



MOTION REGARDING REGARDING REFERENDUM QUESTION ON THE CREATION OF THE GENDER AND SEXUALITY ADVOCACY FEE 2021-02-11

Submitted for: 2021-02-11

Submitted to:	SSMU Legislative Council	Document no.:	LEG-PUB-MOT-2021-02-11-010
Moved by:	Brooklyn Frizzle <i>Vice-President (University Affairs)</i>	Current Status:	<input type="checkbox"/> FOR APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSTPONED <input type="checkbox"/> COMMITTED <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPROVED
Seconded by:	Noah Merali <i>Services Representative</i>		

Issue

In light of the recent creation of the Gender and Sexuality Commissionership and the proposed creation of the Gender and Sexuality Advocacy Committee, this motion seeks to put forward a Question for Referendum Regarding the creation of a Gender and Sexuality Advocacy Fee, dedicated to supporting the activities of the Commissioner and Committee.

Background and Rationale

As part of an ongoing effort of the SSMU Executive to build capacity for institutional advocacy, the Gender and Sexuality Commissionership was established in collaboration with Queer McGill and the Union for Gender Empowerment.

The proposed Gender and Sexuality Advocacy Committee, chaired by the Gender and Sexuality Commissioner, would act as a forum to unite and coordinate the efforts of Queer student groups on campus. To bolster the institutional capacity of groups like Queer McGill and the Union for Gender Empowerment, the Commissioner and Committee would be supported by the implementation of a Gender and Sexuality Advocacy Fee.



Alignment with Mission

This motion is in line with the SSMU’s commitment to groups, programs, and activities that are devoted to the well-being of a group disadvantaged because of irrelevant personal characteristics, as stipulated in the Leadership pillar of the Constitution.

This motion is further in line with SSMU’s mandate to promote a functional, anti-oppressive environment through, as defined by **Article 1 – Interpretation** of the Equity Policy, and all subsections thereof.

Consultations Completed

This motion was drafted in consultation with Queer McGill and the Union for Gender Empowerment, who drafted the Projected Budget Summary in Appendix A.

Likewise, the Vice-President (Finance) was consulted on the Projected Budget Summary and Fee amount.

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

This Fee, like all other student fees, contributes to the inequitable financial burden of post-secondary education.

Currently, the Gender and Sexuality Commissioner is funded jointly by Queer McGill and the Union for Gender Empowerment. Should this motion or the proposed Fee renewal fail, there would be no sustainable funding streams to support the continued functioning of the Commissioner and Committee.

Sustainability Considerations

This motion and the proposed Fee serve to increase the social sustainability of SSMU’s practices and promote a strong, safe and empowering community by endeavouring to minimize systemic power imbalances within society and foster a culture of anti-oppression, as outlined in section 3.2 of the Sustainability Policy.

Impact of Decision and Next Steps

Should this motion succeed, a ‘Yes’ campaign would be formed by the Vice-President (University Affairs), alongside the Gender and Sexuality Commissioner, Queer McGill, and the Union for Gender Empowerment, to ensure the successful adoption of the Gender and Sexuality Advocacy Fee at Referendum.



Should the Referendum Question succeed, a department within the SSMU would be created to house the funds collected by the Gender and Sexuality Advocacy Fee.

This department, the “Gender and Sexuality Advocacy Fund,” would support the campaigns and activities of the Gender and Sexuality Advocacy Committee alongside the hourly wages of the Gender and Sexuality Commissioner, alongside any additional positions introduced by the Commissioner in the fulfilment of their mandate.

**Motion or
Resolution for
Approval**

Be it resolved, that the following Question be approved for the Winter 2021 Referendum Period:

[INSERT REVISED WORDING FROM DPSLL]

Be it resolved, that this motion be included with the above Question for the Winter 2021 Referendum Period.

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**

In favour ()
Opposed ()
Abstain ()



Appendix A : Projected Budget Summary 2020-2021

		Budget for 2021-2022	Year To Date (YTD)	Remaining amount
Revenues				
4900	Student Fees	\$11,429.28	\$0.00	\$11,429.28
	Per student, per semester:	\$0.24		
4998	Previous Years Surplus	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Subtotal:	\$11,429.28	\$0.00	\$11,429.28
Expenses				
6100	Materials and Supplies	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
6111	Food & Beverages	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
6120	Printing	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
6139	Office Supplies	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$80.00
6320	Advertising & Promotion	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
6340	Entertainment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6361	Honorariums	\$480.00	\$0.00	\$480.00
6370	Rentals	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
6411	Donations (Discretionary Fund)	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.00
6809	Benefits	\$468.00	\$0.00	\$468.00
6812	Casual Salaries	\$6,472.20	\$0.00	\$6,472.20
6818	AUTO VAC	\$258.89	\$0.00	\$258.89
	Subtotal:	\$10,284.09		\$10,284.09
	Total:	\$1,145.19	\$0.00	