



Motion Regarding Sustainability Projects Fund Fee Referendum Question

Whereas, SSMU, MCSS, PGSS, and McGill University have made commitments to support a culture of sustainability, as exemplified by the co-creation and operation of the Sustainability Projects Fund (SPF) in Winter 2010, which is co-funded by students (50%) and the University (50%) and has funded 171 projects to date totaling over five million dollars;

Whereas, a review carried out by the McGill Business Consulting Group (MBCG) in Winter 2017 concluded that “the SPF is currently meeting its mandate and has created a culture that promotes sustainability throughout the McGill campus”;

Whereas, a renewed SPF would continue to be governed by a consensus-based parity working group (equal numbers of students and staff) and accept project applications from any current SSMU, MCSS, PGSS students, and McGill academic staff and administrative staff,

Whereas, further information about the SPF is available at www.mcgill.ca/sustainability/spf, including application process and criteria, funded projects, annual reports, and other relevant documentation,

Whereas, after a successful trial period of 3.5 years the SPF was renewed in 2013 for a period of 5 years at \$0.50 per credit per student per semester (up to 15 credits), adjusted annually for inflation as indexed by the Bank of Canada Consumer Price Index (CPI),

Whereas, since 2016-2017 SSMU referendum questions cannot include an indexation request and must instead directly request the amount needed to cover the foreseen inflation throughout the renewal period,

Whereas, the average CPI inflation since the creation of the Fund in 2010 has been of 1.7%, bringing the SPF fee to a current amount of \$0.53, a 3-cent inflation since 2013,

Whereas, \$0.55 is the fee needed to cover an average inflation of 1.7% over the next five years, from 2018 to 2023,

Whereas, a “No” result for the SSMU, MCSS, and/or PGSS referendum would abolish the SPF entirely,

Whereas, SSMU is unable to commit to the renewal of the fee unless it is approved at a range that McGill University can match at a later date,



Be it Resolved, that SSMU Council approve the following question for Fall 2017 referendum period:

“Do you agree to renew the Sustainability Projects Fund (SPF) fee for the next five academic years (Fall 2018 through Winter 2023) at \$0.55 per credit per student per semester (up to 15 credits) as matched in equal amount by McGill University?”

Submitted to Legislative Council, October 12th, 2017

Moved by:

Arisha Khan, Vice President (Finance)

Danny Dinh, PT/OT Representative

Caitlyn Bazylykut, Nursing Representative

APPROVED