



SSMU BOARD OF DIRECTORS PUBLIC MINUTES

July 16, 2019

The Board of Directors meeting of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) will be held in the SSMU Boardroom on Tuesday, July 16, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Husayn Jamal (Chair, non-voting), Bryan Buraga (Officer), Sanchi Bhalla (Officer), Adam Gwiazda-Amsel (Officer), Billy Kawasaki (Officer), Kyle Rubenok (Member-at-Large), Ryan Hughes (General Manager, non-voting) [called in , left], Sam Haward (Officer, non-voting), Mu Rong Yang (Legislative Councilor), Lucille Xiang (Member-at-Large), Garima Karia (Legislative Councilor) [left 19:22]

Absent: Madeline Wilson (Officer, non-voting), Jonah Levitt (Member-at-Large), Shayan Sheikh (International Representative, non-voting), Andrew Figueiredo (Legislative Councilor)

1. Call to Order: **19:21**
2. Land Acknowledgement

The SSMU acknowledges that McGill University is situated on the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe nations, a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples. The SSMU recognizes and respects these nations as the traditional custodians of the land and water on which it is located.

3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Report of the Executive Committee

Director Buraga: Motions passed available for Public Knowledge distributed to Board of Directors. These are brand new and have not been previously brought up before the Board of Directors. The Speaker asks if there is any desire to overturn a decision of the executive committee. Hearing no such desire the report and desires stand as presented.

5. Legislative Council Motions for Ratification
 - a. Motion Regarding Nominations to the Society's Board of Directors 2019-07-11
-UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED



6. Email Approvals

There are no email approvals.

7. Motions for Approval

- a. Motion to adopt the amended SSMU Sponsorship Declaration Guide - **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Director Buraga explains that there is discussion between members of the Board and General Manager to facilitate the changes the directors wanted to see. The next motion is an Interim provision for the Internal Regulations of Finance, but in the absence of that there have been changes made to the sponsorship guide as posted here. I believe there was also another change that was suggested by the General Manager that was to be more in compliance with what more in compliance with what the director said but in the meantime I would move to amend the motion to say Motion to adopt the amended SSMU Sponsorship Declaration Guide.

- b. Motion Regarding an Interim Provision for the Internal Regulations of Finance 2019-07-16 - **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Director Buraga asks if they are written in this form so it can easily be adopted by the Legislative Council when the time comes, also providing the rationale as per the email chain that is also in the folder. Director Buraga explains that it allows \$5 to be taken from the club fund should the funds be available in order to facilitate the administration of contracts by the operations department.

The Speaker asks if there are any questions. Hearing no questions is there any debate?

Director Haward: Just for context the club fund brings in \$110,000 as of May 31st. \$91,000 of that \$110,000 had been used. It also had a surplus of 18000 dollars year on year. The Board should be aware of this when voting.

Director Bhalla points out that it indicates 'assuming funds are available'. She then questions what happens if the funds aren't available.

Director Buraga explains that it'll be taken out of the fund, it won't run a deficit.

Director Gwiazda-Amsel asks what the intention of the General Manager was with regards to the possibility of not being able to take money out of the fund. Director Gwiazda-Amsel explains that if hypothetically, we use the club fund for another project, and if Director Kawasaki had the intentions to use the surplus in the fund for something else, this recreates the same problem with the operations department being overcapacity and no extra money going in to compensate for that. Director Gwiazda-Amsel asks if the General Manager indicated what his next steps would be regarding this.



Director Buraga doesn't believe so, but the General Manager has made himself available if we need to speak to him further.

Director Gwiazda-Amsel asks Director Kawasaki if that something they still want to do (inaudible audio). Director Gwiazda-Amsel explains, for instance, if Director Kawasaki want to pay for Eventus out of the club fund, which was what Director Kawasaki voiced he might've wanted to do- then if the GM had thought of the next step to address this problem of operations doing work, that takes away from their main work. Director Gwiazda-Amsel explains that he was informed by Director Buraga that no such steps had been communicated. Director Kawasaki doesn't believe any such steps have been communicated, but the whole funding for Eventus would come out of this fund. Director Gwiazda-Amsel doesn't think it should be a problem in terms of a hole in the budget. Director Haward discusses that in terms of the global budget, it will most probably not. However, in terms of the club fund running a deficit, that's not advisable at all because you pay- we pay- all of the clubs banking fees, credit card fees, any administration related to the fund from the club fund. Director Kawasaki asks Director Haward if he foresees a deficit. Director Haward explains that if they were to take on Eventus at the full price then yes, essentially, that's not to say there's no money- or a source of funding, but the problem with the club fund is that that fund is used to pay clubs banking fees and typically also gets used to cover credit cards that don't get paid off. Director Haward explains that the Society is leveraged for about a quarter of a million dollars.

The Speaker asks if there is a motion to amend or if the Board moves forward with the vote. Seeing no motions, the Board moves on to a vote.

- c. Motion to approve amendments to the Nominating Committee Terms of Reference-
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Director Buraga explains that this adds the HR Manager or their designates to join the committee to be able to facilitate the interviews- as he knows it was a lot of administrative work on the Parliamentarian. It also helps in ensuring the proper standards are followed in terms of hiring people and that the same standards are used to hire permanent and casual staff. This will just ensure that the society has more faith in the people that were hired and the procedures were followed properly. Director Bhalla asks if it will be the HR Manager specifically or someone casual or permanent staff sitting in on the meetings.

Director Haward states that Nominating Committee interviews are conducted typically by either the Parliamentarian and a Director, or the Director and a Member at Large, or the Parliamentarian and a Member at Large. So it is members of the Nominating Committee and the Parliamentarian, if no one is available. The Parliamentarian typically does not score interviews. That's left to the directors and members at large of the committee. The value of adding HR to the committee takes off the administrative work of scheduling interviews or the smartrecruiters back-end because that's what took up way more, and it's also the administrative burden that makes it an impossible burden for Director Haward to take on while also working full-time as VP Finance.



Board of Directors / Comité d'Administration

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Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories

- d. Motion to direct the Nominating Committee to recommend interim Directors, as the highest priority business, to serve until the end of the current term -**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Director Haward explains that the Board needs to make a decision as to whether they want to fill a Member at Large spot before November- have another interim member of large until November, or go with the process and ratify a new set of Members at Large at the General Assembly.

The Speaker would like to bring to the attention of the Board article 6.10 of the constitution: in the event of a vacancy on the Board, the Board shall appoint a replacement itself in an interim capacity. So that is one of the options and perhaps an obligation.

Director Rubenok proposes an amendment - this should be prioritized above the J-Board nominations.

Director Buraga states that may be a friendly amendment.

Director Haward explains that the J-Board is at a different phase, we have a set of J-Board applicants to interview, it shouldn't make a difference.

Director Gwiazda-Amsel seconds to the amendment by Director Rubenok.

Director Gwiazda-Amsel asks if we have an interview process that we see recruiting enough candidates for Directors given that it is the summer. Director Buraga would like to let one of the members of the NomComm talk about it just because they have the experience of nominating interim directors over the academic year. Director Haward states that the last time the Board looked for interim directors, we got 26 applications for two positions, so he thinks this will work.

8. For Discussion
9. Confidential Session
10. Adjournment: **21:30**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Buraga', is written over a horizontal line.

Bryan Buraga, President