



**Motion Regarding Procedures for the Upcoming Winter 2015 General Assembly**

Whereas, the SSMU General Assembly is an important institution that contributes to democratic life on campus;

Whereas, a dialogue on reforming and improving SSMU General Assemblies has been ongoing in recent years; <sup>(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10)</sup>

Whereas, the understandability, and accessibility, of Robert's Rules of Order have been cited as an area of the General Assembly requiring reform; <sup>(11)</sup>

Whereas, Robert's Rules of Order provides a set of rules for the fair and orderly conduct of meetings, with the aim of placing the entire membership on equal footing, enabling the assembly to arrive at a decision with due regard for every member's opinion;

Whereas, Robert's Rules should not be used to limit participation;

Be it resolved, that the President and the Speaker draft Standing Rules, designed to make procedure easier for members to understand, for the Winter 2015 General Assembly;

Be it further resolved, that the SSMU publicize information regarding the basics of Robert's Rules of Order and the Standing Rules adopted by the SSMU Council, prior to the Winter 2015 General Assembly;

Be it further resolved, that the Speaker of Council host a motion writing workshop before the deadline for submission of motions for the Winter 2015 General Assembly;

Be it further resolved, that the SSMU provide volunteers who can offer information about, and assistance with, parliamentary procedure during the Winter 2015 General Assembly;

Be it further resolved, that the SSMU conduct a survey after the Winter 2015 General Assembly, with the intention of acquiring feedback on the event;

Moved by:

Patrick Dunbar-Lavoie, Arts Rep  
Zachariah Houston, Science Rep



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

**Office of the Speaker**  
Bureau de Président du Conseil

Chloe Rourke, Senate Caucus Rep

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- (1) <http://www.mcgilldaily.com/2011/11/what-should-your-democracy-look-like/>
  - (2) <http://www.mcgilldaily.com/2011/10/help-us-reform-your-ga/>
  - (3) <http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/blog/2011/11/its-time-to-reform-the-general-assembly/>
  - (4) <http://mcgilltribune.com/news/ssmu-opens-discussion-on-general-assembly-reform/>
  - (5) <http://mcgilltribune.com/news/ssmu-solicits-feedback-from-students-on-ga-reform/>
  - (6) <http://www.mcgilldaily.com/2011/02/on-the-subject-of-ga-reform/>
  - (7) <http://www.mcgilldaily.com/2011/10/reform-the-ga-the-time-is-now/>
  - (8) <http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/General-Assembly-Reform-Process-Framework-For-Discussion.pdf>
  - (9) <http://mcgilltribune.com/news/ssmu-fall-general-assembly-marked-by-low-turnout/>
  - (10) [http://www.mcgilldaily.com/2010/10/direct\\_democracy\\_needs\\_direct\\_involvement/](http://www.mcgilldaily.com/2010/10/direct_democracy_needs_direct_involvement/)
  - (11) <http://issuu.com/mcgilldaily/docs/vol101issu9/19>, p. 19.

APPROVED