The Myer Horowitz Theatre Renovation

An overview to help Council’s analysis
Timelines & Intentions

November 17th (today):

• Primer for a common understanding of:
  • The Theatre in the context of SCF
  • The roles of SCF Committee vs. Council re: SCF-funded capital projects

• Outline of the purpose/goals of capital projects

• Intention:
  • To give enough context and direction for Council to be ready to meaningfully engage and ask questions on the 24th
Timelines & Intentions (cont.)

Nov 24th (special meeting):

• In-depth presentations on:
  • Design development by Stephen Boyd (Architect)
  • Past, present, and future of the theatre by Marc Dumouchel (GM)
  • Student wellness and design by Erin Van Horne (Building Planner)
  • Theatre programming by Brennan Murphy (Manager, Conferencing & Events)

• Intention:
  • To fully inform Council for best decision-making
  • To give SCFC an opportunity to comprehensively adjudicate
  • To answer any questions Council may have
Timelines & Intentions (cont.)

Dec 1st (regular meeting):
• Vote on whether to proceed with the renovation
We are asking for Council’s approval to renovate the Theatre, up to a certain dollar amount.
Why?
1. Get shovels in the ground in time to minimize disturbance and cost to students and businesses
2. Mitigate over-spending by providing a spending cap
3. Move forward in pursuit of donations and grants
The Sustainability & Capital Fund is based in the following principles:

• Students need and want to make a real contribution to sustainability.

• Current space planning and renewal processes are broken and inefficient.

• The Students’ Union Building is accumulating a large deferred maintenance bill.

• Students should control the use and evolution of the Students’ Union Building, and reap the benefits.

• Student commitment to sustainability and capital projects is necessary to leverage other funding sources.
The Process

Roles of SCF Committee vs. Council

• SCFC’s job: to recommend projects to Students’ Council which meet specific sustainability criteria that reflect student priorities and objective needs

• Council’s job: to use SCFC’s recommendation to officially decide whether or not to move forward with a project
The Process (cont.)

SCF Committee’s Process

• Establish which adjudication questions are appropriate, based on the kind of project and the issues that are therefore pertinent

• Hear a full presentation on the proposal; take notes to decide satisfaction of questions

• Ask questions to determine whether or not the project meets the expected standard in a range of important areas

• Discuss to decide which adjudication questions are passed, failed, or need minor improvements

• Provide a written recommendation to Council, explaining with some detail whether/why they do/don’t recommend a project
SCF Committee’s Questions

*Please review these questions prior to the 24th. This will help you to know what the SCF Committee is looking for. If you see any gaps, ask questions yourself!
SCF Committee’s Questions (cont.)

• What is the primary goal of this project?*
• Is there an explicit need that students face which this project addresses?
• Will the benefits of this project be felt by many students?
• Does the project fulfill / adhere to the mandate of the SCF?
• How is the negative environmental/social impact of the project being minimized during the project’s various phases (construction, use, deconstruction/disposal, etc.)
SCF Committee’s Questions (cont.)

• Does the project use materials that are ethically sourced?
• Does the project use materials that are environmentally sustainable?
• Does the project improve SUB’s energy and/or water efficiency?
• Does the project contribute to SUB’s carbon neutrality?
• Does the project contribute to waste reduction or diversion in SUB?
SCF Committee’s Questions (cont.)

• Does the project improve SUB’s accessibility to students who typically face barriers?
• Does the project make SUB more inclusive for students of racial, gender, or ethnic minority, and/or FNMI students?
• Will the project and its benefits be financially accessible to students?
• Does the project enhance student wellness? (WELL)
• Does the project contribute to decreasing students’ stress and/or to boosting their emotional/mental wellbeing?
SCF Committee’s Questions (cont.)

- Does this project address a deferred maintenance issue?
- Does this project contribute to non-fee / non-student revenue for the SU that will be used to enhance student services?
- On the whole, will this project position the SU to provide more/better services to all students?
- Has consideration been made in the project’s budget of the trade-offs between cost and sustainability/accessibility measures/impacts?
- What are the opportunity costs of pursuing this project? What are the opportunity costs of not pursuing this project?*
SCF’s Approach to Capital Renewal

Why capital renewal projects?
• Environmental sustainability enhancements
• User experience and wellness enhancements
• Deferred maintenance cost mitigation
• Ensuring that SUB remains student operated
Capital renewal provides substantial long-term benefits to students. Often, students wish they didn’t have to pay the cost of capital renewal projects, because the perceived benefits seem slow to arrive. The truth is, students will have to pay more heavily in the future for the problems that we do not fix today - this is a reality we are already seeing.
SCF makes capital renewal possible, and enables us to see SUB’s components and uses as an envelope of integrated parts. SCF empowers students to create a space that will lead the way on campus (and beyond) as a sustainable and accessible investment.
Questions!