



Motion Regarding Midnight Kitchen Fee Increase Referendum Question

Whereas the Midnight Kitchen (MK) is a volunteer and worker-run organisation 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 the number of students attending servings continues to rise, and MK's funding has not increased proportionally to this need;

Whereas MK strives to make food more accessible by accommodating dietary restrictions, including allergies, gluten intolerance, veganism, and religious needs; (1)

Whereas MK provides free or by donation meal services for McGill student groups and community groups and individuals in Montreal; (1)

Whereas MK hosts a myriad of educational, interactive workshops throughout the school year for McGill students and members of the greater Montreal community; (3)

Whereas MK has been in operation since 2002, and the kitchen perpetually needs costly maintenance and sporadic replacement of old equipment;

Whereas MK would like to buy more produce in bulk instead of getting only low-quality, damaged, and deemed unfit for sale food for free from grocery stores in order to have a more consistent and higher quality amount of food for servings; (6)

Whereas MK would like to expand its services to serving breakfasts, offering drip coffee, tea, other beverages, fruit, and accessible baked goods for free in the mornings; (7)

Whereas the increase of MK's fee will let the organisation expand the infrastructure and organisation of MK, allowing them to further support the community and pool more community building resources;

Whereas a change in Quebec labour code since MK's last fee raise ensures that staff are paid liveable wages, and wages now take up sixty-one percent of MK's overall budget; (4, 5)



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

Office of the Speaker
Bureau de Président du Conseil

Whereas without the proposed increase MK will continue to struggle to fulfil their mandate of food accessibility; (1)

Whereas being financially accessible is part of MK's mandate as a service, and not all students, individuals or groups who access their array of services are able to donate; (1)

Whereas the opt-outable fee accounts for 99.3% of MK's total funding as a service; (5)

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

“Do you support that the student levy for the Midnight Kitchen, payable and fully opt-outable on Minerva by members of the Students Society of McGill University (SSMU), be raised from \$2.25 to \$3.25 in effect from the start of the semester in Winter 2014 until Fall 2016 (inclusive) at which point it will be brought back to the membership for renewal?”

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://themidnightkitchen.wordpress.com/2013/06/25/midnight-kitchen-the-union-for-gender-empowerment-and-the-prisoner-correspondence-project-present/> (example of a sponsored workshop)
- 4 <http://www.ces.gouv.qc.ca/documents/publications/anglais.pdf> (Quebec pay equity act)
- 5 <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0AknsWYmyNxcydHlrWnVCVzFCUkjrX2V0V1FHOF9wSFE&usp=sharing> (MK's current budget)
- 6 <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1V83yTimF2aYk16lrrXtGQAxYJY1r4eOeCBDhuRfj0IM/edit> (proposed monthly bulk order for increased lunch servings post fee raise)
- 7 https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vk1L_6twgh_8t3j8AMtqubEWU-v5Q1e5aN7TruPNMYE/edit?usp=sharing (proposed monthly bulk order for breakfast servings post fee raise)
- 8 https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nV68gXT9j6-UrA1_5Pv4CzRJ8UKuKxLKTgYJIQ_rzoc/edit (Proposed MK budget)