



MOTION REGARDING AMENDMENTS TO THE TIMELINE OF ELECTIONS AND REFERENDA 2020-12-03

Submitted for: 2020-12-03

Submitted to:	SSMU Legislative Council	Document no.:	LEG-PUB-MOT-2020-12-03-004
Moved by:	Jemark Earle <i>President</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:	Chip Smith <i>Arts Representative</i>		

Issue

The Nomination Period for the SSMU Executive Election currently lasts from January 4th, to March 8th. This is significantly longer than previous precedent, and could contribute to election fatigue within the student body, during an already stressful year. In addition, with the anticipated changes to the start of Winter Semester, the start of the nomination period ought to be pushed back.

Background and Rationale

The Elections SSMU team believes that with the anticipated changes to the start date of the winter semester, as well as the unprecedented nature of this school year, changes need to be made to accommodate for student burnout, and a lack of engagement.

In addition, in order to hold a successful election the Elections SSMU team will need sufficient time to prepare for the Winter Referendum, and Executive Election separately, especially this year, due to COVID-19, where more challenges may arise with regards to soliciting nominations.



Alignment with Mission

As per Section 2, article 6.1 of the Internal Regulations of Elections and Referenda, “ Finalized dates for Elections and Referenda occurring in the winter academic semester shall be determined by the last meeting of the Legislative Council of the fall academic semester”

The Elections SSMU team worked on finalizing these documents and ensuring that the dates correspond.

Consultations Completed

Consultations with the Elections SSMU team, the Governance Manager and the Executive Committee.

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

If this motion is not approved, the Elections SSMU team will continue working with the previously adopted timeline for the Winter 2020 Referendum and Executive Elections.

Sustainability Considerations

Sustainability considerations include, but not limited to: ensuring that candidates have enough time to submit nomination kits and consulting with the Elections SSMU team as needed.

Impact of Decision and Next Steps

If approved, Elections SSMU will be able to begin working on these items. Promotion, campaigning, and voting for this elections will occur entirely online, allowing sufficient time for communication between parties interested in campaigning as well as voters

Motion or Resolution for Approval

Be it resolved that the Legislative Council adopt the Amended Elections Timeline 2020-2021 outlined in this motion and the timeline in Appendix A.



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**Results of the
Vote**

In favour (UNANIMOUS)
Opposed ()
Abstain ()

APPROVED



Appendix A : Relevant Appendix

Executive Elections + Winter 2021 Referendum - run concurrently on two separate ballots

Jan 11th at 9:00 AM - Feb 22nd at 5:00 PM (Nomination Period for the Winter Referendum)

Feb 1st at 9:00 AM - Feb 22nd at 5:00 PM (Nomination Period for the SSMU Executive Election)

Feb 22nd at 6:00 PM - March 8th at 5:00 PM (Extended Nomination Period)

March 8th at 5:30 PM - Candidates Meeting

March 8th at 6:00PM - Campaign Meeting (referendum)

- Meetings can be condensed into one meeting if a large enough space in the SSMU building is available/meeting is online

March 9th at 9:00 AM - March 19th at 6:00 PM (Campaign Period)

March 16th at 9:00 AM - March 19th at 5:00 PM (Polling Period)

March 19th at 6:00 PM - Announcement of Results