



SSMU BOARD OF DIRECTORS PUBLIC MINUTES

May 12, 2022

The Board of Directors meeting of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) will be held by teleconference on Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 18:00.

Present: Alexandre Ashkir (Chair, non-voting), Jaz Kaur (Parliamentarian, non-voting), Eric Sader (Officer), Charlotte Gurung (Council Member), Melissa Dunn (Member at Large), Asiyah Siddique (Member at Large), Sarah Paulin (Officer), Karla Heisele Cubilla (Officer), Benson Wan (Council Member)

Absent: Kevin Franceschini (Member at Large), Ana Farias (Recording Secretary, non-voting)

1. Call to Order: **18:07**

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 18:07 on May 12, 2022.

2. 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 absence of Director Heisele Cubilla, Director Wan, Director Franceschini and Recording Secretary Farias.

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

Director Sader motions to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Director Paulin. There is no opposition.

5. Question Period (**5**)

The Chair presents the questions by the student body constituents.



Question:

A constituent asks about the situation of harassment from campus media referred to in a recent email issued by the SSMU. The constituent asks about the current Board procedures to interact with campus media.

Answer:

Director Sader mentions that the letter did not refer to one instance or situation. He states that the reason for issuing the statement is to address a culture of personal attacks to the Board and SSMU members. He argues that there is targeted behavior about the character of individuals and general behaviors attacking people. He mentions that criticism is acceptable. However, there have been instances of abuse with comments about the behavior of individuals. He mentions that directors have renounced their positions due to this issue.

Question:

A constituent inquires about the statement of the letter where there is a mention that individuals left their position due to mental health. The constituent asks why the student body is blamed for this reason, emphasizing that SSMU has built its own toxic work environment.

Answer:

Director Sader responds that the letter is not an attempt to undermine the issues within the SSMU. He mentions that the intention of the letter is to recognize the reality of outside student groups that contribute to the level of situation. He states that posting should be aware to address target decision making instead of individuals character.

Director Wan and Director Heisele Cubilla join the meeting at 20:15.

There are no further questions.

6. Confidential Session: **18:19**

The Board of Directors enter into a Confidential Session at 18:19.

7. Adjournment: **21:32**

Director Heisele Cubilla motions to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Wan. There is no opposition.



Board of Directors | Conseil d'administration

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Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories

The meeting adjourned at 21:32.

Risann Wright, President

APPROVED