



Students' Society of McGill University
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Located on unceded, Kanien'kehá:ka traditional territory

REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL AFFAIRS)

SEPTEMBER 14th, 2016

CAMPAIGNS

- Over summer meetings with **CUTE campaign** to discuss education on campus and joining community coalition - attending first group meeting on Monday
- **McGill Against Austerity / Demil / Divest** - getting campaign on its feet. Recreation of materials (much needed) and working to integrate new members, reshaping campaign to reflect new demographic
- Support Concordia with **#BringBissanHome campaign** (successful!!)
- Working with Campaign Coordinators to establish the **McGill Solidarity Action Network**, a community-building initiative
- Sortons La Caisse de Carbone ! Demo
- Coordination of first steps around **SSMU Gendered and Sexualized Violence Policy** with rest of Exec
- Coordination of **Our Turn Strategy** completion, release, and accompanying campaign between the two
- Responding to alt-right posters on campus
- Organizing **Panel** with those directly affected by the Caisse de depot et placement du Quebec's fossil fuel investments on October 12th

REPRESENTATION & ADVOCACY

- Attended **AVEQ congress in Trois-Rivières** with VP University Affairs. Topics discussed over the weekend were the Action Plan for 2017-2018, including the decision for the annual campaign to be for Accessible Education and Climate Justice, and the discussion and approval the budget for this coming year. I participated in the mobilization commissions. Other motions discussed were the Mob Camp training (a

new format this year), a motion condemning unpaid internships and commissioning research on unpaid internships, a motion to participate in the CDPQ Divestment campaign, and a motion to begin organizing around the G7 which will take place in Charlevoix this summer. At the Sociopolitical we presented at length on the work on addressing sexual violence happening on our campus and the continuing concerns with support and inclusion of survivors' voices in policy making processes. We also presented the Our Turn project. A motion approved by this commission was to officially support the increase in minimum wage in Québec to \$15/h

- Following and responding to the release of the Minister for Higher Education's **provincial strategy against sexual violence on campuses**
- Looked with the President into joining **ADVOCAN and UCRU** (Undergraduates of Canadian Research-Intensive Universities) for federal representation
- Calling / Skyping with Externals from Canadian universities that have implemented Fall Reading Weeks to gather testimonies
- Part of **CREM initiative** of various student unions in Montreal to discuss upcoming **municipal election (Nov. 5th)** and work to prepare McGill specific information campaign

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

- Community Affairs Commissioner Julien Trembley-Gravel has been working over the summer on putting together and pitching a proposal for **co-op student housing** in the RVH space. He has been coordinating with UTILE on this project
- He has also been working on putting together a **sustainable project** that picks up the furniture abandoned in the community during move-out day, stores it over the summer, and sells it cheaply to students in the Fall (not for profit, but to cover the costs of collection in the spring)
- Coordination of **Street Teams** for Frosh
- Work with Dean of Students and Hélène Brisson (Community Representative) on the printing and distribution of the **C.A.R.E agreement**
- **Waste management campaign** material making (set to launch end of September)

INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

- **Carlee Loft** is the 2017-2018 Indigenous Affairs Commissioner! She started on September 1st and we are working on establishing a timeline for the projects she wishes to take on this semester

- **Annual Pow-Wow on Lower Field is tomorrow! Indigenous Awareness Week is next week!**
- Looking at getting **murals** by artists from Unceded Voices in SSMU
- Goal : Keep McGill accountable to wanting to implement the recommendations of the **Taskforce on Indigenous Studies and Indigenous Education** ; Make the IAC position at SSMU more of a hub of resources for non-Indigenous / settler students instead of burdening the resources that exist on campus specifically to support Indigenous students with this labour

FRANCOPHONE AFFAIRS

- Working with President on the revamp of the **Commission des Affaires Francophones** for the 2017-2018
- Separation of resources for Francophone students and resources for Anglophone students
- Working with Qc Studies - how to support their programming and begin collaborative projects, like the **panel next week**
- Critical engagement : who are francophone students? What is francophone culture? What is Francophone culture at McGill?

OTHER

- Establishment of **Listserv**
- Designing **Website** (hopefully live in October)
- Working with McGill Daily to have section on upcoming demos/events

GOALS

- Increase **communication** between External Office and membership
- Continue to **push forward the conversation around sexual violence** on this campus and work on fixing the holes identified in the SSMU system last year
- **Increase representation** at the provincial and federal level // collaboration between SSMU and other student associations
- **Publish the Our Turn National Strategy Against Sexual Violence**
- Bring the **question of AVEQ affiliation through referendum**
- Fully support the growth of the parts of portfolio historically under-resourced : **Indigenous Affairs, Francophone Affairs, and Community Affairs**