



## **Motion Supporting #ConsentMcGill and Action Against Sexual Violence**

Whereas, incidents of sexual violence and domestic abuse are an ongoing phenomenon not just at McGill, but at campuses across the country;<sup>1</sup>

Whereas, McGill already supports the training of specific groups of students with relation to consent and preventing sexual violence;

Whereas, incidents of sexual violence and domestic abuse are widely documented yet under-reported;<sup>2</sup>

Whereas, McGill is organizing a consent campaign (#ConsentMcGill) on both campuses to increase campus understanding of consent, as it applies to sexual activity and to our day-to-day lives;

Whereas, the goal of the campaign is to promote dialogue and self-reflection on consent;

Whereas, the SSMU has a long-standing history of leadership on issues of Equity and Social Justice;

Whereas, Leadership, the third pillar of the SSMU's commitment to its membership, as outlined in the SSMU constitution states that<sup>3</sup>:

VII. The Students' Society commits to demonstrating leadership in matters of human rights, social justice and environmental protection. The Society shall be mindful of the direct and indirect effects corporations, businesses and organizations have on their social, political, economic, and environmental surroundings.

VIII. The Students' Society commits itself to groups, programs and activities that are devoted to the well-being of a group disadvantaged because of irrelevant personal characteristics that include but are not limited to race, national or ethnic

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1 <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/mcgill-football-star-charged-with-domestic-violence/article20787988/>  
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/mcgill-student-accused-of-sexual-assault-hired-by-summer-camp-1.2715843>

<http://globalnews.ca/news/985364/mcgill-campus-football-team-the-centre-of-sex-assault-controversy/>  
<http://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/2-uottawa-hockey-players-charged-with-sex-assault-1.1971410>

<http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/news/ubc-sex-assault/>

<http://news.nationalpost.com/2014/07/16/u-of-t-professor-tells-court-alleged-sexual-assault-victim-invited-him-into-her-home-was-receptive-to-his-advances/>

2 <http://www.sexassault.ca/statistics.htm>

<http://www.wavaw.ca/mythbusting/statistics/>

<https://www.rainn.org/get-information/statistics/reporting-rates>

3 <http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/wp-content/uploads/2008/10/SSMU-Constitution-English-2013-11-15.pdf>



origin, colour, religion, sex, gender identification, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation or social class;

Whereas, the SSMU Equity Policy<sup>4</sup> states that

6.5. The SSMU will actively support projects and policies that aim to end discrimination or to promote accessibility and inclusiveness in the McGill community. In accordance with this, the SSMU and its affiliated Clubs and Services will not affiliate or collaborate with organizations known to promote or engage in the previously mentioned discrimination or harassment;

Be it resolved, that the SSMU lobby the McGill administration to institutionalize the position of the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator through the office of the VP University Affairs

Be it resolved, that the SSMU continue to endorse and promote the consent campaign through all major communication channels;

Be it resolved, that the SSMU lobby McGill to host consent campaigns, education projects, and initiatives based around action against sexual violence in collaboration with student groups on an annual basis;

Be it resolved, that the SSMU take an official stance in support of consent education and action against sexual violence both within the SSMU and the broader McGill community to be codified in a policy drafted by the VP University Affairs by the end of the academic year.

Moved By:  
Councillor Ibrahim  
Councillor Benrimoh  
Councillor Baraldi  
Councillor Rourke

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<sup>4</sup> <http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/Equity-Policy-Book-2014-01-13.pdf>