REPORT: STEERING COMMITTEE 2021-03-11

Submitted for: March 11, 2021

The Steering Committee of the Students’ Society of McGill University (SSMU) reviewed the submissions for this meeting of the Legislative Council at 11:30 AM EST on March 7, 2021.

Attendance

Present: Speaker Hill, Parliamentarian Wong, President Earle, Speaker-on-Call Lee, Councillor Reed, Councillor Smith.

Absent: Governance Manager.

Guest Speakers

● There were no guest speakers at this committee’s session.

New Business

● Motions reviewed by the committee are listed below. The committee undertook the formatting, stylistic, spelling, and grammatical changes it deemed necessary to all motions and notice of motions submitted by the deadline.
  ○ Notice of Motion Regarding the Adoption of the Harm Reduction Policy 2021-03-11

Business Arising

● The following motions were presented as Notices of Motion at the previous meeting of the Legislative Council and are returning as motions to be duly scrutinised, questioned, debated, and voted upon.
  ○ Motion Regarding a Policy on Harmful Military Technology 2021-01-28

Presentations

● There are no presentations for this evening Legislative Council.
Steering Committee Innovations

● The Steering Committee has put forward a number of recommendations for Legislative Council:
  ○ The Speaker has the authority to rule extensions out of order, if she believes them unnecessary or too long in duration.
  ○ The Speaker has the authority to end debate, if she believes necessary:
    ■ For example, if the conversation has begun to enter a back-and-forth situation.
    ■ If the Speaker notices that individuals raising interventions are only rais
  ○ ‘Ad libitum’ extensions will be ruled out of order by the Speaker.
  ○ For purposes of the meeting, unless otherwise stated, default speaking limits are as follows:
    ■ Question Period: Five (5) minutes
    ■ Debate: Five (5) minutes
  ○ Priority for interventions will be given to individuals who have not yet spoken, or alternatively, the person who has not spoken for the longest duration of time

● From now on, the Speaker will be ruling motions to postpone reports out of order, if the relevant individuals have simply forgotten to submit the reports in an orderly fashion.
  ○ Late reports will be referred to the Accountability Committee for suspensions.
  ○ As stated prior, all Executives are responsible for communicating upcoming committee reports to the relevant individuals.
  ○ Furthermore, Councillors should be actively checking the reporting schedule.

● Comments, questions, and suggestions are welcome and may be sent to speaker@ssmu.ca.

Confidential Session

● There will not be a confidential session this evening.

Faithfully submitted in service,

Lauren Hill
Speaker of Legislative Council