



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

MARCH 23, 2017

1. Call to Order

Speaker calls the meeting to order.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Speaker gives the land acknowledgement: SSMU would like to acknowledge that McGill is located on the traditional territory of the Kanien'keha:ka, a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange among nations. SSMU recognizes and respects the Kanien'keha:ka as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters on which we meet today.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Minutes are approved.

4. Guest Speakers

ASEQ

Lev Bukhman (!): I am joined tonight by our partner, Marie Gauthier, from a wonderful organization called "sans oui, c'est non" or without a yes, it's a no. And we're talking tonight about not student health care plans, but taking a few minutes of your time to let you know about a campaign that our two organizations have launched here in Montreal and across Quebec. The campaign was launched last Sunday at a press conference with the minister of high education and has garnered a great deal of media attention. In fact, McGill University is a member of the organization, but the SSMU itself is not. We're hoping that after learning a bit about this initiative and this campaign that SSMU will move ahead and join this campaign, particularly Gerts.



The campaign is called “Order an Angelot” and the basic concept is that it’s a campaign that involves institutions, in particular campus bars or bars that are on or near university campuses and frequented by students. The campaign aims to create a very simple and clear, uncertain way, where people have a way out when they feel unsafe, in danger or have been victims of an incident of sexual violence. The idea behind the campaign is to create a very simple code word that is widely known and widely understood, and a young person can invoke by ordering a drink with a bartender. Not having to provide any explanation, any background, any story, any justification, but that use of code words in the form of ordering drinks initiates a protocol that all of the staff in the institution are trained in. There are three drinks you can order: an angel with no ice, which means that the individual is asking for assistance to be taken to a safe place; they can order an angel with ice, which means that the individual feels safe and is requesting help to be taken out of bar and into a taxi and away from this place; or, it can be an angel with lime, which means that an incident of violence has occurred and the police should be called. That is all the individual has to say, and on that the staff of the bar will be trained and prepared to initiate a series of protocols to ensure safety and certainty for the individual without having to provide any explanation or justification.

Marie has also asked that I mention in this presentation that there is not only reactive or responsive; part of the training that is provided to all the staff in the bar is in prevention and being an active bystander and there’s rigorous training on how to be aware of situations unfolding so that we can certainly be able to prevent situations from occurring.

ASEQ student care, the administrators of the SSMU health and dental plan, as well as the health care plans for most universities and colleges in Quebec and across Canada, have partnered with this organization to for this campaign, to raise awareness of this and to encourage bars on campuses and near campuses to join this campaign and be part of this program. In just the last four days, we’ve had a tremendous amount of media coverage over this issue. Yesterday there was a mention in the House of Commons about the campaign, calling schools across Canada to participate in this campaign.

So we do hope that SSMU will sign on – training would be provided to bar staff over the spring and summer, and the goal is to have a wide spread adaptation of the protocols for the period of Frosh in September, to be a very established, widely known and widely adopted protocol in Montreal, Quebec and across Canada. Marie will be happy to answer your questions, she’s with the organization and she is working full time to spearhead this campaign in Montreal and Quebec.

Councilor Sur: Thank you for your presentation, I think this is a great campaign. My question is basically, so these words would be known by most students, are there any measures in place, especially if the perpetrator also knows these words, in limiting – like how will it effect the survivors who come forward with it, especially if the perpetrator is right there?



Presenter: So the objective of this initiative is most of all that people should all know that Angelot exists, because we want to inform more and more victims so they have the tools. So the goal is that we promote this initiative. I'm sorry for my English, so even if the perpetrator is with her, you can still talk to the barman, with all the music and everything it can be a good way to have some security and safety very quickly, that's the goal from ordering an angelot. Also, we thought that maybe it's a way to let the perpetrator know that it's sexual violence too, to stop this kind of action.

Councilor Gingrich-Hadley: I have a few questions, I'm wondering first off if you know any of the stats around the effects that this has had in any of the places where it has been implemented and what kind of actual reduction has happened.

Presenter: We know that 1 in 3 will be a victim of sexual violence during their university studies, so that's fact. We know that alcohol is a risk factor. So from those facts, that's the perspective that we have for ordering an Angelot.

Councilor Gingrich-Hadley: Is there some kind of body who is holding bars accountable to having these procedures?

Presenter: Yup. We'll do a feedback, making sure that everything is going well after the fall. Because the plan is that we train during spring and implement in fall, and after that we'll make sure that everything is set, all the student associations are happy with the results. We'll do a step by step record to make sure that everything is okay.

Councilor Gingrich-Hadley: I'm not sure if you can answer this, but I'm wonder how this fall into the McGill sexual assault policy and whether those perpetrators, after they've potentially been identified, will actually be routed somewhere where there can be official action taken? Because a lot of the problems happen afterwards when people try to bring up action.

Presenter: One of the things that was not presented in this presentation is that each time that the victim asks for angelot, the staff will provide all the resources for safety, so that she has everything on hand to make a formal complaint, to have support. So that's in this initiative.

Councilor Douglas: I have heard of "Ask for Angela" in other places, and I was wondering if this is brand new? Has it been implemented anywhere else yet on campuses? And, my second part of that question, is there a list of other campuses that have signed on and have taken on this initiative?



Presenter: So in Quebec, for order an Angelot, we need to train the staff first and, as I said to the previous question, it will be released next fall to that everything will be set for frosh in September. With my organization, we are affiliated with 16 universities and 22 colleges, so we list 15 bars that we will ask if they want to join, to join the initiative. So we will contact them in a few weeks, but for now we have the [blank] and we have a few bars that are interested, and the Université de Laval in Quebec City, they are part of the initiative. So we have two that are interested.

Councilor Junejo: What happens if the staff is involved in the sexual violence?

Presenter: So we will provide a full training on standard equity training, so they will be well aware of sexual violence and all the issues, and how to have a good attitude and confidence. In this initiative, in the formation, we will try to inform them to be conscientious of sexual violence and trying not to tolerate sexual violence in the bars. The objective of this initiative is to protect the victims, so if the barman is doing sexual violence, I hope that the training will help them to deal with those kinds of things.

Councilor Mansdoerfer: I was wondering for communications purposes, have you considered reaching out to other faculties? So each faculty runs their own bar for the most part, so would you consider getting in contact with them, and if you would I would be happy to provide Engineering's contact information.

Presenter: The thing is that actually the institution of McGill just signed the agreement to be part of the "sans oui, c'est non" campaign, we just want to have the signature of SSMU so that we can provide all the training and tools for order and angelot, to have all the tools for your bars.

Lev Bukhman: I think the answer is yes. If there are other events on campus where people would like to train their staff, Open Air Pub for example, whether alcohol serving events, then absolutely that could be arranged.

Councilor Cleveland: Thank you for your presentation. This seems like a very well intentioned campaign. I was wondering, in the construction of this and through the presentation, there wasn't a lot of the survivor language that is something that we use a lot at McGill, specifically the use of the term "victim", "perpetrator" and things like that. So I was wondering if you plan on working with SACOMSS, which is the sexual assault center at McGill, or other similar campus groups, to be able to mirror this language in your advertisement of this campaign and implementation of this campaign?



Presenter: So around this campaign we already have a lot of expertise from our universities, which work with victims, but I've tried to contact SACOMSS but they haven't answered yet to my message, but I will try to keep them involved in this initiative, especially if SSMU gets involved. And also we want to work with a support group in Quebec which is called [blank], they work with victims and they will be part of the training committee, the committee who will build the formation for this training, so we will really keep in mind all the victims and how they deal with this violence and how to make the formation and all this stuff very aware.

Councilor Sur: I know that some faculties here are connected with both SSMU as well as the graduate studies organization as well, so is PGSS is also being reached out to in regards to this?

Presenter: The things is that we translate our campaigns into a few weeks, so that's why there hasn't been more reach out, but we already are partners with John Abbott, the institution of Concordia. But we work with PGSS with their external VP, but they didn't sign it.

Councilor Gingrich-Hadley: I'm wondering if you could talk about any consultation that you've done with survivors of sexual violence when developing this campaign and how that's been involved in the process?

Presenter: So for now, we work with mostly student associations in university. We are giving our annual assembly, because we get already, having just created it a few months ago, we are getting our annual assembly in a few days. And then we will open our assembly to all observers and supporters and groups of Quebec so that we will be more implanting our structure, especially with the formation. So for now we are working with the student associations, but in a few weeks that will change.

Memorandum of Agreement Negotiations Update

31:30

VP Sobat: So we just wanted to give an update on our memorandum of agreement negotiations with the university, since these need to be concluded this term but it's possible that the final agreement may not be able to come to council because of timing. If you don't know, our current agreement actually ran from 2011 to 2016 and we began renegotiating it last year and this has been extended. The university has confirmed that it will not bring a ballot until next term, but we do need to sign an agreement.



So what's an MOA? An MOA is a contractual agreement with the university, basically it defines our relationship with them beyond what's guaranteed to us as an accredited student association, so that's like the distribution of student fee revenue, the use of the McGill trademark, different business ideas that we have, but it's separate from our lease for this building, which is a different document that outlines our rent for the university center space. The current document – this is a version you can access online if you just Google SSMU MOA. It's about thirty pages with all the appendices, and so it has things like a list of current fees that we collect, that the university actually collects on our behalf under different accounts, the dates by which they have to give us that fee revenue, and the money that they charge us in order to process it. It outlines, so under the current act, they have to give us as an association, an office, which is actually the office space in the Brown Building, so suite 1200, it's not the University center building. Some information that they require from us each year, which is our financial statements, our proof of insurance, etcetera. It also, most controversially, what was a significant part of the 2011 agreement was restrictions on the use of the McGill name, particularly by student groups, so that includes a bunch of formulas. So, for example, instead of just saying, McGill Boxing or McGill Pencil Society, it would be McGill Students for any kind of descriptive word formulas, which as really new at the time, the university distancing themselves from student groups and student initiatives for liability reasons. So we always have to provide this appendix title to all of students groups and clubs, etc, either conforming to those naming conventions or a few exceptions. Restrictions on our business agreement, like the current agreement says that we can't cater off campus and things like that.

Some of the significant changes in the current draft, a bunch of this came from the last set of executives at the beginning of negotiations, that there are a bunch of appendices that didn't get included, there was like a letter from a past VP Finance talking about how they wanted to create like a depth service for alcohol and they included this in the MOA to be like, you kids can't be trusted, we have to watch over this experience otherwise you're going to do stupid things and not respect these restrictions on liquor permits and stuff. So we've removed some of those, because they were quite condescending. And then the referenda deadlines, like when we need to get the university information on fee changes. The biggest change is kind of lightening up on these restrictions around the McGill name, so rather than requiring these different formulas, basically on a case by case basis, like the university will approve all of our student groups or will accept any use of the McGill name but those groups just need to register with the university, so there will be a web forum on the VP Student Life website, just so they get a record of those names and put a disclaimer for groups who use that to use in their formal websites, so it won't require for them to conform to those conventions or for the VP Student Life to have to ensure or policing the student groups into using the McGill name in a certain way. And groups associated with using the McGill name will agree to abide by the code of student conduct and disciplinary procedures, which we're talked about in the context of a



Memorandum of Understanding with the university for bigger events, but this is a way to ensure that recourse through that policy is available to student groups.

That might have been a bit confusing, but I have the section in front of me if you have any more questions. We're just going on with some things that came up last year or continuing those discussion with university around catering, they don't want us to be able to cater outside of our own building, however we can provide catering to groups within our building, and if they choose to take that outside of our building we can't fault them for that. Also catering off campus; we don't actually get a list of student ID numbers from McGill which makes verification for things like the GA very difficult; rather than put this in the MOA, we're working to try to get card scanners for events like the GA. The university has a few restrictions on the student status of executives, we're trying to change the constitution so that graduating students can run, however student reps to the senate is required, so the President and VP University Affairs would still have to be students. So that's some of the context of some of the ancillary fee agreements with the university, which are not currently directly in the text of the MOA, need to change.

As far as timeline, basically by the end of this term, so by the executives' term we hope to be finalizing these agreements and sending it to our legal counsel for review and bringing it to any last meetings, for example the Board of Directors, before the executive signs off on it.

Councilor Chin: I have two questions, thank you for your presentation. My first question pertains to the students status of executives; what was the motivation behind allowing students who, in a sense, have graduated to run for the position of the executive? And my second question is, in light of all the recent events that made national headlines, multiple resignations from the executive, Board of Directors, and legislative council, how has that effected negotiations of the MOA, given that we've had a significant loss of political capital and maybe even more of authority.

VP Sobat: In terms of the constitutional changes around the running of graduating students, that was really a recognition of the workload of executives and the recognition that, while it's important that we have students holding those roles, that the fact that someone is taking a course per term, and is a student on paper, that doesn't necessarily give them the experience of a student or a student leader, that probably comes from the previous years at McGill. And frequently we've had executives that are either not even attending class or failing their classes or having to drop a class, so it's really not fair to expect that of people, it's a cost almost. But again, it's just for graduating students so you couldn't continue on after that year. In terms of the negotiations themselves, we're still waiting for a response on the MOA back from the university, that's something we had requested from them in February. The negotiations were actually going on quite well and most of the delays were from McGill people being very slow to go over a document and get it back to us, so I can't really speak to any additional changes to the



document but most of the talking points that were contested were not necessarily deal breakers from my perspective. However, the VP Finance and the General Manager will be taking over the final negotiations of the MOA, so it remains to be seen if any of those points or anything else introduced by the university is worthy of more negotiation or more push back.

Councilor Junejo: So the university center lease; how is it different from the MOA and how long does it last? Like when does it expire?

VP Magder: The university center lease ends in 2021 and that outline the financial agreement, what we pay and what we don't pay for, and that is separate from the MOA, which outlines how the university collects fees from students and transfers it to our accounts, so whereas the lease outlines specifically in this building. It's a very different legal document.

Councilor Chin: I just have one follow-up question, back to the issue of the student status, does this have anything to do with the event in the recent past where a student exec was not legally able to hold their position given the difference in work permit and such.

VP Sobat: No, it doesn't. According to the constitution, executives need to remain legally able to work in Canada throughout their term, that's the legal requirement; it's not about student status during the term.

Councilor Cleveland: What power does McGill have to "force through" this MOA, given the timeline that we have to have it finished by the end of the summer, and do you see that negatively effecting negotiations, especially on these more debated points?

VP Sobat: Basically since we are already in an extension of the agreement, technically according to the contract, the default extension is nine months, and the university has basically agreed that it will be longer than that, so any further extension will require a discussion with the university and that's something that we could entertain if required, however I personally feel okay with what is being negotiated so far and what is related to the memorandum of getting back around the table to review that draft, to ensure that we go over all the points in the document. I personally, besides what was listed on the screen, wouldn't feel too worried about signing the agreement as it stands now.

5. Adoption of the Agenda

VP Carolan motions to move 5.a (Budget Presentation) into a confidential session. This passes.



VP Patterson motions to move the Services review committee report to the next council.

VP Carolan motions to bring a notice motion from the floor to amend the financial IRs. This passes.

VP Sobats motions to add a discussion period on the ASEQ presentation. This passes.

6. Question Period (5)

Councilor Templer: I have a question for the Engineering Representatives, when is OAP coming back?

Councilor Renondin: Oh, on April 27th and 28th.

Councilor Gingrich-Hadley: I have a question about the statement that was released like an hour ago from the council, I'm wondering if anyone can tell me if McGill proper, especially the office for the sexual violence response education, is involved at all in any of the proposed actions in the plan to address gendered and sexual violence, in light of the letter drafted by several SSMU councilors to Suzanne Fortier?

VP Patterson: Currently there is no involvement. We at SSMU and the people at CDN have not reached out to that office yet, but this is a very preliminary plan so that might still be up for debate.

Councilor Thomas: I have a response to the question asked last council by Councilor Sur; in terms of asking former Councilor Sadikov for an apology, after discussion we decided that we no longer have the jurisdiction to ask him for an apology, given that he resigned prior to that and after further discussion, given the statement from his ex-girlfriend, we didn't think it fit to speak for her in what she wanted, so that was our response to that.

Councilor Anderson: I think my question is for Madame Speaker, you run accountability committee right? So I was wondering, in terms of council attendance by councilors, I know of at least two, the Dentistry Rep and one of the Management Reps that have only made it to one or two councils each. Is there any action being taken on suspending or removing them from council and, if not, can I bring a motion from the floor?

Speaker: There's no way of sugar coating this; the reason that specifically I decided not to send out those suspensions was that, as you can see there is nineteen of us in this room, and if I did



there would maybe be ten or twelve. There's two more councils left and they are really important councils because we're discussing the budget, and other important things like the athletics and recreation fee, but that's the reason why I decided not to send out the suspensions, but I can definitely talk to Ryan and send those out. Ryan's my supervisor now, and talk to Elaine as well because she's the acting President. I don't know what she has to say about that right now. But do know that the accountability report that we release will say that in it. It's not going to be just brushed under the rug. That report isn't going to sugarcoat attendance. Attendance is attendance; if you don't send me a notification, then you're just absent.

Councilor Anderson: Just because, this question pertains to two councilors that consistently have not been here and haven't effect quorum in that sense, so I believe that their removal wouldn't effect quorum going forward for the next two meetings, but I think it's an issue that they get to claim this as a thing that they've done where they're not actually representing their faculties and they're not actually showing up and doing their due diligence as elected members of this body. So it's more for those two in particular, although I do agree that attendance and reports are also an issue.

Speaker: Yeah, I don't think you need to put a motion or anything, I'll talk to Ryan and Elaine tonight or tomorrow morning and then send out an email to both of them, saying that they're removed. They can come in two weeks and say why they shouldn't be removed, but we'll see if it comes down to that.

50:16

Councilor Mehrotra: My question is for Councilor Lawrie, as well as all of SSPN. I would like he to finally answer for why Councilor Ashby was let to stay on SSPN, even though he resigned. I would like an answer to that, now that you are finally here.

VP Lawrie: Thank you for that, and to clarify on that whole thing that has happened, the initial discloser, the person who has given this information, has asked that this remain a confidential topic, but I will say that, at the time of my knowledge of this incident, I did immediately put, at the time, Councilor Gangram on probation and following that knowledge, I did hear from the discloser that all of her disclosures had been removed and that I no longer had any formal information to act upon, at which point, when I had received a formal equity complaint, I took immediate action within the allotted five days.

Councilor Mehrotra: First of all, I would like to address the fact that you put him on probation. I think that the SUS immediately asked him to resign, because these allegations need to be taken



seriously, and I don't understand why you felt that it was okay to just put him on probation when he had been removed from SUS.

VP Lawrie: I'd like to clarify the difference between a disclosure and an allegation. An allegation is when there is a formal procedure going forward, a disclosure is when this information is being presented to, for example, to myself. I had no concrete information to act upon.

Councilor Thomas motions to suspend Robert's Rules to add a discussion on this topic during the confidential session. This passes, and is added to the agenda as a point in the confidential session.

Councilor Chin: Regarding a question that I asked last council, regarding what is exactly the composition of the Board of Directors, the answer I received was who was no longer on the Board of Directors. In light of the recent statement issued by the SSMU in regards to the selection of the Chloe Rourke as the Chair of the board of directors, I was wondering if we can actually have a list of members who sit on the Board of Directors, given the high turn around of that office and, given that there is no information at all, publically on the SSMU website, as to the constitution of that body that makes a lot of very important decisions for us.

VP Patterson: First off, there is a report from the Board of Directors at the council tonight, so you will be able to see some of the things that the Board has been talking about over the past month or so. As to who sits on the Board of Directors – do you just want me to say their names? Okay. Chloe Rourke is the chair, and Niall Carolan sits on the Board as an executive. Kahli Douglas sits on as a councilor, Adam Templer sits on the board as a councilor, Ellen Chen is on as a councilor as well. Greta Hoaken, Jonathan Gluestein – Isabelle Anderson, you sit on as a councilor, sorry about that! Simon Shubbar as well. Those are the people I can think of in my mind, I apologize for that not being more formal.

Councilor Sur: I have a question to Councilor Patterson in regards to the statement that was sent. The open forum that is being organized, is that in collaboration with the CDN?

VP Patterson: Yes, so the open forum being organized, the CDN is helping us plan the open forum, apparently it's going to be facilitates, we're still looking for facilitators to facilitate that open forum, since the people that work on CDN are not necessarily comfortable facilitating such a large group of people. So we're still working on that, but CDN is helping us out with the planning stages.

Councilor Sur: For students who have not had the best experiences with the administration in regards to reporting or just support, is there a formal way that we can reach out to them?



Especially those students who have been not heard in the evident regarding this? I think SSMU can be an excellent way for them to get justice for what as happened to them, especially if the administration doesn't do anything.

VP Patterson: I think that's a good idea. In the statement that was just sent out via email to all members of the society, there is a link to the event page on Facebook, so students can get information there, but if you have any specific ideas in terms of directly reaching out to students for whom the policy process has failed, please let me know because I do agree that's a very important group to reach out to.

7. Report of the Steering Committee (2)

VP Sobat: So this is our second last meeting, there is no written report from the committee since a lot of the motions weren't in before the deadline. I'm going to try to schedule as many committee reports as possible for next meeting so that they're not all at the last meeting.

8. Announcements (5)

Councilor Sur: Most of the women on council are wearing black, with these purpose and teal ribbons. So March is women's history month and in light of everything that's been going on at SSMU, this has brought a lot of councilors together but specifically, almost all women on council together. So we're wearing black and these ribbons to stand in solidarity and support survivors of gendered and sexual violence.

Councilor Thomas: I just want to introduce our new Arts Rep, she was appointed by AUS last night.

Councilor Douglas: This is from the School of Music of Montreal, they're a student initiative at McGill and they are facilitating a series of music workshops at McGill on March 27th. These offer an opportunity to de-stress and relax!

Speaker: There is also a new councilor from the Music faculty.

Councilor Zhou: FYC is having our end of the year event on the 31st; come hang out.



VP Magder: We're still looking for participants to help out in a focus group for the Leacock terrace, that's a construct under the way outside of the Leacock building.

VP Lawrie: April 7th is the SSMU awards.

VP Sobat: Last week, the SSMU elections results came out, so welcome to the new executive!

Councilor Chin: Do we have any information about whether any of the vacant spots in the executive will be filled by any of the incoming candidates?

VP Patterson: We do not have an answer for that at this time.

9. Old Business

a. Motion Regarding Revisions to the Equity Policy

VP Sobat: This is tabled from like February, it was primarily a restructuring of the policy to make it more clear and accessible to people trying to access it as well as trying to interpret it, by the equity commissioners. The next step will be to develop SSMU equity around it, I added a flowchart to describe the process and make this as accessible as possible. We don't have to dive into the document as this is a first step. As well, I think there needs to be more work to clarify the scope and the jurisdiction, for example, if there is an issue with another faculty association or group outside of SSMU, we can't necessarily have a formal complain but we can refer to other faculty review committees or take other forms of action. So we should ensure that's clear.

This motion passes.

a. New Business

Discussion on the Project Angelot

1:13:22

VP Sobat: I just wanted to clarify some information; we weren't necessarily aware that presentation would be happening. Secondly, there was actually a motion approved by SSMU council last year to join or affiliate with the "sans oui, c'est non" campaign as SSMU, however



because there was an existing consent campaign at McGill, we've only been on their contact list and not participating in meetings, because there didn't seem to be much need. However, in the past there have been concerns raised about that initiative as well as other things that they have launched, and I think folks asked questions that spoke to some of those concerns, but I was just interested in having a discussion period to speak without them in the room about how people thought about it and how SSMU should move forward, in terms of that initiative.

Councilor Sur: I think the initiative is great, but at the same time it leads to concerns about certain issues, specifically, if the person is with the person who has assaulted them or who has caused violence towards them, if they know the words, it does cause a lot of tension there. And also, if the person is racialized, trans, any other identity, how the people who are being trained, how well trained are they to deal with other concerns as well. It seems like there was a bit of language barrier with the speaker, but I think those question needs to be answered before we can affiliate with the campaign.

Councilor Cleveland: My concerns were similar to those, but in relation to employees being perpetrators of sexual assault, there's actually an article posted in the Global news about a Toronto bar employee facing charges of drugging and sexually assaulting women in the bar, and I think this is something that is concerned in relation to this campaign, as well as the fact that I have personally asked bartenders for water for my friends who are really drunk and in situations that aren't great as a way to break it up and they are always too busy or don't care enough to offer any assistance and I'm really worried that this campaign, while well intentioned, will not provide support and will just provide another instance of a well-meaning campaign that isn't able to follow through and just provide false hopes instead of providing actual resources to students.

Councilor Gingrich-Hadley: I'm also a little bit concerned with campaign, I think mostly because it doesn't sound like they've done any consultation with survivors of sexual violence at all around how this could actually be helpful, and because I think it's become painfully obvious recently that consent education is not necessarily an effective way to stop sexual violence from happening and I just question whether or not this would actually be making a difference and really want to see some concrete steps to be taken to have the sexual assault policy be more involved with actually following through on instances of sexual violence instead of just asking survivors to come forwards and report this kind of stuff, I just don't know if it's addressing the core issue.

Councilor Zhou: I just want to agree, first, with what Councilor Gingrich-Hadley was saying, with what Councilor Cleveland also mentioned earlier in the presentation, I guess you can kind of chalk it up to a bit of a language barrier from the presenter, but I found that there was a lot of



rhetoric that wasn't in line with some of things we are practicing at McGill, with survivor language, she said the word victim a lot. But also, at one point during the presentation, she mentioned that the system is in place so that is "she" needs help, and I think that there is an underlying assumption there that there is one gender that can specifically perpetrate sexual violence, which is not all cases. So again, some of the language in the presentation is a little offsetting and, like what Councilor Gingrich-Hadley was saying, as we've seen, while education is also important, I feel like the amount of resources or time that the SSMU would be contributing to this project by signing on wouldn't be better allocated somewhere else in the development of our own sexual assault policy, to not just bars but to campus spaces and events.

Councilor Chin: I think it's important to point out that there is two things at play here; of course the language involved, but the second issue which is the initiative itself, which I would see as independent from not using the right language. Even if we were not to sign on to the campaign, I think it's something very important to consider, especially given that the SSMU itself but also various faculty or department associations have their own alcohol license that maybe we could even influence if we were to sign on.

Councilor Thomas: I was just wondering if VP Finance or operations could comment on even the feasibility of the idea? Like if we were to adopt it, I guess all the Gerts bartenders go through training, would we even be able to pay for that training? Because I guess those hours would count as their training, right?

VP Magder: It is feasible; at the start of the year we actually have a couple training sessions for the bar staff and I personally could see this as being incorporated into that training. So as a question feasibility, I don't think that would be a major limitation of putting this is. What I think would be a major limitation would be making sure that people take this seriously and making sure that people take this seriously and understand the gravity of what this is. Because I think the concern of what somebody mentioned earlier is that, well, how do I know that a bartender is really going to be paying attention to this, since they won't be getting tips based on whatever this request is, so I think they have to make sure that they understand that this is part of their job, part of their responsibility to serve the patrons is also to protect patrons, and making sure that's enshrined as part of the job responsibility.

Councilor Thomas: Can you talk about the hiring process of bartenders? Because I think a topic that has come up is just the fact that they can be perpetrators of sexual violence, so can you talk about security checks that go into that hiring process?



VP Magder: As for the hiring process, as least when I came into this position and as it's stood for now, the food and beverage director with the help of HR are the only people responsible for hiring, and the VP Operations and the VP Finance are not involving in hiring any of the bar staff at all. If people are concerned with the hiring process, I highly recommend that you bring me those concerns and we can evaluate that process.

Councilor Mehrotra: I was just wondering if anyone could answer if it would be possible to consult with organizations on campus that are in contact with survivors, like SACOSS and CDN, about whether they would like to see this or if they think that this is a good idea to do on campus? Because as Councilor Gingrich-Hadley brought up, it doesn't sound like they've done all that much consultation, but we could do that if we felt like this was a decent idea, but unsure if it would actually be useful. I feel like instead of just voting no, we could bring it to them and ask whether they think it's a good idea.

VP Sobat: Absolutely, and I think that there are also provincial level groups that have raised some concerns about this campaign, including AVEQ, and some of the other points were some of the media over-visibility of the campaign. I think it was pointed out that if this is supposed to be a code word, certainly they want people to know about it, but maybe in locations where it's supposed to be more discreetly communicated, like in bathrooms or through signage. So the fact that he had to put up a slide of all the great press that they're getting really makes it feel like a PR thing for them in the government. The other thing that has been brought up is the people who will potentially experience sexual violence, this might create a false sense of security. Finally the whole problem around training, like what are we doing more concretely to make sure that these places are accessible and safer, like I think that there is potential here, especially in terms of the training if they are invested in that, but I think it would have to be tailored and involved with consultation.

Councilor Sur: I was going to say, in regards to consulting other groups, maybe this is something that could be brought up at the open forum as side thing, so that this is happening while other people are there.

VP Magder: Just to follow up on some of the points that Councilor Sobat was making, in respect to the process, I think what is the deeply troubling part of this movement is the sense that if these code words are so publicized then that kind of defeats the purpose. But that being said, I do think that there is value in exploring this project, as least on our terms and exploring some of the issues that have been brought up because it sounds like there are some very valid concerns. Maybe in such as way that putting a code word in the bathroom stall of the female washroom and maybe a separate one for men so that could maybe protect the code word. The



point being, I would be interested in looking into at least doing consultation work with groups to see if there is a better way of implementing this, because I do think there is some merit to it.

Motion Regarding Endorsement of “No” Vote for the Athletics & Recreation Fee Increase

VP Sobat: So since we couldn't pass a policy against ancillary fee increases, we did have to create an ancillary fee referendum fee period which will open next week, however it's still within council's jurisdiction to endorse a no vote on that sort of fee increase and communicate that to students. There has been a no campaign formed, it can't use SSMU resources but it can communicate that stance. I think part of the reason for bringing this forward is motivation for students to have access to that sort of information, but I think a lot of folks here are concerned about, when the proposal was first brought forward, and I think it's really important to keep in mind and that at the structural level with these fees, we have concerns as representatives that would warrant a no vote.

Councillor Jiao: I'm curious as to one of the whereas clauses on the second page, where it says that overhead charges on Athletics and Recreation have increased. This is controlled from central admin, so Athletics and Recreation doesn't have control over how much charges they have to pay every year to central admin. So in terms of this no vote, I'm curious as to where the Councillor see where as a collective we stand on this. I'm curious to why having a no to sustain these services that we offer to all students is in support of the challenge to the overhead charges that are being asked.

VP Sobat: I think what I had proposed, I was under the impression that we could not put this on the ballot as council and also possibly pass a policy to all of these kinds of fee increases so as to take a more hardline stance towards the administration, recognizing that we have been asking for changes in reducing these overhead charges for several years. And so I think that more of the issue is that they've set up this unsustainable budgetary model where every few years, the costs are increasing, every few years they come back to us for an increase and they say, if you care about these services, then take this increase. They have no incentive to change their budgetary model and their financial practices around these overhead charges, they have a free pass basically to keep increasing them, because we've never rejected that kind of increase. The last time the student services increase came to students in Winter 2015 it passed. So I think that it's in our interest to show that as a collective student body, we are not in support of this funding model, unless there is a reduction of those overhead charges so that the money that we're paying to athletics is in fact going to athletics and not back to the central administration to redistribute it elsewhere. So that is how I see the motivation and the need for a no vote on this question.



Councilor Jiao: However, why is it the understanding that having a no vote will result in central admin understanding that these overhead charges are too much or anything? Because the reality is that having a no vote is actually going to cause athletics and recreation to put themselves in a situation where they have to reevaluate their budget and that will effect the services that apply to students.

VP Sobat: I think that, especially if the no vote is associated with strong messaging around overhead charges, it is sending a message to the university that it is their central funding practices that need to change, and we've seen from the athletics budget in particular that at times they have been able to reduce that overhead charge or increase the transfer with the money that they give back to athletics for particular initiatives, so I think that if anything it shows that students want to see that kind of funding model, and that it is not the same thing as us wanted to cut services. So I think this is actually a better messaging to be associated with a no campaign or a no vote than, for example, that we just don't want to increase the fees in general because we just don't want to pay more money or we don't care about these services.

Councilor Jiao: However, but you're asking for a no endorsement to the increase of the athletics and recreation fees, not to the increase of overhead central admin charges.

VP Sobat: The answer is yes, but I think we can debate this in debate.

Councilor Chin: Given the privileges afforded to yes and no campaign teams, I was wondering if there was a yes campaign on the question as well, and if we could append such a preamble to the referendum to be accessible to all students during the vote? Secondly, I just want to comment that I have conducted consultations with my constituents in the faculty of medicine, especially those who use the athletics service or who are varsity athletes, and there seems to some sort of general impression of money not being best spent, this could all be speculation but I also received a tip from someone whose name will remain confidential that the procedural inefficiencies around hiring practices such that multiple people are hired for the same job or there have been cross hires between universities that does not reduce the costs. I also wanted to ask specifically which ways the AMUSE agreement has effected all of this?

Councilor Jiao: The AMUSE agreement essentially has given an increase in salaries for the AMUSE employees in the department so that is also shotgunned into the upcoming budget for this year, of course. Regarding your point on hiring practices, I was wondering if you could be a bit more specific, in terms of your concerns?



Councilor Chin: I don't have any specific examples, it was more of general statement that I hoped you would be able to address.

Councilor Jiao: Am I asked whether to state if I think the hiring practices are ideal in athletics?

Councilor Chin: Yes.

Councilor Jiao: Because I am representative of the students and not athletics admin, I wouldn't be able to know. I know how admin perceives it, but from the students perspective, we are very diverse in regards to hiring practices.

Councilor Chin: Is it possible to expand upon that diversity?

Councilor Jiao: Not at this moment.

Councilor Jiao: Regarding Councilor Sobat's motion, and the motives behind this motion, having a no endorsement from SSMU would mean that as a collective as a legislative council we do not support the increase of this fee. However, in the last referendum, this fee passed with a 62% yes vote. So I was wondering if Councilor Sobat can elaborate a bit on why?

VP Sobat: So as far as I know during the last campaign there wasn't information shared widely about the issue with overhead charges, I don't even know if there was a no campaign, I know that there was a strong yes campaign that did its promotions primarily in athletic spaces, so that was a smart move on their part. I will note also that the PGSS council did reject even putting this question on their referendum ballot because they do have the ability to do so, they don't have a similar agreement that we do with the administration. I think that part of why I encouraged councilors to vote for this motion, because, in recognition of some of the negotiating power that we do have with the university around these fees, while we are obligated to put them forward to all students who may not have the best grasp of what the information is or what they're voting on, and I think that as representatives if we're concerned about this piece but also some of the other points that were raised by councilors when we first discussed this question, then it is worth while to endorse a no vote. I also think that, following the AMUSE piece, there are times in the past when there have been new collective agreements signed and increases with those associative costs, the university has invested, for example a course lecturer agreement was signed, there was an injunction to support the faculty with those costs, and I think that is something we would like to see. In addition, I also don't think that we should look at this particular campaign as isolated, it definitely needs to be associated with other advocacy associated with overhead charges, I think that there will be some upcoming communications around student services as well, and that also opportunities for



collaboration with a provincial level group, like a student federation such as AVEQ, to look into the legal contexts, which may not be fully within the reach of the current executives but is certainly also something we can encourage the incoming executive to be concerned with and actively involved with advocating for.

Councilor Chin: Thank you Madame Speaker, I just want to re-ask a question as to whether there is a yes campaign during this referendum?

Councilor Jiao: Yes, there is a yes campaign. Also I have a question, I guess, to council. So I had a discussion with Philip Quintel, prior to coming to council tonight, and so basically I want you to understand what he implied are the consequences if we do have a no vote for this fee increase. So he alluded very, very vaguely to perhaps limiting access, so in terms of increasing user fees, or limiting hours that are open to student's use. So with that in mind, is council ready to endorse a no vote, knowing that perhaps these consequences will take place in the fall semester?

Councilor Mehrotra: For me that kind of sounds like a threat, and I really don't like that, I don't like the fact that it's like, "oh if you don't give us more money, we're going to cut the hours." In their budget presentation, they said, "oh yeah, we're just now making the push to increase our revenues through ticket sales and selling things," like why wasn't that done before? Last year, SSMU's fee increase didn't pass and they reworked their budget. It's not fair to just be like, "oh well if the money doesn't come through, we'll have to cut services." If there is more that they could be doing to increase their revenue to avoid that, they need to do that first. You can't keep asking students for money every few years. Attendance at games is literally nothing, if they created a culture of going to games on campus, they could increase their revenue and that would go a long way to supplement their income without having to ask students for money. I have seen no initiative on their part to do so, and I would like to see that before we give them more money. I hate the threat that they'll cut our services.

Councilor Cleveland: I'd like to definitely reiterate what councilor Mehrotra said, it does sound a little bit similar, not your statement, the statement of this person, to some type of threat, blackmail, fear mongering, those are all words that come to mind, which is also a type of fear mongering that I'm doing right now, now that I say it. Along with that, I think it goes beyond just generating more revenue, I think this is really a real systematic issue within a lot of departments, especially services offered by the university, to continually up these overhead charges, and we've seen this with other motions passed by council, that the administration continues to up these overhead fees, charge students more for them, and takes this money elsewhere, beyond what it's supposed to be allocated for. If you actually look within this motion, there are a number of whereas clauses where they take like fee funding parts of the



budget, taking these and moving them to operating grant funding parts of the budget, it's just a continual process of not necessarily giving it to students ingestions, like toward the end of this document where a whereas clause states that the university is refusing to release results of investigations in to past cases of sexual assault perpetrated by McGill athletes, that they've rejected student proposal to have women-only hours, they haven't released recommendations from the working group on gym accessibility, it seems like a real issue that the administration is unwilling to listen to us and think that they can just charge more fees to us and we'll just take it, again and again, but I think as long as we frame this no vote along the lines of, "we don't find this acceptable", I hope that we can at least see some change or sit down at the table and talk to McGill about this issue.

Councilor Zhou: I would also like to reiterate what Councilor Mehrotra and Cleveland were saying, also with the presentation that was delivered two councils ago, I remember there being mention that the administration has actually invested half a million dollars into the athletics budget, and I think should the no vote pass, and the response of the athletics be to cut services or cut hours is a very poor response given that their funding has actually increased without this fee increase, and that cutting services is completely illogical in terms of, there are a lot better options. It's just a really childish response, you could totally just restructure your finance.

Councilor Yiao: In regards to the last whereas clause, so this is a central administration investigation. I'm just wondering if council is aware of that? It is not a McGill Athletics and Recreation investigation, so in the sense that release reports or any aspect of being transparent is not controlled by Athletics admin.

Councilor Sobat: I just want to point out that I don't have a direct issue with the Athletics and Recreation, the university administration refers partially to the office of the Deputy provost of student life and learning, who is responsible for setting these overhead charges on these budgets and taking this money and is quoted in the article of those investigations, and has refused to share info or give any concrete response to questions on that. So this is not just targeting the athletics administration, this is also very directly targeting that office.

Councilor Yiao: Regarding what Councilor Sobat just said, if this is not to target athletics admin only, then why is this a better way to start a conversation with admin about their overhead charges? Because by involving a no endorsement on the athletics and recreation fee, which is offering services to all students.

VP Sobat: I'll just reiterate that the Student Life and Learning office oversees all of these units, administering those overhead charges, including student services, athletics, student housing and hospitality, etcetera, so they are setting this funding formula and this is a way to push back



against this funding formula. I've also had many conversations with the Deputy Provost about this, most recently at the February committee of student services meeting, where I asked him where these overhead charges were going, and how they justify the deductions. They still had no formula for actually determining them and he started arguing that overhead deductions from student services were necessary, for example because the university provides fundraising for student aid. That is absolutely ridiculous because every other student aid office in the country is self-funded, and also the university advancement at McGill is self-funded, so that's not even like money that the university is investing directly, so really they don't have a justification for these charges and they're just siphoning it off in order to be able to put funding elsewhere in their budget.

VP Magder: I know that Councilor Sobat is saying that when putting these fees out, there is no concrete formula that defines them, but I remember Council Cleveland speaking to how you were mentioning that these were going directly back into the operating budget and the uses of these overhead fees, but I want to just clarify, did you get no explanation at all from athletics as to how they were using the overhead charges that were applying to their budget? Was there any clarification to any degree as to what they were using this for?

VP Sobat: The explanation that was provided from the administration for deducting these charges is to cover the costs of central services provided to these budget units, so for example the costs of accounting services to process athletics fees sort of like how they process our fees for us; for legal services, for maintenance of their buildings, for example, student services is charged for maintenance of the Brown Building, but it is pretty clear, since they've increased by such a high percentage over the last few years that it doesn't directly correlate to the cost of the services being provided, which I think was illustrated by the deputy provost's comment at the student services meeting where he couldn't give concrete examples of what was being funded or a specific formula, he said at 1.5% of the budget is now increased to over 5%, and there's not a clear calculation to get there. In face they've said in response to question at senate, that effectively the main factor of determining the increases to those charges is really just the budgetary situation of the university as a whole at any given time.

Councilor Jiao: Who do you think would benefit from the fee increase?

VP Sobat: The administration.

Motion passes.

Motion Regarding Continued SSMU Participation in the AVEQ

1:58:00



VP Sobat: So last year we had a mandate to continue sitting around the table at AVEQ, I recognize that some of the updates in information on what was happening with AVEQ and some of the benefits could have been more actively reported, I think this motion is to ensure that we can continue being at that table and are able to voice the concerns of SSMU members to this federation and to the provincial government, but also there's a mandate in the further be-it-resolved clause for the incoming VP External to maybe more actively share information, whether that is with students, and to take on that kind of education information sharing. Since taking on some of the External Affairs responsibilities, I've tried to do that with the research on international student health insurance, with recommendations around how to improve that system, along with another number of other initiatives referenced in the preamble. So this motion is coming forward as a way of being attentive of us being able to continue to take advantage of that, and I think in a way will benefit SSMU members. It also does look towards a possible referendum in the fall, of course whether or not to put something like this on the ballot would still be the decision of legislative council and would really require council to feel that other information is out there or has been shared for students to make a decision on this. So I think it does really set up a timeline with some expectation for the new executive to do their due diligence in this regard, but again it doesn't bind us to joining AVEQ, that will still have to go to council and then, if approved, go to referendum.

Councilor Chin: I know that a referendum question has been asked last year, of which on about a 2 to 1 ratio, there was a no result to that referendum for affiliation. My question is, why is the motivation for you presenting this motion to the students yet another time? I heard comments that maybe the students are not well educated enough, they didn't make an informed choice, but would it be possible to clarify what will be changed in regards to that? My second question is, looking at the AVEQ website, they did post a budget for the 2016-2017, of which they forecast a deficit of \$73,000. Is there pressure from the AVEQ to start forcing its supporters to start paying up?

VP Sobat: I'll answer that last question first, no, definitely not, the observers are not paying fees in terms of the inflated members, they're only paying a base membership fee. In terms of that budget, I think a similar question was asked during the AVEQ presentation and it was clarified that this was the projected budget for the year, but didn't have space in terms of enrollment of membership or what they would be paid in terms of fees, and some other costs. For example they budgeted for the six executives that they had this year, so they have been able to save a lot of those costs, so I don't know if that was like a break-even budget for this year, but there is some budgeting based on possible affiliations, for example, the student association for the university of Chicoutimi is running a referendum this term, where the association de [blank] is also running one. So no pressure on that front. In terms of the motivation, if you do look at the



resolve clause from that referendum, the number of abstentions was actually higher than the difference between the yes and no votes, which I think personally is quite substantial and I would suggest that a lot of students either didn't feel that they were informed enough to make a decision or there wasn't work development in that. So I think we did need to take on more responsibility to share that information and to engage that, so that they can make that decision. I also think that AVEQ has grown a lot since that referendum in terms of mediations, in terms of campaign and initiatives that they've taken on; when we ran the last referendum, they had just elected their first executive. They have had a very productive year of growth; of the executive is a former Dean of students here, so I think they also respond very well to the needs of our student body, particularly around the international students, and Anglophone student needs in collaboration with the other associations around the table.

Councilor Sur: So last year the law faculty was super against the SSMU affiliating with AVEQ. My question is that a lot of the changes that have happened with the organization, would it be possible for the SSMU to create an info sheet that we could maybe send to our respective faculties, because I'm not sure how – is this for voting?

VP Sobat: Yes, this is for voting, but I think that's a really good idea. We do have graphics and info that we get from AVEQ that we can distribute and we can also come up with others.

Councilor Sur: Because, as an observer, I don't think people will have much reaction, but I think it would be good to send out something on what has changed as we go forward.

VP Sobat: Yeah, and those resolve clauses mandate us to very actively share that information, including during the fall orientation. So yes, absolutely.

This motion passes.

Motion Regarding Local Elections of Undergraduate Senators

2:08:40

Councilor Chin: Okay so according to the constitution and the internal regulations, we currently elect our senators through SSMU elections, roughly on the same timeline as SSMU executives, however I feel that it is important to make the elections run for student senators at the local level in the local elections of the SSMU association, so within faculties and schools. That is because several of, especially small, faculties, senators kind of sit in a very gray zone constitutionally with the organization and also with regards to what their activities are. So this



is first step in verbalizing the role in their faculty associations. In addition, it could also create more interest in running for the position, given that it will be advertised with other current positions within each faculty or school. And lastly, especially given all the efforts from the SSMU elections in running executive elections and in investigations, it would give them a lot more leeway in handling those issues when it comes time for an election period. I stand for questions.

VP Sobat: I'm in favor of this, I think it makes sense. Just two points: as I've said before, as long as the faculty associations are aware of their obligations around Senators, so we'd have to communicate that. The other point is just about the electoral period, what we are experiencing right now with the last few faculty association elections that are still ongoing, it is helpful if those elections do finish in the month of March, just because we do have to work on McGill's timeline for nominating senators to sit on some university committees, and typically we have bit of a tight turn around where we are both requesting their preferences for those committees, as well as advertising for the remaining members-at-large seats for students in general to apply. So it's just a comment for faculty associations, in terms of their election periods, it is a possible discussion to have about maybe moving those up for future years.

Notice of Motion Regarding Amendments to the Internal Regulations of Finance.

2:15:30

VP Carolan: This notice of motion to amend three sections of the internal regulations of finance, the first part is regarding general funding guidelines. With regards to the funding, all of these changes that have been made have been used in practice throughout the year with the funding committee, and we wanted to see how that worked this year and now that it's come to the end of the year, we'd like to reflect that in the policy now that we're sure that we'd like to see this continued next year.

Starting at 1.1, this is to get ride of the mandatory second installments for all funding decisions. To give a bit of context, last year it was the opinion of the VP Finance and the funding committee that it would work best for every application that would require funding would have to submit a funding report, they would then receive 15% of their funding upfront, they would then submit a second installment report to the funding commissioner, who would then disperse the rest of the funding based on whether the expenses were accurate or not. This works well in insuring that every cent of every dollar that we give out gets spent on what it needs, however it is an inefficient use of our resources and it puts a hold strain on our accounting department also, because they will have to produce twice the amount of checks. So the way the we wanted to fix this was to no longer make it mandatory for every application to submit a second installment report and that's reflected in 1.1 and 1.3, and it's also been left up to the discretion



of the funding commissioner, which works well and it is in practice how the funding committee operates throughout the year.

Moving on to funding requests; 2.2, the main change is here at 2.2.a, says that the request must be made by a member, that has been amended to a request must be made by a member or a group of members in good standing. The reason why this change was made was because the funding committee found that student groups who weren't necessarily directly affiliated with SSMU, for example, graduate programs will select one or two SSMU members to fill out a SSMU funding application so that they can receive funding for their event, however the event doesn't really go to benefit undergraduates. So it's not in the mandate of the fund, and I just wanted to reflect that so that they can't get around that rule.

Those are all the changes to funding; we amended 2.8, which was the one application per fund rule, previously the VP Finance and the funding committee thought that we should limit applications to one fund in one application, this isn't efficient, we wanted to make the funding process as easy to apply for as possible and making them apply to multiple funds through multiple applications doesn't make sense, so the way that the funding committee is set up currently is that you can apply to multiple funds, it just needs to be based on a specific project or initiative. The reason why I prefer funding projects, events, and initiatives rather than general operating expenses is because I find that it delivers the most benefit to students, so rather than paying for paper and office supplies, I would rather pay for an event that will go directly back to the students.

Moving through fee-specific regulations, this is to bring in line the equity fee with other fees such as the mental health, environment and the space fee. The way that those fees work is that a portion of the mental health and environment fee can be directly allocated to either the mental health committee or the environment committee, so the commissioner of that committee will submit an application to the VP Finance and when that's approved, it can be used directly for those programming events. The reason why this is necessary, or to bring it in line with the other funds is because the equity committee and the equity commissioners are often the most consistent applicants to the equity fund; and just in terms of administration, it's a waste of time having to process these applications every semester when we could do it in one go and get all the same kind of supporting documentation. So 13.4 and 13.5 outline that, just in terms of making sure, and 13.6, that 20% of the total fee is reserved in the funding committee. So with this stipulation, the equity committee or the vice president of student life may not apply to the fund anymore. So once we give them their allocation, they're no longer able to apply for the fund, it's sequestered for other applications. There was an error, where it says pertaining primarily to first year students, so we corrected that.

Now, moving on to section four, which is the student life fund. So this pertains to SSMU services and how they operate and how they operate year to year. Currently, any surplus that is posted by a SSMU service rolls over into the next year, and is shown up as revenue. That's not how the SSMU operates; as a non-for-profit, we're not allowed to post surpluses, so any profit



or surplus that we post gets moved into our capital expenditure reserve fund. The reason why I'm suggesting why we do the same for services is so that they can effectively budget more consistently year over year. I have an appendix that shows this; in 2013, the total services posted \$161,000 in surplus, so that meant that there was \$161,000 that didn't get spent on the services in that year. In the following year it was \$186,000, and then last year it was just shy of \$160,000. So to me, it's clear that these services aren't using their resources as effectively as they can, so to encourage services to spend the money that they have available to them and also to allow them to absorb deficits if they do post in future years, I recommending that any surplus that a service posts gets held and sequestered in a capital expenditure account for that service, that this service can then apply to for capital improvements or it can be used to cover deficits that the service might post in future years. So to give you an example of where this can be used, if a service is used to posting a \$20,000 surplus every year, they will increase the scope of their provisions in line with that surplus from the previous year. So that means that if a service has a student fee of \$20,000, but for the past five years they've been effectively operating with \$30,000 or more, if they choose to increase the scope of their services on year and then use that fund the following year, they will be overstretched in terms of their provision services versus their financial capacity.

VP Sobat: I'm wondering if there was a type in the section about the equity fee, because it says VP Student Life instead of VP University Affairs.

VP Carolan: Yes, my bad.

Councilor Mehrotra: I know you talked about this a little bit, but I was just have a question about the provision that prevent clubs who have already received funding from applying for more funding. Is there a specific reason for this, or instances in the past where clubs have abused this funding structure?

VP Carolan: Great question. This wouldn't apply to a club that levies like a \$5 fee for their members, it's specifically regarding a fee levy. So an example would be SSMU services; we find that the vast majority of SSMU services do not apply for funding, and manages their finances very well, however we have run into issues with several groups that have a very substantial fee who will consistently apply to funding year and year. For example, Midnight Kitchen consistently applies to SSMU funding and they receive hundreds of thousand of dollars each year from McGill undergraduates, as well as QPERG McGill, they receive I think between \$3-\$4 per student per year, which equals hundreds of thousands of dollars, and it's just my opinion that we should be prioritizing student groups that do not have any easy access to a source of funding, above these groups.



b. Reports by Committees

Executive Committee (5)

VP Patterson gives the report.

Board of Directors (5)

VP Patterson gives the report.

Clubs Committee (5)

VP Patterson gives the report.

Funding Committee (5)

VP Carolan gives the report.

Indigenous Affairs Committee (5)

VP Sobat gives the report.

Councilor Chin: I would like to commend this person on such a well-written report.

Building and Operations Management Committee (5)

VP Magder gives the report.

Councilor Cleveland: My question was in relation to, how serious is the lack of space for clubs and lack of locker space for clubs, and what was the rationale behind additional club lockers over your aforementioned “clubbies”?



VP Magder: Before we put in 24 more lockers, it was much more pressing. In terms of the club application for lockers, I remember it was something like 52 applications and I think we only had, at the time, 14 lockers, so with the additional 25 we have 39 lockets, so it's only like 11 to 15 that won't be allocated in the fall semester. So there is probably still need for additional locker or storage space, currently we're using SS17 for longer storage for clubs who lost their office space last semester, and I think there needs to be formalized with that storage system because it's not very practical. It is an ongoing issue, but we have to balance that with the fact that space in this building is such a premium, so we can't compromise important space.

Councilor Chin: Regarding to future planning, let's say when and if the McTavish street is every paved over, do we anticipate any allocation to projects of exterior space?

VP Magder: There's currently a proposal from McGill right now to build a terrace in the parking space beside our building. It's in very early stages, so I wouldn't expect that to come forward any time soon. There are some other that need more architectural adaption, but I will recommend to my successor that she looks into that possibility. It's definitely something that needs work.

Students' Society Programming Network (5)

VP Lawrie gives the report.

13. Councillor Reports

a. Councillor Sgro (2)

Councilor Sgro gives the report.

b. Councillor Junejo (2)

Councilor Junejo gives the report.

c. Councilor Sur

Councilor Sur gives the report.



14. Executive Reports

a. VP (Student Life) (5)

VP Patterson gives the report.

Councilor Douglas: I was wondering about the service summit, will that still be happening this semester?

VP Patterson: That's something that I've wanted to make happen this semester, but unfortunately has been low on the priority scale this week. Hopefully I can get on it soon!

b. VP (Internal) (5)

VP Lawrie gives the report.

Councilor Anderson: I forgot to ask this during the SSPN report, you're talking about the memorandum of understanding as being looked into Frosh, was that something you looked into for Faculty Olympics? If it didn't happen, thoughts on that happening for next year.

VP Lawrie: So the memorandum of understanding was actually signed by myself and Chris Buddle right before Faculty Olympics, which allowed the McGill context could be applied over the event. So a better reporting structure from physical or sexual violence, and make sure that the students are protected by the school.

c. VP (University Affairs) (5)

VP Sobat gives the report.

d. VP (Finance) (5)

VP Carolan gives the report.



Students' Society of McGill University

Tel: (514) 398-6800 | Fax: (514) 398-7490 | ssmu.ca
3600 McTavish St., Suite 1200, Montréal, QC, H3A 0G3
Located on unceded, Kanien'keha:ka traditional territory

c. VP (University Affairs) (5)

VP Sobat gives the report.

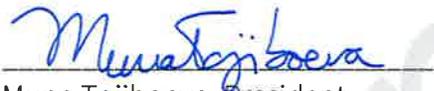
d. VP (Finance) (5)

VP Carolan gives the report.

e. VP (Operations) (5)

VP Magder gives the report.

15. Adjournment

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Muna Tojiboeva". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Muna Tojiboeva, President

2017-08-09