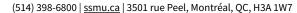
# Association étudiante de l'Université McGill Students' Society of McGill University

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# Services Report 2025-12-02

## **Executive Summary**

#### **Plate Club**

The Plate Club is an SSMU service that reduces waste at McGill by providing free, reusable dishware for events and supporting a shift away from single-use products. In 2025, the service expanded significantly, growing from 4 to 24 members, introducing new executive positions, and strengthening volunteer coordination. Between August and December 2025, the Plate Club supported 46 users, maintained daily office hours, and supplied dishware for the SSMU Free Lunch Service.

Outreach efforts—including Activities Night, the Services Fair, and the SPF Sustainability Soirée—helped recruit new volunteers and increase awareness. The service also launched the Sustainable Snacks initiative, funded by \$150 from the SSMU Environment Committee, ensuring volunteer support aligned with sustainability values. The 2024–2025 year closed with a surplus of \$1,315.48, and operations in 2025 continued to be supported by the Plate Club Fee levy of \$0.14 per student per semester, which covers the General Coordinator's salary, volunteer supplies, and basic operational expenses.

Key challenges included transportation and washing barriers for users, as well as rising demand outpacing inventory capacity. Many orders required substitutions due to limited stock. To address these issues, the Plate Club is applying for Sustainable Projects Fund (SPF) support to purchase trolleys, expand inventory, and upgrade wooden shelving to stainless steel mobile units, improving both accessibility and operational efficiency.

Looking ahead, the Plate Club is developing a comprehensive Sustainability/Impact Report to document its work since 2007. This long-term project aims to improve transparency, preserve institutional memory, and inform strategic growth. Overall, the Plate Club continues to strengthen operations, expand engagement, and enhance its contribution to sustainability on campus.

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#### **MUSCO**

The Musicians' Collective is an SSMU service dedicated to building a strong musical community at McGill by connecting musicians, supporting ensemble and teacher–student formation, offering performance opportunities, and maintaining accessible space and equipment for music making.

In Fall 2025, the service hosted multiple free events, including a Musicians Mixer, monthly open mics, bi-monthly Gerts concerts, and a Halloween Open Mic + Mixer. While events are not ticketed, sign-up sheets consistently filled to capacity, demonstrating strong interest and engagement. Operational successes included high performer turnout, a fully staffed jam room team, and repairs to all guitars.

Major challenges this semester centered on a lack of transparency and communication from SSMU, McGill, and Building Services. These issues directly affected the uncertain future of the jam room due to nearby construction, as well as the Collective's attempts to place a fee-increase motion on the ballot, omitted twice due to SSMU administrative errors. Persistent maintenance delays, such as refusal to change jam room light bulbs, further hindered operations.

Financial details, including the previous year's surplus, are documented in the Collective's Budget tracking sheet. Looking forward, the service aims to continue hosting performances and open mics, secure reliable and expanded jam room access, and pursue a fee increase to support equipment repairs, new gear, and off-campus event opportunities.

#### **SACOMSS**

The Sexual Assault Centre of the McGill Students' Society is a student-run, anti-oppressive support service providing free, confidential, and peer-led support to anyone in the McGill community affected by sexual violence. Guided by feminist, anti-racist, anti-colonial, anti-ableist, anti-homophobic, anti-transphobic, and pro–sex worker principles, SACOMSS aims to challenge the conditions that enable sexual violence while offering care rooted in dignity, empathy, accessibility, and self-determination. The service maintains multiple specialized points of contact, including external relations, events, publicity, finance, political education, and support coordination.

This semester, SACOMSS hosted key initiatives such as a successful Family Violence Prevention Month Panel, resumed drop-in support hours, and preparations for the annual December 5 commemoration of the École Polytechnique femicides. Community engagement has grown significantly, with an estimated 50% increase in individuals accessing drop-ins, appointments, and events compared to last year. Strong volunteer onboarding, filled P&P roles, and multiple community-building activities have further strengthened internal capacity.

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The organization also faced challenges, including inconsistent volunteer and feedback form responses, fluctuating event attendance, communication limitations with the Bounce messaging system, and disruptions caused by the STM strike. Volunteer recruitment and retention remain ongoing concerns, requiring additional training, structure, and support.

SACOMSS operates with a budget allocation of \$115,514 and a previous year surplus of \$148,459.59, allowing for sustained programming and service delivery. Upcoming plans include the December 5 memorial event and expanded awareness efforts throughout Sexual Violence Awareness Week in March. Long-term goals focus on increasing visibility of support services, improving volunteer retention through stronger community-building and accountability systems, and deepening collaboration with campus partners.

Overall, SACOMSS continues to respond to growing community needs while advancing a supportive, informed, and anti-oppressive campus culture.

#### DriveSafe

DriveSafe is an SSMU service dedicated to providing McGill students with a safe, accessible, and discrimination-free transportation option late at night. The service aims to prevent drinking and driving, promote responsible alcohol consumption, support students who would otherwise rely on public transit alone, and strengthen campus community by ensuring evening activities remain accessible to all. DriveSafe can be reached at drivesafe@ssmu.ca or (514) 398-8040.

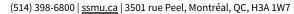
Throughout the Fall 2025 semester, DriveSafe operated its regular on-demand service from 23:00 to 03:00, Thursday through Saturday, and supported multiple faculty events such as Frosh, E-Week, Sci Games, and Carnival. The service also collaborated with WalkSafe on the annual SafeHome initiative and rapidly implemented a special shuttle system during the October STM strike to ensure students could travel to and from campus. DriveSafe maintained approximately 85 active volunteers and transported an average of 130 students home each month, not including special events.

Major achievements this year include transitioning the entire fleet to 100% electric vehicles—meeting institutional sustainability goals ahead of schedule—and initiating the rollout of a new app-based dispatch and ride-request system to improve accessibility and user experience. A volunteer appreciation event was held in November to support retention and community building.

Challenges included inconsistent volunteer sign-ups, which occasionally reduced or interrupted service, and the inability to charge groups for supplemental event transportation, as had been done in previous years, placing additional strain on the budget. DriveSafe entered 2025–26 with a previous year surplus of \$100,548.09, and the current budget is available through the DriveSafe Budget 2025–26 documentation.

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Looking ahead, the service plans to continue rolling out the dispatching app, pursue new partnerships or sponsorships, and work toward long-term goals such as expanding service boundaries, increasing operating hours to begin at 21:00, exploring additional service days, and providing more outreach on responsible drinking and nighttime safety.

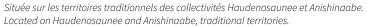
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# Appendix: Individual Reports



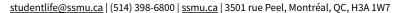




# Plate Club Services Review Summary

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## Service Overview

## Mission

Plate Club's mission is to reduce waste at McGill University and in the broader Montreal community through the provision of free reusable dishware for events, leading a transition away from single-use, disposable products.

## Mandate

Plate Club's mandate is as follows:

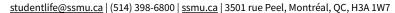
- 1. Support student groups, individuals, and others in the McGill community by providing a no-cost source of dishes for events, meetings, workshops, and more.
- 2. Encourage individuals and organizations to rethink how sustainability plays a role in their activities.
- 3. Engage in outreach activities both to improve the effectiveness of Plate Club's own operations and scope, and to build up the wider sustainability network on campus and across the region.
- 4. Provide referrals to other pertinent resources, where necessary.
- 5. Place client-centredness at the core of our operations, promoting sustainability through convenience and ease of use.
- 6. Contribute to the realization of SSMU's Sustainability Policy and McGill's Sustainability Policy and Sustainable Events Program

A more detailed version of the mandate can be found in the Plate Club constitution here: CONSTITUTION

## Contact

Plate Club's General Coordinator can be contacted at <u>plateclub@ssmu.ca</u>. Plate Club can also be contacted through Instagram <u>@theplateclub</u>.

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# Activities & Operations

## **Key Activities**

Plate Club maintains daily office hours to prepare and put away orders, as well as to service SSMU Free Lunch Service users, and other community members looking to donate or collect free miscellaneous dishware.

## List of Events/Initiatives

- 1. Regular office hours (daily)
- 2. Tabling at Services Fair and Activities Night
- 3. Tabling at SPF Sustainability Soirée
- 4. Dishware provision for SSMU Free Lunch Service
- 5. Volunteer team bonding event at Ceramic Cafe Plate Club paid studio fees and food, volunteers paid for their ceramic
- 6. Little Free Dishware Initiative calling for donations and offering any mismatched/ceramic dishware to community members

## Usage/Participation Statistics

Plate Club has an extensive inventory of reusable dishware available for students, staff, and community members to borrow at no cost. We have received 46 users since the start of the Fall 2025 semester, between 2-24 users per month (August: 2, September: 4, October: 14, November: 24 (ongoing), December: 2 (ongoing)).

A user is defined as an individual or student group who reserves dishware.

#### Recruitment

Plate Club recruits through the Services Fair, Activities Night, via social media/our website, newsletters, and word of mouth.

Individuals can express interest in volunteering with the service via a <u>Google Form</u>, available on our website, the Plate Club Instagram, Facebook page, and on our myInvolvement page. The General Coordinator gets in touch with them and explains the responsibilities and general operations, either

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during group volunteer training at the beginning of each semester, or in smaller more informal training sessions throughout the semester, if they express interest once the semester is already underway.

#### Student Involvement

Plate Club has one paid position: The General Coordinator, who is responsible for communications with users and with the SSMU, organizes volunteer involvement, manages finances and coordinates order requests.

Between Winter 2025 and Fall 2025, Plate Club grew from 4 to 24 members, with the only returning member being the newly appointed General Coordinator (note: all other members graduated). Immense recruitment efforts were made. The General Coordinator also established executive positions, as follows: VP Communications, VP Internal Affairs, VP Outreach/External Affairs, and two co-VPs Sustainability.

Volunteer members all hold scheduled office hours where orders are prepared for pick up and put away after dropoff, and volunteers manage deposits. Volunteers are integral to Plate Club's operations. Executive members, including the General Coordinator, hold biweekly meetings to discuss outreach (e.g. posts, newsletters, tabling events), volunteer retention activities/projects (e.g. team bonding events, merch), and sustainability initiatives (e.g. sustainable snacks initiative, compost in dishwashing room, SSMU Environment Committee funding application, SPF funding application), amongst others. All members were welcome to apply for an executive position at the beginning of the academic year.

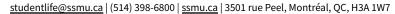
## Accessibility

Plate Club is aware that transporting and washing the dishes may hold groups back from utilizing our service. Therefore, we are careful to package the dishes in lug boxes that can be easily carried, and advise groups to send multiple members to pick up larger orders. Our sink and dishwasher in University centre, room 418, are available to users, and we provide soap/sponges/towels. A funding application is currently under way (as of November 2025) with the Sustainable Projects Fund (SPF) to fund the purchase of trolleys in order to further reduce transportation barriers for users.

#### Communication

Twice a year, the General Coordinator sends a survey to all groups who have used their service to get some feedback on user experience/satisfaction and understand where Plate Club can improve. The General coordinator also maintains regular communication with all volunteers and is available should any questions/issues arise during office hours. They also check emails daily for orders or inquiries from users.

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## Advertising

Plate Club advertises its services through newsletters, its website, and Instagram. Word of mouth also serves to bring people to our service. The Fall 2025 Services Fair and Activities Night brought in a number of volunteers, as did the SPF Sustainability Soirée for users.

## Highlights & Successes

The General Coordinator and co-VPs Sustainability successfully applied for and received funding for their Sustainable Snacks initiative, which seeks to provide ethically-sourced, eco-friendly snacks to volunteers during office hours, rather than cheap and easy non-sustainable snacks which do not align with Plate Club's values.

Plate Club also had its first volunteer bonding activity in October 2025, which was a great success, with 13 attendees (out of 24 members).

Plate Club is supplying SSMU Free Lunch Service users with dishware. Students can now give their McGill Student ID, collect a bowl/plate and utensil, enjoy their meal, and then wash their dishes in our dishwashing room (University Centre, room 418) before returning them and collecting their ID. Other users can leave other ID that the volunteers judge they will be compelled to return their dishes for.

Plate Club has officially been integrated into the SSMU Room Booking System, meaning that when groups reserve space in University Centre, they are prompted to order from us if they want dishware. If they do, the SSMU Sustainability Commissioner covers any breakage/losses, rather than the group paying a deposit, and the order is delivered/picked up by the porters, and washed by a Plate Club volunteer.

## Challenges/Barriers

Plate Club got a handful of users who felt that transportation and washing were too big barriers to using the service. One group cancelled their order entirely, while others reduced their order. Some steps have been taken to address these concerns, notably the provision of access to our industrial dishwasher to users, the integration of some orders into the SSMU Room Booking System which addresses both transportation and washing concerns, and the SPF application currently underway, which seeks amongst other things to fund the purchase of trolleys to reduce transportation barriers.

Another challenge has been that we are received bigger and a greater number of orders, without our inventory increasing proportionately. Many orders have to be modified, with either smaller quantities

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given, or mismatched items being used to fulfill one requested item (e.g. 100 small plates requested = 40 small plates, 25 fruit plates, 35 mini plates). The SPF funding application also seeks to address this challenge through supporting the purchase of greater numbers of our most popular inventory.

## **Finances**

## Previous Year Surplus

Our 2024-2025 budget surplus was \$1,315.48.

## Budget

Plate Club benefits from the SSMU Plate Club Fee fee levy of \$0.14 per semester, which primarily covers the General Coordinator's salary, as well as office snacks, bonding events, and merch for volunteers. Regular operational expenses include cleaning and/or office supplies and inventory.

A detailed breakdown of our budget can be found in Plate Club's Service Budget Tracking sheet here: BUDGET

They received funding from the SSMU Environment Committee for their Sustainable Snacks Initiative (\$150) and are currently applying for SPF funding to purchase more inventory (bowls, plates, pitchers, utensils, compost bins, etc.), including trolleys for transportation, as well as upgrade their infrastructure, from wooden shelving (susceptible to moisture/mold) to stainless steel mobile shelves.

# Future Plans/Projects

## **Upcoming Projects**

As mentioned previously, Plate Club is currently applying for funding from the SPF. If successful, this application would entail the reorganization of the office space and an increase in operational capacity through greater inventory.

Another big project underway is the Plate Club Sustainability/Impact Report/Assessment, which seeks to quantify Plate Club's impact since its inception in 2007. By digging online and in the Plate Club drive

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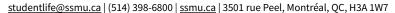
dating back almost two decades, we will seek to synthesize our institutional knowledge into a comprehensive report, which would include a detailed breakdown of our impact over the years, especially in terms of our number of users and amount of dishware diverted from landfill.

## Long Term Goals

The Plate Club Sustainability/Impact Report/Assessment is part of a long-term goal to increase our understanding of Plate Club's historic impact. Increasing transparency through this report will help us understand areas we need to focus on, as well as instill greater confidence in our users as to our dedication and the impact/importance of our work.

We hope to see an increase in the number of users and amount of rented dishware this year, as well as in years to come.

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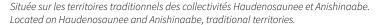
## **Musicians' Collective**

#### **Service Overview**

- Service Mandate/Mission
  - The collective's mandate is to:
    - Create a network of musicians to facilitate music making and learning at all levels
    - Provide avenues for the formation of ensembles, bands, and musical teacher-student relationships
    - Coordinate, promote, and facilitate performance and other musical opportunities to and for individuals, bands, and ensembles
    - Provide space and equipment to facilitate music making
- Contact Info
  - o <u>muscollective@gmail.com</u>
  - o musicianscollective@ssmu.ca

## **Activities & Operations**

- Key Activities this Semester (all events free)
  - Sept 12: Musicians Mixer
  - Every first Tuesday of the month open mic (Sept-Dec)
  - Every third Wednesday Gert's concert (Sept-Nov)
  - Halloween Open Mic + Mixer
- Usage/Participation statistics
  - Since events are not ticketed, we don't have usage participation statistics. However, every signup sheet for open-mics and performance events are always maxxed out (example below)
  - Open Mic Sign up! (Responses)
- Highlights & Success
  - Good turnout, participation, and excitement from performers at our events.
  - Full team to help operate the jam room.
  - Repaired all guitars.





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- Challenges/Barriers Faces
  - Lack of transparency, information, and communication from SSMU, McGill, and Building Services regarding the status of our jam room in light of a parking construction project that would take away our access to the space.
  - Lack of transparency, information, and communication from SSMU regarding our attempts at getting our fee increase motion on a ballot, a motion that has been left off the ballot two semesters in a row due to SSMU errors and lack of communication.
  - Building services continued refusal to conduct basic maintenance on our jam room (example, change light bulbs).

#### **Finances**

- Budget allocations
  - Service Budget Tracking 7060
- Previous year surplus
  - In budget sheet ↑
- Feel free to link any additional documentation

## **Future Plans/Projects**

- Upcoming projects this semester
  - Continuation of shows + open mics
- Long term goals:
  - Reliable jam room access → expanded jam room access (resources to support longer hours, maintaining all of the gear, etc)
  - Student fee increase to improve our services for students (finance off campus performances/events, maintain/repair jam room gear, purchase new equipment for the jam room, etc).



## **SACOMSS Service Overview**

#### **Mission Statement:**

- **1. 1** Guided by an anti-oppressive approach, we strive to create cultural change on campus—one where the conditions that lead to sexual violence are questioned and dismantled, and responses to harm are caring and respectful.
- **1.2** The Sexual Assault Centre of the McGill Students' Society is a student-run support service aiming to provide free peer support for any member of the McGill community who has experienced sexual violence of any sort. We also seek to contribute to the on-campus discussions surrounding sexual violence so as to help ensure a safer campus culture and environment for every member of the university.
- **1.3** At the core of this mission, we believe that everyone deserves dignity and care, non-judgment and self-determination, empathy, accessibility, and interconnection in all aspects of their university experience, and especially when seeking support after having experienced harm.
- **1.4** In order to uphold this mission, we at SACOMSS strive to be a feminist, anti-racist, anti-colonial, anti-ableist, anti-homophobic and anti-transphobic, anti-ageist, anti-classist, pro-sex worker and pro-sex work, and evidence-based organization. To do so, we seek to honour the inherent dignity of all people and to engage with everyone who seeks our services with empathy. We do this through recognition, self-reflection, and challenging biases in the way our volunteers take space. We prioritize genuine body language, conversations, connections, and honest communication, as well as the respect of emotional and physical boundaries, agency, and decisions of service users. This looks like meaningfully striving to meet the accessibility needs of the people seeking our services, honestly informing them of the realities of the systems at play, and ensuring they are able to make as informed a choice as possible.

## **Contact Information:**

2.1 External:

• Email: external@sacomss.org

2.2 Events:

• Email: events@sacomss.org

2.3 Publicity:

Email: publicity@sacomss.org

2.4 Finance:

Email: finance@sacomss.org

2.5 Ombudsperson:

• Email: ombuds@sacomss.org

#### 2.6 Service Coordinator:

• **Email:** supportservices@sacomss.org

#### 2.7 Political Educator(s):

• **Email:** political@sacomss.org

## **Activities & Operations**

#### 3.1 Key Activities this Semester

As a service funded by McGill Students tuition, we want to provide events free or charge for our students:

- Family Violence Prevention Month Panel
  - We hosted a powerful and informative panel discussion in recognition of Family Violence Prevention Month. The event brought together community advocates, and frontline workers to share insights on prevention, intervention, and support strategies.
- Upcoming 5th of December Commemorative events of Polytechnique femicides.
  - Collaborative event with McGill Collective for Gender Equality
- Resumed drop in hours regular support services and community hours
  - Our regular drop-in support hours have now resumed. Community members can once again access on-site support, resources, and referrals during our standard operating times. We remain committed to providing safe, confidential, and welcoming services.

#### 3.2 Usage/Participation statistics

 We have seen a significant rise in community engagement across our drop-in services, scheduled appointments, and events. Compared to last year, we are now supporting roughly 50% more individuals accessing our services each month. This steady growth highlights both the increasing need within the community and the effectiveness of our outreach, program delivery, and relationship-building efforts.

#### 3.3 Highlights & Success

#### • Solid attendance for Family Violence Prevention Month Panel

Despite strikes and having to turn the event into a hybrid one close to the planned date we saw a solid and engaged attendance at the Family Violence Prevention Month Panel, with participants representing a wide range of community members, partner organizations, and service providers. Attendees demonstrated a high level of interest through thoughtful questions, active dialogue, and willingness to share personal insights and experiences. Feedback collected during and after the event highlighted the value of the information provided, the expertise of the panelists, and the importance of creating more spaces for conversations about prevention, support services, and community safety.

#### Volunteer events and community building

 Throughout the month, the organization hosted and supported several volunteer-driven activities designed to strengthen community relationships and raise awareness of available programs. These events saw strong participation from both long-standing volunteers and new contributors, helping to build a sense of connection and shared purpose. The volunteer activities not only supported operational needs but also fostered a welcoming environment that encouraged ongoing engagement. These community-building efforts continue to help expand outreach capacity and deepen public understanding of our mission.

#### Onboarding of many new volunteers and P&P positions

A significant number of new volunteers were welcomed into the organization, demonstrating growing interest in supporting our work. In addition to volunteer onboarding, several key P&P positions were successfully filled, strengthening internal structures and enhancing service delivery. This expansion of both volunteer and staff capacity positions the organization for increased stability, improved workflow, and the ability to take on more impactful initiatives.

#### 3.4 Challenges/Barriers Faces

#### Volunteer and Feedback Form Limitations

 While the updated volunteer and feedback form provides valuable information, response rates have been inconsistent. This makes it difficult to gather a complete picture of participant experiences and limits our ability to make fully informed improvements.

#### Advertising and Attendance Fluctuations

- Despite expanded promotional efforts, attendance at events continues to vary widely. Competing schedules, limited visibility in certain communities, and inconsistent engagement pose ongoing challenges in reaching our target audiences effectively.
- Bounce message system: We originally had a larger number of people who signed up for our event through Bounce. However, we were unable to reach out to them despite using the Bounce message system to inform them about the changes regarding our event (which was turned into a hybrid one due to the strike). The in-person attendance was significantly lower than the online attendance, which was a success, but not reflective of the initially expected number of participants.

#### Volunteer Retention and Recruitment Difficulties

 Maintaining a stable volunteer base remains a barrier. Turnover is higher than expected, and recruiting new volunteers has required additional time and resources. Clear role expectations, training needs, and workload balance continue to impact long-term engagement.

#### STM Strike Disruptions

 The STM strike has created significant transportation challenges, affecting staff, volunteers, and participants. Reduced transit availability led to delays, lower attendance, and the need to adjust event logistics with short notice.

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#### **Finances**

- 4.1 Budget allocations
  - \$115,514
- 4.2 Previous year surplus
  - \$148,459.59
- 4.3 Feel free to link any additional documentation
  - https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/17sDea4\_lxXFbVYK6HWbg4PvfzX6QFJ7 QPFB\_OLDQmkQ/edit?usp=sharing

## **Future Plans/Projects**

- 5.1 Upcoming projects this semester
  - **December 5 event**, every year we try to commemorate the Ecole polytechnique massacre with a memorial event. This year our events coordinator is organizing an in-person event to share information about the historical and current impact of the event in montreal.

#### 5.2 Long term goals

- Continuing to increase awareness of support services
  - We are actively working to expand public awareness of the support services available, ensuring that individuals know how and where to access help. This includes strengthening partnerships, enhancing outreach materials, and maintaining a visible presence within the community. Our goal is to reduce barriers, increase accessibility, and ensure that those in need are aware of the resources offered.
- Volunteer retention ex. Continuing with volunteer social events, opportunities for feedback
  - To maintain high volunteer satisfaction and long-term engagement, we continue
    to focus on creating a supportive and community-oriented volunteer experience.
    This includes hosting regular volunteer social events to foster connection and
    belonging, as well as offering ongoing opportunities for volunteers to provide
    feedback.
  - Sign in sheet, volunteer accountability
    - We are refining our sign-in procedures to ensure accurate tracking of volunteer participation and program activity. Strengthening this system supports better organizational planning, enhances safety and accountability, and allows us to recognize volunteer contributions more effectively. Clear expectations and consistent processes help volunteers feel confident and informed in their roles.
- Increased social media and in-person presence during important annual events such as sexual violence awareness week
  - We continue to enhance our visibility both online and in person during major awareness weeks, including Sexual Violence Awareness Week. By participating in these events, sharing relevant resources, and engaging directly with the

community, we help amplify important messages and connect individuals to available support.

- Looking ahead, we aim to host multiple activities and share ongoing social media content throughout the entire second week of March. These efforts will help maintain momentum, maximize community reach, and encourage sustained engagement with key messages and resources.
- We are also looking forward to collaborating more with other actors of the McGill community to strengthen our presence on campus (clubs, services, and labs). This collaboration will be done through joint posts, workshops and collaborative events.

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# **DriveSafe Report**

## Service Overview

- The service mandate of DriveSafe is the following:
  - o To provide an alternative to using public transportation alone late at night.
  - To promote responsible drinking
  - To prevent drinking and driving and associated dangers
  - To promote a sense of community within the university by making evening activities accessible to all McGill students.
  - As a group that works to actively eradicate all forms of discrimination from our service; we encourage all McGill students and staff to use DriveSafe irrespective of sex, race, sexual orientation, and mental or physical ability.
- Contact Info
  - o drivesafe@ssmu.ca
  - o (514) 398-8040

## **Activities & Operations**

- Key Activities this Semester (all provided at no cost to students):
  - Providing a regular, on-demand service to students between the hours of 23:00 to 03:00, Thursday through Saturday during the academic year
  - Providing vehicles for various faculty events throughout the semester, including Frosh, EWeek, Sci Games, Carnival, and other similar events where drinking is expected
  - Implemented and operated a special shuttle service in October, coinciding with when there was no STM service to assist students getting to/from class
  - Hosted a volunteer appreciation event at Thomson House in mid-November
  - Collaborate with WalkSafe on the annual SafeHome initiative, getting students home from the library between 22:00 and 02:00 daily during the final exam period
- Usage/Participation statistics
  - Maintain an active roster of approximately 85 active volunteers
  - Transport on average 130 students home every month, not counting special events

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<u>studentlife@ssmu.ca</u> | (514) 398-6800 | <u>ssmu.ca</u> | 3501 rue Peel, Montréal, QC, H3A 1W7

- Highlights & Success
  - Shifted our fleet to be 100% electric, meeting the sustainability guidelines set forth by SSMU and McGill years ahead of schedule
  - Began to implement a mobile application for dispatching vehicles and requesting rides, making it easier for students to use our service
  - Quickly developed and implemented a shuttle service during the October STM strike, providing additional transportation options for students
- Challenges/Barriers Faces
  - Inconsistencies in volunteer signups on shift days, leading to reduced or occasionally cancellation of service
  - Inability for DriveSafe to charge groups requesting supplemental service for special events (as had been done for years prior), increasing the strain on the service's budget

## **Finances**

- Budget allocations
  - The 2025-26 DriveSafe budget can be accessed here
    - DriveSafe Budget 2025-26
- Previous year surplus: \$100,548.09

## Future Plans/Projects

- Upcoming projects this semester
  - Continue the phased roll-out of the app based dispatch system, anticipating having students be able to request rides using it in February/March 2026
  - Explore additional partnership/sponsorship opportunities for DriveSafe to benefit the service for students
- Long term goals
  - Extend the service boundaries of the service to encompass more areas of Laval and the South Shore
  - Expand service hours for the service (beginning at 21:00), implement a 3 hour-shift rotation compared to the 4 hour shifts the service currently runs
  - Increase service to more days per week, depending on demand/volunteer availability
  - Identify additional outreach opportunities for the service to provide education on responsible drinking and best practices to stay safe when going out

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