



Threats Received

September 2015

From the University of Calgary's Current Administration

THE FOLLOWING THREATS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE UNIVERSITY'S CURRENT ADMINISTRATION:

Threat 1: 2010

The University of Calgary threatened to terminate the SU's License of Occupation and Management Agreement (LOOMA) and evict the SU from MacHall. On May 13, 2010 the SU received a letter from Bob Ellard, then the university's VP Facilities Management and Development, regarding LOOMA. The letter states that the "Students' Union management agreement and license to occupy MacEwan Hall expires on Dec. 9, 2014" and that the university "will be providing you with formal notice of the termination in due course." The letter demanded that any third party commercial tenant agreement that extended beyond Dec. 8, 2014 would be considered "on a case by case basis."

Threat 2: 2011

In 2011, the university's current administration prepared a redevelopment plan for MacHall with a project cost of \$155 million without significant contributions from or consultation with the SU on the plan. The university's current administration then attempted to railroad the SU into accepting this plan without amendments and to fund the construction costs in part through a new student fee. This plan was only abandoned after the SU undertook six months of extensive, public consultations with students.

Threat 3: 2013

From the outset of negotiations about the LOOMA, the university's current administration threatened the SU's status as an owner and dismissed the SU's role as primary contributor to the capital costs of construction, expansion, and redevelopment of MacHall. On July 4, 2013 the university's current administration issued "non-negotiables" that the SU would be a tenant in any future

agreement about MacHall and that the agreement to-be-negotiated would be a lease.

Threat 4: 2014

In 2014 the university's current administration delivered on the 2010 threat. On September 23, 2014, the university's current administration provided a notice of termination to the SU for the LOOMA. The letter indicates that "the Governors notify the Union that the LOOMA shall terminate on December 9, 2015" and is signed by Karen Jackson, the university's general counsel. It is unclear exactly what the terminating the SU's right to manage, occupy, and operate the building will mean in practice. \$1.8M of the SU's annual revenue, generated through commercial leasing and used to fund critical SU programs and services, could revert to the university. The termination notice may even be the prelude to an eviction notice to remove the Students' Union from the student centre.

Threat 5: 2015

On June 16, 2015 in a one-on-one meeting between Provost Dr. Dru Marshall and SU President Levi Nilson, Dr. Marshall made a presentation where she threatened Mr. Nilson about the management and security at the Den, the campus bar managed and operated by the SU in MacHall. This came as a surprise to the SU as the university's current administration has never raised any concerns about how the SU manages either the building or the Den. Dr. Marshall showed Mr. Nilson the infamous "I can't breathe" video of the NYPD strangling Eric Garner to death. Dr. Marshall's presentation compared this video to videos from security cameras where Den security ejected belligerent patrons from the bar. Dr. Marshall claimed that it's time to rethink security at the Den and the SU operations under the university's liquor license. Dr. Marshall also threatened Mr. Nilson stating that the SU is "lucky that [the security footage] hadn't ended up on YouTube".



ABOUT THE SU

The University of Calgary's Students' Union (SU) is in its 73rd year. The SU is an effective advocacy and service group for all undergraduate students at the University of Calgary. All undergraduate students are members of the SU. The Student Legislative Council (SLC), the SU's governing body, is made up of five executives - the president and four vice presidents - and 19 faculty representatives, elected annually to represent students' interests. The SU's operations are supported by a professional staff and hundreds of student staff. As well as managing MacEwan Student Centre (a.k.a. MacHall), the SU runs a number of businesses. All proceeds from these student-owned ventures are reinvested directly into SU programs and services.

Additional information available:

- Summary of the SU's position
- Background of the MacHall dispute
- Historic milestones in the ownership of MacHall
- Financial summary of investments

