



**Students' Society of McGill University**  
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*Located on unceded, Kanien'kehá:ka traditional territory*

## **Adhoc Committee on Provincial Representation**

### **Members:**

David Naftulin (Member at Large), Matthew Savage (Social Work Representative), Corinne Bulger (Arts Representative), Marie Pilote (Member at Large), André Lametti (Medicine Representative), Yué Jiao (Athletics Representative), Tre Mansdoerfer (Senate Representative), Bradley Por (Member at Large), Connor Spencer (VP External), Isabelle Oke (VP University Affairs)

### **Abstract:**

This document is to archive the work done by the Adhoc Committee on Provincial Representation, which has been meeting since December 2017. The Adhoc Committee was created in response to Legislative Council's concern that they did not have the resources necessary to properly evaluate the pros and cons to affiliating to AVEQ or UEQ, and that this committee should be tasked with presenting a report to council with their recommendations on how to move forward on the question of provincial representation. These recommendations are based on the work of the committee since its beginning, including presentations from AVEQ and UEQ, discussion, and a review of relevant documents and archives.

### **Recommendations :**

- 1) That the SSMU , through the Offices of the Vice President (External Affairs) and the Vice President (University Affairs), continue to observe both AVEQ and UEQ for the 2018-2019 academic year.
- 2) That this observation be continued with the intention of running an affiliation to one of the associations as a question in the Winter 2019 referendum period.
- 3) That a standing Committee on Provincial Representation be formed for the 2018-2019 academic year in order to facilitate the popular education on campus about AVEQ, UEQ, and the Québec Student Movement in general on campus.
- 4) That the SSMU cover all costs associated with the VP External and VP University Affairs' travel to and participation in both associations' congresses and GAs.

- 5) That the SSMU provide an equal stipend as decided by the Legislative Council to be paid to each association in recompense for their human resources that will be used by the SSMU during the year

**Reasoning :**

- 1) We think it would be in the best interest of SSMU to observe both associations as they each have strengths and weaknesses pertinent to best serving our students in terms of what they bring to the table. Further, many aspects of governance, including financial practices, accountability strategies, and transmission of information, cannot be assessed over a short period of time.
- 2) It is clear that we are not currently prepared to run an affiliation campaign in an effective manner and therefore recommend that we push the affiliation question back to next winter. However, we wish to make very clear that we strongly urge for the next council and executive to ensure that they do the work necessary to ensure that the affiliation question can happen at that time as we cannot keep pushing this further and further off as it is unfair to both our members and the two associations.
- 3) Although the question of provincial representation has been discussed at the Legislative Council level of the SSMU for three years now, the vast majority of the membership is still not aware of both associations, nor the benefits an affiliation to either would bring. We find this one of the largest problems we are facing in the question on provincial representation, and think it would be immensely useful to have a standing committee of interested councillors, execs, and members-at-large to coordinate the education of the membership on the issue in order to prepare responsibly for the Winter 2019 referendum.
- 4) We find it would be unfair to continue to drain the resources of both associations without paying either of them membership fees and therefore ask that covering of costs for participation / observation of both associations be worked into the 2018-2019 SSMU budget and allocated to the relevant departments under the VP University Affairs and VP External Affairs' portfolios
- 5) \*\*\*The committee did not reach consensus on this point and instead leave it to the Legislative Council to discuss\*\*\*  
This discussion furthers that of the last recommendation, which is there in order to address the fact that we are going to be continuously exploiting the free labour of both these associations (as we pay neither of them membership fees), and in especially the case of AVEQ having been doing so for 3 years, and so, especially as a student union that has a position on the remuneration of students' labour, that we should pay both AVEQ and UEQ a stipend to cover the human resources and materials that will undoubtedly go into the preparation for and running of an affiliation referendum next year.