

# Fall 2023 Elections Update

Presented to Legislative Council: November 23, 2023

### **2023 First Year Council elections**

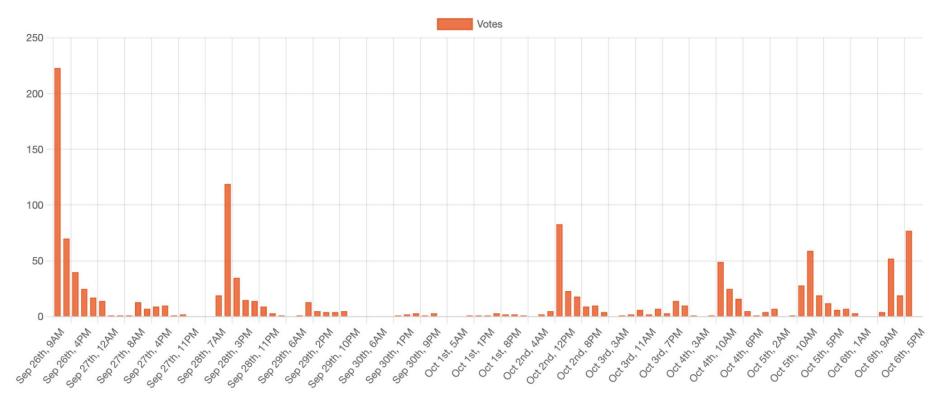
- 1297 members voted for a total of 15.7% (down from 20.8% last year)
  - Shorter voting period than last year (10 days as compared to 13 days)
- 3 out of 5 positions contested
  - More candidates and contested positions than last year
- Promoted
  - Online, across Instagram, and listservs
  - Through campaign chairs

For the Future - Issues with the number of candidates and voter apathy

- *Relatively* high abstention rates
  - Lowest President (14.7%), highest VP Finance (25.4%)

### **Importance of Email Blasts (FYC elections)**

Turnout Chart (1297 electors voted)



### Fall 2023 Referendum

- 8401 overall votes cast, with a total turnout of 35.1% (12.5 percentage points higher than last year, which was already 6 percentage points than the previous year), highest turnout ever reached
- The trend indicates renewed interest in Fall Referendums
- 9 questions: 7 fee questions and 1 policy question
- Questions passed:
  - Creation of the Student Nutrition Accessibility Club Fee 65.7% yes
  - Safety Services Fee Increase 58.7% yes
  - Creation of the Community Solidarity Fund, Fee, and Solidarity
    Funding Committee 57.8% yes
  - Ratification of the Board of Directors Members 78.9% yes
  - Policy Against Genocide in Palestine Question 78.7% yes

### Fall 2022 Referendum Results

### **MUSTBUS Fee Increase**

| Option                  | Votes        |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| No                      | 3054 (57.7%) |
| Yes                     | 2236 (42.3%) |
| VOTER SUMMARY           |              |
| Total                   | 8401         |
| Abstain                 | 3111 (37.0%) |
| Radio CKUT Fee Increase |              |
| Option                  | Votes        |
| No                      | 3448 (67.2%) |
| Yes                     | 1685 (32.8%) |
| VOTER SUMMARY           |              |
| Total                   | 8401         |
| Abstain                 | 3268 (38.9%) |

### Creation of the Student Nutrition Accessibility Club Fee

| Option                       | Votes        |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Yes                          | 3506 (65.7%) |
| No                           | 1829 (34.3%) |
|                              |              |
| VOTER SUMMARY                |              |
| Total                        | 8401         |
| Abstain                      | 3066 (36.5%) |
|                              |              |
| Safety Services Fee Increase |              |
| Orthur                       | No.4-        |
| Option                       | Votes        |
| Yes                          | 3128 (58.7%) |
| No                           | 2198 (41.3%) |
| VOTER SUMMARY                |              |
| Total                        | 8401         |
| Abstain                      | 3075 (36.6%) |
| Abstall                      | 3073 (30.0%) |
| Base Fee Increase            |              |
|                              |              |
| Option                       | Votes        |
| No                           | 4217 (80.2%) |
| Yes                          | 1039 (19.8%) |
|                              |              |
| VOTER SUMMARY                |              |
| Total                        | 8401         |
| Abstain                      | 3145 (37.4%) |
|                              |              |

#### First Year Fee Renewal

| Option | Votes        |
|--------|--------------|
| No     | 2570 (52.4%) |
| Yes    | 2337 (47.6%) |

#### VOTER SUMMARY

| Total   | 8401         |
|---------|--------------|
| Abstain | 3494 (41.6%) |

#### Creation of the Community Solidarity Fund, Fee, and Solidarity Funding Committee

| Option | Votes        |
|--------|--------------|
| Yes    | 2988 (57.8%) |
| No     | 2182 (42.2%) |

#### VOTER SUMMARY

| Total   | 8401         |
|---------|--------------|
| Abstain | 3231 (38.5%) |

#### Ratification of the Board of Directors Members

| Option | Votes        |
|--------|--------------|
| Yes    | 2624 (78.9%) |
| No     | 700 (21.1%)  |

#### VOTER SUMMARY

| Total   | 8401         |
|---------|--------------|
| Abstain | 5077 (60.4%) |

#### Policy Against Genocide in Palestine Referendum Question

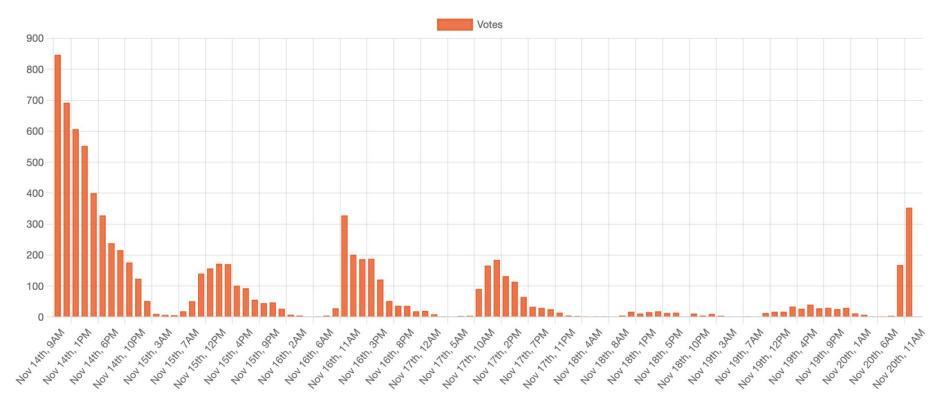
| Option | Votes        |
|--------|--------------|
| Yes    | 5974 (78.7%) |
| No     | 1620 (21.3%) |

#### VOTER SUMMARY

| Total   | 8401       |
|---------|------------|
| Abstain | 807 (9.6%) |

### **Importance of Email Blasts (Fall Referendum)**

Turnout Chart (8401 electors voted)



### **Projects we implemented:**

- Discount at Gerts by showing a voting receipt successful
- In-Person Tabling in the Ballroom not very successful
- Close collaboration with SSMU's communication team successful
- Addition of a "No-Campaign" nomination period successful

# **Issues Encountered:**

- Referendum Dates did not align with McGill's deadlines

## **Solutions for the Future:**

- Continuation of successful projects
- Voting Booth or Information Tabling at Gerts or between McLennan and Redpath

