



# SSMU BOARD OF DIRECTORS PUBLIC MINUTES

February 10, 2022

The Board of Directors meeting of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) will be held by teleconference on Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 18:00.

Present: Alexandre Ashkir (Chair, non-voting), Eric Sader (Officer), Claire Downie (Officer), Karla Heisele Cubilla (Officer), Sarah Paulin (Officer), Sacha Delouvrier (Officer, non-voting), Benson Wan (Council Member), Charlotte Gurung (Council Member), Yara Coussa (Council Member), Ghania Javed (Council Member), Jaz Kaur (Parliamentarian, non-voting), Jas Sidhu (Member at Large)

Absent: Darshan Daryanani (Officer, non-voting), Daniel Dufour (General Manager, non-voting)

## 1. Call to Order: **18:09**

The Chair calls the Public Session to order at 18:09 on Thursday, February 10, 2022.

## 2. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair presents the Land Acknowledgement.

The SSMU acknowledges that McGill University is situated on the traditional and unceded territory of the Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee nations. The SSMU recognizes and respects these nations as the true and constant custodians of the lands and waters on which we meet today. Further, the SSMU commits to and respects the traditional laws and customs of these territories.

## 3. Attendance

The Chair notes the absences of Officer Daryanani, Director Javed, and the General Manager.

## 4. Adoption of the Agenda – **ADOPTED**

The Chair presents the Agenda.

Director Wan adds an agenda item titled 'introductions' after agenda item four.

Director Wan motions to adopt the agenda, seconded by Director Paulin. There is no opposition.



The Agenda is adopted.

5. Introductions

The Chair introduces the Board membership and asks members to introduce themselves.

6. Minutes for Approval:

- a. Board of Directors Public Minutes 2021-11-04 – **APPROVED**
- b. Board of Directors Public Minutes 2022-01-06 – **APPROVED**

The Public Board Minutes of November 4, 2021 and January 6, 2022 are approved.

7. Motions for Approval:

- a. Motion to approve \$17,027.30 + tax for Ballroom Furniture (Director Heisele Cubilla) – **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Director Heisele Cubilla presents motion. She stresses the importance of renovating the furniture for the Ballroom, and to have more events.

Question Period

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**Question:**

Director Wan comments that a request for a budget for certain issues and asks to amend the motion.

**Answer:**

Director Heisele Cubilla assures that a budget has been evaluated with Director Sader. Director Sader affirms that.

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Debate Period:

Director Wan thanks Director Heisele Cubilla for multiple options, and work towards motion.

Director Heisele Cubilla motions to vote by unanimous consent. Seconded by Director Wan. There is no opposition.



The motion is unanimously approved.

- b. Motion to mandate the VP Internal to set up a process mandating External bodies of peer support to come to BoD meetings that discuss sensitive/ triggering topics by next Board meeting (Director Coussa) – **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Director Heisele Cubilla notes that this item was presented in the last Board to discuss topics to extend breakout room. She inquires about the body of people who may volunteer for this group.

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**Question:**

Director Paulin inquires whether it will be people from inside or from the external body of SSMU.

**Answer:**

Director Heisele Cubilla claims that an external body may be more appropriate.

Director Javed answers that it may be peer support volunteers.

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**Debate Period:**

Director Paulin indicates her support for this initiative. However, she considers that bringing an external person may induce breaches of confidentiality.

Director Heisele Cubilla asks to table points of discussion until Director Coussa is present.

Director Heisele Cubilla motions to suspend rules, seconded by Director Sader.

Director Coussa joins the meeting, time unknown.

The Chair moves back to motion 10.b. Director Coussa presents a motion, clarifying that an external party could attend Board meetings when sensitive topics may arise.

**Debate Period resumes:**

Director Paulin agrees with the initiative, and offers support to make it an official group. She cautions about confidentiality.

Director Coussa suggests having an invitation based on topics of conversation.



Director Paulin adds an action item to start a planning group with more concrete details.

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**Question:**

Director Wan asks about the logistics.

**Answer:**

Director Coussa clarifies that mandating the contracts of externals may not be possible yet.

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Director Paulin sets a friendly amendment to motion. The Chair allows it.

Director Coussa sets a friendly amendment to set up the process to board by next meeting. There is no opposition. The Chair amends motion.

Director Paulin motions to vote by unanimous consent, seconded by Director Javed. Motion is unanimously approved.

8. For discussion:

a. Update on the Collective Insurance Plan and the AMF

Director Sader presents the situation with Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF). He updates that the file clarifies that a strike has been passed to fight the AMF. Still SSMU must take the insurance for next year. The AMF is hesitant to implement regulations that would end collective students through student associations. A conference may happen soon.

There is no further discussion.

9. Confidential Session: **18:42**

The Board of Directors enters into a Confidential Session at 18:42.

10. Executive Committee Public Report – **APPROVED**

Director Paulin presents a public report. She states that there are more applications open for Gerts Kitchen staff daytime and extended hours. She claims that there is more money for Black History Month with Concordia. She states that the Committee approved additional hirings. She mentions motions to open Gerts have been approved.



Director Wan motions to ratify the report, seconded by Director Javed. There is no opposition.

The Report is ratified.

11. Motions for Approval:

- a. Motion to ratify the Nominating Committee Report and Recommendations 2022-02-10  
– **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Return to Public Session, time unknown.

Director Paulin inquired about the postponement after confidential meeting, seconded by Director Sader.

Director Javed notes the point of personal privilege that she has joined the meeting at 18:24.

Director Sader presents the Motion. He states that candidates have been interviewed and assessed. Three candidates have been selected.

Question Period:

There are no questions.

Debate Period:

Director Wan welcomes new candidates to the board. He claims 'Welcome a-board'!

Director Sader motions to vote by unanimous consent, seconded by Director Coussa. There is no opposition.

The Nominating Committee Report is ratified.

12. Adjournment: **20:45**

The Board of Directors meeting is adjourned at 20:45.

*Darshan Daryanani*

Darshan Daryanani, President