



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

Office of the Speakers
Bureau de Présidents du Conseil

Motion Re: Elimination of Advanced Polling

Whereas, Bylaw I-22 distinguishes between advanced polling and regular polling;

Whereas, Bylaw I-22.6 states that:

“An advanced poll at which any student may vote is to be held during the campaign period. Candidates shall be permitted to campaign while the advance polls are open, except in the vicinity of the polling stations, which shall also be cleared of all campaign material;”

Whereas, Bylaw I-22.7 states that:

“Regular polls are to operate for three (3) consecutive work days;”

Whereas, there is no difference in technical voting procedure between advance polling and regular polling, since all voting is conducted on the same online ballot;

Whereas, the Salamander Online Voting System makes it impossible to alter the ballot once the vote has begun;

Whereas, notice of any campaigning sanctions must therefore be distributed to the electorate by email;

Whereas, campaigning is currently allowed and regulated during advanced polling;

Whereas, a full reform of the electoral bylaws will not be completed before the nomination period for the March 2012 elections;

Whereas, the current bylaws concerning advanced versus regular polling create logistical scheduling difficulties for elections;

Resolved, that Bylaw I-22.6 be amended to read “Candidates shall be permitted to campaign throughout the voting period, except in the vicinity of the polling stations, which shall also be cleared of all campaign material;”

Resolved, that Bylaw I-22.7 be amended to read “Voting will be open for seven (7) consecutive days, including weekends;”

Resolved, that all references to advanced polls or polling in the Bylaws be replaced with “polls,” “polling,” or “voting” as appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Knight, SSMU President
Emily Yee Clare, VP University Affairs