



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

May 20, 2025

The Board of Directors meeting of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) will be held by teleconference on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 18:00.

Present: Present: Jonathan Dong (Chair, non-voting), Jessica Bakar (Parliamentarian, non-voting), Yasmin Beeai (Deputy Speaker, non-voting), Dymetri Taylor (Director), Hugo Solomon (Officer, non-voting), Pauline Jolicoeur (Director), Maya Marcus-Sells (General Manager, non-voting), Hamza Abu Alkhair (Council Member), Fawaz Halloum (Director), Sophia Garofalo (Director), Dylan Seiler (Director), Joshua Chin (Alumni Representative, non-voting), Simone Brown (Policy and Advocacy Coordinator, non-voting), Maxime Rouhan (International Student Representative, non-voting)

Absent: Rajan Duncan (Director), Abe Berglas (Officer, non-voting), Honoah Xu (Director), Rishi Kalaga (Council Member), Emma Chen (Council Member), Seraphina Crema Black (Council Member)

1. Call to Order: **18:15**

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 18:15.

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.

L'ÉUM reconnaît que l'Université McGill est située sur le territoire traditionnel et non cédé des nations Anishinaabeg et Haudenosaunee. L'ÉUM reconnaît et respecte ces nations comme les véritables et constants gardiens des terres et des eaux sur lesquelles nous nous rencontrons aujourd'hui. En outre, l'ÉUM s'engage à respecter les lois et coutumes traditionnelles de ces territoires.

3. Attendance



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The Chair takes attendance.

The Chair notes that we have not met quorum. Due to lack of quorum, the meeting proceeds as a discussion only.

4. Adoption of the Agenda – **REVIEWED AND FOLLOWED FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY**

The agenda is distributed.

Seeing no changes or opposition, the agenda is adopted.

5. Executive Committee Public Report 2025-05-20 – **POSTPONED**
6. [2025-2026 SSMU Operating Budget Report](#) – **FOR RATIFICATION**

Director Jolicoeur presents the 2025-2026 SSMU Operating Budget Report.

Director Seiler exits the meeting at **18:24**.

Any questions about the report can be directed to her via email.

The Chair reminds the Board that this will be ratified by email motion.

Officer Soloman expresses his appreciation to Director Jolicoeur and thanks her for writing the budget report.

The Chair seconds.

7. Minutes for Approval
 - a. [SSMU Board of Directors Public Minutes 2025-04-22](#) – **FOR APPROVAL**
 - b. SSMU Board of Directors Public Minutes 2025-05-06 – **POSTPONED**
8. Motions for Approval
 - a. Motion to approve the [Executive Contract](#) (Director Taylor) – **FOR APPROVAL**

Director Taylor explains that the HR committee has revised and improved the SSMU Executive Contract to make it more coherent than the existing Executive Contract. The material remains the same, and the highlighted areas signify where revisions have been made.

The Chair reminds the board that they will have time to review these documents.

- b. Motion to approve the [Executive Manual](#) (Director Taylor) – **FOR APPROVAL**



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Director Taylor explains that the proposed changes made to the Executive Manual are similar to those on the Executive Contract. The HR committee used input from SSMU staff, managers, and executives. A new clause states that SSMU Executives will now be entitled to 1.33 vacation days per month. Another new clause states that all SSMU executives are now required to write exit reports to complete their offboarding process, as well as stating when it is due. This was usually done in the past, but was not always completed, so this clause will further illustrate that executives are expected to write an exit report in order to make the onboarding transition of the next executive smoother. More language in the manual was clarified. Statutory holidays are listed in advance for clarity. Executives may take up to one month of consecutive unpaid leave for any reason by informing the Board of Directors. In the instance where the executive does not return, it is considered a voluntary resignation.

The Chair states again that we do not have quorum.

Director Halloum states that they are joining the call from Paris, and apologizes for being late.

The Chair accepts the apology and states that he will attempt to improve the way in which reminder emails for Board meetings are sent.

Director Jolicoeur states that Director Halloum missed the presentation of the budget.

The Chair states that the budget will be approved by email motion, and Director Jolicoeur's presentation will be available on the meeting recording.

9. For Discussion

a. Update on the IRP (Director Taylor)

Director Taylor explains that there was a discussion with the Dean of Students about how to proceed with the IRP to ensure that students who have had such instances occur have access to a more formalized process. The Dean of Students is in favour of this in order to avoid issues with sexual violence within the SSMU and other student organizations. They are discussing referring students who have issues with sexual violence to the McGill Office for Sexual Violence Response, Support and Education (OSVRSE) to allow for proper investigations to be conducted with legal professionals. They are about to institute new inter-measures to prevent students who have open cases against them from attending certain events. Further details are still being discussed.

b. [Governance Meeting Dates 2025-2026](#) (Director Taylor)

Director Taylor explains that this document lists the predetermined list of Board of Directors, Legislative Council, General Assembly, and Executive committee meeting dates, locations, and times.



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Fall and Winter Referendum and Election period dates are listed as well. Small changes might be made to the document, but the main idea of the agendas will remain the same. This will be accessible on the email motion.

Director Halloum asks if meetings will be reduced.

Director Taylor answers that since items that have usually gone to Board are now going to Legislative Council instead, there will be about a 50% reduction in meetings as meetings are going from once every 2 weeks to once a month.

Director Halloum states that he appreciates being given more decision-making opportunities. He expresses worry about the current structure of the Board being allowed to overturn anything they would like. He asks if the governance committee could look into changing that dynamic to give more power to Legislative Council.

Director Taylor answers that it is precisely their intention over the summer to make changes in order to give Legislative Council more authority, barring any significant legal or financial concerns.

Director Halloum asks if Legislative Council meetings will last longer as a result of this change.

Director Taylor answers that the Board of Directors would be delegating more tasks to the Legislative Council, however the Legislative Council is currently lacking tasks so this will not overburden the Council.

Director Taylor adds a new point for discussion regarding Directors Crema Black and Abu Alkhair.

Director Taylor asks the Chair if he would prefer if he discussed the point now or wait until the discussion point.

The Chair answers that it is up to Director Taylor to decide.

c. Directors Crema Black and Abu Alkhair (Director Taylor)

Director Taylor explains that in light of increasing turnover due to graduating students, there will be an email motion to allow Directors Crema Black and Abu Alkhair to remain as directors until September 1st

10. Confidential Session: **18:39**

a. There is a Confidential Session this evening

11. Adjournment: **18:58**



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The Chair declares the meeting adjourned at 18:58.

APPROVED