

Report of the Indigenous Affairs Committee
November 18, 2020

Overview:

The Indigenous Affairs Committee is responsible for increasing visibility and advocating for increased representation and services for Indigenous students.

The Indigenous Affairs Committee works to enforce the SSMU Indigenous Solidarity Policy, while coordinating with Indigenous student groups to meet the needs of the Indigenous student community.

Membership:

The Indigenous Affairs Committee serves as a representative body of the Indigenous student community, with representatives from each Indigenous student group on campus. Non-Indigenous members-at-large provide allyship and aid in the mobilization of the Indigenous Affairs Committee.

Jocelyne Couture, Indigenous Affairs Commissioner, Chair of the Indigenous Affairs Committee
Félix Apaulu, Desautels Indigenous Business Society Representative
Simon Filiatreault, Indigenous Law Association Representative
Vanessa Racine, Indigenous Students Alliance Representative
Anneka Anderson, Indigenous Students Alliance Representative
Catie Galbraith, Indigenous Students Alliance, Member-At-Large
Jonas Hendersen, McGill Chapter of the American Science and Engineering Society, Representative
Joel Grant, McGill Chapter of the American Science and Engineering Society, Member-At-Large
Jo Roy, Social Work Representative, Member-At-Large

The membership of the Indigenous Affairs Committee provides consultation to the Indigenous Affairs Commissioner. The Committee also acts as a body which mobilizes with the support of members-at-large.

Meeting format:

To make the best use of members' time, the meeting format has taken the format of an e-newsletter in Google Docs to provide updates and solicit member feedback. Updates are posted regularly and members are heavily encouraged to leave comments and feedback.

This semester's activities:

- Completion of February 2020 Indigenous Student Consultations report
- Startup funding and support arranged for Indigirecruit, a company whose mission is to increase post-secondary Indigenous student enrollment at Canadian universities
- Collaboration with First Peoples' House on COVID-19 care packages for Indigenous Students
- Communication efforts to increase Indigenous student awareness of SSMU services
- Participation in Board Ad-Hoc Committee on Naming (BACoN)
- Participation in the User Services Functional Planning Group for Fiat Lux project, an advisory group for a project aimed at redesigning the Redpath-McLennan Library
- Purchase and delivery of warm clothing and outerwear to clients of Resilience Montreal, a day centre for homeless and at-risk Indigenous peoples
- Joined the First Peoples' Justice Centre of Montreal's (FPJCM) board of directors as community outreach initiative

Respectfully submitted by

Jocelyne Couture
Indigenous Affairs Commissioner