



Legislative Council – February 8th, 2018

Motion on Consultation on Systemic Racism in Montreal

Whereas, “the SSMU strives to create a community that exceeds social standards of equitable treatment and creates and upholds a safer space for all of our members, where discourse and diverse ideas can flourish within a respectful atmosphere”.¹;

Whereas, “Society commits to demonstrating leadership in matters of human rights, social justice and environmental protection.”²;

Whereas, the Government of Quebec committed to holding consultations on the topic of systemic discrimination and racism in the summer of 2017;

Whereas, the Government of Quebec revised the project in order to hold a forum on “enhancing diversity and the fight against discrimination”³;

Whereas, the reality of inclusiveness in Montreal can have an effect on students’ ability to live and learn on campus;

Whereas, “problems of systemic discrimination in [Montreal] based on race and related grounds such as gender, social condition, religion, sexual orientation and disability (to name a few), including minority underrepresentation in city jobs, racial profiling, poor housing conditions, hate crimes, systemic barriers in funding for the arts, religion-based discriminatory zoning, racial disparity in unemployment and the criminalization of youths of color, and poverty across all backgrounds, require urgent action”⁴;

Be it Resolved, that SSMU sign the Center for Research-Action on Race Relations’ petition drive to pressure the city of Montreal to hold a consultation on systemic discrimination and racism.

Be it further Resolved, that SSMU send a representative at the launch of the petition drive this Sunday February 11th.

Be it further Resolved, that SSMU provide a one-time discretionary contribution of up to 1,000\$ to help cover the cost of the event for the launch.

¹<https://ssmu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/SSMU-Policy-and-Plan-Book-2017-03-23.pdf?x26516#page=27>

²<https://ssmu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/SSMU-Policy-and-Plan-Book-2017-03-23.pdf?x26516#page=27>

³ <https://globalnews.ca/news/3811908/quebec-cancels-systemic-discrimination-consultations/>

⁴ Invitation SSMU Nelson Mandela Day, Center for research-action on race relations



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APPROVED