



MOTION REGARDING THE BLACK STUDENTS' NETWORK'S FEE RENEWAL REFERENDUM QUESTION 2023-02-09

Submitted for: 2023-02-09

Submitted to:	SSMU Legislative Council	Document no.:	LEG-PUB-MOT-2023-02-09-024
Moved by:	Hassanatou Koulibaly <i>VP Student Life</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:	Nadia Dakdouki <i>Clubs Representative</i>		

Issue

This motion presents the renewal of the Black Students' Network (BSN) of McGill University of \$1.00 per student, per semester student fee. The BSN is a SSMU service whose goal is to facilitate the integration of Black Students on McGill campus and further the culture, goals, and academics of the McGill Black community.

Background and Rationale

As stated by the BSN's constitution BSN's mandate is to:

"3.1.1. Promote the interests of Black people and sensitize McGill University and the wider Montreal community to issues concerning these peoples.
3.1.2. Work towards making the McGill campus safe and accessible for Black students in order to support their academic success as well as mental and physical well-being."

This academic year, BSN has stepped up its commitment to the Black student community of McGill by using its surplus to organize more events, programs, mediums, and initiatives. The result has been a reforging of the links in the post-pandemic Black student community and an increased participation in University life by Black students. The BSN would like to



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carry these efforts into the next academic years by renewing its \$1.00 fee. As BSN will be using up our revenue from student fees for this year, BSN will need the same revenue for next year to keep functioning. Our organization hopes to solidify and promote the Black community at McGill furthermore in the coming years through this funding.

Alignment with Mission

SSMU strives to represent the whole of the student body, this includes its Black members. With this, the SSMU will further the Black voices of the student body and their integration in the wider McGill ecosystem.

Consultations Completed

Consultations were completed with VP Finance, VP Student Life, Black Students' Network, and the Governance Manager

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

If this fee is not approved, the BSN would not have the finances necessary to support the Black community at McGill like it has done in the past years since its creation.

Sustainability Considerations

The BSN is dedicated to conduct its operation in a sustainable and ethical way that safeguards the well being of our environment and of the communities we interact with.

Impact of Decision and Next Steps

If the resolution is approved, the \$1.00 student fee going towards the Black Student Network each semester will be renewed.

The Elections SSMU team will review the referendum question and include it on the Winter 2023 ballot.

Motion or Resolution for Approval

Be it resolved that the Legislative Council approve the following question for the Winter 2023 referendum period:



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Do you agree to the renewal of the opt-outable Black Students' Network Fee of \$1.00 per student, per semester (excluding summer), payable by all undergraduate students who are members of the SSMU, starting in Fall 2023 and ending in Winter 2028 (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 termination of all undergraduate fee-levy funding to the Black Students' Network?

Be it further resolved, that the SSMU 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 resolved that, the Legislative Council approves, and recommend the ratification to the Board of Directors.

Results of the Vote

In favour	(UNANIMOUS)
Opposed	()
Abstain	()



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Appendix A : Relevant Appendix

<https://ssmu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Motion-Regarding-the-Black-Students%E2%80%99-Network-Fee-for-the-2018-Winter-Referendum-APPROVED-2018-02-22.pdf?x21981>

Appendix B : Previous and Current BSN budgets

2021-2022 Black Students' Network Budget:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1CRe2del2MXG0B2IoVj-D8ueiLQZPVzxc/edit?usp=sharing&oid=103554461022151810887&rtpof=true&sd=true>

2022-2023 Black Students' Network Budget:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1oyaQQHDSDF2C_DN_IOUMIYMbIb9FyCDdbOipPbXvVvI/edit?usp=sharing

APPROVED