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Sales of student parking permits go smoothly at U of L; University undertaking measure to respond to increased demand

The University of Lethbridge's new online parking permit system performed smoothly during this week's sale, with permits for all student lots selling out quickly.

"The technology performed well; students ranked the lots in their order of preference and submitted simple forms using a variety of platforms. Permits were sold on a first-come, first-served basis," says John O'Keeffe, executive director of campus safety.

Student parking permits were sold in two phases: Tuesday, Aug. 1, for students in residence and today for non-residence students. Permits sold out very quickly and students were informed by email within a couple of hours whether they were successful in obtaining a parking permit. Students who were unsuccessful were automatically added to a wait list.

O'Keeffe says that, as enrolment continues to grow, the U of L will monitor the situation and continue to respond regarding how students, staff, faculty and the public access the campus.

"We are committed to serving students. We have improved infrastructure to add Lot Q to our inventory of parking lots and are undertaking a feasibility study regarding the building of a parkade on campus. We have also added a manager of campus mobility (Cara LaMontagne) and frontline support staff to respond the day-to-day needs of students," says O'Keeffe. "We're also supportive of a UPass and will work with the Students' Union should the undergraduate student body choose to implement one."

O'Keeffe will be available to speak to media on Friday, Aug. 4, from 9 to 10 a.m. at the bus loop.

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