

Office of the Speaker Bureau de Président du Conseil

## Motion Regarding Legal Information Clinic at McGill Fee Increase Referendum Question

Whereas the Legal Information Clinic at McGill (LICM) was created in 1973 to provide legal information to McGill students and the Montreal community, with a continuing commitment to meeting the needs of marginalized groups,

Whereas LICM's Student Advocacy Programme was created in 1989 to provide free, confidential advice and assistance to McGill students going through disciplinary, grievance and appeals processes at the University,

Whereas LICM requires an increase in student fee support to maintain its services,

Whereas a Winter 2001 referendum approved an increase of the LICM Fee to \$3.25 paid by each undergraduate student, and the LICM Fee has not been adjusted in the thirteen years since the Winter 2001 Referendum Period to reflect the appreciation of costs related to running LICM,

Whereas LICM's computer systems require periodic replacement to maintain full access to legal research resources, with the bulk of current equipment dating to 2006,

Whereas the rent for LICM's office space in the University Centre increased in 2011, and is expected to increase again in 2016, and whereas LICM added a private meeting room to its space in 2012 to ensure students' confidentiality, and the LICM Fee was not adjusted to accommodate these changes,

Whereas LICM would be unable to operate at its current capacity without increased revenue, and would need to decrease services if the LICM Fee remains at its current 2001 level,

Resolved, that the SSMU Legislative Council approve the following question for the Winter 2014 Referendum Period:



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

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"Do you agree that the non-opt-outable student fee for the Legal Information Clinic at McGill (LICM) paid by all registered undergraduate students on the downtown campus (except those registered in the School of Continuing Studies) each Fall and Winter term be raised to \$4.50 from \$3.25 starting in Fall 2014 and continuing until Fall 2019 (inclusive), at which time it will be brought back to the membership for renewal?"

Moved by:

John Simpson, Law Representative Stefan Fong, VP Clubs and Services Joey Shea, VP University Affairs Kareem Ibrahim, Arts Representative