



MEMO

From the office of the...

AVP Finance

TO: Student Representative Assembly
FROM: Craig Dawdy, AVP Finance
SUBJECT: Bylaw 9; Non-MSU Groups – EWB McMaster
DATE: October 26, 2022

Dear SRA,

After viewing and discussing EWB's budget and answers to our questions, the Finance Committee feels comfortable in recommending approval of EWB's budget for the 2022-2023 school year. However, we recommend for the group to be heavily monitored in their transition operations moving forward.

Specifically, we have the following concerns:

- 1) The prior year's team did not take appropriate steps to transition leadership/operations to the current team. While current leadership is doing a great job picking up the pieces, there needs to be measures in place (i.e., guiding constitution or bylaws for the McMaster chapter) to prevent this from reoccurring in the future.
 - a. A suggested system was quotas on hiring from each year for the executive team, to avoid a team too heavily comprised of fourth year students who may be harder to locate after their terms.
 - b. An additional suggestion was a year rep system where there would be one designated spokesperson from each year on the team, which would also always ensure representation from each year.
- 2) Avenues of non-student levy revenue need to be better secured and ensured that they will be received on an annual basis. At the time of our discussions with them, no attempt had been made to reach out to the Faculty of Engineering or the MES about receiving funding they had received in previous in-person years.
- 3) For their own posterity, EWB should investigate methods to increase their revenues. When taking into account the EWB student levy not increasing every year, the cost of their conference/fellowship program rising with inflation, and EWB central cancelling some fundraisers, there is likely to be strain in the future. Whether the answer to that lies in referendum, revenues from point 2, or other, it is something EWB should be investigating in the coming year.

I know I wrote in a fairly serious tone, but the finance committee does have full confidence in the current EWB leadership, however preventative measures will be important to take. The Finance Committee has done its preliminary questioning and the answers to our questions are in the email.

Thank you,
Craig Dawdy

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