



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 | (514) 398-6800 | 3600 rue McTavish, Suite 1200, Montréal, QC, H3A 0G3

SSMU BOARD OF DIRECTORS PUBLIC MINUTES

June 13, 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, June 13 at 18:00.

Present: Jonathan Dong (Chair, non-voting), Lisa Pennel (Parliamentarian, non-voting), Abe Berglas (Director), Zeena Zahidah (Officer, non-voting), Chloé Muñoz (Officer, non-voting), Hugo Solomon (Officer, non-voting), Meg Baltes (Officer, non-voting), Pauline Jolicoeur (Director), Dymetri Taylor (Director), Maya Marcus-Sells (General Manager, non-voting), Jean-Sébastien Léger (Director), Eliot Bergeron (Director), Jacob Shannon (Council Member)

Absent: Sierra Fallis (Deputy Speaker, non-voting), Fawaz Halloum (Director), Elina Qureshi (Director), Yvonne Bejjani (International Student Representative, non-voting)

1. Call to Order: **18:06**

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 18:06.

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**

The Agenda is distributed.



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Seeing no changes or opposition, the Agenda is adopted.

5. Executive Committee Public Report 2024-06-13 – **RATIFIED**

Director Taylor presents the Executive Committee Public Report. He states that they have been approving motions and renewing contracts. Notable actions include the motion to consult MMGC about McGill's use of deadnames, a motion to approve the governance calendar, and working on next year's handbook.

Question:

Director Léger asks for more information on the consultation with MMGC about deadnames.

Answer:

Director Taylor states that it would be better to discuss this in the confidential session.

Director Bergeron welcomes the new Executives to the Board.

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

6. Announcements

a. Committee Involvement (Speaker)

The Chair welcomes the new Executives to the Board. He asks that those who are interested in joining Board committees send the Dais a message or email. There are many committees whose seats have not been fully filled in the past; the more people on committees, the better they operate.

7. Report of the Nominating Committee (Redacted) – **RATIFIED**

Parliamentarian Pennel presents the Report of the Nominating Committee, which is done every time they select new members. The Nominating Committee selects members for the Board, including Members at Large, International Student and Alumni Representatives, Judicial Board and Nominating Committee members. When all seats are filled, they have many members. The Equity Commissioner sits as an advisory member, and the Parliamentarian and 4 members at large sit on the Committee. Right now they do not have any Directors, but they have 3 members at large. They are meant to have Alumni Representatives to advise and gain some institutional knowledge. Recommendations are not binding, so any candidate can be chosen. Two candidates were shortlisted for the Alumni



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Representative position, and the committee recommends both to the position. Candidate 1 is a previous SSMU President, and they have managerial experience and were very interested and knowledgeable about student government. There were concerns about their availability and disagreements with current Executives; they asked to meet with the Executives before taking on the role to ensure that their advice would be taken seriously. The candidate also asked about the legal and financial situation of the SSMU, which is unusual. Regardless, the committee recommends them. Candidate 2 has experience within Student Life at SSMU, and HR and Communications roles. They demonstrated a good understanding of student governance and showed that they were apt at sharing knowledge in a welcoming manner. There were concerns about their availability, but the committee also recommends them.

The Chair entertains questions.

Director Léger hopes that the Nominating Committee will consider candidates who disagree with the Executives; a Board is not meant to be unanimous to ensure that the best work is done. Candidates should not be disregarded simply for opposing views.

Seeing no opposition, the Report of the Nominating Committee is ratified.

8. Motions for Approval:

- a. Motion to nominate candidate 1 to the Board of Directors as an Alumni Representative, effectively immediately, until November 14, 2024, should they continue to meet the required qualifications – **APPROVED**
- b. Motion to nominate candidate 2 to the Board of Directors as an Alumni Representative, effectively immediately, until November 14, 2024, should they continue to meet the required qualifications – **APPROVED**

Director Bergeron motions to vote on Motions 8a and 8b as a bloc.

Director Léger seconds.

Seeing no speakers, the Chair entertains a vote.

Seeing no opposition, Motions 8.a. and 8.b. are approved.

The Chair notes that there is a guest for the confidential session who has arrived and would recommend moving into the confidential session.



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Director Berglas motions to enter the confidential session.

Director Léger seconds.

Seeing no opposition, the meeting moves into the confidential session.

9. Confidential Session: **18:24**

The Board of Directors enters into a Confidential Session at 18:24.

10. Motions for Approval:

- a. Motion to nominate the following 3 Directors to the Nominating Committee for the selection of new Board Members recruitment period (Director Bergeron) – **APPROVED**
 - i. Director Shannon
 - ii. Director Léger
 - iii. Director Taylor

Parliamentarian Pennel states that the Nominating Committee only has 3 Members at Large, and they need 3 Directors to. Over the summer, the Committee does not have a lot of business, but there will be work done in the fall to recruit new members. They meet weekly and there is some work to do, and the workload varies depending on where they are at in the recruitment process.

Question:

Director Bergeron asks if the meetings take place during the summer as well.

Answer:

Parliamentarian Pennel answers no; they are working asynchronously during the summer because people are away and there is less business. During the school year, there are meetings every week.

Question:

Director Shannon asks what the term is.

Answer:

Parliamentarian Pennel answers that the term is one year.



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Question:

Director Bergeron asks if the term will end on the same date as the end of term for Directors.

Answer:

Parliamentarian Pennel answers yes, but states that she needs to double-check this information.

Director Shannon nominates himself until the end of his term as a Director.

Director Léger nominates himself as well.

Director Taylor nominates himself.

The Chair asks for someone to move and second this motion.

Director Bergeron moves this motion, and Director Berglas seconds.

Seeing no further speakers, the Chair entertains a vote.

Seeing no opposition, Motion 10a is approved.

- b. Motion to add a one-year interim provision to the Internal Regulations of Student Groups Section 4.6 in regards to free booking hours within the University Center (Director Taylor) – **APPROVED**
-

Question:

The Chair asks Director Taylor which section of the Internal Regulations is being amended.

Answer:

Director Taylor answers that it is Section 4.6. He yields his time to Officer Baltes.

Officer Baltes states that when the Student Life staff was going over their bookings and fees, they realized that this would be a good time to amend the fee so that it makes more sense. Each student



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group having 15 free hours of room bookings does not leave enough space for all student groups. Not all of this time was being used, and no clubs were exceeding the time limit. She proposes to implement new lower booking hours for student groups.

Question:

Director Bergeron states that SSMU ISGs can only now get 2 free hours of tabling. He asks why this change was made.

Answer:

Officer Baltès answers that this was changed because this service was being used the least. The numbers were changed based on how clubs and services used the free bookings.

Question:

Director Bergeron asks if there is a version of these numbers that shows how the IRs will be updated.

Answer:

Officer Baltès answers that she can provide this. They are changing the number of hours only.

Seeing no further speakers, the Chair entertains a vote.

Seeing no opposition, Motion 10b is approved.

11. Announcements

- a. Reminder of next Board meeting on July 25th at 18:00

The Chair announces that the next meeting is on July 25 at 18:00. He reminds everyone that they should fill out the When2Meet so that they can set a new time for Board meetings.

12. Adjournment: **20:49**

The Chair declares the meeting adjourned at 20:49.

Dymetri Taylor, SSMU President 2024-2025