



## Association étudiante de l'Université McGill

*Située sur les territoires traditionnels des collectivités Haudenosaunee et Anishinaabe.*

## Students' Society of McGill University

*Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories.*

[ssmu.ca](http://ssmu.ca) | (514) 398-6800 | 3600 rue McTavish, Suite 1200, Montréal, QC, H3A 0G3

# SSMU BOARD OF DIRECTORS PUBLIC MINUTES

August 17, 2023

The Board of Directors meeting of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) will be held by teleconference and in the SSMU Boardroom on Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 18:00.

Present: Jonathan Dong (Chair, non-voting), Sierra Fallis (Deputy Speaker, non-voting), Lisa Pennel (Parliamentarian, non-voting), Alexandre Ashkir (Officer), Nadia Dakdouki (Officer), Lalia Katchelewa (Officer), Alice Fang (Officer), Peter Tai (Council Member), Liam Gaither (Officer, non-voting), Hassanatou Koulibaly (Officer, non-voting)

Absent: Julia Nam (Council Member), Coco Jie Wang (Council Member), Jon Barlas (Officer, non-voting)

1. Introduction of Dias
2. Call to Order: **18:13**

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 18:13.

3. 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.

4. Attendance

The Chair takes attendance.

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

The agenda is distributed.



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Director Dakdouki adds a discussion point.

Director Ashkir seconds Director Dakdouki's discussion point. He states that seconds for adding discussion items are not needed, and does not need to be voted on before the agenda is adopted.

Officer Koulibaly suggests that this discussion take place in the confidential session.

Director Dakdouki is amenable to this.

Seeing no further changes, the agenda is adopted.

### 6. Minutes for Approval:

- a. SSMU Board of Directors Public Minutes 2023-05-18 – **APPROVED**
- b. SSMU Board of Directors Public Minutes 2023-06-19 – **APPROVED**
- c. SSMU Board of Directors Public Minutes 2023-07-20 – **APPROVED**

Seeing no changes or corrections, the minutes stand approved as distributed.

### 7. Motions for Approval:

- a. Motion to approve the following Elections and Referenda Calendar for the 2023-2024 year, with future amendments to be presented to the Legislative Council if necessary throughout the year (Director Ashkir) – **APPROVED**

Director Ashkir presents Motion 7a, which is presented to the Board when the Elections SSMU team picks the dates of the elections. It is a regular motion, presented every year. There have been no significant changes.

Seeing no questions or debate, Director Ashkir motions to call the question.

Director Katchelewa seconds this motion.

Seeing no opposition, Motion 7a is approved.



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- b. Motion to select Director Ashkir as the responsible for the alcohol permit by resolution, which means that they be the Régie's contact person should the Régie need to contact the SSMU (Director Ashkir) – **APPROVED**

Director Ashkir presents Motion 7b. He states that the Régie now requires that a Board member be in charge of the alcohol permit. They need to pick someone to represent the Board, and he suggests himself. The General Manager or the Comptroller usually does this job, but because of the changes at the Régie it must now be a voting Director. He is able to do it, unless another Director wants to.

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### Question:

Director Dakdouki asks what the contact person is responsible for.

### Answer:

Director Ashkir answers that this person would be responsible for dealing with any potential issues with the alcohol permit. The Régie has requested a point person for the permit. He is unsure why they want a Director, because other employees would be much better suited to be the callperson.

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Director Dakdouki amends the motion to put Director Ashkir in charge of the alcohol permit.

Director Ashkir seconds this motion to amend.

Seeing no opposition, the amendment is made.

Director Katchelewa motions to call the question.

Director Ashkir seconds this motion.

Seeing no opposition, Motion 7b is approved.

- c. Motion to nominate the following 3 Directors to the Nominating Committee for the selection of new Board Members recruitment period (Director Ashkir) – **APPROVED**

Director Ashkir states that three (3) Directors are needed to sit on the Nominating Committee, especially since the Board is so small right now. The Nom Com selects new Board members, which is crucial right now. They are also missing Members at Large. This motion was reviewed by the Governance Manager, but he is unsure whether or not Nominating Committee members need to be



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non-Executive Directors. He sends the Governance Manager a message and encourages Directors to nominate themselves.

Officer Koulibaly states that all Directors and Officers can nominate themselves, according to the Terms of Reference.

Director Ashkir urges people to put their candidacy forward, as the Nominating Committee is very important.

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### Question:

Director Dakdouki nominates herself. She asks when the meetings will be, and what the time commitment is.

### Answer:

Director Ashkir answers that the meeting dates will be decided with the members, and the Parliamentarian also has a timeline.

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The Parliamentarian states that the Nominating Committee will meet as necessary to collect new members.

Director Katchelewa nominates herself. She is unsure about the other members of the Committee, and asks if anyone else is available.

Director Ashkir suggests that Director Tai nominate himself since he is a non-Executive Director, and his perspective is important. If Director Tai cannot nominate himself, Director Ashkir or other Executives can nominate themselves.

Director Tai states that he does not have time.

Director Dakdouki puts her name forward.

Director Ashkir nominates himself, and motions to amend Motion 8c with the names of Directors Katchelewa, Dakdouki, and Ashkir.

Seeing no opposition, Director Ashkir motions to call the question.

Director Dakdouki seconds the motion to call the question.



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Seeing no opposition, Motion 7c is approved.

- i. Director Katchelewa
  - ii. Director Dakdouki
  - iii. Director Ashkir
- d. Motion to approve the Fall 2023 Activities Night Budget for an amount of \$12,664.22 (amount includes 10% contingency) and based on the provided budget (Director Dakdouki) – **APPROVED**
- i.  Activities Night Fall 2023 Budget

Director Dakdouki presents Motion 7d. As VP Student Life, she is looking to approve the Activities Night budget, which includes a 10% contingency. Usually this budget does not need to be approved by the Board, but with their current financial situation she wants to present it to the Board out of courtesy. The cost will be \$12,664.22, including a 10% contingency plan. A few things still need to be updated, and there are new sponsorships coming in, which will lower the cost. Director Katchelewa asks what the main expenses are.


Director Dakdouki answers that ½ the amount is table and chair rentals, around \$6,000. Other big expenses include tabling materials (passes and promotional materials, lanyards). Other costs include stickers and postcards, around \$1,000 each. She adds that this motion was reviewed by the VP Finance as well.

Director Dakdouki motions to call the question.

Director Katchelewa seconds this motion.

Seeing no opposition, Motion 7d is approved.

### 8. For Discussion:

- a. Nominating Committee Recruitment Timeline (Parliamentarian Pennel)
  - i.  SSMU Nominating Committee Recruitment Timeline Fall 2023 - 2023-08-17

Parliamentarian Pennel presents a timeline for recruitment of Board and Judicial Board members, including the International Student Representative and Members at Large. She states that all Nominating Committee members are volunteers. Applications will be promoted on social media, and will be open from the end of August to the beginning of September. The committee will meet to shortlist candidates and interview them through the end of September, and have everything done by



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the 25th. They can always extend the application period by two weeks if they do not receive many applications. Parliamentarian Pennel stands for questions.

Director Ashkir notes that there are no question or debate periods in discussion items. He congratulates the Parliamentarian on her work.

9. Confidential Session: **18:41**

The Board enters a confidential session at 18:41.

10. Adjournment: **19:36**

Seeing no opposition, the meeting is adjourned at 19:36. The next scheduled Board meeting is on September 7, 2023 at 18:00.

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Alexandre Ashkir, SSMU President 2023-2024