

Housing Advisory Committee

November 18 2021 | 10:30 am – 11:30 am | Zoom

Attendance:

Present: Cara Di Teodoro (LEC Residence Council), Andrew Harris (Housing, non-voting), Sebastian Johnson (TGSA), Stephanie Muehlethaler (Colleges), Jen Coulter (Housing, non-voting), Brandon Remmelgas (Housing, non-voting), Lawrence Lam (Housing, non-voting), Chenelle Pinto (HAA), Sela Brown (Dur SCA), Isabel Michaelson (GCS Dons), Livia Passarelli (CC Dons), Mollie Schnurr (TC Dons), Naimah Simmons (Ptbo SCA), Sydney Glen (LEC Residence Council), Wendy Walker (TCSA), Phuong Nguyen (TDSA), Ann-Majella McKelvie (Housing, non-voting)

Regrets: Wenita Kirkby (Housing, non-voting)

Absent: Claudia Taylor (RLEA), Kingsley Service (LEC Dons), Elena Duncan (OC Dons), Kamsi Charlse-Eidbedion (OC Dons), Mads Leduc (Durham Dons), Javariya Abid (Dur SCA), Llyod McDowell (FA), Gina Standaert (GCS Cabinet), Cameron Ewing (TC Cabinet), Amanda Owen (TC Cabinet), Ashley Merker (OC Cabinet), Cassandra Tessier (OC Cabinet), Emma Philips (CC Cabinet), Clara Sonnemann (CC Cabinet), Jubel Jose (TISA), Safar Afroz (TISA), Devon Howell (TGSA), Sydney Beatty (CC Residence Council), Kevin Agatare (CC Residence Council), Ella Roth (GCS Residence Council), Kaylie Robertson (GCS Residence Council), Joanna Hogeveen (TC Residence Council), Connor Johnston (TC Residence Council), Keeley Cox (OC Residence Council), Eric Cheng (OC Residence Council)

Minutes:

I. Chair's Remarks (Jen Coulter)

- Meeting was called to order at 10:31am.
- Jen welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. Land Acknowledgement (Jen Coulter)

- Brandon will do a land acknowledgment at the next meeting.

III. Introductions

- Jen facilitated popcorn introductions

IV. HAC Orientation (Jen Coulter)

- Jen reviewed the purpose of housing Advisory Committee referencing the terms of reference.
- Brandon provides an overview of Roberts Rules of Order.

V. Terms of Reference Subcommittee Discussion (Jen Coulter)

- Jen presents the terms of reference subcommittee
- The subcommittee is to review the current terms of reference for the Housing Advisory committee and to amend its members. Overall discussions will be had on the document and recommendations will be made to the Housing Advisory Committee.

Motion: to approve the TOR working group terms of reference as presented.

Moved by Phuong.

Wendy seconded.

Motion approved unanimously.

VI. Housing Capital Development Strategy Update (Jen Coulter)

- Housing Strategy is a 5-year plan that looks at the housing department as a whole to best reflects the current and future needs..
- The housing strategy has 3 main recommendations: Build new buildings, renovate current buildings, and continue to provide a strong residence program. Feel free to review the [Housing Strategy Website](#) at anytime.
- The progression of the strategy was impacted by the pandemic, but has recently been picked up again. The pandemic has also impacted the priorities of the strategy
- Housing worked with the Scion group to consult students on the changing needs. Recommendations from those consultations include more privacy, smaller bathroom-student ratio, more functional common spaces, availability of more study spaces within residence, affordability was also key.
- Scion will provide a report on recommendations sometime in January.
- Discussions around renovations to Champlain are continuing. Recommendations have been received on styles. Lawrence will continue to do consultations around residence programming and residence life.
- It was recommended to create a working group on housing facilities.

VII. Budget Discussion Preview (Jen Coulter)

- An overview was provided on what an ancillary fee is.
- The pandemic impacted the housing budget with less ancillary fees coming in from less student in residence, needing to pay for PPE, and providing the service still expected by students.
- A \$3 million reserve that was built for Champlain renovation was eaten up from the increased need in the operating budget. The committee was advised to remember this moving forward when having budget discussions.
- A concern about accessibility in new renovations was raised. Housing is always concerned about accessibility, but also has limitations when discussing old buildings.

VIII. Other Business

- The early opening of residence applications on January 24 for both Durham and Peterborough residences was announced to the group.
- Concerns about internet connections were raised from all students living in residence. Concerns were noted by housing staff who will look into it.

IX. Adjourn

- Meeting Adjourned at 11:31 am.

Next Meeting: December 2, 2021 - 10:30 am -11:30 am – Zoom