



# MOTION REGARDING AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNAL REGULATIONS OF STUDENT GROUPS 2020-01-16

Submitted for: 2020-01-30

**Submitted to:** SSMU Legislative Council      **Document no.:** LEG-PUB-MOT-2020-01-16-001

**Moved by:** Billy Kawasaki  
Vice-President (*Student Life*)      **Current Status:**  FOR APPROVAL  
 APPROVED  
 POSTPONED

**Seconded by:** Noah Merali  
Services Representative       COMMITTED  
 NOT APPROVED

## Issue

The Internal Regulations of Student Groups as they are currently written do not allow individuals who are **not** Members of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) or the Post-Graduate Students' Society (PGSS) to vote within student groups. This is particularly limiting for student groups organized as collectives which may have non-SSMU and non-PGSS Members counted as student group members which should have the ability to vote within the collective structure.

## Background and Rationale

Midnight Kitchen is a SSMU Service organized with a collective structure for decision-making purposes. Midnight Kitchen also counts among its membership those that are not fee-paying Members of the SSMU or PGSS. As such, these individuals are barred from participating in collective decision-making within Midnight Kitchen which is an undesirable situation given that they contribute significantly to the Service and therefore to SSMU's Members.

Amending the Internal Regulations of Student Groups in this way will allow non-SSMU and non-PGSS Members to participate in the collective structures of SSMU Services.



## Alignment with Mission

The SSMU is committed to service by way of strengthening the “educational, cultural, environmental, political, and social conditions” of its Members as elaborated in the SSMU Constitution. By allowing those who are not Members of the SSMU or PGSS to participate in the collective decision-making processes of SSMU Services, those Services will then be able to better meet the needs of its Members.

## Consultations Completed

This issue was raised by three representatives of Midnight Kitchen during the Comprehensive Governance Review Consultations and the motion arises directly from the desires expressed by the representatives of Midnight Kitchen. The Vice-President (Student Life) was also consulted on these changes.

## Risk Factors and Resource Implications

Allowing non-SSMU and non-PGSS Members to vote in collective decision-making processes of SSMU Services may open the SSMU to additional liability vis-à-vis the limited jurisdiction the SSMU exercises over such individuals. The risk is limited however by ensuring a minimum threshold of SSMU Service members are either SSMU or PGSS Members.

There are no resource implications on the part of the SSMU or its operational departments.

## Sustainability Considerations

There are no sustainability considerations or implications.

## Impact of Decision and Next Steps

The Vice-President (Student Life) is mandated to communicate this change to all SSMU Services via the Clubs and Services Listserv and ensure that all other public-facing material is updated in accordance with the proposed changes.

## Motion or Resolution for Approval

Be it resolved that the Legislative Council approve the amendments to the Internal Regulations of Student Groups in Appendix A.



**Office of the Speaker | Bureau du président du conseil**  
Tel: (514) 398-6800 | Fax: (514) 398-7490 | speaker@ssmu.ca  
3600 McTavish St., Suite 1200, Montréal, QC, H3A 0G3  
*Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories*

**Results of the  
Vote**

In favour ()  
Opposed ()  
Abstain ()

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APPROVED



## Appendix A

### Internal Regulations of Student Groups-03: Accredited Groups of the Students' Society of McGill University

#### Part II: Services

##### 6.4.1 Voting Rights: Executive Structure

Only Members of the Society shall be eligible to hold voting rights and sit in executive ~~or collective member~~ roles for a Service, except where otherwise provided in a Memorandum of Agreement signed by the Society.

##### 6.4.2 Voting Rights: Collective Structure

Any individual shall be eligible to hold voting rights and sit in collective member roles for a Service so long as not less than fifty per cent (50%) of the collective members are Members of the Society.