



Legislative Council – March 29th, 2018

## Motion to Organize the Fight for Free Education and Cancellation of Student Debt

**Whereas**, in March 2015 the SSMU adopted a Policy on Accessible Education;

**Whereas**, students in universities across Ontario (including York University and McMaster) have organized a day of action to fight for free education;

**Whereas**, the SSMU has in the past made commitments to work in conjunction with student movements in Québec and across Canada;

**Whereas**, students are perpetually frustrated and angry at the lack of accessibility of education, skyrocketing tuition fees, the declining quality of education and the broader increase in inequalities with few employment opportunities on campus and beyond;

**Whereas**, students in Québec have a long tradition of mass student strikes to fight against tuition increases and for free education which has kept the cost of education historically low;

**Be it Resolved**, that the SSMU build an ongoing campaign for free education and the cancellation of student debt, under the responsibility of the Office of the Vice-President (External Affairs).

**Be it further Resolved**, that the SSMU, through the Office of the Vice President (External Affairs) mobilize towards a one-day student strike in the upcoming Fall 2018 term, that it set up mobilization committees to allow rank and file members to organize towards beclouding the movement;

**Be it further Resolved**, that the SSMU through the Office of the Vice-President (External Affairs) work towards establishing monthly democratic assemblies starting with Fall 2018 so that students can participate in building and strengthening their student union;

**Be it further Resolved**, that the SSMU, through the Office of the Vice-President (External Affairs) work with student unions and other movements across Québec and Canada that share these goals as decided by their own general assembly resolutions regarding accessible education.

*Submitted to General Assembly for approval on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Failure to achieve quorum allowed this be presented and voted on during the March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Legislative Council.*