



# Legislative Council

September 27, 2018

## 1. Call to Order (18:05)

The Speaker calls the Council to order at 6:05pm.

## 2. Land Acknowledgement

The Speaker presents the land acknowledgement.

## 3. Attendance

The Speaker conducts attendance:

- Councillor Bazylykut (Nursing) and Councillor Cossette (PT/OT) are absent.
- Julia Kafato (President of BASiC) is attending as the proxy for the empty Arts & Science seat. She arrives at 9:30pm
- Councillor Smit (Management) leaves the Council at 9:25pm
- Councillor Kleiner (Social Work) leaves the Council at 7:40pm
- VP Esterle leaves the Council at 8:30pm and returns at 9:48pm

## 4. Approval of Minutes - **APPROVED**

Councillor Scarra and Senator Buraga explain that the minutes from last meeting have their names misspelt and would like to see the minutes amended to reflect the correction spelling of their names. The Speaker explains that under the new agreed upon set of Robert's Rules for Legislative Council proceedings, all grammar errors can be amended without having to propose an amendment. The Speaker explains that all name errors will be corrected.

Councillor Scarra motions to approve the Minutes. Councillor Figueiredo seconds this Motion. The Minutes are unanimously approved.

## 5. Adoption of the Agenda:



The Agenda is adopted unanimously.

## **6. Report of the Steering Committee**

The Speaker reads aloud the report found by the Steering Committee.

## **7. Guest Speakers**

### **a. Legal Information Clinic of McGill University (10)**

Brittany Williams, the Executive Director of the Legal Information Clinic of McGill University explains the organization to the Legislative Council. Specifically, Williams explains how their organizations prioritizes student advocacy and the offering of legal services to McGill students.

Williams goes on to explain that there are over 20 topics and types of cases that they cover, but that they can only offer legal advice specific to the province of Quebec. Williams uses the Quebec civil code and provincial labour standards as examples of this.

Williams provides a procedural example of how the Clinic can offer legal counsel to students in areas such as the Quebec small claims court, for free. A portfolio example is how the the Clinic can accompany a student to the Regie du logement, Quebec's agency that governs the relationship between landlords and tenants, for free.

In addition, students can also hire a lawyer to assess confidential material at no cost. This includes plagiarism, academic integrity and student rights.

Senator Buraga asks how many cases the Clinic deal with on an annual basis and whether they also defend students regarding tuition matters. Williams responds by saying that the Clinic deals with around 1500-2000 cases each year and that can provide legal counsel on tuition matters.

Brittany Williams ends off her presentation by encouraging members of the Legislative Council to stop by the Clinic's office and hear more about what services they can provide for students. The Council thanks Williams for her presentation.



## **b. Sustainability Projects Fund (10)**

Francois Miller, Director of the McGill Office of Sustainability and Krista Houser, Sustainability Project Fund (SPF) Steward, introduce themselves and the McGill Office of Sustainability. They explain that the role of the office is to Steward the SPF that students are contributing to. They explain that all students are contributing to half of the fund through their payments to McGill University.

They explain that they make this presentation to the Legislative Council every year as a demonstration of their accountability. They then show a powerpoint presentation with some key statistics. They show that they have been able to obtain a large amount of donations for the last fiscal year as seen on their powerpoint and online.

Should the Legislative Council be unclear about the Office's purpose, they explain that the Office is the flagship program to dedicate sustainability at McGill. The Office dedicates funds to make the campus more sustainable through various projects. Through the \$0.55 contributions made by each student through semester fees students, the McGill Administration matches it "dollar for dollar", to constitute the entirety of the fund.

Through various funding programs, the office was able to acquire \$7,000,000 worth of funding in 2010 for its sustainability projects. The projects vary from being culturally focused to socially focused.

Krista Houser explains that she will now focus on what the office exactly did with the funds they received. She explains that 47% of funding applications for sustainability projects were approved to McGill. There are 30 student jobs that have been created out of this project. There was 82 instances in which staff and students were able to collaborate together.

Houser explains how this year was the first year the office launched a new stream of funding that constituted less than \$150. This way it will make more funding opportunities available. Applications for that type of funding are to end by Monday, October 1, 2018. However, this is one of the many monthly deadlines that go out through all twelve months of the year.

There are also larger funding projects that are under \$5000. An example of one of the more expensive SPF initiatives was the bike initiative. Another is the goal to phase out plastic water bottle sales at McGill University by May 2019 and install more water fountains.



They explain that there are many learning outcomes through involvement in the projects, such as professional growth, and sustainability knowledge. Usually, projects have work teams comprising 8 people, that include students and staff. There are also 2 student representatives for the office on McGill Campus. Moreover, there is an SPF Ambassador who encourages people to apply and were key to the referendum that reached over 15000 students to spread the word about SPF.

The team explains that as far as their financial summary goes, they have been on track with their projection of revenue and have been doing financially well since 2010. The team thanks the Legislative Council for its time.

VP McLaughlin asks what the minimum amount needed for the project streaming was. The team responds by explaining that \$150 and \$225 were the smallest amounts that you could apply for funding. They continue on by explaining that the Office made this steam line system to make it less intense to apply for funding. They explain how in the past, the tiny stream application was too bureaucratic and so this new service ensures its easier to access in order for student to apply quicker for funding.

VP Wang asks if anybody can apply for SPF, or is it just limited to students. The team responds by explaining that any McGill student, staff or faculty can apply for the funding.

Councillor Smit asks how do the applicaticants can keep track of the funding after the application is approved. The team responds by explaining that the office stays in contact with the applicants and ensures accountability by updating the applicants where their money is going. Furthermore, the office updates the applicants if the entirety of the funding is not being used, in which the office give the money to the main account. Moreover, the office maintains a Human Resources Department and a connecting of project teams, to ensure the accountability of the funding.

Councillor Yang asks where does the financial allocation to the funding rest if the application is approved. The team responds by saying that the money sits in the funding account until it is to be used.

VP Wang asks if the office helps out new clubs with their sustainability initiatives. The team responds by saying they do not offer support for clubs as a whole, but only for the funding of particular projects.



VP Wang asks if a student wanted to start a sustainability club, could they apply for the SPF. The team responds by saying depending on the specific nature of the club.

Councillor Frenette asks if it's possible to apply for funding before the project is created and if the SPF applications are going throughout the year. The team responds by saying that usually an individual will have to apply beforehand, since an individual could not implement a project retroactively. The team explains that the deadlines for the SPF larger funds have three yearly deadlines in September, January and June. Whereas funding under \$5000 applications roll around the year and the tiny funds are the first day of every month.

Senator Lametti **motions to recess for 2 minutes**, seconded by Senator Buraga. This **PASSES unanimously**

#### 8. Announcements (5)

The Speaker, Nikolas Dolmat, announces that they will no longer be serving as the Speaker due to their call up to the naval military service, but will sometimes be able to come for sessions. Therefore, the On-Call Speaker, Husayn Jamal, will be stepping in to act as Speaker for future Legislative Council sessions.

The Speaker announces that there is a confidential session today on the agenda, that there are bathrooms located on the floor of Council meeting, reminds the Councillors not to go over their allotted time.

The Parliamentarian announces that starting this Council session, there will be votes done via a google form, which can be accessible to all Councillors within their google drives. When the Councillors vote on motions, the Parliamentarian will open up the google form. It cannot be accessible otherwise and that all voting results will be posted after the session.

VP Cupido announces that on Sunday, October 7, there is a large demonstration against hatred and racism. SSMU External affairs will provide breakfast, organize a meet and greet and then lead the students to the demonstration. VP Cupido emphasizes the importance of the demonstration and encourages everyone to attend.

The President announces that the Fall 2018 General Assembly (GA) will be taking place on Monday, October 29, at New Residence Hall at 5:30pm-8:30pm. He explains that there will be two motion writing workshops prior to the GA for Members-at-large and that motions will be



due two two weeks before the General Assembly. He concludes his announcement by explaining that all this information will be shown via a Facebook Event.

## 9. Question Period (5)

The Speaker exhausts the announcement period and moves towards the question period by explaining that as per the parliamentary rules regarding this question period, only the person asked the specific question can answer it for the time they are given. Moreover, only the question that is posed may be answered. Afterwards, it will be a regular question period where multiple people can ask and others can answer.

### a. Submission of Questions: VP External

Councillor Figueiredo asks VP Cupido: what was the general opinion of the people present at the Town Hall about the renaming of the term “Redmen” for McGill sports team. VP Cupido responds by saying that the majority of people at the Town Hall were against renaming the McGill Sports team from “Redmen”. VP Cupido reminds the Council of the colonial and racist legacy of the use of the term “Redmen” for McGill Athletics.

They explain that Indigenous groups and other marginalized groups were present at the Town Hall to explain why they felt the name “Redmen” should be changed.

### b. Submission of Questions: VP Internal

Senator Buraga asks VP McLaughlin: how and where are the students supposed to access free menstrual products, given the closure of the SSMU building. Moreover, they ask how Healthy McGill is involved in this project. VP McLaughlin explains that the President is directly under this and therefore he will be better suited to answer this question. VP McLaughlin yields his time to the President.

The President explains that SSMU is currently installing 20 new dispensers for these products throughout McGill Campus. Buildings include: Brown Building, McLennan Library and the Currie Gymnasium, among others. The President explains that project collaboration with Healthy McGill is minimal, but that SSMU is making progress with this initiative.

### c. Submission of Questions: VP Finance



Senator Buraga ask VP Wang: how much money do the menstrual projects funds have and what do you plan on doing with the surplus, should there be one. VP Wang explains that there is currently \$20,000 for the fund and that will be allocated to each specific building for the dispensers. Afterwhich, the remaining funds will be for the labour costs and other dispensers that they can install. VP Wang states that there will be no surplus.

Senator Lametti asks VP Cupido if they wanted to add anything to their answer. VP Cupido responds by explaining how it was extraordinary to watch representatives of marginalized groups on campus advocate for the desire to change the “Redmen” name especially around Caucasian males. They explain that the debate will come the SSMU GA and they encourage the Council to support the name change.

Senator Lametti asks the President what is the status on the McGill Board of Directors considering divestment and what are the next steps. The President explains that the next steps are to meet with the stakeholders and proceeding with the process to ensure that the goals of divestment occur. The President explains that Friday, October 5 is the next Board of Directors meeting.

The Speaker exhausts the question period, given that there are no more and proceeds with the agenda.

## 10. Old Business

- a. Motion to Adopt a Policy Against Affiliation with Far Right Groups 2018-09-27 -  
**POSTPONED INDEFINITELY**

**Moved by:** VP Spencer (VP External Affairs last year), Councillor Savage (Social Work Councillor last year) and Councillor Zhou (Arts Councillor last year)

The Speaker explains that this motion was postponed to this Legislative Council session from a Council session that occurred last academic semester.

VP Cupido **Motions to postpone this motion indefinitely** based on an explanation they have prepared, but will wait further in the Council session to explain it. **Councillor Sanchez seconds this.**

The Speaker explains that before this motion would go for approval by the Legislative Council, the Council would debate the merits of its postponement, since they need to update



it and therefore that is where the explanation can be given. Therefore, should VP Cupido want to explain why they seek to postpone it, they could use the debate portion to do so. From this explanation, the motion enters into the debate portion.

### **Debate:**

VP Cupido explains that the explanation they were referring to will be explained right now. They explain that they have been working on a new updated version of this motion during the summer and wanted a new draft for this council session, but was too busy and could not finish it in time. They wanted the motion to be more detailed and therefore would like to be given more time to ensure a more updated version of this motion.

Senator Lametti asks a point of Parliamentary Procedure, asking that if the Council chooses to postpone the motion indefinitely, would that not eliminate the motion altogether?

The Speaker responds by saying that to some degree this is true, but anyone could bring it up whenever they wanted to in future Council sessions. The Speaker explains that this is recommended given the nature of the motion.

Senator Lametti then asks the Council if someone could provide a specific timeline to the motion and exactly identify when it would be brought up next.

The Speaker explains that this isn't relevant to the debate and therefore we must debate it and not ask when the motion would be postponed to.

VP Cupido explains that they will answer the question regardless. They explain that this is a nuanced issue and that SSMU should prevent the spread of far-right groups on campus. The current draft of the motion is a "good start", but it isn't adequate. They would like to see something better and more thorough given the recent developments in the news.

Senator Buraga asks for more context regarding this motion. The Speaker explains that this isn't permitted, since it's a debate.

VP Cupido explains that they want the motion drafted by the end of October.

The Speaker motions to entertain VP Cupido's original **Motion of postponing the motion indefinitely**. - **PASSES** - 23-2





b. Motion Regarding Policy on VP Internal Intoxication and V.I.P Culture at SSMU  
Events 2018-09-27 - **APPROVED**

**Moved by:** VP McLaughlin, Councillor Figueiredo, Councillor Briand and VP Shapiro

The Speaker reminds the Council that this considered old-business because it came from last council session. VP McLaughlin asks if they can provide context to the motion, the Speaker approves.

VP McLaughlin explains that he felt that the policy of limitation didn't apply here and that they changed the expiry date of the motion to May 1, 2023. Therefore, this motion applies to all SSMU VP Internals until that date. They explain that if the SSMU VP Internal was too intoxicated at a SSMU event, the Legislative Council could penalize the VP Internal for this. VP McLaughlin explains that the punishment is left fairly open since it was too difficult to explain the penalty.

**Debate:**

Councillor Milchberg explains that there is a spelling error. The Speaker reminds him that with the new standing rules, it allows for these errors to be fixed during steering committee sessions without having to amend the motion altogether.

Senator Lametti asks why there is an expiry date on the motion. He asks if this policy is still required to be revised and why that date exists for the expiry of the motion.

The President responds by explaining that the policy is expiring in five years on May 1 so that that year's SSMU Legislative Council has the full-term to revise and have a relook on the policy. It is specifically placed at the end of the SSMU term to ensure this.

Councillor Sanchez asks what would qualify as revision and what would be required for the complaint to go forward and thus have action taken on it. VP McLaughlin explains that it would go to the steering committee to decide the validity of the equity complaint and if it should go to the Legislative Council then.

Councillor Sanchez asks who determines if the VP Internal is intoxicated, asking if it would be the equity commissioner or committee. VP McLaughlin explains that the Legislative Council would determine if the VP Internal is intoxicated.



Councillor Price asks why did the sponsors of the motion move the punishment of the VP Internal from the accountability committee to the Legislative Council. Councillor Figueiredo responds to this by explaining that the sponsors believe the Council is a better form of accountability, due to the fact that the Councillors directly represent student interests as to what should be done in these types of scenarios.

Councillor Sanchez asks what if there is an accusation made in bad faith. VP McLaughlin responds by explaining there is nothing regarding that.

VP McLaughlin responding to a question regarding a possible probationary period explains that if there was a probationary period instead of a suspension, it would be an unnecessary major logistical issue. Explaining that if there is a probation necessary for the VP Internal's level of intoxication the VP Internal might as well be suspended since they couldn't do anything in that probationary period. He explains this reasoning by saying that the VP Internal position is limited to its term and should do all the work that they possibly can or are allowed to do within that term, not be in probation only to be suspended afterwards, therefore not getting any work done.

VP Wang explains that if the VP Internal would be immediately suspended then the position would get absorbed immediately by the rest of the SSMU Executive. He is worried that the Executive would not be able to absorb those responsibilities efficiently with little warning. He explains that a probation period would mean that the SSMU Executive would have a transition period to adjust to a reality where the VP Internal is suspended and launch an investigation in the meantime.

Senator Lametti explains that point "C" within the motion already addresses the issue of an investigation.

Councillor Price proposes that there should be an amendment where the accountability committee would decide if a penalty is valid for the VP Internal under this motion and should it be confirmed that a penalty is necessary it would then proceed to be handled by the Legislative Council. Price explains that this would prevent a "30 person trial."

Councillor Sanchez asks how would it be determined if the VP Internal would reach a point of intoxication, citing the specific wording of the amendment. Sanchez explains that the wording of being intoxicated to the point of being incapable to manage the SSMU event is unclear. VP McLaughlin answers this question by stating that the Council could determine the exact definition of being intoxicated and not be in actual text of the motion.



VP McLaughlin, going back to Councillor Price's point, explains that the intoxication possibility is very serious and that he doesn't trust the accountability committee to deal with the issue. Because it is a large issue, he believes the Legislative Council is better suited to deal with the possibility of the intoxication of the VP Internal.

VP Shapiro asks the Speaker what should the Council do if they seek to change some of the specific in this motion, as highlighted in the debate period. The Speaker says it would have to go to the steering committee first before this can be done.

The President asks if the debate period has elapsed. The Speaker replies by saying it has not. The President then recommends that the exact method of determining if there is a valid intoxicated complaint to be had against the VP Internal should be resolved in a Caucus and then the Council can talk about it to ensure that everyone agrees.

VP Wang says that the Council should amend the motion so that there are no "surprises" or ambiguities.

Councillor Figueiredo explains that bringing the charge to Council, instead of the Accountability committee, is better because the press can have access and the students can see exactly what has happened, thereby being a better form of accountability.

VP Cupido asks if bringing the charge to Council is the best way to deal with an intoxicated VP Internal because they feel it is public shaming if it goes directly to Council. They state that people do get too drunk at an event and sometimes its the result of drug abuse or something mental health related.

Senator Lametti **Moves to the previous question, seconded by Senator Buraga.** The Speaker reminds the Council that  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority is required to go through with this motion.

**- PASSES Unanimously**

The Speaker reads the Amendment.

**Motion to Approve the amendment**, regarding the approval of the May 1, 2023 expiry date. - **PASSES** 21-0-6

Councillor Price Motions to caucus, specifically with VP McLaughlin, regarding the decision of who should deal with the potential intoxication charge against the VP Internal. The Speaker



reminds the Councillors that up to 4 people can caucus. Councillor Price and VP McLaughlin leave to caucus outside.

The President makes a point of parliamentary procedure, asking the Speaker what would happen to voting procedure with the two Councillors who just left. The Speaker explains that the quorum would change.

Senator Lametti **Motions for a 5 minute recess. - TABLED**

The President makes a point of order, regarding how the recess and caucus would overlap and would not be efficient for the sake of Council. Seeing this, the Speaker recommends that the recess get tabled.

Councillor Figueiredo **Motions to table the recess, Councillor Scarra seconds this. - PASSED Unanimously**

The Speaker reminds the Council of the Chronological order of the way the motions are being presented and should a lay on the table occur, the motion regarding VIP Culture will be first on the table.

Councillor Sanchez asks if there is a gender attributed to chair, citing how Councillors are referring to both Speakers as “Mr. Speaker”. Both Speakers explain that they prefer the gender neutral term of “Speaker”.

**Motion to lay on the table the Motion Regarding Policy on VP Internal Intoxication and V.I.P Culture at SSMU Events - PASSES 24 - 0**

## **11. New Business**

### **a. Notice of Motion Regarding Changes to the Internal Regulations 2018-09-27**

The President tells everyone they are not voting on it, just reading it out, as it is a “Notice of Motion”, not a “Motion.” The President reads out the motion. He highlights some of the points of the motion, specifically how the submission of GA Motions is going to be changed from 2 weeks before the GA instead of 3 weeks. He explains how the motion is general revamps to get “where we are now”, referencing the de facto functioning of the SSMU. The



President references how the School of Religious Studies is now under the Faculty of Arts, but previously it was not under the Internal Regulations.

**Question Period:**

Councillor Figueiredo asks a question regarding Clause 4.2, specifically asking if this point references both the Speaker and the On-Call Speaker or just the Speaker. The President answers that the 4.2 point references both speakers, or it should if it doesn't.

The President answers a question regarding the status of the School of Religious Studies being under the Faculty of Arts. He states that VP Shapiro can provide the more well-research answer to the question. VP Shapiro starts off by explaining that the School of Religious Studies is still a school, just under the Faculty of Arts. He also explains that the School of Music used to be a Faculty, but now is also a school.

Senator Buraga asks why the Councillor from the School of Social Work is present at the Legislative Council if it is under the Faculty of Arts. VP Shapiro explains that there are 12 schools under the Faculty of Arts and that he isn't sure why a school has representation in the Legislative Council and why others don't. The President says this point can be answered in the committee that was just made regarding this arbitrary things.

**b. Notice of Motion Regarding Changes to the Internal Regulations on Strike General Assemblies 2018-09-27**

Senator Buraga reads the motion to the Council. He explains that the Internal Regulations of Governance "Be it resolved that" Article 9 clause in its entirety should be removed. He explains that Section 7 of the Internal Regulations, regarding General Assemblies, already addresses this point well enough.

Buraga explains that the reason for changing this regulation is due to the fact that should SSMU strike, it will not be underwhelmed like it has been in the past. Buraga makes the example of how strike GAs will be done by secret ballot as opposed to placard voting. He also highlights that his motion seeks to increase the length of time to decide whether the students seek to strike so that the student body isn't at risk. Also, it will assure that the students have time to decide if they want to strike and thereby be an effective union.

**Question Period:**



Councillor Figueiredo asks a question regarding Point 9.15 of the Motion and whether a minority of students will be able to sway the rest of the students to strike through it. Senator Buraga answers that when students are motivated to strike, there is clearly something wrong going on in society or at McGill University. Therefore, these measures, referencing the point, are made to ensure that a strike can be justified.

The President asks to share this motion to “ssmu.ca” drive so that the Councillors can all see it.

Councillor Sanchez asks the Speaker for a repeat of the statements made by Councillor Figueiredo. The Recording Secretary reads aloud the minutes of that instance.

Councillor Sanchez explains that the fact that Councillor Figueiredo’s statements are against point 9.15 threatens to undermine SSMU as a student union if the Council cannot agree on this point.

Senator Lametti asks about the specific laws in Quebec regarding unions and labour organizations that prevent students from going to class in the event of a strike. Senator Buraga responds by explaining that there were specific measures in this clause where a minority of striking students would prevent students from going to class, and therefore the SSMU should follow the law, but also know the SSMU stand up for students.

Senator Lametti **Motions for a 5 minute extension, seconded by VP McLaughlin. - FAILS 11-13**

Senator Buraga clarifies with the Council that if the notice of the motion were to be amended it would be ready until two Council sessions from this one,

**VP McLaughlin Motions to take from the table the VIP Motion, seconded by Councillor Price. - PASSES 26-0**

**VP McLaughlin Motions to remove the final “be it resolve clause” and add three new ones which will be presented to the Council, seconded by Councillor Price. - APPROVED**

#### **Debate:**

VP McLaughlin explains that during the caucus session Councillor Price and himself agreed that the accountability committee will decide on the fate of the VP Internal. From there, the



committee will decide if the case is worth going to Council, and if it is, it will go to Council and follow the rest of the guidelines as shown in the VIP motion.

Senator Buraga asks if the addition of the accountability committee to this process would harm the entire process itself. The President explains that, in his personal opinion, the accountability committee has not been good for the last five years and isn't sure if they can handle a case of such a high magnitude.

VP McLaughlin explains that having served in this committee that they are not retroactive and that should this issue be brought up they can handle it better since the committee has a proactive approach as does the motion.

Senator Lametti makes a point of parliamentary procedure, asking if he can propose sub-amendments to a current amendment and if so he **Motions for an Amendment of the Amendment**, which stipulates that **the accountability committee should submit its reasons to the Legislative Council** as to why they took the decision they did with the VP Internal. This is **seconded by Senator Buraga. - PASSES Unanimously**

#### **Debate:**

Senator Lametti explains that he is in favour of his proposed amendment of an amendment because it has a higher degree of accountability. He also states that the accountability committee can explain their reasoning to the Council as to why or why not action was taken.

Councillor Price says that the Legislative Council is mandated under the Board of Directors (BoD) already, so the Council will be mandated regardless to take action.

VP McLaughlin asks if the case would go to the Steering committee or Council first if a change is made to this Amendment of an Amendment. The Speaker replies with the Steering committee.

VP Shapiro says that this Amendment of an Amendment would only do what we tried to prevent with the original Amendment, which was to prevent public shaming.

The President explains that the fact that the BoD views the case first would be better because they are better suited for these types of confidential situations.



Senator Lametti asks if the case would go to the BoD in regular session or in confidential session. The President replies by saying that it should be in confidential sessions for the BoD. Senator Lametti also clarifies his amendment is friendly.

The President moves for Senator Lametti's amendment to be withdrawn and replaced with his, which has not been motioned for yet.

Senator Buraga explains that the report would go the Council regardless from the accountability committee, so he believes that the President's suggested amendment of taking the VP Internal case to the BoD in confidential session would be pointless. The President replies by explaining that while he believes this is true, it is better if the case is taken to BoD since they are better suited for these types of matters.

Senator Lametti reiterates that there is some form of value if the case gets brought up to the Council because its more public and therefore accessible to students. The President says that while this is true, all BoD motions go online anyways so all students would be able to view the results regardlessly.

The Debate Portion is exhausted and now the Speaker moves towards voting procedure on the Amendment of an Amendment made by Senator Lametti.

Senator Lametti's **Motion for the Amendment of the Amendment on the VIP Motion - FAILS 2-21**

The Speaker informs the Council that they are now returning to debate on the amendment proper made by VP McLaughlin.

The President **Motions for an amendment to the amendment by saying that the accountability committee would give its recommendation to the BoD in confidential session, instead of to the Legislative Council, seconded by Senator Lametti. - APPROVED**

**Debate:**

Councillor Figueiredo explains that he believes there is value to the Council hearing the case because it's a more transparent body than the BoD. Councillor Price explains that this isn't an issue of accountability, and that people may be suffering from drug abuse. Therefore, it's best that this person may not be publicly shamed.





VP Cupido says that the Council explains that the situation isn't "black or white" if the VP Internal became too intoxicated, stressing that the reasoning behind these situations are much more complicated than perceived.

### **Motion to approve the President's amendment of amendment - PASSES 24-1**

The Speaker informs the Council that the that the President's amendment of the amendment becomes a part of the amendment proper made by VP McLaughlin. VP McLaughlin apologizes for the lengthy procedure.

The Speaker informs the Council that they are now entering **Voting procedure on the earlier amendment made by VP McLaughlin and Councillor Price**. This Motion **PASSES 24 - 0 - 1**

The Speaker informs the Council that the Council is moving into the debate portion on the VIP Motion in its entirety.

### **Debate:**

Councillor Scarra wants a clarification about where the case will go in the end, asking if the case goes to the BoD or the Council in the end? Councillor Price explains that regardless the BoD gets informed and it may go to Council in the end should the BoD sees it necessary.

Councillor Scarra asks for another clarification, asking that if the BoD Session will be in confidential session, could the Council still be informed in the end? The President explains that any BoD confidential session can go to the Council, should the BoD motion for it to go to Council.

### **Voting Procedure:**

Motion Regarding Policy on VP Internal Intoxication and V.I.P Culture at SSMU Events with the passed amendments from the President and VP McLaughlin, via google form - **PASSES 23 - 1 - 1**

- c. Motion for Special Emphasis to be Placed on Greater Engagement with Student Governance for 2018-2019 2018-09-27 - **APPROVED**



**Moved by:** The President, VP Cupido, VP Wang, VP McLaughlin, VP Esterle, VP Shapiro, Councillor Hersh, Councillor Callaghan, Councillor Qiu, Councillor Kleiner, Senator Buraga and Senator Lametti.

VP Shapiro explains the motions, reading it word-per-word.

Seeing as there are no questions, the Speaker announces that the question period is exhausted and that the Council will now move into Debate Period.

**Debate:**

VP Shapiro explains that there is a spelling error with Point 1.3c, saying that it should say “entirety” instead of “eternity”. VP Shapiro explains that the problem that what the motion is addressing has only been addressed in ad-hoc matters and that the motion is a more sustained effort.

Senator Buraga explains that this motion is “re-engaging society” and he also asks what the end-goal of the motion is. Specifically, he asks if it’s for the end of this year, in general or for the next couple of years. VP Shapiro explains that he doesn’t believe the motion will be completed by 2019. He explains how the motion is meant to last longer than 1 year and there will be monthly reports to BoD and that things could be amended. He goes on to explain that things that recommendations from the steering committee to the BoD can also occur to the motion.

**Voting procedure:**

The Speaker informs the Council that a Councillor has left session and Quorum has shifted from 26 to 25.

This motion is **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

- d. Motion Regarding Amendments to the Health and Dental Review Committee  
2018-09-27 - **APPROVED**

**Moved by:** The President, Councillor Hersh and Councillor Qui

The President explains that Councillor Qiu and Councillor Hersh will be added to the Health and Dental Review committee to understand the process better. The President also explains



that this was mentioned in the previous Council meeting. The President reads aloud the motion.

There are no remarks to be made in the question or debate period.

### **Voting Procedure:**

This motion is **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**.

- e. Motion Regarding Council Nominations to the SSMU Board of Directors  
2018-09-27 - **APPROVED**

**Moved by:** The President, Councillor Hersh, Councillor Karia, Councillor Figueiredo and Councillor Callaghan

The President explains that Councillors can now nominate representatives from the Council to serve on the SSMU Board of Directors. If someone wishes to be on the BoD, the President advises them to present their interest to the Council within this motion period.

The President reads out the motion and reminds people that they have to be Canadian citizens and have a criminal record check to be on BoD.

### **Question Period:**

Councillor Scarra asks if more than four people will be nominated, how many votes will people get, will it still be four. The President replies by saying every member on the Council gets four votes even there are more than four Council nominations for the BoD.

The President explains what the BoD is to the Council. He explains that it is SSMU's highest executive body, dealing with financial matters, among other responsibilities. This can be found on the SSMU website. He reads out the description of a BoD member's responsibilities.

Councillor Figueiredo asks the meetings are, asking if they are specifically on Sunday. The President says that they are trying to make it Wednesday night and that the meetings should only last 1-2 hours.



Councillor Price asks what does the Council do if there is too many people and it's awkward for voting, asking if the Council can resort to a google form ballot. The President agrees the suggestion.

The Speaker asks the Council that if you want to be nominated to the Board of Directors as Legislative Council representative to please raise your placard now. The Councillors who seek nomination to the Board of Directors are as follows: Senator Buraga, Councillor Yang (Education), Councillor Karia (Arts), Councillor Sanchez (Arts) and Councillor Figueiredo (Arts).

The Speaker explains that the vote will be done via google form. Councillor Figueiredo says that the electoral system for this ought to be a preferential voting system. The Speaker says that he will randomize the names of the candidates for the order they appear on the google form and in the order they will give their speeches to the Council as to why they should serve on the Board of Directors.

The Speaker calls on Councillor Karia to give the first presentation, appearing first on the randomized list.

Councillor Karia emphasizes that her governance experience having been: a commissioner for the Arts Undergraduate Society (AUS); her role as Chief of Staff for McGill's highschool Model UN conference - SSUNS (and also for McMUN) and; involvement in the young diplomats of Canada and daughters of the vote Canada makes her an excellent candidate for the BoD. She also explains that managing the SSMU comes in 3 ways: financially, legally and Accountability. All of which Karia states she has experience in, having been a Junior Consultant, a legal internship and having been on the SSMU accountability committee. She is also equity and inclusivity trained for SSMU. She encourages the Council to vote for her as one of the Council Representatives to the BoD.

Councillor Figueiredo presents next by explaining that he wants to SSMU to be more efficient and finds himself to be an efficient individual. He explains how he is "nerdy" with SSMU documents, citing that he reads the minutes of many meetings he was not present for. Next, he explains how he wants to reform the SSMU and work on behalf of the student body. Lastly, he emphasizes his accountability and transparency. Councillor Figueiredo encourages the Council to vote for him as one of the Council Representatives to the BoD.

Councillor Sanchez presents next by explaining that she is running to be on the BoD because there is a lack of diversity on it and a lack of knowledge, specifically regarding sexual



violence. Sanchez states to the Council that she has experience in these realms through her time spent with SACCOMS and the GSP. Sanchez also explains that she has knowledge in harm reduction, sexual violence and equity. Last year, she served as the AUS Equity Commissioner and she worked for Human Resources Canada, ensuring that government employees were going through Human Resources trainings. Councillor Sanchez encourages the Council to vote for her as one of the Council Representatives to the BoD.

Councillor Yang presents next by explaining that she wants to be on the BoD to ensure that there is more diversity. She also explains that she has experience in management as she participated in a staff capacity at SSUNS. She also has had experience in directly pushing forward initiatives within the Faculty of Education. Councillor Yang encourages the Council to vote for her as one of the Council Representatives to the BoD.

Senator Buraga presents next by emphasizing his managing experience when he was the head delegate of his high school Model UN team and conference. He explains that he had 50 people working underneath him and he was in charge of around \$100,000. He also explains that he sat on a Board of Directors for an NGO based in his home city. He emphasize his experience of serving on multiple executives. Senator Buraga encourages the Council to vote for hum as one of the Council Representatives to the BoD.

#### **Debate:**

Councillor Milchberg endorses Councillor Karia for being on the BoD based on her experience, dedication, involvement on campus and role as a leader.

Senator Lametti says that Senator Buraga is very organized and diligent. Lametti believes Buraga will make a fine addition to the BoD to act on the behalf of students and encourages the Council to vote for him.

Councillor Callaghan also explains that they support Karia and has a question to the candidates regarding how they would prevent the situation in the Fall 2017 General Assembly where a Board of Directors candidate was discriminated based on his Jewish religion.

Councillor Karia explains that this issue has been resolved because the BoD members are not approved via vote individually anymore and now they are voted in a Bloc due to what happened at the Fall 2017 GA.



The President clarifies this point by explaining that the procedure was originally to vote via bloc, not individually. The President explains that voting individually on BoD candidates is not allowed under the current rules of procedure. However, at the Fall 2017 GA there was a motion to divide the question and vote on BoD candidates individually. The Speaker, at the time of this event, forgot the Internal Regulations about this and allowed for the motion to proceed. The President explains that this incident should not have happened.

Councillor Figueiredo explains that because of his experience of working for a group that combats anti-semitism, the Council should rest assured that he will prevent any form of discrimination from happening.

Senator Buraga explains that he will uphold the policies of the SSMU judicial board that also outline what anti-semitism is and prevent it from occurring within the GA with those policies.

### **Voting Procedure:**

The Speaker informs the Council of how the vote will be conducted, given the unique nature of it.

Senator Buraga asks if there will be absentions allowed. The Speaker responds by saying that because it is procedural, the Councillors cannot abstain from the vote.

The President explains that no SSMU execs would like to vote given that many of them sit on the BoD as well and that there is no options to leave the google form blank. The Speaker adjusts the google form so that the SSMU execs can vote blank, given their reservations.

Councillor Sanchez shows that you can vote multiple times for someone and raises this as a point of concern. The Speaker explains that they can monitor that type of voting behavior via the google doc and will therefore prevent it if it happens.

The results for the Legislative Council representatives to the SSMU Board of Directors are as follows, in order of amount of votes received:

Councillor Karia receives 17 votes.

Councillor Figueiredo receives 15 votes.

Senator Buraga receives 15 votes.

Councillor Yang receives 8 votes.

Councillor Sanchez receives 7 votes.



Therefore, as a result of this voting result, Councillors Karia, Figueiredo, Yang and Senator Buraga are the four (4) Legislative Council representatives to the SSMU Board of Directors, having received the most votes out of the five (5) possible candidates. Councillor Sanchez will therefore not be considered for nomination as a Council representative to the BoD.

The Speaker states that the minutes will reflect the total number of votes each candidate got, not who voted for which candidate.

Senator Buraga and Councillor Yang thank the Council for their nominations.

The Speaker informs the Council that they will now move into voting procedure regarding the approval of these four nominations to act as the Council Representatives to the BoD.

#### **Voting Procedure:**

The motion to approve these four individuals are the Council representatives to the BoD is - **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY 22 - 0 - 2**

- f. Motion Regarding Policy on Clubs and Services as SSMU's Highest Priority  
2018-09-27 - **APPROVED**

**Moved by:** The President, VP Esterle, Councillor Callaghan and Councillor Karia

The President **Motions to lay this motion on the table and for VP Esterle to present her executive report, the President notes that VP Esterle has to leave early from the Council session. This is seconded by Lametti - PASSES - 24 - 1**

The Council moves into the VP Student Life executive report.

Senator Buraga asks if Proxy Kafato can arrive even if they are very tardy. The Speaker says yes.

The Speaker returns to this original agenda item. The President reads out the motion and makes examples about how previous SSMU Executives forgot to deal with some of these goals, for example the relationship that SSMU holds with La Prep.



## Question Period:

Member of the Gathering Christille asks where is the appendix. The President responds by saying it's not necessary for motions.

Christille states that it's an empty policy and asks why the motion is vague in nature. The President says that this has been a policy for so long and that the executive is capable of implementing these changes regardless if it's vague.

Senator Lametti asks what are the other priorities of SSMU besides clubs and services. The President responds by saying representing the students to the faculty, government and providing essential services are all SSMU priorities.

Senator Lametti asks does SSMU feel that the purpose of the SSMU has changed over the years. The President says that being an executive only since May, he cannot fully answer this, but that the purpose does differ so far. However, the President states the core values remain.

Christelle asks if the motion can be tabled so that a new motion can include at least five attainable goals that can be achieved or else we retain the status quo. The President says he is open to that.

Senator Buraga asks if the President is willing to pass some of this in the mean-time to have some of it exist and have different amendments pass later on regards to the services section. The President says he agrees.

## Debate:

Christille says to amend the motion to consult McGill Student Services.

The President **Motion for an amendment to amend the “be it resolved clause” so that SSMU Executives should consult with McGill Student Services regarding their overarching goal and have a more definitive specific goal later on. Also, that the future motion be ready to go in the current academic year (2018-2019). Seconded by Senator Buraga**

Senator Buraga **Motions to amend the motion to have an expiry date** so that it forces the motion to come back to the Legislative Council in the future. The Speaker explains that this





policy should come back to be renewed every year and the fact that it didn't was an oversight on the chair in previous years. As a result, **Senator Buraga withdraws their motion.**

VP Shapiro **Motions to amend the deadline from 2023 to 2019 to have a realistic deadline and smaller one to ensure results with McGill Student Services, seconded by Councillor Figueiredo.**

### **Voting on Amendments:**

Voting on the Motion for an amendment to amend the "be it resolved clause" so that SSMU Executives should consult with McGill Student Services regarding their overarching goal and have a more definitive specific goal later on. Also, that the future motion be ready to go in the current academic year (2018-2019). - **PASSES Unanimously 23 - 0 - 1**

Voting on Amendment to change date from 2023 to 2019 on the original motion - **PASSES Unanimously 22 - 0 - 1**

### **Voting Procedure:**

Voting on the Motion Regarding Clubs and Services as SSMU's Highest Priority - **APPROVED Unanimously 21 - 0 - 2**

## **12. Reports by Committees**

### **a. Executive Committee (5)**

The President presents the committee report.

The President explains that there is going to be a new controller, that there is also an approval of Midnight Kitchen job descriptions, that they approved the spending of \$8965 on menstrual products on campus (can be found on the SSMU website).

## **13. Reports by Councillors**

### **a. Ana Paula Sanchez, Arts Representative (3)**

Councillor Sanchez presents their report.



Councillor Sanchez highlights explains that Arts Frosh went smoothly, that she is chairing the Equity Committee, that she hired the AUS Equity Commissioners, that she is elected to the Health and Dental Committee and that their office hours are Tuesdays and Thursday 1-2:30pm.

**b. Mu Rong Yang, Education Representative (3)**

Councillor Yang presents their report.

Councillor Yang explains that she made a list of the events they did over the summer including Frosh and a Welcome back BBQ. Yang explains that there is reconstruction of the Education building and library.

**c. Benjam Smit, Management Representative (3)**

Councillor Smit presents their report.

Councillor Smit emphasizes on bringing MUS and SSMU closer together, bridging the opinions of the MUS to SSMU adequately and how The President and MUS President have been working together over the summer. Smit also explains that first MUS General Assembly occurred and that the MUS has hired a new VP Communications.

**d. Gareth Price, Engineering Representative (3)**

Councillor Price presents their report.

Councillor Price explains that Councillor Frenette is the newly selected EUS Representative to SSMU, to stand alongside himself. The EUS has spent significant time with their “blacklisting” policy, otherwise known as restricting people from EUS events and that they are hoping to push this policy to other faculties. Price also explains that the EUS Constitution is being re-drafted to be more efficient and that the EUS Council is trying to reduce its size to be more efficient.

**e. Zach Kleiner, Social Work Representative (3) - POSTPONED**

The report is postponed to the next Legislative Council session because Councillor Kleiner is not present as they left earlier within the Council session. The Speaker reminds the Council



that if you know you have to leave Council early, tell the Speaker so that you can get read your report before leaving.

## **14. Executive Reports**

### **a. President (5)**

The President presents their report.

The President explains that the Internal Regulations and the Policy Book are updated, that BoD Member-at-large application is due this Friday, that the SSMU Fall GA is on October 29th (as mentioned earlier) and that the McGill Board of Governors has a meeting with SSMU in October. The President explains that there is going to be a cannabis committee on McGill. The President explains that he met with McGill Representative Gauthier to discuss services and SSMU involvement. He explains that he met with SVP and had a meeting about the Sexual Violence at McGill.

He explains that the Sherbrooke 688 lease should be signed soon to ensure that they have more student spaces. He is also working alongside the EUS and the Deputy Provost to get more space booking. Lastly, he mentions how he is trying to make the “blacklisting policy” effective through all faculties.

#### **Question:**

Senator Buraga asks about the (GSVP) Sexual Violence policy, BoD Members-at-large applications and the Cannabis policy. The President responds by saying that the GSVP motion will be brought to next council sessions, that there are 10 BoD apps for Members-at-large and that the Cannabis policy is internalized within McGill, showing that the University wants to ban smoking marijuana on campus. The specific guidelines will be shown in the next Council sessions.

### **b. VP Finance (5)**

VP Wang presents their report.

The highlights include the funding committee, where the committee is interviewing members at large. Additionally, VP Wang explains that Midnight Kitchen got their budget, that Walksafe and MSERT got more accountability for their services.



VP Wang also explains that he is communicating with Scotiabank and RBC about the finances with SSMU and that it is taking a lot of time.

**Question:**

Senator Buraga asks to see if there will be an improvement of club reimbursement time. VP Wang explains how with the new process that VP Wang is implementing it should be improved, but that he does not have a clear answer as of yet.

**c. VP University Affairs (5)**

VP Shapiro presents their report.

VP Shapiro highlights that there is progress with the committee representative training and that he has advocated for less committee representatives to ensure more efficiency with less people on the McGill Senate. VP Shapiro explains that the gender-neutral language researcher will present their report soon and that the Library Improvement Fund Committee got a large amount of applications.

**d. VP External (5)**

VP Shapiro explains that they will be having a smaller update due to personal mental health related reasons and will be more up-to-date from now on. VP Shapiro explains the status on the renaming of the “redmen” label and how they are trying to work alongside the Milton-Parc community to assure waste-eradication.

**Question:**

Councillor Pliote asks why wasn't Quebec political voting on campus publicized, what union is in the conversation with SSMU External Affairs and why did the VP External not talk to certain organizations over others. VP Cupido explains that they admit that they should've done a better job about the advertising about voting on campus, but could not due to personal reasons (as mentioned earlier). They explain that they are working with AVEC on sexual violence because SSMU had been working with them for a long period of time and therefore continued working with them.

Councillor Pilote asks if the Council will be able to see this report with AVEC. VP Cupido answers by saying that the former VP External was in talks with AVEC prior and therefore that



is why SSMU associated with them because it is a special partnership they've had in the past, in reference to the earlier question. Regarding this current question, VP Cupido explains that it was drafted in the past year, and that it should be publicized for next Council session.

Senator Lametti asks what is EUC and AVEC situation. VP Cupido explains that they and other SSMU executives have gone to AVEC to talk about sexual violence at conferences and from the report last council sessions shows that they want “meet and greets” to have more transparency.

#### **e. VP Internal (5)**

VP McLaughlin reads out their report.

VP McLaughlin explains that the FYC elections are underway and compared to last year there were much higher numbers. VP McLaughlin explains how he is in talks with the STM on a “cool project” and that he is sorting out the SSMU Apparel options and he is trying to find the best prices for the sweaters.

#### **Question:**

Senator Buraga asks of the photographs of the Councillors can be forwarded to the Council. VP McLaughlin says that he will do so.

#### **f. VP Student Life (5)**

VP Esterle reads out their report. VP Esterle highlights how she fixed a lot of errors on the space request sheet to make sure they are accurate, she sent the list for the needs and set up a system with the MUS VP Internal regarding the Bronfman Building. She also did this process with the Brown Building. She also explains that her recently hired mental health commissioners are amazing and that they are spreading awareness of mental health, with a mental health awareness week coming up.

#### **Question:**

The question comes from a member of the public gathering. The individual's name is Christelle, President of BSN. She explains that yesterday evening there was a tie of who the students' representative would be, tied 5-5 and then the individuals in charge of the election allowed VP Esterle to break to tie. They would like to know why this decision occurred. VP



Esterle explains that she was asked to make a decision by the organizations and although they felt weird about it, she made the decision that she felt was in the best interest of the students.

VP Shapiro explains that with the Senate Caucus votes, should a vote be at a tie, it is the responsibility of the VP University Affairs to break that tie. VP Shapiro believes that a similar process may be in place for the situation at hand.

Councillor Frentee asks which Quebec student unions were contacted by VP Esterle as shown in her executive report. VP Esterle explains that she doesn't remember all of them, but examples are: HEC Montréal, Université de Montréal, Université du Québec à Montréal, Concordia University, Bishop's University, Université de Sherbrooke and others. VP Esterle explains that mainly francophone universities were contacted.

Senator Lametti **Motions to take from the table the Motion Regarding Student Clubs and Services as SSMU's Highest Priority, seconded by the President. - PASSES Unanimously 24 - 0**

It is at this point that the Council moves back towards the chronological order of the agenda, and therefore reverts back to the Motion that is to be voted on above.

The President **Motions for a 5 minutes recess, seconded by Councillor Milchberg - PASSES Unanimously - 24 - 0**

### **15. Confidential Session**

- a. There are items of business for this evening's Confidential Session

### **16. Adjournment - APPROVED - 22:19**

This is motioned by Senator Buraga and seconded by VP McLaughlin - **APPROVED 22 - 1**