MOTION REGARDING RENEWAL OF THE SSMU AMBASSADOR FEE 2020-10-08

Submitted for: 2020-10-08

Submitted to: SSMU Legislative Council
Document no.: LEG-PUB-MOT-2020-10-08-002
(to be assigned by Steering)

Moved by: Gifford Marpole
Vice-President (Finance)

Seconded by: Alaina Ge
Nursing Representative

Current Status:
☐ FOR APPROVAL
☒ APPROVED
☐ POSTPONED
☐ COMMITTED
☐ NOT APPROVED

Issue
The SSMU Ambassador Fee, an opt-outable fee at $2.00 per student per term, is set to expire in Fall 2020.

Background and Rationale
The SSMU Ambassador fee provides monetary support for groups that represent McGill and the SSMU at external conferences and competitions, and has been doing so since 2010. Participation in extracurriculars supported by this fee is essential to the Members of the SSMU and to the SSMU itself because it allows Members to represent the university and promotes the involvement in competitions and conferences beyond what is offered at McGill.

In 2019 alone, the fee's demand highly surpassed the amount actually available in the fund. The renewal of this fee will allow students to continue representing the Society and McGill through their involvement at external conferences and competitions.

Alignment with Mission
The renewal of this fee will improve the financial accessibility of external competitions and events. Furthermore, the renewal of this fee is in the best interest of all Members because it is available to all Members who have not opted out of the fee.
Consultations Completed
Consultation was conducted with the Funding Commissioner and Funding Committee members.

Risk Factors and Resource Implications
Should the renewal of this fee not pass, many SSMU Clubs and other student groups will not have the monetary capacity to pursue involvement in external conferences and competitions.

Sustainability Considerations
This fee supports economic sustainability by providing a source of funding that otherwise might not be available to students and student groups, thus allowing them to pursue involvement in external conferences and competitions without fronting large amounts of money from their own pockets.

Impact of Decision and Next Steps
Should the renewal of this fee pass, Members will continue to be charged $2.00/term unless they opt out of the fee. This will allow student groups to continue utilizing the fee by applying for funding through the Funding Committee.

Motion or Resolution for Approval
Be it resolved that the Legislative Council approve the following question for the Fall 2020 referendum period:

Do you agree to the renewal of the opt-outable SSMU Ambassador Fee at $2.00 per term for all part-time and full-time Members of the SSMU, to start in Winter 2021 and be charged until Fall 2025 (inclusive), with the understanding that a majority ‘no’ vote will result in the discontinuation of the fee and impact student group’s ability to pursue involvement in external conferences and competitions?

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

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Votes</th>
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<tr>
<td>In favour</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>Opposed</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abstain</td>
<td>1</td>
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Appendix A : Relevant Appendix