



MOTION REGARDING PROPOSAL FOR SAFE SIDEWALKS 2020-04-02

Submitted for: 2020-04-02

Submitted to:	SSMU Legislative Council	Document no.:	LEG-PUB-MOT-2020-04-02-002 (to be assigned by Steering)
Moved by:	Andrew Chase <i>Arts Representative</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:	Beatrice Mackie <i>Law Representative</i>		

Issue

McGill is located in a place that is very cold, and thus in the winter times often has snow and ice. The McGill campus is also built next to Mont Royal, and some of the northern parts of campus have a higher elevation, thus resulting in the nickname of “McHill”. With these two factors, many students have issues with the hills of McGill being slippery and dangerous with ice.

Background and Rationale

Many of the sidewalks of McGill’s hilly roads are managed by the City, and thus the University has no direct control over improvements. Because of this, it makes the most sense that the Vice-President (External) be able to act as a liaison with the City of Montreal, advocating for the safety of students in the wake of treacherous Montreal winters.

While the Vice-President (External) is tasked with many advocacy points, this motion identifies a lobbying priority in the upcoming year.

Alignment with Mission

The improvement of the safety of McGill sidewalks will be beneficial to those suffering from disabilities, as slipping on ice will oftentimes be more harmful to them. This motion is in line with the Society’s Accessibility Policy, as it seeks to remove some of the “substantial barriers to access in the... student life as a whole.”



Consultations Completed

The Vice-President (External) was consulted during the writing of this motion.

In addition, this motion is based on discussions with individuals with disabilities who either were a resident of Upper Residence or had attended classes in the McIntyre Medical Sciences Building and struggled with ascending and descending the hilly sidewalks.

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

Because this motion requires a proposal to be presented in the next Council year, there is a chance that some details are not communicated properly due to Executive turnover. Therefore, it is important that this plan is properly transitioned.

Sustainability Considerations

The Vice-President (External) should ensure that the proposal has sustainability considerations and uses materials that are reusable.

Impact of Decision and Next Steps

Following the passage of this motion, the Vice-President (External) should devise a proposal for how to improve the safety of McGill's sidewalks. Because this is the last meeting of the 2019-2020 Council, this plan will be introduced to the 2020-2021 Legislative Council.

Motion or Resolution for Approval

Be it resolved that the Legislative Council mandate the Vice-President (External) of 2020-2021 present to the Legislative Council a proposal on how to improve the safety of McGill sidewalks from the issues of ice. This proposal should begin being written in April 2020 and should continue through the Executive transition if it is not complete.

Be it further resolved that such a proposal will include ways of communicating and consulting with students, University, and municipal stakeholders along with a proposed way of improving the safety of sidewalks. In particular, the Vice-President (External) must clarify how the Society will advocate that the Municipal Government install these safety measures on public sidewalks.



Be it further resolved that the Legislative Council assert that the highest priority for improving the safety of sidewalks from snow and ice is the portion of Rue University north of Avenue des Pins leading up to Bishop Mountain Hall, the sidewalks of Rue McTavish from Avenue du Docteur Penfield to Avenue des Pins, and Rue Peel along with Rue Stanley from the portions of Rue Sherbrooke to Avenue des Pins.

Results of the
Vote

In favour ()
Opposed ()
Abstain ()
