University of Manitoba
STUDENTS' UNION

A Request for an Operational Funding Grant

In Brief

In the U-Pass Agreement with the City of Winnipeg UMSU raised the issue of operational costs to Winnipeg Transit. UMSU was told to pursue a grant application through Transit to assist in covering the immense operational costs associated with the implementation of the program.

We recently learned that the grant was denied, which means that UMSU would have to absorb over $40,000 in costs and could lead to the program being unsustainable in the future.

UMSU is seeking an operational grant of $27,000 for the 2016/2017 academic year, and a smaller grant next year (approximately $12,500) to ensure that the delivery of a mutually beneficial service does not impact our ability to deliver resources to students.

Facts

- Average Transit sales for a month during the academic year are $445,000 per month, resulting in $1.78 million in revenue over the term.
- Annually, U-Pass sales at the U of M are $5.6 million, resulting in an increase of $2.64 million in sales to the City of Winnipeg from UMSU through adoption of the U-Pass program.
- The increased sales are consistent and will not vary month-to-month leading to more predictable income for Winnipeg Transit.
- 86.76% of eligible students picked up their U-Pass; that means that 19,196 students now have a bus pass for the semester, versus the traditional average of 7,000
- UMSU is requesting a grant, which is equal to 1.02% of expected additional income, as a method to compensate some costs which the organization absorbed to deliver the service