



**Agenda for the Students' Council Meeting of the  
Students' Association of MacEwan University  
January 29, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Council Chamber**

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**Voting Members:**

Gabriel Ambutong, President  
Tolu Dare, Councillor  
Aryan Dutta, Councillor  
Aidan Fisher, Councillor  
Cornelius Glasgow, Councillor  
Darcy Hoogers, Vice President Academic  
Cierra Jacobs, Councillor  
Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance  
and Finance  
Aleace Moom, Vice President Student Life  
Moselle Namoc, Councillor  
Maade Okai, Councillor  
Nathan Poon, Councillor  
Israel Reyes, Councillor

Joehn Torres, Councillor  
Vincent Trinh, Councillor  
Chioma Uzor, Councillor  
Loyal Zidan, Councillor  
vacant, Councillor  
vacant, Vice President External

**SAMU Officials and Council Support:**

Timothy Jobs, Chair  
Darryl Kostash, General Manager  
Alan Honey, Governance Advisor  
Dylan Antonio, Admin Support

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Meeting called to order at pm.

<Intros>

**1. Treaty 6 Land Recognition**

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University is taking place on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 6 region in Central Alberta.

The Students' Association of MacEwan University is situated in the centre of what we call the city of Edmonton, which is called Amiskwacyi Waskahikan or Beaver Hill House in Nehiyawewin (Cree). This is the traditional home of the Nehiyaw (Cree) and Michif (Métis), and meeting place for many Indigenous peoples including the Nakawe (Saulteaux), Siksika (Blackfoot), Nakota Sioux (Stoney) and other nations.

**2. Approvals**

**2.1 MOTION**

***TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR JANUARY 29, 2025***

**3. Question Period**

**3.1. Written Questions**

**3.2. Oral Questions**

Speakers List:

**4. Motions & Business Orders of the Day**

**4.1. SAMU Fees Policy**

**MOTION**

***TO APPROVE THE SAMU FEES POLICY, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025, ON THE  
RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE***

**VPGF/**

Speakers List:

**4.2. SAMU Fees Policy – Annual Membership Fee Increase**

**MOTION TO DISREGARD CLAUSE 4.3 OF THE SAMU FEES POLICY FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR**

**VPGF/**

Speakers List:

**4.3.**

**5. Consultation**

**5.1.**

**6. Evaluation**

**6.1. Evaluation Form**

**7. Recognition**

**8. Adjournment**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Next Meeting Date: February 19, 2025

Meeting adjourned at pm



## STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

### AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

Meeting Date	Submitted By
January 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance & Finance

Agenda Title	Item
	<b>SAMU Fees Policy</b>
Action Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation Item

### AGENDA ITEM DETAILS

Motion Title	Motion to approve the SAMU Fees policy, effective July 1, 2025, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee
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Background Information	<p>In February 2023 Students' Council approved an updated version of the SAMU Bylaws to include "SAMU Affiliates". SAMU Affiliates are defined as students enrolled in non-undergraduate courses at MacEwan University.</p> <p>The Alberta Post Secondary Learning Act (PSLA) (<a href="https://rb.gy/psxji7">https://rb.gy/psxji7</a>) is a piece of piece of legislation that governs the post-secondary sector in Alberta. The PSLA identifies that SAMU members are those students enrolled in undergraduate credit courses at MacEwan University. As such, SAMU does not represent non-undergraduate students at MacEwan University.</p> <p>Students' Council has previously noted that they would like SAMU to still provide programs and services to non-undergraduate students on the MacEwan University campus. With that in mind, myself, with support from the SAMU General Manager as well as other support staff, have completed negotiations with the MacEwan School of Continuing Education (SCE) to provide access to SAMU programs and services to their students in the following programs: English as an Additional Language (EAL), University Prep (UP), and SCE International students.</p> <p>The SAMU Fees policy has been updated to contain appropriate language to bring the policy in line with our bylaws. (ie. changing 'Secondary Student Member' to 'Affiliate'. There is also a recommendation to increase the fee from what it was previously to the new structure noted in appendix A. This fee is based on the current SAMU Membership Fee, but has removed the cost of any Advocacy related items because SAMU, per the PSLA, are only advocates for undergraduate students. The resulting recommended fee structure is strictly based on what the previously mentioned SCE student can access from SAMU. (ex. food support, events, etc.) This new fee structure ensures that Affiliates will pay their fair share to access SAMU's programs and services. Until now SAMU General Members have been</p>
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	<p>subsidizing SCE students as the fee they are currently paying does not cover the cost for what SAMU has been providing them.</p> <p>SCE are aware of the updated SAMU Affiliate Fee and how it was derived.</p> <p>Approval of this updated policy will allow us to notify MacEwan University of SAMU's fee structure for the 2025-2026 year (they need to know this information by February 2025 for publication purposes) and allow SAMU to enter into a formal agreement with SCE to provide the aforementioned programs and services to their students for the coming academic year.</p> <p>SCE students will continue to have their same access through the end of the current, 2024-2025, academic year.</p>
Alternative Considerations	Not update the policy and not provide access for SCE students to SAMU programs and services beginning in the 2025-2026 academic year.
Risk Management Considerations	
Strategic Alignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete</i>
Implications	
Related Documents	As noted in the background information section of this submission form.
Follow Up Action	VPGF to notify MacEwan University of updated fee and finalize contract with SCE.
Review History	

## Strategic Alignment Checklist

**Vision:** All students benefit from a vibrant student life and a culture of empowerment.

**Mission:** SAMU builds a positive student experience by creating a place to engage and connect, being a champion for all students and providing opportunities that allow them to get the most out of their educational journey.

Focus Areas	Not consistent	N/A	Consistent
<b>Student Experience &amp; Engagement</b>			
<b>The overall student experience is enhanced by the opportunities provided by SAMU.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1 Put the finishing touches on the SAMU building, enhancing the safe and intentional spaces for students to gather, relax and study.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2 Increase student awareness of SAMU and its opportunities through strong communications and engaging marketing and brand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3 Increase student engagement by offering relevant and meaningful events, programs, services, volunteer activities and employment opportunities for students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4 Support Student Groups by offering networking opportunities, meeting space, outreach support and online platforms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Student Voice</b>			
<b>The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.1 Develop an Advocacy Plan and implement processes to strengthen SAMU's advocacy program.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.2 Enhance awareness and interest in SAMU's democratic processes through education and encouraging student participation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.3 Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Student Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Student Supports</b>			
<b>Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.1 Develop and deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.2 Evaluate and assess student supports to remain relevant and accountable to students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3 Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with MacEwan University to expand supports and resources for students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.4 Enhance relationships with external organizations to leverage resources and supplement new and existing initiatives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Strengthening SAMU Operations</b>			
<b>SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.1 Review SAMU governance structures and make improvements to reduce duplication of efforts and delays in decision-making processes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.3 Diversify revenue streams to reduce reliance on student fees.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.4 Act as financial and environmental stewards and implement effective practices to enhance sustainability.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## SAMU Fees

### Rationale

The operations of SAMU are partially funded by fees levied on its membership as per the Post-Secondary Learning Act (Alberta). A policy is needed to define what these fees are and how they are assessed and collected.

### Definitions

An **academic term** is a period of time in which classes are held. MacEwan University has three academic terms: Fall (September – December), Winter (January – April), and Spring/Summer (May – August).

### Expectations

#### General

1 SAMU **General Membership Fees** and **SAMU Affiliate Fees** are collected by the Office of the University Registrar.

3 This policy may only be amended by Special Resolution.

#### General Membership Fees

4 SAMU assesses a **General Membership Fee** to students **enrolled in undergraduate credit courses at MacEwan University** on a per credit basis.

4.1 **SAMU Members** are assessed to a maximum of fifteen credits per **academic term**.

4.2 The SAMU membership fee is \$13.50 per credit.

4.3 The SAMU membership fee will increase yearly by the annual average of Alberta's CPI from December 1 to November 30 of the previous year.

4.3.1 If the annual average of the CPI results in a negative number, it will be regarded as a zero percent increase.

#### SAMU Affiliate Fees

5 Upon entering a formal written agreement with MacEwan University, SAMU assesses an **Affiliate Fee** to students **enrolled in non-undergraduate credit courses at MacEwan University as defined in Appendix A**.

#### Additional Fees

6 Additional fees assessed to students must be established by referendum.

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**Deleted:** Credit-based program students

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**Deleted:** 4.1.1 Part-time students who are given full-time student status with MacEwan University will be assessed based on a credit count of 9 credits per academic term.

**Deleted:** Students in Preparation for University and College and English as a Second Language are taking secondary level courses and are primarily funded by the provincial government. The government places a cap on fees that may be assessed to funded students. In order to provide programming and services for these students, SAMU assesses these students a Secondary Student Membership Fee

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5.1 Secondary-level credit-based SAMU Affiliates students are assessed per credit, to a maximum of 15 25 credits. Students enrolled in the University Prep program are assessed a fee of \$57.52 if taking one course, \$115.05 if taking two courses, and \$172.57 if taking three courses, per academic term.

5.2 Students enrolled in the English as an Additional Language program (EAL) are assessed a fee of \$57.52 if taking one course, \$115.05 if taking two courses, and \$172.57 if taking three courses, per academic term. **The** The Secondary Student membership SAMU Affiliate Fee is assessed at \$4.66x.xx per credit.

5.3 Students enrolled in the School of Continuing Education International program (SCE INTL) will be assessed a fee of \$517.71 per year.

5.4 The SAMU Affiliate Fee will increase yearly by the annual average of Alberta's CPI from December 1 to November 30 of the previous year.

5.4.1 If the annual average of the CPI results in a negatives number, it will be regarded as a zero percent increase.

5.2.1 The Office of the University Registrar converts secondary-level credits for billing purposes.

**Dedicated Fees**

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**Appendix A**

1 Students enrolled in the University Prep program are assessed a fee of \$57.52 if taking one course, \$115.05 if taking two courses, and \$172.57 if taking three courses, per academic term.

2 Students enrolled in the English as an Additional Language program (EAL) are assessed a fee of \$57.52 if taking one course, \$115.05 if taking two courses, and \$172.57 if taking three courses, per academic term.

3 Students enrolled in the School of Continuing Education International program (SCE INTL) will be assessed a fee of \$517.71 per year.

4 The SAMU Affiliate Fee will increase yearly by the annual average of Alberta's CPI from December 1 to November 30 of the previous year.

5 If the annual average of the CPI results in a negatives number, it will be regarded as a zero percent increase.

**Fact Sheet****Approvals:**

First Approval: April 6, 2009  
Last Approval: June 16, 2021

**Date of Last Review:** April 9, 2021

**Related Documents and Forms:****Source and Updates:**

ITEM#: UNKNOWN DATE – Policy Format created, designated Policy 26  
2011-08-16-6.11 – Updated expectation 6.1  
2011-03-21-5.3 – Policy updated to reflect name change of SC Policy 27.  
2012-05-16-5.3 – “Executive Council” updated to “Executive Committee”  
2012-11-12-6.5 – Committees updated to follow Policy 25, Committees Policy

September 5, 2013: *SAMU Fees* approved by Students' Council motion 2013-09-04-6.1. Policy updated to new format. Source material Students' Council Policy 26 – SA Fees.

October 21, 2015: *SAMU Fees* approved by Students' Council motion 2015-10-21-6.2 on the recommendation of the Bylaws and Policy Committee. Secondary Student Membership Fee increases from \$3.50/credit to \$3.85/credit beginning in the 2016/17 academic year, then increases to \$4.24/credit in the 2017/18 academic year, and then to \$4.66/credit in the 2018/19 academic year.

September 20, 2017: *SAMU Fees* approved by Students' Council motion 2017-09-20-7.4. Distance students reference removed.

January 23, 2019: *SAMU Fees* approved by Students' Council motion 2019-01-23-7.1 on the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee to take effect July 1, 2019. Changes include: students assessed SAMU Fee up to fifteen credits, increased from nine credits; SAMU membership fee decreased from \$13.00/credit to \$11.75/credit; future SAMU Fee will increase annually by Alberta's average CPI from previous year.

July 1, 2020: SAMU fees for 2020-2021 updated to \$11.95 based on a CPI increase of 1.7%.

June 16, 2021: *SAMU Fees* approved by Students' Council motion 2021-06-16-7.2 on the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee. Updated to identify that students enrolled part-time who are considered full-time by MacEwan University will be assessed SAMU Fees at a nine credit rate.

July 1, 2021: SAMU membership fees for 2021-2022 updated to \$12.09/credit based on a CPI of 1.2%.

July 1, 2022: SAMU membership fee for 2022-2023 Updated to \$12.66/credit based on a CPI of 4.7%.





**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

Policy

July 1, 2023: SAMU membership fee for 2023-2024 updated to \$13.50/credit based on a CPI of 6.6%.

July 1, 2024: SAMU Membership fee frozen at the current rate for the 2024-2025 fiscal year based on Students' Council motion 2024-01-17-7.1.



## STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

### AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

Meeting Date	Submitted By
January 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance & Finance

Agenda Item Title	SAMU Fees Policy - Annual Membership Fee Increase	
Action Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion	<input type="checkbox"/> Consultation Item

### AGENDA ITEM DETAILS

Motion Title	Motion to disregard clause 4.3 of the SAMU Fees Policy for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.
Background Information	<p>We've recognize that student affordability is one of the main concerns that students are facing and along with that, CPI was larger than expected the last couple of years. After consultation with the General Manager and the Finance Committee, the Finance Department did some forecasting, and from that we believe we can freeze the fee for the upcoming year while still maintaining high quality services and programs to students.</p> <p>The Finance Committee formally passed a motion recommending this motion to Students' Council.</p>
Alternative Considerations	Leave policy as is and increase SAMU fee by CPI
Risk Management Considerations	<b>Not having enough funds to operate and provide high quality services and programs to students.</b>
Strategic Alignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete</i>
Implications	SAMU membership fee will freeze for the 2025-2026 fiscal year and revert to its regular increase by CPI afterwards.
Related Documents	SAMU Fees Policy
Follow Up Action	N/A

Review History

N/A

## Strategic Alignment Checklist

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