



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

Office of the Speakers
Bureau de Présidents du Conseil

Motion Regarding QPIRG Referendum Question

Whereas, the SSMU's Constitution mandates the SSMU to "support the student groups that make up civic life in the McGill community, while providing services to strengthen the educational, cultural, environmental, political and social conditions of our membership";

Whereas, QPIRG McGill is a significant student-initiated, student-run, student-supported and student-controlled organizations existing on McGill's downtown campus since 1988;

Whereas, the SSMU's Constitution mandates the SSMU to commit "itself to groups, programs and activities that are devoted to the well-being of a group disadvantaged because of irrelevant personal characteristics";

Whereas, the SSMU's Constitution mandates the SSMU to "demonstr[ate] leadership in matters of human rights, social justice and environmental protection";

Whereas, QPIRG engages with the McGill students and the Montreal community so as to promote these aforementioned ends;

Whereas, it is an official policy of the SSMU to primarily support clubs and services, and more broadly student life on campus;

Whereas, the McGill Administration has refused to negotiate a Memorandum of Agreement or a lease with QPIRG McGill unless the April 2012 Referendum question passes with a majority in favor;

Whereas, if the April 2012 Referendum question for QPIRG passes with a majority against, QPIRG McGill will cease to exist in its current form and current location, and will cease to provide resources for a significant alternative voice on campus;

Whereas, under the currently posed referendum question, students may still opt out of the \$3.75/per semester fee on the Minerva online opt-out system;

Resolved, that the SSMU endorse a "yes" vote to QPIRG's referendum question during the April 2012 special referendum period.

Resolved, that the SSMU send a special listserv on April 13, 2012 by 12 PM, encouraging students to vote in the elections, with an explanation of and link to this motion.

Moved by:

Carol Fraser, VP Clubs and Services
Emily Yee Clare, VP University Affairs
Shyam Patel, VP Finance and Operations
Adam Winer, Clubs and Services Representative