

REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL AFFAIRS) TO COUNCIL

13 September 2018

POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS

- Met with Campaigns Coordinators, discussed projects for the year - detailed planning session next week
- Facilitating the relaunching of Divest McGill's website
- Checking in with Harmful Military Technology Researcher - work progressing
- Austerity Researcher's report should be published in the next two weeks
- Attending (and probably hosting) a mobilization meeting for anglophone student union activists engaged on the issue of unpaid internships - first meeting next week, should continue into autumn as movement builds across province
- Met with SEDE staff to discuss partnerships with local organizations catering to refugees and asylum seekers, as possible early phase of long-term sanctuary campus project

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

- Working with Elections SSMU to promote the on-campus debate they're spearheading - takes place next Wednesday evening
- Finalizing promotional material to facilitate and encourage student voting
- Promoting external debates on social media
- Setting up meet-and-greet events with both AVEQ and UEQ before the end of September for Executives, Councillors, and any constituents who are particularly interested
- Showed AVEQ's Associative Development Coord around Activities Night at her request
- Participating in UEQ's research on mental health

INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

- Attended Town Hall on Renaming and Commemoration yesterday - it was an absolute shitshow, and the Taskforce's report leaves much to be desired - will be drafting statement of solidarity for Executives to release ASAP, expressing support for IAC and other Indigenous students
- Printed campaign materials related to Redmen name
- Promoting Indigenous Awareness Week events via social media
- In communication with Open Door shelter regarding possible opportunities for McGill to support their operations

FRANCOPHONE AFFAIRS

- Met with the OFM to discuss past collaboration with SSMU and future goals, including possibilities around translation

- Drafted terms of reference for FAC
- Signed on to McGill's university-wide committee on francophone issues

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

- In the process of hiring replacement for past CAC
- Street teams received excellent feedback from residents despite understaffing - I attended 2/3 nights, along with several other Executives - thanks pals!
- Will be launching informational campaign around waste disposal in Milton-Parc before end of the month - discussing how to improve on last year in terms of format and range
- Met with coordinators of T2T to discuss plans for 2019 - how to improve capacity and sustainability of the project
- Meeting tomorrow with SAESEM & Entremise (local community organizations) to discuss both expansions to T2T and possible collaboration with asylum seekers lodged in RVH

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

- In discussion with various stakeholders over the possibility of establishing a legal contingency fund for SSMU members and allies as long-term project
- Submitted to Ad Hoc Senate Committee on Teaching Staff-Student Intimate Relationships - now that submissions window extended, working on submissions-related event
- Have been attending semi-regular meetings with Dean of Students and Associate Provost (Equity and Academic Policies) and pushing for more consultation on SVP review, and engaging in discussion on various aspects of this issue
- Reached out to new SEIO to set up a meeting re: policy revisions and future collaboration
- Meeting with OSVRSE next week to discuss opportunities for collaboration
- Hiring staffer to institutionalize past mobilization and advocacy work & create toolkit for students pursuing institutional change at McGill
- Organizing one-day conference in October (date TBD) for student advocates from across the province who are scrambling to get SVPs passed at their schools this fall as the Bill 151 deadline gets closer - working with CSU, AVEQ, and potentially other unions from around QC - SSMU will be jointly releasing a policy drafting guide tailored for this context
- GSVP Implementation Coordinator just completed their contract

OTHER PROJECTS

- Working with QPIRG to help them secure funding through the SSMU Campus Life Fund to support Rad Frosh, in accordance with past practice
- Arranging training for SSMU permanent staff on gender diversity and inclusion in order to address longstanding pattern of trans and nonbinary folks being subjected to microaggressions (misgendering, deadnaming) around the office