



MOTION REGARDING CONTINUED SSMU PARTICIPATION IN THE AVEQ

Whereas, the SSMU is an independent student association and is currently not affiliated with any provincial or federal student association;

Whereas, the SSMU has a limited ability to influence provincial and federal politics as an independent student association and participation in a provincial student association allows for better representation of the voices of McGill students at the provincial level;

Whereas, the SSMU has historically affiliated with provincial student associations, allowing the SSMU to represent McGill student interests at the provincial and federal level by advocating for accessible and high quality education;

Whereas, the Association for the Voice of Education in Quebec, hereafter referred to as the AVEQ, is a provincial level student association with the mission to unite Quebec's university students so as to defend their pedagogical, political, social, and economic interests, by means of research, representation, and mobilization;

Whereas, the SSMU has acted as an observer at the AVEQ since its inception and during the development phase from Spring 2015 up until the present;

Whereas, the SSMU conducted an unsuccessful affiliation campaign for the AVEQ in Winter 2016;

Whereas, more students voted to abstain in the aforementioned referendum than voted either in favour or against, suggesting a lack of awareness of the role of student federations in general and of the AVEQ in particular;

Whereas, the policies and orientations of the AVEQ consistently reflect the needs and priorities identified by SSMU members, including an emphasis on both Anglophone and Francophone participation, representation of international students, a balance of both mobilization and lobbying efforts, and specific campaigns related to sexual violence prevention, climate justice, educational accessibility, and more;

Whereas, a number of ongoing SSMU projects would benefit from participation in the AVEQ, including those to challenge ancillary fee increases, prevent the further deregulation of international student tuition, and improve health insurance and health care coverage for international students;

Whereas, the SSMU cannot remain as an observer at the AVEQ indefinitely;

Whereas, full membership in the AVEQ would provide significant advantages to McGill students in the form of permanent provincial representation, research resources, and funding for student initiatives;



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Be It Resolved That, the SSMU remain as an observer at the AVEQ until the end of the 2017 calendar year;

Be It Resolved That, the SSMU send delegates to all Members' Assemblies of the AVEQ during this time period;

Be It Resolved That, the SSMU, through the Office of the Vice-President (External Affairs), educate its members regarding the existence and role of the AVEQ, including during the Fall 2017 Orientation Week and Activities Night;

Be It Resolved That, the SSMU, through the Office of the Vice-President (External Affairs), bring a referendum question regarding affiliation to the AVEQ to the Legislative Council for consideration in Fall 2017, as per the referendum timelines approved by the Legislative Council.

Moved by:

Kia Kouyoumjian, Arts Representative

Mckenzie Gingrich-Hadley, Nursing Representative

Erin Sobat, Vice-President (University Affairs)

APPROVED