



SSMU LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

1. Call to Order: 18:13

Meeting called to order at 6:13 PM

2. Land Acknowledgement

The speaker reads the land acknowledgement to the Councillors.

3. Attendance

The Parliamentarian takes attendance.

4. Update on/Approval of last Council's minutes - APPROVED

No amendments.

The minutes are approved.

5. Adoption of the Agenda - APPROVED

VP Spencer motions to add four motions to the agenda.

The first is a notice of motion for the nominating committee of the board of directors to undertake the selection of future board members anonymously. Seconded by Councillor Mansdoerfer. The motion passes.

The second is a motion regarding endorsement of Daily Publication Society referendum question. Seconded by Councillor Campbell. The motion passes.

The third is motion to call for a special referendum period. Seconded by Councillor Chan. The motion passes.

The fourth is motion in support of mobilizations against unpaid internships on November 10th. Seconded by Councillor Jiao. The motion passes.



Councillor Lametti motions to change Question Period time from 5 to 15 minutes. Seconded by Councillor Mansdoerfer. The motion passes.

The agenda is approved.

6. Guest Speakers

a. Our Turn (Connor Spencer)

The Speaker invites Connor Spencer for their presentation. The Our Turn plan was published on October 11th. It's a long document. The full report is on the website for those interested. Our Turn was started by Carleton students who were having problems with their sexual violence policy and the admin was shutting them out of the rooms, so they created the Our Turn strategy, in that it is "our turn" to lead this conversation. They saw that other campuses were having this problem, and decided to expand this strategy. They reached out to SSMU in May, so Spencer has been working with them since they were in training. Our Turn is trying to create a strategy using a grassroots rather than top down approach. The Committee put together the National Student-Led Action Plan to End Campus Sexual Violence, which was published by McGill. It has three parts. First, prevention. Secondly, support. Thirdly, advocacy.

In terms of prevention, there are many forms. It involves developing peer-to-peer prevention and support training. It includes mandating all clubs to create an equity or human rights officer position, creating an awareness campaign, etc. Often what happens is there are folks in relative high positions of power who are out of touch with the grassroots movements, so part of this is reorienting the campaign. It's also a toolkit, so campuses can take what works with their contexts. So, for McGill, we have SACOMSS, so this would not be redoing what SACOMSS does, but instead working with that initiative.

In terms of support, it includes creating a campus survivor network, adding academic accommodations to course syllabi, etc. Because this Council passed a motion condemning rape culture, Spencer encourages students here to look at how they can implement specific faculty-oriented ways of addressing rape culture that exists on campus and is perpetuated by this student union.

In terms of advocacy, campuses should use the Our Turn score to assess their own policies, advocate for reform, and collaborate with other unions to advocate for



legislative changes at the local, provincial, and federal levels. Especially with Bill 151 being tabled at the Quebec level, this is really important.

Spencer focusses on the gender-sensitive and gender inclusive, and intersectionality points which SSMU is worst at. In terms of intersectionality, it's important to stop just using the word and actually look at how that works at McGill. We need to have a frank conversation about what intersectionality is and how we need to use it, instead of just using it as a buzzword.

McGill got a 61% on the score card, which is pretty much right in the middle compared to other campuses. The system is based off of over 60 policies looked at by the Our Turn committee. The first part is general. McGill does okay there, better than some but not great. McGill scores lowest on scope, and this is something that admin is actively working on, but right now this has not been passed through Senate which is why it doesn't get the points on this scoresheet. Some of the things that McGill gets 0 on do exist, but aren't explicitly written in the policy, which makes it less accessible. If survivors don't know that these resources exist, then they aren't going to use them. We have to lobby admin to make sure resources are explicitly listed. McGill scores best in education, and a lot of that credit goes to O-SVRSE.

There are numerous student unions who have signed on, presented on the power-point. The strategy is something that can be taken and adapted, and McGill needs to begin having a frank conversation about the sexual violence that happens on this campus. There are many wonderful humans working on this on campus, and Spencer encourages everyone to get involved.

Councillor Campbell says they believe a motion was passed to make an Our Turn committee, and asks where that is at. VP Spencer answers that SSMU does not lead the movement, it's the students. We need to make sure that the committee is actually useful and is created in coordination with groups on campus. Spencer is looking to figure out what exactly the scope of this committee would be. Right now it seems it may most likely be focussing on rape culture. If we're doing this, it needs to be done well, so Spencer is talking to people on that.

Councillor Campbell asks if there is any committee or group that joins all of the smaller clubs and groups that work on this subject, and suggests that perhaps Our Turn could be that. VP Spencer agrees with this vision and is looking into maybe having it be that.



Councillor Khopkar asks what this strategy will mean for SSMU. Spencer responds that signing onto the policy means SSMU is committed to ending sexual violence. Within the three aforementioned sections are specific points on reaching that end. Councillor Khopkar follows up, asking what the steps are. Spencer responds that the first step is the Our Turn Committee. They are looking at creating a SSMU Sexual and Gendered Violence policy, which is kind of unprecedented when it comes to student unions, so they need to look at how they overlap with Our Turn and where Our Turn goes farther. Right now Spencer is looking at hiring two student staff for next semester to head this movement. Someone brought up that it could be a conflict of interest to have executives heading this, and Spencer agrees wholeheartedly, so they are currently applying for funding to create these positions, because it isn't sustainable for this to be housed under the VP External Office.

Councillor Khopkar motions to extend QP by 3 minutes. Seconded by Councillor Mansdoerfer.

Councillor Khopkar asks how other Councillors will be helping Spencer, since it isn't part of her job technically. VP Spencer replies that this has to happen at the faculty level, and that emails have been sent to the externals. That's the most concrete way we can tackle some of these issues. SSMU has a lot of resources for coordination, but should not be leading it. What needs to be highlighted is what SACOMSS and O-SVRSE are already doing, and we need to look at who isn't receiving these resources and how to get it there. We have a lot more resources than other campuses, so the already available resources need to be shared.

Councillor Wilson asks if this new policy contradicts the notion of working with what we already have. Spencer replies that we need both top-down and bottom-up pressure, and Our Turn helps other campuses get the resources to present bottom-up pressure. The critique around whether SSMU should have a policy is a very important one. Based off of the events of last year, it's really important to not ignore that that happened, and it happened here, and we owe it to the folks who went through it to make sure we address it.

7. Announcements (5)

President Tojiboeva announces that if the faculty hasn't signed the Lassman contract, they need to do that. If they could follow up on their emails or show up to the reception then they can sign it.



Councillor Campbell announces that on Facebook there is a link to the drive folder with all of the motions for today posted. Campbell asks the President who hasn't signed the Lassman contract yet. It is Arts, Dentistry, Science, Management, and Engineering.

Spencer announces that tomorrow in the ballroom there is a discussion on the municipal election, and the people who signed up to panel are pretty interesting. Spencer is moderating, so let her know if there are any questions for the speaker.

Councillor Jiao announces that there is a Martlet basketball game happening this Saturday at 4 pm, and it is also the banner raising ceremony. She also has general admission tickets here if anyone wants them.

VP Oke announces that the Deputy Provost of Student Life and Learning will be coming with the whole SLL team for a meet and greet starting at 5:30 before next legislative council. If anyone has topics that they would like Dyens to speak on, Oke will pass them on.

President Tojiboeva states that MASEC met last week, with stakeholders on campus. The next meeting is in January, but the McGill Alumni Association is currently focussing on creating internships for niche professions, so if faculties have professions like that, they can let President Tojiboeva know. Additionally, the Francophone Affairs Committee is looking at having its first meeting soon, so if people have any interest in joining, they can email Tojiboeva.

On November 12 from 205 PM there is a review session of peer institutions health and wellness models. They will be visioning the McGill wellness centre, discussing what a fully integrated center would look like at McGill, and there will be a tour of the wellness center. If anyone is interested in being a part of the future of a McGill wellness center, then they can let Anderson know. There will be another session soon that will be announced at a later date.

The Parliamentarian presents a statement from the former Speaker regarding his resignation. Academically, the speaker hasn't been able to do as well as necessary to keep his scholarship. He had been working around 40 hours a week with other jobs. Secondly, for mental health, he had not had time to take care of himself. Thirdly, the GA, although not the main reason, was the straw that broke the camel's back. There were allegations that he was not impartial, even though all decisions were made with the Parliamentarian and the Chief Justice. He didn't want to be in a position where people felt he wasn't doing his best job.

8. Question Period (15)



Councillor Zhou states that Councillor Motuku from management is absent without a proxy for the third or fourth time in a row. According to the standing rules of the IR section 3.4, failure to notify an absence or send regrets or a proxy can result in automatic suspension. This was not the first council meeting that he has gone unexcused. Zhou asks why he is not here and whether Council feels it necessary to notify him of a motion to remove him from council where he has two weeks to provide reasoning for where he is. He also asks why the accountability committee did not notice this earlier. The Parliamentarian responds that the Councillor gave a notice as to why he is not here, and this cannot be disclosed yet, but the Parliamentarian will try to have it disclosed later.

Councillor Lametti states he notices that three executives are missing, and asks where they are. The Parliamentarian responds that they received notices from VP Khan and VP Koparkar, but not from VP Earle. VP Khan is on sick leave, and VP Koparkar is on vacation. President Tojiboeva responds that VP Earle is in Music and has a concert or recital today.

Councillor Dinh asks the Parliamentarian when disclosure on Councillor Motuku's absence can be given. The Parliamentarian will email Motuko and let Council know when a response is given.

Councillor Mansdoerfer says many saw the petition with 450 signatures, asking what plan the executives have to address concerns over the GA, whether the motion will be supported to go to referendum. The President summarizes the open letter that address the form of the GA, the directors ratified, and anti-semitism. The President was going to address this in the report. The first point about the GA, Councillor Mansdoerfer brought forward a motion along with Alexander Dow and Alex Scheffel, and the board approved a motion to add it to the referendum committee, and will also create a committee to address the anti-semitism, and the rest rests with the J-Board.

Councillor Lametti asks from a constituent why the Chief Justice made the decision to attend the General Assembly. The President can't personally provide a rationale, but the Chief Justice was there because according the governing docs, if the CEO can't make it then they reach out to the J-Board to advise on constitutional matters and the Chief Justice agreed to be there.

Councillor Campbell asks what work is being done to make sure that council documents are available to Councillors within a reasonable amount of time before council, including meeting minutes. The Parliamentarian responds that for two weeks, they have been working on creating a system so that minutes are sent right away to the graphic designer. Everyone should have access to the google drive with their SSMU email. If not, please email the Parliamentarian and CC the President. They try to post the documents by Monday or Tuesday,



but it can be hard with the formatting that needs to be done. The President adds that they have a meeting with the General Manager tomorrow for a check-in, and received the screenshots from Councillor Campbell, so they will figure out tomorrow why not everyone can access the documents. They also just discovered that there are some glitches on the website where people can't access documents, but they believe they addressed it. If Councillors do have trouble finding the documents, please let the President know. Councillor Campbell asks what the drive is and what is on it and what the Councillor should be able to see. The President responds that before each Council on Monday, a drive is published with all council documents, including the motion, the agenda, and the minutes. The only problem is that they can only share documents in view-only which has been causing issues, but those are the documents that should be found.

Councillor Savage asks from a constituent to the President if the GA is the highest decision body of the SSMU, how is it appropriate for the President to make a comment at the GA that it wasn't representative. The President replies that the comment was related to that there are 24,000 students and only 160 were at the GA. There were certain concerns with a specific groups that dominates and can cause distrust in SSMU. Councillor Savage follows up asking whether it has been considered that a system like the CSU is adopted, where the GA online and through ballot box rather than one specific central location. The President responds that in her understanding, after reviewing C-38, they are mandated to have one general assembly. They are not mandated to have two so they could strike one off, but she believes it is a good consultative body especially for students to interact with executives. In 2010 there was a motion to strike the GA and it failed, but is also actually illegal because it violates the Corporations Act.

Sebastian from Le Delit asks if the four motions added to the agenda can be added to the website so that the media and students can access them. The Parliamentarian responds that the Parliamentarian cannot technically put them on the website. Councillor Mansdoerfer asks if they can be put in the google drive, the Parliamentarian will do this.

9. New Business

a. Motion to Create an Ad Hoc Committee on Provincial Representation – APPROVED

There are no questions. Move to debate.

There is no debate.

The motion passes.

b. Motion Regarding the Immediate Contestation of Bill 62 – APPROVED



Councillor Savage presents the motion.

Councillor Chan says the AUS passed a similar legislation against Bill 62 and a clause was added mandating them to ask SSMU to add a Be It Resolved Clause that specifically calls on SSMU to ask the federal government to use their constitutional power to refer the bill to the Supreme Court for an opinion.

VP Spencer would be weary about including that, only because of how the anglophone media has portrayed Bill 62 as being anti-Quebec. Bill 62 builds off of Bill 60, and what is alarming is not only Section 10 that refers to face coverings, but it also doesn't allow for any religious accommodations, and this is essentially against all Canadian law. Spencer's understanding is that this is unprecedented. Spencer also adds that Quebec never signed onto the Charter. Councillor Chan responds that they wanted to make it clear that the federal government should be doing something. They're been quiet because it could be seen as anti-Quebec, but promoting it at this level would be an ideal move especially if SSMU is already condemning it.

VP Oke proposes a friendly amendment to the Be It Resolved Clauses. This would specify specific portfolio. Oke moves to change the third and fourth to start with "Be it further resolved through the office of the VP External...". The fifth clause would read "Be it further resolved through the office of the VP University Affairs". The motions are friendly.

Councillor Chan formally motions to amend to add a Be it further resolved clause that calls for the SSMU to call for the federal government to refer the constitutionality of Bill 62 to the Supreme Court of Canada for an advisory opinion. Councillor Savage would prefer if SSMU reaches out to UQAM and U de M to push it forward with them. Going straight to the federal government isn't going to help anything in terms of Quebec issues. Maybe they could go straight to the national assembly. An English school going straight to the federal government won't do any favours, so we need to take into consideration that we are in this multicultural city that helps us realize these things, and going straight to the federal government will only create a wedge rather than helping. Councillor Chan asks if instead of referring it to the federal level, they could refer it to provincial government. Ultimately Chan amends to call for SSMU to work with other student unions in Quebec to call on other parties to join Quebec Solidaire in condemning the bill. The amendment is friendly.

The President proposes a friendly amendment to add that it is done through the conventional student unions that SSMU is members of. UEQ is focussing on



researching the issue, so would it be possible to do it through AVEQ and UEQ? VP Spencer responds that they can go through the student associations, but says that UEQ didn't take an official position because they aren't sure it will actually impact students and instead they will watch the issue, but AVEQ is formally opposed. The only association they could go through is AVEQ. The President states her understanding was that they were looking at researching the consequences, but the President retracts the amendment.

Councillor Lametti asks for clarification on Chan and Savage's friendly amendment. Councillor Chan responds that the reason it was brought up was because in AUS they were bound to bring this forward as an amendment in SSMU. AUS representatives were mandated to ask about the federal government specifically. They understand it isn't the best move in Canadian government but it takes a stand nonetheless. After debate, they are still mandated to ask for appealing to some sort of upper legislative body to be lobbied. That's why Chan asked for a motion for SSMU to call upon political parties to condemn the motion. Councillor Lametti asks for Councillor Chan to read out the amendment. The speaker states this doesn't seem to be friendly anymore considering debate.

Move to debate.

Councillor Demir says it would have more political power if other universities are consulted first. As an anglophone university there is already tension, so before McGill comes forward, they should contact other schools. It's not wise to add a very political opinion into the motion without consulting other schools. They will then have more impact in the future.

Councillor Spencer suggests a compromise to having SSMU send their statement to the political parties and to Minister David. Councillor Lametti states this minister is not responsible for this suggestion. Councillor Demir is still concerned about going right into politics without consulting other universities. The Law faculty was a little bit worried about this motion because of the divide it can create without consulting other universities that might have a more representative view of the province.

Councillor Anderson motions to recess for 10 minutes for the movers to discuss friendly amendments. Seconded by Councillor Fodor. This motion passes.

Councillor Demir explains that the movers spoke about finding a compromise. They added a Be it Resolved Clause proposed by VP Spencer. It says be it further resolved that the VP External be required to report back to Council on November 16th about the



thoughts of other student unions on moving forward from this issue after reaching out to them. The motion is friendly and added to the screen.

The motion passes unanimously.

c. Notice of Motion for the Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors to Undertake the Selection of Future Board Members Anonymously

VP Spencer presents the notice of motion. There are no questions.

d. Motion Regarding Endorsement of Daily Publication Society Referendum Question – NOT APPROVED

Councillor Chan presents the motion.

Councillors Fodor asks to what standards of objectivity and journalistic integrity we hold the Daily to. The speaker asks to move this question to the debate section.

Councillor Koch asks if there is any reason the Daily fee is non-optoutable. Xavier from the DPS Board of Directors and the chair of the yes committee states that they are having their existence referendum now that SSMU endorsed four years ago so they ask for it again.

Councillor Mansdoerfer asks what the fee structures of other medias are who are in the public gallery. Someone from the Bull and Bear answers that they don't have any fees. The Tribune is funded through a combination of a non-optoutable fee of 3 dollars and their own funding. The DPS publishes two newspapers with 6 dollars. Le Delit uses part of the non optoutable fee from the DPS and also funds itself through advertising.

VP Oke asks if the reporter from the Bull and Bear could elaborate on the structure of their organization's funding. The member replies that it is operated through the MUS and used to be funded through them, but since last year the money is all raised itself and is not something that students pay for.

Councillor Anderson asks why the Tribune is not part of the DPS and when their existence referendum is. The Tribune member responds that they made the decision pre-2000 to be independent from the DPS to keep their own Tribune Publication Society, and the member isn't sure when the next existence referendum is.



Councillor Savage refers question to member of gallery. Vincent in Arts is in favour of a referendum but is weary of SSMU endorsing the referendum. While independent publications are important, Vincent is not sure if seeking an endorsement from the organization that publications should be actively critiquing is appropriate, and asks if Councillors feel that it is appropriate.

Councillor Koch asks if there are mechanisms in place to discover how many students are reading the articles from DPS. The DPS member says that it is neither the Daily or the Delit that is seeking this endorsement, rather it is the DPS. Daily used to be under SSMU, but they left, and then the Tribune came to be, and then became independent. SSMU should endorse this because it is a clear indication that SSMU is interested in keeping its leaders accountable. In response the Councillor Koch, it is easy to discover readership information from online but more difficult in paper format. He doesn't know if SSMU has ever requested this information.

President Tojiboeva asks how they make sure that the DPS serves all students on campus, since all students contribute to the fee. The member responds that the DPS has no control over that but it is part of their mandate. The DPS has no control over the Daily and Delit's editorial lines. The DPS has no way of enforcing that the DPS is representative of all students, but no publication is supposed to be doing that.

Move to debate.

Councillor Fodor says it was concerning at the GA that there were representatives of the media who were also voting. Everyone should be allowed to vote, but independently and not as a member of a publication, which represents bias. He asks what kind of standards the papers are being held to in terms of objectivity and journalistic integrity.

The Bull and Bear just checked with the managing editor and students don't pay a fee, but they are still operated out of the MUS.

Councillor Fodor wants to raise that no members of the Bull and Bear voted at the GA.

Nora from the Daily addresses Councillor Fodor, stating that all members of the media were given the right to vote by the SSMU President at the GA, and the Daily, le Delit, the Tribune, and TVM were all voting, and Nora couldn't see the Bull and Bear. They were given the right so they don't see the problem with using the right. Councillor Fodor answers that while they were given the right, on this matter it doesn't concern whether they were allowed to vote, but rather the journalistic integrity of whether



they should have voted. They were reporting on issues that they were also actively voting on.

Councillor Savage addresses tone in the room, reminding that it is important to remain respectful. It is not the responsibility of student representatives to decide who can and can't vote. The Councillor wants to bring it back to the topic of whether they are funding a newspaper. We live in a society that continuously takes away the rights of press, and he is in favour of anything this student union does that encourages debate and journalism.

Councillor Koch says that much of the Daily has views that do not represent the views of many students, and does not believe that students should be forced to pay for what they do not support fundamentally.

Councillor Lametti would like to address the idea of endorsement, and addresses this to the member in the gallery who spoke about independence. The DPS may not be involved with the Daily, but students may perceive it that way, so perceptions matter and the Councillor is weary of voting yes to this motion, but encourages members to vote yes to the publication, (in French) especially considering that Le Delit is the only French publication on campus.

President says students should be allowed to vote the way that they want. The President is specifically against endorsing The Daily because they endorse marginalizing specific students, referring to a 2016 article about anti-semitism. The President doesn't feel comfortable endorsing this, although Le Delit is very important as the only francophone publication.

Member from DPS says he used to be an editor at The Daily but is now on behalf of the DPS and wants to advocate for continued existence. Some feel that the Delit, The Daily, and DPS are all in this pot together, but that isn't the case. The reason the fee is non-optoutable is because running a newspaper is expensive, and to support continuity. The gallery member understands feelings of dissent, but The Daily has been around for over 100 years, and specific concerns with the Daily's editorial line can be taken up with the The Daily.

VP Spencer reminds folks that they are representatives of students and not their own political beliefs, and they need to be careful in using their own personal politics. VP Spencer also reminds Councillors that the Daily and Delit are always at Council keeping SSMU accountable, and it's important to support those keeping us



accountable. She is weary in not supporting a group that is highly critical of SSMU, and Spencer has also been highly criticized.

Councillor Chan wants to say that we need to be weary that if this does not pass, they lose two incredibly prevalent voices on campus, and we can't just criticize one of the two newspapers since they both rely on the DPS. Especially when Le Delit is the only francophone voice on campus, if the DPS doesn't exist, then that's a minority voice that is lost.

Councillor Mansdoerfer motions to extend debate by 10 minutes. Seconded by Fodor. Councillor Lametti has a point of order that there is nothing in the standing rules putting length on debate on a motion. Councillor Mansdoerfer agrees with this. Debate continues.

Councillor Wilson says it's not that voting no would result in the DPS not existing, but instead it means SSMU is not endorsing. For Wilson, endorsing the DPS is a conflict of interest.

Nora from the Daily stresses that both The Daily and Le Delit provide a space on campus for students to explore the field of journalism, and even if there are people in the room who might disagree with the current editorial line, that is something that has shifted. The daily has a wide and varied history, and the office is open to all members of the McGill community to come and talk to editors and to cover stories. If The Daily ceases to exist, this would limit the space on campus that students have.

Councillor Campbell wants to say that it is ironic to say that we represent our constituents when this was brought to Council today so no one had a chance to talk to their constituents.

Councillor Mansdoerfer refers to an article about closing the comment section, but learns this is no longer the case so retracts this comment. Councillor Mansdoerfer is voting yes, but 6 dollars per person is 120,000 dollars and the Councillor would love to see it opt-outable for students who struggle.

Councillor Fodor acknowledges that campus publications provide a forum, but asks the DPS if there is a standard held.

The DPS person clarifies that it is not a conflict of interest for SSMU to endorse the DPS. This has been done for over 30 years, because their coming here to council is an opportunity for SSMU Councillors to make it clear to constituents that they are



interested in being held accountable, and voting yes will not change the DPS interests in keeping them accountable. There was a question about why this was only brought to Council today, and it is because they only just got approval on their voting period in the last week and SSMU only meets twice a week.

Councillor Lametti says that just because this has been done in the past is not enough. Because there is a lot of distrust in SSMU and the DPS, it is best to allow students to make their own decisions. Councillor Lametti calls for a no to this motion.

Councillor Koch says that 10% of McGill is Jewish, and the Daily has taken a certain stance on the Israel state, and it is ludicrous to ask members of the Jewish community to be forced to pay to support a publication that is against a state that many of them have an affinity to.

Councillor Savage reminds everyone that Le Delit is the only Francophone news publication on campus.

Councillor Mansdoerfer asks whether Council has the power to change it to being non-optoutable. The DPS member explains that it is too late for it to be changed to non-optoutable.

The DPS member says that a point was made about the Daily editorial line on Zionism. The Daily does not marginalize Jewish voices, and they have had Jewish editors and staff. The member says people are conflating anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism. It is a point that is brought up all the time, but the reality is that the daily editorial line is theirs and can be changed, but right now DPS is here to get an endorsement to get an understanding that they want as many people involved in the political process as possible.

Councillor Wilson says that even though a discussion about journalistic integrity is important, it isn't relevant to council right now nor to endorsement.

Councillor Fodor says it is our responsibility to make sure that when we fund something, it has integrity, and asks the DPS member what standards are in place. The Councillor also asks if there is a way to fund Le Delit independently of The Daily.

The DPS member doesn't know if Le Delit can be funded independently, but they could go to a DPS meeting and ask. Sebastien from Le Delit says that Le Delit is a subsection of The Daily, and has grown a lot since and they have different views now, but they are part of the same publisher so for now Le Delit cannot be funded alone. In



terms of standard of journalism, to the best of the member's knowledge, there is no code of the press in Canada. In Canada, anyone can call themselves a journalist.

Councillor Chan says that Le Delit and The Daily bring so much diversity in and without them we only have 2 newspapers. In light of the debate, the arts reps will be voting two in favour and two against, and it isn't fair to judge the DPS' existence based on one organization. Le Delit and The Daily are valuable because they provide challenging opinions.

Councillor Fodor agrees that campus publications bring a lot of diversity to campus, but this is the fourth time the Councillor is asking for an answer from the DPS.

Councillor Tanweer asks if it is possible for The Daily and Le Delit to be funded independently like the Bull and Bear. The DPS member replies that the Bull and the Bear is a news magazine, and doesn't have a weekly edition. Printing costs are unbelievably high. The Bull and the Bear is also run out of MUS and is not an independent publication.

Councillor Abu Youssef would like to remind everyone that the DPS is the parent organization. IF it fails, they aren't changing the integrity, they're losing the publications. The editorial lines are dynamic and so is integrity, but what isn't dynamic is losing the publication.

Councillor Fodor wants to stress that this is an endorsement motion not an existence motion.

VP Oke asks if people can stop hitting the mic because it breaks the wiring.

Councillor Lametti says that whether the referendum passes or not is an issue of the DPS, so it is up to students to decide, and we can stay independent from them, just as they stay independent from us. As an individual, Lametti votes yes on the referendum, but as a student referendum, he thinks students should make their own decisions.

VP Spencer motions to call to previous question. Councillor Demir seconds the motion.

VP Oke motions for a one-minute recess. Councillor Zhou seconds. Motion passes.

Motion to call to previous question fails with less than 2/3 majority.



Councillor Fodor asks if the DPS has a codified policy. The DPS member states that no, this does not exist, and does not exist in most publications in the country. It is the norm. The Daily and Le Delit have their own editorial lines that abide by whatever professional standard they have. The DPS isn't a part of an organization that forces this, but that is purposefully because they maintain a certain distance since they deal with finances, etc.

Councillor Shannon motions to move to previous question. Councillor Fodor seconds. This motion passes.

Vote on main motion. With 10 in favour, 2 abstentions, and 12 against, this motion fails.

e. Motion to Call for a Special Referendum Period – TABLED

VP Spencer presents the motion.

Councillor Campbell asks if the people who submitted the question had been consulted about the special referendum period and wanted this. VP Spencer replies that the connection was through the CEO and that's Spencer's understanding, but they can't say specifically. The President says they had a meeting yesterday with the CEO and DEO, and only one of the three questions is fully integrated, and the rest are not. Councillor Campbell asks what fully integrated means. VP Spencer responds that there were three different referendum questions submitted on time to the CEO, which was unprecedented and the CEO didn't know what to do with this, so the decision was made to not entertain any of these due to possible contradictions, which is unfair. So what Spencer was told is that they all need to be put into one document, so they did this, but one mover had an extensive list while the other movers had tiny changes so everything is included in this one document.

Councillor Anderson asks to confirm that these questions collected the right amount of signatures, and asks whether they will come to legislative council during the special referendum period. Spencer responds that they wouldn't have to go through the signature process again and they wouldn't come to legislative council. It's just that legislative council has to call the special referendum, and because of the Quebec Company's Act, the referendum questions need to go through the Board for approval. Once it gets board approval, then it gets sent to the legal team, and then it can go to special referendum. So a special referendum needs to be called this meeting, and then pending the board and legal approval, this referendum would be hosted. Councillor Anderson has a follow up of whether other referendum questions could



also be brought up. Spencer responds that this could happen during the new nomination period.

Councillor Campbell asks whether the groups who submitted the questions have been consulted in the combination of the questions, and says it doesn't seem fair to just combine them like that without consultation. The second question is what if more IR changes are brought up in the referendum. Spencer replies that the document is sectioned into 5 parts that can be voted on separately. So they are not dependent on each other, so even though it's in one document, there are 5 referendum questions basically. Additionally, if more IR questions are proposed then they end up in the same situation and there are clearly flaws in the system, so they need to find ways to work with these flaws, and hopefully if this happens they can work with the CEO and DEO in advance.

Councillor Fodor says this is a long document and asks if the legal team will have time to process the document. VP Spencer replies it would have minimum one week from board approval. Yes, there are a lot of documents, but a lot of them have maybe 4 words changed on a whole page. Last year a lot of changes were made to the constitution and IRs that took power away from legislative council and GAs and put them to the board, and a lot of this is reversal which means it was already legal.

Councillor Campbell asks if the students have been directly consulted with the final version of the question, because you can't just change a student's question. VP Spencer says they haven't had direct connection because it has been through the CEO. VP Spencer thinks that they should consult the movers after Board approval.

Councillor Koch says it seems like there is a lot going on here and asks if it would not be better to hold this off until next semester and asks why it has to be done now.

Spencer thinks this is unfair since the students followed all of the rules. Especially since we are having a crisis with SSMU with accountability and transparency, throwing it out is not a good thing for SSMU to do in order to regain trust. She doesn't want this to be yet another reason to hate SSMU.

Councillor Koch asks how long this particular document is. Spencer responds that it is about 8 pages, but the actual motion is 3, and a document was put together explaining these 8 pages, which is found in the Facebook page.

Move to debate.



Councillor Lametti motions to suspend the rules to allow unlimited debate for the President and VP External. Seconded by Councillor Fodor. This motion passes.

President Tojiboeva summarizes discussion from the Board on October 29th. 1. Likely illegality. It is ultimately lawyers that can judge whether constitutional judgement is illegal. Lawyers have not been consulted this far, as can be confirmed by the GM. A legal review is a lengthy process. It is unrepresented in sweeping changes to almost every part of the constitution. The legal review would take days and cost members of the society tens of thousands of dollars. 2. Lack of consultation. Student decisions should be given time to consult on these decisions. This is an omnibus bill that is lengthy and confusing, and the appendixes are over 100 pages long. 3. Accessibility. In the past, amendments have been either simple or changing former errors. The proposed amendments change every facet of student government in one fell swoop. It is an omnibus bill and it would be impossible to have a reasoned debate in the referendum period. Last year's had over 4500 abstentions with only 2000 votes, and something like this would likely occur again. Asking students to vote on 100s of pages is not democratic nor accessible. 4. Inconsistencies. There are clauses proposed in the appendixes that violate one another and could open up issues. 5. Need for equality with student initiatives. It is unfair to bring forward one student initiative and not all of them, and some other amendments are not being considered. This would open SSMU up to constitutional crisis. 6. Need for constitutional review. During the building closure, a consultative constitutional review needs to take place. Making 100 pages of changes and then asking lawyers to review them is costly. Constitutional review should be done, but it should be done right. 7. November 16 deadline. Setting this deadline is unreasonable considering the scope of the changes. A board cannot possibly approve 100 pages of changes in a week's time without student and legal consultations.

VP Spencer apologizes for the way this is all being brought up. The VP reads out an email specifically addressing the board's concerns. It would be helpful if they point out which specific amendments might be illegal, and Spencer is willing to address specific concerns if they exist. Legal opinion will come after Board approval. The board also recently approved 15,000 for an investigation, and Spencer would encourage the board to have an investment in something that will aid more students than just the executives. It is not an omnibus bill because it has 5 sections. The 7-page summary document helps with accessibility. It is unfair to assume students cannot handle many pages of information. It would be up to the movers to explain and convince student of their bill. Spencer did their best to ensure there are no inconsistencies, and asks for specific sections. The document is not one sided as all mover's suggestions are included. There is a legal budget exactly for legal review, and



is over inflated as someone who has only been given 500 dollars for indigenous issues. Spencer is glad to hear there is constitutional review on their radars. It is unfair as a student union to commit to top down review instead of bottom up review presented ahead of us. Consultations would be started from the board's approval. Although there are many pages, there are not major changes on all pages, and as a legal board it is kind of their job.

Councillor Fodor was under the impression that the board was supposed to be the final arbiter, and asks if we are considering the board's opinion on this matter. VP Spencer responds that the board doesn't have an official decision yet, so they will do this on Sunday. The President replies that the board doesn't feel like it's rightful to bring this right now because it is rushed, so they recommend having more consultations and then bringing it to the winter referendum, so they can avoid the back and forth between legal and the inconsistencies that reviewing the document can do. Having a coherent constitution is really important.

Councillor Campbell asks if the questions were approved or rejected by the IR. President responds that they had previously never received this number of constitutional amendments, so since they never had contradictory amendments before, no one knew what to do, so they discovered that their own IR contradicts the Companies Act which supersedes the IR, and constitutional amendments have to be brought through the board first, as per article 1. The doctrinal consensus is that only the Board of Directors can amend the bylaws, which must then be submitted to members for approval.

Councillor Anderson asks VP Spencer to confirm how the question will be split into 5 parts. Spencer responds that it wouldn't necessarily be different campaigns, but it would be voted on separately. Anderson has a constituent who submitted appendix D, but felt that the language had been changed in his original question, and he said since his original question was accepted and then rejected, he never collected the necessary signatures. Anderson asks why it was approved to be in a combined document, and why the language was changed. Spencer responds that some language was changed to make sure things weren't contradictory, and then it has to go back to the movers to see if they approve. So first the board has to approve. Anderson follows up that Spencer said all questions had gotten signatures, but he hadn't gotten the signatures because he had been told it was rejected.

VP Oke cedes time to gallery member. Dominic in Arts and the Tribune asks VP External to expand on the \$15,000 investigation mentioned by Spencer. The President responds that it was to look into disagreements in the executive. President says the



\$15,000 is a maximum, and it is being used for consultation with a lawyer. Councillor Anderson responds that it is for mediation services and that is just the cost of legal services which are high and which is why they set a cap. They were advised by the GM that they had these funds. They can ask the HR manager for a report on how things are being spent.

Councillor Campbell points out that if one or more of the student initiated questions haven't gone through the full procedure then there is no problem with delaying them, although it is of course important to start looking at them now.

Councillor Mansdoerfer echoes what Councillor Campbell said. It is scary that the wording can be changed with no consultation. The special referendum period can be pushed and could be held in January, after consultation is done. The Councillor wants to push this back for further consultation. People who wrote the motions should know what was changed.

Councillor Mansdoerfer motions to table this motion until next meeting to give more time for consultation with faculties and student groups, and so students who wrote the motions can know what was changed. Seconded by Councillor Fodor. Motion passes.

f. Motion in Support of Mobilizations Against Unpaid Internships on November 10th – APPROVED

VP Spencer presents the motion.

Councillor Demir thinks going against unpaid internships is important, but a concern from the law department is that we shouldn't endorse how students should or shouldn't act in something so political, and asks what exactly the mobilization entails. VP Spencer responds that this is not a strike, but is just for sending a contingent to the manif and presenting information. SSMU has a policy against unpaid internships, so this is a stance SSMU already has, and isn't the formation of an opinion.

Campbell asks why a motion is necessary if this official stance already exists. Spencer responds they could have gone forward without this approval, but wanted to include the legislative council.

Councillor Zhou says the policy gains unpaid internships mandated action under the VP external's portfolio, so this is in effect of that.



Voting on main motion. The motion passes with two abstentions.

10. Reports by Committees

a. Executive Committee (5)

President Tojiboeva presents the report.

VP Oke clarifies that the Equity position is research into employment inequity.

Councillor Mansdoerfer asks if it is okay for a SSMU executive to skip Council today for hype week since that is happening. The expectation for SSMU executives is to be at every council. VP Oke replies that the work from home day presented in the report was not today.

Councillor Anderson asks what counts as excusable or inexcusable absences, and whether attending a student drinking event is an excusable absence from Council by an executive. There is no response.

Councillor Lametti asks if the Equity Assistant Position is an unpaid internship. VP Oke replies that it is a student staff position and the budget has been approved.

b. Steering Committee (5)

Councillor Lametti presents the report.

11. Councillor Report

a. Councillor Caitlin Bazylykut, Nursing Representative

Councillor Shannon (proxy) presents the report.

b. Councillor Alice Yue, Arts Representative

Councillor Yue presents the report.

VP Oke asks what specifically the AUS is trying to cover by increasing the fee or if it is general. Councillor Wilson says that the base fee was raised but other fees were lowered, which follows with Erik's general platform of not increasing fees.



c. Councillor Namrata Khopkar, Engineering Representative

Councillor Khopkar presents the report.

12. Executive Reports

a. President (3)

The President presents the report.

Councillor Campbell says many directors will be starting their terms soon, and asks if there is a procedure on when new Directors will be receiving information. The President responds that they emailed new directors to set up an appointment with them to discuss the role and provide the documents and training. Directors themselves will be ratified once they hear from the J-Board.

Councillor Anderson asks if the President can elaborate on what Spin-It is and if there is any advertising on it. The President responds that the app is out but not all the restaurants have signed on yet, but as soon as they sign the contract then they will have control over their own dashboard. It is still a work in progress.

Dominic in the gallery asks why Independent Jewish Voices wasn't consulted before the anti-semitism meeting. The President responds it was a misunderstanding and they have since been contacted.

b. VP (Student Life) (3)

The VP is absent.

c. VP (University Affairs) (3)

VP Oke presents the report.

Councillor Wilson asks under what procedure it was decided that the Music seat would be moved to Social Work. VP Oke responds that Music elected a Senator in the Spring who then switched faculties, making the seat vacant. VP Oke met with Music in September to explain the regulations and that they could fill the seat. Communication was spotty for the past 2 months. Music opened a nomination period at the end of September and it was supposed to end on October 9th, and the VP never heard back about whether anyone had applied. They then set a final deadline for Music to get



back to them before the seat was moved. According to the regulations they have to consult the registrar for enrollment, and based on enrollment in faculties it goes to a certain faculty.

Councillor Wilson asks if there was consideration given to off-campus and commuter students, as it seems that support is focused on first year students and international students but not commuters. VP Oke responds that the work done on international student retention was a collaboration with the administration who really wanted input. In terms of supporting commuter students, the VP doesn't have a specific mandate on it, but is always open to making this campus more accessible, and will look into it.

d. VP (Internal) (3)

The VP is absent.

e. VP (External) (3)

VP Spencer presents the report.

Councillor Lametti says there is a specific part of Bill 151 that addresses student-staff relations which is very unclear, and asks Spencer's thoughts on it. VP Spencer agrees that it is unclear. It is unclear at the McGill policy level and at the provincial level. This is something that came up in the consultations a lot. At McGill specifically, professors are not unionized, which changes where they are in labour code and makes it difficult to have a policy that covers them, and Bill 151 does not address this. What's important is that this is on paper and is something the Minister can be held accountable to create an actionable item for now. While it's objectively true that this covers staff, there is no policy that covers complaints against profs, so that's really important to mention and given the general campus climate, we as McGill representatives really have to push this home.

Dominic in gallery asks if there are plans if arrests or violence break out at the protest that the contingent is being sent to. VP Spencer responds that this is going to be a very large protest, making it very safe. One of the first things the VP did coming to this office was dealing with the lack of safety measures, including putting together protest backpacks with medical materials.

f. VP (Finance) (3)



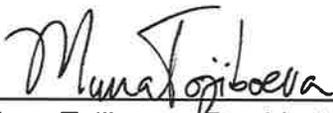
The VP is absent.

13. Confidential Session

14. Adjournment 22:15

Councillor Zhou motions to adjourn. Seconded. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15PM.



Muna Tojiboeva, President

2017-11-30



Catharina O'Donnell, Recording Secretary