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NICK WIEBE AND AMANDAH VAN MERLIN

BUS AT 12 O'CLOCK U of A administration unwilling to talk publicly about U-Pass subsidization.

Admin keeps quiet on U-Pass

U-PASS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Student representatives at the U of A explained they were currently working with the University Administration to bring a further subsidy on board based on the assumption that the City of Edmonton will follow St Albert's initiative and approve subsidizing the U-Pass at \$90.

"Instead of waiting around for the City to approve [a subsidy to] \$90, we're just going to go ahead negotiating what the University's input would be at \$90 to bring it down to \$70 or \$80," Power said.

However, the Administration continues to direct all U-Pass inquiries to the SU and won't confirm or deny their role in subsidy negotiations. But, while U of A Admin has remained tight-lipped on its involvement towards the U-Pass, Power stressed the University is motivated to find a solution to transportation problems.

"The University knows that they need to contribute because it advantages their Transportation

Demand Management study [and] because it's good for South Campus development," she said. "We feel like we've really achieved a positive impression of the U-Pass at a city level, and in my mind our job now is to make sure it happens on campus at a university level."

Provided approved subsidization from the City of Edmonton, Strathcona County and University Administration, and subsequent approval from students in a spring referendum, ETS has indicated they would be ready for U-Pass implementation in September 2007.

"I believe January, is the latest we can have a referendum question approved through Council, but we'd like to have it done by the fall," Cournoyer explained, stating the SU wanted there to be ample time for debate on a spring referendum question for a U-Pass at a more affordable subsidized price.

"[The] key is that \$90 is not the number that's going to be brought to students," Cournoyer stressed.

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