



# SSMU BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

October 17, 2019

The Board of Directors meeting of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) will be held in the SSMU Boardroom on Thursday, October 17, 2019, at 6:00pm.

Present: Husayn Jamal (Chair, non-voting), Bryan Buraga (Officer), Sanchi Bhalla (Officer), Billy Kawasaki (Officer), Adam Gwiazda-Amsel (Officer), Jonah Levitt (Member-at-Large), Kyle Rubenok (Member-at-Large), Sam Haward (Officer, non-voting), Lucille Xiang (Member-at-Large), Shayan Sheikh (International Representative, non-voting), Garima Karia (Legislative Councilor), Rohan Bhutkar (Legislative Councillor), Jordyn Wright (Legislative Councillor), Jack Kline (Member-at-Large)

Absent: Mu Rong Yang (Legislative Councilor), Madeline Wilson (Officer, non-voting)

1. Call to Order: **18:06**

The Speaker calls the meeting to order at 18:06.

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. Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes-Board of Directors-For Approval 2019-10-03 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**
- b. Minutes-Board of Directors-Redacted-For Approval 2019-09-17 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

The minutes are unanimously approved.

4. Adoption of the Agenda --**ADOPTED**

The agenda is unanimously adopted.



## 5. Report of the Executive Committee

Director Bhalla says they approved a lot of minutes, approved the extension of contract for Isabelle OKE. The Executive Committee dealt with a few hirings, mainly for Services. VP Finance adds that with the hiring of Isabelle Oke, typically the HR policy does not permit the SSMU to hire former executives for casual staff positions. This was a position created specifically for the former VP University Affairs. The reason the contract has been extended is that the individual in question can finish their report and research, so that their extensive work previously does not go to waste.

## 6. Legislative Council Motions for Ratification

- a. Motion Regarding Policy on Moratorium on McGill Fees Until Fossil Fuel Divestment 2019-09-26 – **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Director Bhutkar adds that essentially this motion pushes McGill towards divesting from Fossil Fuels. Instead of targeting fees McGill uses in day-to-day, they are targeting auxiliary fees that McGill has access to. McGill won't be able to ask students if they can pass another fee, it will be targeting fees such as the Athletics fee amongst others. This will only last until 2024, but hopefully by then, they will see results from this.

VP Finance explains that they should also consider if Council decides to approve a fee referendum question that violates this policy, then it is up to the Board to step in at this point, and Board should consider their role in the future.

Director Wright reminds the Board that if McGill decides to run a referendum campaign, SSMU is obligated to run a NO campaign. It would be good to remind Council of their duty, but they cannot mandate them to do anything.

VP Finance adds that the only ancillary fee that would be brought to referendum would be the Athletics Facility Improvement fee which was voted down at Council. As far as he can recall, the only other ancillary fee changes coming would be a change in the registration fee and an additional fee.

Directors Buraga and Director Gwiazda-Amsel enter at 18:13.

This is tabled until Confidential session.

Returned to this at 20:07.

Voting procedure:

In favour: Director Buraga , Director Bhalla, Director Kawasaki, Director Gwiazda-Amsel, Director Levitt, Director Rubenok, Director Xiang, Director Karia, Director Bhutkar, Director Wright



Opposed:

Abstain: Director Kline

This is unanimously ratified.

- b. Motion Regarding Condemnation of Bill 21 2019-10-10 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**
- c. Motion Regarding Condemnation of Judicial Challenge of Human Rights Tribunal Ruling Regarding First Nations Children 2019-10-10 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**
- d. Motion Regarding Changes to the Health and Dental Review Committee Terms of Reference 2019-09-26 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**
- e. Motion Regarding Increase and Nature of SSMU Equity Fee Referendum Question 2019-10-10 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**
- f. Motion Regarding SSMU Club Fund Fee Referendum Question 2019-10-10 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**
- g. Motion Regarding Creation of SSMU Student Academic Support Services and Fee Levy 2019-10-10 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

#### 7. Email Approvals

There are no email approvals.

#### 8. Motions for Approval

There are no motions for approval.

#### 9. For Discussion

- a. Nominating Committee

Director Rubenok says that more nominees are needed for both Judicial Board and Board of Directors. Director Gwiazda-Amsel asks if the Communications department has considered other avenues of communicating, such as tabling, etc.

Director Rubenok replies that they have not considered this, but he adds that the Nominating Committee is one of the most time consuming committees on the Board and it is already difficult to



get two voting members of the committee to sit in on interviews so he highly doubts that they will be able to organize such a venture.

10. Confidential Session **18:16**

The Board of Directors enter in Confidential Session at 18:16.

11. Adjournment: **20:10**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Buraga".

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Bryan Buraga, President

APPROVED