



MOTION REGARDING SSMU POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SUPPORT WORKING ALTERNATIVES MCGILL 2026-03-26

Submitted for: 2026-03-26

Submitted to:	SSMU Legislative Council	Document no.:	LEG-PUB-MOT-2026-03-26-005 (to be assigned by Steering)
Moved by:	Seraphina Crema Black <i>Vice President External</i>	Current Status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● FOR APPROVAL● APPROVED● POSTPONED● COMMITTED● NOT APPROVED
Seconded by:	Meghan Lai <i>Senate Caucus Representative</i>		

Issue

Working Alternatives McGill is requesting financial and in-kind support to continue delivering educational programming, community-building events, and an alternative careers fair. SSMU must decide whether to support Working Alternatives McGill with funding. Due to insufficient funds in the Political Campaigns' food budget, a supplemental \$2,200 increase is required to enable this allocation.

Background and Rationale

Working Alternatives McGill is a student group focused on popular education and community-building around economic alternatives, climate justice, and sustainable futures. Through workshops, reading circles, and networking events, the group provides students with opportunities to

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critically engage with economic systems and explore meaningful career pathways outside of environmentally harmful industries.

Since November 2025, the group has hosted multiple events in collaboration with campus partners, consistently attracting 10-20 participants per session. These events have relied heavily on out-of-pocket contributions and subsidized support from collaborators, particularly for food. Food provision has been a key component of accessibility, supporting student food security and enabling broader participation.

The first question before Council is whether this programming warrants SSMU support through a \$1,140 funding allocation. \$1,140 is the amount recommended by Vice President External Affairs.

However, the current balance of the Political Campaigns budget (account 4039) is insufficient to support this disbursement. As such, a second, necessary question concerns how to operationalize this support.

Following consultation with the Vice-President (Finance), the recommended solution is to increase the Political Campaigns food budget by \$2,200. This money would come from the operating budget.

Alignment with Mission

This motion aligns with SSMU's mission by supporting student-led initiatives, promoting accessible programming, and enabling political and educational engagement that benefits the broader student community.

Consultations Completed

Vice-President (Finance): Confirmed that the current Political Campaigns budget cannot support a \$1,140 allocation. Recommended a \$2,200 supplemental increase to the food budget as the most effective solution.

Political Campaigns Coordinator.

Representative of Working Alternatives McGill.

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Policy and Advocacy Coordinator

**Risk Factors and
Resource
Implications**

The primary financial implication is a \$2,200 increase to the Political Campaigns food budget, from which \$1,140 will be allocated to Working Alternatives McGill. While this is new spending, it is grounded in demonstrated need and follows consultation with the Vice-President (Finance).

**Impact of
Decision
and Next Steps**

If approved, SSMU will allocate \$1,140 to Working Alternatives McGill to support its programming. Simultaneously, the Political Campaigns' food budget will be increased by \$2,200 to enable this disbursement and maintain budgetary functionality.

The Vice-President (Finance) will oversee the implementation of the budget increase and the disbursement of funds in accordance with SSMU policies.

Working Alternatives McGill will proceed with its planned events, including workshops, reading circles, and an alternative careers fair.

**Motion or
Resolution for
Approval**

Be it resolved that the Students' Society of McGill University allocate \$1,140 to support the initiatives of Working Alternatives McGill outlined in Appendix A.

Be it resolved that the 4039 Political Campaigns – Food and Beverages budget be increased by \$2,200.

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Be it resolved that Working Alternatives McGill be granted access to free room bookings for its Winter 2026 programming.

Results of the
Vote

- In favour (24)
 - Opposed (0)
 - Abstain (0)
-

Appendix A : Relevant Appendix

[SSMU Funding Application](#)