



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

Office of the Vice-President (External Affairs)  
Bureau du Vice-président (affaires externes)

## VP External's Report to Legislative Council

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October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015

### Personal

The last few weeks have been so inspiring and packed with all sorts of wonderful events! I had an amazing time camping out with Divest McGill, organizing federal election things, and heading up to Chicoutimi with Montreal student association friends to chat with other folks from AVEQ.

Reminder – My office hours are **Monday and Wednesday from 9:30 am – 11:00 am!** Brownie points to Erin for visiting me last week ☺

### External Affairs

[AVEQ \(Association for the Voice of Education in Quebec/ L'Association pour la Voix Étudiante au Québec\)](#)

- Chantier (working group) meeting September 26th-27th in Chicoutimi !
- Created and passed by-laws/general regulations for the society and had them checked by a lawyer
- Set up a system of donations and loans from student associations in order to have money for AVEQ to hire a general coordinator (he was hired this weekend !). SSMU has still not donated any money but we intend to help out with administrative and logistical support by creating a policy for donations and loans and putting the general coordinator on our payroll
- Created an initial budget with multiple different scenarios in order to come up with a fee levy – the final result was \$3.50 per student per semester.
- Next steps :
  - The next working group meeting will be hosted by SSMU/PGSS on October 24th-25th
  - We will be hiring another staff member who will focus more on external representation – this would be the person who would come and present AVEQ to council!
  - The association is starting to become a legal entity

[UEQ \(Union Étudiant du Québec/ Student Union of Quebec\)](#)

- SQ – Upcoming meeting September 30th but it is the same day as the federal election candidates debate so I'm not certain I'll be able to go ☺

### Community Affairs

Milton Parc Community

- SQ

Community Engagement

- Have had my community affairs staff helping out with the Vote Mob which will be Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm in the Y-intersection! It should be a lot of fun ☺

### Campaigns



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### Anti-Austerity

- Anti-austerity week was so great – had some really lovely events and met a lot of new folks who really want to get involved! Will certainly be planning more anti-austerity popular education events in the future ☺
- There is a group of students who are very keen so we met the Monday after anti-austerity week and are already planning out first events! We have an art build on Monday September 28<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 – 5:30 pm in the clubs lounge, and a [demo contingent on Wednesday September 30<sup>th</sup> which leaves at 11:00 am for the FAE demonstration. Come join us ☺](#)
- We also launched a new facebook page! For updates on anti-austerity actions at McGill, check out [McGill Against Austerity](#).

### Federal Elections

- Very busy week this week! We have a couple of major events coming up, namely the Vote Mob and the Federal Election Candidates debate with CKUT. These should both be stellar events, please come out!
- Elections Canada will be tabling in the SSMU lobby from September 28<sup>th</sup> – October 2<sup>nd</sup>, talk to them for all questions related to voting!
- Voting on campus – October 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>! Tell your friends! Send them to [Mcgillvotes.com!!!](#)
- Elections Canada will have a polling station in the SSMU building on October 19<sup>th</sup>

### Coalition ÉCO

- Currently mobilizing for [the October 10<sup>th</sup> demonstration against the energy east pipeline](#)

### Divest McGill

- Very busy week for Divest McGill!! I cannot even begin to explain how incredibly the community support we received this week was – there were days when hundreds of people would stop by, sign our petition, listen to a professor talk or rally, or engage with us and the space! We were asking for a freeze on fossil fuel investments and this will be voted on at the next CAMSR meeting in October.
- Highlights of cool things we did: Raised nearly \$1000 for ASAP at the rap battle, drew a large contingent to a demonstration outside the radio canada leaders debate, got SO MUCH MEDIA!
- Essentially, I couldn't be more proud of Divest McGill and the student/faculty support behind the campaign

### Demilitarize McGill

- Had their general meeting a few weeks ago which drew a bunch of new people – there was probably 30 or 35 people there. So cool to see how much mobilization they are capable of!

## Mobilization

### Upcoming demonstrations:

- Grand Rassemblement (Teacher union strike demo- September 30<sup>th</sup>)  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/709080082526264/>
- ÉCO demo against the pipelines (October 10<sup>th</sup>): <https://www.facebook.com/coalitioneco/events> followed by a demo with Solidarity Across Borders: <https://www.facebook.com/events/505377332951171/>



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## Union Affairs

McGill Fight for Fifteen Coalition

- Meeting last weekend that I was unfortunately double booked for (thank-you Erin again for going) but it looks like folks have ambitious plans for the year and I hope to see awesome student-worker solidarity on campus like we've seen in so many other years

## Misc

- Made final edits on the climate change policy! Thanks so much to those who signed on as movers or sent me your thoughts 😊

With love and solidarity,

Emily Boytinck