



MOTION REGARDING REINTRODUCTION OF THE FACILITY IMPROVEMENT FEE REFERENDUM QUESTION 2022-02-17

Submitted for: 2022-02-17

Submitted to: SSMU Legislative Council **Document no.:** LEG-PUB-MOT-2022-02-17-002

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

Seconded by: Karla Heisele Cubilla
VP Student Life

Issue

The facility improvement fee is a critical way for the athletics facilities to operate. Since McGill Athletics lost the ability to raise the fee due to the moratorium on ancillary fees, important work such as the ventilation system in McConnell Arena renewal and the changes in the AC systems in the fieldhouse and gymnasium have been postponed due to the lack of funding. Such issues of critical importance to the McGill community can not be deferred for eternity, nor for the duration of McGill's divestment process.

Background and Rationale

The facility improvement fee was not renewed in the Winter 2019 referendum. Students expressed discontentment about the derogatory name the McGill men's sports teams previously had. Since then, Athletics and Recreation have taken actions to change the name and continue to go forward and create a more welcoming environment for everyone.

During the Legislative Council of January 20, 2022, a discussion on the moratorium and how it had a greater impact on the students than on the McGill administration was initiated.



The athletics facilities improvement is crucial for the basic functioning of the facility. If the motion fails, athletics facilities will not be able to address the current issues such as the retile of the Memorial pool or the air conditioning in fieldhouse and the gym. Money reserved for services will be reduced in order to compensate for the lack of resources. In addition, we could see an increase in the venues location prices and services to students

Alignment with Mission

The motion aligns with SSMU's mission, as the McGill facilities offer a place for students to exercise in a great environment. Physical health is an integral part of overall well being, and we need to make it more accessible for everyone.

Consultations Completed

Exec (pending). Election SSMU (pending) McGill Indigenous Affairs Commissioner and Indigenous Student Alliance (pending)

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

Some people may not understand why the money collected by the Athletic & Recreation fee can not be used to revamp the complex.

Students may also wonder why the McGill Administration is not paying for the repairs and additions Athletics & Recreation wants to make.

Sustainability Considerations

In order to be as sustainable as possible, McGill athletics and recreation will make sure it uses eco-friendly material. We will make sure that renovations that need to be made will respect high sustainability norms.

This motion will allow Athletics and Recreation to relieve the stress it is currently facing because of the lack of financial resources.

Impact Decision and Next Steps

of If the motion is approved, a referendum question concerning the reintroduction of the fee will be featured in the incoming winter referendum ballot of Winter 2022.



Motion or Resolution for Approval

Be it resolved that the Legislative Council approve the following question for the Winter 2022 referendum period:

Be it resolved, that the Legislative Council approve the following question for the Winter 2022 referendum period:

“Do you agree to the implementation of the non opt-ouable Referral Services Fee of \$10 per semester (excluding summer), payable by SSMU Members starting in Fall 2022 and ending in Fall 2027 (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 not being paid, impacting Athletic & Recreation ability to provide important repairs such the AC system in the fieldhouse and the Currie gymnasium”

Be it further resolved, that a budget must be included as an appendix to the ballot.

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.

Results of the Vote

In favour ()
Opposed ()
Abstain ()
