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

Submitted For: October 23, 2014 **Approved On:** October 23, 2014

Office of the Speaker Bureau de Président du Conseil

Motion Regarding the Creation of the University Building Fund

Whereas, the University Building Fee was passed by a 69% majority vote at the early Fall 2014 Referendum;

Whereas, this fee assumes an 8% EPI rate annually, the maximum charged in the RIAL/SSMU lease;

Whereas, in 2014-2015, McGill assessed EPI at an indexation factor of 3.6%, resulting in a surplus of student fees;

Whereas, this money should be restricted and used solely for the purpose of lease payments;

Be it resolved, that the Finance and Operations Portfolio By-Law Book be amended to include the creation of a University Centre Building Fund (UCBF) as outlined below.

Article 5 – University Centre Building Fund (UCBF) Origin

5.1 After the Fall 2014 Referendum on student fees passed the University Building Fee by majority vote, the amount of money raised by the levy is higher than the annual lease payment to McGill. This variance will persist due to the uncertainty of the Energy Price Index (EPI), which determines the amount owed to McGill for utilities in the University Centre on an annual basis.

Purpose

5.2 The creation of the UCBF is meant to ensure that student fees collected for the University Building fee for lease payments goes towards lease payments exclusively. The amount of the levy collected by the SSMU for the University Building Fee above and beyond what is owed for lease payments should not be going into the Operating Budget, but instead should be kept in the UCBF to ensure adequate funding for lease payments in future years, or to be taken into consideration when the lease is renegotiated upon its expiry.

Administration of UCF

- 5.3 Surpluses from the University Building Fee above and beyond the necessary lease payments for any given fiscal year must be transferred into the UCBF at the end of each fiscal year.
- 5.4 Surplus is defined as the total amount collected by the SSMU University Building Fee minus the cost of the lease payments to McGill in the same fiscal year.
- 5.5 All current assets of the UCBF shall be kept in the form of minimal risk investments separate from the Society's operating account
- 5.6 Minimal risk investments are defined as: term deposits, T-Bills, and government-backed bonds.



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Moved By: VP Bradley (Finance and Operations) VP Moustaqim-Barrette (External Affairs) President Ayukawa

