Guiding Principles for the operation of Residences and Dining Services operations

January 25, 2018

To fulfill its mandate of providing an array of vital services in support of the University of Alberta’s Institutional Strategic Plan “For the Public Good”, Facilities and Operations (Ancillary Services) operate a suite of self-funded operations. The following principles direct decision-making in this area.

1. Quality housing and good nutrition are critical to student academic and experiential success and we recognize this in everything we strive to do.

2. Residence and Dining Services must operate on a financially sustainable basis having due regard for operating costs, addressing deferred maintenance, as well as maintaining operating and capital reserves for long term sustainability. No profit is sought to be made from these operations, but no loss is acceptable either.

3. All funds received from students for shelter and food stay within the residence and dining system.

4. Similarly, no student tuition or government base, capital, or maintenance funding is available for investment in residences or dining operations.¹

5. Residence and dining services will be operated as a system with long-term capital improvement and deferred maintenance plans in place to support all facilities over time.

6. Student input is highly valued. Students will assist in shaping the development of plans and priorities to sustain and improve the residence and dining systems.

¹The Government of Alberta’s Infrastructure Maintenance Program (IMP) provides funding to address deferred maintenance for “supported” infrastructure only, which excludes residences, dining, and parking facilities.