



## **MOTION REGARDING SSMU SUPPORT FOR COST-FREE BIRTH CONTROL COVERAGE**

**Presented by:** McGill Students for the New Democratic Party (NDP McGill)

**Whereas**, women's ability to control childbirth is an essential part of their full and equal participation in public life<sup>1</sup>;

**Whereas**, among heterosexually active Canadians not desiring conception, 15% report no contraceptive use at all, and withdrawal remains the third-most-popular contraceptive method in use<sup>2</sup>;

**Whereas**, non-Quebec McGill students currently do not receive full reimbursement for prescription birth control under the SSMU's group health insurance<sup>3</sup>;

**Be it Resolved**, that the SSMU publicly support cost-free access to prescription birth control for all;

**Be it Further Resolved**, that the Health and Dental Review Committee of the SSMU review the SSMU health insurance plan and negotiate with its student health insurance provider to ensure that prescription birth control is available to all SSMU members as soon as possible;

**Be it Further Resolved**, that the Health and Dental Review Committee of the SSMU review the international health insurance plan and advocate that McGill University negotiate with its insurance provider to ensure that prescription birth control is available to all international students as soon as possible;

**Be it Further Resolved**, that the Health and Dental Review Committee report publicly to the Legislative Council or to the General Assembly by the end of the academic year with an update on the progress of adding cost-free prescription birth control to the SSMU student health insurance plan for non-Quebec students, as well as to the McGill health insurance plan for international students.

**Supported by:**

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APPROVED

<sup>1</sup> RB Dixon, “Women’s rights and fertility,” (1975) *Reports on Population / Family Planning* 17. Available at: <http://www.poline.org/node/505907>.

<sup>2</sup> Jennifer Hulme, Sheila Dunn, Edith Guilbert, Judith Soon, and Wendy Norman, “Barriers and Facilitators to Family Planning Access in Canada,” (2015) *Healthcare Policy* 10(3). Available at: <http://www.longwoods.com/content/24170>.

<sup>3</sup> [http://studentcare.ca/RTEContent/Document/EN/Brochure/Current\\_SSMU.pdf](http://studentcare.ca/RTEContent/Document/EN/Brochure/Current_SSMU.pdf).