



SSMU BOARD OF DIRECTORS PUBLIC MINUTES

January 23, 2020

The Board of Directors meeting of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) will be held in the SSMU Boardroom on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Husayn Jamal (Chair, non-voting), Sam Haward (Officer, non-voting), Bryan Buraga (Officer), Sanchi Bhalla (Officer), Adam Gwiazda-Amsel (Officer), Rohan Bhutkar (Legislative Councillor), Paige Collins (Member-at-Large), Ana Paula Sanchez (Member-at-Large), Adin Chan (Legislative Councillor), Jonah Levitt (Member-at-Large), Mustafa Fakhri (Legislative Councillor), Billy Kawasaki (Officer)

Absent: Jordyn Wright (Legislative Councillor), Jack Kline (Member-at-Large)

1. Call to Order: **18:05**
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 **ADOPTED**
4. Report of the Executive Committee **APPROVED**

Director Buraga states that the report is as seen and remarks that as Directors may have noted, there was no executive committee meeting this week due to a lack of quorum for various reasons but otherwise these are the redacted motions passed on January 14th.

5. Legislative Council Motions for Ratification
 - a. Motion Regarding Changes to the Committee Terms of Reference 2019-11-28
--UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED
 - b. Motion Regarding a Provincial Student Assembly 2020-01-16 **--UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**



- c. Motion to Endorse the Student Mobilization Against Bill 21 2020-01-16 --
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED
- d. Report - Club Committee 2020-01-16 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**
- e. Report - Funding Committee 2020-01-16 --**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**
- f. Report - Comprehensive Governance Review Committee 2020-01-16 --**APPROVED**

[Director Kawasaki arrives at 18:08]

Director Gwiazda-Amsel states that improper representative patterns may lead to the malfunctioning of the Society and instead of getting a block of six (6) Executives voting, we will now have a block of three (3) Arts reps and three (3) Science reps voting, which in his opinion should not be happening as no one should be voting in blocs, but if this is the change proposed (referring to the section on number of seats per faculty discussed at Council)- Director Gwiazda-Amsel disagrees. Director Fakih says he wanted to abstain from this because he is not sure if Executives should have their votes rescinded since they are the most knowledgeable individuals on Council and while he understands that from a democratic standpoint this is not ideal, they also have to be realistic. Director Chan says that Council is aware of the ramifications that this entails when they decided this, so is wondering what the sentiments are in overturning Council's decision knowing the gravity of what that would entail. Director Gwiazda-Amsel states that any motion overturned by the Board of Directors will return to Council, barring the implementation of an interim provision. Director Gwiazda-Amsel said that he did state that his objection was on the grounds of being a Director and then stated the reasons why.

Director Levitt asks if as Directors, they are supposed to review every decision and go through that, so would that not in itself ensure that there is not a misinformed decision taken by Council. Director Gwiazda-Amsel says that the considerations are different because Council takes a primarily political representation role, whereas the Board of Directors deals with HR, legal and financial matters of the Society. Director Gwiazda-Amsel says that as Directors, it is also their job that the structures function as they should and as is the case here, this sort of representation does not allow the Legislative Council to be the highest representative political body of the Society.

Voting procedure:

In favour: Director Buraga, Director Bhalla, Director Bhutkar, Director Collins, Director Sanchez, Director Chan, Director Levitt, Billy Kawasaki

Opposed: Director Gwiazda-Amsel

Abstain: Director Fakih



This motion is approved and ratified.

6. Email Approvals

There are no email approvals.

7. Minutes for Approval

a. Minutes-Board of Directors-For Approval 2019-11-21 -- **APPROVED**

b. Minutes-Board of Directors-For Approval 2019-12-02 – **APPROVED**

8. Motions for Approval

There are no motions for approval.

9. For Discussion

a. Nominating Committee Progress

Director Levitt says that there were three (3) interviews conducted today for Judicial Board Justices, including both Law students and non-Law, and two (2) International Student Representative interviews for the Board of Directors. The report should be completed within the next two (2) weeks. Director Buraga asks how many more interviews need to be done for the Judicial Board and International Student Representatives. Director Levitt states there should be three (3) to five (5) more interviews.

10. Confidential Session: **18:13**

11. Adjournment: **20:03**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Buraga' is written over a horizontal line.

Bryan Buraga, President