Submitted For; February 25, 2016 **Approved On:** February 25, 2016

Office of the Speaker Bureau de Président du Conseil

Motion Regarding SSMU's Commitment to Interdisciplinary Research and Community Service Learning

WHEREAS, the SSMU is mandated to maintain "support for high-quality, universally accessible post-secondary education as a human right";¹

WHEREAS, McGill's Achieving Strategic Academic Priorities (ASAP), released in 2012, includes the broad goal of "developing and facilitating stronger connections across Faculties, Schools, Departments, Institutes, Centres and other academic units to enhance educational opportunities for students, interdisciplinary and interdepartmental research and teaching collaborations for faculty."²

WHEREAS, at the annual Joint Board-Senate meeting in November 2014, Senators and Board members jointly agreed that interdisciplinary opportunities are essential to innovation.;³

WHEREAS, the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Montreal (CIRM) has similar goals to those of the SSMU;⁴

WHEREAS, "Engaging Montréal / McGill dans la communauté" expands the communication infrastructure through which McGill balances relationships and equity in community service-learning (CSL) in particular and community engagement more broadly;

WHEREAS, this grant proposal would involve the funding of a position designed to connect community organizations in Montreal with students and offices at McGill with the intention of providing opportunities for community service-learning (CSL);

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the SSMU partner with CIRM and SEDE on a grant application for a project titled "Engaging Montréal / McGill dans la communauté" by writing a letter of support;

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the SSMU commit to partnering with CIRM and SEDE on this initiative through the Office of the Vice-President (University Affairs).

Moved by: Kareem Ibrahim, President Erin Sobat, Senate Caucus Representative Olivier Dionne, Social Work Representative

¹ http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/k.-Motion-Policy-on-Accessible-Education.pdf

² https://www.mcgill.ca/asap/asap-2012-plan/asap-2012-2017-numbers/42-six-broad-goals

³ http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d13-45 open discussion memo - breaking down silos.pdf

⁴ https://www.mcgill.ca/centre-montreal/home