MOTION REGARDING CREATION OF SSMU STUDENT ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES AND FEE LEVY 2019-10-10

Submitted for: October 10, 2019

WHEREAS, the Students’ Society of McGill University (“SSMU”) President ran on the creation of SSMU Student Academic Support Services (SASS) in his election platform;  

WHEREAS, McGill University has moved towards unpaid volunteer notetakers for its Office for Students with Disabilities;  

WHEREAS, SASS would be an integrated office for the expansion of Open Educational Resources, SSMU Tutoring, and SSMU MiniCourses, as well as the creation of fairly compensated notetaker positions and examination prep courses at a more affordable price than for-profit companies such as Prep101;  

WHEREAS, the SSMU’s Operations Department created a feasibility study on SASS and a proposed budget;  

WHEREAS, the Student Academic Support Services Fee would go towards paying for the salaries of notetakers, as well as a full-time coordinator to manage all administrative aspects of SASS;  

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the SSMU Legislative Council approves the following question for the Fall 2019 Referendum period:

Do you agree to the creation of the opt-outable $0.93 SSMU Student Academic Support Services Fee, per semester, payable by all full-time and part-time SSMU members, to start in Winter 2020 and to be charged until Winter 2025 (inclusive), with the understanding that a majority ‘no’ vote would result in the non-existence of SSMU Student Academic Support Services and the non-existence of associated fund?

1 ISSUU: “Vote Bryan Buraga for SSMU President Full Platform”  
2 The McGill Tribune: “McGill OSD replaces note-takers’ financial compensation with volunteer hours”  
3 SSMU Student Academic Support Services (SASS) Feasibility Study  
4 SSMU Student Academic Support Services (SASS) Budget Projections
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT the “Whereas” clauses of this motion also be included on the ballot;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT the Legislative Council adopts the actionable aspects of this question and that any grammatical or legal changes necessary do not need the re-approval of the Legislative Council.

Moved By:
Bryan Buraga, President

Seconded By:
Darshan Daryanani, Arts Representative