

AMS Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, March 20, 2012
Ban Righ Dining Hall, Ban Righ

-----8:30pm-----

1. Approval of Agenda [Motion 1]
2. Approval of Minutes of the meeting of March 22nd, 2011 [Motion 2]
3. Speaker's Business
4. Speakers
 - a. Alison Sproat – Judicial Affairs Report, 2011-2012
 - b. AMS Executive – State of the Union
5. President's Report
6. Vice President's Report
 - a. Operations
 - b. University Affairs
7. Board of Director's Report
8. Student Senator's Report
9. Rector's Report
10. Statement by Members
11. Question Period
12. Business Arising from the Minutes
13. New Business
 - a. That AMS Assembly approve an increase in the Queen's Student Constable fee (mandatory) from \$8.34 to \$10.00 an increase of \$1.66 as seen in Appendix The First. [Motion 3]
14. Discussion

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Motion Sheet

1. Moved by: Mark Preston (cia@ams.queensu.ca)
Seconded by: Kieran Slobodin (vpua@ams.queensu.ca)
That AMS Assembly approve the agenda for the AMS Annual General Meeting of March 20th, 2012.
2. Moved by: Mark Preston (cia@ams.queensu.ca)
Seconded by: Kieran Slobodin (vpua@ams.queensu.ca)
That AMS Assembly approve the minutes for the AMS Annual General Meeting of March 22nd, 2011.
3. Moved by: Gracie Goad (hsdirector@ams.queensu.ca)
Seconded by: Ashley Eagan (vpops@ams.queensu.ca)
That AMS Assembly approve an increase in the Queen's Student Constable fee (mandatory) from \$8.34 to \$10.00 an increase of \$1.66.

Appendix The First: That the AMS Assembly approve an increase in the Queen's Student Constable fee (mandatory) from \$8.34 to \$10.00 an increase of \$1.66.

Thursday March 20th, 2012

Dear General Assembly,

Over the past couple year the Queen's Student Constables have been running a chronic deficit of roughly \$20 0000 a year. This has had a severe strain on our operations and threatens to compromise the quality and affordability of service we are able to provide the students of Queen's University. In order to continue to offer the same great service we need to increase our funding to reduce our deficit.

Already QSC has undergone internal cost cutting measures to help control our deficit but these changes have had little effect. Our biggest cost still remains licensing. It cost over \$670 (see Appendix) for a new Student Constable to complete the Ontario Governments mandatory security guard training, and \$80 to renew an existing Ontario Security Guards License. These new requirements are a cost which must either be reflected in either the price we charge students or the AMS Mandatory Student Fee we collect. It would be our preference to raise the Student Fee by a small amount instead of having to increase our prices which would have a monumental effect on all the groups we serve.

One of the reasons the Queen's Student Constables have been a part of the Queen's Community since 1936 is because we are the most affordable option for students when compared to other privet security services.

I ask the members of general assembly to approve the Queen's Student Constables request:

"Do you agree to an increase in the Queen's Student Constables Fee (a mandatory AMS fee) from \$8.34 to \$10, an increase of \$1.66."

Thank you for your consideration.

Queen's Student Constables

Proposal for an AMS Student Interest Fee Increase of \$1.66

The Queen's Student Constables (QSC) is a safety service run by the Alma Mater Society (AMS) which operates under the mission statement:

"To provide high quality peer supervision and support that ensures a safe and welcoming social environment for all Queen's students, while upholding AMS and University regulations."

This statement embodies the unique idea that Queen's students are capable of – and primarily responsible for – the safety and supervision of their fellow Queen's students; the QSC is the only service of its kind in North America.

The QSC works to uphold the AMS and university rules and regulations at sanctioned events and venues. This service means many things to many different campus groups, including the on-campus bars (Clark Hall Pub, Alfie's Nightclub, and the Queen's Pub); likewise, it supports Queen's sporting events, concerts, speaker series, conferences and formal events. The QSC offers an exciting and dynamic work environment, where challenges regularly require staff to exercise leadership roles and utilize sound judgment in their decision-making, while interacting with staff and students from diverse backgrounds.

Reasons to support the QSC:

1. The QSC strives to budget to break-even.

It is not a profit-seeking enterprise in nature due to its affiliation with the AMS (which is a not-for-profit). This philosophy guides the Head Manager and Director throughout the budgeting process, and is reflected in the current costs associated with using the service. What the QSC charges its users is nearly one-third of what external companies would bill out.

2. The QSC works closely with the on-campus bars and with the organizers at sanctioned events to deliver the best possible service to both supervisors and patrons.

The close relationship with on-campus bars allows for immediate information-sharing between establishments (e.g., ban lists) and for better scheduling (e.g., less Constables at Monday night's The Lounge due to lower risk). Event organizers are informed of ways that the QSC can help to lower the risk of their events with consultation with the Head Manager during the sanctioning process.

3. The QSC invests in those who work for it, through ministry-regulated training as well as the more specific AMS mandatory training sessions.

Staff members are licensed as provincial security guards after a mandatory 40-hour training week (which includes first-aid training). The license remains with the staff member after their time with the service (and they have the option to renew their license at a reduced cost). Staff members have access to accessibility and equity training, in addition to the AMS Human Resources Officer and other support resources like Health, Counseling, & Disabilities Services.

To answer your questions:

1. Why did you not take this through referendum?

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) presents the QSC with a desirable opportunity to discuss its deficit and the need for a fee increase in full. It allows for a presentation to be made on the current financial health of the service, as well as the chance to present how the QSC and the larger AMS would be positively affected should the fee increase pass. This fee proposal requires its audience to possess a comprehensive understanding of provincial licensing requirements, the challenges the service faces on an annual basis, and what the alternative(s) will mean for student groups should the service continue its financial dependence on the larger AMS and continue to run a deficit.

2. Why should students pay more?

This fee increase will not only allow the QSC to budget to break-even each year moving forward, but will also positively affect the services, student groups and individuals who interact with it. The fee increase will stop the service's dependence on the AMS to cover its deficit each year. It will allow the QSC to move to flat-rate billings, which alleviates some of the confusion surrounding event sanctioning and allows for the best possible staffing of events; additionally, the flat-rate billings moving forward will cost the event organizers and services less money per Constable per hour (e.g., Clark Hall Pub is looking at a cost-savings of \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00 next year). Finally, the fee increase – in conjunction with a separate proposal to share a grant from Student Affairs with Walkhome – will allow the QSC to offer their services for free to student groups that would otherwise not be able to afford to be sanctioned through the AMS. The benefits of increased sanctioning are quite clear; however, more importantly, the impact this will have on the public image of the service and in increasing its relevance to the average Queen's student is huge.

3. Why should I support additional funding for a service I myself don't use?

The QSC serve many purposes in the Queen's community, including but not limited to providing financially-accessible security service options to student groups and sanctioned events which otherwise might not be run or which might incur a greater cost to students. The QSC affect activities beyond those in on-campus bars, like Orientation Week and varsity athletics. The security alternatives are not only more expensive for users, but less familiar with student-run events and traditions and so are less able to determine accurate risk assessments. How would you explain the Grease Pole to an external contracted security force? Could you ask another security force to remain hands-off, one of the tenants of the QSC? The QSC affect many aspects of a student's life at Queen's, and offers many benefits (to both its users and its staff) as well.

4. Could the deficit be reduced through other means (e.g., reducing expenses)?

The QSC has undergone massive cuts to its expenses already, and thus cannot withstand much more. The budgeting process each summer never involves an expectation of a certain amount of revenue. The service's greatest expenses are licensing and training – both of which cannot be reduced – and staff wages. We're not talking about a small deficit of \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00 – the QSC deficit is chronic, and increasing each year due to Ministry-enforced licensing and training requirements.

5. Add your own...

Additionally, additional questions can be asked during the AGM.

Queen's Student Constables 2011-2012 Budget

			2011-2012	Fee Increase	Fee Increase
	Acct	Description	Budget	\$1.66 ¹	& Grant Splitting ²
Revenues	30000	Student Fees - AMS	\$120,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
	37020	Charge-Out Revenue	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
	37040	Charge-Out - CHP	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
	37060	Charge-Out - TAPS	\$96,500.00	\$86,500.00	\$86,500.00
	37700	Miscellaneous Revenue			\$20,000.00
		Total Revenue	\$301,500.00	\$321,500.00	\$341,500.00
Operating Expenses	16500	Furniture and Equipment	\$250.00		
	51000	Depreciation	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
	51730	Licensing Costs	\$13,500.00	\$10,500.00 ³	\$10,500.00
	53200	Office Supplies	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
	53920	PR/Promotions	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
	54840	Taxis/Travel	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
	54860	Telephone	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
	54995	Shift Supplies	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
	60000	Salaries	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
	61000	Wages	\$200,500.00	\$195,500.00	\$215,500.00
	64000	Staff Fund	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00

	66000	Training	\$43,000.00	\$38,000.00 ⁴	\$38,000.00
	67000	Uniforms	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
	57500	Incidental Expenses			
		Total Operating Expenses	\$333,250.00	\$297,500.00	\$317,500.00
Allocated Expenses	73000	Administrative Charge	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00
	75000	JDUC Cost Recovery	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
		Total Allocated Expenses	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00
Summary		Net Revenue	\$301,500.00	\$321,500.00	\$341,500.00
		Total Expenses	\$333,250.00	\$321,500.00	\$341,500.00
		Net surplus	\$31,750.00⁵	\$0.00	\$0.00

¹ The current student fee is \$8.34. We are proposing an increase of \$1.66, to a total fee of \$10.00.

² We are currently in the process of establishing a way to split a grant from Student Affairs between Walkhome and QSC. This grant revenue would fund the QSC in a new initiative, to offer its services for free to student groups who otherwise might not be able to afford sanctioning.

³ Licensing costs are set to decrease on an annual basis now that the Ministry allows for two-year licenses.

⁴ Training costs have been reduced moving forward by introducing into staff contracts minimum-wage pay during training.

⁵ This budgeted deficit has since been reduced to around -\$25,000.00, largely due to the introduction of stagger-start shifts in Alfie's/no Seniors at Monday night's The Lounge, and the reduction of several operating expenses.