AFC to come back for a fee increase, or to remain with the status quo.
- In the end, it’s a philosophical decision that councillors need to make.