



### Motion Regarding Municipal Bylaw P-6

*Whereas*, on May 18, 2012, the City of Montreal modified Municipal Bylaw P-6 to require that the organizers of all assemblies, demonstrations and parades provide an itinerary and location to the Montreal police ahead of time<sup>i</sup>;

*Whereas*, the bylaw modification also prevents any participant in an assembly, demonstration or parade from wearing a face covering - including a scarf, mask or balaclava – without good reason;

*Whereas*, this bylaw modification was made in the same context as the adoption of Law 78/12 by the National Assembly, a law which was widely criticized and much of which was repealed following the election of the Parti Québécois government in September 2012;

*Whereas*, in the last month, the SPVM has used P-6 as a reason to kettle and mass arrest demonstrators at 3 major demonstrations on March 15, March 22 and April 5, which total nearly 900 people detained and fined upwards of \$600<sup>ii iii iv</sup>, and which included people detained before the demonstrations even began;

*Whereas*, a spokesperson of the SPVM is quoted as explicitly stating that the Canadian Charter protects the right to free speech, but that “there is no right to protest”;<sup>v,vi</sup>

*Whereas*, the Canadian Civil Liberties Association<sup>vii</sup>, the Association des juristes progressistes<sup>viii</sup> and the municipal party Projet Montreal<sup>ix</sup> have all recently come out publicly condemning the way that P-6 is being enforced and/or are asking for it to be repealed entirely;

*Whereas*, this enforcement of bylaw P-6 clearly threatens the ability of any group, including students, to express its position on a particular event or issue;

*Resolved*, that the Students Society of McGill University (SSMU) take a position against municipal bylaw P-6 in this form, and its enforcement by way of kettles, mass arrests, and fines,

*Resolved*, that the SSMU communicate this position by writing an open letter to the Montreal Municipal Government and publishing it on the SSMU website,

*Resolved*, that the SSMU also publicize a demonstration to take place in conjunction with the Montreal City Council meeting on April 22, 2013 to encourage the abolition of P-6, and where Project Montreal will be bringing a motion for its repeal.

Moved by:

Robin Reid-Fraser, Vice-President (External Affairs)  
Emily Boytinck, Clubs and Services Representative  
Zachary Rosentzveig, Clubs and Services Representative



Students' Society of McGill University  
Association étudiante de l'Université McGill

**Submitted for:** April 11, 2013  
**Adopted on:** April 11, 2013

**Office of the Speakers**  
Bureau de Présidents du Conseil

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<sup>i</sup> <http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/sel/sypre-consultation/afficherpdf?idDoc=23796&typeDoc=1>

<sup>ii</sup>

<http://www.leaderpost.com/news/Police+swiftly+break+anniversary+student+protest+Montreal/8140903/story.html>

<sup>iii</sup> <http://www.montrealgazette.com/news/Cops+jump+anti+brutality+march+early/8107487/story.html>

<sup>iv</sup> <http://montreal.ctvnews.ca/police-report-279-detained-at-protest-against-controversial-bylaw-1.1226588>

<sup>v</sup> <http://www.lapresse.ca/actualites/dossiers/conflit-etudiant/201303/22/01-4633847-intervention-policiere-rapide-a-la-manifestation-du-22.php>

<sup>vi</sup> <http://rabble.ca/blogs/bloggers/ethan-cox/2013/03/there-no-right-protest-montreal-police-deny-charter-rights>

<sup>vii</sup> <http://ccla.org/2013/04/04/mass-arrests-under-montreal-bylaw-must-stop/>

<sup>viii</sup> <http://ajpquebec.org/?p=500>

<sup>ix</sup> <http://projetmontreal.org/communiqués/projet-montreal-demandera-au-conseil-de-ville-de-montreal-dabroger-le-reglement-p-6/>

Adopted