



Legislative Council – February 8th, 2018

## Motion on Consultation on Systemic Racism in Montreal

**Whereas**, “the SSMU strives to create a community that exceeds social standards of equitable treatment and creates and upholds a safer space for all of our members, where discourse and diverse ideas can flourish within a respectful atmosphere”;<sup>1</sup>;

**Whereas**, “Society commits to demonstrating leadership in matters of human rights, social justice and environmental protection.”<sup>2</sup>;

**Whereas**, the Government of Quebec committed to holding consultations on the topic of systemic discrimination and racism in the summer of 2017;

**Whereas**, the Government of Quebec revised the project in order to hold a forum on “enhancing diversity and the fight against discrimination”<sup>3</sup>;

**Whereas**, the reality of inclusiveness in Montreal can have an effect on students’ ability to live and learn on campus;

**Whereas**, “problems of systemic discrimination in [Montreal] based on race and related grounds such as gender, social condition, religion, sexual orientation and disability (to name a few), including minority underrepresentation in city jobs, racial profiling, poor housing conditions, hate crimes, systemic barriers in funding for the arts, religion-based discriminatory zoning, racial disparity in unemployment and the criminalization of youths of color, and poverty across all backgrounds, require urgent action”<sup>4</sup>;

**Be it Resolved**, that SSMU sign the Center for Research-Action on Race Relations’ petition drive to pressure the city of Montreal to hold a consultation on systemic discrimination and racism.

**Be it further Resolved**, that SSMU send a representative at the launch of the petition drive this Sunday February 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Be it further Resolved**, that SSMU provide a one-time discretionary contribution of up to 1,000\$ to help cover the cost of the event for the launch.

<sup>1</sup><https://ssmu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/SSMU-Policy-and-Plan-Book-2017-03-23.pdf?x26516#page=27>

<sup>2</sup><https://ssmu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/SSMU-Policy-and-Plan-Book-2017-03-23.pdf?x26516#page=27>

<sup>3</sup> <https://globalnews.ca/news/3811908/quebec-cancels-systemic-discrimination-consultations/>

<sup>4</sup> Invitation SSMU Nelson Mandela Day, Center for research-action on race relations



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**Moved by:**

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APPROVED