

B.11 Elections and Referenda

- a. SGPS elections and referenda shall be carried out in the manner outlined in Policy
- b. The SGPS will conduct elections annually for the Executive Positions
- c. The SGPS will conduct elections every two years, or sooner when necessary, for the positions of Graduate Student Trustee and Graduate Student Senator
- d. Any changes to policies or bylaws with respect to elections and referenda do not come into effect until after any election or referendum for which the date had already been set when the change in bylaw or policy was adopted.

P.1.2 Student Fees and Referenda

P.1.2.4 Establishing, Increasing, and Renewing of Student Activity Fees

- a. A referendum on a Fee is required in order to:
 - a. Establish a new Fee; or,
 - b. Increase the dollar value of an existing Fee.
- b. All Fees, except those Fees outlined in P.1.2.4.d (Special Rules for SGPS Fees), must be passed by a 2/3 referendum vote held at the same time and on the same system as the annual SGPS executive election as outlined in B.10
- c. Fees require a simple majority to pass, unless quorum, which shall be ten percent (10%) of the ordinary members of the SGPS, is not met. If quorum is not met, fees require a 2/3 majority to pass.
 - a. A fee that fails to achieve the required 2/3 majority results the requisite threshold in a referendum is cancelled, with any uncollected or withheld funding reallocated to the SGPS Bursaries and Grants Program
 - b. For further clarification, the length of the campaign, validation and nomination period are subject to the regulation of the SGPS Chief Returning Officer (“CRO”)
- d. Expiry of University and AMS Fees, Club Fees, and External Fees – Fees deemed to be “University and AMS Fees”, “Club Fees”, or “External Fees” under P.1.2.3.4e shall expire after three (3) academic year following a successful referendum result.
 - a. During any academic year of a Fee’s collection, the group may apply under either P.1.2.4.4f or P.1.2.4.4g to establish a new Fee or increase an existing Fee for the next three (3) academic years following that referendum.
 - b. For further clarity, should a group with an existing student fee apply under either P.1.2.4.4f or P.1.2.4.4g, to establish a new Fee or increase an existing Fee, but fail to achieve the required votes in a referendum, the existing Fee shall continue uninterrupted until the conclusion of the original three (3) academic years.
- e. Special Rules for SGPS Fees – Fees deemed to be “SGPS Fees” under P.1.2.3.4e shall have unique rules that govern the expiry of Fees, establishment of new Fees, and increases in existing Fees.

- a. Non-Expiration of SGPS Fees – SGPS Fees shall not expire and shall not be subject to renewal by referendum.
- b. Establishment of New SGPS Fees – The process for establishing a new SGPS fee shall ~~require a 2/3 referendum vote as outlined in~~ **shall be conducted in accordance with** P.1.2.4.**bc** and follow the ratification procedures as set out by P.1.2.4.**ef**.
- c. Increases to Existing SGPS Fees – the VP Finance and Services may unilaterally increase the amount for an existing SGPS Fee on the coming year’s fee slate only if:
 - i. The increased fee is either:
 - 1. The SGPS Society Fee and the increase is less than or equal to five per cent (5%);
 - 2. For the purpose of funding membership to a provincial or national student advocacy group and the increase is less than or equal to five per cent (5%).
 - ii. All other increases to existing SGPS Fees not enumerated under the conditions set by P.1.2.4.**de.c.i** shall ~~require a 2/3 referendum vote as outlined in~~ **conform with** P.1.2.4.**bc** and follow the ratification procedures as set out by P.1.2.4.**fe**.
