

Advisory Collective December Meeting Minutes

Date: December, 12th, 2022

Time: 4 - 6 PM

Online–Zoom

Meeting called to order at 4:02pm

Present:

AC members

- Annabella Feeny
- Carol Bilson
- Shilpa Parveen*
- Molly Heaney-Corns
- JulieAna Maciel
- Sam Bottrill
- Nell Perry
- Sarah Graham*

Staff

- Elaine Balogun (facilitator)
- Anna-Elaine Rempel
- Jenn Krogfoss

**denotes partial attendance*

Regrets:

- *No regrets were received*

Quorum was maintained throughout the meeting

• **Territory Acknowledgement**

- *Elaine Balogun provided a land acknowledgement.*

• **Check-in and housekeeping:**

◦ **Check-in question:**

- One word to describe how you're feeling today or what kind of soup are you?
- *Those present provided a check-in.*

• **Review agenda**

- *AC members agreed to move forward with the agenda as presented.*

• **Organizational Update:**

- [Overview and Highlights of the Fall 2022 Semester](#)
 - *Elaine provided an overview of the document linked above.*

- *Discussion:*
 - *How many support sessions have been provided this year? [Support stats summary](#).*
- Financial Check-in:
 - AVP has spent **\$4,195.49** for organizational costs (yearly budget is \$39,075.00). This does not include cost of labour.
 - *Jenn Krogfoss provided an update on the YTD budget actuals.*
 - *The current budget is substantially higher than it has been in previous years, due to the Canada Wage Subsidy and AVP accessing its reserves.*
 - *Coordinators will be moving back to part-time hours after April. The next budget will be budgeted accordingly to ensure sustainability.*
 - *Discussion:*
 - *Is the reason to move back to part-time hours a lack of staff capacity? No, it's a lack of funding. Our income from student fees is only enough to cover our costs of labour at 24 hours a week plus 15 for the student position*
 - *Is there a coordinator who could stay at 35 hours? We work on a non-hierarchical model right now, so this would need to be a much larger conversation about changing this. All four of the current coordinators can do 35 hours a week.*
 - *Carol: limiting the capacity of AVP would be quite tough. To me, the issue isn't so much the issue of hierarchy, but the oppressive nature of hierarchy, so long as the person at the top of the hierarchy is being exploitative towards those under them. Hierarchy itself is not an issue. At the end of the day, are we responding to the needs of those on our campus?*
 - *Jenn: agree that the needs of the student community are the most important. This is a conversation we would like to continue, along with the whole team.*
 - *AVP have had some offers for support to bring in more income through various sources, but are waiting on more information from the UVSS on logistics.*

- *The goal over the next few months is to ensure that we use the additional capacity we have to ensure we're setting things up well for next year.*
 - *Need to think about expertise. Perhaps we can consider determining who gets more hours based on who has the most expertise in the key priority areas that AVP wants to focus on. In the past, AVP has shifted this based on who has more experience in a given area, depending on the community's needs at the time. The key priority always needs to be meeting the needs of the community.*
 - *Nell: has been on the board of other organizations that are non-hierarchical but some folks have more hours than others.*
 - *Jenn: we also need to think about the needs of staff who require full-time hours to survive.*
 - *Shilpa: really support doing more fundraising efforts. We can reach out to those in our community or who have been connected with AVP in the past who would be excited to help out.*
 - *What is the process for getting increased funding through the UVSS? Would require a referendum, voted on by the undergrad student population. Current policy challenges at UVSS, low voter turnout and issues reaching quorum for referendums.*
- Conversation about challenges that AVP has been facing over the last couple of months
 - *AC moved into a confidential session by consensus.*
 - *Shilpa left the meeting at 4:59pm*
 - *AC moved in camera at 5:00pm.*
 - *AC moved ex camera at 5:30pm*
- **BREAK** (5 minutes)
- **Upcoming Winter/Spring Semester:**
 - Plans and priorities:
 - Proposal for an AVP organizational sustainability committee (hiring, policy support, strategic planning)
 - Goals for this committee
 - Drafted January - staff will begin working internally on policy for Affiliated Organizations (first meeting in late January. More committee work throughout February and onward)

- *Discussion:*
 - *Anna-Elaine Rempel screenshared the drafted guiding document for the proposed committee, including its suggested purpose, structure, and goals. They provided a description of how the committee would generally operate, including the role of the chair, duties of members, and frequency of meetings.*
 - *Some AC members expressed support for the proposed committee. Carol and Annabella both offered to sit on the committee.*
 - *Staff suggested that since some AC members were not available for the meeting time that an email should be circulated to all members asking for their input on whether the committee should be created, suggestions as to its purpose and structure, and if they would be interested in joining. Anna-Elaine agreed to circulate an email this week with that information.*
- Space for advice on what else AVP should be prioritizing for the remainder of the fiscal year
 - *No discussion due to lack of time.*
- **Other Updates and Check-out**
 - **Upcoming Holiday Closure:** Our office will be closed at 4 pm on Dec. 23rd, 2022, and re-open on Jan. 3rd, 2023 for Winter break.
 - The team is planning a volunteer/AC member appreciation celebration to be held in January!
 - **Check-out question:**
 - What are you most excited for over winter break?

Meeting adjourned at 6:03pm