



MOTION REGARDING DISCRETIONARY FUNDING FOR THE UGE 2020-03-12

Submitted for: 2020-03-12

Submitted to:	SSMU Legislative Council	Document no.:	LEG-PUB-MOT-2020-03-12-002 (to be assigned by Steering)
Moved by:	Sam Haward <i>Vice President Finance</i>	Current Status:	<input type="checkbox"/> FOR APPROVAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> POSTPONED <input type="checkbox"/> COMMITTED <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPROVED
Seconded by:	Darshan Daryanani <i>Arts Representative</i>		

Issue The Union for Gender Empowerment would like to restore its discretionary funding beginning in the 2020-2021 academic year.

Background and Rationale The UGE has had discretionary funding in the recent past which lapsed in 2016. The restoration of discretionary funding the restoration of discretionary funding needs to be approved with the general membership for financial transparency.

Discretionary funding is funding given to McGill and Montreal community organizations and individuals who align with the UGE’s anti-oppressive mandate. Examples of discretionary funding may include but are not limited to financial contribution to events such as Culture Shock and Lavendar Grad, support for the launch of a book of queer poetry, and other initiatives in line with the UGE mandate.

Alignment with Mission **UGE Constitution:** The Union for Gender Empowerment (UGE) is a feminist and trans positive organization that strives to provide services to marginalized peoples in a safe(r) space. This includes an intersectional anti-oppressive mandate that centers the following values:



- Anti-racism
- Anti-colonialism
- Anti-capitalist
- Anti-ableism
- Queer positive
- Harm reduction

Mission Statement

We aim to provide services to any person who identifies with our anti-oppressive, feminist, and trans-positive principles, regardless of gender identity.

The Union for Gender Empowerment provides resources, educational opportunities and a centre for advocacy.

The operations of the UGE are clearly aligned with the principles of Service and Leadership in the preamble of the SSMU Constitution.

Consultations Completed

Consultations were completed with UGE staff and members, and SSMU Vice President Finance.

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

UGE would need to adjust its annual operating budget down by up to 10% depending on the amount given as discretionary funding in a given year.

Given that the UGE has been able to do this effectively in the past, and is under no obligation to give out discretionary funding, the risk to operations is negligible.

Sustainability Considerations

Environmental: None/not relevant.

Social: This would provide an additional source of funding for Campus and Community Groups aligned with the mandate of the UGE.



Impact of Decision and Next Steps

Should this pass at referendum, the UGE will be able to give funding to campus and community organizations that align with the mandate of the UGE.

Motion or Resolution for Approval

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the SSMU Legislative Council will approve the following question for the Winter 2020 referendum period:

Do you agree to allocate up to ten per cent (10%) of the Union for Gender Empowerment's yearly budget to be used for discretionary funding for the organization's external affairs, beginning in the Fall 2020 semester?

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT the SSMU 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.

Results of the Vote

In favour
Opposed
Abstain