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SB70-14/15: Resolution Regarding Kyi-Yo Fee

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1 **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Regarding Kyi-Yo Fee**
3 **February 11, 2015**
4 **SB70-14/15**

5 **Authored by: Iva Croff**

6 **Sponsored by: Trail Bundy, ASUM Senator; Kevin Skunk Cap, ASUM Senator**

7
8 Whereas, The Associated Students of The University of Montana (ASUM) has received interest
9 from students and staff of the University to support UM's Kyi-Yo Native American Student
10 Association's Annual Celebration, by approving a student fee increase.

11
12 Whereas, This fee increase would be accumulated for the sole purpose of providing consistent
13 financial support for the Kyi-Yo Pow-Wow, an annual cultural event held each spring on the
14 University of Montana campus and is the foremost student-led cultural event that has taken place
15 on the UM campus for over 50 years;

16
17 Whereas, ASUM is committed to supporting the University in its mission to encourage and
18 celebrate the differences within a culturally diverse campus community;

19
20 Whereas, ASUM recognizes that the Kyi-Yo Native American Student Association, also referred
21 to as the Kyi-Yo Student Club, is open to any interested student who would like to participate in
22 the planning, organizing, and fund-raising for the annual Kyi-Yo Pow-Wow;

23
24 Whereas, ASUM recognizes that the mission of the Kyi-Yo Student Club is to bridge the faculty
25 and students of the University of Montana with the communities of Missoula and surrounding
26 areas by engaging in the cultural traditions in order to unify and promote the cultural identity of
27 Native Americans;

28 Whereas, Each year, UM contributes \$20,000 to the event, and the Kyi-Yo Club raises roughly
29 \$10,000 through an array of often time-consuming endeavors, which leaves a balance of
30 approximately \$20,000 to be recouped by charging an admission fee for what is frequently a free
31 event at other university campuses;

32 Whereas, ASUM applauds the fundraising efforts of the Kyi-Yo Club and their volunteers, but
33 lacks the budgetary means to implement support of a substantial, continuous award, or donation
34 to the Pow-Wow every year;

35
36 Whereas, a nominal fee of \$1.00 listed on the student registration bill would significantly
37 enhance the budget for the Pow-Wow and alleviate the need to seek donations from a community
38 who already gives so generously to many other activities and scholarships at the UM;

39
40 Whereas, The aforementioned student fee would allow the student body to have ownership in
41 this culturally unique celebration, thus eliminating the necessity to charge admission to the event
42 which would allow more community members, university students, and school-age children to
43 attend and participate in the event and become more acquainted with the UM campus and
44 facilities;

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Whereas, Students deserve the right to vote on any increase in the fees they pay;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that the following referenda language be placed on the May 2015 ballot, reading as follows:

ASUM is requesting a \$1.00 fee increase to the activity fee in order to sustain the Kyi-Yo Native American Student Association’s Annual Kyi-Yo Pow-Wow, thus reflecting the University of Montana student body’s desire to enhance the campus community and bridge the gap among disparate groups of students, and boost interaction between students of various races, ethnicities, and cultural groups.

Yes, I support an increase in the activity fee by \$1.00 for the Kyi-Yo Native American Student Association and Kyi-Yo Student Pow-Wow.

No, I do not support an increase in the activity fee by \$1.00 for the Kyi-Yo Native American Student Association and Kyi-Yo Student Pow-Wow.

Passed by Committee: _____, 2015

Passed by ASUM Senate: _____, 2015

Sarah Smith
Relations and Affairs Chair

Sean McQuillan,
Chair of the Senate