



Bureau du président du conseil de l'AEUM

Située sur les territoires traditionnels des collectivités Haudenosaunee et Anishinaabe.

SSMU Office of the Speaker

Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories.

speaker@ssmu.ca | ssmu.ca | (514) 398-6800 | 3600 rue McTavish, Suite 1200, Montréal, QC, H3A 0G3

MOTION REGARDING AN INTERIM PROVISION TO THE INTERNAL REGULATIONS OF ELECTIONS & REFERENDA (IR-04) 2023-10-12

Submitted for: 2023-10-12

Submitted to:	SSMU Legislative Council	Document no.:	LEG-PUB-MOT-2023-10-12-003
Moved by:	Liam Gaither <i>VP External Affairs</i>	Current Status:	<input type="checkbox"/> FOR APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSTPONED <input type="checkbox"/> COMMITTED <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPROVED
Seconded by:	Keith Andre Baybayon <i>Arts Representative</i>		

Issue

This motion presents an Interim Provision for approval of the Legislative Council and the Board of Directors, in order to temporarily change (for a one-year period) the regulations regarding campaigning for the SSMU Base Fee.

Background and Rationale

As described in the Internal Regulations of Governance-01, section 10: “10.1. [...] An Interim Provision may be adopted where a change or supplement to the Internal Regulations is necessary to provide for the proper functioning of the Society, and where the notice requirement is prohibitive or where the measure is temporary. In such cases, any member of the Legislative Council, Board of Directors, or the Chief Electoral Officer may make a motion to introduce an Interim Provision.

10.2. Adoption An Interim Provision may only be adopted by a resolution passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Legislative Council or a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors.”

The purpose of this Interim Provision is to enact immediate change to reflect SSMU's operations, and to be able to have a temporary change to the Internal Regulations of Elections of Referenda, for a one year period.



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Alignment with Mission

These interim changes would provide clearer boundaries for SSMU Staff and Executives' roles in base fee campaigns, leading to broader overall engagement with the democratic process in the association as well as in the company.

Consultations Completed

Consultations have been completed with the Executive Committee, the Governance Manager, and Elections SSMU. These consultations have steered the proposed amendments such that they may be helpful to Executives in their responsibilities while being fair from an electoral perspective.

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

Several risk factors should be considered in this motion. First, the Society would see increased expenditures for base fee campaigns when they arise due to the raised spending limit. Second, the proposed changes would allow for SSMU staff & resources to be used in SSMU base fee campaigns. Lastly, the introduction of limits to the number of referendum questions per semester may slow the rate of progress & change within SSMU's organization, as groups may have to wait before putting their question to referendum. A hierarchy of referendum question types is proposed in the appendix.

Sustainability Considerations

This motion carries no important considerations on sustainability at this time.

Impact of Decision and Next Steps

Should this motion pass, the motion would provide clearer guidelines and responsibilities for SSMU Executives during a SSMU base fee campaign. Specific interim changes to IR-04 and IR-05 would also impose limits for other groups wishing to bring referendum questions. It is the responsibility of Elections SSMU to verify that these regulations have been thoroughly respected throughout referendums to come.

These interim provisions to the IRs would last for one (1) year, after which they may either be brought back for renewal or expire.



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Should this motion fail to be adopted, any SSMU base fee increase campaign brought by Executives may be deemed more than likely to fail.

Motion or Resolution for Approval

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Council approves the interim provisions to the Internal Regulations of Elections & Referenda as described in Appendix A.

Results of the Vote

In favour ()
Opposed ()
Abstain ()



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Appendix A : Interim Provisions to the IRs of Elections and Referenda

To be inserted into the Internal Regulations:

IR-04: Referenda

1.2 The limited number of questions per referendum, per semester shall be 10. This will be to provide enough time and efficiency to review and approve questions each referendum and allow the Members to vote adequately. Fee Existence questions will be considered outside the limit of 10.

1.3 In the event that there are more than 10 proposed questions, questions shall be chosen to be added on the ballot following a priority order based on a vote by the Legislative Council. In order to avoid reaching the limit of 10 questions, the Vice President (Finance) and Vice President (Student Life) shall work with Clubs and Services to spread referendum questions across the Fall and Winter Referendums.

1.8 Successive Referendum Questions

Any Service or Independent Student Group shall refrain from presenting Fee Increase questions in two successive referendums. Exceptions apply in the case where a service urgently needs new funds to keep operating, in which case successive Fee Increase questions may be presented with approval from the Vice President (Finance) and the Chief Electoral Officer.