

Office of the Speaker Bureau de Président du Conseil

Submitted for: October 10, 2013 Approved on: October 10, 2013

Motion Regarding Midnight Kitchen Existence Referendum Question

Whereas the Midnight Kitchen (MK) is a volunteer and worker-run organization that provides a balanced and complete lunch on a pay-as-you-can basis to an average of two hundred and fifty students every weekday; (1)

Whereas student fees make up over ninety-nine percent (99.3%) of MK's budget; (5)

Whereas the dissolution of MK would create a gap in an important SSMU service for students who have difficulty with food accessibility;

Whereas MK provides meal services for other McGill student groups, as well as groups and individuals in the greater Montreal community; (2)

Whereas other McGill affiliated organisations outside of MK regularly use the kitchen for their own fundraising and event needs, and this is set up by MK and available for booking through the SSMU; (3)

Whereas MK organises educational events and workshops, supports direct action and grassroots organising, has an alternative, free library, and distributes a newsletter each semester; (4)

Whereas the infrastructure and organisation of MK provides opportunities and support for community engagement on important issues, and is a hub for community building resources, ideas, and people;

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

"Do you support MK continuing as a recognised student service in effect from the start of the semester in Winter 2014 until Fall 2016 (inclusive) supported by a fee of \$2.25 per semester for undergraduate students, which is opt-outable on the Minerva online opt-out system, with the understanding that a majority "no" vote will result in the termination of all undergraduate fee-levy funding to MK, terminating the existence of MK?"



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

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Moved by:

Claire Stewart-Kanigan, Arts Senator Courtney Ayukawa, Arts and Science Representative Joey Shea, VP University Affairs Stefan Fong, VP Clubs and Services

Appendix

1 http://themidnightkitchen.wordpress.com/about/ (MK's mandate)

2 http://themidnightkitchen.wordpress.com/24-2/ (solidarity serving description)

3 http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/events/room-booking/ (SSMU room booking page)

4 http://themidnightkitchen.wordpress.com/2013/06/25/midnight-kitchen-the-union-for-gender-empowerment-and-the-prisoner-correspondence-project-present/ (example of a sponsored workshop)

5 https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc? key=0AknswYmyNxcydHlrWnVCVzFCUkJrX2V0V1FHOF9wSFE#gid=0 (MK's current budget)