

1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 2:20 PM

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We respectfully acknowledge that the SFSS is located on the traditional, unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples, including the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Sk̓w̓x̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Sel̓íl̓wítulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k^wík^wəłəm (Kwikwetlem) and q̓ícəy̓ (Katzie) Nations. Unceded means that these territories have never been handed over, sold, or given up by these nations, and we are currently situated on occupied territories.

3. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

3.1 Board Composition

President (<i>Chair</i>)	Giovanni HoSang
VP External Relations	Jasdeep Gill
VP Finance	Tawanda Chitapi
VP Student Services	Christina Loutsik
VP Student Life	Jessica Nguyen
VP University Relations	Shina Kaur
At-Large Representative	Maneet Aujla
At-Large Representative	Rayhaan Khan
Faculty Representative (Applied Sciences)	Nick Chubb
Faculty Representative (Arts & Social Sciences)	Jennifer Chou
Faculty Representative (Business)	Andrew Wong
Faculty Representative (Communications, Art, & Technology)	Fiona Li
Faculty Representative (Education)	Emerly Liu
Faculty Representative (Environment)	Julian Loutsik
Faculty Representative (Health Sciences)	Osob Mohamed
Faculty Representative (Science)	Simran Uppal

3.2 Society Staff

Campaign, Research, and Policy Coordinator	Sarah Edmunds
Executive Director	Sylvia Ceacero
Executive Assistant	Shaneika Blake
Administrative Assistant	Kristin Kokkov
Finance Manager	Rowena de la Torre

3.3 Guests

Peak News	
Council/Board Liaison	Ryan Vansickle
Student	Matthew Provost
Student	Jessica Stuart
Council Chair	Gabe Liosis

President at SFU SurgeHilal Asmat
SFU Surge Co-Director of Logistics Vivian Wong
Residential Development Manager at Beedie Living.....Katie Maslechko
Director of Community, Pottinger Bird Community RelationsZoe Boal

3.4 Regrets

VP University Relations Shina Kaur

4. RATIFICATION OF REGRETS

4.1 MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:01

Rayhaan/Julian

Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Shina Kaur.

CARRIED AS AMENDED unanimously

4.1.1.MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:01

Giovanni/Andrew

Be it resolved to remove regrets from Jasdeep Gills and add regrets from Shina (is attending another meeting).

CARRIED unanimously

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5.1 MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:02

Simran/Osob

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as amended.

CARRIED AS AMENDED unanimously

5.1.1.MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:02-01

Giovanni/Rayhaan

Be it resolved to add discussion item 9.2 Ongoing webcam exam issue.

Be it further resolved to add motion 8.5 Approval of the new BoD Signing Officer.

CARRIED unanimously

6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

6.1 Board Minutes – MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:03

Rayhaan/Nick

Be it resolved to receive and file the following minutes:

- BOD 2020-04-01

CARRIED unanimously

6.2 Committee Minutes – MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:04

Julian/Nick

Be it resolved to receive and file the following minutes:

- FAC 2020-02-28
- UAA 2020-02-24

CARRIED unanimously

6.3 Council Minutes – MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:05

Rayhaan/Nick

Be it resolved to receive and file the following minutes:

- COUNCIL 2020-02-12
- COUNCIL 2020-02-26

CARRIED unanimously

7. PRESENTATION

7.1 Moody Centre Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Area Plan

- (Refer to the attachment)

Jessica Nguyen joined the meeting at 2:36 PM

- A master plan for the Moody Centre TOD in Port Moody is in development.
 - In 2017 the City of Port Moody adopted an area plan for the Moody Centre Skytrain Station area.
 - The aim is to engage with a range of demographics to hear feedback on the masterplan.
- Transit-oriented development area is the immediate area focused around transit stations.
 - The goal is to create compact walkable vibrant communities that have quick access to transit.
 - The aim is to take initial vision that was put together in 2017 and bring it to life collectively.
 - Daylighting a creek and build a pedestrian crossing that allows this area to be connected to the waterfront and Rocky Point park.
 - General direction to create walkable neighbourhood.
 - City of Port Moody, its residents and the community, will be consulted.
 - Port Moody wants it to become the new source of job growth in the neighbourhood.
 - 1400 jobs together with diverse mix of housing (rental housing, affordable housing, rent-to-own, and condos).
- Questions and feedback
 - The commute time from this neighbourhood to SFU is 20 minutes by bus.
 - How are you defining affordable housing?
 - Including variety of definitions – the neighbourhood is large.
 - Subsidised housing and rental housing, a rent-to-own program.
 - What is the timeline that you are aiming for? Especially now amid the Covid-19?
 - Process in itself could take at least a year before the formal application can be put in.
 - There will be roads for bikes in this area.
 - It will be made sure that this will be pedestrians and bike-oriented priority.
 - There is a strong community feel in Port Moody – there are Facebook groups.
 - It was suggested to put the information to this group.

- There is a project website that documents the process and how the process looks so far.
 - There is a mailing list as well
 - Moodycentretod.ca

7.2 SFU Surge Presentation

- (Refer to the attachment)
 - SFU Surge is a new technology club in SFU.
 - Started in summer 2019
 - The aim is to bring industry opportunity and enablement to students.
 - SFU Surge has 400+ registered members.
 - Hackathon is a 24-hour coding competition
 - Hackers and geeks come together and try to create applications and solve problems.
 - Diverse teams – many faculties (business, science, environment, education etc.)
 - With the StormHacks SFU Surge wants to invite hundreds of students and enable them to connect to industry sponsors and possible recruitment for their future employments.
 - SFU has been talked to about the spaces
 - Branding has been solidified.
 - The expenses:
 - The largest expense is the venue and food
 - Security, marketing, and merchandise
 - They are reaching out to sponsors:
 - Faculty of Applied Sciences
 - SFSS is asked for \$ 20,000 as sponsorship.
 - Budget has to be mended due to the current circumstances
 - 400 students are expected to participate
 - Venue is \$10000
 - The food budget is \$15000 with SFU catering.
 - We are asking SFSS for \$20000
 - SFSS would pay \$50 per student
 - The event was meant to take place in September, but due to Covid-19 it has been moved to the end of November.
 - February is the alternative time – the decision will be made in the next two months.
- Question and feedback
 - A Board member asked, how much the System hacks cost in Surrey.
 - This was 12-hour hackathon and therefore the costs were lower.
 - The size was also smaller.
 - A Board member asked when the Board can see the more detailed budget. The Board would feel more comfortable to see the budget before voting.
 - The budget will be finished within the next 4 days.
 - 400 people are expected to attend, and they will be hosted in the Central Gym.
 - The venue was decided because this is the one open space that can be found.
 - It was asked if the plan is to charge for this hackathon or is it going to be free.
 - Under MLH (Major League Hacking) guidelines we are not allowed to charge for the event.

- Hackathons are known to be accessible spaces
- It was asked if the sponsors are going to be monetary sponsors.
 - SFU Surge is expecting both – this is our first hackathon, we don't want to charge a lot of money from the sponsors, because we are not established yet.

8. NEW BUSINESS (1)

8.1 Accessibility Standard Policy – MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:06

Jennifer/Rayhaan

Whereas this policy has been drafted,

Whereas students with disabilities on the Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee have recommended the policy,

Be it resolved to approve the Accessibility Standard Policy.

Be it further resolved to approve amendments to this policy as outlined.

Be it further resolved to publish this policy on the SFSS Website under the policies page.

CARRIED unanimously

- A document was sent out
 - The changes that were made, are highlighted.
 - This policy will come into effect in one year.
 - Not all the appendixes are finalised, but this is why we need the designated assistant who can help with them.

8.2 FIC COVID Emergency bursary using FIC revenue – MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:07

Julian/Jennifer

Whereas FIC students pay SFSS fees, resulting in revenue of \$355,911 as per the financial report as at March 31, 2020,

Be it resolved to contribute \$60,000 to the SFSS COVID-19 Emergency Bursary specifically for FIC students.

Be it further resolved that the SFSS Board of Directors, through the Executive Director, work with FIC to establish and contribute to a FIC/SFSS COVID-19 Emergency Fund.

CARRIED AS AMENDED unanimously

- FIC students pay SFSS fees, therefore it is fair to support them.
- A lot of aid is not available to FIC students.

8.2.1. FIC COVID Emergency bursary using FIC revenue – MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:07-01

Gio/Jennifer

Be it resolved to change the motion as follows: Be it further resolved that the SFSS Board of Directors, through the Executive Director, work with FIC to establish and contribute to a FIC/SFSS COVID-19 Emergency Fund.

CARRIED unanimously

8.3 SFU Surge Hackathon – MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:08

Nick/Jennifer

Be it resolved to grant up to \$15,000 to SFU Surge for StormHacks 2020.

POSTPONED

- It was proposed to postpone this motion to the next meeting so that the Board could have a revised budget.

8.3.1. SFU Surge Hackathon – MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:08-01

Nick/Rayhaan

Be it resolved to postpone the motion.

CARRIED unanimously

- The event itself is supported, but the Board members would like to see some more information about the sponsorship and budget.

8.4 Accessibility Assistant – MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:09

Emerly/Julian

Whereas the Board approved the Accessibility Standard Policy,

Whereas an accessibility assistant can help develop resources outlined in the policy and its appendices,

Be it resolved that the SFSS Board of Directors endorse and budget through the Accessibility Fund for the hiring of Accessibility Designated Assistant under the Campaigns, Research and Policy Department.

Be it further resolved that the Executive Director work with disabled students on campus, as well as organizations representing disabled students such as the Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance, to establish a job description and work to create a hiring committee.

CARRIED AS AMENDED unanimously

8.4.1. Accessibility Assistant – MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:09-01

Jennifer/Julian

Be it resolved to change the working of the motion to read as follows: Whereas the Board approved the Accessibility Standard Policy,

Whereas an accessibility assistant can help develop resources outlined in the policy and its appendices,

Be it resolved that the SFSS Board of Directors endorse and budget through the Accessibility Fund for the hiring of designated Accessibility Designated Assistant under the Campaigns, Research and Policy Department.

Be it further resolved that the Executive Director work with disabled students on campus, as well as organizations representing disabled students such as the Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance, to establish a job description and work to create a hiring committee.

CARRIED unanimously

8.5 Approval of the new BoD Signing Officer– MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:10

Rayhaan/Julian

Be it resolved that as per By-Law 4: Powers, Duties and Obligations of Executive Officers, Osob Mohamed, President; Matthew Provost, VP Student Services; Corbett Gildersleve, VP Finance; and Gabe Liosis, VP University Relations be appointed as Signing Officers for the period May 1st, 2020 until April 30th, 2021.

Be it further resolved that as per By Law 6.11: Powers, Duties and Obligations of the Board of Directors, Sylvia Ceacero, Executive Director; and Alejandro Reyes, General Manager, be re-appointed as Signing Officers effective May 1, 2020.

CARRIED unanimously

- The signing is moved online due to the current circumstances.
- It was explained that the managers are approved without the end date, because then they would not have to be approved every year.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

9.1 2020/21 Fiscal Year budget draft

- A meeting will be called on April 22nd, and then the budget will be presented.
- On April 29th it will be voted on.
- The finance committee meeting is on Friday, April 17th.
 - The Board can have the draft budget on Monday.

9.2 Ongoing webcam exam issue

- (Refer to the attachment)
- A lot of students are concerned because the professors are making students to use webcams which is invasive and not all the students have webcams.
 - Some students have been asked to scan the rooms.
- As a result of advocacy, some professors have been reversing their requirements about the webcam.
- Some students are threatened with academic dishonesty.
- There was a call with the Ombudsperson to get directions about the students' right.

10. NEW BUSINESS (2)

10.1 Council Report – MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:06

Giovanni/Julian

Be it resolved to amend the agenda by adding the Council report.

CARRIED unanimously

11. COUNCIL REPORT

- Council meet last Wednesday, April 8th
 - The Council decided not to recommend to the Board to conduct the audit.
 - The Council sent the letter to the Board about their recommendation (attached).
 - It was decided that this money can have better use.
 - It was recommended the Board not to organize such events anymore.
 - The President made a report to the Council about what the Society has been doing under current situation.

12. GUEST 30 MIN Q&A

- A guest pointed out that the biweekly work reports have not gone up since the end of February – when are those going up?
 - They are sent to the communications office and should be uploaded soon.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Calling a Budget Draft Discussion Meeting April 22 Time TBA**
 - The call for agenda items will be sent out today.
 - The purpose of this meeting is solely budget discussions.
- **Next Board Meeting April 29 at 2pm Hangouts Meet**
 - This will be the final Board meeting.

- **Waiting on remaining conference reports**
- **A letter has been signed and posted to the website to make sure that the students are not left out of the Federal Government's COVID-19 Emergency Response Benefit (CERB).**
#DontForgetStudents

14. ATTACHMENTS

- Accessibility standard policy.pdf
- Moody Centre Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Area Plan.pdf
- SFU Surge Presentation 2020-04-15.pdf
- Ongoing Webcam Exam Issue.pdf
- Letter Re_ Fall Kickoff 2019 Audit.pdf

15. ADJOURNMENT

15.1 MOTION BOD 2020-04-15:11

Nick/Julian

Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 04:09 PM.

CARRIED unanimously

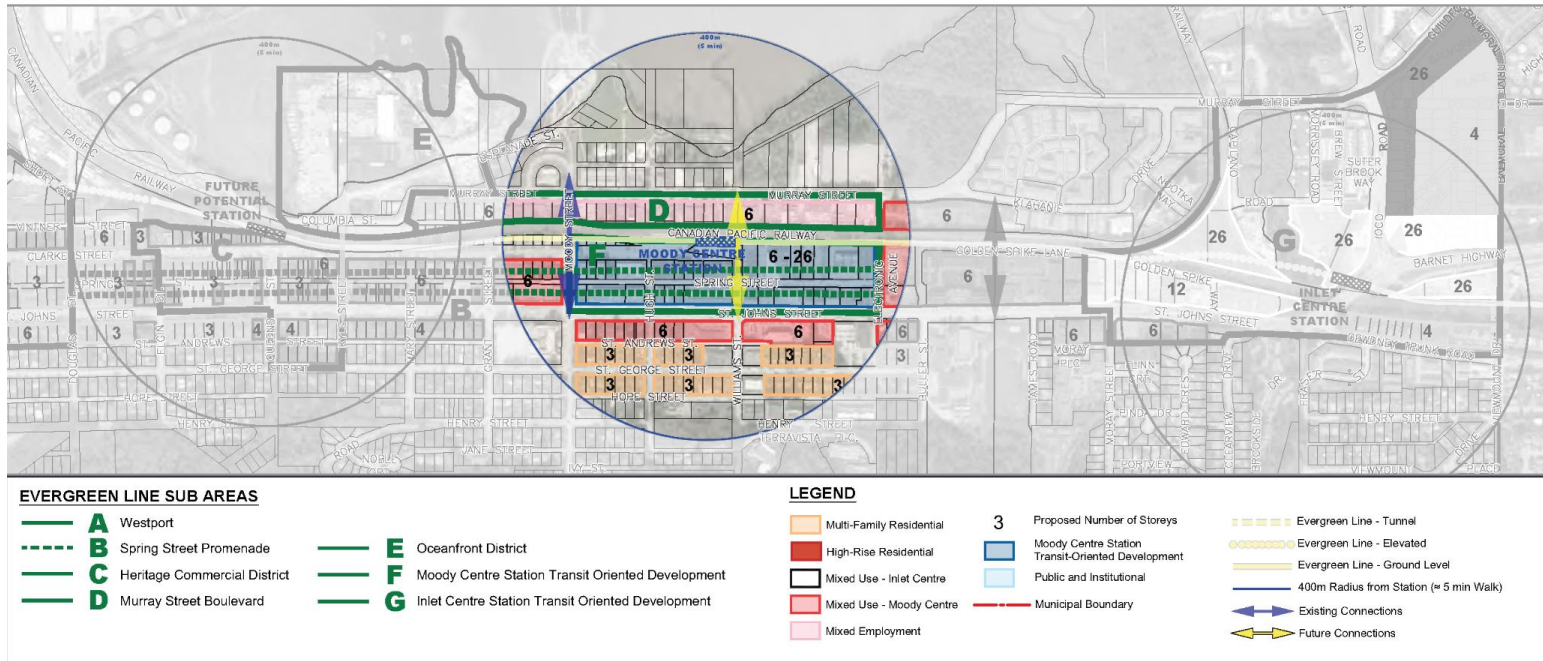
Moody Centre TOD Master Plan



SFU Student Society - April 15, 2020

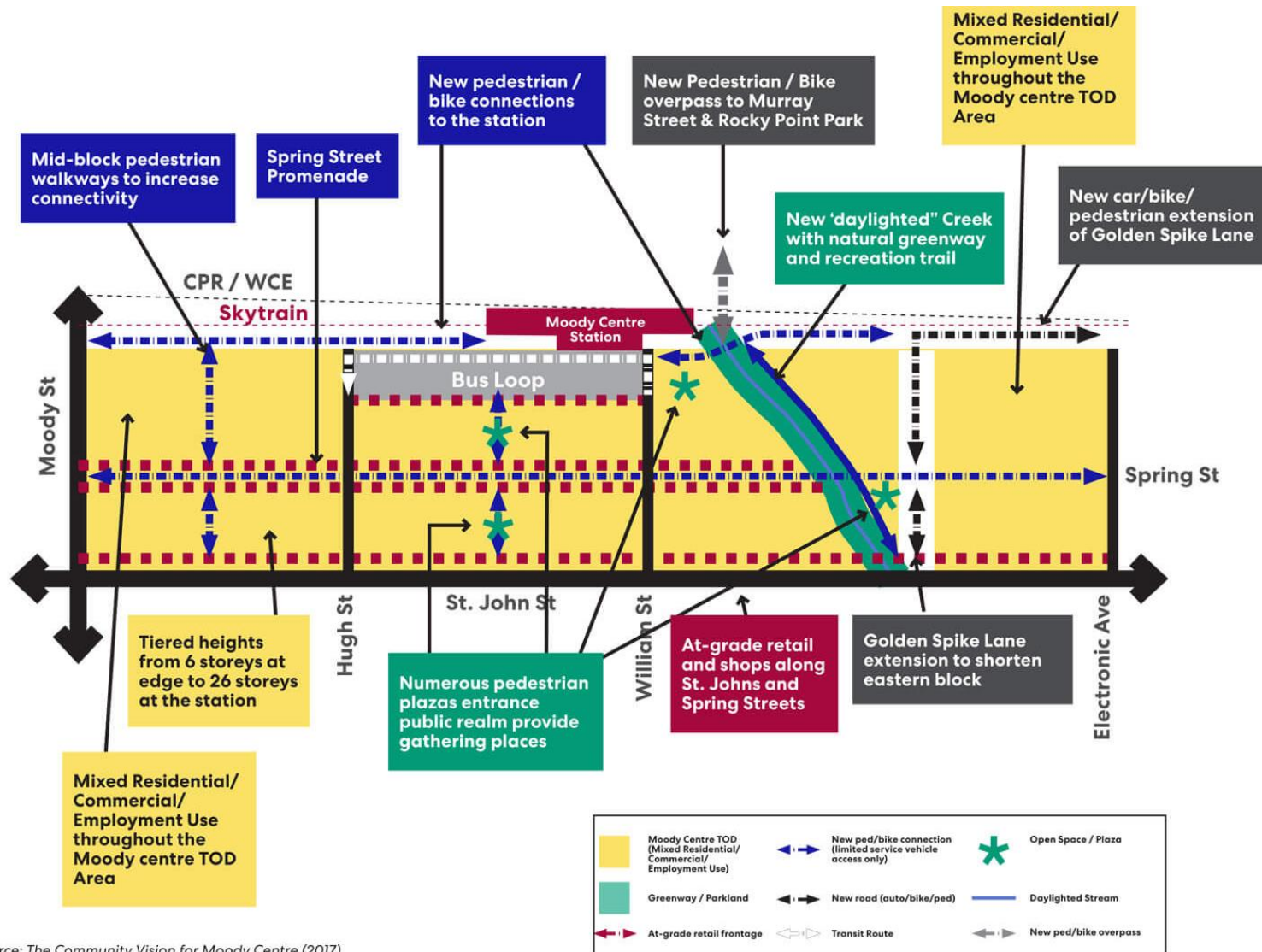
What is the Moody Centre TOD Area?

The goal of Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Area is to focus development in areas of a city supported by transit, in order to create compact, walkable, and healthier communities that offer value and a greater quality of life for residents. In Port Moody, the City has identified the area surrounding the Moody Centre SkyTrain Station as the “Moody Centre Station TOD”.



Source: Port Moody OCP amendment pg 29, Schedule E to Bylaw No. 3112, 2017

Moody Center TOD Policy Directions



Quality Urban Design

- Maximise sunlight/views
- Setbacks
- Transition to neighbourhood
- Tower separations
- Podium heights
- Required Lot Consolidation

Child-Family-Senior Friendly Amenities

- Childcare
- Community Centre
- Seniors care
- Outdoor Amenity
- Playspace

P₁

TOD Parking Standards

- Underground
- Loading in front of multi-family
- Park 'n Ride

Housing

- A Range of Forms
- A Range of Tenures
- A Range of Unit Sizes

Sustainable Practices

- Rooftop Gardens
- Green Roofs

Public Realm

- Internal Plazas (Pocket Parks)
- Urban Plaza Near Station
- Connection to Greenway (Rocky Point Park)

Our Evolving Concept

NEW!



Market Condo
2,500-3,300
Homes



Market Rental
300-385
Homes



Affordable Housing
400-450
Homes
+ 400% ↑



**Office, Tech & Light
Industrial**
1,400 Jobs
+65% ↑



Retail
600
Jobs
+20% ↑

Total
3,200-4,135 Homes
2,000 Jobs
+10% ↑ +43% ↑

*Please note, we are still in the master planning process and are still exploring options.
All renderings are subject to change based on feedback from the community and the City's Planning Department.

↑ Increased percentages after community engagement and feedback (From Oct-Dec 2019)

Community Benefits and Public Realm

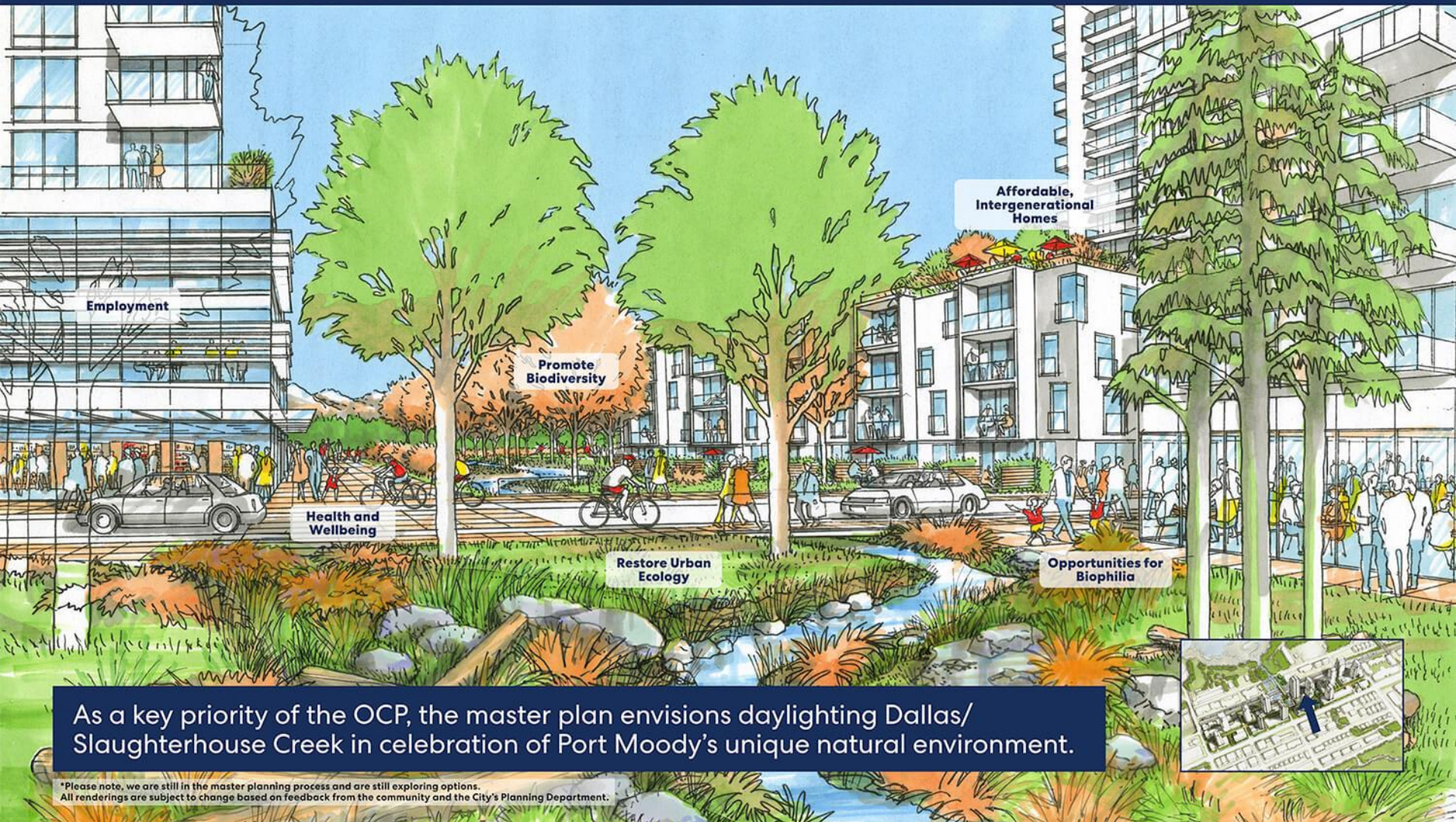
What's Being Delivered?

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
|  Daylit Creek (1.08 Acre) |  Rental Housing |  Park'n Ride (393 Stalls) |
|  Transit Plaza |  Affordable Housing |  Pocket Parks (0.34 Acre) |
|  Pedestrian Overpass |  Infrastructure Upgrades |  Mews |
|  Employment (1,400 Jobs) |  Public Art | |

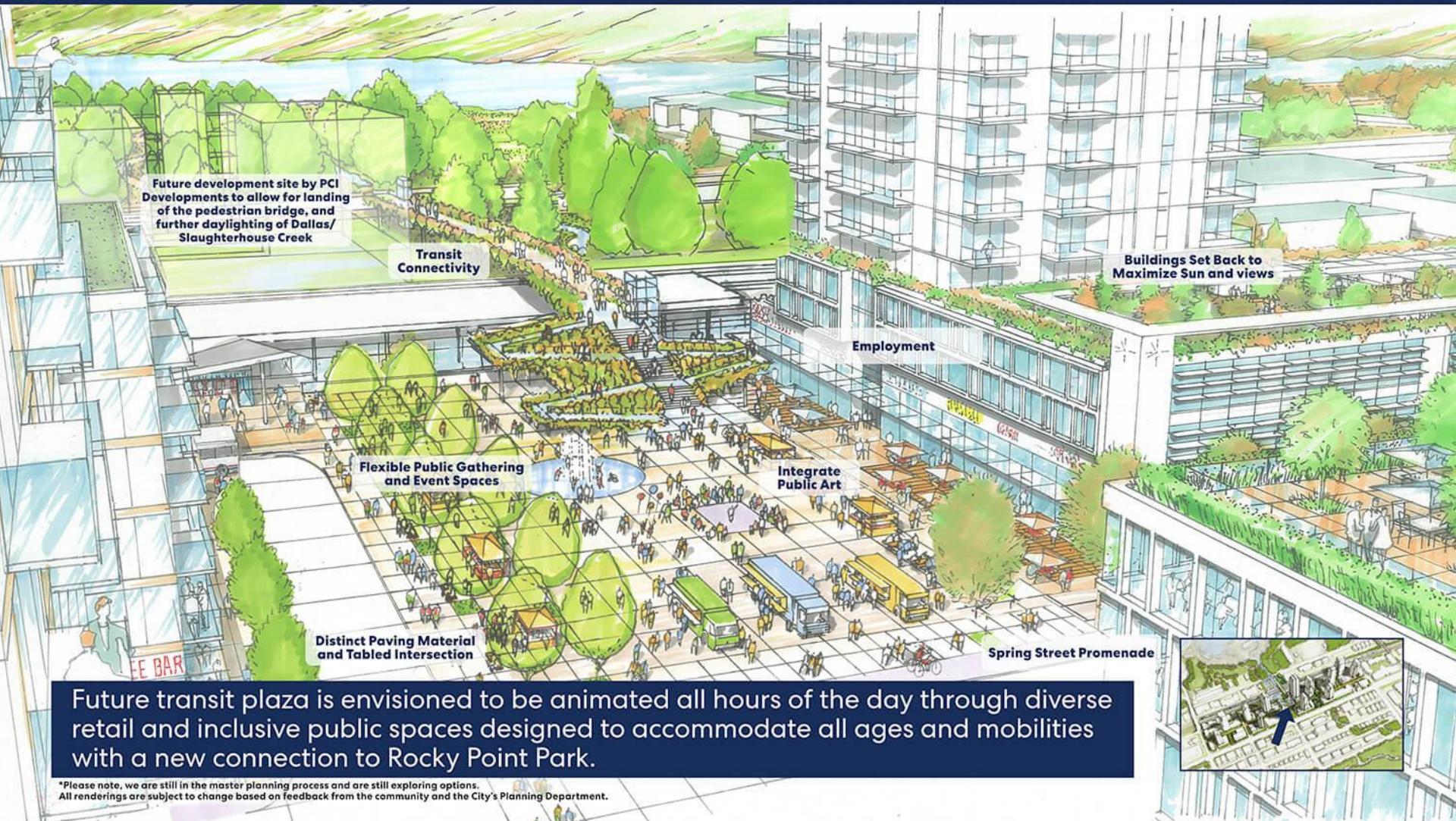


This preliminary master plan has been strategically designed to deliver on the community priorities and public amenities identified in the City's OCP 2017 and subsequent stakeholder consultation.

Daylighting Moody Centre's Lost Waterways



A Neighbourhood-Scale Transit Plaza



Questions and Feedback

- How can our master plan be improved to encourage more young people to live and work here?
- What does a successful, inclusive community mean to you?
- How do you think young people want to be engaged on projects like this?

www.moodycentertod.ca

An aerial photograph of a coastal town and surrounding landscape. In the foreground, there is a dense forest of green trees. To the left, a residential area with houses and streets is visible. Further back, a large body of water, likely a bay or harbor, stretches across the middle ground. On the left side of the water, there is an industrial area with several large white storage tanks and some buildings. In the background, a range of mountains with patches of forest and some buildings on the slopes rises under a clear sky. A black rectangular box with white text is overlaid in the center of the image.

Thank You!



SFU SURGE

TODAY'S PITCH



The purpose of Surge



StormHacks



Why we can do this



Our Ask



SURGE

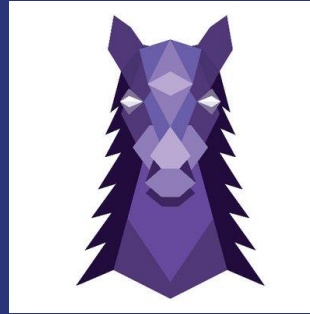
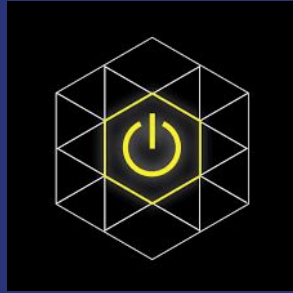
- We bring tech industry opportunity to students
- Workshops, talks, projects, etc.
- Started Summer 2019
- Now at 400+ registered members
- Huge attendance from different groups at our events

WHAT IS A HACKATHON

- 24-hour coding competition
- Diverse teams
- Industry sponsors
- Recruitment opportunity



HACKATHONS AROUND CANADA



HACK THE NORTH



STORMHACKS

- SFU's large-scale hackathon
- **November 2020**
- Focus on student experience
- Supporting and empowering students interested in tech
- Bring industry recruiters
- Partnership with MLH
- Put SFU on the map

COMPARED TO EXISTING SFU HACKATHONS

- Experience planning StormHacks
- Learnt from LumoHacks
- Immersive, empowering and enabling



THE TEAM'S PROGRESS SO FAR

- A lot of time and effort invested into research, external relations and venues already
- Have already spoken to SFU Rec about spaces
- Have most of our branding solidified
- Have had conversations with MLH

WHY IS SURGE THE RIGHT TEAM?

- Experience with planning Systems Hacks for 2 years
- Avid hackathon-goers and winners
- 20-person diverse executive team
- Proper organizational structure to run events
- Dozens of years of combined event-organization experience
- Already have a following

EXPENSES

- Space/Venue/Facilities
- Food
- Security
- Marketing
- Merchandise

SOURCES OF REVENUE

- Sponsors
- FAS
- SFSS

OUR BUDGET

Venue	10,000
Food	15,000
Merchandise	2000

OUR ASK

20,000

COVID-19

- Date change
- Hard to find more sponsors



SFU SURGE

Motion & Amendments - April 1

Most updated version of the policy:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Sb1AXjAih-MxcZJIDNrWZhtJ70wC0JA4/view?usp=sharing>

I have made amendments/comments directly on the document to be passed by Board.

Motion

Whereas this policy has been drafted,

Whereas students with disabilities on the Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee have recommended the policy,

Be it resolved to approve the Accessibility Standard Policy.

Be it further resolved to approve amendments to this policy as outlined.

Be it further resolved to publish this policy on the SFSS Website under the policies page.

Amendments

Under Policy Review and Approval Process

Where no change is required, the Board President and Executive Director (ED) shall sign the policy indicating it has been reviewed. No changes shall be made to this policy without considering the impacts of those changes on people with disabilities. **Any changes made should be consulted with students with disabilities.**

Add "Any changes made should be consulted with students with disabilities."

3. The proposal shall be submitted to the Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee (AFAC) for comment, review, and approval. **The Committee shall consult with students with disabilities, including clubs, constituency**

groups, and other student groups with a mandate to improve and/or advocate for improvements to accessibility for students with disabilities.

Removing "where deemed acceptable" and making it firmer that students with disabilities must be consulted.

Adding "The Committee shall consult with students with disabilities, including clubs, constituency groups, and other student groups with a mandate to improve and/or advocate for improvements to accessibility for students with disabilities."

Under Application & Scope

The Policy applies to SFSS staff, Board of Directors, Board Committees, and Student Council, in the areas of SFSS spaces, communications, services and events and meetings. SFSS Student Unions, constituency groups, and clubs are not subject to these policies, but are encouraged to follow them in the interest of inclusivity. Employment and training policies only apply to **SFSS staff**. This policy is intended to reduce barriers to people with any disability or disabilities, and uphold the BC Human Rights Code as it pertains to people with disabilities.

Change "Employment and training policies only apply to SFSS staff." to "Employment and training policies apply to SFSS staff and Board members."

Under Scope

This standard applies to the following meetings and events:

- Board of Directors meetings and events,
- **Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee meeting and events,**
- Annual General Meeting,
- SFSS general election debates, and
- Other SFSS-hosted events.

Include other SFSS committee meetings, not just Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee. So change it to "All SFSS committee meetings and events."

Under Employment and Training Standards

The SFSS has procedures for employment and training standards, including customer service training, for SFSS staff.

SFSS staff training shall include training on understanding people with disabilities, universal design, accommodations, how to communicate with people with disabilities, inclusive language, this Policy, and the Accessibility Fund. Incoming staff members shall be informed of the SFSS commitment to recruiting and welcoming people with disabilities to the staff team, and the SFSS commitment to serving people with disabilities.

The SFSS Board of Directors orientation shall include training on understanding people with disabilities, universal design, accommodations, how to communicate with people with disabilities, inclusive language, this Policy, and the Accessibility Fund. Incoming Board members shall be informed of the SFSS commitment to recruiting and welcoming people with disabilities to the Board, and the SFSS commitment to serving people with disabilities.

Club or student union executive training shall include training on understanding people with disabilities, universal design, accommodations, how to communicate with people with disabilities, inclusive language, this Policy, and the Accessibility Fund.

Making the same training requirements to BoD apply to staff

Adding training for club execs / student unions (as was previously discussed at Committee)

Adding Accessibility Fund as a thing people should be made aware of during training

For Appendices

Appendix C: Accommodation Request Form

This form will be used to request accessibility accommodations, which will be arranged or provided by the SFSS. This form will be available as a fillable PDF **and Microsoft Word document** on the Accessibility tab of the website. The form will also be available in HTML format on the SFSS website, so that members requesting accommodation can

also follow the feedback process to submit a request with sufficient detail in a way that is accessible to them.

Appendix D: Accessibility Fund Grant Request Form

SFSS members with disabilities and any SFSS member event organizer can use the Accessibility Fund, available by applying for a grant using the Accessibility Fund Grant Request Form To increase accessibility and remove barriers to participation in Society Activities for students with disabilities. Funds can be used to pay for communication supports, accessible formats, or other assistive devices, among other things. **This form will be made available in fillable PDF, Microsoft Word document, and HTML formats on the SFSS website.**

Changes bolded to include 3 formats for forms

Amendments for the future (to be workshopped at AFAC level before the coming-into-force date one year from Board approval)

Review and approval process

- Does not say who exactly does the yearly review - probably the designated [accessibility staff person](#)?
 - Board has to approve this new role - it has been suggested to management and the 2020/21 budget process is ongoing currently
- Puts the power mainly on ED to review proposals for change. Changes reviewed by AFAC only 'when deemed acceptable', but that is the main committee where students with disabilities are represented

Training

- Details for training for club, student unions, and constituency groups - AFAC can workshop with a [possible staff worker](#)
 - Canvas course or in-person training at the SFSS Student Centre

Enforcement

- What is the enforcement procedure of this policy if staff doesn't fulfill duty to accommodate
 - All staff report to Sylvia; the Board can't hold individual staff accountable
- Hold people accountable for not abiding by policy rules

Physical Access Guide

- Needs to be expanded to include exactly what kinds of info
 - Example: what kind of lights? Is it dimmable/adjustable? Is there natural lighting? Are there blinds? (important for people with sun allergies)
 - Example: washrooms and entrances--how wide and tall are the entrances and the washroom doors? Are the doors automatic? Is hypoallergenic soap provided? Gender neutral and wheelchair accessible stalls? What is the height of the sink and coat hook? Is there a baby changing table?
- Provide a list of questions under each subheading so that this standard would be easier to comply with--staff just have to answer the questions for the meeting space in question
- Create a proposal to share with CAL and Facilities to support this work, providing the most updated information possible

Other Guides

- Cross reference between the SFU checklist and guides made by actual disabled organizations like Radical Access Mapping Project's audit guide
 - <https://radicalaccessiblecommunities.wordpress.com/the-radical-access-mapping-project/radical-access-mapping-project-vancouver/>
 - <https://autisticadvocacy.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Accessible-Event-Planning.pdf>

Hiring a Project Worker

- Full-time position
- Disabled person with expertise to develop these resources
- Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee is a governance body, can/should only do so much of the hands on work

Miscellaneous Comments

There is a better way to make a comprehensive definition of disability without entirely relying on pathologizing and stigmatizing language. A member of the Accessibility Fund Advisory Committee helped make a definition for the committee Terms of Reference based on the UN definition--perhaps that can be used as a starting point? We should be using the language minorities use to describe themselves--Deaf and Hard of Hearing over 'hearing impediment' for example. The definition should be workshopped.

The rule that people with disabilities should apply for accessible formats through the grant form is simply ableist. SFSS should provide accommodations upon request, drawing from the fund themselves instead of demanding an application.

This falls much more in the side of universal design and duty to accommodate. Especially since accessible formats are the request, an Accessible Fund Grant application (which as we all know has huge barriers for communication access in its current state) would be an unreasonable thing to ask. What would happen if someone needs an accessible format of the grant application form? It will create huge gaps and barriers.

SFSS staff should have a duty to investigate all possible avenues for converting information in order to determine if it is unconvertible. More precise language is needed for this section.

Keep in mind

Not all of the proposed forms discussed in the policy have been created (mainly due to the delayed SUB move and waiting on CAL), but with a coming-into-force date of one year from approval, it gives staff the time to develop these resources.

The policy is meant to be high-level, so specifics such as lighting in detailed physical access guide and who should provide training would be in the guide, not the policy, so they can be updated easily. While the committee could develop these resources, the committee is more of a governance body and has not been meeting much due to COVID-19. Passing this policy would galvanize staff and committee members to work out the details.

April 9, 2020

Letter to the SFSS Board of Directors Re: Council's Recommendation for an Audit of the Fall Kickoff 2019

Dear All,

In January 2020, a variety of students began publicly calling for the Board of Directors to conduct a forensic audit on the Fall Kickoff 2019 event after learning that the event had higher losses/expenditures than any previous SFSS Kickoff event, totalling over \$106,000.

Following these student concerns, a motion was brought to the Board on February 5th, 2020 to authorize the Executive Director to explore options for an audit on the event, and present those options to the Board. This motion did not pass at the Board table, as many Board members, along with the Executive Director, stated that they believed that no wrongdoing occurred during the duration of the event planning.

Nonetheless, on February 12th, 2020, the Executive Committee convened and was presented with possible courses of action by a consultant from MNP (<https://www.mnp.ca/en/personnel/peter-guo>) on what an audit of the Fall Kickoff 2019 could look like, and what options were available to the Society.

Also on February 12th, 2020, the Council convened and had a motion on its agenda to recommend to the Board to conduct a forensic audit. Therefore, members of the Executive Committee suggested to the Council that the information the consultant provided the Committee also be shared with Council members, in the form of a joint presentation, in order to vote on the motion knowing all the correct information. As a result, the Council's motion was postponed.

On March 4th, 2020, a Joint Session of the Board and Council was held where the consultant, Peter Guo, presented information to both bodies of the Society about different options for an audit. Notably, the majority of Board members were not in present at this presentation, and it was prevalently Councillors in attendance. Three options were presented for the Society's consideration: 1) a financial statement audit, 2) an internal audit, and 3) a forensic audit.

Following this Joint Session, the Board and Executive had a discussion on how to proceed knowing these three options. These conversations included 1) not doing anything at all, or 2) waiting for Council to make a recommendation on which option it thought was most viable. The Board nor the Executive Committee came to a recommendation on a pursuable option, and these conversations only occurred in the form of discussion item — no motions or action items were brought to the Board on the matter. Consequently, it was now in the hands of Council to make a recommendation.

On April 1, 2020, the Council Governance Committee convened to review the three options presented by the consultant. This Committee is mandated with making recommendations on motions to be brought to the Council as a whole. The Committee concluded that a motion would be placed on the next Council agenda *to recommend to the Board to conduct an internal audit of the Fall Kickoff 2019*.

Therefore, on April 8th, 2020, Council convened to vote on the recommendation from the Council Governance Committee. Initially, Councillors appeared supportive of an internal audit. However, once further discussion occurred on the cost of an audit (between \$35,000 - \$50,000), Councillors were less supportive of an audit that would be costly, with consideration to the current circumstances the Society is facing regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead, the focus was shifted to ensuring that future large-scale events that were planned by the Board have improved planning, budgeting, and oversight processes.

The motion that was inevitably carried at the Council table recommends to the Board that an audit NOT be conducted on the Fall Kickoff 2019, and that the Board not plan any large-scale events without better planning, budgeting and consultation.

Based on the discussion that occurred on this motion, many Councillors expressed a desire to work with the Board going forward to ensure we can improve the processes for planning large-scale events such as the Fall Kickoff. Therefore, this topic may arise at a future Council meeting.

Please contact me at council.chair@sfss.ca if you have any further inquiries regarding Council's decision.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gabe Liosis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gabe" and last name "Liosis" clearly distinguishable.

Gabe Liosis
Chair of the SFSS Student Council

cc: Council
The Peak

Ongoing Webcam Exam Issue

Students have been concerned with the use of webcams and other invasive methods being mandatory for exams.

So far, students from the following classes have reached out (* are profs who have retracted mandatory webcam usage):

FASS

- POL 151*

FAS

- CMPT 310*
- MSE 280
- MSE 421
- MSE 422

FENV

- REM 100 (mic usage)

Science

- STAT 270
- BPK 325
- BPK 304W
- BPK 312
- BPK 110 (online and in-person)
- BPK 448
- PHYS 285*
- MATH 240*

Beedie

- BUS 362
- BUS 237
- BUS 237
- BUS 464
- BUS 327

FCAT

- IAT 106

An emerging issue was that students were being threatened by professors for asserting their rights. This same professor also sent me a Facebook friend request, and after I messaged her, promptly unfriended/blocked me.

Under normal circumstances this breaks policy outright, the change in policy that allowed for flexibility to change syllabus was supposed to create additional options on the side of compassion and flexibility for students not to add additional stressors as the email sent by the VPA.

I will keep you updated as soon as I receive more info from the department chairs or from the VPA.

Thank you

It's an unusual circumstance, but I find myself in the unique position of having to consider a report for failing to uphold academic integrity in the email setting.

You failed to cite your source for the text you sent me (screenshot attached). These were not your words.

I will wait 24 hours prior to filing a formal report on the SFU system for academic dishonesty.

I would encourage you to obtain formal permission from your source for stealing their ideas.

SUN 10:34 AM

Hey! I'm wondering why you added me?

Inadvertently I think! 😂 Happy Easter!

Inadvertently I think! 😂 Happy Easter!

I'm not sure what that means haha

Below we see another example of the lack of professors' understanding and compassion for students' concerns:

Psyc 201W -- final exam

Dear Psyc 201W:

As a result of extensive behind-my-back lobbying, I plan to keep the original value of the exam at 20%, and instead weight the term Project at 46%.

Here is the email I sent to SFU Admin regarding this issue (in addition to emails sent to department chairs):

Good evening Dr. Driver and Dr. Elle,

I want to preface my email by saying thank you for the work you have done so far. I realize that these are difficult, unprecedented times and I appreciate that everyone at SFU admin is trying their best to ensure best outcomes for students and faculty alike.

That being said, while I appreciate that students' concerns were being heard at SFU Senate and SCUS, I don't think we have truly been listened to.

In this email, I will be outlining some students' concerns:

- Invasion of privacy and accessibility concerns
- Lack of communication from professors and faculty
- Lack of clarity on rules and policies
- Lack of support/accommodation/compassion from professors

I will also be stating some possible solutions:

- Making webcam usage optional
- Encouraging departments to implement blanket rules or specific recommendations (in the department only, as they see fit)
- Better communication for students and faculty

Students' Concerns

Invasion of privacy and accessibility concerns

I will start by re-linking some documents of students' feedback I have prepared, one for the [March 30th Senate meeting](#) and one for the [April 2nd SCUS meeting](#).

While Dr. Driver did answer some questions on March 30th, my questions about open-book exams (to combat academic dishonesty) went unaddressed. Now, professors are making webcam usage mandatory for exams in an attempt to prevent cheating. I have already sent many emails to department chairs about this issue, emphasizing how this is a **violation of students' privacy** as well as an **accessibility issue**. One student has said mandatory webcams made them feel "monitored like a prisoner" which adds additional stress and anxiety.

Lack of communication, clarity, and compassion from professors

The [document sent out to SCUS for the April 2nd meeting](#) shows that I have stressed the need for change to happen from the top down, and for this change to be communicated effectively.

Right now, we are seeing confused students and professors. Professors are telling students they cannot make changes, while students are having panic and anxiety attacks over unclear and unfair exam instructions. In fact, due to the **power imbalance**, many students are scared to email professors to stand up for their rights (see screenshots attached), which is why myself and other student representatives have been contacting department chairs. Students are afraid their grades would be at risk if they stood up for themselves, and professors are confused over this "behind-the-back lobbying." Students are right to be concerned, seeing as one professor has actually **threatened a student with a formal academic dishonesty report** (screenshots attached).

This could have been prevented if there was a clear guideline for professors instead of trusting them to do what is best for their class. In fact, the [April 2nd SCUS document](#) includes feedback from various students saying "I don't feel comfortable asking professors for concessions" and "I feel like it's pretty presumptuous to assume that profs will be willing/able to take students' different mental health challenges into account properly without at least **an overarching recommendation from the school.**"

In the document, I had also mentioned this:

It seems like professors aren't going to approve grade freezes or other grade-related accommodations for students (even if on an individual basis) due to lack of clarity on rules and policies.

Although there are some amazing professors out there, not all of them will be as accommodating. Some professors have other worries to attend to, and may not be able to consistently answer many students' emails about grade freezes. Many students I talked to expressed concerns about how **SFU should not blindly trust all professors to be fair**, when professors themselves may be preoccupied with their own emergencies and not have time to deal with students' emails.

This is why SFU needs to step up, and why I say that change has to happen from the top down.

Possible Solutions

Making webcam usage optional

These past few days, I have been emailing various department chairs. Some have responded agreeing with me and communicating with specific professors, which prompted specific classes to drop the webcam requirement.

Unfortunately, I cannot collect feedback from every student in every class at SFU. This means that SFU should step up and outright **ban mandatory webcam usage at a school-wide level** because mandatory webcam usage is unconstitutional and inaccessible. Due to being in high demand, webcams are now either expensive or difficult to obtain. We should not be punishing honest students (who may not have access to webcams) with the excuse that there is a possibility that some other students will cheat.

Departmental Blanket Rules

Sending an email to faculty urging them to be compassionate is a step in the right direction (and something I know many students appreciated), but it is not enough. Encouragement is not the same as policies and guidelines.

Departments should **clearly communicate specific guidelines** for professors regarding exam procedures. For example, UBC Science has implemented a blanket rule to **maximize a student's course grade** (screenshot attached). UBC Engineering has also provided [24-hour access windows](#) for all students, intended to support students who are overseas (so they do not have to wake up at 3 am for an exam).

Better communication for students and faculty

Lastly, we should do our best to ease students' concerns so they can focus on studying for exams. This can be done by sending out communication regarding specific school-wide guidelines, such as a no-webcam policy. We also need to ensure students know **who to contact** with their concerns (Ombudsperson, their professor, the department chair, etc.).

Closing Remarks

As I've said before, this is the chance for SFU to be a world leader and prioritize student well-being and accommodations. We need to take more effective action to show students that their concerns *are* being taken seriously.

I hope this email urges SFU to take action to prioritize student well-being. Thank you for taking the time to read through what I had to say.

Following this, a message from Dr. Driver was sent out to some faculty as well as students. The email emphasized that professors should exercise compassion and understanding for students (and NOT bully them). It also provided some clear contact people and next steps for students with concerns or complaints.

The Ombudsperson followed up with me about this and I expressed my concerns below:

To be honest, the email wasn't what I was hoping for. I know a message went out to faculty following [my recommendations from the April 2nd SCUS meeting](#) (it was a compromise for not implementing the grade freeze option). This message from Dr. Driver about exercising compassion and understanding towards students was well-worded, but it's clear that some professors have not acted based on these recommendations. I've had a few department chairs tell me they would comply if there was a university-wide policy, but that they would not tell their instructors to make webcam usage optional (i.e. they said students should reach out to instructors if they do not want to use a webcam/microphone, but there are many barriers to students reaching out). To be blunt, I don't believe a few strongly worded emails from Dr. Driver is going to drastically change anything.

However, it's good to see that students are now being made aware of their options should they have any issues in their classes...but as I've said, there are many barriers to reaching out for students (especially during these hard times). To me, it's like saying a suicidal person should reach out and ask for help instead of having friends check in on that person to provide support (since they may not have the energy to reach out or they've had bad experiences reaching out previously). I know it is an extreme example, but to me, it's worth the effort to make some sort of policy if it'll make some students' lives easier, or if it'll save one student's life by decreasing a significant stressor.

In my email to Dr. Driver and Dr. Elle, I had mentioned a few possible solutions. One was to make webcam usage mandatory. Another was to have departmental blanket rules. As far as I can see, only my third suggestion was implemented - better communication with faculty and students.

This is very disappointing and frustrating for me considering that I and other student Senators have been advocating for a grade freeze, optional finals, and other grading options [since March 30](#). Our suggestions would minimize cheating and ensure that honest students are not disadvantaged by cheating. Our suggestions also looked at what other universities are doing.

We had also collected feedback from many students (100+), but as I said in previous emails, it feels as though the feedback is being listened to, but not truly heard. I had expressed concerns about the [many barriers to reaching out that students have](#) (i.e. power imbalance between the student and the professor), but these were not really addressed. I know it may be too late now to make any grading changes, so currently, the incoming student Senators are hoping to advocate for a P/F option for Summer 2020 (since many students have no choice but to enroll in classes for a variety of reasons), advocate for a later withdrawal option (deadline in May rather than April 9th, since many students did not receive information about their finals until after that date), and more. I just hope that next semester, SFU admin will take students' concerns more seriously, or at least better communicate that these concerns are heard (and why they were not implemented).

Please see below a few paragraphs from the email sent out to faculty (I received this update on April 3rd):

"I know that many of you would like information about management of teaching and student assessment in this very challenging time, and this message provides a summary of issues that have been raised by both instructors and students. Your work over the next few months is very important, not just for your students, but also for the broader community. I hope that the information below will help you plan the administration of your classes.

Although students are coping with this abrupt change in their circumstances, this is a difficult time for them, especially if they have additional worries about finding employment and the health of themselves and their families. I encourage you to **treat your students with compassion and understanding.**"