



## MOTION REGARDING ENDORSEMENT OF OPEN LETTER ON MENTAL HEALTH

**Whereas**, on March 31st the McGill Mental Health Working Group released an open letter outlining ongoing concerns with McGill Counselling and Mental Health Services (CAMHS);<sup>1</sup>

**Whereas**, systemic changes introduced to CAMHS this year have not effectively addressed concerns with insufficient and inaccessible support services;

**Whereas**, the letter calls on the administration to take the following actions:

1. Address urgent student and staff concerns in Counselling & Mental Health Services;
2. Keep all dedicated funding in Student Services by eliminating the \$650 000 in annual overhead that is deducted from this budget by the central administration;
3. Implement a comprehensive, campus-wide, evidence-based Mental Health Strategy that addresses the spectrum of mental health needs and acknowledges the responsibility of university stakeholders outside of Student Services to create a healthier community;

**Whereas**, the letter includes an appendix of 25 specific recommendations for improvement;

**Whereas**, the letter has collected over 300 signatures as of Sunday April 2, 2017;

**Be It Resolved That** the SSMU formally sign on to the open letter;

**Be It Further Resolved** That the SSMU distribute this letter through its relevant communication channels, including social media and the listserv.

**Moved by:**

Erin Sobat, Vice-President (University Affairs)

Kahli-Ann Douglas, Services Representative

William Cleveland, Senate Caucus Representative

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/mcgill-administration-continues-to-fail-student-5>