



Motion Regarding Environment Fee Referendum Question

Whereas, the SSMU Environment Fee, which is dispensed through the SSMU Green Fund, was created in 2007 to empower campus members to engage in sustainability initiatives on campus and in their personal lives as well as build a culture of environmental sustainability on campus;

Whereas, the Green Fund has made it possible for many non-environmental groups to run more environmentally-friendly events by subsidizing the increased costs often associated with the use of more sustainable products;

Whereas, the Green Fund is the only student-regulated environmental fund on campus, and therefore prioritizes students;

Whereas, the Green Fund is better suited for the funding of individual events and smaller-scale projects which do not need to be subject to the more rigorous and lengthy review process of the Sustainability Projects Fund; and

Whereas, the Green Fund is also used to “green” normal SSMU operations and maintenance of the University Centre (Shatner Building);

Whereas, the Green Fund has made it possible for McGill students to be involved in the sustainability movement beyond McGill through external movements and events;

Resolved, that the SSMU Council approve the following question for the Winter 2013 referendum period:

“Do you agree that the opt-outable \$1.25 SSMU Environment Fee, which is paid for by all SSMU members and accessible to all SSMU members who do not opt out of the fee, be renewed for five years, to start in Fall 2013, and to be charged until Winter 2018 (inclusive), and that the fee be adjusted to inflation, as indexed by the Bank of Canada CPI (Consumer Price Index), with the understanding that a majority “no” vote would result in the fee ceasing to exist?”

Moved by:

Josh Redel, President
Haley Dinel, Vice-President (University Affairs)
David Chaim, Science Representative
Katherine Larson, Music Representative