



## Policy Statement VIII – University Sustainability

**Adopted:** February 25, 2014

**Expires:** February 25, 2017

**Motion from the 8<sup>th</sup> ULSU General Assembly meeting of 2013-2014:**

MOTION [20441GA]

MSC: S. Glydon/B. Scott

BIMT that the General Assembly ratify ULSU Policy VIII "University Sustainability".

Carried

### Background

While many of the day-to-day activities carried out by a post-secondary institution are thought to have little to do with the quality of the post-secondary experience for the average student, nothing could be farther from the truth. The very idea of a students' experience at university being in a distinct silo from the actions carried out by the university that they in question attend, is absurd. For this policy, we have highlighted three specific areas; financial, social, and environmental, which most directly relate to the overall sustainability of the University of Lethbridge, and which most directly affect the experiences of the student population.

WHEREAS there are improvements which can be made within the financial management of the University of Lethbridge;

WHEREAS students are stakeholders within the University of Lethbridge, providing approximately 30% of the overall revenue within the operations budget as of the 2013-2014 Academic Year;

WHEREAS the University of Lethbridge students should not be responsible for compensating cuts to the University's budget;

WHEREAS the University of Lethbridge has made decisive steps towards the implementation of environmentally sustainable options and practices on campus, such as the composting program;

WHEREAS there are still improvements which can be made, especially in areas relating to sustainable transportation and alternate energy<sup>1</sup>;

WHEREAS the promotion of a vibrant campus community at the University of Lethbridge is extremely beneficial to the mental health and well-being of all students on campus; and,

WHEREAS the provision of a safe and inclusive community that is well supported by social services and programming is an integral part of a positive student experience.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

*The University of Lethbridge Students' Union advocate for a policy that:*

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<sup>1</sup> ULSU - LPIRG Bike Share Program

- a) Ensures financially sustainable decisions are made by the University of Lethbridge that provide an affordable, high quality, and fulfilling academic experience for all undergraduate students.
- b) Ensures that student fees are not used as supplementary to shortfalls associated with the University of Lethbridge's operations.
- c) Continues to see a determined march towards greater environmental sustainability on the part of the University of Lethbridge.
- d) Ensures access to high quality social programming.