



# REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT (STUDENT LIFE) / ACTING PRESIDENT

**APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2017**

## **CLUBS**

- The Club Commissioner and the Club Reps facilitated six more Club Workshops the week of March 27<sup>th</sup>. There are still around 40 clubs that have not attended a Club Workshop this academic year; because of this, the Club Commissioner is hosting one more Club Workshop on Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to the Club Commissioner and Club Reps for helping with this! I am going to recommend to the incoming Vice-President (Student Life) to also have these staff/representatives facilitate these workshops for the 2017-2018 academic year.
- Clubs that have already attended a Club Workshop are still able to reference the Club Workshop Handbook [available on the SSMU Website](#).
- The Club Commissioner, Club Reps, and I have been helping tally ballots for SSMU Club elections this month including the McGill Students for Oxfam Quebec, the Pakistani Students Association, and more that have been redirected to Elections SSMU for use of the Simply Voting platform.
- We need to elect a new Service Representative and two new Club Representatives for the 2017-2018 academic year! The Clubs and Services Listserv went out today inviting students to nominate themselves by Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. We will be hosting a debate on Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the Clubs Lounge.
- I'm putting together the Student Group Information Form for the 2017-2018 academic year and will be integrating the Change of Signing Officer Form (for SSMU Clubs) into the same form. Ideally, this will mean less work on the Club's end and will make it easier for the Club Administrative Assistant to process those forms.
- I'll be interviewing three candidates for the Club Commissioner position later this week and early next week with one of the HR Coordinators. The incoming Vice-President (Student Life) is also invited to attend the interviews.



- See Club Committee Report to Council.

## **SSMU SERVICES**

- Queer McGill held one more Pink Cherry flash-sale at the end of last week and the beginning of next week; I helped create another anonymous form to facilitate their sale on Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- On Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, I helped Queer McGill and the Union for Gender Empowerment pay for and pick up some books for their libraries from a co-op in the Concordia area.
- Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, I purchased new equipment for the Musician's Collective—it already arrived on Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>!
- Also chatted via phone with one of the Finance Coordinators from SACOMSS on March 30<sup>th</sup> regarding HR procedures for their student staff and the possibility of moving towards Independent Contracts for more of their employees.
- I have been working on a job description for a Menstrual Care Products Implementation Coordinator which would be hired by the Union for Gender Empowerment and would be paid for by the Max Fund. This position would likely only work about 5 hours a week to check the stocks of the menstrual care products in SSMU washrooms and to maintain inventory of the products.
- Unfortunately, this semester got away from me and I was unable to host a second Services Summit for all the SSMU Services in a timely manner.
- See Services Review Committee Report to Council.

## **INDEPENDENT STUDENT GROUPS (ISGS)**

- Concerns regarding a post in an IRSAM Facebook group were brought to my attention last week on March 30<sup>th</sup>. I have reached out to the Board of Directors to be present at their next meeting, but will instead be meeting with the President and the Vice-President (Internal) of the group early next week.
- I, along with many members and offices of the McGill Administration, received an email from ECOLE on March 30<sup>th</sup> regarding concerns about a carbon monoxide leak that took place in their residence (3559 University) on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017. This came with a series of requests from the group to the University to alleviate this issue. The Deputy Provost of Student Life and Learning



recently replied to the email to say he was looking into the issue and would get back to the group shortly.

- Essentially, all new Independent Student Groups must start by Registering an Enterprise, but their choice of Legal Form is entirely up to them. I anticipate most Independent Student Groups choosing to register as an Association or Group of Persons. If you want to get a taste of all the jargon I've been looking through, you should [check out this website!](#)

## **MENTAL HEALTH**

- We applied for the Mental Health fund to get more Happy Lights to circulate via the Happy Lights Lending program. I'm also working with the Vice-President (Finance) on implementing a credit/debit card scanner for renting Happy Lights; unfortunately some people renting the lights have provided false contact information and never return the light after borrowing it from SSMU.
- The Mental Health Outreach Committee is applying to SSMU Funding and considering doing a crowdfunding campaign with Seeds of Change to raise money for their Yellow Bench project.
- I will be interviewing five candidates for two Mental Health Commissioner positions at the end of this week and early next week with the help of one of our HR Coordinators. The incoming Vice-President (Student Life) will also be invited to attend these interviews.
- See the report of the Vice-President (University Affairs) for information regarding the open letter on Mental Health and Counselling Services.

## **STUDENT SERVICES**

- The next Committee on Student Services meeting is taking place on Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The Collaboration Matters Working Group met on March 28<sup>th</sup>. We are planning on having a drop-in kind of event for employees of Student Services to come by and indicate how they have collaborated with other members of Student Services, on what projects, and how those collaborations went. We will host two sessions, one the week of May 1<sup>st</sup> and one the week of May 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **FAMILY CARE**

- The Collective Kitchen crowdfunding campaign is live on the Seeds of Change website! Please consider donating to this wonderful initiative. We've raised about \$580, but we could always use more!



## **ADMIN RELATIONS**

- The entire executive team had a regularly scheduled meeting with Ollivier Dyens and Suzanne Fortier on Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. We discussed sustainability initiatives on campus and the ongoing construction.
- The entire executive team also met with Ollivier Dyens and Christopher Manfredi on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- On April 7<sup>th</sup>, the Vice-President (University Affairs) and I will be meeting with Ollivier Dyens and Jonathan Nordland. I anticipate discussing the recently circulated open letter regarding Mental Health and Counselling Services.

## **ADDRESSING SEXUAL AND GENDERED VIOLENCE IN SSMU**

- The focus groups we planned with the Community Disclosures Network have been under-attended. However, after a meeting with members from CDN on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, we have boosted our event page on Facebook to better advertise both the focus groups and the upcoming open forum. There has been an uptick in interest and I'm sure there will be many attendees at the focus group scheduled for Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> and at the open forum on Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Again, we are coordinating space bookings, active listeners, loose agendas for these events, refreshments, and more.
- Please take a look at SSMU's statement or the open forum event page for more information.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Met with the Health Commissioner from PGSS to discuss the implementation of the Menstrual Care Products Policy; they will soon be installing dispensers in washrooms in their building to offer the same service to their members.
- Sat in as a gallery member on the Board of Directors on March 28<sup>th</sup>. The meeting for April 4<sup>th</sup> was cancelled.
- With the help of the HR Advisor and the Vice-President (University Affairs), we have scheduled more group trainings for the transition period for the incoming SSMU Executives. Now it's up to the current executives to fill in any one-on-one trainings they would like to have with their incoming executive!



**Office of Vice-President (Student Life) | Bureau du Vice-présidente (Vie étudiante)**

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- The SSMU Executive Committee attended a training on Equitable hiring on Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Thanks for being such wonderful councillors! It's been a thrill working with all of you and I hope you know how much we appreciate all the work you do.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Elaine Patterson**

**Vice-President (Student Life) / Acting President**