



# REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

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### COMMITTEE PURPOSE

- Educate the community on sustainable living and practices
- Engage in projects to advance sustainability on campus
- Coordinate groups within the sustainability community

### PAST AND CURRENT PROJECTS

- **Zero-waste week**
  - We ran a number of events to encourage people to live waste-free
  - Make it yours → Nov 20th
  - DIY holiday knitting → Nov 22nd
  - Just eat-it movie screening → Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - Zero-waste potluck and discussion with ECOLE → Nov 27th
- **“Intro to Sustainability at McGill” infographic**
  - We’re developing an infographic in collaboration with MOOS to give new students an immediate idea of the sustainability landscape on campus.
  - The idea is to give a broad overview of what’s possible. It’s organized as follows:
    - Connect → join one of 60+ student groups
    - Create → Resources + funding to get your project off the ground
    - Learn → Courses + Applied student research to enhance your understanding
  - This will be accompanied by an online resource that provides all the specific student groups, resources, or courses in complete detail
- **Garden project**
  - We submitted an SPF for 10K over the summer to create a garden in the courtyard behind the SSMU building by the office
  - Our proposal was formally accepted in October, and we’re now in the process of figuring out what to grow and how to grow it



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- We've consulted over 10 groups, including Santropol Roulant, campus crops, the Dawson College student garden and MSEG to get details on what has and has not been successful
- **Waste-reduction initiatives**
  - We're looking into ways of reducing coffee cup waste on campus, possibly by making compostable coffee cups more pervasive on campus or pushing for a reusable coffee-mug vending machine, similar to the green clam shells used by SHH, on a token system

## **FUTURE PROJECTS**

- **SPOKES Conference**
  - This will be a conference held on February 4<sup>th</sup> to educate students on sustainability issues and to engage participants in ways they can help further sustainability goals on campus
  - It will be structured in the following way:
    - Breakfast & Networking
    - Keynote Speaker
    - Breakout small-group session #1
    - Breakout small-groups session #2
    - Workshops
- **Sustainability round table**
  - We're looking into reaching out to sustainability groups from across campus to hold round table meetings regularly. The goal would be to align our interests to pool resources when possible
  - We'd also like to host more networking sessions to encourage collaboration within the sustainability community
- **Greening-up the SSMU building**
  - I'm going to be working with members of the Environment committee to find ways that we can green-up the SSMU building
  - I'd like to look into having vines hang from the ceiling, buy plants for the windowsills, or other ways to bring more plants into the building

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sacha M.".

**Sacha Lefebvre Magder**

*Chair of the Building & Operations Management Committee*