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

Submitted For: September 11, 2014 **Approved On:** September 11, 2014

Office of the Speaker Bureau de Président du Conseil

Motion Regarding the Creation of a Council Inititiated Yes Committee for the SSMU Building Fee Levy

Whereas, according to article 10.1.1 in By Law Book I a Yes or No Committee may be formed by Council motion;

Whereas, the lease agreement between McGill and SSMU from the 2011-2012 school year to the 2020-2021 school year includes significant increases in rent and utilities costs starting at \$126,900 for the year 2011-2012, and will increase to a total of \$336,382.43, consisting of \$165,000 for rent and \$171,382.43 for utilities;

Whereas, the "Motion Regarding Implementation of the University Centre Building Fee Referendum Question" was passed at the April 10, 2014 Legislative Council meeting and this fee levy question is scheduled to run in the 2014 Early Fall Referendum;

Whereas, this fee will be used to pay the rent and utilities of the current agreed upon lease agreement with McGill. Any excess of the rent and utilities payments that is generated by this fee will be internally restricted within SSMU's Capital Expenditures Reserve Fund for building renovation projects;

Whereas, without passing a fee levy, the SSMU must pay the costs of rent and utilities out of its existing operating budget;

Whereas, SSMU has had to cut services to students in order to afford the rent and utilities payments to McGill;

Whereas, these cuts may increase to include significant reductions in operating hours of the University Centre, hiring and salary freezes for all staff members including not hiring a Sustainability Coordinator, the elimination of all SSMU student research positions, significant increases in prices for Gerts, nominal fees for room bookings for all student groups, increases in rent costs for student groups using the building, the further commercialization of space in the University Centre including but not limited to the replacement of The Nest with a commercial tenant and the revision of room 108 to a commercial tenant.

Be it resolved, that SSMU Council endorse a Yes vote for the SSMU Building Fee levy

Be it resolved, that SSMU Council form a Yes Committee supporting the implementation of the SSMU Building Fee levy.



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Moved By:

President Ayukawa

VP Stewart-Kanigan (University Affairs)

VP Moustaquim-Barrette (External)

VP Fong (Clubs and Services)

VP Bradley (Finance and Operations)

Councillor Kpeglo-Hennessy, Arts Representative

Councillor Ibrahim, Senate Caucus Representative

Councillor Rioux, Engineering Representative

