

Graduate House Residence Advisory Committee

Tuesday August 9, 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Zoom

1. Introductions

- a. Kamadchi Karunanandan, Assistant Dean, Residence Life & Communication (Committee Chair)
- b. Ryan Hopkin, Facilities Coordinator
- c. Klara Kovarova, Associate Dean
- d. Farbod Azarjmu, Service Coordinator (Minutes)
- e. Angel Badewole, Head Residence Advisor
- f. Shae-Linn Davies, Graduate House Resident
- g. Victoria Chiu, Graduate House Resident
- h. Bowen Chan, Graduate House Resident
- i. Joseph Kawalec, Graduate House Resident
- j. Coulter Montague, Graduate House Resident
- k. Janice Pang, Graduate House Resident
- l. Christopher Rodger, Graduate House Council Co-President

Absent:

- Anya Nandkeolyar, Graduate House Resident
- Elizabeth Urbanowski, Manager of Finance, Administration, & Operations
- Kevin Dancy, Director of Residence Operations
- David Kim, Dean of Residence and Director of Student Life

2. Residence Life Updates (Kamadchi)

- a. Mask requirement at Graduate House
 - Mask requirement has been lifted
 - Information for the Fall term is TBD
- b. Vaccine requirement
 - Currently students are asked to get their booster
 - Resident: a reminder for students to get their boosters
 - Resident: another reminder to students would be helpful
 - Resident: not as many as pharmacies have the booster available currently – it may be worth letting students know
 - Resident: If you received a booster shot outside of Ontario, you may need to connect with public health to inform them
 - Resident: On the same point as another resident: provide the ID number to public health
 - Resident: Inquiring whether a 4th booster will be required in the future
 - Kamadchi: no timeline yet, but students are encouraged to get their booster shot
- c. Seeking feedback on Graduate House Meet & Greet

- Kamadchi: great way to build a connection with students before they arrive
 - Question for the group: what are some tips that you think would be helpful for new students moving in based on your past experiences?
 - Resident: subway stations
 - Resident: a list of resources you can borrow at the service desk (Kamadchi: resource rental information also available in the residence handbook)
3. Residence Services (Kamadchi)
 - a. Welcome Farbod!
 - b. Farbod joining GH as the new Service Coordinator
 4. Facility Updates (Ryan)
 - a. Phase 3 Roof project
 - Roof replacement on the West (Spadina) side starting on August 15
 - No noisy work before 9am on weekdays and 10am on weekends – work will not go past 5pm
 - Communication was sent this week to all students
 - b. Suite renovations
 - Currently at the tail end of suite renovations
 - Replacing the tiles of bathroom floors
 - Introducing handheld shower heads for easier cleaning
 - Rooms should be done by next Friday
 - c. Recap - Building Facility Tour June 15th
 - Suggestions: replacement of brown leather couch covers
 - Addressing concrete walls: colour, artwork, and other designs can be added to the walls
 - 2nd floor furniture upgrade
 - 9th floor library redesign
 - Lounge area/Café style tall tables with highchairs in common areas
 - Resident: more seating spaces for studying/working at a table with groups of people (enough table/desk space for multiple laptops)
 - Resident: long tall table for folks wanting to stand while working at the table
 - Resident: accessibility concern – students being able to use/move tables as they need
 - d. Patio upgrades
 - Plants and greenery will be added – benches will be added to the patio
 - Furniture and BBQ added
 - e. Cleaning Pilot project update
 - Initiative to offer cleaning services to all suites (common spaces only)
 - Allowing students to focus on studies while reducing required time for cleaning and suitemate conflicts
 - Supports physical and mental health of students
 - Common challenge: students moving out have unclean common spaces which takes longer for staff to clean
 - f. Desk and Floor lamp proposals

- Replacing desk and floor lamps (staged project)
 - Wireless charging, A/C power
 - Colour temperature of bulbs (for both white and warm light)
 - Goal: residential look and feel as opposed to institution/hotel feel
- g. Proposed Mattress testing
- 4 sample mattresses in suite 212 for residents to try out (students to choose from A, B, or C)
 - New mattresses are easier to clean, water resistant, and bed bug proof
 - Now 6" instead of 4"

5. Other Business (Kamadchi)

- a. RAC agendas on Graduate House website
- One area of concern: student names on the meeting minutes – opinions?
 - Resident: up to the comfort level of the student who is sharing their ideas
 - Resident: not mentioning the full name
 - Resident: initials instead of a full name
 - Kamadchi: important to be mindful that the minutes are public
- b. Update on Harbord Residence progress
- Building new graduate residence (Harbord Residence)
 - Resident: would the construction block the sidewalk?
 - Ryan: No information on what the construction would look like – sidewalk will likely be shielded for safety but not sure to what extent
 - Kamadchi: construction of another residence building on Spadina/Sussex
 - Resident: suggestions for libraries and alternative locations to study due to the construction
- c. Other business
- Resident: a new music stand for the music room
 1. Kamadchi placed an order for new music stand
 - Resident: CCR area is busier than usual – bathroom toiletries and cleaning may be required more often due to higher traffic in this room
 1. Ryan: will follow up with cleaning staff

Next Meeting –TBD

Kamadchi: let us know if students are interested in attending future meetings in the fall term!