



## 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

January 11, 2024

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, January 11, 2024 at 19:30.

Present: Jonathan Dong (Chair, non-voting), Sierra Fallis (Deputy Speaker, non-voting), Lisa Pennel (Parliamentarian, non-voting), Alexandre Ashkir (Director), Nadia Dakdouki (Director), Lalia Katchelewa (Director), Liam Gaither (Director), Jacob Shannon (Council Member), Amina Kudrati-Plummer (Officer, non-voting), Fawaz Halloum (Director), Maya Marcus-Sells (General Manager, non-voting)

Absent: Hassanatou Koulibaly (Officer, non-voting), Jon Barlas (Officer, non-voting)

Note: Due to technical issues, a section of the meeting (between 20:05 and 20:42) was not recorded. As a result, the minutes might lack detail.

### 1. Call to Order: **19:36**

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 19:36.

### 2. 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.*

### 3. Attendance

The Chair takes attendance.

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



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The Agenda is distributed.

Seeing no changes or opposition, the Agenda is adopted.

### 5. Executive Committee Public Report 2024-01-11 – **RATIFIED**

Director Ashkir presents the Executive Committee Public Report. They met on January 9, and approved motions by email and in-person. The day of meetings has changed to Tuesday instead of Wednesday. They added SSMU's signature to UBC's Trans Coalition's letter to Studentcare, to request better gender-affirming care services for their students by their insurance provider, which SSMU members also get. Director Ashkir stands for questions.

Seeing no opposition, the Executive Committee Public Report is ratified.

The Chair states that he would look favourably upon moving the confidential session up, as there is urgent business.

Director Katchelewa motions to this effect.

Director Dakdouki seconds.

Seeing no opposition, the Chair entertains the confidential session.

### 6. Confidential Session

There is a Confidential session this evening.

### 7. Report of the Nominating Committee (Redacted) 2024-01-11 – **RATIFIED**

The public session resumes at 20:05.

Parliamentarian Pennel presents the Report of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is tasked with selecting members to the Board and Judicial Board, and they have chosen a candidate for the International Student Representative of the Board of Directors. They have also chosen to reject two applications, and refer one candidate to the Judicial Board rather than the Board of Directors. She stands for questions regarding the recommendations of the Nominating Committee.

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**Question:**



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Director Shannon states that is hesitant to send members to the Judicial Board, as the Board of Directors is more in need of members. He asks if there is a plan to nominate more members to the Board.

### Answer:

Parliamentarian Pennel answers that the Board is the Nominating Committee's highest priority, and Candidate 2 was suggested to be the International Representative as they were not eligible to be on the Board of Directors. They are finalizing the last applications this week, and they are looking at recommending more candidates in February.

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### Question:

General Manager Marcus-Sells adds that the International Student Representative position is important, even if it is non-voting, since non-Canadian citizens cannot vote on the Board. She asks why Candidate 4 is being considered over Candidate 1 for the Judicial Board, even if Candidate 1's score is higher.

### Answer:

Parliamentarian Pennel answers that the scores are based on different totals, since the candidates were evaluated for different positions.

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Director Dakdouki states that all candidates were qualified, and there were small things that made big differences such as availability and workload of each position. The Nominating Committee is trying to fill the Board positions before the Judicial Board positions.

### 8. Motions for Approval:

- a. Motions to ratify the Nominating Committee Report (Director Dakdouki)

Parliamentarian Pennel presents Motion 8a. She states that Candidate 2 should be nominated to the Board as the International Representative, Candidate 4 should be rejected and evaluated for the Judicial Board, and Candidates 1 and 3 should be rejected.

Director Dakdouki motions to call the question.

Director Shannon seconds.

Seeing no opposition, Motions 8ai-iii are approved.



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- i. Motion to nominate Candidate 2 to the SSMU Board of Directors as International Representative, effectively immediately, until November 14, 2024, should they continue to meet the required qualifications – **APPROVED**
- ii. Motion to reject Candidate 4 for the International Representative to the Board position and evaluate them for the Judicial Board Member position – **APPROVED**
- iii. Motion to reject Candidates 1 and 3 for the International Representative to the Board position – **APPROVED**

### 9. For Discussion:

- a. Consultation on Internal Regulations of Governance (Director Gaither)

Director Gaither reminds everyone that he is doing consultations on the Internal Regulations of Governance, and would love Directors' feedback on the Board of Directors section. He asks everyone to have a look and send him their thoughts.

Director Halloum asks if Director Gaither will send them the document.

Director Gaither notes that this should be done within the next two weeks, and the document is available on the SSMU website.

### 10. Confidential session (resumed)

The Confidential session resumes at 20:42.

### 11. Adjournment: **21:58**

The Chair declares the meeting adjourned at 21:58.

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Alexandre Ashkir, SSMU President 2023-2024