



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

Committee Report - Building and Operations Committee

Submitted for: December 5th

Committee Members:

Dymetri Taylor (President), Meg Baltes (Vice-President Sustainability & Operations), Pauline Jolicoeur (Vice-President Finance), Bailey Hughes (Student Life Operations), Taylor Berube (Events Specialist), Wallace Sealy (Building Director), Francisco Rodriguez (Member at Large)

BOMCOM met on:

November 22

Review of Policy on Gender Neutral Washrooms

The Notice of Motion Regarding Gender Neutral Washrooms was reviewed by the committee members of BOMCOM. Our recommendations are the following:

Appendix A

Provincial and municipal governments define sanitary units in gendered terms and have specific regulations for required units of each, as outlined in [S-2.1.r. 13 - Regulation respecting occupational health and safety](#).¹ Given our current occupancy capacity of over 1,000 occupants, we have precisely as many washrooms of each gender as required.² During the HVAC renovations, a female washroom was added because it was discovered that we were one short of regulation and a gender neutral bathroom was added as well. Therefore, if all washrooms (except for one of each gender) are gender neutral, we would no longer be abiding by regulation.

¹ When looking at this document, the Shatner University Center falls under the category of "Office Building".

² On each line under each type of building, there is a range of employees with four numbers listed after. The first two numbers represent the physical toilets necessary per gender and the second two numbers represent the physical sinks necessary per gender.



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As a McGill building, we are considered a tenant. Under our current MoA, we are prohibited from making changes or modifications without their approval. Thus, we could present to McGill a plan for bathroom modifications but approval would be up to their discretion. This has been directly stated by McGill (see Appendix A).

Additionally, it is important to note that there are 3 gender neutral washrooms in the University Center right now out of the 10 washrooms in the building and all are accessible via elevator. One recommendation the committee has is to create a more formalized structure for how to access these gender neutral washrooms, especially at times where Gerts is open but the rest of the building is not in use. This could include additional signage giving directions to the gender neutral washrooms.

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

In order to provide a comprehensive review of this motion, the committee also took time to assess the proposed risk factors and resource implications.

The following three things were highlighted as minimum changes necessary to convert washrooms to gender neutral. We believe the following can be accomplished upon further conversations, in order to find a compromise. These further conversations would include - but are not limited to - what bathrooms are structured to support privacy screens and how we can ensure that menstrual product disposal boxes are not tampered with. Historically, there have been issues with the menstrual hygiene product dispenser being ripped off the wall on the first floor bathroom.

- Menstrual product disposal boxes in all stalls
- Privacy screens for urinals
- Updated signs depicting (i) accessibility of washroom, (ii) presence of urinals, (iii) presence of baby changing station

Respectfully submitted,

Building and Operations Committee

Meg Baltes (Vice-President Operations and Sustainability)



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APPENDIX A:

12/5/24, 11:23 AM

Student's Society of McGill University Mail - Fwd: SSMU



Meg Baltes <operations@ssmu.ca>

Fwd: SSMU

2 messages

Wallace Sealy <wsealy@ssmu.ca>
To: Meg Baltes <operations@ssmu.ca>

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 11:22 AM

Good Morning Meg,

Please see the email below from our District Supervisor for Facilities concerning washrooms.

Best,
Wallace

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mark Plenzich, Mr.** <mark.plenzich@mcgill.ca>
Date: Thu, Nov 7, 2024 at 9:34 AM
Subject: SSMU
To: wsealy@ssmu.ca <wsealy@ssmu.ca>
Cc: Gino Ciocca, Mr. <gino.ciocca@mcgill.ca>

Hello Wallace

As discussed today, SSMU is rental property owned by McGill university.

Any work done inside or that affects the building must be approved by FMAS McGill.

Requests to modifications or projects request must be sent to McGill's campus space and planning office. Especially washrooms.

R

Mark

Mark Plenzich

McGill University | Université McGill

Supervisor | South-West Sector | Zone 2 | Locksmith | FMAS

Superviseur | Secteur sud-ouest | Zone 2 | Serrurier | Services Universitaires

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