

SSMU Environment Committee Council Report
November 5, 2020

Membership: Enola Hihi (Co-Chair), Lauren Jelinek (Co-Chair), Rebecca Klien, Anna Thabuis, Sarah Seay, Eve Fraser, Adam Livshits, Amelia Lang, Asli Yasa, Audrey, Nelles, Geneva Yang, Iryn McMechan, Kaitlyn Rankin, Laurene Pietri, Robin Moore, Selena Martineau, Sophie Weider, Taarini Andlay, Teema Ismail, Adela Agnew, Ashley Bock,

September:

- Tech Drive: completed the SSMU tech drive and provided the resources to MCLL to continue a tech drive on campus.
- The first meeting introduced members to past projects.
- Brainstorming sessions for events, campaigns, and initiatives the Committee could take on this year.
- Hiring executives for the environment committee to look over different aspects of social media, events, etc.
- Sustainable Events Training: Gave presentations to club leaders and members on how to run sustainable events, in person and virtually, as part of the SSMU Club Workshops.
- Sustainability Co-Curricular Course: we started planning a one month long sustainability course with speakers and discussions, with each week based on a different topic (such as sustainable business and activism for sustainability) to take place in winter 2021.

October:

- PLAN membership: Working with MOOS to become members of the Post-Landfill Action Network. This membership will provide resources, one-on-one zero waste help and consulting, and discounts for sustainable brands to anyone with a mcgill.ca email.
- Trees of Milton Park: decided with the Milton Park community to continue with the planning of the project and continue it for a tentative May date for planting the trees. We would also like to include a commemorative plaque for a collection of trees for the late student who started this project, Cordelia.
- Updating Sustainability Website: Updated the resources page on our website as well as translated it to French. We also worked on promoting blog posts and writing more posts.
- Teaching the Environment: Presentation with the Education Faculty to receive feedback and ideas on our current education program. We also provided them with info on how to bring sustainability into different lessons.

- The event took place Tuesday, October 20 from 6:30pm-8:30pm.
- Sustainabili-TEA: Fun discussion with McGill's SocieTEA to discuss fairtrade tea and sustainable tea practices. This will hopefully be a recurring event with differing topics.
 - The event took place Sunday, October 25 from 4pm-5pm.
- Zero-Waste Map: We are working on making a map showing stores, co-ops, etc. that offer sustainable resources around Montreal.
- No Waste November: Planned events throughout the month to promote sustainability, especially through less wasteful lifestyles. Some of the events are described below.

November:

- MEEP (the McGill Environmental Engagement Project): We began contacting schools to schedule presentations in December. The presentations are discussion-based and focus on climate justice and environmental racism topics. This also engages university students as volunteers. Three classrooms were visited in January and two in February of 2020.
- Nutritower Removals: Vertical gardens have been set up in the McGill cafeterias (RVC, BMH, New Residence). These gardens were a lot of work to maintain and due to COVID cannot be properly maintained. They will be donated to local schools and grow food that will be then donated to food banks. They should be removed in early November.
- Virtual Pink it Yourself with Think Pink: The purpose of this event is to explain the toxins that go into our bodies and environment due to using non-natural commercial cosmetics. We made our own cosmetics and had a guest speaker from BCAQ.
 - The event will take place Thursday, November 19 from 6:30pm-8:30pm.
- Social media giveaways: to raise awareness about no-waste November, we will have giveaways every week on our social media platforms for low or zero-waste brands such as Lush or Bulk Barn.
- Corporate vs individual waste burden discussion with MOOS
- Zero-waste challenge