



Vice-présidence (affaires externes) de l'AÉUM

Située sur les territoires traditionnels des collectivités Haudenosaunee et Anishinaabe.

SSMU Vice-President (External)

Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories.

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

REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Submitted for: 2026-02-26

For the period of 2026-01-29 - 2026-02-26

Campaigns

- **Athletics petition:** Athletics leadership is not interested in pursuing a provincial petition at this time.
- **Bill 9 advocacy:**
 - Met with the McGill Muslim Students Association (MSA) to align objectives and messaging.
 - Focus areas: preventing passage of Bill 9, monitoring legal developments, and shaping public understanding of the bill's impacts.
 - Planned actions: SSMU statement (draft in progress), educational initiatives, and coalition-building with student and religious groups.
- **Coalition & mobilization:**
 - Researching the stances of other student associations and religious groups (McGill, Dawson, UofT Mississauga, TMU, Laurier, York) to build a united front.
 - Coordination with political campaign partners and external allies.
 - Meetings scheduled with stakeholders (MSA) to assess campaign alignment.
- **Campus administrative follow-ups:**
 - Met with the administration to inquire about a statement.
 - Gathering data on washroom infrastructure and bidet requests for policy follow-up.



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- **Political engagement:**

- Meeting with representatives from Working Alternatives McGill to explore campaign and advocacy support through the External Affairs portfolio.
 - Represented the SSMU's position on the genocide in Palestine to the QSU.
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Outreach

- Organized a winter clothing drive in partnership with Open Door Montreal, collecting donations for community distribution.
 - Ongoing student engagement initiatives in collaboration with Elections SSMU to encourage participation and awareness.
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Political Affairs (Federal, Provincial & Municipal)

- Meetings with political representatives (e.g., Jennifer Maccarone's office) to discuss tuition policy and post-secondary education concerns.
- Planned a non-partisan panel event with members of the Quebec Liberal Party in collaboration with the Liberaux Quebec McGill club to discuss policies such as Bill 9, Bill 21, and tuition increases.
- Participation in the 53rd caucus of the Quebec Student Union, engaging with Members of the National Assembly across party lines on education priorities.
 - Discussion topics included:
 - PEQ vs PSTQ immigration pathways
 - Tuition affordability



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- Food insecurity
 - Gender-based violence
 - Bill 94 and Bill 21 implications
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- Attended a McGill Liberals event and met with students from the University of Ottawa and Queen's University, and spoke to MP Marc Miller about the SSMU.
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Community Engagement

- Social impact initiatives:
 - Winter clothing drive (Feb 9–13, 4–6pm) benefiting Open Door Montreal.
 - Valentine's Day initiative: 80 cards for the Open Door Montreal and the Mile End Mission. And 76 pairs of wool socks for the Open Door Montreal.
 - Spring Into Action in collaboration with the SSMU: Spring into Action (formerly known as Social Justice Days) is an annual event series that is organized and funded by the Quebec Public Interest Research Group at McGill University (QPIRG-McGill) and the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU). Spring into Action will take place this year from March 16-27, 2026, in collaboration with numerous students, community organizers, and organizations. This year's theme, Common Thread, explores the connections between struggles that appear distant, the shared conditions that link them, and the responsibilities we hold to one another across borders, movements, and timelines.
 - Outstanding financial follow-up regarding QPIRG's Culture Shock deficit (up to \$5,000).
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Affordable Housing

- Student applications for affordable housing through UTILE remain open and accessible.



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Solidarity Funding Committee

- Funding distributed (\$18,800 total) to community and student initiatives:
 - Co-Op BMP
 - Hawa Initiative
 - We Are Here Collective
 - Law Students for Palestine
 - Collectif Montréal, ville contre l'apartheid et le génocide
 - Trans Law McGill
 - Milton Parc Citizens Committee
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Food Pantry

- Procurement underway for refrigerator (Costco) and shelving (Mona's).
 - The Legislative Council passed the MOTION REGARDING THE INCREASE OF THE SSMU FOOD BANK FEE!
 - Discussions with the **Post-Graduate Students' Society of McGill University (PGSS)** regarding an operational agreement (MOA) for the food bank.
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Elections

- Conducted focus group with students who had not voted in the past two referenda to gather feedback on election experiences; participants compensated with \$30 honoraria.



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- Data analysis underway to inform External Affairs' and Elections SSMU strategies to improve engagement.
 - Tabling and outreach for executive elections are scheduled to begin the week of March 9.
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Governance

- Participation in governance reform committee discussions about the Political Campaigns Protocol.
- Review of the SSMU Positions Book completed.
- Recruitment of a new Government Relations Coordinator finalized.