



MOTION REGARDING REGARDING REFERENDUM QUESTION ON THE RENEWAL OF THE SAFETY SERVICES FEE 2021-02-11

Submitted for: 2021-02-11

Submitted to: SSMU Legislative Council **Document no.:** LEG-PUB-MOT-2021-02-11-005

Moved by: Gifford Marpole
Vice-President (Finance) **Current Status:** FOR APPROVAL
 APPROVED
 POSTPONED
 COMMITTED
 NOT APPROVED

Seconded by: Jake Reed
Engineering Representative

Issue The SSMU Safety Services Fee, a non-opt-outable fee at \$3.97 per student per term, is set to expire after Winter 2021.

Background and Rationale The SSMU Safety Services, McGill Student Emergency Response Team (MSERT), Sexual Assault Centre (SACOMSS), Drive Safe and Walk Safe, are accredited SSMU Services that provide resources such as education, safety and support to members available free of charge.

The McGill Students' Emergency Response Team (M-SERT) is a volunteer-operated Service that provides emergency first aid coverage across McGill and to the greater Montreal community.

DriveSafe is a volunteer-operated Service that provides free and safe rides for McGill students from any location on the island of Montreal to their home.

Walksafe is a volunteer-operated Service that provides walking accompaniment for students unable or unwilling to travel alone around the McGill campus and Montreal area.



The Sexual Assault Centre of McGill Students' Society (SACOMSS) is an organization committed to supporting survivors of sexual assault and their allies through direct support, advocacy, and outreach.

The Safety Service Fee, originally created during the Fall 2015 SSMU Referendum period, provides necessary funding for the Safety Services to continue their operations in service of the SSMU Membership.

Alignment with Mission

This motion aligns with SSMU's mission to improve the quality and accessibility of education and provide outstanding services for the SSMU Membership.

Consultations Completed

Consultations were conducted with the Vice-President (Finance) and the Safety Services (MSERT, Drivesafe, Walksafe, SACOMSS).

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

Should the renewal of this fee not pass, the Safety Services will not receive the funding necessary to continue their operations.

Sustainability Considerations

This motion considers the economic sustainability of the Safety Services, the economic sustainability of Members who may otherwise have to find more expensive options external to the SSMU, and social sustainability by providing educational resources and service that focuses on the safety and well-being of McGill Students.

Impact of Decision and Next Steps

Should the renewal of this fee pass, Members will continue to be charged \$3.97/term, excluding summer. This will allow the Safety Services to continue their operations.

Should Part 2 of the motion pass, this will allow SACOMSS to offer up to 10% of their annual budget in discretionary funding to projects, initiatives and events in line with its mandate that they do not have easy access to funding sources.



Motion or Resolution for Approval

Be it resolved that the Legislative Council approve the following questions for the Winter 2020 referendum period:

Whereas, the SSMU Safety Network Fee funds the following services:

*\$0.60 for Drive Safe,
\$1.50 for MSERT,
\$1.75 for SACOMSS, and
\$0.12 for Walk Safe*

(PART 1): Do you agree to renew the non-opt-outable SSMU Safety Network Fee of \$3.97 per student per semester (excluding summer) payable by all undergraduate students who are members of SSMU, starting in Fall 2021 and ending in Winter 2026 (inclusive) at which point it will be brought back to the Membership for renewal, with the understanding that a majority “no” vote would result in the discontinuation of funding for the Safety Services?

(PART 2): Do you further support that SACOMSS be able to offer up to 10% of its fee budget in discretionary funding to projects, initiatives and events in line with its mandate that do not have easy access to funding sources?

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	(23)
Opposed	(1)
Abstain	(4)
