

## Club Application Summaries

### Interest Group Committee Meeting: October 11, 2011

Approved:

#### Full Status Clubs

Sri Lankan Association of McGill  
Change for Change  
University Student Sled Riders

#### Interim Status

The Utopian Project  
RedCargo  
Birds of Paradise Yoga  
McGill Indic Religious Association  
Shogi Club

## **FULL STATUS APPROVALS**

### **Sri Lankan Association of McGill**

- Aims at connecting, networking and sharing the essence of being simply Sri Lankan among Sri Lankans at McGill university.
- Events
  1. Girls' Slumber Party
  2. Mixer Party
    - a. Opportunity for members to socialize and relax
  3. Karaoke Night

### **Change for Change**

- We have been active on McGill campus since August 2008 and have raised almost \$3000 dollars in spare change over the last academic year to support a local youth homeless shelter and spread awareness about current issue which affect our local community (including youth homelessness).
- Events
  1. Clashbash 1 and 2
    - Frat parties to raise money
  2. Fundraising food sales

### 3. Kilometer of Coin even

- Coin collection

#### **University Student Sled Riders**

- Sledding is a perfect outlet for people from various backgrounds to unite
- Events:
  1. Sunday Sledding on Mont Royal

#### **INTERIM STATUS APPROVALS**

##### **The Utopian Project**

###### **MANDATE:**

- Provide a forum for discussion, debate and consensus-building on the central question: What constitutes a better world, and how can it be achieved? Discussion topics will include, but not be limited to, political theory, philosophy, ethics, aesthetics, science, technology, education, religion, cultural practices, and social justice. Many discussions will focus on ‘what should be’ rather than ‘what is’ or ‘what will probably be’; this is the Utopian context that is at the heart of the Club.
- Bring together members from various backgrounds and beliefs, in an atmosphere of openness, tolerance, and mutual desire for understanding in order to encourage constructive exchanges between members,
- Produce a written record of the club’s discussions and conclusions, periodically publishing this work. This work shall be called the “Written Will” of the Club
- In the short and long-term, develop plans within the Club and with help from other Clubs or Organizations to launch activist or educational campaigns aimed at bringing about a social change that the Club has deemed desirable,
- Host an annual artistic, cultural, and literary event to showcase the Club’s discussions and conclusions,
- Host periodic public debates on various issues,
- Make workshops or presentations relating to themes being discussed by the Club’s members available to all members,
- In the long term, develop an extensive alumni network and spread the Club to other schools, in order to foster the growth of debate and consensus-building on global issues within a Utopian context.

###### **RedCargo**

###### **MANDATE:**

- Raise awareness on campus about the current situation in countries affected by political instability through weekly newsletters
- Create a forum for discussion for those interested in learning about and helping politically unstable countries at the Club’s weekly meetings

- Raise funds for charities that deliver humanitarian aid to citizens of countries affected by political instability (eg. Doctors Without Borders, International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, etc.)
- Hold events related to informing the McGill community on new developments in countries affected by political instability (eg. Guest speakers, Conferences, etc.)
- Remain apolitical and focus on helping citizens of countries affected by political instability in their pursuit of a better tomorrow

N.B. RedCargo defines a country affected by political instability as a country whose citizens are directly affected in a negative way by changes in or manifestations against the ruling regime that have happened during the past 24 months.

### **Birds of Paradise Yoga**

#### **MANDATE**

- Promote self-care and appreciation of one's well-being and health;
  - Promote interest in the historical and world background of yoga;
  - Provide opportunities for yogis and yoga lovers to exchange information about yoga, dharma, and meditation;
  - Provide a yogi-buddy system for every member to get outside feedback and technical help on their postures and breathing techniques;
  - Network with local yoga studios and meditation groups and make their resources available to its members;
  - Hold events relating to the practice and love of yoga.
  - Raise student morale and reduce stress through the practice of yoga with the integration of valuable breathing techniques
  - Create a forum for discussion for those interested in discussing yoga's history, current status, development, benefits, etc.
  - Raise funds for charities that gather inspiration from yoga and use its therapeutic properties to help people's well-being

### **McGill Indic Religious Association**

#### **MANDATE:**

- This is a club for the students, faculty, staff and alumni from any full-time or part-time academic program at McGill University, with the aims:
  - i. To promote the Philosophy and the Spiritual Consciousness of the various Indic Religious traditions or religious traditions born on the Indian soil, namely Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism, in particular the philosophy of Vedic Spirituality as expounded by His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada (Founder-Acarya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness - ISKCON) via several religious texts/scripture, for example: the principal Vedic texts of Bhagavad-Gita and Srimad Bhagavatam.
  - ii. To stimulate thought and debate on many philosophical issues.
  - iii. To reach beyond the boundaries of cast, creed and colour, by establishing the science of the soul.
  - iv. To introduce the Vedic culture through the mediums of music, philosophy, yoga, meditation, drama, dance and vegetarian cooking.

- v. To help students find spiritual solutions to material problems such as stress, alcohol and drug abuse, social and academic pressures by promoting simple living and high thinking.
- vi. To organize cultural shows, festivals and excursions for the spiritual benefit of the student community.
- vii. To encourage student involvement in welfare and charitable work with a focus on free food distribution, prepared at the temple or in a community kitchen to the needy or homeless, with the aid of a non-profit organization working toward the welfare of the people living in poverty.

### **Shogi Club**

#### **MANDATE:**

- Organize events in which students from different backgrounds can gather to entertain and facilitate friendship through the game of Shogi, also known as Japanese chess
  - Gather students who share the same interest around McGill
  - Introduce McGill students a part of the Japanese culture
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### **Club Application Summaries**

#### **October 18, 2011, Interest Group Committee Meeting**

Approved:

- McGill Association of Responsible Equestrian Students (full status)
- Getting off the Streets (interim status)

#### **FULL STATUS:**

McGill Association of Responsible Equestrian (MARES)

- To provide support and opportunities for McGill equestrians  
Events
- Royal Agricultural Winter Fair
- University of Toronto Ontario University Equestrian Association Show
- Ontario University Equestrian Association Finals and Gala, York University

#### **INTERIM STATUS:**

Getting off the Streets

The Club's mandate shall be to:

- Provide opportunities for McGill students to support homeless shelters, specifically the Old Brewery Mission and Accueil Bonneau Mission by volunteering at their facility to serve weekend lunches
- Educate the McGill community on homelessness
  - o Host events and forums at McGill that educate the student body on what is homelessness, and how they can be involved
    - Movie screenings
    - Open discussion panels between other students

- Exposing the students to existing social movements targeting homelessness
  - Bringing guest speakers to McGill to discuss poverty (i.e. homeless advocates, health Canada professionals, board of directors at homeless shelters)
- Raise funds for existing homeless shelters in the community including churches who are targeting homelessness
  - Plan fundraising events for community projects aimed at homelessness (i.e. bake sales, auctions, dinners, art shows, concerts, and food drives)
- Work with members of parliament to bring awareness of the issue of homelessness/poverty
  - Reach out to Members of Parliament to advocate for the need for more resources in the community for people living on the streets
- Provide social media and IT services for homeless shelters, as many of the shelters do not have the funds to access all of these resources
- Create and operate a website/twitter/Facebook page targeted at bringing awareness to people living on the streets
  - Writing articles about poverty in North America
  - Posting other websites that target poverty in North
  - Posting videos and events
  - Posting petitions