



Students' Society of McGill University
Association étudiante de l'Université McGill

Office of the Speakers
Bureau de Présidents du Conseil

This motion was amended and adopted at the General Assembly of September 26, 2011

Motion Regarding Accessible Education

Whereas, the Quebec Government has announced that tuition fees for university students in the province will continue to increase past September 2012, at a rate of 325\$ per year for Quebec students, thus totalling a 1625\$ increase over five years;

Whereas, the Quebec Government still has not announced by how much out-of-province and international tuition fees will increase;

Whereas, research conducted by the Quebec Ministry of Education indicates that University-level tuition fee increases may discourage thousands of potential students from pursuing post-secondary education;

Whereas, any increase in tuition fees will lead to an increase in student debt given the current parameters of student financial aid in Quebec and Canada;

Whereas, student associations and federations across Quebec are planning mass demonstrations against the most recently announced tuition fee increases, including one on November 10, 2011 which will take place in Montreal;

Whereas, the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) currently has a "Policy on Accessible Education" (reference: page 31 of the SSMU Policy Manual) which is set to expire in February 2012,

Resolved, that the SSMU continue to uphold the following mandates on accessibility to post-secondary education:

- Support for high-quality, universally accessible post-secondary education as a human right,
- Opposition to any mechanism or legislation that would permit a non-consensual increase in student fees for any student, whether Quebecker, Canadian, or international,
- Call for a public re-investment in post-secondary education from all levels of government,
- Call for the elimination of all financial barriers to a high-quality post-secondary education, and advocate for a progressive reduction of tuition fees for all students, including the eventual replacement of any and all ancillary and tuition fees with alternative methods of funding post-secondary education,



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- Work with all elements of the Quebec and Canadian student movements towards these goals,

Resolved, that the SSMU specifically oppose the most recently announced \$1625 tuition increase affecting Quebec students,

Resolved, that the SSMU encourage its members to participate in the upcoming demonstration on November 10, 2011 against tuition increases,

Resolved, that the External Affairs Committee, in conjunction with SSMU's Political Attaché Researcher, work to develop informational materials and policy proposals regarding out-of-province and international students, in line with SSMU's commitment to accessible education for all students.



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Moved by:

Joël Pedneault, VP External

Undersigned by:

James Burnett, Arts Representative

Kady Paterson, Education Representative

Micha Stettin, Arts Representative