



MOTION REGARDING SAFETY SERVICES FEE INCREASE REFERENDUM QUESTION 2021-10-28

Submitted for: 2021-10-28

Submitted to:	SSMU Legislative Council	Document no.:	LEG-PUB-MOT-2021-10-28-003
Moved by:	Nathan Claret <i>Services Representative</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:	Eric Sader <i>Vice-President (Finance)</i>		

Issue The McGill Student Emergency Response Team (MSERT) is seeking an increase in their service fee by \$0.35 per student per semester.

Background and Rationale This increase to the SSMU Safety Network Fee would allow MSERT to continue to provide standard and emergency first aid courses for free to all SSMU members. It would also allow them to hire more instructors and offer more courses to meet the increased demand.

Alignment with Mission Prior to this semester, SSMU members would have to pay a \$120 fee which, though less expensive than other providers since it was partially subsidized by MSERT, still posed a significant financial barrier to students seeking to get certification. These certifications are necessary for some programs and careers and it is part of the SSMU's mission to provide such resources to its members. Providing this training for free would also increase the number of SSMU members who are first aid certified, thus creating a safer campus and community for all.



Consultations Completed

This question has been discussed with and reviewed by the MSERT Executive Team, the SSMU Vice-President (Finance) and the Deputy-Provost (Student Life and Learning).

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

If this question does not pass the referendum, MSERT would be unable to offer free first aid courses to SSMU members. First aid courses in English are incredibly difficult to find in Montreal and are often very expensive and far from campus.

Sustainability Considerations

Currently, MSERT is subsidizing the cost of first aid courses through a portion of the budget not used in the 2020-2021 school year, but this fee increase would ensure that the invaluable resource of first aid courses remain accessible to all SSMU members next semester and beyond.

Impact of Decision and Next Steps

The question would be included in the Fall 2021 Referendum Period by Elections SSMU and sent to the Membership for approval.

If the question is approved by the Membership, the fee increase will go into effect as of Winter 2022 semester.

Motion or Resolution for Approval

Be it resolved that the Legislative Council approve the following question for the Fall 2021 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;

Whereas, MSERT is now seeking to provide their first aid courses to SSMU members free-of-charge every semester;

Whereas a majority-no vote would result in the discontinuation of the First Aid courses done by MSERT;

Do you agree to the increase of the opt-outable SSMU Safety network Fee of \$3.97 per semester to \$4.32 per semester (excluding summer), payable by SSMU Members starting in Winter 2022 and ending in Fall 2026 (inclusive), at which point it will be brought back to the Membership for renewal, with the



understanding that a majority 'no' vote will result in the continuation of the fee at its current rate, resulting in the discontinuation of the First Aid courses done by MSERT?

Be it further resolved, that the 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.

Be it further resolved, a budget must be included as an appendix to the ballot in the event of both a "yes" or "no" result.

Results of the
Vote

In favour	(23)
Opposed	(0)
Abstain	(0)
