



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

Office of the Vice-President (External Affairs)
Bureau du Vice-président (affaires externes)

Report to Legislative Council

November 7, 2013

Community relations:

Community Ambassadors

-Ambassadors have received security training and are now starting regular work! This includes outreach to Milton-Parc Citizens' Committee, conflict resolution, and awareness raising in the neighbourhood, among other things. They will be having a weekly office hour Sunday evening from 6-7 at the Presse Café, appropriately located at the corner of Milton and Parc.

-Next Milton-Parc Citizens' Committee meeting is Nov. 12th

TaCEQ:

-Laurent Proulx legal case:

-Proulx has now been elected to Quebec City Council with the mayor's party.

-We are now seeking external funding for the case from other national student associations and unions.

-The judge rejected Proulx's request to revisit the submission of evidence/testimony, which is good news for us.

-Research on SSMU's past external memberships is still status quo. Should be ready by next council.

-Chantier on FIOs (or ancillary fees): Secretariat-General of TaCEQ has expressed a desire for us to take a position on this, and on the question international students. This is one area in the external realm which is particularly relevant to SSMU.

-Projects like translation of TaCEQ *règlements généraux* and the website are put on hold until we get a better idea of our future in TaCEQ.

Inter-Union Council

-Labour Week has been happening! Events have been great, and attendance has been mixed (sometimes good, sometimes not). The last events are happening right now, and occurring tomorrow at 12-noon in the Clubs Lounge, where two talks on the future of academic labour will take place: one on Online Education, and the other on the Realities of International Students.



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Committees

Community Engagement:

-Met again last week (Except for Rohan who was busy being a genius in Vancouver...congrats dude!). We are continuing our idea of a Facebook page that aggregates already existing community engagement on and off campus.

External Affairs:

-Met last night. Discussed updates on TaCEQ and brought up ideas of other possible external matters of relevance, such as the Canada-EU free trade agreement.

Municipal Affairs

-Election occurred on Sunday. Denis Coderre won the mayoralty and the largest amount of seats on city council, but not a majority. Projet Montréal became official opposition on council and swept a couple of burroughs. Many independent and local party candidates were also elected. Should make for an interesting four years!

Campaigns

Charter of Values aka. "Charter affirming the values of state secularism and religious neutrality and of equality between women and men, and providing a framework for accommodation requests" aka. Bill 60

-Call-out for people to sit on ad-hoc campaigns committee was sent out again yesterday, and I have already received three responses. I am also working with people from SEDE, and am in the process of trying to work with the newly minted Inter-Faith Council so as to include them too.

Varia

-Met with UTILE – organization advocating for affordable student co-op housing, again last week. The first thing they want to do for Montreal university students is to send out a survey and use the data to address problematic trends. The issue now is what the cost of the survey will be. A phone survey is too expensive for everyone, so right now an internet survey is being considered.

Submitted with the utmost respect,

Samuel Harris, VP External