

SSMU Legislative Council (2)

Agenda – October 10, 2013

1) Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:10 p.m.

2) Adoption of the Agenda

Motion to adopt agenda by Councillor Lubendo.

Seconded by VP Hofmeister

Motion adopted.

3) New Business

a. Motion Regarding Adoption of the Students' Society of McGill University Constitution

President Larson: Clarification – this is a notice of motion from previous meeting right?

Speaker: Yes.

President Larson: do we need ot vote to consider this?

Speaker: Yes.

Parliamentarina: We need a 2/3 majority to waive the 10 day period. We will hold vote now to waive 10 period.

Councillor Lubendo: 10 day period of what?

Parliamentarian: A ten day period of notification – notice of motion at least 10 days.

Motion passed.

President Larson: Thank you again for waiving. Any ballot has an attached constitution for referendum question, so it gives student a chance to have an opinion on it in (yes or no).

Motion by VP Farnan to call to question.

Seconded by Councillor Lubendo.

Motion passed.

Motion adopted.

b. Motion Regarding Proposed Quebec Charter of Values

(Submitted by student petition so no motivator.)

President Larson: I would like to speak strongly in favour of this motion. It is a great statement that we ought to move and divide this question.

VP Harris point of information: Earlier this calendar year in April, 11 leg council passed a motion on municipal bylaw P6: SSMU communication via open letter to Montreal. The precedent had been set that this was in order and is still binding so why can't things like this letter and the like be passed in this council right now?

President Larson: This is an external motion. It is only appropriate at the GA, because 25 people in the room with certain political stances is not appropriate. Council is one year term so one year mandate on scope of council. Memory here is not long enough to serve precedent.

VP Harris: This is a matter that the Speaker should maybe rule on. The law expires April 2014. The motion is still existing. While Quebec charter value is largely external, it's still internal because we're an educational institution. It affects members directly, I think the Speaker should rule whether we are allowed to vote on this right now or this existing motion has no value or precedent.

Parliamentarian: Clarify that please.

VP Harris: There was a municipal bylaw p6 that banned protest in city of Montreal. We took a stance on this.

VP Shea: In addition to Harris' argument – I argue that this issue is internal SSMU because of the reference to daycare – we are forced to get our employees to remove religious symbols. Consider that while discussing this motion.

President Larson: If the point was to take this internally then I hope that the legislation will address that. I do agree with Harris – it's a question for the Speaker.

Councillor Lubendo: Wasn't the motion split yesterday ?

Speaker: Yes. It doesn't matter because both sections passed though.

Councillor Stewart Kanigan: What does an internal stance look like? Taking a stance – external stance – internal policy doesn't make too much sense in this case.

President Larson: We can draft internal informed by external such as day care workers always allowed to wear religious symbols.

Motion by VP Harris to rule eligibility of council to take decision on motion.

Seconded by Councillor Sachal.

Motion passes.

VP Farnan: Does the person who moved the motion matter?

Speaker: No. It is by petition.

VP Farnan: How many were on that petition?

Speaker: Well over a hundred.

VP Farnan: Does that come into play?

Speaker: No.

Speaker: Yes, the scope of policy is external but the minute we allowed it to be brought in front of GA and since there are hundreds of students' signatures, it became internal. This document does not preclude future motions regarding i.e. daycare, however there is a severe effect on people who go to this university so we feel council CAN vote on this motion.

Motion by Councillor Southey to call to question

Seconded by VP Farnan

Motion adopted.

- 3) Confidential Session
- 4) Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Approved