



<b>SUBJECT</b>	Student Affordability Task Force High-level Overview
<b>SUBMITTED TO</b>	Finance Committee
<b>MEETING DATE</b>	September 12, 2024
<b>SESSION CLASSIFICATION</b>	Recommended session criteria from Board Meetings Policy: OPEN
<b>REQUEST</b>	For Information
<b>LEAD EXECUTIVE</b>	Ainsley Carry, Vice-President Students
<b>SUPPORTED BY</b>	Gage Averill, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Vancouver Rehan Sadiq, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Okanagan Samantha Reid, Associate Vice-President Students Janet Kalesnikoff, Director, Academic Strategic Initiatives, UBC Okanagan Rella Ng, Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Services & Registrar Heather McCaw, Vice-President Development & Alumni Engagement Hillary Gosselin, Associate Vice-President, Development and Alumni Engagement Dale Mullings, Associate Vice-President Students, UBCO

**PRIOR SUBMISSIONS**

At the March 2024 Board meeting, the [Student Affordability Task Force Update](#) was provided.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

***Student Affordability Update***

In 2019, UBC committed to developing a comprehensive plan to address affordability challenges that students face. This work was led by the Student Affordability Task Force (SATF), a task force of students, staff, and faculty from both campuses. The task force developed 10 recommendations with short-, medium-, and long-term approaches towards achieving them. In March 2022, the Board of Governors approved the SATF report and recommendations.

In August 2022, a Student Affordability Task Force Implementation Committee was established with representation of students, faculty, and staff from both campuses. Leads or co-leads were identified for each recommendation, and each lead/co-lead is responsible for the oversight and implementation of the recommendation. Each recommendation is at different places in their implementation and advancement, with differing timelines. This update aims to provide a high-level overview of the SATF recommendations and implementation.

SATF Objectives	Recommendations	Lead(s)
1: Enhance Student Financial Decision Making	1. Develop a multi-year tuition framework	Rella Ng, Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Services and Registrar
	2. Provide tools to help students make informed financial decisions	Rella Ng, Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Services and Registrar Annie Yim, Deputy Registrar, UBCV
2: Engage Students in Decisions Regarding Tuition	3. Revise the annual tuition consultation process	Samantha Reid, Executive Director, Office of the Vice-President Students Dale Mullings, Associate Vice-President, Students, UBCO
3: Support Financial Wellness	4. Minimize costs of educational materials	Simon Bates, Vice Provost and Associate Vice President, Teaching and Learning, UBCV Heather Berringer, Associate Provost, Academic Operations and Services UBCO Christina Hendricks, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President, Teaching and Learning Pro Tem, UBCV

SATF Objectives	Recommendations	Lead(s)
	5. Address cost of living challenges (food security, housing and childcare)	Andrew Parr, Associate Vice-President Student Housing and Community Services
	6. Update student aid processes and procedures	Rella Ng, Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Services and Registrar Annie Yim, Deputy Registrar, UBCV
	7. Expand need-based aid for continuing international students	Rella Ng, Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Services and Registrar Damara Klassen, Executive Director, International Student Initiative
	8. Increase fundraising for need-based aid	Hillary Gosselin, Associate Vice President, Development and Alumni Engagement
4: Advocate for Student Affordability	9. Advocate for increased student financial assistance programs at the provincial and federal government level	Adriaan de Jager, Associate Vice President, Government Relations and Community Engagement
5: Focus Efforts Through Incisive Metrics	10. Develop indicators to monitor and assess student affordability over time	Lesley Charter-Smith, Director, Strategy and Decision Support Stephanie McKeown, Chief Institutional Research Officer, Planning and Institutional Research

### Priority Areas for the SATF Implementation Committee for FY24-25

The SATF Implementation Committee remains steadfast in its commitment to addressing affordability challenges encountered by UBC students. For FY24/25, our priority will center on key areas including the multi-year tuition framework, fundraising initiatives, student financial aid, and tackling the cost of living, which encompasses food security. This work is cyclical and will continue to draw insights from comprehensive data collected through institutional surveys and ongoing engagement.

Below is a summary of the Student Affordability Task Force Updates that have been provided to the UBC Board of Governors since March 2022:

- March 2022: [Student Affordability Plan](#)
- June 2022: [Student Affordability Task Force Update](#)
- June 2022: [Student Financial Support Annual Report 2021-2022](#)
- December 2022: [Tuition Engagement 2023-2024 and Student Affordability Task Force Update](#)
- March 2023: [Student Affordability Task Force Update](#)
- June 2023: [Student Financial Support Annual Report 2022-2023](#)
- October 2023: [Housing Action Plan](#)
- March 2024: [Student Affordability Task Force Update](#)
- June 2024: [Student Financial Support 2023-2024 Annual Report](#)

---

### PRESENTATIONS

1. Student Affordability Task Force (SATF) High-level Overview





# STUDENT AFFORDABILITY TASK FORCE (SATF) IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

September 2024

**AINSLEY CARRY, VICE-PRESIDENT STUDENTS**  
**GAGE AVERILL, PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC, UBCV**  
**REHAN SADIQ, PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC, UBCO**



# STUDENT AFFORDABILITY TASK FORCE

## Two Goals:

1. To clearly define what UBC means by “affordability” and the scope of the university’s commitment to address student affordability
2. To develop recommendations to address the challenges that UBC students face in terms of affordability



# STUDENT AFFORDABILITY

## Defining “Affordability” at UBC

An affordability problem as existing from the perspective of the university when a student cannot meet necessary expenses (including a moderate standard of living) without taking on excessive debt after taking into account federal grants and loans.



# STUDENT AFFORDABILITY TASKFORCE – OBJECTIVES

## Established Five Objectives

1. Enhance Student Financial Decision Making
2. Engage Students in Decisions Regarding Tuition
3. Support Financial Wellness
4. Focus Efforts Through Incisive Metrics
5. Advocate for Student Affordability



# STUDENT AFFORDABILITY

**2019**

UBC committed to developing a comprehensive plan to address student affordability challenges

**2022 (March)**

UBC Board of Governors approved the SATF report and ten recommendations

**2023 & 2024 (March)**

Annual progress update on the status of each recommendation.



**2021**

The SATF was established with representation from students, staff, and faculty from both campuses.

**2022 (August)**

SATF Implementation Committee was established. Leads or co-leads responsible for the oversight and implementation of each recommendation were identified.



# SATF RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLEMENTATION LEADS

SATF Objectives	Recommendations	Lead(s)
Enhance Student Financial Decision Making	1. Develop a multi-year tuition framework	Rella Ng
	2. Provide tools to help students make informed financial decisions	Rella Ng, Annie Yim
Engage Students in Decisions Regarding Tuition	3. Revise the annual tuition consultation process	Samantha Reid, Dale Mullings
Support Financial Wellness	4. Minimize costs of educational materials	Simon Bates, Heather Berringer, Christina Hendricks
	5. Address cost of living challenges (food security, housing and childcare)	Andrew Parr
	6. Update student aid processes and procedures	Rella Ng, Annie Yim
	7. Expand need-based aid for continuing international students	Rella Ng, Damara Klassen
	8. Increase fundraising for need-based aid	Hillary Gosselin
Advocate for Student Affordability	9. Advocate for increased student financial assistance programs at the provincial and federal government level	Adriaan de Jager
Focus Efforts Through Incisive Metrics	10. Develop indicators to monitor and assess student affordability over time	Lesley Charter-Smith, Stephanie McKeown





# CONCLUSION

## Priority Areas

- Complete **Multi-year tuition** framework
- **Student Financial Aid** engagement in Food Insecurity
- **Assessment** of student affordability challenges and opportunities over time

This work is cyclical and will continue to draw insights from data collected through institutional surveys and ongoing student engagement.





THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA