



# SSMU LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

October 24, 2019

The regular bi-weekly Legislative Council Meeting of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) will be held in Room 603, McConnell Engineering Building, Montreal, on Thursday, October 24, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order: **18:15**
2. Land Acknowledgement

The Speaker reads out the land acknowledgement.

3. Attendance

Proxy: Wendy Yan for Councillor Bhuktar, Sydney Merritt for Councillor Wright, Adrienne Tessier for Senator Garneau.

Absent: Councillor Patzer, Eisner, Morgan.

There is no Education representatives.

There is no Residences Representative.

4. Approval of Minutes

There are no minutes to approve for this week.

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

The agenda is adopted as amended.

Motion to adopt the agenda by Councillor Mackie, seconded by Councillor Dixon - APPROVED.

6. Report of the Steering Committee

The report of the Steering Committee is presented.



## 7. Guest Speakers

### a. Adrienne Tessier, Student Rights Commissioner

Adrienne Tessier reads the report of the Know Your Rights Fall 2019 campaign. Tessier explains that the campaign consisted of tabling in various faculties. On recommendations for Winter 2020, Tessier states that they would like to broaden the opportunities for Councillors and Senators to get involved in the campaign. As well, Tessier is interested for Winter 2020, in Councillors and Senators making in-class announcements, as well as sharing it on the faculty's listservs and social media platforms.

Question Period:

Councillor Mackie asks if the campaign was done in collaboration with the Legal Information Clinic of McGill (LICM) or if they have plans for it for future collaboration. Tessier explains that they worked initially with LICM, but at the time, they were running an existence referendum with PGSS and thus their participation was limited.

### b. Charles Choi, DriveSafe

Charles Choi, President of DriveSafe motivates the motion that is being presented at Legislative Council. Choi explains the existence of DriveSafe, and the service that it offers to students. Choi makes note that there are 11 vehicles weekly being used. Choi explains that DriveSafe is entering its 20th year, and in the future, desires to expand DriveSafe service off the island of Montreal, implementing service to MacDonal campus, and being electric by 2030. Choi explains that future funding. Choi explains that currently, there are two main goals for DriveSafe that they are currently addressing. Firstly, Choi explains that driving to MacDonal Campus puts immense stress on the service, giving the length of time it requires. Now, DriveSafe allows students at MacDonal Campus to reserve a spot on Friday and Saturday nights. Secondly, they are looking for environmentally-friendly solutions. DriveSafe is wishing to rebrand as carbon neutral. They are committed to establishing itself as carbon-neutral through partnership with McGill Office for Sustainability, with DriveSafe now instituting a carbon-neutral fee for all special events. If this is passed at Legislative Council, they will be moving forward to a referendum.

Question Period:

There are no questions.

## 8. Generative Discussion

### a. Professor Gregory Matthew Mikkelson, University Senate Governance Reform

Professor Gregory Matthew Mikkelson motivates the report. Professor Mikkelson explains that he is the President Elect of the McGill Association of Teachers. Professor Mikkelson explains that this is a



governance report regarding the Dean Selection Committee. Professor Mikkelson explains that it is a larger project that has been going on since 2011, and they wish to make more representative of the McGill community.

Professor Mikkelson explains that there is a dominance of central administration in the McGill governance, and that he believes that greater democracy and transparency is the solution to the issue. Professor Mikkelson would like to be moved towards more local decision-making, and believes that the student body should only be governed with those that have the school body's consent.

Professor Mikkelson states that In the Committee, they have chosen to begin with the selection of Deans of faculties.

Professor Mikkelson asks Councillors to vote to approve the report, as approval would give them a lot of momentum, given that the report will receive a lot of backlash from the Central administration.

Professor Mikkelson notes that it has received approval from other associations prior.

Professor Mikkelson lays out the recommendations of the report. Firstly, Professor Mikkelson explains that they would restrict the Principal to choose a Dean only from the list of names that is sent to her. Secondly, they wish to expand the number of staff at the expense of Senate and Board appointees. Professor Mikkelson notes that there will be no change to the number of student members on the committee, but there is a change in that it specifies that they are elected by their peers, which is a change from prior. Thirdly, Professor Mikkelson states that the selection process will be an open procedure, with individuals in the faculty knowing who is on the shortlist, as opposed to a secret process. Lastly, Mikkelson proposes that the Principal will no longer chair the committee, given that the committee is supposed to advise the Principal. Instead the committee will select its own chair.

Professor Mikkelson asks that the Legislative Council votes for the proposal up or down, as they are not amending it thus far.

Professor Mikkelson notes that one other change that will have to be made moving forward concerns the provision of libraries,

Generative discussion:

VP University Affairs reiterates the importance of this, and states her support for this proposal.

Councillor Marcoux asks to specify about the provision of libraries. Professor Mikkelson explains that the current statute concerns Deans of Libraries, but the current proposal does not include this.



Proxy for Senator Garneau asks why the committee has made the distinction between large and small faculties. Mikkelson states there are various things they chose not to change, including the distinction between large and small faculties.

Proxy for Senator Garneau believes that the distinction is arbitrary, thinking it is more desirable to include a larger representation of McGill. Professor Mikkelson thanks the Proxy for this recommendation, stating that this move would make things simpler.

Senator Lametti states that it is reasonable to support these changes, given that it is the right time to support this, and believes it would be a positive change for the community.

Councillor Fakih asks Professor Mikkelson to clarify if it is only the Principal that chooses the Dean.

Professor Mikkelson states that it is, and states that while it is not ideal, the proposal would alter it so that Principal Fortier is only able to select from the names from the short list, but one would want to go further in the future regarding this.

No further questions.

Councillor Marcoux motions to suspend the rules to add an agenda item, seconded by Councillor Mackie - PASSES.

b. Reformatting of the Policies and Plans Book

VP External motivates the report.

SSMU President explains that it is a continuous process from the motion passed last year, which had stated that the Legislative Council should reformat the Policies and Plans book..

Proxy for Senator Garneau asks what the overall objective of the reformatting is. VP External explains that reformatting is needed so that it can be read easily by many, to compartmentalize it, and to adopt that the Policies and Plans book takes precedence over other Internal Regulations documents.

9. Motion Regarding Support of University Governance Reform 2019-10-24 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

VP External motivates the motion.

Question Period:

There are no questions.



Debate:

There is no debate.

President moves to vote by unanimous consent.

This motion is unanimously approved.

#### 10. Comprehensive Governance Review Committee --**COMMITTED BACK TO CGRC**

The Speaker presents the report as Chair of the Committee. The Chair presents the culmination of the Comprehensive Government Review Committee (CGRC) report from the 2018-19 school year.

The Chair explains that it is one of the widest reaching consultations done by SSMU in recent history from all demographics. Regarding recommendations, the Chair recommends a simplification and devolution of parts of the Constitution, especially items needing more flexibility or changes from year to year, and as such, recommends devolving to the Internal Regulations. On the composition of the Legislative Council, the CGRC proposes the removal of the interfaculty of Arts and Science seat, the removal of the two undergraduate Senate representatives, removal of the Residences representative, and the representative of the school of Environment. The Chair notes that they came out of consultations, and for the most part, the demographics those Councillors represented are already represented elsewhere. Similarly, the Chair recommends introducing three non-voting members, consisting of the Indigenous Affairs Committee, Equity Commissioners, and a member from MacDonald Campus Student Society (MCSS)

Looking at the Board of Directors, the Chair recommends self-constraining, ensuring that putting an item without the consultation of the Legislative Council is no longer as easy.

The Chair explains that in order to honour the tradition of student-led democracy, the report also recommends allowing the student body to bring motions to Legislative Council, rather than having to wait until a General Assembly. Similarly, the CGRC is also putting forward recommendations to fix grammar and spelling. The Chair details that their next task is to look at how they can engage international students on the Board of Directors.

Question Period:

Councillor Franceschini asks if the removal of the Arts & Science Councillor has anything to do with the current performance of the current Arts & Science Councillor.

The Chair explains that the recommendations are based on consultation last year, and it has nothing to do with the current Councillor's job performance. The Chair explains that the goal of the removal is to remove double count of representation.



Councillor Marcoux inquires about the rationale for adding the three non-voting members. Specially, Marcoux asks if the goal is to create an equity-based committee, why the CGRC has chosen to include the Indigenous Affairs Commissioner (IAC), but not from any other minorities.

The Chair explains that it came from consultation with the IAC, and it is typically underrepresented by SSMU governance.

Councillor Rhamey asks what the timeline would be on these recommendations. The Chair explains that it would go on the referendum ballot in Winter 2019, to be implemented in Fall 2020.

Councillor Kaye inquires further about the three non-voting seats. The Chair explains that for MCSS, the MCSS and SSMU are wishing to create further working relationships. Given that MacDonald Campus students use SSMU services, they want to hear input from MCSS. In regards to the other seats, these recommendations were done after consultation with various groups.

Councillor Chase inquires if the report will go back to the CGRC if passed. Further, Councillor Chase notes that Arts & Science cannot vote for Arts representatives. The Chair notes that once they have direction from Legislative Council, they will begin consultations with various constituencies. The Chair also notes that in a quest to remove double representation, they do not want to create no representation.

Senator Lametti motion to extend discussion by 20 minutes, seconded by Councillor Fakhri - PASSES.

VP Internal understands why MCSS would not have a vote, but inquires why IAC and Equity wouldn't have votes on Legislative Council. The Chair explains that in order to cast a vote, they must be elected. However, the Chair notes that IAC and Equity are appointed positions, not elected.

Member of the Gallery inquires into why there is no non-voting seat for Francophone students. The Chair explains that the recommendations provide perspective to Councillors that are often not heard. The Chair notes further that there is often disconnect between Equity and IAC and SSMU. Speaking last year, the Chair notes that VP University Affairs and Internal felt comfortable bringing up the concerns of Francophone students directly last year.

VP University Affairs asks how it is possible that SSMU Legislative Council cannot have non-elected voting members given that Arts Undergraduate Society (AUS) Legislative Council does. The Chair notes that these recommendations were done in consultation with Legal Counsel, who stated that it would not be appropriate.

Councillor Fakhri inquires why the representative for the IAC is not the Commissioner. The Chair did not wish to put all additional work on the Commissioner, and as such, this works to delegate the workload.



Senator Lametti inquires regarding the J-Board, asking while reformatting the J-Board as a committee, if the CGRC fears that the framework would harm the perceived independence of the J-Board and its ability to act independently and impartially. The Chair notes that that concern was not raised by the CGRC last year, and that the J-Board chose not to take part in consultations. On perceived independence, the Chair notes that SSMU has a Conflict of Interest policy, which would ensure there is no tangling between Judicial Board and SSMU's governance structures. The Chair explains that the rationale for the J-Board devolving into the Internal Regulations is because the Judicial Board does not exist independently, but rather, as a body of the BoD, and as such, makes the most sense to devolve into Internal Regulations.

Councillor Franceschini states that Arts & Science opted to rename Arts and Sciences to BASIC, and asks if they change to Arts & Science Undergraduate Society (ASUS), if they could go back under SSMU.

President states that this recommendation was done when considering the issue of double representation, as it would allow people to have more of a vote than others. The President notes that in the case that ASUS becomes its own separate undergraduate society, the SSMU would invite faculty level representation on Legislative Council.

Proxy for Senator Garneau inquires regarding the removal of Arts and Science Councillor and how the recommendation would square with the existence of the Arts & Science senator, and asks if they would also be eliminated. Furthermore, Proxy for Senator Garneau believes that Arts & Science students face unique views. The Chair notes that not all faculties have Senators, and as such, there are students who are not represented on the Senate. Furthermore, the Chair notes that CGRC has not looked at Senate representation yet but they hope to once CGRC is running.

Dandamudi inquires if non-voting members will be subject to the same rules for voting members, such as absences and sending proxies. The Chair explains that they would be treated the same as any other Councillor, but would not count towards quorum, nor be able to vote.

VP External inquires if the CGRC has looked at other models of compositions for the Legislative Council, providing examples of Concordia and AVEQ. The Chair notes that the recommendations of CGRC is to keep the current rules, with one representative for each faculty, plus one each added for each 2000 students, to an upper maximum of four. The Chair notes that the CGRC looked at other compositions, but it was not something the committee supported.

Councillor Chase inquires on whether when the CGRC considered removing voting seats for Councillors, if they believed that it would then increase the proportion of the Executives' power, and if this would impact the check that the Council offers against the Executive Committee.

The Chair notes that the CGRC did consider this, however they also believe that this change is marginal, being only three seats. The Chair also explains that Executives cannot simply put forward a



motion on their own or with another executive seconder, as they still need Councillor seconding. Lastly, the Chair states that the difference in seats was not deemed substituent enough to change regarding structure of Legislative Council

Senator Lametti inquires if there was any interest in introducing external directors on the Board of Directors. The Chair notes that CGRC has not looked towards the Board thus far, but has begun discussions with a variety of faculties. The Chair explains that faculty executives indicated a lack of willingness to participate in BoD given that it is onerous, due to the time commitment, and that it is not paid. However, the Chair cannot speak on recommendations for the BoD thus far.

VP Internal inquires if there is reason to strike the IRC representative, but rather opt for Floor Fellows and non-first years.

The Chair explains that SSMU and McGill Student Housing does not interact or overlap in terms of services. The Chair also explains that the representative is elected by IRC, a first year council, and does not include older people. Regardless, the Chair also explains that they are represented elsewhere in faculties.

Councillor Marcoux inquires why only the Indigenous Affairs Committee was highlighted as being selected for a non-voting seat.

The Chair explains that in consultation with groups, they were the groups that were highlighted as having the greatest barriers in interacting with SSMU governance.

The Speaker announces the departure of VP Finance at 19:26.

Councillor Morgan asks for further explanation on why they are striking out seats for Senators on Legislative Council. The Chair explains that the Legislative Council is primarily made up representing faculties and schools, and that Senators don't represent academic units. The Chair believes that there should be dialogue with SSMU and Senate Caucus, but that it does not make sense for members of the McGill Senate to vote on Legislative Council, given that they do not overlap.

VP Internal motions to extend discussion by five minutes, seconded by Councillor Roy - PASSES.

VP Internal states that if the point to have an MCSS rep on Legislative Council is to build a relationship between SSMU and MCSS, and asks if there is a reason that a seat for PGSS and MACES hasn't been considered. The Chair explains that wider discussions were included last year, but they are unsure if the plans would be continued this year. Speaking on MACES and PGSS, SSMU continues to interact with them on an officer level, but that the rationale was stronger for MCSS.





VP External inquires if the CGRC considered the idea of Concordia's of non-voting Executive. The Chair explains that there was consideration on making officers non-voting, but they had heard thoughts that it would make it difficult to continue the mandates on which they were elected.

Councillor Morgan inquires why are they removing the Senate Caucus representatives seats completely, rather making them non-voting seats. The Chair explains that from past consultation with Senate representatives, mandating them to be present at Legislative Council with no vote would make attendance pointless, as their time could be better spent elsewhere, such as in working groups.

Councillor Daryanani inquires if there were there other minority groups considered for consultation for non-voting seats. The Chair explains that the CGRC reached out to BSN and SACOMMS, and that all services received email from SSMU at the beginning of the year to invite them for consultation.

SSMU President moves to lay the motion on the table, seconded by VP Internal - FAILS.

Senator Lametti motions to commit report to CGRC, seconded by Councillor Morgan - PASSES.

Councillor Fakih supports moving it back to the Committee, but suggests debating it first, given that Legislative Council has only questioned it thus far, and believes it deserves more time.

The Speaker notes that as chair of CGRC, does not have specific items that Legislative Council wants changed.

Senator Lametti states that it is important that Councillors submit their opinions.

Councillor Dandamudi inquires on ways that Councillors can provide feedback to CGRC if it is not during debate at Legislative Council. The Chair notes that anyone with comments for CGRC should email their comments to [speaker@ssmu.ca](mailto:speaker@ssmu.ca), if they have comments, or wish to be involved with CGRC in any way.

Member of the Gallery, Alex Karasick, McGill Daily, believes there could be a lot of fruitful discussion at Council, and that it would be more transparent to discuss it at Legislative Council than just through email.

VP External motions to amend motion to submit back to CGRC and mandates CGRC to do in-depth in-person consultation.

Councillor Franceschini states that it makes more sense to have debate at Legislative Council.

Vote on motion to amend the motion to also mandate in-person consultation with CGRC - PASSES.

Voting procedure:



In favour: 23

Opposed: 3

Abstaining: 3

This is unanimously approved.

VP External motions to call the question, seconded by VP Internal - PASSES.

The report is committed back to CGRC.

## 11. Announcements

The Speaker reports that the Legislative Council passed an electronic motion on October 29th, to adopt standing rules for the General Assembly passed, and the voting record will be on the SSMU website.

VP Internal encourages everyone to buy tickets for the Great Gertsby Halloween party occurring next Thursday. VP Internal also reminds everyone who ordered SSMU hoodies, to come pick them up on Tuesday or Thursday during office hours.

Councillor Platt reminds Legislative Council that there are various concerts coming up with Schulich School of Music. Tomorrow there will be a Schulich Singers concert. There will also be concerts on October 26 and 28.

Councillor Daryanani announces that AUS BDA is now running. Similarly, Councillor Daryanani announces that AUS Grad Fair is being held on November 6, in New Residence ballroom.

The President announces that the General Assembly is happening next Monday at New Residence ballroom, starting at 6 pm. There are motions being considered regarding Board of Directors and SSMU auditor.

Councillor Das reminds Legislative Council to follow SSMU FYC on Instagram.

Councillor Wu announces that SUS grad fair is happening on Nov. 5 at New Residence ballroom from 11-3.

Councillor Platt motions for a one minute extension, seconded by Councillor Mackie - PASSES.

Councillor Platt also notes that there is a ukulele workshop on November 6 at 6:30 at the School of Music.

VP Student Life announces that Activities Night is booked for Winter 2020.



## 12. Question Period

Senator Lametti states that on October 18, 2019, the McGill Tribune published a letter that called for the resignation of the VP Internal from various Indigenous leaders on campus. VP Internal ask Senator Lametti to wait until her report later on,

Councillor Chan asks ThePresident if there has been any progress on the ongoing samosa situation. SSMU President states that he was informed that a SSMU club was in violation of health codes from samosa sales, and that the fine is not determined thus far. The President explains that the range of the fine is \$2,250 to \$54,000. Similarly, the President also explains that SSMU has taken steps to prevent future samosa sales forward for the time being.

Councillor Chase asks if the Executives will make the food inspector's report public. ThePresident states that given that it is an ongoing legal matter, the Executives prefer it to be in Confidential session of Legislative Council or Board of Directors.

Councillor Daryanani inquires if SSMU building a framework for SSMU food sales, or also faculties food sales as well. The President explains that at this time, it only includes SSMU clubs and services, but invites faculties for collaboration.

Councillor Fakh states that since samosa sales serve as a form of revenue, if SSMU has figured out a way to compensate the clubs that are no longer holding samosa sales. The President states that at this point in time, they are just trying to mitigate the risk, and paying the fine.

President states that SSMU plans on creating a package that includes tongs, hair nets, and that it would be affordable for clubs.

VP Internal motions to extend question period by five minutes, seconded by Senator Lametti - PASSES.

VP Internal asks who would have access to this package, if it would it be limited to clubs and services, or could faculties and department access it as well. The President cannot answer this thus far.

Councillor Flaherty inquires if SSMU intends to consult with Clubs representatives. SSMU President notes that they are trying to cover all bases legally, while making sure there is no undue burden on clubs and services, and that they are open to discussing it with Clubs Committee.

Councillor Merali asks that given that SSMU is paying the fine, if SSMU has considered working with other faculties or departments that participate in samosa sales to lessen the financial burden. The President explains that SSMU is taking full legal responsibility on it and shouldering the full-brunt of the costs.



The Speaker announces the departure of Councillor Platt at 20:11.

Motion to extend by three minutes by Councillor Kaye, seconded by VP External - PASSES.

Approved: 20

Opposed: 8

VP External motions to suspend the rules for a five minute generative discussion, seconded by Councillor Kaye - FAILS.

Approved: 9

Opposed: 17

13. Recess, Consent Items

14. Business Arising

The Speaker announces the departure of Councillors Rhamey and Dixon at 20:28.

- a. Motion Regarding Adoption of an Events Management Policy 2019-10-03  
**--COMMITTED**

The Speaker explains that this was motivated at the previous Legislative Council.

Question Period:

VP External, wondering why the motion put forward today is not in regards to integrating this into the VIP culture policy.

Debate:

VP External motions to refer it back to Board of Directors.

VP Internal explains that the VIP Culture policy is much about the character that someone should put on when holding the event, whereas the Events Management Policy is in regards to actually managing the event.

The President considers the lack of debate on the policy, questions if it should just be referred back to the BoD to re-integrate the policy.

The President motions to commit the motion back to BoD, seconded by VP External - PASSES.



b. Motion Regarding Amendments to the Internal Regulations of Elections and Referenda  
2019-09-26 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

The Speaker motivates the motion.

Debate:

VP University Affairs inquires if Senator Lametti would be open to an amendment to define the term 'abusive'.

Senator Lametti explains that he has decided to use terminology that is purposely vague, as he believes Elections SSMU has the authority to make a call on such a term.

Councillor Chase asks whether or not the term 'distribution list' will be defined, as he is concerned with the terminology becoming vague. Furthermore, Councillor Chase expresses his concern about the possibility of candidates being reprimanded for things that weren't explicitly prohibited.

Senator Lametti states that in response to limits, it is better to keep it vague because electronic communications are changing, and making it specific would make it harder to follow.

Deputy Returning Officer Ben Howard states that regarding having an infraction, they have amended it to include that regarding spam messages, the first infraction will be a warning, and then followed by demerits. Elections SSMU hopes that this will quell any concerns

Councillor Chase motivates to amend the amendment, seconded by Senator Lametti - PASSES.

VP Finance Motion to call the question, seconded by Councillor Chase - PASSES.

Motion on amendment to the motion - PASSES.

Approved: 22

Opposed: 1

Abstaining: 0

Senator Lametti motions to amend 2.5 vacancies, seconded by Proxy by Senator Garneau - PASSES.

Approved: 27

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 1

Debate on the main motion:



There is no further debate.

Voting Procedure:

In favour: 28

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 1

This motion is unanimously approved.

- c. Motion Regarding Committee Allocations 2019-10-10 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Motion Regarding Committee Allocations - APPROVED THROUGH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

- d. Motion Regarding the Creation of an Affordable Student Housing Committee 2019-10-10 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Question Period:

There are no questions.

Debate:

Senator Lametti states that they way that this is referred to is not reflective of the question that was indicated in the plebiscite. Senator Lametti explains that the plebiscite was not an unconditional endorsement of SSMU getting into real estate development, and as such, hopes the spirit of committee can better reflect that.

Councillor Chan states that he has read the Tribune article linked, which said there will be 150 spaces available, and inquires what the provision of these spaces would be.

VP External explains that the goal of the committee is used to investigate potential models and hold public consultations. VP External also states that he would be more than willing to change the wording to 'pursue' to 'explore' in the preamble.

VP internal inquires if there is a possible need for spaces to be used temporarily, such as for CrashPad during Frosh.

VP External explains that no one direction has been espoused yet, and it can be adapted to McGill's needs.



Senator Lametti states that it seems that there is an idea among executives that this is the way that this is the direction that the committee should be going, however the plebiscite however not reflect this. Senator Lametti wishes to ensure that other options are not eliminated.

Proxy for Senator Garneau inquires if the VP External has considered the optics of SSMU being a landlord, and SSMU potentially taking people to court for rent. As such, Proxy for Senator Garneau encourages creating a separate enterprise for landlord matters.

VP External refers Senator Lametti to section 3 where it references existing housing matters. In regards to Proxy for Senator Garneau, VP External states that they will be outsourcing for an independent entity.

Voting Procedure:

In favour: 24

Opposed: 1

Abstaining: 3

This motion is unanimously approved.

The Speaker asks for Councillors to indicate if they are interested in joining the committee.

Councillors Merali and Roy both volunteer to commit to the committee.

Councillor Mackie motions to commit the two representatives, seconded by Proxy for Senator Garneau - PASSES.

Motion to approve the two representatives onto the committee - APPROVED.

Voting procedure:

In favour: 26

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 1

- e. Motion Regarding Development and Implementation Process for Policies and Plans  
2019-09-26 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

The Speaker motivates the motion.

Debate:



There is no debate.

Voting Procedure:

Motion Regarding Development and Implementation Process for Policies and Plans

In favour: 27

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 1

This motion is unanimously approved.

#### 15. New Business

- a. Notice of Motion Regarding Amendments to the Committee Terms of Reference 2019-10-24

The Speaker motivates the motion. The Speaker explains that they have amended the committee makeup, as well as lowering quorum, to ensure that quorum is met more often.

- b. Motion Regarding Discretionary Funding for SSMU Drivesafe 2019-10-24  
**--UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

VP Finance motivates the report. VP Finance explains that it must be a referendum, given that they must receive the authorization of the student body to donate to a body.

Debate:

Councillor Fakhri asks VP Finance to explain where the 5% is going towards.

VP Finance explains that it is an upper limit, with it being relatively arbitrary. Referendum question restricts the 5% to be using for carbon-offsetting.

Voting Procedure:

In favour: 26

Opposed: 1

Abstaining: 1

This motion is unanimously approved.

The Speaker announces the departure of Councillor Dandamudi at 21:32.





## 16. Reports by Committees

### a. Executive Committee 2019-10-10

The President presents the report. The President explains that much of the current actions of the Executive Committee has to do with hiring.

### b. Finance Committee

VP Finance presents the report, and explains that Finance Committee has been looking at the spending of services, and what to do regarding surpluses.

### c. Comité des affaires francophones

VP External presents the report.

VP External speaks on Activities Night, and formation of the Francophone Affairs committee. VP External explains that they are working on creating opportunities for French students and simplifying the french student life at McGill. The Commissioner has also worked on the process of translations to make sure that they are better and more accurate. VP External explains that they had a meeting on September 27. On October 11, they had another meeting to create sub-committees and focus more on their goals for the year, specifically, making translations better, diversifying representation of the french community, submitting work in french, having students aware of ways they can get involved and how to bring in non-French students who might have an interest in learning French or French culture.

Proxy for Senator Garneau asks what they are doing regarding the translations issue.

VP External states that they are working with external translators now but eventually they want to bring it back to in-house translations but have it double checked by external sources, and then having it triple checked by either the Commissioner of the Committee or by the Communications department of SSMU.

### d. Community Engagement Committee

Claire, Chair of the Community Engagement Committee presents the report.

Claire explains that they are renewing and revisiting the commitments to Milton-Parc under Community Actions and Relations Endeavour Agreement. In regards to the open door shelter, they are exploring on how students are best-suited to support this underserved group. In regards to waste reduction, they are looking into long-term sustainability options, educating about the correct days for garbage, recycling, organic waste pickup



e. Equity Committee

VP University Affairs presents the report.

f. Mental Health Committee

Mental Health Commissioner, Olivia Frank, presents the report. Olivia Frank states that they are currently updating the SSMU Mental Health 2020-2023 Plan. In regards to the Wellness Hub, Mental Health Commissioner Frank notes that it is creating a lot of discussion on campus, and they are working on creating a better feedback service for students. Olivia Frank announces that Advocacy and Outreach committees were assembled. Similarly, Olivia Frank notes that they are looking at initiating podcasts to highlight student experiences, as a way for marginalized voices have a platform on campus. Olivia Frank also notes that they are holding mental health awareness events in replacement of a mental health awareness week. Lastly, they are working on a new mandate for figuring out how to gain the support of student, as it will most likely not be done through in person events.

g. Clubs Committee

VP Student Life presents the report.

VP Student Life notes that the Clubs Committee has approved four interim status clubs, has rejected four or five clubs, and that there are further details in the report.

Motion to put forward the recommendations of Clubs Committee - UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

In favour: 27

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 1

17. Reports by Councillors

a. Councillor Wu (Science)

Councillor Wu presents the report.

Councillor Wu announces that she is currently sitting on Students Society Programming Network (SSPN) committee. Councillor Wu also notes that SUS by-elections were held, and the VP Communications was ratified. Councillor Wu announces that the new VP Communications is Victoria Light. In regards to finances, the SUS budget was approved, and the first department audits were due on October 10. On SUS appointed positions, Councillor Wu states that all the positions were chosen and filled. The First Year Committee for SUS has also been filled. Councillor Wu states that the SUS will



be having after-hours every Wednesday at Majesthe, and that it will occur weekly until the end of the semester. Councillor Wu also states that department orientation occurred on September 21. Lastly, Councillor Wu states that SUS charity week will be held November 10-15.

b. Senator Lametti (Senate Caucus)

Senator Lametti presents the report.

Senator Lametti states that there was a Senate meeting that occurred last night, where the topic was the report of the Committee on Student Discipline, encourages all Councillors to read the report. Similarly, McGill has brought forward a major undertaking called Made by McGill, and that many different areas where university is seeking funds. However, Senator Lametti notes that students services and Indigenous services were not immediately identified as sources for where they are seeking funds for. Similarly, Senator Lametti states that there was a report on fiscal development and work on campus. As well, for the Board of Governors report, they announced a re-appoint of Provost Manfredi.

c. Councillor Dixon (Medicine)

Senator Lametti presents the report for Councillor Dixon.

Currently Councillor Dixon is working on the Outaouais Campus, especially concerning health insurance, fees, and representation. Similarly, Councillor Dixon is working to combat voluntourism. Councillor Dixon is working to support student parents. Similarly, Councillor Dixon is working on the involvement restriction policy, gathering input and looking into MSS adoption. As well, Councillor Dixon is improving the evidence basis for policies and decisions made by SSMU. Lastly, Councillor Dixon serves on the Health and Dental Insurance Committee, where they are looking at two-tired plans, e-counselling platforms, and an international health plan.

Question Period:

Councillor Flaherty inquires on what measures or research have been going into reducing voluntourism.

Senator Lametti states that Councillor Dixon has been having meetings with administration regarding the admissions process, discouraging this type of endeavour, and that it will not be taken into consideration when considering admission.

Councillor Sbayte speaks on the topic of voluntourism, and asks that given that people who go abroad are largely self-funded, what is meant by “unsustainable”

Senator Lametti states that he does not feel it fair to speak on the wording of another councillor.



d. Councillor Fakih (Engineering)

Councillor Fakih presents the report.

Councillor Fakih announces that the first EUS council took place on October 2nd. Currently, elections for the Board of Governors Members-at-Large are taking place, with two members to be nominated to the BoG next council. Similarly, Councillor Fakih notes that five people were appointed on the Involvement Restriction Committee. As well, the Equity & Mental Health Coordinators Committee policy was updated. Councillor Fakih notes that some departmental presidents and VP Externals expressed their concerns with regards to the Policy on Moratorium Notice of Motion and how companies listed are the main employers of engineering students.

Councillor Fakih announces current notable events, including EUS conference, EUS retreat, Involvement, TechFair, and Sports Leagues.

e. Councillor Roy (Social Work)

Councillor Roy presents the report.

Councillor Roy announces that the Social Work executive team is full. Similarly, Councillor Roy notes that the Social Work General Assembly was held, and that there was turnout from all three cohorts. Councillor Roy is beginning to schedule office hours soon. Lastly, Councillor Roy announces that the School of Social Work has begun its own school council.

The Speaker announces the departure of Councillor Marcoux at 22:06.

f. Councillor Chase (Arts)

Councillor Chase presents the report.

Councillor Chase reminds AUS members to pay attention to departmental and faculty listservs. Councillor Chase notes that the 2019-2020 budget was passed. As well, both SNAX and the AUS Essay Centre are now open. Councillor Chase reminds Councillors to connect with AUS on Instagram. Currently, Councillor Chase is looking to improve Laptop Lending Program.

Councillor Chase states that he is sitting on SSMU Finance and Governance Reform Committees, along with AUS Library Partnership Committee, and the Faculty of Arts Committee.

Councillor Daryanani inquires about the status of the Theological Student Association. Councillor Chase states that he is under the belief that they would like to continue to be under AUS.

The President states that he has met with the President of the Theological Student Association, who



has indicated that they would prefer to move towards being an independent school, as opposed to being a department under the AUS. Councillor Chase states that he will most certainly address this with the executives.

g. Councillor Kersh (Athletics)

Councillor Kersch presents the report.

Councillor Kersch announces that team representatives on the Varsity Council met on September 9th and October 7, and that they meet monthly. Councillor Kersch is also the Students Athletic Council chair, and alerts Legislative Council that the first meeting is coming up on October 31. Currently, the Council is working to change the Men's Varsity team name, with the consultative council consisting of varsity sports athletes and coaches. As well, weekly varsity executive meetings are held. Councillor Kersch states that Homecoming weekend occurred on September 27 and 28. As well, on October 5, the women's basketball 100th anniversary game was held. Lastly, Made by McGill campaign is targeting a number of items in Athletics for funding.

Question Period:

Mental Health Commissioner, Olivia Franks, asks if varsity is considering making a local mental health commissioner in varsity. Councillor Kersch states that this has not been discussed yet, but they do have an internal worker.

VP External asks for clarification regarding residence participation. Councillor Kersch explains that involvement is targeted toward those in residences, but others are invited.

VP External inquires if they have been exploring an adult swim session to build community relations. Councillor Kersch is unaware of such an idea, but will bring it up to executives. However, Councillor Kersch notes that there is time for free swim, and suggests maybe hosting an event with Athletics.

h. Councillor Das (First Year Council)

Councillor Das presents the report.

Councillor Das states that they currently have bi-weekly meetings on Fridays, and have begun planning events for this semester. First Year Council is planning on holding two round tables and one town hall. Councillor Das explains that the two hall is to consult the first year student body on questions they may have. One of First Year Council's goal is to focus on upping the social media game for this year, including on working to have a Humans of First Year initiative. Councillor Das also states that First Year Council wants to do a week of de-stressing before finals, but they won't turn away those in not in first year. Lastly, next semester they may have winter break outings.

Question Period:

VP External inquires if wonders if FYC has met with SHHS or with CL&E to discuss extended outreach.



Councillor Das states they haven't yet, but that First Year Council has an off-campus representative. Councillor Das also notes that that it will be the focus of one of the round tables. Lastly, Councillor Das plans on meeting with First Year Council from last year to understand how they went around planning events.

i. Councillor Morgan (PT/OT)

Councillor Morgan presents the report.

Councillor Morgan announces that the POTUS website has been finalized, and that their first Legislative Council was held on September 25. Councillor Morgan also states that they have a new Global Health representative. As well, Councillor Morgan states that a new motion has been put forward and passed, stating whenever the Senate seat has been left vacant by Nursing, it will be filled by PT/OT. Councillor Morgan also states that the first executive meeting occurred on October 2. Similarly, the PT/OT is working to plan a wine and cheese. Councillor Morgan notes that the first Health and Dental Review Committee meeting occurred on October 30. Lastly, Councillor Morgan states that she met with SSMU President to discuss what to add for POTUS, and what potential projects for the year might be.

Question Period:

VP University Affairs asks Councillor Morgan to elaborate on the added position of PT/OT Senator on McGill Senate.

Councillor Morgan explains that the PT/OT does not usually have a seat, only if Nursing seat is vacant can PT/OT fill it, and that the motion was passed to establish it as precedent for future years.

j. Councillor Sbayte (Dentistry)

Councillor Sbayte presents the report.

Councillor Sbayte states that a student was nominated for the newly established FODQ committee representative position. As well, two student representatives have been nominated per class to form the Accreditation Student Survey Committee. Similarly, Dentistry has received applications for two new DSSS clubs, with both applications being approved. As well, Dentistry will be holding an outreach benefit concert to be held on November 13, 2019 at 7:30 at Christ Church Cathedral. Lastly, they are working on a solution to regain the shared student space with the psychology department

The Speaker announces the departure of Councillor Sbayte at 22:28.

k. Councillor Flaherty (Clubs)

Councillor Flaherty presents the report.

Councillor Flaherty re-expresses clubs' dismay about the situation regarding samosas.



Councillor Flaherty states that the Clubs Committee has given interim status to multiple clubs, has approved sanction revisions, and has provided feedback regarding the sanction revision policy.

18. Executive Reports

a. President 2019-10-10, 2019-10-24

The Speaker announces the departure of Councillor Das at 22:30.

The President presents the report.

President reminds the Legislative Council that the General Assembly is happening next Monday, at 6:00 pm, at New Residence ballroom. The President notes that the Board of Directors has met multiple times, and that all motions passed at Legislative Council were ratified. Currently, the Board of Directors is looking for J-board Justices, with all applications being considered on a rolling basis. As well, the President states that he attended the Board of Governors on October 3. Similarly, the President is sitting on Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility (CAMSR). In regards to the University Centre closure, SSMU President notes that he has met with project managers and contractors regarding the closure on October 8, and that he will be attending a follow-up meeting tomorrow. SSMU President states that he will hear a more definite opening date soon, but they are still looking at January 2020 opening.

Question Period:

Councillor Fakih inquires to how the CAMSR meeting went. The President notes that he is bound by confidentiality, and cannot elaborate at this point.

Councillor Kaye asks for an update on the situation with the hiring of the General Manager. The President states that they are currently undergoing interview process with multiple candidates. Once this interview process is complete, the candidate will be selected.

The Speaker announces the departure of the President at 22:25.

b. Vice-President (University Affairs) 2019-10-10, 2019-10-24

VP University Affairs presents the report.

Highlights include announcing the re-appointment of Provost Manfredi, the suspension of the involuntary leave policy development, McGill launching Made by McGill, and the selection of Associate Senators.

c. Vice-President (Internal) 2019-10-10, 2019-10-24



VP Internal presents the report.

VP Internal notes that SSPN has had many events, and that they are currently selling tickets for the Great Gertsby. With this, they filmed a promotional video with TVM. First Year Council has had their first few meetings. Regarding the letter to the Tribune, VP Internal has issued an official statement.

Question Period:

VP External asks VP Internal to read the official report.

VP Internal reads the official report.

Question Period:

Senator Lametti inquires if the VP Internal has had the chance to discuss the statement with the individuals who originally penned the letter, and what the reaction of the conversation was. VP Internal states that she had a phone call with the Indigenous Affairs Commissioner, and it is ultimately up to the IAC's discretion to discuss the content of the phone call. VP Internal confirms that she received a supportive comment from another co-writer of the petition on her Facebook post.

Councillor Flaherty inquires if the VP Internal is aware of any press initiatives who are planning to write about the VP Internal's response. Similarly, Councillor Flaherty believes such a piece could be used to reassure Indigenous students on campus that this was more of a technological issue than a personal vendetta.

VP Internal remarks that the McGill Tribune contacted the Executives and asked if they wanted to put out a statement. However, the Executives decided against that, deciding to present a statement in Legislative Council instead.

Member of the Gallery. Alex Karasick, McGill Daily, asks the VP Internal if she wishes for the statement to be a separate article itself, or within the same article.

VP Internal states that she would like it to be up to the discretion of the journalists, however, indicates that she would like to be given a "heads up" or allowed a brief read-through of the article before it is published.

Senator Lametti repeats, as stated earlier, that the letter expressed that the continued presence of VP Internal would serve as a significant impediment to collaboration with Indigenous students. As the personal statement has now been presented, Senator Lametti asks if the VP Internal believes that that is still the case.





VP Internal states that if the call for resignation was based on that acute instance, the VP Internal does not see an inability to fulfill their mandate in the future.

VP External moves to suspend the rules to make a statement, seconded by Councillor Roy - PASSES.

VP External would like to address the notion that is circulating around Reddit, and may have influenced the question of the Clubs Representative of the understanding that it was a mere overreaction, which the VP External states is untrue. VP External explains states that the Indigenous Affairs Commissioner and Indigenous students have lived experiences that back up the statements that have been made. Similarly, believes that there is a harmful narrative in providing a back and forth dialogue, and believes that the wrong conversation is being held.

d. Vice-President (Finance) 2019-10-10, 2019-10-24

VP Finance presents the report.

Highlights include the bank account reset, the credit cards being opt-in, contract creation/review concerning services, the credit card pilot project, and disbursing the first set of funding applications from council.

Councillor Daryanani, mentions to extend by 1 minute, seconded by Fakhri - PASSES.

e. Vice-President (Student Life) 2019-10-10, 2019-10-24

VP Student Life presents the report.

Regarding Clubs, VP Student Life details that the EventUs final demo happened on September 26, 2019. Similarly, they are currently reviewing the sanctions rubric in collaboration with the Clubs and Services Coordinator. VP Student Life notes that makeup club workshops are almost finished. As well, VP Student Life met with Club representatives to discuss a revision to the sanctions and to establish our goals for the year. Lastly on Clubs, the Clubs committee met on October 11 and 18 to approve new interim clubs, update constitutions, and to finalize a new sanctions guidelines.

Regarding Services, attention largely focused on Midnight Kitchen.

On mental health, the Mental Health Committee (both Advocacy and Outreach) have been formally. As well, VP Student Life met with counselling services to discuss concerns, feedback as well as a complaint letter from a parent regarding mental health services at the hub. Similarly, VP Student Life attended a check-in meeting with the Vice-President (Student Life) and the Dean of Students. Lastly, VP Student Life announces that the Mental Health Commission met on Saturday, October 19.



On outreach, VP Student Life confirms the booking for the Winter Activities Night, occurring on January 9 and 10 in the field house.

VP Student Life notes that the operation of the SSMU's Daycare has taken up much of his time, ever since the resignation of the GM.

For HR, VP Student Life has reviewed CVs for the General Manager position.

Lastly, VP Student Life has had a number of meetings regarding the ongoing food insecurity initiative.

f. Vice-President (External) 2019-10-10, 2019-10-24

VP External presents the report.

Highlights include: setting up one-on-ones with various student unions, co-hosting an off-campus commuter town hall with other campus unions, speaking at some faculty councils, creating an interfaculty slack for more decentralized collaboration.

g. Vice-President (University Affairs) 2019-10-24

VP University Affairs presents the report.

Highlights include: the S/U policy going to IT, which will allow students to change grading scheme up until the course withdrawal date, the filling of the open university committee seats, meeting with the Principal to discuss divestment and sustainability, as well as SSMU space, interviewing candidates for the preferred name usage and advocacy, as well as that the Library Improvement Fund Committee membership has been set.

VP University Affairs motions for a 2 minute extension, seconded by Councillor Roy - PASSES.

Generative Discussion:

The Speaker explains the rules of a generative discussion.

Councillor Flaherty clarifies that she doesn't think it is an overreaction, but thinks that it is important that this statement be available for everyone to read, and it would be appropriate for Indigenous students to have access to the statement. Councillor Flaherty apologizes for any misunderstandings.

Senator Lametti expresses his disappointment that that statement was not addressed in announcements, as many members of the gallery left before this statement was read. In the future, Senator Lametti hopes that members of the Executive can be more proactive in raising these issues.



VP Internal apologizes for this decision, but made this decision because she didn't wish the statement to be seen as redundant.

VP University Affairs reaffirms that this is not an issue that should be something that should be brushed aside.

Councillor Merali inquires about the timeline of events between receiving the statement and the VP Internal passing out.

VP Internal states that they were waiting for the Communications department to get back to them. VP External asks for VP Internal what their individual next steps are regarding the issue. VP Internal states that the next step forward is to start a dialogue with Indigenous student leaders on campus.

Councillor Roy states that they are one of the signatories on the letter, and from seeing this response, sees there is a regret and willingness to move forward on the part of the VP Internal. Jo Roy expresses their support in moving forward.

Councillor Chase motions to go into confidential session, seconded by Councillor Mackie - PASSES.

In favour: 20

Opposed: 4

#### 19. Confidential Session

The Speaker explains the rules for Confidential Session.

#### 20. Adjournment: **23:23**

Motion to adjourn by Councillor Wu, seconded by VP Finance. Meeting is adjourned at 23:23.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Bryan Buraga'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

Bryan Buraga, President