Motion to Endorse the Popular Demonstration Against Racism and the Far-Right on November 12th

Whereas, the SSMU equity policy mandates the SSMU to:

“strives to create a community that exceeds social standards of equitable treatment and creates and upholds a safer space for all of our members, where discourse and diverse ideas can flourish within a respectful atmosphere”1.

Whereas, there has been a rise in racist and heinous discourse in the Québecois public sphere in the last few years;

Whereas, xenophobic and racist groups have held public demonstrations in Montréal;

Whereas, Alt-Right, racist, and ultra-nationalist posters have been found on campus in the last few years, including most recently the Generation Identity posters;

Whereas, a “Grande Manifestation Contre la Haine et le Racisme” (Popular Demonstration Against Racism and the Far-Right) is being organized for the 12th of November and almost 60 organizations around the city have signed on to endorse this demonstration;

Be it Resolved, that the SSMU endorse the Grande Manifestation Contre la Haine et le Racisme on November 12th.

Be it Further Resolved, that the Vice-President (External Affairs) be mandated to create a list of alt-right organizations that are active in the Montreal area that will be presented to council October 19th, 2017.

Be it Further Resolved, that the Vice-President (External Affairs) be mandated to follow up on possible alt-right sentiments that are portrayed by student groups active on McGill campus.

Be it Further Resolved, that The Office of the Vice-President (External Affairs) be mandated to inform the Society of the demonstration until November 12th, including, but not limited to, organizing workshops and a contingent for the demonstration.

Submitted to Legislative Council, October 12th, 2017

Moved by:
Connor Spencer, Vice President (External Affairs)
Vivian Campbell, Engineering Representative

Caitlin Bazylykut, Nursing Representative