

SSMU BOARD OF DIRECTORS PUBLIC MINUTES

October 21, 2025

The Board of Directors meeting of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) will be held by teleconference and in the SSMU Boardroom on Tuesday, October 21 at 18:00.

Present: Yasmin Beeai (Deputy Speaker, non-voting), Dymetri Taylor (Director), Susan Aloudat (Officers, non-voting), Jean-Sébastien Léger(Director), Minaal Mirza(Officers, non-voting), Seraphina Crema Black (Officers, non-voting), Hamza Abu Alkhair (Officers, non-voting), Rajan Duncan (Director), Annette Yu (Director), Keith Baybayon (Director), Joshua Chin (Alumni Representative, non-voting), Maxime Rouhan (International Student Representative, non-voting), Simone Brown (Policy and Advocacy Coordinator, non-voting), Harry Wang (Parliamentarian, Non-voting), Acadia Knickerbocker (Speaker, Non-voting).

Absent: Rishi Kalaga (Director)

1. Call to Order: **18:32**

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 18:32.

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'AÉUM reconnaît que l'Université McGill est située sur le territoire traditionnel et non cédé des nations Anishinaabeg et Haudenosaunee. L'AÉUM 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'AÉUM s'engage à respecter les lois et coutumes traditionnelles de ces territoires.

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3. Attendance

The Chair takes attendance.

4. Adoption of the Agenda – **ADOPTED**

The Agenda is distributed. The Chair asks if anyone wishes to make any amendments to the agenda.

Director Abu Alkhair suggests that any of the voting directors might add a motion to approve the MUSA fee at this Board of Directors meeting, as he forgot to submit it on time to be approved at the last Legislative Council meeting.

Director Taylor motions to suspend the standing rules to add a motion to approve the MUSA fee to the agenda, seconded by Director Yu.

Seeing no opposition, the standing rules are suspended and the motion is added to the agenda (9.a).

Seeing no further changes or opposition, the Agenda is adopted.

5. Minutes for Approval

- a. [SSMU Board of Directors Public Minutes 2025-08-12](#) – **APPROVED**
- b. [SSMU Board of Directors Public Minutes 2025-09-30](#) – **APPROVED**

The Minutes are distributed. Seeing no changes, the Minutes are approved as distributed.

6. [Executive Committee public report 2025-10-21](#) - **FOR APPROVAL**

Director Taylor briefly explains that this report entails all of the SSMU's public email motions from the executive committee.

Me Glaser asks if Director Taylor can submit the report in the updated format.

Director Taylor says that he will try to do so.

7. Presentation

- a. [Fiduciary Duty & Ethics Presentation](#) (Internal Counsel & Corporate Secretary)

Me Glaser presents the rules and guidelines regarding fiduciary duties and ethics for Board of Directors members as we have a handful of new members added to the Board, as well as to serve as a reminder

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for existing Board members. Members must act in the Society's best interests even if it conflicts with personal views, as they have a fiduciary duty to the Society, Members and their constituents. They also have a Duty of Loyalty where they must act honestly and in good faith in the best interests of the corporation. This Duty of Loyalty owed to the corporation, not to members or any group of members (refer to SSMU Constitution, s. 16.1). Directors have a Duty of Care whereby Directors must exercise care, diligence and skill in exercising powers and performing duties (Article 322 Civil Code of Québec). Directors must exercise care, diligence and skill in exercising powers and performing duties (Article 322 Civil Code of Québec). Directors have a Duty of Knowledge to be knowledgeable and informed about key aspects of the corporation, issues coming before the Board for decisions - ensuring to read meeting materials and come prepared so they can take part in decisions, and have general knowledge of key provisions of governing legislation (Letters Patent, Constitution, Internal Regulations, and Policies). Directors have a Duty of Diligence, which entails attending all mandatory meetings. If a Director has an unavoidable conflict that prevents them from attending a meeting, they must send regrets to the Speaker by email before the meeting begins. Directors are reminded that abstention in voting is the act of choosing not to cast a vote for or against a motion, candidate, or issue. It signifies a neutral stance, distinct from active support or opposition. Directors have a Duty to Manage/Delegate, however, delegation does not automatically relieve a director from liability. Directors have a duty to maintain confidentiality of information gained through position as Director. All members of the Board must carry themselves with decorum to demonstrate the respect they hold for their office.

The Chair opens the floor to questions regarding Me Glaser's presentation. Seeing none, Me Glaser's presentation concludes.

8. Motions for Approval

- a. Fee referendum questions approved by Legislative Council
 - i. [Motion Regarding Referendum Question On The Renewal Of The SSMU Access Bursary Fund Fee](#)

Director Taylor explains that this motion seeks to initiate the process of renewing the SSMU Access Bursary Fund fee - an opt-outable Students' Society fee providing bursaries to SSMU members - which is up for renewal this semester.

- ii. [Motion Regarding First Year Fee Renewal Question](#)

Director Taylor explains that this motion pertains to The \$0.50 SSMU First Year Council Fee that expired in Winter 2023, and it is now being presented for a vote in the Fall 2025 semester referendum period.

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iii. [Motion Regarding Referendum Question On The Renewal Of The Access McGill Ancillary Fee](#)

Director Taylor explains that Access McGill pertains to the SAA office, providing services to aid students with accessibility issues. Legislative Council added an insurance to this motion to ensure that the SAA office connects with students in an effort to get relevant feedback.

iv. [Motion Regarding Creation Of Gender Affirming Care Fee Referendum Question](#)

Director Taylor explains that the GAC fee was cancelled last year due to the fees being allocated from the dental fee which was unconstitutional. This fee adds a new specifically dedicated fee, which, if fails, would result in no Gender Affirming Care plan to be offered to students.

v. [Motion Regarding The Student Services Fee](#)

Director Taylor explains that this fee usually doesn't go to referendum, but they will be in the position to have to lay off employees if they do not receive funding, so they are requesting an extra 4% of funding through this fee motion.

The Chair opens the floor to questions.

Officer Duncan requests a point of information to ask if we are allowed to vote on these motions in a block.

The Chair answers yes.

Director Taylor motions to approve the motions under 8a as a block, seconded by Director Duncan.

Seeing no opposition, the motion to approve the motions as a block is approved, and the motions under 8a move to a vote.

The Chair asks if there is any opposition to the approval of any of the motions under 8a. Seeing no opposition, motions 8a).i - 8a.)v are approved.

b. Fee referendum questions for ratification- **FOR APPROVAL**
i. [McGill wording updates](#)

Director Taylor presents the fee referendum questions for ratification.

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Director Taylor motions to delegate motion 8b to the Elections SSMU Team to approve before it is added to the referendum ballot, seconded by Officer Baybayon.

Seeing no opposition, the motion to delegate motion 8b to the Elections SSMU Team is approved, and motion 8b is postponed.

a. [MUSCO Fee](#) - **FOR APPROVAL**

Officer Abu Alkhair mentions that he wanted to bring this motion to the Board from the floor since this was an urgent matter. This motion seeks to renew the \$0.10 fee for the Musicians Collective, a SSMU Service. He explains that this fee provides music practice spaces for students across campus.

The Chair opens the floor to questions on the motion.

Seeing none, the Chair opens the floor to comments on the motion.

Seeing none, the Chair asks if there is any opposition to the passing of this motion.

Seeing no opposition, the motion passes.

9. For Discussion

a. Regarding the power of disallowance (Internal Counsel & Corporate Secretary)

Me Glaser reminds the Board that it is their duty to revisit all motions passed by Legislative Council within 5 days after each Legislative Council meeting in order to double-check that each motion is rightfully constitutional. An email will always be sent to all members of the Board after each Legislative Council meeting which lists all motions approved at the meeting. Should the rare occasion occur that a motion is found to be unconstitutional, it is the Board member's responsibility to reply to this email exercising disallowance with the relevant breach of governing documents attached.

The Chair asks if there is anyone wishing to contribute to this discussion point

The Chair opens the floor to any other comments on this discussion point. Seeing none, this discussion point is concluded.

10. Confidential Session:

a. There is a Confidential Session this evening

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President Taylor motions to suspend the rules to amend the agenda to add a motion to approve MSA, seconded by Officer Baybayon.

President Taylor motions to call the question, seconded by Director Duncan.

Seeing no opposition, the question is called.

The Chair asks if there is any opposition to the passing of this motion.

Seeing no opposition, the motion passes.

11. Adjournment: **19:00**

APPROVED