



Oct 18 2012

Interim Status Club Application

Part 1 of 3

SEEING VOICES MONTRÉAL

Our goal is to raise Deaf awareness in Montréal. In order to achieve this, we will start by performing plays of well-known children's stories in elementary schools all around the city. While staying true to the original plot line, the stories' main characters will be deaf and the situations they face will reflect on the conflicts that occur when deaf and hearing individuals meet. The stories will always end in a positive light, where the conflicts are resolved, and there is acceptance of differences and individuality amongst the characters of the stories.

The elementary schools that we plan on performing in are those that cater to children with and without disabilities, such as Royal Vale High and Summit School. We will also approach the English school board and introduce our group and its mission, in hopes to eventually become a part of their regular assembly program. We will contact these institutions once the cast and crew of the first production are determined and promotional material has been made. Later, we hope to perform in hospitals and community centres where the general public can also come and watch. The plays will be enjoyable for all ages, mainly because of the expressiveness and humour in Sign Language is very visual and physical, therefore leaving us with a lot of creative space to work with. The plays will contain speech, but will be kept to a minimum and will remain a secondary component throughout the development of the stories.

Apart from performing plays, we will be organizing fundraisers in order to gain funds for our projects and also to donate a large portion of those proceeds to different charities, such as the Canadian Cultural Society of the Deaf, AQEPA and Starlight Foundation. After each performance, we will give out short surveys in order to collect statistics and reviews, and also pamphlets for the kids to take home and show their parents.

When considering all this club has to offer, Seeing Voices Montréal will provide a new environment where students can both gain and share their knowledge of Sign Language. After a few mandatory crash courses taught by an ASL teacher from MAB-Mackay Rehabilitation Centre, and continuous signing practices between each of these courses, the members will reach an adequate level of proficiency and exposure to Deaf culture. We are aiming to create a friendly and open club, one that will hopefully broaden people's perspectives on overlooked communities.

Becoming an SSMU club will play a very big role in making Seeing Voices Montréal a reputable group. By having McGill University as our base, we can be a lot more confident when presenting our club to various organizations and audiences. Also, the tools that SSMU will provide us with will be perfect for maximizing our possibilities to grow as a club and to reach bigger heights than we ever thought possible.



Mission: Spreading Deaf awareness in Montréal and promoting a visual language as an alternative to spoken language.

Vision: Closing the gap between the hearing and deaf worlds, with the use of theatre as a common medium.

Part 2 of 3

CONSTITUTION

Constitution of Seeing Voices Montréal -SSMU

Ratified by Club's Membership on (DD/MM/YYYY): _____

Ratified by SSMU Council on: _____

1 Article I: Name

1.1 Seeing Voices Montréal – SSMU also referred to hereinafter as the Club.

2 Article II: Mandate

2.1 The Club's mandate shall be to

- *Raise awareness for the Montréal and international deaf culture in local communities.*
- *Provide educational entertainment to elementary school children through theatre using American Sign Language and spoken voice.*
- *Give members of Seeing Voices Montréal a chance to be exposed to Deaf culture and learn American Sign Language through the medium of theatre.*
- *Offer the students at McGill a club environment that uses American Sign Language or Québec Sign Language (Langue des signes québécoises).*
- *Produce artistic pieces that diversify McGill's theatre culture using a different language that is visual.*
- *Set a stage for budding Voice Actors to expand their experience in Voice Acting.*
- *Raise money for charity and causes that are related to providing service to people who are hard-of-hearing or deaf.*

2.2 Code of Conduct

2.2.1 The Club shall carry forth its mandate from an anti-oppressive and equitable standpoint AND equal respect shall be given to all members, including those of disadvantaged backgrounds, regardless of but not limited to gender, age, race, ethnic or national origin, religion, sexuality or sexual orientation, mental or physical abilities, language, or social class.

2.2.1.1 No member shall make personal profit from the club

2.2.2 Any executive member who fails to fulfill their responsibilities shall be subject to the expulsion procedure outlined in this constitution

2.3 Student Group Civility

2.3.1 The club will maintain cordial and respectful relations with all other clubs, services and independent student groups

2.3.2 The club will not use SSMU resources and/or their club status to prevent other clubs, services or independent student groups from fulfilling their mandate,



including but not limited to their acquisition of resources and pursuit of activities.

2.3.3 If problems arise between groups, a member of the executive committee and/or collective of the club shall be responsible for contacting the SSMU Vice President of Clubs and Services and attempt to remedy the problem in a collegial fashion.

2.4 Environment

2.4.1 The club shall make attempts to regularly monitor the environmental impact of all its events and operations

2.4.1.1 Clubs must attempt to utilize the services and resources available at SSMU in order to maximize capacities for equitable decision-making and environmental stewardship. These include but are not limited to the use of the plate club, green events guide, applications for the SSMU Green fund, assistance of the SSMU environment commissioners, environment committee and green events coordinators

2.4.2 The club must attempt to find sustainable alternatives to the non-recyclable #6 plastic, effective waste management, providing vegan and vegetarian options, purchasing clothing which is ethically sourced and environmentally-friendly, purchasing local and sustainable alcohol, fair trade coffee and tea, and local and/or organic foods.

3 Article III: Membership

3.1 Membership for a club under the Students' Society of McGill University is open to all SSMU and PGSS members, including those of disadvantaged backgrounds, regardless of but not limited to gender, age, race, ethnic or national origin, religion, sexuality or sexual orientation, mental or physical abilities, language, or social class.

3.2 Only Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) and Post Graduate Students' Society (PGSS) members are eligible to be elected as officers and to hold voting privileges.

3.3 Associated non-voting membership is open to all others.

4 Article IV: Executive Committee

4.1 *The Executive Committee (EC) shall administer the Club and oversee its events.*

4.2 *The EC is composed of the following five portfolios:*

- 1. President*
- 2. Vice President*
- 3. Treasurer*
- 4. Secretary*
- 5. Publicity Director*
- 6. Theatre Director*

4.3 *The EC shall meet as frequently as it deems fit.*

4.4 *At least three of the five EC members must be present at an EC meeting in order for quorum to be met and for the meeting to proceed.*



5 Article V: Portfolios

5.1 The President shall:

- 5.1.1 *Be the chief executive officer, chief representative, and chief spokesperson of the Club.*
- 5.1.2 *Oversee all aspects of the club.*
- 5.1.3 *Be the main point of contact between the SSMU VP Clubs and Services and the club*
- 5.1.4 *Ensure the smooth running of the Club as a whole through facilitation of, and mediation with, the various EC portfolios with a vision that is consistent with the Club mandate.*
- 5.1.5 *Chair all EC meetings.*
- 5.1.6 *May cast the deciding vote in the event of a EC deadlock*
- 5.1.7 *Co-sign all financial transactions with the Treasurer.*
- 5.1.8 *Co-sign all minutes with the Secretary.*
- 5.1.9 *Ensure that the Club is abiding by the Constitution, By-laws and Policies of the Students' Society of McGill University*

5.2 The Vice President shall:

- 5.2.1 *Be responsible for communication within the EC and with the Students' Society of McGill University.*
- 5.2.2 *Maintain the membership list of the club.*
- 5.2.3 *Oversee and coordinate the programming activities and events of the club*

5.3 The Treasurer shall:

- 5.3.1 *Oversee and coordinate funding for the programming activities and events of the club*
- 5.3.2 *Be responsible for the collection of membership fees.*
- 5.3.3 *Co-sign all financial transactions with the President.*
- 5.3.4 *Ensure the funding and financial stability of the club.*
- 5.3.5 *Keep track of all financial transactions and receipts in order to prepare the biyearly audits for the SSMU*

5.4 The Secretary shall:

- 5.4.1 *Take minutes at EC and general meetings, and ensure proper distribution of all minutes*
- 5.4.2 *Co-sign all minutes with the President.*
- 5.4.3 *Shall be responsible for booking and arranging meeting rooms, organizing and obtaining refreshments, and drafting agendas for general meetings.*

5.5 The Publicity Director shall:

- 5.5.1 *Act as representative of the Club to the community within and outside of the University.*



- 5.5.2. *Be responsible for developing healthy relations with student and community organizations within and outside McGill University, and particularly those in the Montréal area.*
- 5.5.3. *Be responsible for promoting the image of the Club to the community within and outside McGill University.*
- 5.6 *The Theatre Director shall:*
- 5.6.1. *Orchestrate and oversee the mounting of a theatre production.*
- 5.6.2. *Ensure the quality and completeness of the theatre production.*
- 5.6.3. *Communicate all theatre proceedings and updates to the executive committee.*
- 6 Article VI: Fees**
- 6.1 *There are no membership fees.*
- 7 Article VII: Finances**
- 7.1 **The Executive Committee or Collective shall examine the financial records, and prepare an audit, complete with records of all transactions and receipts, to be submitted to the SSMU at the end of each semester before May 31st of each year.**
- 7.2 **All club bank accounts must be kept at Scotiabank as subsections of the SSMU account**
- 7.2.1 **Each account must have a minimum of two and maximum of three signing officers**
- 7.2.2 **In order to receive funding of any kind from the SSMU, the club must have a Scotiabank account**
- 8 Article VIII: Meetings**
- 8.1. *There shall be a General Meeting held in October for the purpose of organizing the Executive Committee and members.*
- 8.2. *Members may volunteer to be Executive Committee members at this General Meeting.*
- 8.3. *All potential Executive Committee are subject to approval of the membership by modified consensus.*
- 8.4. *Regular Executive Committee meetings shall be held throughout the fall and winter terms.*
- 8.5. *General Assemblies of the Club must take place at least twice per semester.*
- 9 Article IX: Electoral Procedures**
- 9.1 *The Vice-President (Clubs & Services) of SSMU or his/her representative shall be the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) with final authority over electoral procedures and validity of results.*
- 9.2 *The general membership must be notified of the date of the general meeting 2 weeks in advance to the date of the General Meeting called for elections purposes.*
- 9.3 *Elections are to be held before March 31 during the previously mentioned General Meeting.*



- 9.4 *The Executive Committee may designate Deputy Electoral Officers (DEOs) to assist the running of elections in consultation with the CEO.*
- 9.5 *Elections are to be conducted by secret ballot in person.*
- 9.6 *Ballots must be kept in a secure place for 5 weeks after the date of voting.*
- 9.7 *The Vice-President (Clubs and Services) should be notified immediately in the event of contested electoral results*

10 Article X: Affiliations

- 10.1 *This club has no affiliations.*

11 Article XI: Constitutional Amendment Procedure

- 11.1 Any member of the club may propose an amendment to the Constitution.**
- 11.2 *In order to amend the constitution consensus on the proposed amendment must be reached at a General Meeting*
- 11.3 All amendments shall be submitted to the Interest Group Coordinator, will be reviewed by the Interest Group Committee and ratified by the SSMU council before they take effect.**

12 Article XII: Bylaws and Policies

- 12.1 The club shall create and maintain bylaws that cover the operations of the club which are not specified in the Constitution.**
- 12.2 The club's bylaws shall not contravene the Constitution.**
- 12.3 The club by laws must be available to any member of the SSMU when and if requested.**

13 Article XIII: SSMU Constitution, By-Laws and Policies

- 13.1 In case of any inconsistencies between the Club Constitution and the SSMU Constitution and By-Laws, the SSMU Constitution By-Laws and Policies shall take effect.**
- 13.2 If there are any areas not covered in this Constitution, the SSMU Constitution, By-Laws and Policies shall take effect.**



Part 3 of 3:

MEMBER LIST

Interim Status Club Application

Please verify that you have at least ten interested members.

Please note that you must submit the names and contact information for at least 25 members to be granted full status.

	Name	Student Number	E-Mail Address	Phone number
1	Carlos Romero	260479349	carlos.romerobuitrago@mail.mcgill.ca	4388777760
2	Victoria Schouela	260464027	victoria.schouela@mail.mcgill.ca	514-823-5522
3	David Michael	260427826	david.michael@mail.mcgill.ca	514512528
4	Stuart Atkinson	260356322	stuart.atkinson@mail.mcgill.ca	4388891035
5	Charles Sylvestre	260483946	charles-olivier.sylvestre@mail.mcgill.ca	514-978-5699
6	Lauren Silver	260430988	lauren.silver@mail.mcgill.ca	5147150210
7	Tram Nguyen	260480534	ngoc.tram.nguyen@mail.mcgill.ca	514-574-1085
8	Kevin Youssefian	260482401	kevin.youssefian@mail.mcgill.ca	514-707-5656
9	Mohamed Ibedjaoudene	260479287	mohamed.ibedjaoudene@mail.mcgill.ca	5144754870
10	Joelle Chee	260469969	joelle.cyc@hotmail.com	514-718-4765



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→ elaborate

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U. you
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 well?
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- 6. *Theatre Director***

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2	Victoria Schouela	260464027	victoria.schouela@mail.mcgill.ca	514-823-5522
3	David Michael	260427826	david.michael@mail.mcgill.ca	514512528
4	Stuart Atkinson	260356322	stuart.atkinson@mail.mcgill.ca	4388891035
5	Charles Sylvestre	260483946	charles-olivier.sylvestre@mail.mcgill.ca	514-978-5699
6	Lauren Silver	260430988	lauren.silver@mail.mcgill.ca	5147150210
7	Tram Nguyen	260480534	ngoc.tram.nguyen@mail.mcgill.ca	514-574-1085
8	Kevin Youssefian	260482401	kevin.youssefian@mail.mcgill.ca	514-707-5656
9	Mohamed Ibedjaoudene	260479287	mohamed.ibedjaoudene@mail.mcgill.ca	5144754870
10	Joelle Chee	260469969	joelle.cyc@hotmail.com	514-718-4765