

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

3.1 Council Composition

Call to Order - 4:32 PM

#### 2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We respectfully acknowledge that the SFSS is located on the traditional, unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples, including the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Selílwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), kwikwələm (Kwikwetlem) and qicəy (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

#### **Student Union Representatives** Art, Performance, and Cinema Studies ..... Behavioral Neuroscience Ramsha Farooqui Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology...... Alamdeep Khehra Business..... Chemistry Michelle Tong Cognitive Science Rollin Poe Criminology...... Eva Delgado Dance..... Data Science Earth Science Anthony Giang Economics Patrick Weston Engineering Science Yogesh Mundhra English Tessa Earnshaw Environmental Resource Environmental Science First Nations Studies Student Union French Sharon Kim Global Asia Studies Student Union...... Anh Vu Health Science Roopan Garcha History Jessica Stewart Humanities......Lauren Thomson Labour Studies Jessica Fan



Mathematics	Brendan Kelly
Mechatronics System Engineering	···
Molecular Biology & Biochemistry	••
Operations Research	Oliver Fujiki
Philosophy	Tony Yu
Physics	Manuel Rojas
Political Science (Chair)	Gabe Liosis
Psychology (Vice-Chair)	Tristan Raymond
Science Undergraduate Society (SUS)	
Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS)	Zak Thompson
Sociology and Anthropology	Zaina Khan
Software Systems	Quince Bielka
Statistics and Actuarial Science (SASSA)	Anthony Kim
Sustainable Community Development	···
Theaters	··
Visual Arts	••
World Literature	Anastasiia Lebedenko
Constituency Group Representatives	
Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA)	Serena Bains
First Nations Student Association (FNSA)	••
International Student Group (ISG)	••
Out on Campus Collective (OOC)	Victor Yin
Residence Hall's Association (RHA)	Daanyaal Sheikh
Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)	Ryan Stolys
Women Centre Collective (WCC)	
Women Centre Collective (WCC)	
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA)	
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA)  Board of Directors	
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA)  Board of Directors SFSS Directors (non-voting)	Balqees Jama/Jasmine Kitine
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA)  Board of Directors SFSS Directors (non-voting) President	Balqees Jama/Jasmine Kitine Giovanni HoSang
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA)  Board of Directors SFSS Directors (non-voting) President VP External Relations	Balqees Jama/Jasmine Kitine Giovanni HoSangJasdeep Gill
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA)  Board of Directors SFSS Directors (non-voting) President VP External Relations VP Finance	Balqees Jama/Jasmine Kitine Giovanni HoSang Jasdeep Gill Tawanda Chitapi
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA)  Board of Directors SFSS Directors (non-voting) President  VP External Relations  VP Finance  VP Student Services	Balqees Jama/Jasmine Kitine Giovanni HoSang Jasdeep Gill Tawanda Chitapi Christina Loutsik
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA)  Board of Directors SFSS Directors (non-voting) President VP External Relations VP Finance VP Student Services VP Student Life	Balqees Jama/Jasmine Kitine Giovanni HoSang Jasdeep Gill Tawanda Chitapi Christina Loutsik Jessica Nguyen
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA)  Board of Directors SFSS Directors (non-voting) President	Balqees Jama/Jasmine Kitine Giovanni HoSang Jasdeep Gill Tawanda Chitapi Christina Loutsik Jessica Nguyen Shina Kaur
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Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA)  Board of Directors SFSS Directors (non-voting) President  VP External Relations  VP Finance  VP Student Services  VP Student Life  VP University Relations  At-Large Representative  At-Large Representative	Balqees Jama/Jasmine Kitine  Giovanni HoSang  Jasdeep Gill  Tawanda Chitapi  Christina Loutsik  Jessica Nguyen  Shina Kaur  Maneet Aujla  Rayhaan Khan
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA)  Board of Directors SFSS Directors (non-voting) President  VP External Relations  VP Finance  VP Student Services  VP Student Life  VP University Relations  At-Large Representative At-Large Representative Faculty Representative (Applied Sciences)	Balqees Jama/Jasmine Kitine Giovanni HoSang Jasdeep Gill Tawanda Chitapi Christina Loutsik Jessica Nguyen Shina Kaur Maneet Aujla Rayhaan Khan Nick Chubb
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Administrative Assistant	. Kristin Kokkov
Member Services Coordinator – Student Unions & Groups	Anna Reva
3.3 Regrets	
Labour Studies	Jessica Fan
Physics	. Manuel Rojas
Sociology and Anthropology	Zaina Khan
Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies	Alicia Fahrner
3.4 Absent	
Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology	Alamdeep Khehra
Communications	Trisha Rajesh Ramakrishnan
Earth Science	Anthony Giang
Economics	Patrick Weston
Geography	
Global Asia Studies Student Union	
Mathematics	Brendan Kelly
Operations Research	Oliver Fuiiki
Psychology (Vice-Chair)	Tristan Raymond
Residence Hall's Association (RHA)	

#### 4. RATIFICATION OF REGRETS

Excuses or regrets will be kept track of by the chair of council. Missing two meetings in a row without sending excuses (that are approved) will result in the removal from Council.

#### 4.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2020-04-08:01

#### Quince/Roopan

Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Jessica Fan, Manuel Rojas, Zaina Khan, and Alicia Fahrner.

#### **CARRIED AS AMENDED**

#### 4.1.1. MOTION COUNCIL 2020-04-08:01

#### Gabe/Jessica

Be it resolved to add regrets from Alicia Fahrner.

**CARRIED** 

#### 5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

#### 5.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2020-04-08:02

#### Simran/Ramsha

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as presented.

**CARRIED** 

#### 6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

#### 6.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2020-04-08:03

#### **Ouince/Eva**

Be it resolved to receive and file the following minutes:

• COUNCIL 2020-02-26 Minutes



#### **CARRIED**

#### 7. OLD BUSINESS

#### 7.1 Request for an Audit of the Fall 2019 Kickoff - MOTION COUNCIL 2020-04-08:04

Motion coming from Council Governance Committee as a report on discussion taken and the recommendation to be given.

#### Gabe/Roopan

Be it resolved that the Council recommends not to perform an audit on the Fall Kickoff 2019 event. Be it further resolved to the Council recommend not to organize future costly large-scale events without better planning, budgeting, and oversight.

#### **CARRIED** (17 in favour, 9 abstentions)

- After the MNP's presentation, there was the Council Governance Committee (CGC) meeting where it was discussed which audit option to recommend to the Board.
- The was majority of Board members were absent from the Joint Meeting.
  - Since Council members were prevalently present, it was considered important that the Council makes recommendation to the Board.
    - Financial statement audit might not achieve the purpose.
    - Internal audit looks at governance and can escalate to the forensic audit if necessary.
    - Forensic audit looks at everything but does not give recommendations on what to do in the future; and there is reputational impact on the society.
  - o Internal audit seemed to be the best option according to the CGC members.
    - If some wrongdoing does emerge during the internal audit, there is the possibility to turn over to the forensic audit.
- A CGC member added that in addition to the three audit options, there is also the option of doing nothing, considering the current situation.
- Several Council members were against the audit explaining that it is not wise to spend more
  money to track down the reasons of the expenditure.
  - It was pointed out that it is best to keep things as financially sound as possible therefore it was suggested to lean towards a small audit or none at all.
- ED advised the Council that the estimate for the cost is around \$35,000+ for internal audit and about \$50,000+ for forensic audit.
  - The MNP presentation's final invoice was almost twice of the prize as was initially suggested.
    - Therefore, the internal audit cost could be around \$50,000 and the forensic could be around \$80,000 \$100,000.
- The President pointed out that the Executive Committee met before the last Board meeting and the Executives did not come with a direct recommendation.
  - There were recommendations not to do anything at all, as well as some people wanted to wait for the Council's decision.
  - ED had suggested to do the internal audit, however there was no one to bring the motion forward, and it was just a discussion item on table.
- It was asked if it is possible, instead of an audit, to make sure that the actions that brought about the deficit would not happen again.
  - o It was suggested to ensure without the audit that the policies and processes around governance, and the oversight of future events are done more thoroughly than they were done for Fall Kickoff 2019.
    - It is the Council's duty to advice the Board and work with the Board when it comes to the things the Council does not agree with.



- It was clarified that the motion on the table is about the internal audit whether Council wants to have an internal audit.
  - o If it is decided not to have an audit at all, the motion needs to be changed.
- It was asked that if the internal audit is around \$50 000, how badly this will affect the SFSS budget in the long run.
  - o ED explained that the 2020/21 budget is currently worked on.
    - The potential audit expense is accounted for.
    - We do not know what the enrollment will be in the summer and autumn.
    - We are prudent in the budget.

### 7.1.1. Request for an Audit of the Fall 2019 Kickoff - MOTION COUNCIL 2020-04-08:04-01 Victor/Rollin

Be it resolved to strike the original motion and read the motion as follows: Be it resolved that the Council recommends not to perform an audit on the Fall Kickoff 2019 event.

Be it further resolved that the Council recommends not to organize future costly large-scale events without better planning, budgeting, and oversight.

#### **CARRIED** (21 in favour, 6 abstentions)

- It was said that the Council should have separate motions.
  - One motion saying not to have an audit and another motion about recommending more responsible budgeting for events.
- ED emphasised that she is in favour of the internal audit because this situation will not die off without the audit, however the decision has to be done by the Board.

### 7.1.1.1.Request for an Audit of the Fall 2019 Kickoff - MOTION COUNCIL 2020-04-08:04-01-01 Jason/Adrienne

Be it resolved to replace the word 'consultation' with the phrase 'planning, budgeting, and oversight'.

CARRIED (21 in favour, 2 no vote, 3 abstentions)

#### 8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### 8.1 Update on SFSS COVID-19 Response (President Giovanni Hosang)

- (Refer to the attachment)
- How the Board has been working to help students at this time:
  - On March 13<sup>th</sup>, the Executive Committee voted to temporarily shut the operations of the Simon Fraser Student Society.
    - The staff does not have a financial impact from the Society's closure.
  - Recently it was voted to institute a COVID-19 Emergency Bursary to help those who may have been impacted during this time.
    - There is financial relief fund \$150 000.
      - 50% to domestic and 50% to international students.
  - o For international students, we are lobbying the government to offer financial relief.
  - o For renters, we have called for a moratorium on evictions and a rent freeze.
  - For all undergraduate students, we have successfully advocated for the University to provide alternative grading such as pass/fail options and extended withdrawal deadlines for all students.
  - We are still advocating the grade freeze option.
    - The university is not taking institutional action, and students have to do advocacy at the faculty and instruction level.



- o On March 27<sup>th</sup>, it was voted to return to work on March 30<sup>th</sup> virtually.
  - The services are available to students virtually.
  - The FNSA has voted to institute \$40 000 emergency fund for indigenous students on campus.
- The crisis of the pandemic has brought out the pivotal role played by the working class and low wage earners in our economy.
  - It has highlighted just how essential they are to keep the economy afloat, which is why we
    must continue to push for and demand fair wages for all workers.

#### 8.2 University (Senate/SCUS) COVID-19 Response (Student Senator Jennifer Chou)

- (Refer to the attachment)
- The decisions that the SFU has made:
  - o Grading options are pass/fail which has no effect of the GPA
  - o The last day to drop the course is tomorrow.
  - You can opt for P/F or a letter grade after you see your final grade.
  - o Taking a P/F will not affect scholarships for Spring 2020 term.
- If you are worried about how P looks on your transcript for grad school, please talk to academic advisor or contact the program you are transferring into.
- There is difficulty implementing grade freeze for all classes.
  - o Go to the department chair or talk to the ombudsperson if you feel that the situation is unfair.
- The student fees are waived for summer 2020
  - o Tuition will be the same as for regular in person classes.
- U-Pass is suspended in May and refunded in April if you do not use it by April 16th.
  - It was clarified that the SFSS has voted to support a refund and later suspension of the U-Pass, but it has not been confirmed by TransLink at this point.
- For funding options, email to fiassist@sfu.ca and they will send you the info and a form.
- The fund comes from different contributions:
  - o SFSS' \$150,000 contribution, SFU's contribution, the provincial government's \$140,000 contribution, and donors' contributions that are all going towards the same pool
- For the summer term, the classes will online for the whole summer.
  - Withdrawal period extended:
    - Summer term: July 5
    - Intersession: June 4
    - Summer session: July 23
- SFU encourages not to register for classes on overlapping times, because some classes are live.
- Accessibility Needs or Accommodation:
  - Centre for Accessible Learning is accepting registrants during first few weeks of Maycontact caladmin@sfu.ca.
  - o If you currently aren't registered with CAL and need accommodations, they're not going to turn anyone away and will try their best to help students.
- SFU residents are open through the summer and they are going to extend contracts for international students who cannot return home.
- There is some demand for work contact co-op office.
- The convocation for students will be at a later date.
- It was asked to push for recording all the lectures.
  - o If the professor wants the lectures to be alive, it was suggested to go to the CAL or to the department chair or ombudsperson.
- It was asked if there is anything that the society could do to help the international students about the process of staying in this country?
  - o The legal service is available.



#### 8.3 Open Discussion on Student Union Activities & Initiatives During COVID-19 Pandemic

- Several Student Unions have suspended meetings but are trying to organize meetings in the summer.
- Science student unions have been working with SFU to set up a science wide Discord channel.
  - o Interdepartmental talk between students.
- FAS DSU group is also making a faculty wide Discord group.
- BNSS and LSU are using Discord.
- Women's Center is using Discord to distribute the newsletters.
  - o They are also emailing back and forth.
- Council also has the Discord channel and everyone on Council were asked to join.

#### 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### 9.1 Joint Session of Board and Council: Draft By-Law Presentation (postponed, date TBD)

- A presentation by the by-law consultant
  - Was supposed to happen next Wednesday on April 15th but has been postponed.
    - The tentative date for online presentation is April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
    - The format is not yet known.

#### 10. ATTACHMENTS

- MNP Presentation to SFSS Board 04Mar2020\_DRAFT Version 0.1.pdf
- Message to students in light of COVID-19 and recent Board decisions.pdf
- Update to Council on Senate\_SCUS Response to COVID-19 (Jennifer).pdf

#### 11. ADJOURNMENT

11.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2020-04-08:05

Jason/Tanner

Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 5:58 PM.

**CARRIED** 







## MNP

# Review of the Fall Kickoff: What are the options?

simon fraser Presented to: student society

Date:

March 4, 2020



### **Agenda**

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Background Information
- 3. Today's Meeting Objectives
- 4. Available Audit Options
- 5. Summary
- 6. Q&A



### **Introductions**



Peter Guo
Partner, BC Leader
Enterprise Risk Services &
Advanced Education Services



Mark Jordan
Senior Manager
Forensic & Litigation Support



Busola Fagbebe Manager Enterprise Risk Services



### **Background Information**

- SFSS, through the Board's Events Committee, organizes the annual Fall kick off. An annual subsidy is provided by the previous Board through the approval of the budget in April 2019.
- With a projected larger deficit than anticipated, the Board was urged to cancel the event. Strong endorsement by the Board resulted in the event going ahead.
- To cover the rising costs, an emergency Board meeting was held in August 2019 to increase the SFSS' annual contribution from \$15,000 to \$60,000. The motion passed.
- Later in 2019, a student raised concerns with the event's outcomes and presented to the Board and Council to urge the Board to conduct a forensic audit of the 2019 Fall KickOff.
- The Board debated the potential and decided against a forensic audit as there was no evidence of wrongdoing.
- In order for the Board to be further informed, the Board's Executive was then invited to meet with MNP to discuss the matter.
- The Board's Executive then recommended to the Board that MNP be invited to do this presentation today.



### **Today's Meeting Objectives**

- To identify the audit objective(s) and various audit options available to SFSS
- Describe the purpose and outcome of each option, including pros and cons, costs, effort required, impacts, reputational effects
- Clarify any questions/concerns about the available options.





### **Available Options**

- 1. Financial Statement Audit
- 2. Internal Audit
- 3. Forensic Audit



### **Options – Financial Statement Audit**

#### **Purpose**

- Provide an opinion on whether financial statements show the true and fair view of an entity's financial performance and financial position.
- Provides confirmation that financial statements are materially correct

Financial statement audit is limited in scope and breadth. It is retrospective in nature.



### Options – Financial Statement Audit

#### **Outcome**

Description	What this means
Reasonable assurance that the financial statements present a true and fair view in all material respects and are consistent with applicable standards.	The numbers are what they are based on accounting and financial reporting standards.
A limited selection of controls relevant to financial reporting may be (are) tested for design effectiveness and proper implementation.	Test controls over financial accounting and reporting. This might not test controls relevant to Fall Kickoff.
Does not test operating effectiveness of controls, inefficiencies in current policies, processes and operational controls, effectiveness of SFSS governance and decision-making or behavioural challenges.	Does not seek root cause or reasons for deficit.



### Options - Financial Statement Audit

#### **Extracts from SFSS' 2019 Auditor's Report**

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Society as at April 30, 2019 and 2018, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

#### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.



### **Options – Internal Audit**

#### **Purpose**

- Ensures proper controls (organizational structures, financial, operational and IT), as well
  as relevant governance and risk management policies and processes are in place and
  working effectively.
- Considers whether risks an entity is exposed to are properly mitigated. Where findings
  indicates otherwise, appropriate recommendations are provided so weaknesses can be
  quickly identified and remediated.
- Internal audit is from multiple perspectives governance, financial, operational, organizational, ethical conduct, etc. Hence audit findings are more commercially based.

Internal audit is not limited in scope and breadth. It can be both retrospective and prospective in nature. It can cover multiple points of focus, timeframes, transactions, etc.

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### Options – Internal Audit

#### **Outcome**

Description	What this means
Assessment of the potential risk an entity is exposed to as a result of the nature of its governance, org structure, decision-making, conduct, financial impacts, operations, HR, IT, etc.	Where are the risks? What exists? What's working or not, and why?
Ensures appropriate controls are in place to ensure that risks are properly mitigated; controls are properly designed and implemented and are operating effectively.	Risks are reduced and structures are in place to meet organizational, financial and operational objectives.
Ensures a governance structure is in place that provides a framework for effective decision-making and ethical oversight.	Board and management make effective decisions that limit the risk of adverse impacts and publicity. Structures are in place to meet organizational objectives.



### **Options – Forensic Audit**

#### **Purpose**

- Investigation into an organization's financial records.
- A forensic audit and an internal audit both adopt a similar approach to understanding risk, controls and governance, however the outcome is different.
  - Detailed testing can also be different.
- For use by an organization and its legal counsel to determine whether an individual
  or organization should be pursued legally or criminally.

Forensic audit is not limited in scope and breadth. It is retrospective in nature.



### Options – Forensic Audit

#### **Outcome**

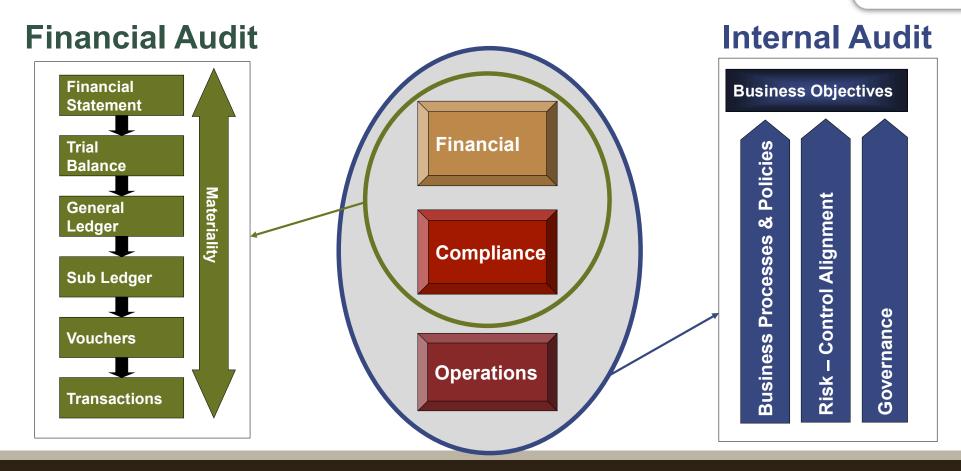
Description	What this means
Report evaluating an organization's financial records.	Used in evidence in legal proceedings.
Identifies controls in place and governance framework. Identifies failings of the same.	Does not necessarily provide recommendations to improve controls.
Work is conducted and results reported through lawyer (privilege).	Even though a forensic auditor/investigator does the audit, the lawyer is the gatekeeper for the work and results.



### Summary

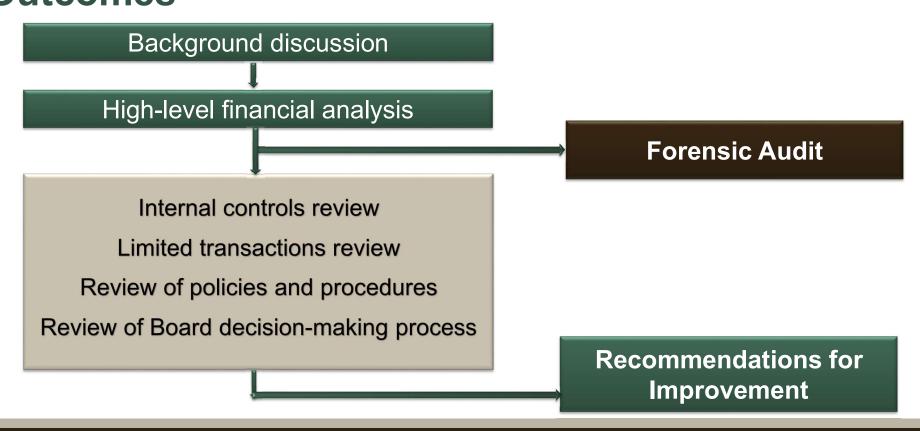


### Financial Audit vs. Internal Audit





# Internal Audit & Forensic Audit – Paths and Outcomes



#### **Financial Audit**

**Areas:** Financial reporting and

relevant controls (limited)

Outcome: True and fair view in all

material respect.

#### Staff/Board involvement:

Estimated costs:

# of team members - 3

Estimated cost - \$30,000

Retrospective

#### **Internal Audit**

**Areas:** Internal controls, financial,

operational, risks, policies, code of conduct/ethics,

procedures and governance

**Outcome:** Recommendation on risk

mitigating controls, process and policies improvements

#### Staff/Board involvement:

#### Estimated costs:

# of team members - 4

Estimated cost – \$35,000

#### **Retro/Prospective**

#### **Forensic Audit**



**Areas:** Internal controls, operational

risks and financial investigation.

**Outcome:** Expert findings used in legal

proceedings.

#### Staff/Board involvement:

#### Estimated costs:

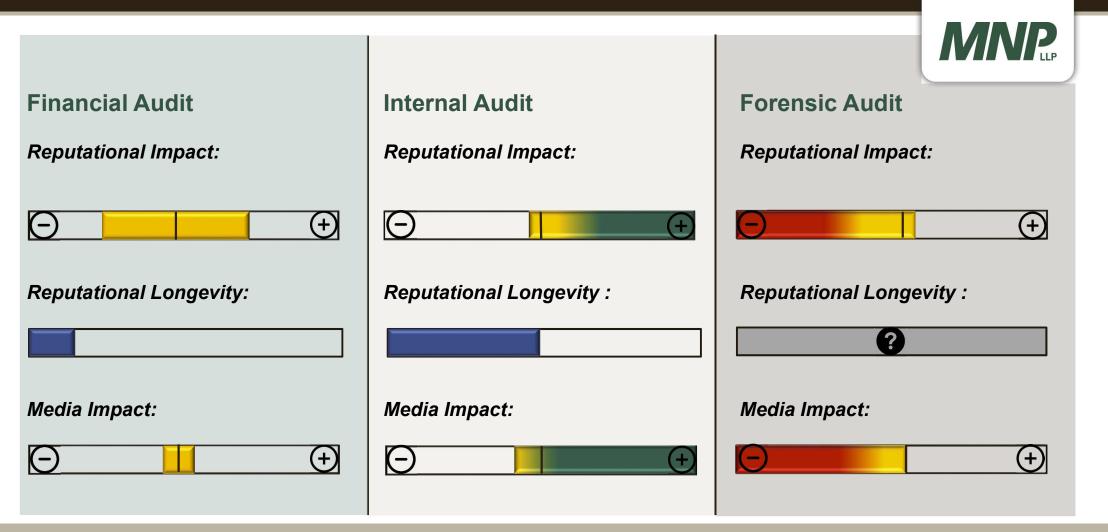
# of team members — 4 + lawyers

Estimated cost – \$40,000

Legal fees and retainer – \$30,000

#### Retrospective

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### Questions?





### **Thank You**





### Giovanni HoSang President Board of Directors

president@sfss.ca Tel 604-862-3795 Maggie Benston Centre 2220 Simon Fraser University 8888 University Drive Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6 Unceded Coast Salish Territories sfss.ca

March 28, 2020

#### Message to membership in light of COVID-19 and recent Board decisions

To all our members at the Simon Fraser Student Society,

I extend my greetings to all and I hope all of you are feeling cared for and protected at this time of global uncertainty in this COVID-19 pandemic.

Ever since the Executive Committee voted to temporarily shut the operations of the Simon Fraser Student Society, our team has taken steps in ensuring that folks are able to cope and have resources available to them during this emergency.

For staff, we have allowed operations to temporarily shut down, while staff does not have a financial impact from the Society's closure. For members, we have recently voted to institute a COVID-19 Emergency Bursary to help those who may have been impacted during this time. For international students, we are lobbying the government to offer financial relief for those far away from home and who have been contributing to the diversity of the university and BC but are now put in very stressful situations. For renters, many of which are students, we have called for a moratorium on evictions and a rent freeze. For all undergraduate students, we have successfully advocated for the University to provide alternative grading such as pass/fail options and extended withdrawal deadlines for all students, amongst still advocating for other methods of alleviating the academic stress due to this pandemic. With all this, it is the front line staff and management support team who have sustained this student society, that allows us to continue to function, and to give us as Board, the support needed to serve you as students.

I have been working with the Executive Director and the Executive Team, and the rest of the Board to ensure that the safety and health of all our students, staff and board have been at the forefront of our decision making. This is what led to our decision to close all our offices on March 13. In addition to this, we have since voted on having our Executive Director execute a return to work plan, effective on March 30, with the goal of ensuring this is done in a very positive and effective manner. This ensures that the services we provide are available to students virtually, and also to protect all of our staff's health and wellbeing.

While we transition back virtually, I hope that all of you feel you have the resources and the Board's backing. Thank you for your patience, grace, and compassion as we go through this pandemic together. Take the government's heed around social distancing - or as it is now being called - physical distancing.

As the Board also transitions, it is important to provide communication and feedback in ensuring that the new Board also has the means to effectively lead this transition in a virtual manner. In the interim, the current board continues to be intentional in our approach to err on the side of compassion, generosity, and the recognition that such a pandemic is shifting lives for many at a rapid rate.

I extend all to the working people and for the front-line health care workers and workers keeping our shared spaces sanitary, who have been putting their lives on the line to save us, our friends and family, and it's important we take the actions that will put them less at risk.

Physical distancing will ensure that we slow the spread and are able to serve students in our greatest capacity once again, and it is very important we take this advice such as washing our hands or self-quarantining if we have symptoms. We must do all we can to slow the spread. Please take a look at the resources available to you all, see the government advisories, and track the happenings regarding the COVID-19 pandemic as we work together to overcome it. The crisis of the pandemic has shun a bright light on the pivotal role played by the working class and low wage earners in our economy. In fact, it has highlighted just how essential they are to keeping the economy afloat, which is why we must continue to push for and demand fair wages for all workers. The challenges of this pandemic have given us time to ponder the essence of our humanity and have also reminded us of our interconnectivity. We must strive to build a society based on cooperation and solidarity as this is the only way we will survive the challenges of the future. This is the time to build a community of care.

Hold your friends, colleagues, and family at heart by making a quick phone call, sending a text, donating to a mutual aid or community care group - anything that can bring comfort in this time. I thank you for playing a part in overcoming this challenge as students and as members of this student society.

Thanks and much love.

#### Giovanni HoSang

President • Simon Fraser Student Society president@sfss.ca



sfss.ca





General FASS FAQ: https://www.sfu.ca/fass/news/2020/03/covid-19-info-for-fass-students.html

Senate video recording of students asking questions:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/mustknowsfu/permalink/10163425063085296/

#### Student funding steps:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZoAmfzqmQrQPSdGGaS99RR-WZ2d0CdsSYsp1XGki2rl/edit?usp=sharing

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#### Options

- P/F (no effect on GPA or repeat policy)
- Withdraw by TOMORROW
- Letter grade

You can decide whether to opt for P/F or letter grade after you see your final grade. Student Services will be processing these. How to opt for P/F will be announced soon.

In addition to having no effect on GPA or repeat policy, taking a P/F will not affect scholarships for Spring 2020 term (unsure about Summer 2020).

If you're worried about how a P looks on your transcript for grad school or program transfers, it is best to contact the program you're transferring into or talk to your academic advisor for options. Senate says that grad schools/programs often look at more than 1 semester's grades though, and taking P/F could help your GPA.

#### Grade freeze/optional finals?

- No SCUS said it was too difficult to implement for all classes, especially curved classes
- They sent an email to faculty telling them to be understanding and compassionate

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#### Process of complaints

- 1. Talk to prof
- 2. Talk to ombudsperson (optional step, but this is to ensure that your prof is actually being unreasonable)
- 3. Talk to department chair
- 4. Talk to the faculty dean (or associate dean)

#### Student fees

- Athletics fee will be waived for Summer 2020
- Tuition will be similar to in-person classes (no extra \$40 for distance education)
- U-Pass will be refunded for April if you don't use it by April 16th. It will be suspended in May, then SFSS will decide with Translink on a case-by-case basis whether to suspend for June, July, etc.
  - Students who still need the U-Pass can apply for COVID-19 Emergency Funding
  - Not confirmed by Translink (but SFSS Board voted to support refund and suspension

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#### Funding options

- Email <u>fiassist@sfu.ca</u> and they'll send you the info and a form (see <u>link above</u> for more details)
- SFSS' \$150k contribution, SFU's contribution, the provincial govt's \$140k contribution, and donors' contributions are all going towards the same pool
- Can't request funds more than once but if you really need funds then email and they decide on a case-by-case basis

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#### Summer term details

- Classes will be online for entire term to accommodate students in other countries who can't make it back halfway through the semester to attend in person
- Withdrawal period extended

o Summer term: July 5

o Intersession: June 4

Summer session: July 23

• Don't register for courses with conflicting times since courses might be offered "live" to encourage students to attend

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#### Accessibility Needs or Accommodation

- CAL is accepting registrants during first few weeks of May contact <u>caladmin@sfu.ca</u> or 778-782-3112 ASAP
- Senate told me that if you currently aren't registered with CAL and need accommodations, they're not going to turn anyone away and will try their best to help students

#### SFU Residence

- Will remain open in summer
- Extend contracts for international students who can't return home
- Student temp pool was recruiting for people to help out in Residence
  - https://trr.tbe.taleo.net/trr01/ats/careers/v2/viewRequisition?org=SIMOFRAS&cw s=37&rid=1529

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#### Co-op

- There is some demand, so accepting co-op for summer (remote work)
- Number of placements will go down though
- Contact co-op office if interested

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#### Convocation

- Students will graduate, but convocate at a later date (Fall)
- They'll still receive credentials n all