



# MOTION REGARDING AMENDMENT ON THE MORATORIUM ON ANCILLARIES FEES 2022-02-17

Submitted for: 2022-02-17

**Submitted to:** SSMU Legislative Council      **Document no.:** LEG-PUB-MOT-2022-02-17-001

**Moved by:** Sêdami-Habib Djossou  
Athletic Councillor      **Current Status:**  FOR APPROVAL  
 APPROVED  
 POSTPONED  
 COMMITTED  
 NOT APPROVED

**Seconded by:** Karla Heisele Cubilla  
VP Student Life

## Issue

The [moratorium](#), adopted by the SSMU in 2019, impedes Athletics and Recreation to request the Legislative Council for a question in the referendum. By not introducing this question, Athletics and Recreation is unable to collect the facility improvement fee, this severely impacts the quality of the facilities students benefit from.

## Background and Rationale

The moratorium on ancillary fees was approved by the Legislative Council on October the 26th 2019. The goal of the moratorium or temporary prohibition was to *put pressure on the McGill's University administration in order for them to divest from companies whose main activities involve extracting, distributing and/or selling fossil fuels.*

*Divesting from companies that produce harm to the environment is a priority, but by the belief that blocking this fee will politically pressure McGill's administration to divest; the Athletics and Recreation unit is the one who suffers the consequences of not receiving funds that enhance students' experience and services at the facilities provided.*

Athletics and Recreation is a self-funded unit although they collect money from ancillary fees. That being said, Athletics and Recreation is being financially punished for something they have no control of. McGill



*Administration is responsible for divesting, the Athletics and Recreation unit as a self-funded unit has no authoritative power on divesting matters.*

*Athletics and Recreation wants to continue to provide excellent services for students; for this to occur they do have to improve the facilities and ensure they are in great quality for the activities occurring on site. Providing students facilities that will enhance their health and further their careers in athletics is what they want to achieve, therefore the approval of the fee will only bring benefit to students.*

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### Alignment with Mission

*The SSMU mission is to: “Represent and advance the diverse needs of McGill Undergraduate students by improving the quality and accessibility of education, providing outstanding services, and promoting social, cultural, and personal opportunities.”*

*This motion aligns with the SSMU mission because it will allow a referendum question pertaining to greater facility improvements, such as the repair of the ventilation system in McConnell Arena or the retiling of the memorial pool in addition to more projects.*

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### Consultations Completed

*Executive Committee , Environmental committee , Divest McGill, Governance Manager*

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### Risk Factors and Resource Implications

*The main concern this amendment will bring is the idea that A&R is taking a stand against divestment. Amending the moratorium on ancillary fees will also highlight the fact that the moratorium is not as effective as we thought.*

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### Sustainability Considerations

*The adoption of this motion will allow Athletics & Recreation to ask a referendum question about the reintroduction of a facility improvement fee. The amendment will allow Athletic & Recreation to be less limited.*

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**Impact Decision and Next Steps** of *If this motion is approved, Athletic & Recreation will not be bound anymore by moratorium on ancillary fees. A second motion that would ask the SSMU Legislative Council to present a referendum question to reintroduce the facility improvement fee will be presented.*

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**Motion or Resolution for Approval** Be it resolved that this motion is approved, Athletics & Recreation will not be bound by the moratorium on ancillary fees and will be allowed to demand the addition of an ancillary fee.

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**Results of the Vote**

In favour	(8)
Opposed	(15)
Abstain	(1)

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Not Approved



## Appendix A : Relevant Appendix

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT the Society's Executives be mandated to form a "No" Referendum committee should McGill University force a vote on new Ancillary Fees, increases to existing Ancillary Fees, or any other new fees (with the exceptions of fees collected by Athletics and Recreation) or increases to existing fees upon the student body until McGill University: 1. Divests from its investments in companies whose primary business is the extraction, distribution, and/or sale of fossil fuels, per Appendix A; and 2. Pledges to refrain from investing in all companies whose primary business is the extraction, distribution, and/or sale of fossil fuels, and from all mutual funds that invest in such companies in the future;