

SSMU Office of the Speaker

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MOTION REGARDING THE MENTAL HEALTH POLICY AND PLAN (2023-2026) 2023-04-06

Submitted for: 2023-04-06

Submitted to:	SSMU Legislative Council	Document no.:	LEG-PUB-MOT-2023-04-06-012
Moved by:	Hassanatou Koulibaly Vice-President (Student Life)	Current Status:	☐ FOR APPROVAL ✓ APPROVED
Seconded by:	Amelia Whitcomb		☐ POSTPONED ☐ COMMITTED ☐ NOT APPROVED

Issue

This policy and plan explicates the Students' Society of McGill University's approach to student mental health and wellness. This compiled research informs the four overarching, multifaceted commitments that the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) shall work towards in the next three academic years. This policy is meant to be understood in conjunction with the SSMU Mental Health 2023-2026 Plan.

Background and Rationale

Student wellness is a subject that has been propelled to the fore-front of instructional dialogue thanks to strong student advocacy and a national recognition that mental health is a fundamental component of student success. This policy and plan is meant to lay out a long-term vision for SSMU's continued dedication to the improvement of mental health resource access, promotion, and institutional accountability.

This policy and plan is a living document and will serve as the foundation for future mental health projects. This policy's mandate will last for the next three years; goals and timelines should be updated every semester by the mental health commissioner and their team to ensure accountability between years, and the achievement of the long-term goals highlighted in the Three Year Plan.



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Alignment with Mission

The SSMU founding principles mandate that every student has the right to live and study in a safe environment. This motion is regarding the adoption of the SSMU Mental Health Policy and Plan for 2023-2026 and will serve as the main document of reference for background information on mental health in post-secondary institutions, as well as the various mandates of individuals and groups at the SSMU.

Consultations Completed

Consultations have occurred with various mental health stakeholders as well as community groups. This includes members of the mental health roundtable (Peer Support Centre, the BSN, the McGill Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, PGSS, MCSS, MSERT, the McGill Students Nightline, etc.), the VP Student Life, the VP External, the Healthy Living Annex Codesign members, the VP University Affairs, the VP Finance, the Mental Health Advocacy Coordinator and the Outreach Coordinator

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

There are a few risk factors associated with the policy and three year plan, including but not limited to: communication between on and off campus groups and the Mental Health Committee, ensuring that upper level McGill Administration follow through with the SSMU expectations of ensuring students are aware of mental and physical health resources on and off campus.

Sustainability Considerations

The SSMU Mental Health Team will ensure through regular community consultation the impacts of mental health advocacy are focussed on increasing the economic and social sustainability of SSMU members. This includes a focus on anti-racism, accessibility, and equity of services. The policy will also work to support increasing the sustainability of services, particularly capacity of appointments at the Hub and beyond.

Impact of Decision and Next Steps

The SSMU Mental Health Commissioner will work alongside the Vice-President (Student Life) to ensure that the Mental Health Team follows the timelines detailed in the plan to complete action items. If not implemented, progress on mental health policy and initiatives will be paused and the mental health team will be left without guidance or accountability.



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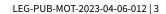
Motion or Resolution for Approval Be it resolved, that the Legislative Council approve the SSMU Mental Health Policy and Plan 2023-2026 in Appendix A.

Results of the Opp

Vote

In favour (UNANIMOUS)

Opposed () Abstain ()





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Appendix A: Relevant Appendix

SSMU Mental Health Policy and Plan 2023-2026

