



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.

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

Report of the Services Committee Regarding The Motion Regarding Changes To The Internal Regulations Of Student Groups

Submitted for: 2025-04-03

We are writing about the Motion Regarding Changes To The Internal Regulations of Student Groups, of which notice was given at the March 20, 2025 meeting of Legislative Council.

This Motion would force Services to preferentially hire SSMU Members. This requirement, while seemingly benign, is an inappropriate imposition on Service operations.

Services are politically independent from the SSMU and conduct their operations independently within the framework of the Internal Regulations. Services have the freedom to choose their membership, their leadership, and their organization structure.

This independence is the primary distinction between Services and departments of the SSMU directly under Executive portfolios. Services are better able to specialize to meet the needs of their users. Services who do advocacy or serve minority groups on campus are also a vital source of representation.

Nevertheless, oversight mechanisms exist: the Vice President (Student Life) must approve all Service hiring, and the Legislative Council must ratify Service constitutions. The use of these mechanisms is tailored to each specific action of each Service. The hiring priority proposed in the Motion does not allow for this flexibility. It instead applies the same conditions to all Services without regard for each particular Service's needs.

Furthermore, it is counterproductive. Services are not hiring people unconnected to McGill. Many Service employees are students. Most Service hires who are not students are recent



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.

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

alumni or on a leave of absence from the University. These SSMU employees are deeply connected to our communities and are using their labour to serve students. There is a functional benefit to having non-student employees in that they are able to operate independently of the student schedule, for example to continue the provision of services during exams.

Students should not isolate themselves from the Montreal community. We should care for and collaborate with the community, not set ourselves above and apart. The access to education and services that we enjoy as university students should be shared. Integrating with the community is part of the SSMU's mandate and Services play an important role in fulfilling it; this Motion undermines this integration.

This Motion is presented at a time when SSMU has not been adequately supporting Services. Some recurring topics of discussion at the Services Committee are poor communication from SSMU and a lack of financial flexibility and support. Instead of addressing these issues, the SSMU Executive has—with no communication to Services—introduced this Motion to restrict our financial flexibility. This is a clear breach of the Consultation Policy.

There is a pattern of SSMU leadership not trusting Services. SSMU prioritizes imposing requirements on Services without consultation over supporting our operations. This Motion does not address any of the needs of Services. This Motion does not help Services meet their users' needs.

We recommend that the Legislative Council reject this Motion and focus the efforts of SSMU Executives on working with Services to provide us the support we need.

Respectfully submitted,
The Services Committee