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Students' Society of McGill University

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MOTION SUPPORTING THE INTRODUCTION OF HAVEN TO THE MCGILL CAMPUS 2023-04-06

Submitted for: 2023-04-04

Submitted to:	SSMU Legislative Council	**Document no.:**	LEG-PUB-MOT-2023-04-06-008

Moved by:	Coco Jie Wang *Senate Caucus Representative*	**Current Status:**	☐	FOR APPROVAL
			☐	APPROVED
			☐	POSTPONED
			☐	COMMITTED
Seconded by:	Kerry Yang *Senate Caucus Representative*		☑	NOT APPROVED

Issue	On-and-off-campus safety and security is a concern of utmost importance to the student body at McGill University and at the SSMU . Following the recent closure and restructuring of the McGill Office for Sexual Violence Response, Support and Education (OSVRSE), and the potential need for further resources to help reduce instances of gendered and sexual violence, this motion seeks to introduce the campus safety app HAVEN.
Background and Rationale	As a critical aspect of student life at McGill, SSMU plays an important role in encouraging and supporting campus safety. Preventative measures are one way in which SSMU can use to help create safer campuses. Campus safety apps are something that has been developed to help improve campus safety. HAVEN is a Campus Safety app built by a student at University of Toronto (UofT), aiming to be implemented at McGill at-large to ensure a safer and better university experience. HAVEN was started in 2020 and is now used by thousands of students from universities across Canada such as U of Ottawa and Western U. When students are in danger, they can contact friends, family, campus police, and 911 instantly with a single click of a button.

Alignment with Mission

The Mission of the SSMU is "to represent and advance the diverse needs of McGill Undergraduate Students by improving the quality and accessibility of education" and " providing outstanding services". HAVEN works to help improve campus safety, making education more accessible to students, and helps provide a service that is currently not present on campus.

Consultations Completed

Consultations have been done with the SSMU Executive Committee, the SSMU Members via a survey, the Board of Directors, the Student Senate Caucus, the Dean of Students, Anti-violence Coordinators, and SACOMSS.

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

Because the Memorandum of Understanding is for a free trial, there would be no costs associated with it. One potential risk could be that introducing it to campus could cause students to expect it to be a future service, and thus there might be an expectation that it becomes implemented. If decided by the student body to be implemented in the future, the cost would be 7 cents ($0.07) per student per month, paid by a student fee levy.

Sustainability Considerations

This motion is economically sustainable because it helps introduce a campus safety app free of charge. This motion is also socially sustainable because it helps create a safer campus, which disproportionately affects marginalized communities.

Impact of Decision and Next Steps

As HAVEN is offering SSMU its service for free until the end of Fall 2023 term, the implementation of HAVEN shall be seen as a test trial for students to experience and help the members of SSMU to better decide whether or not the official implementation of HAVEN should be conducted in the future. Data will be collected throughout the duration of the trial run from whenever the trial comes into action to the end of December 2023. After collecting all the data, a decision by collecting students' responses will be made regarding the introduction of Haven to the McGill campus.

Motion or Resolution for Approval	Be it resolved that the Legislative Council supports the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with HAVEN to allow for a free trial of the app for the duration of the 2023 <mark>Fall</mark> semester or longer, if possible.
Results of the Vote	In favour (5) Opposed (8) Abstain (2)