



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

Agenda for the Students' Council Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University January 21, 2026 at 6:00pm in the Council Chamber

Voting Members:

Dalya Abougoush, Councillor
Shina Adeshina, Councillor
Olad Ayodeji, Councillor
Anna Campmans, Councillor
Tolu Dare, Councillor
Chistian Galera, Councillor
Jean Pierre Moreno, Councillor
Moselle Namoc, Councillor
Maade Okai, Councillor
Nathan Poon, President (absent)
Elizabeth Russell, Councillor
Kris Ravelo, Councillor
Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance

and Finance
Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life
Vincent Trinh, Councillor
Chioma Uzor, Vice President Academic
Shanna Villasenor, Councillor
Liam Wilson, Councillor
Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, Vice President External (absent)

SAMU Officials and Council Support:

Tim Jobs, Chair
Darryl Kostash, General Manager
Alan Honey, Governance Advisor
Caitlin Yambao, Admin Support

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm.

<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 Amiskwaciy 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 21, 2026

2.2 MOTION

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2025

3. Presentations

3.1.

4. For Information

4.1. Reports

4.1.1. President

4.1.2. Vice President Academic

4.1.3. Vice President External

4.1.4. Vice President Governance & Finance

4.1.5. Vice President Student Life

4.1.6. Strategy and Engagement Committee Q2 report (VPSL)

4.1.7. Executive Committee Q2 report (Pres)

4.1.8. Audit Committee Q2 report (Councillor Russell)

4.1.9. Governance Committee Q2 report (VPGF)

4.1.10. Students' Council Operations Committee Q2 report (VPGF)

4.1.11. Finance Committee Q2 report (VPGF)

4.1.12. Tuition and Fees Consultation 2025-2026 (VPGF)

4.1.13.

4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of December 10 & 17, 2025, and January 7, 2026 provided.

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

Villasenor – for EC: When decisions like discontinuing Safewalk are informed by survey data, how does SAMU consider accessibility and safety needs for students who may not be reflected in survey participation?

VPSL- Thank you for your question, Councillor Villasenor. I appreciate your attention to the agenda. Operations presented the recommendation to cease the safe walk, and I have connected with our operations to help answer your question.

Response from Operations to aid in answering the question above:

"For clarification, this is feedback we've received from multiple surveys over the course of a few years - 2023 - 75% were aware of the service and haven't used it. While only a little over 4% have used it. 2024 - 78% were aware of the service and haven't used it. Only a little over 4% have used it. 2025 - 80% were aware of the service and haven't used it. 5% have used it.

In addition to these Spring Student Surveys, we also put out a specific Safety Survey in March 2025 where 50% of respondents indicated they didn't feel a need to utilize Safe Walk. While we recognize this doesn't include feedback from every student, we do use these surveys to guide our operations. This coupled with the number of walks given over each year informs the trend - 22/23-45 walks, 23/24-21 walks, 24/25-22 walks.

Ultimately, MacEwan Security Services through their Safe @ MacEwan app provides multiple resources for students in regard to safety needs including a Friend Walk feature and have also provided walks for students. The safety needs of students (and others on campus) are the primary responsibility of MacEwan Security Services and not SAMU.

Financial resources and employee time are best utilized toward services and other operational activities that address student feedback, trends and utilization patterns of our current student body."

Abougoush - For the Vice President of Governance & Finance: During our meeting on November 19, 2025, you indicated that discussions had taken place regarding the return of physical student IDs. At that time, I asked how and when physical IDs might be reintegrated, and you stated that you would follow up with Council once more information became available. As no update has been provided since, could you clarify what progress, if any, has been made on this issue, and whether there is a current timeline or decision regarding the reintroduction of physical student IDs?

VPGF – Thank you for your question, Councillor Abougoush. During our SC Meeting on November 19, 2025, I provided an oral supplement regarding my meeting with Maureen Powers-Lomas, MacEwan’s Vice President Finance and Administration and CFO. In this oral report, Maureen followed up on my concerns surrounding the Digital ID from our October 1-on-1 meeting. During this November meeting, Maureen stated that physical IDs should now be provided to any students who will request one from the IT Help Desk. Maureen stated that there was an internal miscommunication within the IT Department that prevented this issue from getting addressed sooner, and she thanked me for flagging it to Administration. On January 14, 2026, I followed up with Maureen to see if the University currently has any plans to “advertise” the fact that Physical IDs are now readily available alongside Digital IDs, to which she replied that she would have to follow up with me on this matter. Maureen also clarified that the University is not looking to revert back to Physical IDs; but rather, it will be supplementary to the Digital ID. Additionally, for all Councillors: if you have any questions regarding Executives’ progress updates, outside of SC Meeting timelines please feel empowered to email us directly through our SAMU emails! This way, you don’t have to wait until the next Council report to hear updates about our Advocacy initiatives.

Trinh - For VPSL - In regards to the Strategy and Engagement Committee (SEC), do you think that there's more potential that can be used in the committee? Apologies for the odd and possibly operational question, but I do think that the committee is in a bit of a weird place compared to other committees. I feel like I've seen the SEC as the "team building committee" alongside with organizing the Town Hall event and Professional Development (PD) sessions. I've looked over the committee's policy and I feel there can be more opportunities to use SEC to have more PD sessions and events to engage with students.

VPSL - Thank you for your question, Councillor Trinh. You don't have to apologize for this question; it's definitely within the scope of governance, and I appreciate it because it is one of the conversations the Strategy and Engagement Committee (SEC) had when creating the work plan. It is within the work plan to also have SEC serve as a Consultation body and provide feedback on the Executive Committee's initiatives; however, the use of this is dependent on whether EC members want consultation from SEC on their initiatives.

Trinh - For VPSL - If you know, how was the turnout for Winter Fest? And how was it compared to other years?

VPSL - Although this question is operational, I was able to get an answer from our General Manager. It goes, "Winterfest is on it's second year and sold 19.2% more tickets than last year and to add to that we were at 90% capacity for the event. This is on top of the fact that ticket prices were a bit higher than last year."

Campmans – For VPE - In regards to your meeting with Minister LaGrange (I am looking forward to hearing about the results of that), what is the purpose of this meeting, and what benefit will it provide to the student body?

VPE - The meeting/tour was arranged as part of the ongoing strategy of establishing connections with our provincial political leaders to demonstrate the student needs present on our campus and need for increased support to areas under their jurisdiction that affect our students. This meeting specifically will cover these topics:

Work Integrated Learning

Job Placement

Campus Health Resources

Affordability

Campmans - For VPSL - In regards to the PD Session hosted last week, I think I speak for everyone in attendance when I say that it was both an informative and fun experience. Will more events like this be hosted in the future?

VPSL – Thank you for the kind words, Councillor Campmans, and your question. The answer is absolutely! The outgoing and incoming Strategy and Engagement (SEC) committee members both agree that it is doing more PD sessions for counsellors. As the chair of the committee, I consider these sessions paramount to the Students' Council's overall culture and success.

Russell - For VPSL: For the NSO, can you clarify which departments you reached out to and what specific contributions they made to the NSO?

VPSL - Thank you for your question, Councillor Russell. Before the start of the fall semester, I reviewed the list of New Student Orientation (NSO) sessions held in addition to the general New Student Orientation at the gymnasium. I noticed that SAMU wasn't part of NSO sessions for some departments on campus, including Kihêw Waciston, MacEwan Athletics, and MacEwan International. So I reached out and was added to their programming, so more students are aware of what we offer. It's also a way to build relationships with the different departments, which has proven fruit

5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include:

6. In Camera Period

6.1.

7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day

7.1.

7.2.

8. Consultation

8.1.

9. Evaluation

9.1. _

10. Recognition

11. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Next Meeting Date: February 18, 2026

Meeting adjourned at pm.



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

**Minutes for the Students' Council Meeting of the
Students' Association of MacEwan University
December 17, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Council Chamber**

Voting Members:

Dalya Abougoush, Councillor
Shina Adeshina, Councillor
Olad Ayodeji, Councillor
Anna Campmans, Councillor
Tolu Dare, Councillor
Chistian Galera, Councillor
Jean Pierre Moreno, Councillor
Moselle Namoc, Councillor
Maade Okai, Councillor
Nathan Poon, President
Elizabeth Russell, Councillor
Kris Ravelo, Councillor
Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance

and Finance
Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life
Vincent Trinh, Councillor
Chioma Uzor, Vice President Academic
Shanna Villasenor, Councillor
Liam Wilson, Councillor
Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, Vice President External

SAMU Officials and Council Support:

Tim Jobs, Chair
Darryl Kostash, General Manager
Alan Honey, Governance Advisor
Parvin Sedighi, External Stakeholder and Relations Manager

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm.

<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.

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2. Approvals

2.1 MOTION

TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 17, 2025

TRINH/OKAI

CARRIED

2.2 MOTION

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2025

CAMPMANS/MORENO

CARRIED

3. Presentations

4. For Information

4.1. Reports

4.1.1. President

4.1.2. Vice President Academic

4.1.3. Vice President External

ESA – met with Councillor Elliot.

4.1.4. Vice President Governance & Finance

4.1.5. Vice President Student Life

MacEwan volunteer appreciation/recognition & volunteer awareness on campus.

4.1.6. Governance Committee Workplan (Chair: VPGF)

4.1.7. Finance Committee Workplan (Chair: VPGF)

4.1.8. Audit Committee Workplan (Chair: Councillor Russell)

4.1.9. Executive Committee Workplan (Chair: Pres)

4.1.10. Students' Council Operations Committee Workplan (Chair: VPGF)

4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of November 5, 13, 19, 26, and December 3, 2025 provided.

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

Trinh - For VPA or VPSL - In regards to the new UWill mental health service, did MacEwan consult students about the program before deciding to add it? How does UWill compare to the already existing mental health services? Considering MacEwan is increasing the Mental Health Fee by 110% to sustain UWill, I believe it's important to know whether this service is even worth it or not.

VPSL - With regards to consultation, the university did frame UWill as something that previous SAMU executives have supported and were consulted on, but our records don't support this conclusion. SAMU was not provided an opportunity to review the proposal surrounding UWill and to provide a formal SAMU position on the program, despite how the university has elected to frame the conversation. Further, we are also not in support of raising the mental health fee to cover the cost of UWill, as we believe it replicates existing supports, and creates further financial pressures for already-struggling students.

In terms of comparing services, UWill's model operates similarly to MyWellnessPlan, an online mental health resource already available to students as part of their Health and Dental coverage. UWill provides students with six free counselling sessions to begin, each lasting 30 minutes for a total of 3 hours. When these 3 hours run out, students can purchase additional counselling sessions via "credits", with each 30-minute slot costing 30 credits, or \$110. However, students are only able to purchase credits in batches of 60, meaning students would need to pay a minimum of \$220 upfront.

In comparison, MyWellnessPlan also offers three free hours to begin, and students would need to pay for time beyond those three hours. However, the cost to continue counselling beyond these sessions is significantly lower than that of UWill. Specifically, students can purchase 30-minute increments of counselling for \$45, and those enrolled in the health plan are eligible for reimbursement up to a limit of \$600 per year.

The UWill agreement has a two-year term, so while MacEwan has already committed for this term, our focus is on future years and ensuring that the selected supports are affordable, effective, and reviewed by those who will rely on them most: students.

Trinh - For VPE - In regards to Recommendation 5 in the Mintz Panel section of your report, can you explain how the suggested Tuition model benefits students? Aside from providing more consistency, I don't see how it addresses affordability since the maximum cap for tuition increase is already 2%.

VPE – To clear up any misunderstanding the primary directive of the report was as follows:
“The panel submitted their report and recommendations to the Minister of Advanced Education in August 2025, with recommendations assessing:

- current and alternative funding mechanisms
- impacts of federal immigration policies on Alberta's post-secondary institutions
- the cost of the administrative and regulatory burden on post-secondary institutions
- the overall competitiveness of Alberta's higher education system”

As was reflected within my report, the recommendations were all stated in the government's own words to ensure they reflected their intentions.

As you can see from the above criteria assessed through the recommendations, student affordability was not a factor in the recommendations. *To be clear, should the recommendation regarding Tuition be implemented, it would not address affordability due to removing safeguards currently in place.* This is where, as student representatives, we will be assessing how MacEwan chooses to adopt any recommendation put into practice by the government, since no action has been taken on the government's end to implement the recommendations as of now.

Ayodeji - For President: Could you please provide some information on how the conversations about issues students face were received overall by MPs at CASA's Advocacy Week Reception?

Pres - Thank you for your question, Councillor Ayodeji,

Generally, the MPs were responsive to the asks we presented, taking notes and asking clarifying questions. Our primary goal for these conversations is to lay the foundation for a tangible piece of follow-up, most commonly a formal letter of support or a commitment to raise the issue within their respective caucuses or relevant committees, which is typically coordinated and followed up on by CASA home office staff after Advocacy Week.

With distinct federal party mandates and priorities, the objectives of each meeting, and what we expect to gain from them are tailored accordingly. In some cases, the focus is on securing public or written support; in others, it is about increasing awareness, identifying champions within Parliament, or opening lines of communication for future policy discussions. Overall, the reception suggested a strong willingness to engage on student issues and provided a productive starting point for continued advocacy at the federal level.

Ayodeji - For VPE: Having audited CASA as a whole, could you please provide an account of the organization's current standing in relation to SAMU, if possible?

VPE - As reflected by the President and I within our reports, upon conclusion of our Observer year within CASA we will have prepared an audit for presentation to student council. This aligns with the direction from council at the vote to leave the organisation. This report will be released in July.

Dare - VPA: Can you go in more detail, on your 1:1 discussion with Craig Monk about MacEwan's waitlist management. Any upcoming or suggested changes to the system?

VPA – Waitlist management is an area of interest for the provost this year, he is considering what it may look like for lifting the waitlist for students that are reserved for students of one individual faculty, freeing those additional seats up to those who are out of faculty that are still on the waitlist earlier

than it currently happens. He has not provided any clear direction about if and when this would be implemented or when the waitlist would be removed. We are still having further discussions on the matter, and I will update council as I get more information.

Moreno - For VP Governance & Finance: From a Students First perspective, how is SAMU balancing affordability with access in response to the proposed 110% increase to the Mental Health Fee, and what alternative funding or mitigation strategies is SAMU actively pursuing to ensure students are not disproportionately impacted?

VPGF - Thank you for the wonderful question, Councillor Moreno.

To clarify, the Mental Health fee is a MacEwan Mandatory Non-Instructional Fee that is being charged to our students. While we heavily opposed the increase to the fee within the Tuition and Fees Consultation process, SAMU does not have the ability to stop fee increases. MacEwan has indicated that this service was consulted with previous SAMU executives, but upon further inspection of Minutes from CoSA and other records, we could not find any substantial evidence of meaningful consultation.

We are currently advocating for the development of a consultation process with MacEwan to ensure a shared understanding of what “consultation” entails moving forward. This would help create transparency and consistency when it comes to projects that MacEwan wants SAMU’s support and endorsement of as the official voice of the students as per the Post Secondary Learning Act.

5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include: Inquiries on meeting with Minister of Advanced Ed; Mintz panel and exceptional tuition increases; CASA & food insecurity; tuition increases; mental health services within MacEwan & SAMU – collaboration opportunity?; international students;

6. In Camera Period

7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day

8. Consultation

9. Evaluation

10. Recognition

11. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

OKAI

CARRIED

Next Meeting Date: January 21, 2026

Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.



Students' Council Report

President

January 21st, 2026

Dear Council,

I hope you are all having a great start to the new year and the new semester! Thank you all for taking the time to attend the holiday social last month, especially during such a busy time.

Here's my report on from the President portfolio from December 10th, 2025 to January 15th, 2026.

Executive Summary

- SAMU x MacEwan President/Vice-Presidents Meeting
- Board of Governors Meeting – December 18th
- Alumni Advisory Council

SAMU x MacEwan President/Vice-Presidents Meeting

On December 17, the executives of SAMU and MacEwan University convened for the quarterly Presidents/Vice-Presidents (PvP) meeting. This quarter's meeting was productive and provided SAMU with the opportunity to advance several priorities related to internal advocacy, as well as to propose potential initiatives for future consideration.



All of these conversations are preliminary, and therefore there is not much information that is ready to be available; as these conversations progress and materialize, Council will be informed.

Board of Governors Meeting – December 18th

On December 18th, Vice President Governance and Finance Santiago and I attended the December 18th Board of Governors meeting where we provided the student perspective as student members of the Board. The most notable point from the meeting was that the Board approved a 2% tuition raise for domestic students, and a 10% raise for international students for the 2026/27 academic year. Additionally, the Board has approved a 3% increase for all mandatory non-instructional fees (MNIFs), with the exception of the Mental Health Fee and the Tech Fee, where the Mental Health Fee had a 110% increase, and the Tech Fee was waived for the 2026/27 year.

Vice President Governance and Finance Santiago and I voted against the motion, as we believe it is not in the best interest of the university from a student perspective, and hinders the achievement of MacEwan's Teaching Greatness strategic plan by risking student retention figures in exchange for tuition increases.

Alumni Advisory Council (AAC) – January 15th

On January 15th, I had the opportunity to speak before MacEwan's Alumni Advisory Council, where I was able to share quarterly updates on SAMU's advocacy. The AAC remains an integral part of the SAMU President role, as student success after graduation is closely tied to the conditions they experience during their time at MacEwan, such as affordability.

Closing Remarks

President Report to Students' Council

Submitted: January 15th, 2026

Page **2** of **3**



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

Thank you for taking the time to read my report.

Warm regards,

Nathan Poon

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan Poon', written in a cursive style.

President, Students' Association of MacEwan University 2025/26



Students' Council Report

Vice-President Academic

January 21, 2026

Welcome back everyone! I hope you've all had an amazing start to the semester so far
(insert sunshine emoji)!

Here is my report from December 17 – January 15th!

Executive Summary

- One-on-one w/ Provost
- Centre for Teaching and Learning Unit Review
- TAP Steering Committee
- Meeting w/ Rebecca Kerrigan for Student Research Day

Student Voice

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.

1 on 1 with Craig Monk

Strat Point 2.4 ,3.1

On December 17th, I had taken out the Provost, Dr. Craig Monk, for a pre-holiday lunch at Café Amore for our one-on-one. This exciting meeting was particularly on an informal basis to further develop our relationship with MacEwan. Some discussions pertaining to



the 2026/2027 Budget, Student consultation, and the progress of the new Business Building were discussed at the meeting.

Centre for Teaching and Learning Unit Review

Strat Point 2.4

The first unit review meeting for CTL had kicked off on January 12th! This meeting was particularly discussion and review of questions that would be sent out to faculty. Student review questions were not discussed in this meeting as questions are still in its initial stages, however we made this a priority for discussion at our next meeting.

Student Supports

Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.

Meeting w/ Rebecca Kerrigan for Student Research Day

Strat Point 3.3, 2.4

Every year, the Vice President Academic delivers a speech at the beginning of Student Research Day. I met with Rebecca Kerrigan to discuss how this will appear on the day and what I would need to prepare for in terms of delivery to the students in a quick online meeting. Information on what is expected in the script was discussed in the meeting.

TAP Steering Committee

Strat Point 3.2, 3.3

On January 8, I attended the TAP Steering Committee meeting. We used this meeting to review the TAP Funding Guidelines and how these will be communicated to students. Information on the budget plan and information across publishers were provided for discussion at this meeting as well.



Closing Remarks

Welcome back to campus! I hope you're glad to be back in those hallways like I am...

I am looking forward to working with everyone this semester! Remember, take your breaks! Be easy on yourselves and don't overwork. **You come first always!**

Council can ask me questions whenever they are. As you get busier, so do I! Please let me know before you come to my office that you will be coming and why. This will provide me with ample time to prepare so that you get as much detail into your questions as possible. Feel free to email me or shoot me a message on Telegram!

Warmly as always,

Chioma V. Uzor (she/her)

2025/2026 VP Academic, SAMU

savpacademic@macewan.ca





Students' Council Report

Vice-President External

Date of Meeting January 21st, 2026

It's report time once more! Hopefully, this report serves to provide all the information on advocacy efforts. Insert current event here: (I think, therefore I am).

Preparation for Minister LaGrange Tour

1.1

On Wednesday, 21st January, I arranged a tour with the Minister of Primary & Preventive Health Services, LaGrange and I shall supplement the results of that meeting.

We all float here,

Wilfrid Youbi Fansi





Students' Council Report

Vice President Governance & Finance

January 21st, 2026

Good day Council,

Happy new year! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable holiday break. Firstly, I would like to apologize for the delay in all my submissions for this month, as I was unfortunately hit pretty hard by the flu and could not be in office as much as I had planned.

As we once again start off a new semester, I encourage everyone to pace yourselves, stay hydrated, and remember that University is a marathon, not a sprint. With this in mind, below you can find my report covering the period from December 12th to January 15th. Attached separately are the following submissions:

- Tuition and Fees Consultation Process 2025/2026 Report
- Finance Committee Q2 Report + Workplan Update
- Governance Committee Q2 Report + Workplan Update
- Students' Council Operations Committee Q2 Report + Workplan Update

Executive Summary

- Winter Meet SAMU Tabling
- December Board of Governors Meeting
- Meeting with MacEwan VP Finance and Administration and CFO
- SAMU Committee Meetings
- SAMU Budget Update



Student Experience & Engagement

The overall student experience is enhanced by the opportunities provided by SAMU.

Strat point 1.3, 2.2

Winter Meet SAMU Tabling

On January 5th, the Executive Committee participated in tabling for Meet SAMU Week. This was a great opportunity to raise student awareness about SAMU's advocacy efforts and to highlight the various ways students can get involved in student leadership, most specifically the Executive Committee nominations beginning at the end of January.

Student Voice

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.

Strat point 2.1, 2.4

December Board of Governors Meeting

On December 18th, the President and I attended the December Board of Governors meeting. The President's report provides a breakdown of all the relevant updates pertaining to this meeting.

Strat point 2.1, 2.4

Meeting with MacEwan VP Finance and Administration and CFO

On January 14th, I met with my MacEwan counterpart Maureen Powers-Lomas as part of our regular 1-on-1 meetings. During this meeting, I followed up with the In Year Allocation and Budget Proposal Processes that I had submitted to her during our



last 1-on-1 in November to see if these had been distributed to the MacEwan Executive Council for review. These proposals are essential to ensuring that we have year-over-year consistency in our Budget and In-Year Allocation submissions to MacEwan. Afterwards, I inquired if MacEwan has plans in place to advertise Physical IDs being readily available to students moving forward, to which she replied that she would have to follow up with me in that matter. I also discussed the upcoming Tech Fee Committee meeting with Maureen, where we intend to address the current surpluses within the Tech Fee fund and consider the long-term direction for the Tech Fee. Additionally, we discussed the \$5 reduction to the Medical Clinic fee for the Winter 2026 term, an important Advocacy W that stems from our highlighting of MacEwan's non-compliance with the legislation for this fee during our Tuition and Fees Consultation meetings with MacEwan. Lastly, Maureen shared that MacEwan has begun reviewing student data from the Belonging at MacEwan survey launched in the Fall semester, and she also noted that communication had been sent out to students regarding the recent errors in Student Loan funding processing. (SAMU has also since released a statement regarding this matter).

Strat point 2.1

SAMU Committee Meetings

On January 8th, the Students' Council Operations Committee met to discuss the Remuneration of Elected Representatives policy. The next day, on January 9th, the Finance Committee met to conduct training for the Budget Presentations in mid-February. The Senior Finance Manager also provided a detailed presentation consisting of all the information needed by the Committee to effectively carry out their roles within the Committee. More comprehensive information will be provided in the upcoming monthly reports and/or the next Quarterly Reports in April.



Additionally, moving forward, all relevant information regarding Committee meetings will be condensed into one briefing section to streamline the reporting process.

Student Supports

Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.

Strengthening SAMU Operations

SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment.

Strat point 4.4

SAMU Budget Update

On December 18th, all Department Managers have completed and submitted their respective budgets. The General Manager has since been working on balancing the overall budget, while the rest of us Department managers are preparing our presentations for the Budget presentations in February.

Closing Remarks

Thank you for taking the time to read my report. On a personal note, I can't believe it's already January. One thing that was mentioned to us by the Governance and Advocacy Support Team at the very beginning of our terms was that the year will go by in the blink of an eye, and they were right. It's already the Winter term, and we are 3 months away from the end of our terms. I just want to reiterate again how incredibly fulfilling and rewarding this experience has been, and I look forward to seeing what the



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

remainder of our terms have in store for us.

Once again, if you have any written questions pertaining to this report, please submit them to the Governance Advisor, or reach out to me directly through my email below. I will see you all tomorrow!

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'AS', is positioned below the 'Kind Regards,' text.

Andrei Santiago (he/him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2025/2026

savpoperations@macewan.ca





Students' Council Report

Vice-President Student Life

January 21st, 2026

Greetings everyone,

Winter semester has started off with a bang! Between the winter New Student Orientations, to meet SAMU week, to support the launch of the Athletics engagement survey, and organizing a professional development session, it's been quite the busy start to great year! It's awesome to see the campus looking lively again whether that's the student groups expo or the different events happening throughout campus. I invite you to read my report for the period of December 15 to January 13.

Executive Summary

- Winter New Student Orientation
- Athletics Engagement Survey rollout
- Meeting with my Counterpart Allison Drew-Hassling



Student Experience & Engagement

The overall student experience is enhanced by the opportunities provided by SAMU

Winter New Student Orientation

I had the pleasure of delivering the New Student Orientation (NSO) speech to hundreds of students enrolling for the winter semester. This was a great opportunity to raise awareness about SAMU and highlight the meaningful events, programs, services, volunteer opportunities, and employment options available to students. I also had the chance to share my own experience and offer personal advice that I wish I had received when I began my winter semester many years ago.

During the end of the summer, I set a goal to proactively reach out to different departments to participate in their fall NSO sessions. That effort paid off, as for this winter's New Student Orientation, both Kihêw Waciston and the School of Business reached out to SAMU to be part of their programming.

Student Voice

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU

Athletics Engagement Survey rollout

If you're reading this the week the agenda first comes out, the [Athletics Engagement Survey](#) is still open, so you should totally complete it if you haven't already. Humor aside, the Athletics Engagement Survey is a project I've put a great deal of time and effort into, and I'm proud of how it has come together.



The purpose of the survey isn't just to gauge student awareness of our athletic teams, but also to better understand the barriers students face for attending games, whether that's parking, affordability, or broader student well-being across campus. If you haven't had a chance to take the survey yet, I encourage you to do so. Your voice matter!

Survey Link: [SAMU Athletics Survey](#)

YOUR VOICE. YOUR TEAMS. YOUR CAMPUS EXPERIENCE.

**ATHLETICS
STUDENT
ENGAGEMENT
SURVEY**

BEEN TO A MACEWAN GAME?

HEARD ABOUT ATHLETICS
BUT NEVER ATTENDED?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
Complete the survey for a chance to win
one of five \$50 gift cards!

**TAKE THE SURVEY AT
SAMU.CA/ATHLETICSSURVEY**

SAMU logo and Griffins logo are also present.

Meeting with my Counterpart Allison Drew-Hassling

I met with Allison in the middle of the month. Allison is the assistant vice president (AVP) of support and accountability. During our meeting, Allison gave an update on the timelines for the policy amendment recommendations from the Council of Student Affairs (COSA), including the Code of Conduct Policy, the Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy, and the Student Academic Misconduct Policy.



Closing Remarks

To whoever is reading this, thank you for taking the time to review my report. If anything raises questions or requires clarification, please don't hesitate to reach out. I would like to take a moment to recognize the Governance and Advocacy Support Team (GAST) staff and the Marketing team for their hard work and support in the Athletics Student Engagement Survey. I would also like to extend a special thank you to Steve Hoskin and Rob James from Paragon Toastmasters International for facilitating the professional development session for students' councilors and students-at-large. Additionally, I would like to acknowledge Vice President Academic Chioma and Vice President Governance and Finance Andrei, for their contributions to the session. I will conclude this report with a Chinese proverb that resonated with me: "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second-best time is now."

Cheers,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'AT' with a stylized flourish.

Alem D. Tesfay

VP Student Life, SAMU 2025/2026

Email: savpstudentlife@macewan.ca

Website: Alemtesfay.ca

Campus IG page: [@Alemupdates](https://www.instagram.com/Alemupdates)

Vice President report to Students' Council

[01/14/2026]

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Students' Council Report

Quarterly Report: **Strategy and Engagement Committee**

SC Meeting Date: January 21, 2026

| <u>Committee Members: outgoing</u> | <u>October 1 – December 31</u> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Alem Tesfay, | VP Student Life (Chair) |
| Andrei Santiago, | VP Governance & Finance |
| Aryan Dutta, | Councillor |
| Maade Okai, | Councillor |
| Olad Ayodeji, | Councillor |
| Mabel Adesopo, | Student-at-Large |
| Vacant, | Student-at-Large |

| <u>Committee Members: incoming</u> | <u>October 1 – December 31</u> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Alem Tesfay, | VP Student Life (Chair) |
| Andrei Santiago, | VP Governance & Finance |
| Tolu Dare, | Councillor |
| Dalya Abougoush, | Councillor |
| Moselle Namoc | Councillor |
| Shine Estigoy, | Student-at-Large |
| Alek Kosoric, | Student-at-Large |



Greetings Council,

This is the Strategy and Engagement Committee (SEC) report for the reporting period of October 1st to December 31st (Quarter 2, 2025-26)

SEC met twice between October 1st and December 31st. The first meeting of Quarter 2 was with the outgoing committee members. During that meeting, we reviewed the Year-end Council BBQ Survey responses, planned for future Professional Development (PD) opportunities, such as Toastmasters and a personal branding workshop with MacEwan Career & Experiences Services. The second meeting of the quarter took place on December 18th, with the newly appointed committee members, during which we reviewed the work plan, the SEC Terms of Reference, and the operation of SEC committee meetings. We also had time left in the meeting to discuss the timeline of the Toastmasters PD opportunity. If anything in this report raises questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Cheers,

Alem D. Tesfay

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'AT'.

VP Student Life, SAMU 2025/2026

savpstudentlife@macewan.ca

alemtesfay.ca

Campus IG page: [Alem.update](#)s

Strategy and Engagement (SEC) Workplan 2025-2026
For Information to Students Council
Submitted: December 18rd 2025

| Chaired By: | Alem Tesfay, VP Student Life (VPSL) | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Committee Members: | Andrei Santiago, VP Governance & Finance Dalya Abougoush, Councillor Tolu Dare, Councillor Moselle Namoc, Councillor Shine Estigoy, Student-at-Large Alek Kosoric, Student-at-Large | | | |
| Committee Mandate: | The Strategy and Engagement Committee (SEC) strives to maximize student engagement with Students' Council, provides leadership development opportunities to members of Students' Council and acts as a consultation body for strategic priorities. | | | |
| Approved by Committee: | 12/18/2025 | | | |
| Received by Council: | 01/21/2025 | | | |
| Task | Details | Stakeholders | Timeline | Status |
| Student Engagement Opportunities | Student engagement opportunity such as tabling | SAMU Students' Council Students at Large | February-October 30 th | Initial |
| Professional Development and Teambuilding | SEC creates opportunities for members of Students' Council and committees to gain professional development skills | SAMU Students' Council Students at Large | January 7 th -30 th | Initial |
| Consultation | Provide feedback to Executive Committee as required | SAMU Students' Council Students at Large | January- October 30 th | Ongoing |



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

Students' Council Report

Executive Committee

January 15th, 2026

Dear Council,

Thank you for taking the time to read the quarterly Executive Committee report. At this time, there are no updates of strategic relevance to provide to Council, as all updates have been included in December's Students' Council Agenda Workplan Update.

Please reach out if you have any questions.

Warm regards,

Nathan Poon

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan Poon'.

President, Students' Association of MacEwan University 2025/26



Students' Council Report

Quarterly 2 Audit Committee Report January 15, 2026

Audit Committee Members:

Elizabeth Russell, Councillor
Moselle Namoc, Councillor
Christian Galera, Councillor
Angela Zeballos, Student-at-large
Nikhil Duggal, Student-at-large

Committee Resource Officials:

Cameron Whiting, Senior Finance Manager
Michelle Malin, Resource Official

Greetings Council,

This is the report from the Audit Committee for the reporting period from October 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025 (Quarter 2). This committee met twice this quarter, in October and December.

During the October meeting, the Audit Committee reviewed the variances from Quarter 1. This was the final meeting of the 24/25 cycle of Voting Members, and the Audit Committee reviewed the annual audit conducted by MNP and reflected on the findings and issues.

The December meeting welcomed the new cycle of Audit Committee members. We appointed the Audit Committee Chair, Elizabeth Russell, discussed the training session, and reviewed the 2025/26 Workplan.

If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Best,

Elizabeth Russell

Audit Committee Chair, SAMU 2025/26
russelle9@mymacewan.ca



Students' Council Report

Quarterly Report: Governance Committee

January 21, 2026

Committee Members:

| <u>July 1st 2025 to September 30th 2025</u> | <u>October 1st 2025 to December 31st 2025</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair) | Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair) |
| Cierra Jacobs, Councillor | Christian Galera, Councillor |
| Moselle Namoc, Councillor | Kris Ravelo, Councillor |
| Colton Bloudoff, Student-at-Large | Amanda Lou, Student-at-Large |
| Vacant, Student-at-Large | Zainab Oseni, Student-at-Large |

Greetings Council,

This is the report from the Governance Committee for the reporting period of October 1st to December 31st, 2025 (Quarter 2).

The Committee met twice this Quarter. On October 1st, the Committee met to look at the Roles & Responsibilities of Elected Representatives policy. The Committee discussed and debated Student Group Involvement for Executives, Applications of SAMU Directives and SAMU Office Norms to Executives, and updating the scope of the written Roles and Responsibilities of the Vice President Student Life within this policy. Additionally, the Committee also looked at the SAMU Bylaws and garnered thoughts surrounding “not having previously been removed from office as a SAMU elected representative due to a Code of Conduct violation” as an additional requirement to qualify for Office as Executives and/or Councillors. This addition to the Bylaw would have to go through Town Hall and two Students' Council readings first before it could be approved and implemented.



On December 2nd, The Committee met to do a round of introductions, introduce the Terms of Reference for the Committee, and approve the 2025-2026 Workplan for this Committee. The January Committee Workplan Update has been attached separately.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'AS', is positioned below the 'Warm Regards,' text.

Andrei Santiago (he/him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2025/2026

savpoperations@macewan.ca

Governance Committee Workplan 2025-2026
For Information to Students Council
Submitted: January 15th, 2026

| Chaired By: | Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Committee Members: | Christian Galera, Councillor Kris Ravelo, Councillor Amanda Lou, Student at Large Zainab Oseni, Student at Large | | | |
| Committee Mandate: | The Governance Committee ensures the relevance and consistency of SAMU Bylaws and Policies and assists in governance process development. | | | |
| Approved by Committee: | December 2, 2025 | | | |
| Received by Council: | December 17, 2025 | | | |
| Task | Details | Stakeholders | Timeline | Status |
| Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Representatives | Review for relevance. | Students' Council | February 2026 – March 2026 | Ongoing |
| Official Reporting Mechanisms to SAMU Membership | New Strategic Plan; will need approval via this policy when ready. | SAMU | Before July 2026 | Initial Stages |
| Bylaws Review | Preliminary conversations have led to potential changes that require approval. | SAMU | Town Hall – February 4, 2026 Submit Consultation Draft to SC February 4, 2026 1 st Students' Council Reading: February 18, 2026 2nd Students' Council Reading: March 18, 2026 | Ongoing |
| Students' Council Meetings / Attendance Policy | Review policy. | Students' Council | Winter Term – Summer Term | Initial Stages |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Roles and Responsibilities of the Chief Returning Officer | Review CRO Honorarium Amount. | Students' Council | February 2026 – March 2026 | Initial Stages |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------|



Students' Council Report

Quarterly Report: Students' Council Operations Committee

January 21, 2026

Committee Members:

| <u>July 1st 2025 to September 30th 2025</u> | <u>October 1st 2025 to December 31st 2025</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair) | Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair) |
| Tolu Dare, Councillor | Olad Ayodeji, Councillor |
| Jencel Diaz, Councillor | Anna Campmans, Councillor |
| Moselle Namoc, Councillor | Maade Okai, Councillor |
| Vincent Trinh, Councillor | Vincent Trinh, Councillor |

Greetings Council,

This is the report from the Students' Council Operations Committee for the reporting period of October 1st to December 31st, 2025 (Quarter 2).

The Committee met once during this quarter. On December 8th, the Committee met to do a round of introductions, introduce the Terms of Reference for the Committee, and approve the 2025-2026 Workplan for this Committee. Afterwards, the Committee began working on the biannual review of the Remuneration of Elected Representatives policy. The January Committee Workplan Update has been attached separately.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'AS', is positioned below the 'Warm Regards,' text.

Andrei Santiago (he/him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2025/2026

savpoperations@macewan.ca

Students' Council Operations Committee Workplan 2025-2026
For Information to Students Council
Submitted: January 15th, 2026

| Chaired By: | Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Committee Members: | Olad Ayodeji, Councillor Anna Campmans, Councillor Maade Okai, Councillor Vincent Trinh, Councillor | | | |
| Committee Mandate: | The Students' Council Operations Committee advises and reviews Students' Council, interviews and vets candidates for appointments made by Students' Council, and annually reviews the remuneration and compensation provided to Councillors, Executives, and other Students' Council appointments performing governance roles at SAMU. | | | |
| Approved by Committee: | December 8, 2025 | | | |
| Received by Council: | December 17, 2025 | | | |
| Task | Details | Stakeholders | Timeline | Status |
| Remuneration of Elected Representatives Policy | Biannual review as per policy; consider: Appendix A, Appendix B. | Students' Council Executive Committee | January 2026 – February 2026, July 2026 – August 2026 | Ongoing |
| Chief Returning Officer (CRO) Appointment | Appointment of the 2026/27 Chief Returning Officer for the SC elections in the Fall and EC elections in the Winter. | Students' Council Executive Committee Election Candidates | March 2026 – April 2026 | Initial Stages |
| Chief Returning Officer (CRO) Review Discussion | Seeing as this was postponed last year, there is an opportunity to revisit discussions regarding the evaluation of the Chief Returning Officer. Consider: Remuneration, workload, availability during elections. | Students' Council Executive Committee Election Candidates | January 2026 – February 2026, ideally before the appointment of the CRO in March 2026 – April 2026. | Initial Stages |
| Students' Council Chair Appointment | Appointment of the 2026/27 Students' Council chair. | Students' Council Executive Committee | March 2026 – April 2026 | Initial Stages |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Students' Council Chair Review Discussion | Discussion on the evaluation of the current Students' Council chair. | Students' Council Executive Committee | March 2026 – April 2026 | Initial Stages |
| Evaluation Form Review | Review the current Students' Council Evaluation Form and determine points of improvement. | Students' Council Executive Committee | Winter Term – Summer Term | Initial Stages |
| Review of Students Council Operations | Reviewing Students' Council meeting minutes and evaluation forms to determine the effectiveness and of Students' Council. | Students' Council Executive Committee | Typically once every 3 months, reviewing 3 Students' Council minutes and evaluations at a time | Ongoing |
| Councillor Appointments | Interviewing and appointing SAMU members for Students' Council vacancies. | Students' Council Executive Committee | As required | Ongoing |



Students' Council Report

Quarterly Report: Finance Committee

January 21, 2026

Committee Members:

| <u>July 1st 2025 to September 30th 2025</u> | <u>October 1st 2025 to December 31st 2025</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair) | Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair) |
| Nathan Poon, President | Nathan Poon, President |
| Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life | Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life |
| Vacant, Councillor | Shanna Villasenor, Councillor |
| Vincent Trinh, Councillor | Liam Wilson, Councillor |
| Tatum Gademans, Student-at-Large | Tarik Unal, Student-at-Large |
| Christopher Hemsworth, Student-at-Large | Ayanali Shaban, Student-at-Large |

Greetings Council,

This is the report from the Finance Committee for the reporting period of October 1st to December 31st, 2025 (Quarter 2).

The Committee met once this Quarter. On December 3rd, The Committee met to do a round of introductions, introduce the Terms of Reference for the Committee, and approve the 2025-2026 Workplan for this Committee. The January Committee Workplan Update has been attached separately.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'AS', is positioned below the text 'Warm Regards,'.

Andrei Santiago (he/him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2025/2026

savpoperations@macewan.ca

Finance Committee Workplan 2025-2026
For Information to Students Council
Submitted: January 15th, 2026

| Chaired By: | Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Committee Members: | Nathan Poon, President Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life Shanna Villasenor, Councillor Liam Wilson, Councillor Tarik Unal, Student at Large Ayanali Shaban, Student at Large | | | |
| Committee Mandate: | The Finance Committee assists Students' Council in fulfilling its financial oversight responsibilities through budgetary deliberations, reviewing SAMU fees and monitoring the financial well-being of the organization. | | | |
| Approved by Committee: | December 3, 2025 | | | |
| Received by Council: | December 17, 2025 | | | |
| Task | Details | Stakeholders | Timeline | Status |
| Annual Budget | Finance Committee oversees the construction of the annual SAMU budget and recommends it to Students' Council for Approval. Includes potential Finance Training / Budgeting workshop. | SAMU SAMU Members SAMU Affiliates Students' Council | Budget Training - Complete Budget Presentations – February 17 – 20, 2026 March SC Meeting | Ongoing |
| Annual Review of Finance Policy | Finance Committee reviews this policy annually; Discuss potential investments avenues. | Students' Council SAMU Finance | February 2026 – March 2026 | Initial Stages |
| Annual Review of SAMU Fees Policy | Finance Committee reviews this policy annually. consider: Clarity with MacEwan Staff exclusions, SAMU Fees with CPI | SAMU Finance SAMU Members SAMU Affiliates Students Council | February 2026 – March 2026 | Initial Stages |
| Quarterly Financial Statement Review | Finance Committee reviews the financial standing of SAMU on a quarterly basis. | SAMU | Q2 Review: January 2026 Q3 Review: | Ongoing |

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| | | | April 2026 Q4 Review: July 2026 Q1 Review: October 2026 | |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--|

Tuition and Fees Consultation Process 2025/2026 Report

January 15th, 2026

Prepared for Students' Council

Tuition and Fees Consultation Overview

Tuition and Fees are regulated provincially by the Tuition and Fees regulation made under the Post-Secondary Learning Act (PSLA). The PSLA is the piece of legislation that governs the post-secondary sector and is the fundamental reason that SAMU exists the way that it does.

The [Tuition and Fees Regulation](#) governs how post-secondaries determine tuition and fees increases for both domestic and international students, exceptional tuition increases, how institutions publish their fees, and how they consult with their students.

The regulation states that the University is to consult with the Students' Association annually and have at least two meetings per year. In these meetings the University must provide a statement with the anticipated increases to Tuition and Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees (MNIF's) for a 4-year period and provide all necessary information to compare the revenue from MNIF's to the costs of the specific goods and services paid for by the MNIF.

Following consultation with the Students' Association, the tuition and fees proposal goes to the MacEwan Board of Governors for approval. First going through its Finance, Property and Investment Committee.

It is important to note that while Student Associations used to have veto power regarding the cost of tuition and fees, that is no longer the case. Student Associations are only consulted, meaning ultimately, they have no control over the outcome; they can only advocate on behalf of students for the best possible outcome regarding the cost of education at their institution.

Consultation Format

Our consultation process went beyond the required 2 meetings. This year, SAMU and MacEwan had a total of 4 meetings during this consultation. Our first meeting kicked off at the beginning of August where we met to establish baselines for the process, request information, and clarify any expectations.

Meeting 2 also occurs in August and was where MacEwan provided their financials, including a report of tuition and MNIFs for the mandated 4-year period per the PSLA's Tuition and Fees Regulation and a revenue vs cost report of the MNIF's. SAMU was to verbally express the needs of the study body at this meeting.

Meeting 3 occurred at the beginning of October and was where MacEwan officially presented its proposed domestic and international tuition increases and any increases to MNIF's. After this meeting, SAMU was provided one month to send in writing our position to the presented tuition and fees increases.

Meeting 4 occurred in mid-November and was a wrap up meeting where MacEwan responded to SAMU's written submission.

Tuition and Fees Consultation Process 2025/2026 Report

January 15th, 2026

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As well during this consultation process, SAMU had the opportunity to provide a written submission stating where in-year allocations should be spent to best serve students, and to provide a written submission regarding budget expenditures for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Proposal

This year, MacEwan presented SAMU with an initial proposal and a second, final, one between meetings two and three.

Regarding Domestic and International tuition, the proposal was the same for both proposals. The proposal included a legislated cap of a 2% increase in domestic tuition applied equally across all programs and a 10% increase in international tuition.

The difference in the two proposals came regarding the mandatory non-instructional fees (MNIF's), in which a breakdown of the proposals could be seen below:

| Current MNIF Cost | | Proposal 1 Cost | % Change | Proposal 2 Cost | % Change |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|
| Technology Fee | \$34.50* | \$105.43 | 206% | \$36.60 | 6% |
| Medical Clinic Fee | \$10.00 | \$10.30 | 3% | \$10.30 | 3% |
| Registrarial Service Fee | \$18.35 | \$20.41 | 11% | \$18.90 | 3% |
| Mental Health Fee | \$7.15 | \$32.66 | 357% | \$15.00 | 110% |
| Sports & Wellness Fee | \$104.00 | \$150.76 | 45% | \$107.12 | 3% |
| Total Cost of MNIF's | \$139.50 | \$319.56 | 129% | \$187.92 | 35% |

**The technology fee has been waived since the winter term of 2024 due to the advocacy of previous executives.*

Our Advocacy

Tuition and Fees

SAMU Executives used the findings from the 2025 annual spring survey and the tuition and fees regulation to draft our response to the final tuition and fees proposal (proposal 2). Our proposal has been attached to Appendix A of this report.

To summarize, in our response to the University's proposal we:

- Opposed the increases in domestic & international tuition, as students are not seeing an increase in the quality of their education proportionate to the increase, and the international tuition increase is the highest we have seen across the province.
- Opposed the reinstatement of the Technology Fee as it is still not in compliance with the regulation and therefore cannot be charged to students until the current balance is depleted

Tuition and Fees Consultation Process 2025/2026 Report

January 15th, 2026

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- Opposed the increase in the mental health fee, as the increase is being justified by the introduction of UWill, a service that SAMU was not consulted on, and replicates supports students already have with their health plan.
- Began advocacy regarding the cost of the sports and wellness fee and the lack of space to utilize those areas by students, including the subsidization of the athletics program through this MNIF
- Opposed an increase of all other MNIF's across the board
- Rejected the University's move to an 80% cost recovery model, seen in proposal 1, on the grounds that the university does not provide us with comprehensive information to assess the cost vs revenue factors regarding MNIF's.

In Year Allocation

As a part of the In-Year Allocation process, SAMU was asked to provide feedback on areas in which university funding and investment can be increased based on student needs. SAMU has compiled our asks and have summarized them as follows:

1. Continued Expansion of Food Insecurity Measures on Campus
2. Investments into Learning Materials Affordability
3. Improving Student Housing Resources
4. Investment into Student Wellness Supports
5. Waiver of Locker Fees for Students

The Outcomes

Tuition and Fees Consultation

Despite our advocacy, MacEwan went forward with the 2% increase in domestic tuition and the 10% increase in international tuition. Regarding MNIF's, based on SAMU's advocacy, MacEwan waived the technology fee for the upcoming year. MacEwan is going forward with the other MNIF increases.

In Year Allocation

MacEwan is forecasting a deficit in their budget this year, and due to this, they have stated that they will not be pursuing any in year allocations. Though it was announced on January 7th 2026 that MacEwan will be reducing the Medical Clinic MNIF from \$10.00 to \$5.00 for the Winter 2026 term. This is due to SAMU's strong advocacy around MNIF compliance with the Tuition and Fees Regulation.

If you have any questions about this report before the Council meeting, please feel free to reach out to me through email: savpoperations@macewan.ca.

Warm Regards,

Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance, SAMU 2025/2026

Tuition and Fees Consultation Process 2025/2026 Report

January 15th, 2026

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APPENDIX A: SAMU WRITTEN RESPONSE TO MACEWAN TUITION AND FEES PROPOSAL

SAMU and MacEwan University Tuition and Fees Consultation

Background

In August of 2025, SAMU kicked off the tuition and fees consultation process with MacEwan University, as mandated by the tuition and fees regulations set forth by the Government of Alberta through the Ministry of Advanced Education. Within the meetings, MacEwan put forward several proposals for the 2026/2027 academic year before presenting their final proposal. MacEwan's proposal included taking the legislated increase in domestic tuition across all programs, currently at 2%, though they informed SAMU that if the government actioned any recommendations from the Mintz Panel that changed the cap, MacEwan would take the highest amount allowed. International tuition was proposed to increase by 10% applied equally across programs. Relating to MNIFs, MacEwan proposed reinstating the student technology fee for the 2026/27 year, applying a 3% increase to the student technology fee, the registrarial fee, the sports and wellness fee and the medical clinic fee, and increasing the mental health fee to \$15, a 110% increase to the fee.

It is SAMU's position that we are opposed to any increase to tuition or MNIFs for students for the 2026/2027 academic year, for a variety of reasons. At present, the state of affordability for MacEwan students is dire. The cost of living has increased almost universally, while the cost of education rises year over year, students find themselves exceptionally vulnerable to these increases, as they reverberate through all facets of their lives, including their schooling at MacEwan. Further, increases to the cost of education over the last five years have not necessarily resulted in a better student experience, nor is this fact measured by the university in any consistent way. Combined with the fact that the university has found the ability to finance additional capital projects, SAMU is concerned that the university's spending priorities do not reflect student needs.

SAMU believes that despite forecasting a slight operational deficit for this year, the university can look at the current budget for savings, rather than continuously increasing costs for students. While we acknowledge that the \$15 million injection this year is a one-time injection, these funds still belong to the university and are available for use by the institution. For this reason, we cannot discount the fact the university's finances appear to be in fine shape without the proposed increases.

Of course, it is difficult to ascertain this given that SAMU has not been provided with any concrete information around spending, including which programs and offerings are covered and if these offerings are consistent with the intent of various MNIFs, in addition to tuition. Without real, year over year, broken down documents of the university's spending and financial position, SAMU is not empowered to provide the kind of feedback outlined in the regulation. While regulation does not specify which documents specifically are required to be shared by the university, common sense dictates that it is impossible for students to fairly assess the revenue and spending of MNIFs when we don't have access to the spending data, among other considerations.

Tuition and Fees Consultation Process 2025/2026 Report

January 15th, 2026

Page 4 of 6

MacEwan is known to have consistently high surpluses in the university budget over the last number of years, and it is prudent for the university to look at savings in place to meet budgetary demands, before turning to students through a tuition increase. SAMU's goal is to ensure that increases to the cost of education are focused on improving the quality of education for the students paying that cost at the moment, rather than a projected improvement through the development of new spaces in the future.

Rationale

With the affordability crisis still ongoing, it should be no surprise that the top three barriers for student success per SAMU's 2025 Spring Survey are 1) Cost of Education, 2) Cost of Living, 3) Mental Health. SAMU cannot support an increase in tuition, knowing that students are struggling to afford post-secondary, and an increase will continue to price out students, this should be a concern to MacEwan as MacEwan aims to grow to 30,000 students. If tuition increases, students need to see direct tangible benefits to their educational experience at MacEwan.

Tuition: SAMU argues that even if changes regarding the legislated cap on domestic tuition are lifted during this budget cycle, MacEwan University should not take more than the current cap of 2% while the recommendations are going through government for consideration. SAMU is disappointed in seeing such a drastic increase in international tuition given we are seeing proposals from other post-secondary institutions in Alberta being released, which are significantly lower than MacEwan's, the UofA is proposing 5.5% and the UofC is proposing between 4-6%. We know that international students are some of the most vulnerable students on campus, increasing their tuition by 10% is unlikely to encourage more international students to come to MacEwan as well as retain the international students currently at MacEwan.

Tech Fee: Regarding MNIFs, SAMU does not support an increase to all MNIFs. SAMU is disappointed to see that the Student Technology Fee is not going to be waived for the upcoming year despite conversations with university leadership to that effect, and furthermore that the cost to students has increased. We believe that this fee should continue to be waived until the balance that is currently in the fund is depleted. We are also disappointed to see that MacEwan plans to continue charging students this fee when money has not been spent since the 2022-23 fiscal year.

Mental Health Fee: SAMU is extremely concerned to see the drastic increase in the cost of the Mental Health fee, which we cannot support or endorse. While MacEwan has indicated that the mental health fee is meant to supplement their baseline for mental health offerings and support on campus, there was not enough information provided regarding what is the baseline and what is supplementary to SAMU to justify a 110% increase to this MNIF. Additionally, the use of the mental health fee to fund UWill, a program which SAMU was not consulted on and which replicates supports students have access to through their health plan, misses the mark on mental health support. We know that the cost of education and living are primary drivers of student unwellness, as seen in our survey responses (minimum n:1500). An additional fee is not the creative or impactful solution students expect from the institution. We strongly, strongly urge the university to reconsider an increase to this fee, and to remain aligned with the commitment that was made at the outset of SAMU's approval of the mental health MNIF, which stated that this fee would never be expected to cover the full or even majority of the cost of mental health

Tuition and Fees Consultation Process 2025/2026 Report

January 15th, 2026

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services on this campus. Increasing this fee fails to acknowledge the primary driving factors behind student mental distress.

Sport and Wellness Fee: SAMU has concerns regarding the Sport and Wellness Fee. We are concerned with students subsidizing the usage of these services for external members, including community members, and staff. We believe that if MacEwan students are paying for these facilities, then MacEwan students should have priority access to them. We hear that the gym is constantly busy and students struggle to utilize the services, yet they are the ones primarily funding the sport and wellness centre. MacEwan needs to reconsider its allowance of external community members in the facilities, or look at expanding the gym services for students to make it worth the fee. SAMU believes that students should not be subsidizing athletics to the extent that they are within the MNIF. 18,000 starving students are being asked to subsidize the experience of 200 athletes, athletes that receive other perks that normal students do not. This is not justifiable to the broader student population, and SAMU does not endorse such a significant portion, over 35% of the MNIF going towards benefits that not all students get to utilize.

Cost Comparison: While SAMU recognizes MacEwan's comparison to other post-secondary institutions is to demonstrate its lowered cost to students, other institutions' fees do not have the same scope as those fees at MacEwan, rendering the comparison moot. There have also been concerns at these neighbouring institutions about compliance concerning comprehensive MNIFs, and we believe this means the comparisons provided are not set up to accurately provide a side-by-side breakdown of costs per institution given our unique institution by institution environments.

We recognize that by offering an 80% cost recovery model, the university is attempting to lighten the financial load on students. However, given that we have not been provided with the comprehensive and in-depth financial information that is required to assess the cost vs revenue factor in MNIFs, we are unable to endorse the current approach or numbers. With a proposed 129% overall increase to the total cost of MNIFs, we do not believe the proposal as it stands effectively reflects MacEwan's promise to put students first in pursuit of teaching greatness. We also anticipate a significant response and mobilization from students as a result of the proposal laid out here, which SAMU would support and empower as the official student voice on campus.

Conclusion

It is SAMU's position that more rigorous steps need to be taken to ensure that the university's projected costs and expenses are better aligned with the actual operating costs of the institution. Of course, it's understandable that budgeting requires a degree of estimating and operating off of assumptions, and our ask is not to eliminate this entirely. Rather, there needs to be stronger, more tangible rationale provided for the university's assumptions than is provided at the moment. While we are keen to see additional funding allocated to services directly supporting students, we believe further conversation between MacEwan University and students (through SAMU) are necessary in order to determine areas of priority. This would involve the university's provision of more detailed information about these services, including which specific services are captured under these MNIF categories, and of those which are experiencing more demand than supply.



Voting Members:

Nathan Poon, President (Chair)
 Chioma Uzor, VP Academic
 Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, VP External
 Andrei Santiago, VP Governance & Finance
 Alem Tesfay, VP Student Life

Resource Officials:

Darryl Kostash, General Manager

Alan Honey, Governance Advisor (Recording Secretary)

In Attendance:

Shannon Marshall, Executive Coordinator
 Larissa Williams, Internal Advocacy Advisor
 Parvin Sedighi, External and Stakeholder Relations
 Manager
 Emily Lukacs, External Advocacy Advisor

1. Call to Order: 2:25pm
2. 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 Amiskwaciy 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.

3. Approval of Agenda:
**VPSL/VPA
 CARRIED**
4. Approval of Minutes for: December 3, 2025
**VPA/VPSL
 CARRIED**

| TOPIC | | DISCUSSION | ACTION/MOTION |
|-------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Student Groups | MacEwan University Criminology Club Hispanic Student Club | MOTION TO APPROVE THE MACEWAN UNIVERSITY CRIMINOLOGY CLUB VPSL/VPGF CARRIED MOTION |

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| | | | TO APPROVE THE HISPANIC STUDENT CLUB VPSL/VPA CARRIED |
| 2. | Procedure Sub-Committee Workplan | VPGF – provided for information. | |
| 3. | UWill consultation | ESRM – have spoken to Pres & Vpgf about this already. Looking for support from EC for VPGF to reach out to MacEwan with some asks: formal consultation process going forward; for MacEwan to not call the program something we don't support. Vpa – in support of moving forward with this. Vpe – support. Vpsl – support. Pres – support. Vpgf – support. | Action: VPGF/RM to draft response and send to MacEwan. |
| 4. | Student Affordability Policy Paper | Pres – is this something we can do to support our efforts in the new year? Discussed previously with RM. Vpgf – support. Vpa – support. Vpe – support. Vpsl – support. | Action: ESRM to provide update about policy paper at last EC meeting in January 2026. |
| 5. | SC Holiday Social | Pres - \$40x19 SC members + tax + tip (18%) – to be taken from Executive Projects budget line. Vpsl – recommend taking from G/L 521300 – Leadership & Engagement. | MOTION TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$935.00 FROM G/L 521300 FOR A SC HOLIDAY SOCIAL AFTER THE DECEMBER 17, 2025 STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING VPSL/VPA CARRIED |
| 6. | EC Workplan | IAA – provided an amalgamation of everything discussed at retreat. Looking for approval of this amended workplan to submit to SC this month. | MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2025-2026 EC WORKPLAN VPA/VPSL CARRIED |
| 7. | MacEwan 2026-2027 Budget Proposal | VPGF – during last one-on-one with Maureen I began laying the foundations for in year & budget allocation requests. Looking for approval for this document prior to being sent to MacEwan. IAA – just consultation to ensure EC is good with this being sent out. EC – all in favour. | Action: Vpgf to send budget allocation proposal to MacEwan. |
| 8. | Outstanding Action Items | | |
| 9. | VP External's Report | | |
| 10. | VP Governance & Finance's | BOG - FFP meeting. Committee workplans completed. | |

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| | Report | Dept 12 budget work. SCOC meeting. Town Hall/SLW update. SAMU Operations Building Committee meeting. Received media request. | |
| 11. | VP Student's Life's Report | Met with AVP counterpart meeting update. | |
| 12. | VP Academic's Report | Library Council meeting. Winter Solstice event. | |
| 13. | President's Report | Strategy & Stakeholders Relations meeting. Pipe ceremony attendance. | |
| 14. | GM Report | Holiday party – best attendance since covid. HR update. Building storage update. Building committee update. Reminder that we're a scent free office. | |
| 15. | Recognition | | |

5. Adjournment

Time: 3:23pm



**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the
Students' Association of MacEwan University
December 17, 2025 @ 2:00pm**

Voting Members:

Nathan Poon, President (Chair)
Chioma Uzor, VP Academic
Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, VP External
Andrei Santiago, VP Governance & Finance
Alem Tesfay, VP Student Life

Resource Officials:

Darryl Kostash, General Manager

Alan Honey, Governance Advisor (Recording Secretary)

In Attendance:

Shannon Marshall, Executive Coordinator
Larissa Williams, Internal Advocacy Advisor
Parvin Sedighi, External and Stakeholder Relations
Manager
Emily Lukacs, External Advocacy Advisor

1. Call to Order: 2:00pm
2. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

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3. Approval of Agenda:

VPGF/VPA

**MOTION TO ADD – SC TRANSPORTATION COSTS FOR DEC MEETING
VPSL/VPA
CARRIED**

**MOTION TO ADD – EC ONE ON ONES
PRES/VPGF
CARRIED**

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes for: December 10, 2025

**VPGF/VPA
CARRIED**

| TOPIC | DISCUSSION | ACTION/MOTION |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Student Groups | Cam's Kids MacEwan Vpa – seems like it's offering services that can be accessed through MacEwan (WPS) already and SAMU's Peer Support. | Action: Table. Vpsl work with SG manager - ask them to update |

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| | | <p>Vpe – concern with students offering these services without formal training. Vpgf – see this as different from Create for Kids. Vpe – recommend denying based on duplication of services. Vpa – would like them to differentiate themselves better before approval. Vpgf – agree with Vpa. Vpe – think we should just deny. RM – recommend we ask potential SGs to distinguish themselves right on the application.</p> <p>MacEwan Entrepreneur Club</p> | <p>mandate and resubmit. Bring back at next meeting.</p> <p>MOTION</p> <p>TO APPROVE THE MACEWAN ENTREPRENEUR CLUB</p> <p>VPSL/VPGF CARRIED</p> |
| 2. | One on ones with MacEwan Admin | Pres – ensure we are uploading our notes to this folder on a regular basis after our meetings with counterparts have been completed. | |
| 3. | Time off accountability | VPGF – just a reminder to ensure we’re all on the same page with updating this info on a regular basis. | |
| 4. | SC transportation costs | Vpsl – considering the weather I want to ensure Council gets home safe tonight. I propose we cover the costs of a ride home tonight after the meeting. If they use Uber/LYFT we would reimburse their cost. | |
| 5. | EC one on ones | | <p>MOTION</p> <p>TO GO IN CAMERA</p> <p>VPSL/VPGF CARRIED</p> <p>MOTION</p> <p>TO GO OUT OF CAMERA</p> <p>VPGF/VPA CARRIED</p> |
| 6. | Outstanding Action Items | | |
| 7. | VP Governance & Finance’s Report | <p>SLW week update. Budget update. The Griff media request.</p> | |
| 8. | VP Student’s Life’s Report | <p>Budget update. NSO. One on one update.</p> | |
| 9. | VP Academic’s Report | Charter update. | |
| 10. | VP External’s Report | ESA priorities. | |
| 11. | President’s Report | <p>Met with MacEwan president – update provided. Alumni awards meeting. BOG prep. PVP meeting this morning. (EC) Holiday open house attendance (EC)</p> | |
| 12. | GM Report | <p>HR update. Budgets.</p> | |

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| | | The Lookout update. | |
| 13. | Recognition | | |

5. Adjournment
Time: 3:30pm



Voting Members:

Nathan Poon, President (absent)
 Chioma Uzor, VP Academic
 Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, VP External
 Andrei Santiago, VP Governance & Finance (Chair)
 Alem Tesfay, VP Student Life

Resource Officials:

Darryl Kostash, General Manager
 Alan Honey, Governance Advisor (Recording Secretary)

In Attendance:

Megan Viens, Director of Programs & Services
 Annette Kelm, Student Services Manager
 Cam Whiting, Senior Finance Manager
 Anita Chalmers, Senior Finance Manager
 Shannon Marshall, Executive Coordinator
 Larissa Williams, Internal Advocacy Advisor
 Parvin Sedighi, External and Stakeholder Relations
 Manager
 Emily Lukacs, External Advocacy Advisor

1. Call to Order: 2:01pm
2. 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.

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3. Approval of Agenda:
**VPA/VPSL
 CARRIED**
4. Approval of Minutes for: December 17, 2025
**VPSL/VPA
 CARRIED**

| TOPIC | | DISCUSSION | ACTION/MOTION |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Safewalk update | Kelm – update provided on Safewalk service. Will cease to exist – student surveys have indicated that they're not interested in using Safewalk. Decision is based on survey metrics from the last number of years. | |
| 2. | Global Education Fee recommendation | Viens – background on SRP/GEF provided. We're investigating more to find the history of the fee collected. Will update more in the future. | |
| 3. | Student Course Feedback | Vpa – they're interested in student feedback. Myslef & Vpsl will attend the focus group to represent | Action: |

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| | Survey Focus group | | Vpa to respond that only only Vpa & Vpsl will be attending. |
| 4. | Affordability Action | ESRM – tuition campaign document provided for review. Looking for feedback on proposal, and endorsement if you're read to do so. | MOTION TO TAKE A 5 MINUTE RECESS VPA/VPSL CARRIED |
| 5. | Hiring Committee Honorarium | IAA – Loyal was appointed in March for this hiring panel. Just recently discovered that we forgot to approve payment for her so I recommend we use the current standard of \$25/meeting. | MOTION TO PROVIDE AN HONORARIUM OF \$75, FROM G/L 524100, TO LAYAL ZIDAN FOR SERVING ON THE ASSOCIATE DEAN, STUDENT EXPERIENCE, HIRING PANEL VPA/VPSL CARRIED |
| 6. | Outstanding Action Items | | |
| 7. | VP Student Life's Report | Athletic survey update. | |
| 8. | VP Academic's Report | Met with Provost. | |
| 9. | VP External's Report | Minister visit coming up. | |
| 10. | VP Governance & Finance's Report | Dept 12 budget update. BOG meeting update. Meet SAMU tabling (all EC). SAB advo update. SLW update. | |
| 11. | President's Report | tabled | |
| 12. | GM Report | Budgeting update. Building update. | |
| 13. | Recognition | | |

5. Adjournment
Time: 3:46pm