



Legislative Council – February 8th, 2018

Motion to Amend the University Centre Building Fee

Whereas, Part 1 of the referendum Motion for the Implementation of the University Centre Building Fee passed on October 1, 2014;

Whereas, the University Centre Building will undergo significant renovations and will be closed to the public for a prolonged period of time, beginning March 17, 2018;

Whereas, the University Centre Building is home to numerous clubs, services and businesses that serve the McGill community;

Whereas, the closure of the University Centre Building will affect the ability of these groups to continue operations;

Whereas, the SSMU has secured various locations in and around campus to house University Centre clubs, services and businesses for the duration of the building closure;

Whereas, the “University Centre Building Fee (Part 1)” is a restricted fee that can only be used to pay for the rent and utilities of the University Centre Building;

Whereas, rent and utilities owed to McGill University will be abated for the period of time that the University Centre Building is under renovation;

Be it Resolved, that the purpose of this fee be amended, to allow SSMU to use the fee to pay third-parties other than McGill University for expenses related to the University Centre Building closure;

Be it further Resolved, that no other aspect of the “University Centre Building Fee (Part 1)” be amended;

Be it further Resolved, that Legislative Council approve the following question for the Winter 2018 referendum period:

“Do you support amendment of the “University Centre Building Fee (Part 1)”, to permit SSMU to use the fee to pay third-parties other than McGill University for expenses related to the movement, use, occupation or storage of occupants and materials located in the University Centre Building?”



Moved by:

Muna Tojiboeva, SSMU President
Anthony Koch, FYC Representative
Kevin Zhou, Arts Representative

TABLED



APPENDIX I

ORIGINAL QUESTIONS POSED TO THE MEMBERSHIP BELOW:

OCTOBER 1, 2014

Motion - Implementation of the University Centre Building Fee (Part 1)

Whereas, the Lease Agreement between RIAL/McGill and the SSMU from the 2011-2012 school year to the 2020-2021 school year includes significant increases in rent and utilities costs;

Whereas, the increased rent and utilities payable by SSMU have resulted in \$230,000 due to RIAL/McGill in 2013-2014 and increasing amounts for the next 7 years, specified in this schedule;

Whereas, without this fee the SSMU would have to cut services to students in order to afford the rent and utilities payments to McGill including: significant reductions in operating hours for the University Centre, hiring and salary freezes for all staff members including not hiring a Sustainability Coordinator, the elimination of all SSMU research, significant increases in prices for Gerts, nominal fees for room bookings for all student groups, increases in rent costs for student groups using space in the building, the further commercialization of space in the University Centre including but not limited to the replacement of The Nest with a commercial tenant and the reversion of room 108 to a commercial tenant.

Resolved, that this fee will be used to pay the rent and utilities of the current agreed upon lease agreement with McGill. Any excess of the rent and utilities payments that is generated by this fee will be internally restricted within SSMU's Capital Expenditures Reserve Fund for building renovation projects.

Do you support the creation of a new student levied fee, labelled "University Center Building Fee", payable and non-opt-outable on Minerva by all full-time and part-time Members of the Students Society of McGill University, to be implemented at \$5.78 per full-time student per semester and \$2.89 per part-time student per semester in effect from the start of the semester in Fall 2014 until Winter 2021 (inclusive) at which point the current lease agreement with McGill will end?"

Motion - Implementation of the University Centre Building Fee (Part 2)

Do you agree that the SSMU Building Rent and Utilities Fee be indexed to increase at a rate of 5.6% per year at the beginning of the Fall semester each year in order to compensate for the year to year rent and utilities increases agreed upon between SSMU and McGill?