



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

Office of the Speakers
Bureau de Présidents du Conseil

Notice of Motion Regarding Clubs By-Law Reform

Whereas, By-Law III-1 Part III comprises SSMU's regulations on its clubs, including their accreditation and mandatory procedures;

Whereas, the current bylaw regarding Clubs is out of date and does not completely reflect the current practices of the SSMU;

Whereas, the Vice President Clubs and Services is not currently mandated in the bylaws to provide orientation/training sessions to club executives/collectives every year;

Whereas, mandating the Vice President Clubs and Services to hold such training sessions would better fulfill the Vice President Clubs and Services' mandate to "communicate the policies and procedures of the Society, financial and otherwise, to the clubs" as per Article 7.3 of the SSMU Constitution;

Whereas, the current bylaw regarding Clubs does not reflect the Memorandum of Agreement between SSMU and McGill University specifically regarding use of the McGill name and associated wordmarks and logos;

Whereas, the current bylaw regarding Clubs does not reflect, in its wording, the non-hierarchical structures of certain Clubs;

Whereas, a track changes version of the proposed changes has been appended to this motion;

Resolved, that the following be adopted to replace Bylaw III-1 Part III Articles 9 through 13 and that the Articles be renumbered accordingly,

Resolved, that these changes shall come into effect immediately.

PART III – CLUBS

Article 10 – Definition and Mandatory Characteristics of Clubs

10.1 "Clubs" are formal and accredited associations of members of the Students' Society with similar interests, such as a dedication to recreational, social, political, religious, educational, or cultural issues.

10.1.1 The terms "Club" and "Interest Group" shall be used interchangeably.

10.2 Clubs must be open to all members of the Society, as well as PGSS members, as per by-law III-1 Article 3.

10.3 Should a Club wish to have a distinction, exclusion, or preference in membership or in the eligibility of executive officers, it must be included in the group's constitution, and ratified by the



Interest Group Committee of Council and by Council. No such distinction may violate any part of the SSMU Constitution.

10.4 All executive officers or collective members and voting members of SSMU Clubs must be members of the Students' Society. No more than half of the executive officers or collective members and voting members of SSMU Clubs may be PGSS members.

Article 11 – Accreditation Procedure for Clubs

11.1 The formation of a Club may be proposed by any ten (10) members of the Society by submitting an application and constitution to the Interest Group Coordinator, who shall forward it for review to the Interest Group Committee of Council.

11.2 The Interest Group Committee of Council shall review the application and ensure its completeness, that it does not contravene the Constitution or By-laws of the Students' Society and that the mandate set out in the proposed Club's constitution does not overlap with that of any other already accredited group within SSMU, and will vet if the proposed Interest Group has a feasible and necessary mandate. It will then make a decision regarding the requested interim status.

11.3 Council may ratify a Club interim status by a simple majority vote.

11.4 Interim status shall be granted for a period of five (5) months of the academic year. The Vice President, Clubs and Services may, upon application by the interim Club or upon his or her own motion, extend a Club's interim status.

11.5 Interim status groups may, prior to the expiry of their interim status, apply in writing for full Club status to the Vice President, Clubs and Services. The Vice President, Clubs and Services shall forward the application for review to the Interest Group Committee of Council.

11.6 The Interest Group Committee of Council shall review the application and make a decision regarding the requested full status to Council. It will ensure that:

11.6.1 At least twenty-five (25) members of the Students' Society are active members of the Club;

11.6.2 The Club has the requisite executive officers or collective members according to its constitution;

11.6.3 The Club has been actively working to fulfill their mandate, had three or more significant events and will continue to do so;

11.6.4 The Club has not contravened the SSMU's Constitution or By-laws in its five or more months of Interim Status existence;

11.6.5 The Club has been financially viable and responsible in its operations.

11.7 Council may ratify a Club's Full Status by a simple majority vote.

11.8 If, after five (5) months, the interim Club has not applied for full Club status and has not obtained an extension of interim status, the Club may be deemed inactive by the Vice President (Clubs and Services).

11.8.1. A club may regain active status within the academic year it was granted interim status by submitting a cover letter outlining its activities since deemed inactive and a membership list of at least ten (10) members to the Interest Group Committee for review.

11.8.2. In the case that Interest Group Committee deems the club active and ready to apply for full status, the club has three (3) academic months to do so.



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11.8.3. A club will be deemed permanently inactive after one academic year of inactive status. If a member wishes to revive such a club, an interim status application must be filed.

Article 12- Mandatory Procedures for Clubs

12.1 Clubs shall identify themselves on all publications and promotional materials with the following tagline: "A club of the SSMU (Students' Society of McGill University), an undergraduate students' association at McGill University."

12.1.1 Clubs shall only be permitted to use the "McGill" name and associated wordmarks and crests as outlined in the most current Memorandum of Agreement between the SSMU and McGill University.

12.2 The Vice President (Clubs and Services) must hold SSMU club orientation training sessions every September, and at least one (1) executive officer or collective member from every Club must attend. Failure to attend may result in lack of funding, office space and other support, at the discretion of the Vice President Clubs and Services.

12.3 A Club shall be considered inactive if it fails in any year to register the name and contact information of at least two (2) executive officers or collective members by September 15th.

12.3.1 Any Club which replaces either of these executive officers must notify the Interest Group Coordinator immediately and submit the name and contact information of an alternative active executive officer or collective member

12.4 A Club may be considered inactive if it fails in any year to submit a financial audit to the Vice-President Clubs and Services by June 1st.

12.5 All Clubs must ensure that an up-to-date copy of their Constitution is on file with the Vice-President, Clubs and Services.

11.5.1 Any modification to the constitution or by-laws of any Club must be submitted in writing to the Vice President, Clubs and Services, must meet the requirements of this By-Law and must be ratified by Council by a simple majority vote.

12.6 No club or interest group may obtain a fee levy since all clubs and interest groups are internally funded.

12.7 Failure to comply with any of these procedures may result in revocation of privileges or accreditation, subject to Arts. 12 and 13 of this By-Law.

Article 13- Privileges Granted to Clubs

13.1 Full status Clubs are eligible to apply for a SSMU Club Fund Subsidy.

13.2 Both interim and full status Clubs may apply to Event/Project Funds, such as the Campus Life Fund, the Green Fund and the Ambassador Fund.

13.3 All Clubs may apply to receive a mailbox in the William Shatner University Centre, web space, mention in various Students' Society media, and room and table rentals at no cost, subject to logistical limitations and availability.

13.4 All Clubs may participate in Activities Night at no cost.



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13.5 Full status clubs may apply for office spaces. Full status clubs who wish to keep their office space must re-apply for office space every year, at the end of the winter semester. Failure to do so will result in losing the office space.

13.6 One or more of these privileges may be temporarily revoked, for a period not exceeding one (1) semester of the academic year by a simple majority vote of Council.

13.7 One or more of these privileges may be permanently revoked for a period exceeding one (1) semester, permanently or indefinitely by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of Council.

Article 14 – Revocation of Club Accreditation

14.1 Council may revoke a full or interim status Club's accreditation by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. Council must give the Club fourteen (14) days written notice of the meeting of Council at which the motion to remove accreditation will be moved.