



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

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

VP External's Report to Legislative Council

November 5th, 2015

Personal

Currently in a really fun time where I can vision for the next semester – I have some ideas for an anti-austerity speaker series, outreach about student associations and provincial representation, and an awareness campaign surrounding the Milton Park community! Have anything you would like to see happen at McGill in the sphere of political or community affairs? Shoot me an email or come see me at my office hours: Monday and Wednesday from 9:30 am – 11:00 am ☺

External Affairs

PLUG: PLEASE LET ME COME CHAT AT YOUR COUNCILS!! Provincial student associations are ridiculously important – if you have any possible ideas for how I can do better outreach, please let me know. Shout-out to environment for inviting me already!

AVEQ (Association for the Voice of Education in Quebec)

- Launched website: <http://aveq-nous.quebec/?lang=en>
- Continued to work with the coordinating committee in setting and editing content for the website and other informational materials
- Preparing documents for the meeting in Rimouski (November 27-28) – we will be voting and editing an equity policy, working to solidify our status as a legal non-profit, and talking about affiliations

UEQ (Union Étudiante du Québec)

- Will be launching a new version of the website with English content! I've been reassured that I will be able to look over the content before it goes live
- Next meeting: December 5-6 in Quebec

Community Affairs

Milton Parc Community

- Meeting with Hélène Brisson from the MPCC to revise the C.A.R.E. agreement
- Started to do research and generate content for the awareness campaign website
- Have gotten a committee together to do the garbage survey, developed a methodology. We will be heading out on Wednesday!

Community Engagement

- Committee has started planning two community mixers (Thursday January 21st and Tuesday February 2nd) related to health and human rights and arts! Super excited for this.

Campaigns

Anti-Austerity

- Working with McGill Against Austerity to develop new materials → Buttons, flyers, brochures



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- Doing further research on impact of austerity at McGill
- Brainstorming ideas for a new speaker/panel/event series on the intersectionality of austerity! (Ex. Austerity & Health, Austerity & Climate Justice, Austerity & Feminism). Have an idea for a topic that could be addressed? Let me know! Let's work together!!
- Chatted with our student senators about austerity and the impacts we feel at McGill

Climate Justice

- Organized a bus to Ottawa for the Climate Welcome with Divest McGill! It was SO AMAZING. Generally a really great community of climate justice organizers across the country! One negative: Justin Trudeau did not accept our solar panels.
- The executives and I will be sending a letter to Suzanne Fortier asking her to make a statement on climate change before the COP negotiations in Paris next month.

Divest McGill

- Two main focuses as of right now: our alumni outreach campaign and developing our relationship with the administration. CAMSR will be voting on fossil fuel divestment soon (I hope!), and it is so essential that they don't write us off as a bunch of powerless student activists. If you want to help, you can send emails to individual members of CAMSR outlining your desire to see McGill divest! (See me for details!)

Demilitarize McGill

- They hosted some really cool events this week! On November 18th, they are hosting another event on indigenous resistance to colonialism - should be super interesting.

General

- Working on a history of student activism at McGill project which will solicit memoirs of past student activists at McGill. This will be published on website alongside consolidated information of resources for student activists, such as all of the resources SSMU can provide for campaigns!

Mobilization

Anti-Austerity in Quebec

- November 5th demonstration was the first major student-organized demonstration on the fall, and the turnout wasn't as high as it could have been (~2500 people), despite over 50,000 students on strike for the day. McGill Against Austerity will be going to an event this Wednesday to learn more about the role students can play in this massive mobilization which is largely lead by workers at the moment

QPIRG

- Culture Shock happened! It was really amazing, and a lot of work went into it by the popular education committee of QPIRG. We are super excited to start planning for Social Justice Days! Will be hiring a coordinator very soon.

SSPN



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- Currently planning for three major events :
 - Week 101: A week of themed nights at Gerts
 - Faculty Olympics: Co-chairs are selected and are currently forming the committee
 - Grad Frosh: looking at last year's numbers and brainstorming on how to expand
- Capture the flag event this Wednesday!

Commission des Affaires Francophones

- Projets à venir :
 - Artisanal book binding workshop (December 2nd)
 - Launch of the Revue Lieu commun's 6th edition
 - Conference on funding the humanities in Quebec for next semester

Misc

- Hired an External Communications Coordinator and started brainstorming projects
- Presented at the General Assembly – thanks to all of you who came!

With love and solidarity,

Emily Boytinck