



**Macdonald Campus Students' Society**  
Association des Étudiants du Campus Macdonald  
FULL COUNCIL MINUTES

A meeting of the Full Council of the Macdonald Campus Students' Society was held on **Tuesday, Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020** from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

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Present: Joëlle Mottart (*Secretary to the Council*), Nikulas Dworek (*President*), Marie Prémont St-Jean (*VP Internal*), Leela Riddle-Merritte (*VP External*), Keel Scruton (*VP Finance*), Muhamad Shariq (*VP BOC*), Véronique Dion-Larivière (*VP Comm. & Student Life*), Karl-Antoine Hogue (*Envr. Advisor*), Patricia Sung (*Equity Commissioner*), Jeanne-Armelle Uwiringiyimana (*AESUS Rep*), Alexander Audi (*BESS Rep*), Steven Chuang (*DHNUS Rep*), Keesha Ness (*FMT Rep*), Valeriya Boyarkina (*FSA Rep*), Simran Jawanda (*MCGSS Rep*), George McCourt (*Faculty Rep*), Caitlin Hier (*MaL*).

Regrets: Tyler Luft (*Speaker*), Menka Sharma (*VP Academic*), Helen Turvene (*MESS Rep*), Carina Coleman-Gridley (*MaL*).

Absent:

Guests:

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Acting Speaker, Nikulas Dworek (*President*), opened the meeting.

## 1. Administrative

- **Adoption of the Agenda**

Nikulas Dworek (*President*), moved to adopt the agenda as presented, George McCourt (*Faculty Rep*), seconded.  
Unanimous, Carried.

- **Approval of the Minutes**

George McCourt (*Faculty Rep*), moved to adopt the minutes from Nov 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Karl-Antoine Hogue (*Envr. Advisor*), seconded.  
Unanimous, Carried.

- **Business Arising**

- N/A

## 2. Subcommittee Business

- N/A

## 3. Points of Discussion

Leela Riddle-Merritte (*VP External*): Representatives' opportunity to raise points from meetings for brief discussion, feedback, or the creation of an ad-hoc committee.

Steven Chuang (*DHNUS Rep*): DHNUS has hosted some virtual events this year, including using tik tok and instagram. Dietetic Stages are for the most part going on with few cancellations.



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He would like to have alumni speaker next semester, suggestions included, contacting University Advancement and academic advisors. Also, the best way to reach their members is through the MCSS Newsletter and the DHNUS listserv.

Simran Jawanda (*MCSS Rep*): They had a discussion last week about their shortage of members on the MCGSS Council.

Keesha Ness (*FMT Rep*): FMT is running as usual, they had an event with the Quebec Farmers Association and agricultural minister; the year 3 field trip went on as scheduled and the Dairy Challenge competition was hosted online. All clubs except for the Woodsmen team are active. She asked about Grad photos at Mac, as they went on downtown. The Secretary will inquire for next semester. She reported that a student she spoke to had no idea where to get mental health support, it was agreed that we will make a list of resources more visible on our social media.

#### **4. Action Items**

- **UTILE (Vote)**

*Leela Riddle-Merritte (VP External)*: Unité de travail pour l'Implantation de Logement Étudiant ([UTILE](#)), is a non-profit organization that works toward establishing affordable housing for students in Québec. SSMU has already collaborated with them, might Mac students could benefit from their services as well? Do we want to participate in their survey?

A discussion followed:

*Leela Riddle-Merritte (VP External)* moved that MCSS participate in UTILE's survey, *Nikulas Dworek (President)* seconded.  
Unanimous, Carried.

- **MCSS Financial Report-May 31, 2020**

*Keel Scruton (VP Finance)* presented the MCSS Financial Report (see attached): As per our Memorandum of Agreement, we are audited each year. This report covers the period of June 1st, 2019 to May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

A discussion followed:

*Keel Scruton (VP Finance)*: COVID-19 did affect us as far as Ceilidh Bar and Bookstore sales, despite that we remain in good financial standing. We were able to continue with club funding. The kitchen renovation cost was a bit less than originally planned. We are still operating at a slight deficit each year, but we have a 5-year plan to close that gap.

*Nikulas Dworek (President)* moved to continue the discussion in closed session, *Leela Riddle-Merritte (VP External)* seconded.  
Unanimous, Carried.

Session now reopened:

*Keel Scruton (VP Finance)* moves to adopt MCSS Financial Report 19-20 as presented, *Nikulas Dworek (President)* seconded. Unanimous, Carried.



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- **MCSS Holiday Donations** (Discussion)  
Nikulas Dworek (*President*) opened the discussion on a donation from MCSS to a selection of charities, from the funds that would have gone to our MCSS holiday dinner, cancelled because of the pandemic.  
  
-Many charities were suggested, but first we must consult with McGill guidelines for donations to approved charities.  
-It is clear that funds directly from student fees cannot go towards donations to charities.  
-Ethical and equity issues must be considered.  
-Instead of charities, we could give to a COVID emergency fund for students.  
-Perhaps an alternative could be hosting food and clothing drives.
- **MCSS Holiday Party**  
Marie Prémont-St-Jean (*VP Internal*): Please fill out the doodle to determine which date works for our virtual holiday get together. Results: Fri, Dec 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm.
- **Ceilidh Tour and Game Night** (Informational)  
Muhammad Shariq Imran (*VP BOC*): He would like to plan an event geared towards students who have not yet experienced the Ceilidh, as well as those who know and miss it. This would consist of a virtual tour and games night (Among us, Cards against humanity, Jackbox, Skribblo). Timeline: after Dec 16<sup>th</sup>, last day of exams.  
  
A discussion followed:  
-suggestions included having a bartender filmed behind the bar to get the full experience and adding photos and videos of previous bar nights and parties.  
-Hosting a line dancing segment, which Mac campus is famous for.

## 5. Reports

### **Environmental Advisor (Karl-Antoine Hogue)**

Zero-waste discussion group organized by MOOS in collaboration with SSMU and PGSS today. Went well!

Senate Physical Improvement Committee meeting on the 19th. They are finalizing the design of the New Royal Victoria (Downtown) and starting the public consultations in spring 2021. The McLennan-Redpath Library renovation is moving forward and they are in the process of selecting an architect. At Mac, Raymond teaching greenhouse renovation starting in spring 2021. The Center of Excellence of Agriculture is now being designed. Work in Centennial Center is progressing well.

Meeting with the Mac Sustainability Committee via Zoom on the 20th. Some of the themes discussed were energy efficiency, greening the campus, waste reduction, sustainable transportation and better communication with the students. No concrete steps were taken. Next meeting in February.

### **VP Student Life (Véronique Dion Larivière)**

SSMU Mental Health Roundtable (Nov. 26)

Take away: Mental health action week on Jan 25-29



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**VP Internal**

**Committee on Student Services**

Checking-in Fall semester (in October). Students feel more prepared emotionally and socially, and only 27% feel McGill is supportive in the maintenance of wellbeing. Demand for help but no up-takes when events are offered. 54% are satisfied with how academics are handled. Reducing workload and flexible deadlines could help. Will present suggestions to the Senate in January.

**Equity Commissioner**

Met with Khan Bouba (consultant for McGill's Action Plan to Address Anti-Black Racism) and VP External.

I have organized for Khan to be invited to the JBSCE meeting next week.

RAW (resilience and wellness) Committee at MAC.

Concerns about wellness resources/advice for graduate students as well as undergraduates.

**6. Next Meeting**

Nikulas Dworek (*President*): Next meeting on Tues, Jan 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 5:30pm, on Microsoft Teams.

**7. Adjournment**

Nikulas Dworek (*President*) moved to adjourn, Marie Prémont St-Jean (*VP Internal*) seconded.  
Unanimous, carried.

President \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_