



REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT (FINANCE & OPERATIONS) TO COUNCIL 22 FEBRUARY 2016

1. FINANCE

- February Budget
 - At the time of writing: Services budgets are finished. I am working on revising the Exec, Governance, and Events budgets. The General Manager is doing the final revisions on the administration and operational departments.
- Appointment of auditor
 - After a great deal of time and many emails, we have decided to recommend Fuller Landau as the auditor at the General Assembly.
- Upcoming Winter 2016 Referenda
 - The referenda questions are still taking up tonnes of my time. I've been primarily working on estimates for the Mental Health Fee with the VP University Affairs, as well as the Health and Dental fee increase (see below).
- Faculty Olympics
 - We negotiated four of the main contracts this week, which are almost signed.
 - I have an upcoming meeting with the VP Internal to finalize our draft of the budget – no real concerns thus far.
- Club audits
 - SQ.
- Frosh Wrap Up
 - SQ
- Funding
 - **Complete:** Ambassador, Charity, First Year, Environment, Equity, Space
 - **Remaining:** Club, Campus Life
 - I've revised the Funding Commissioner's job description for next year, splitting the position in two. In the future, there will be a Funding Commissioner and Funding Administrative Assistant. This will allow *much* faster processing of cheques and will result in groups receiving their decisions much sooner.
- FERC
 - SQ - working on Purchasing / Investment Policy and development of Purchasing Database.

2. OPERATIONS

- Health and Dental Review Committee
 - Health and Dental Review Committee has been working very hard to make a final decision on what questions we will send to referendum. After reviewing the results of our survey, we decided not to send a legal coverage question to referenda this year.



- We have written and submitted a motion to send a question to referendum on a \$25 increase in the Health Plan fee, to be used to add psychology coverage to the Health Plan. This coverage would cover around \$100 per visit up to a \$500 annual maximum (an amount of coverage determined based on the survey).
 - We also became aware that our dental premiums (that we pay to DeJardins) are now much higher than the dental fee (that we charge to students). This means that we are eating into the Health and Dental Reserve Fund, which only contains enough reserves to allow us to continue eating into it for 1-1.5 years. Thus, next year, the SSMU will need to consider whether benefits should be cut or the plan fee should be increased – our survey suggests that SSMU members would rather see the fee increased.
 - Details regarding the Health and Dental Plan survey will be in our report, later this semester.
- MiniCourses
- Revenue is still being tabulated by accounting. Updates to come.

3. OTHER

- SSMU-McGill Memorandum of Agreement
 - SQ
- In accordance with the Accountable Leadership Policy, a log of my hours is publically available. You can view my [hours log](#) here.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachariah Houston
Vice-President (Finance & Operations)