VOLCOMG...

Why you should care about about what's in

this magazine



The AMS Elections committee

The Alma Matter Society (AMS) represents 42,000 UBC students when it presents student issues to the University Administration and the federal government. AMS reps operate student services, student-owned businesses, resource groups, clubs and are paid hefty annual wages to decide how to throw around millions of your tuition dollars. And yet, how many of us actually vote for the AMS?

In an attempt to obliterate the monsters that are voter ignorance and apathy, Mark Latham (see below), UBC finance graduate turned Wall Street mogul, has designed and sponsored the Voter-Funded Media contest in order to "make the world a better place". (Don't laugh; what the hell have you done lately?) Mark hopes that the contest will inspire media outlets (US!) to

cover the elections by rewarding those that do the best job informing voters (YOU!) about the elections and candidates in order to increase voter interest, turnout and to improve political accountability! What a fabulous idea.

What's **your role** in all of this? Step 1. Read our simply orgasmic magazine and inform yourself on the issues.

Step 2. Spread the knowledge. Step 3. VOTE! For the AMS Candidates that you think will do the best job, and finally for this magazine for having infected you with frankly titillating information regarding the elections.

Step 4. Feel good about being part of a more informed, democratic and accountable political system!

7 KNOW YOU REALLY WANT TO VDTE FOR **ELECTION TERECTION TOO!** ፕዐ PLEASE DO...

That's all folks! Now spread the joy. Sincerely, Candice Vallantin and Kate Webb Editors and Publishers Election Erection Magazine



The man behind the plan Mark Latham is out to change the

world, one media outlet at a time

ou might be asking yourself why we would put out this crazy publication, especially given the topic and scope of the magazine.

The answer is this man, the founder of the UBC Voter Funded Media contest, of which this humble rag is but a cog in the machine.

Mark Latham got his start as a giant of the finance world over 25 years ago at UBC, first completing his undergraduate degree in math and then moving on to an MSc in finance. He holds a PhD in finance from MIT and has taught at the University of California at Berkeley. In fact, the 52-year-old former Wall St. mogul has had such a successful career that at the age of 40 he retired and he now lives entirely off savings and investments.

But true to the adage, monetary triumphs

do not buy happiness, at least not for Latham. After conquering the career world he still felt something was missing, and the Voter Funded Media model is the theory that seems to have filled that hole in his heart. UBC is now hosting the first ever Voter Funded Media experiment in history, which entails an \$8,000 cash prize pool doled out to media contestants based on the support of student voters.

"Making money on Wall St. was good, but I always wanted to change the world, and Wall St. wasn't the place to do that," said Latham in an interview with Election Erection earlier this month. "I am thrilled to be doing this [contest] at UBC, and the more I talk to UBC students the more excited I am and the more I think UBC is the perfect place to try this."

In short, his theory is that corruption and

waste in government and corporations can be reduced by better radar for voters. He believes the problem of poor public and private representation can be solved by allowing voters to control some media funding, so that the media are loyal to voters rather than corporations.

It's a simple plan – one that we at Election Erection magazine like very much, in fact — and it just might work. Just look at us: were it not for his sponsorship of the UBC Voter Funded Media contest, we would have had neither the incentive nor the inspiration to become the publishers of our own magazine, and to help you, the voter, become more involved in selecting those who get to spend your money.

So kudos, Mark Latham. From our perspective, you have indeed made the world, or at least UBC, a better place.

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