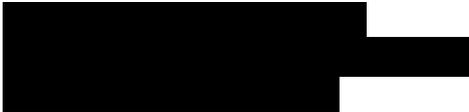


Part A – Contact Information

Provide the following information:

1. Name of Group as it should appear on the Ballot: [The Grad Club](#)
2. Campaign Manager Information
 - a. Name: [Astrid Hobill](#)



- e. Email: astridhobill@hotmail.com



Part B – Group Description

Outline the purpose of your group and what you will use the fee for. Groups may want to outline their programming, goals, and recent contributions to the Queen’s community to better illustrate to SGPS members why a fee is necessary. Limited to 500 words.

The Grad Club is a non-profit social club on Queen’s campus for graduate and professional students. The Club’s operations are coordinated through a Board of Directors, elected annually from the Membership. Our main objective is to provide an inclusive and safe space on campus for graduate students to work, collaborate, socialise, and relax. As part of this objective, we provide both an extensive study space during daytime hours with areas dedicated to graduate and professional student use only. We also provide event space through the day and evening for a variety of groups and organizations. The Grad Club provides a safe space on campus for members of the wider Queen’s community to work and create strong social bonds within the Queen’s and Kingston communities. In particular, the fees help the Grad Club to provide one of the only dedicated study and social spaces on campus for Graduate and Professional students.

The Grad Club strives to provide a platform to encourage graduate students to meet and collaborate across fields and share ideas and research. We have remained open as much as possible during these trying times and under strict regulations by implementing some new technology and safety protocols to continue to serve our community and keep everyone safe. Our Trivia Night continuing to be a staple of the Queen’s community even during our closure as we were able to shift it to radio and online. Throughout the fall Grad Club Trivia was available online and in-person to ensure we reached our membership even if they were not on campus. With the current restrictions, for Winter 2022 trivia is initially solely run online, with the anticipation that we will move back to online and in-person later in the semester. The continuation of the fee helps with this weekly event as well as other free events for members throughout the year.

The Grad Club also seeks to offer affordability and accessibility to our members and the membership fee contributes immensely to achieving these goals. The student fee contributes to general maintenance of the building, inside and outside, which provides our members safe and comfortable space. Our patio and veranda provides outdoor space for meeting and/or working on campus and it requires regular upkeep. We have also worked with Queen’s Housing and Physical Plant Services on the construction of a robust accessible ramp ensure accessibility for our members and we continue to work on ensuring increased accessibility. We have also upgraded our patio with outdoor firepits and chairs so that members can still safely socialize outdoors in the winter months under covid restrictions.

In 2022, this fee is particularly important in ensuring that the Grad Club stays operational in the future and continues to offer a rich variety of programing and a unique space for Graduate and

Professional students as well as the wider Queen's and Kingston community. The fee further allows the Grad Club to provide a discount on food for our membership.

Part C- Budget breakdown

The student fees that we collect each year, first towards ensuring the 10% discount on food for our membership. Although this is currently lower than in previous years due to extended covid closures and lower sales, we hope that this will return to pre-2020 numbers soon and represent about 20% of the fee collected. Pre-covid approximately another 20% of the fee went to waiving the cost of room bookings for our membership while the final part of the fee goes toward subsidizing repairs and maintenance, and utilities (30%) and staff wages (30%). Due to the size and age of the building, it is an expensive building to maintain and to staff however it is the largest dedicated graduate student space anywhere on campus, and it's operation is made possible through the student fees. Currently during covid, although less of the fees have been going to the food discount, the fees are invaluable to ensuring that The Grad Club will survive as a space for graduate and professional students beyond the pandemic. The fees during the pandemic have largely been to subsidize staffing costs and utilities in order to be open longer hours than would otherwise be able to open, and to ensure that the second floor is a dedicated study space for members. These fees ensure that unlike regular pubs and restaurants, The Grad Club can operate as a community space where no one feels pressured to purchase anything to be there. [please see the following page for financials].

Grad Club
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures
(confidential)
October 31, 2021

	Year To Date 2021	Budget 2021	Annual 2020
Revenue			
Food and drinks	121.553	356.586	161.804
Student Fees	42.703	60.703	63.558
Sponsorship/ Other	110.403	85.753	70.446
Member Discounts	-453	-121	-1.510
Total Revenue	274.206	502.921	294.298
Expenditures			
Food and drinks	42.416	160.643	72.473
Wages and Benefits	125.954	204.899	150.387
Advertisting and Entertainment	5.944	13.040	8.245
Cash Short/Over; Depreciation	7.181	9.870	10.191
	2.036	1.716	1.961
Insurance, Bank fees and Liscencing	25.191	30.646	23.571
Professional Fees and travel	3.043	12.364	10.891
Rent	0	2.751	5.502
Repairs and Maintenance	5.536	4.000	3.855
Tripleseat/Eigen Fees; Supplies; Telephone and Cable	20.750	38.562	27.778
Utilities and waste collection	35.037	41.909	38.883
Total Expenses	273.088	520.400	353.737
Net Profit	1.118	-17.479	-59.439
Less Change in Capital Expenditures	0	5.000	3.730
Members' Surplus, end of period		-59.751	

***Due to covid, our accountant has been slower than normal to produce the latest financials as well as an audited annual financial, however we will send our year end audits for both 2020 and 2021 as soon as we receive them.**

Part D – Student Fee Questionnaire

Please complete the following – limited to 150 words per each answer.

1. Why is your group seeking a fee?

Our group is seeking the fee to ensure that The Grad Club remains a space on campus dedicated to graduate and professional students as well as to provide increased benefits such as discounted food to our membership. The fee keeps The Grad Club as an safe community space on Queen's campus.

2. What direct benefit will SGPS members derive from granting your group a fee?

The Grad Club external fee covers many of the costs in providing accessible services to our graduate and professional student membership. In particular, the fee assists to offset our provision of a 10% discount on all food for SGPS members. This means that on any day, SGPS Members can enjoy a more financially accessible meal as well as regular and event use of the Grad Club facilities. Graduate and Professional Students may also use Triple Seat to freely use and book Grad Club space for work or social events as part of their one-time membership fee (\$20). This is a potential savings of several hundred dollars in space-booking fees per person per event. Members have access to our Members Only study space on the second floor and will be able to receive free room bookings when they become available.

3. How is the dollar value of the fee related to the benefit you are proposing to provide?

The savings in room booking fees, discounts off food and free members only study space amounts to only \$1.66 a month versus a room booking fee of \$50 at a time. This is a particularly excellent value for our members. You also receive a 10% discount on food which means is another way in which you recoup the fee.

4. When was your group established?

The Grad Club was established over 55 years ago in 1963! Over the decades, the Club has been known and loved for its inclusive atmosphere, laid back informality, and its connection to both its own tradition and the greater Kingston and Queen's communities.

5. If you have a collected a fee in the past, what initiatives and/or opportunities have you provide the Queen's Community with the collected funds?

The Grad Club fee has allowed for numerous changes and advancements to our programming. This list is non-inclusive but highlights some of the most recent initiatives and opportunities provided to us:

- Provision of a diverse menu of food options including a variety of homemade vegan, vegetarian, halal, and standard pub food options.
- monthly speaker series on issues of interest or importance to the Queen's and Kingston community (Ideas on Tap)
- A collaboration with Union gallery to host a curated digital and in-house art exhibition, a concert series for our membership over Zoom and histories of The Grad Club over Instagram and TikTok.
- Construction of a robust outdoor accessible ramp ensure accessibility for our members
- implementation of more Covid-friendly POS system and TripleSeat upgrade in order to allow for take-out orders
- QR code ordering at the table and installation of Plexiglas partitions