



# EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Fall 2015 General Assembly

Report of the VP External Affairs

# Overview



External Affairs



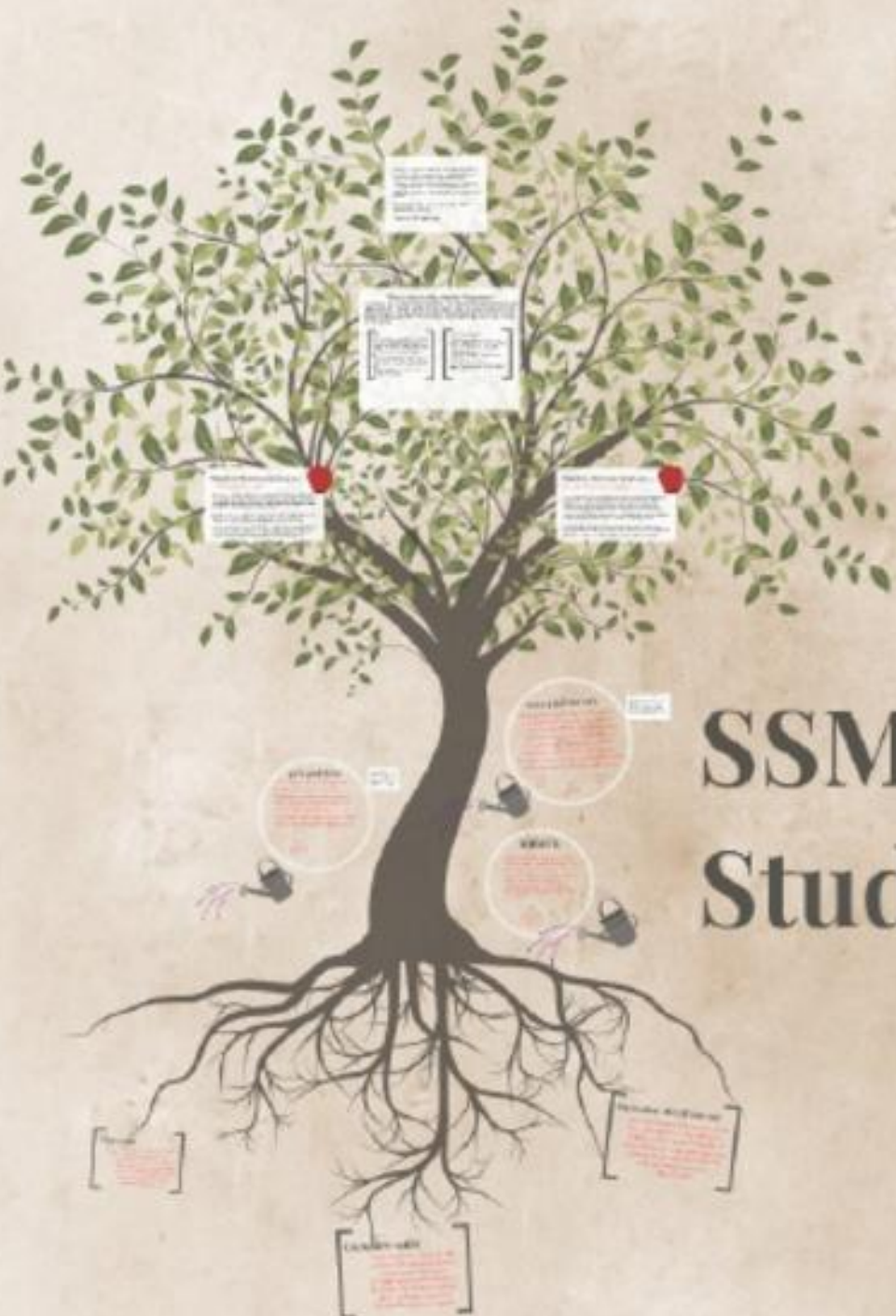
Political Campaigns



Community  
Relations

Events &  
Programming

Francophone Affairs



# SSMU & the Quebec Student Movement



# Why participate?

## Provincial Representation

*SSMU & the Quebec Student Movement*



### External Affairs & Representation

- 7) Represent the Society and communicate positions and policies taken by the Society to external bodies and agencies;
- 8) Lobby federal, provincial, and municipal governments to further the objectives, goals and policies of the Society;

Advocating for the student priorities like affordable housing or youth employment opportunities

Lobbying the governments on issues related to higher education

Mobilizing students on political stances related to social and environmental justice



association  
pour la voix  
étudiante  
au québec



association  
for the voice  
of education  
in quebec

## Provincial Student Associations

- Historically have a lot of power in Quebec in fighting for student rights
- After the collapse of the FEUQ, over 15 student associations were unaffiliated
- Differences in opinion over voting methods and political positions resulted in two new provincial student associations, the UEQ and the AVEQ
- SSMU has acted as an observer in the UEQ and a participant in AVEQ since May
- It is up to students to decide if we want to affiliate to AVEQ, UEQ, or none!



UNION ÉTUDIANTE  
DU QUÉBEC



QUEBEC STUDENT  
UNION

FOR INCLUSION  
AND FEMINISM

FOR ENVIRONMENTAL  
AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

FOR ACCESSIBLE AND  
HIGH-QUALITY  
EDUCATION

- **Values:** democracy, solidarity, and equity
- **Current policies:** sustainability, communication, donations, accountability
- **Voting method:** 1 vote per member association
- **Fee levy:** \$3.50 per student per semester
- **Website:** [aveq-nous.quebec](http://aveq-nous.quebec)



UNION ÉTUDIANTE  
DU QUÉBEC

Une Union

**Forte Rassembleuse Transparente Redevable Solidaire Nécessaire Rejoins-nous**

- **Values:** efficiency, fairness, transparency, collegiality
- **Current policies:** access and diffusion of information
- **Voting method:** double majority
- **Fee levy:** \$4.50 per student per semester
- **Website:** [unionetudiante.ca](http://unionetudiante.ca)

# External Affairs Committee



## *Higher Education issues*

This section contains Quebec post secondary education major issues. It includes a usually short explanation of the topic and SSMU's position on the issue, if appropriate. The information is not exhaustive and aims to provide a clear and simple overview to McGill students who might not always be familiar with these issues.

If you have questions, comments or if you need more information, do not hesitate to contact us!

Financial aid

Quality of education

Tuition fees

Student debt

Education summit

Accessibility

Ancillary fees

University financing



# POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS



- 3) Maintain relations with campus labour unions, and participate in campus inter-union meetings;
- 4) Maintain information tools (websites, flyers, etc.) on issues of interest to students, such as in the area of post-secondary education policy;
- 5) Keep abreast of, and organize McGill student participation in, local, national or international campaigns aiming for accessible, quality, post-secondary education;
- 6) Provide material, logistical and organizational support for students organizing campaigns which further the objectives, goals and policies of the Society with respect to social and environmental issues;

# / FCK AUSTERITY /

What is Austerity?

Impacts

McGill + Austerity

Alternatives Exist

Anti-Austerity Week

Get Involved

## What is Austerity?

Austerity is a political program, a set of measures put in place by politicians in order to reduce a government deficit. Generally, this is some kind of combination of spending cuts and tax increases. In Canada and Quebec, billions in public spending has been slashed drastically over the last decade with increasingly disastrous effects, while tax rates on the richest institutions and individuals continue to plummet.



**\$3.7bn of cuts in  
government spending.**



**Slashed social  
safety nets.**



**Increasing inequity  
within society.**

**ANTI-AUSTERITY WEEK**

**SEPTEMBER 14-18**

# AUSTERITY IS A CHOICE

STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE QUEBEC  
TEACHER'S UNION. JOIN US AT **11:00 AM**  
**ON SEPT. 30<sup>TH</sup> AT THE RODDICK GATES**

SSMU



November 5th Demonstration

McGill Contingent: Noon, Roddick Gates

For a massive reinvestment in our public services



Conference of Youth  
MONTREAL 2015



étudiant(e)s contre les oléoducs



BECOME A MEMBER

GET INVOLVED

HOME

ABOUT US

CAMPAIGNS

MEMBERS

RESOURCES

FR

EN

# Manifestation

## NON aux oléoducs Énergie Est et Ligne 9B

PLACE DU CANADA  
12H SAMEDI 10 OCTOBRE

PROTÉGEONS LE FLEUVE, LE CLIMAT, NOTRE AVENIR!

MONTREAL  
COY 11

# Climate Justice Initiatives

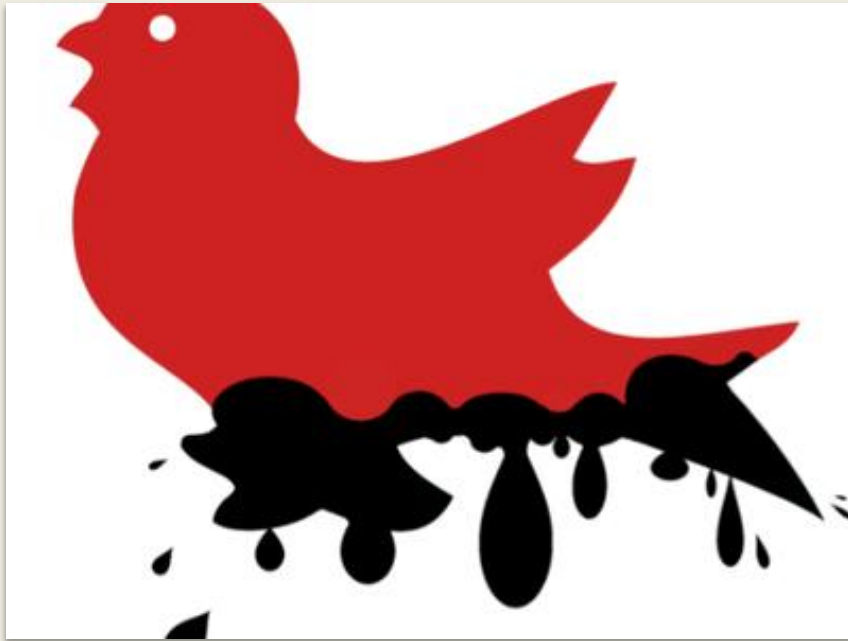
## #Build your COY!

You want to propose a project, share your experience, provide a workshop? Submit it!



# OBAMA JUST REJECTED KEYSTONE. JUSTIN, WHICH SIDE OF HISTORY WILL YOU BE ON?





Divest McGill is a student led movement which is asking our universities and other institutions to stop investing in fossil fuels, on the basis that it is fundamentally immoral to be supporting such a destructive, carbon-intensive industry.



Demilitarize McGill organizes to interrupt the University's history of complicity in colonization and imperialist warfare by ending military collaboration at McGill. They work through research, popular education, and direct action in order to achieve their goals.

# #RememberThis

A Series of Events Against War and Militarism

**"Motherhouse": Reading and Q&A with David Fennario**

Monday, Nov. 10th, 7:00pm  
New Music Building, A-832, 527 Sherbrooke West,

**"Myths for Profit":  
Screening, Dinner, and Director Talk**

Wednesday, Nov. 11th, 6:00pm dinner (film at 7:00pm)  
The Presbyterian College Cafeteria, 3495 University

**Kanien'kehá:ka Resistance to Colonialism and Militarism**

Wednesday, Nov. 18th, 7:30pm  
SSMU Cafeteria South Side, 3480 McTavish

**KEYNOTE PANEL  
Beyond No War: Celebrating  
Resistance to Canadian Nationalism**

Friday, Nov. 13th, 7:00pm (doors at 6:30pm)  
McConnell Engineering Building, Rm. 13, 3480 University

All locations are on the McGill University campus, and are wheelchair accessible. Whisper translation (English-French) will be available at all events. Please contact demilitarizemcgill@riseup.net if there's anything we can do to make these events more accessible to you.



# McGill Votes

Federal Election 2015

Get Involved in the Campaign Today!

Name

Email

Send



## VOLUNTEER

Passionate about getting students to the polls this year? Sign up to help give students the information they need.



## MOBILIZE

Help coordinate this year's Vote Mob and other events that get students excited about voting.



## CAST YOUR VOTE

Show up on or before election day to cast your vote and help determine Canada's future!



October 13, 5:00 PM

**WHOSE DEMOCRACY?**

Perspectives on democracy, who's included, and who's left out.

The panel will be live broadcast on **CKUT, 90.3 FM**, and online at [ckut.ca](http://ckut.ca)



## SSMU, CKUT HOST FEDERAL ELECTION CANDIDATES DEBATE

Candidates discuss education, the environment, and the economy

by Nick Milum

Oct 6, 2015

- Held a campaign to encourage voting through a panel event, a debate, and a vote mob!
- Facilitated communication of on campus voting stations both before and on October 19<sup>th</sup>
- Worked with student unions across the country, the administration, and elections Canada







November 5-8

# CULTURESHOCK

*an event series on anti-racism, migrant justice and indigenous solidarity*

QPIRG McGill Collaborations

Culture Shock and Social Justice Days



# Community Affairs

## ***Community Relations***

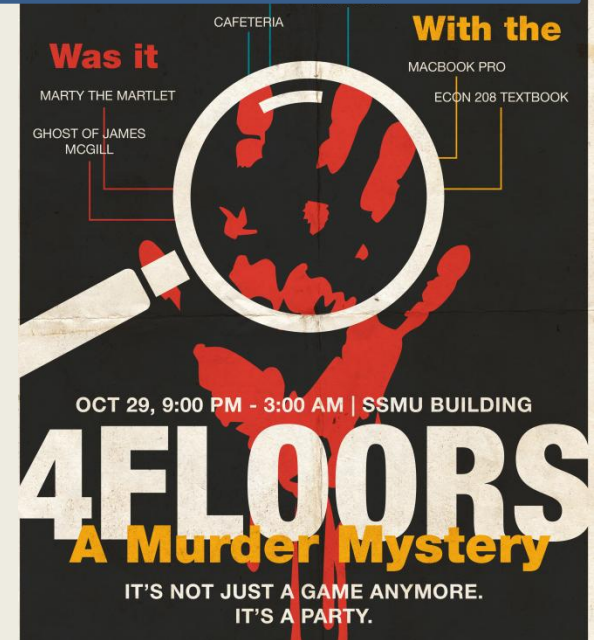
In terms of Community Relations, the job of the VP External is largely to act as a liaison between students and residents in the Milton-Parc community, hear residents' concerns, and raise awareness of those concerns to students. This may include door-to-door consultation during the summer, Frosh Street teams or organizing campus-community coffeehouses or BBQ's.

## ***Community Engagement***

The VP External is responsible for ensuring that a multitude of Community Engagement opportunities are available for students. This year we are creating a community engagement database, organizing community mixers and more!



# VP Internal Delegation



# Governance and Administration

## Council & Committees

- Passed a climate change policy
- Working with both the community engagement committee and the external affairs committee

## Human Resources

- Currently managing 10 different student staff
- Future student researcher positions to come!

## Executive Team

- Helping to envision the new structure of the SSMU
- Will be involved in the hiring of a new GM!

# EXTERNAL AFFAIRS



COMMUNITY AFFAIRS



CAMPAIGNS



WHAT DOES MY VP  
EXTERNAL DO?

Thanks for watching!