



Report of the Steering Committee

Convened on January 21, 2013

Present: Speaker of Council, President Redel, Vice-President Dinel, Vice-President Reid-Fraser, Councillor Chaim, Councillor Larson

Absent: Councillor Rea, Vice-President Szpejda

Guest Speakers

- The guest speakers for the January 27th meeting of Council will be speaking on agenda items relevant to them (mostly referendum questions) and include:
 - Lilith Wyatt, Sustainability Projects Fund Coordinator
 - Jana Luker, Executive Director of Student Services
 - Drew Love, Executive Director of Athletics
 - Queen Arsem-O'Malley, Daily Publications Society Director
 - Chris Bangs, Political Campaigns Coordinator

New Business

- **Motion Regarding Installation of New Microwaves in the William Shatner University Centre Cafeteria**
 - Discussion on the \$800 cost of the project; however the SSMU needs to spend such money to purchase industrial microwaves (that will undergo constant use everyday)
 - Name of the motion changed for clarity and specificity
- **Motion Regarding McGill Free from Fossil Fuels**
 - Suggestion to the movers to cite the previous November motion passed at Council regarding ethical investment in the first resolved clause
 - Need for clarification in the second resolved clause regarding who would be adopting a position in favour of a rapid transition to a carbon-neutral society (all SSMU members, SSMU Council, the Shatner building, etc.)
- **Motion Regarding Support for First Nation and Inuit Members and Allies**
 - VP Reid-Fraser commented that the title should be changed to “Indigenous Peoples and Allies” which the movers were notified about
 - The motion in its entirety is not considered external and will require a simple majority to adopt
 - Suggestion to the movers to have more concrete action items when using the terms “lobby” and “take reasonable steps” and currently the clauses are very general and vague (ie: there can be a mention of FERC taking a role in fulfilling the mandate of this motion)
- **Motion Endorsement of DPS Referendum Question**
 - Noted that it is improper to have two languages in the same legal document; the document will be translated ASAP by the SSMU translator, and will be updated to have one fully in English, and one fully in French
 - Note that all future Council documents will be translated into French prior to the Council meeting
- **Regarding Support for Faculty of Arts Courses**



Office of the Speakers
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- Discussion regarding requiring more action items and substance to the resolved clauses
- Particularly, including work with the Arts Representatives to Council and Arts Senators
- Will be placed on the agenda for Council and open to friendly amendments

- **Notice of Motion Regarding Poll Clerks**
 - Submitted by the CEO of Elections SSMU; no concerns
- **Notice of Motion Regarding Increasing the Diversity of Student Representation on the McGill University Senate**
 - Noted that there may be extensive questions for clarification regarding the nomination and reallocation process for the Senate seat(s)
 - VP Dinel, Councillor Lam and Councillor Giannakakis will be available at Council to answer any questions
- **Notice of Motion Regarding Environment Fee Referendum Question**
 - Submitted by the Environment Commissioners; no concerns
- **Notice of Motion Regarding Sustainability Projects Fund Fee Referendum Question**
 - Submitted by the SSMU Sustainability Coordinator; no concerns
- **Notice of Motion Regarding Student Services Ancillary Fee Referendum Question**
 - Submitted by the Office of the Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning); no concerns
- **Notice of Motion Regarding Athletics Ancillary Fee Referendum Question**
 - Submitted by the Office of the Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning); no concerns
- **Notice of Motion Regarding Creation of a McGill Writing Centre Ancillary Fee Referendum Question**
 - Submitted by the Office of the Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning); no concerns
- **Notice of Motion Regarding Equity Fund Referendum Question**
 - Original motion and referendum question required extensive amendments, as not enough research was conducted for the initial submission
 - Motion was re-submitted by the Equity Commissioners, and will be placed on the Council agenda, with possible friendly amendments brought forth by VP Dinel to strengthen the motion further
- **Notice of Motion Regarding Charity Fee Referendum Question**
 - Submitted by President Redel; no concerns

Confidential Session

- There will be a confidential session prior to adjournment of Council

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Tong on behalf of the Speakers of Council