



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, March 9th, 2021** from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

Present: Tyler Luft (*Speaker*), Joëlle Mottart (*Secretary to the Council*), Nikulas Dworek (*President*), Marie Prémont St-Jean (*VP Internal*), Leela Riddle-Merritte (*VP External*), Keel Scruton (*VP Finance*), Véronique Dion-Larivière (*VP Comm. & Student Life*), Menka Sharma (*VP Academic*), 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*), , Helen Turvene (*MESS Rep*), , Caitlin Hier (*MaL*), Carina Coleman-Gridley (*MaL*).

Regrets: Muhamad Shariq (*VP BOC*)

Absent: George McCourt (*Faculty Rep*), Simran Jawanda (*MCGSS Rep*)

Guests:

Tyler Luft (*Speaker*), opened the meeting.

1. Administrative

- **Adoption of the Agenda**

Nikulas Dworek (*President*) moved to adopt the agenda as presented, Marie Prémont St-Jean (*VP Internal*) seconded.
Unanimous, Carried.

- **Approval of the Minutes**

Nikulas Dworek (*President*) moved to adopt the minutes from Feb 23rd, 2021, Marie Prémont St-Jean (*VP Internal*) seconded.
Unanimous, Carried.

- **Business Arising**

- Sub-Society and MCGSS general updates
 - AESUS - Jeanne-Armelle Uwiringiyimana: They hosted a health care chat for their members.
 - BESS - Alex Audi: General assembly coming up on March 10th. They had an Open House event as well.
 - FSA - Valeriya Boyarkina: Foodventure event online next week. They hosted a virtual workshop with Masters students. Their elections are in 3 weeks.
 - DHNUS - Steven Chuang: Their elections coming up soon.

2. Subcommittee Business

- **Item Name, (Position)**



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3. Action Items

3.1 Referendum Questions for Adoption(4) (Discussion, Vote)

Nikulas Dworek (*President*) presented all 4 referendum questions previously adopted by Council. They must once again be adopted to fit into the 21 day timeline of the referendum and election vote, scheduled for March 24 and 25th, 2021.

- 1- Studentcare ad-on, -Dialogue (Minutes Feb 9th)
- 2- Studentcare ad-on, Legal Protection (Minutes Feb 9th)
- 3- MCSS Student Life Fund Fee, renewal (Minutes Jan 26th)
- 4- Amendments to the MCSS Constitution, VP Positions (Minutes Jan 26th)

1-Nikulas Dworek (*President*) moved to adopt the Dialogue referendum question as follows:

Dialogue Question

Whereas, access to health services within McGill University, within the City of Montreal, and on the West Island can be restrictive for MCSS members for various reasons (financial, physical, or administrative);

Whereas, rapid, convenient, and reliable online access to medical doctors and nurses is integral to the health and wellbeing of students at McGill University, both during the time of the pandemic and in the future;

Whereas, the cost to see a doctor in a clinic in Montreal can range from approximately \$60 to \$100+ for a single visit;

Whereas, Dialogue is a service provided by Studentcare and is an integrated telemedicine service which offers students unlimited bilingual access to connect with nurses and physicians 24/7 via a mobile or web app from anywhere in Canada and consult via videoconference with a licensed doctor or nurse practitioner within 60 minutes during regular hours (8AM-8PM) and within 120 minutes after regular hours (8PM-8AM);

Whereas, the proposed Dialogue telemedicine service would provide all MCSS members with access to the Dialogue service for an entire year (September to August) at no extra cost beyond the proposed referendum of \$58.65;

Whereas, members who begin their studies in January will be charged a pro-rated fee in the Winter semester of \$39.10 to access the Dialogue service for the months of January to August;

Whereas, this fee is fully opt-outable and the opt-out procedure will be overseen through Studentcare (in a process similar to the MCSS Health and Dental Insurance change-of-coverage period);

“Do you agree to establish the opt-outable MCSS Dialogue fee of \$58.65 per student to be charged in the Fall semester for full year access (September to August), students who begin in the Winter semester will be charged a pro-rated fee of \$39.10 to access the program from January to August, payable by all MCSS members, for 2 years starting Fall 2021 until Winter 2023 (inclusive) to access the Dialogue service, at which time it will be brought back to the membership for renewal?”



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Yes/No/Abstain

Keel Scruton (*VP Finance*) seconded.
Unanimous, carried.

2- Nikulas Dworek (*President*) moved to adopt the Legal Protection Program referendum question as follows:

Legal Protection Program Question

Whereas, the MCSS and Studentcare have identified a need for legal representation for students facing legal challenges in their day-to-day lives, as currently available legal resources may be expensive, inaccessible, or inadequate;

Whereas, the Legal Protection Program would offer unlimited access to legal representation for housing, employment, academic, and human rights disputes, small claims support, and civil mediation where legal representation services would apply until the case is resolved, even after a student finishes their studies;

Whereas, the Legal Protection Program would further offer students unlimited access to a Legal Helpline for questions on any area of the law, including but not limited to Immigration Law queries for international students;

Whereas, the proposed Legal Protection Program service would provide all MCSS members with access to the service for an entire year (September to August) at no extra cost beyond the proposed referendum of \$25.08;

Whereas, members who begin their studies in January will be charged a pro-rated fee in the Winter semester of \$16.72 to access the Legal Protection Program service for the months of January to August;

Whereas, this fee is fully opt-outable and the opt-out procedure will be overseen through Studentcare (in a process similar to the MCSS Health and Dental Insurance change-of-coverage period);

“Do you agree to establish the [opt-outable MCSS Legal Protection Program fee of \\$25.08 per student to be charged in the Fall semester for full year access \(September to August\)](#), students who begin in the Winter semester will be charged a pro-rated fee of \$16.72 to access the program from January to August, payable by all MCSS members, for 2 years starting Fall 2021 until Winter 2023 (inclusive) to access the Legal Protection Program service, at which time it will be brought back to the membership for renewal?”

Yes/No/Abstain

Leela Riddle-Merritte (*VP External*) seconded.
Unanimous, carried.



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3- Nikulas Dworek (*President*) moved to adopt the MCSS Student Life Fund Fee referendum question as follows:

Student Life Fund Question

WHEREAS the student life fund fee is a non-opt outable fee charged to all undergraduate and certificate (FMT) students of the Macdonald Campus of McGill University, directed to the four Undergraduate Student Associations' (AESUS, DHNUS, FSA and BESS) to fund activities as overseen by their executive leadership teams (councils) relating to student life, learning, and professional development.

WHEREAS the Macdonald Campus Students' Society ('the MCSS') funds the four Undergraduate Student Associations' budgets on the Mac Campus (AESUS, DHNUS, FSA and BESS) with the non-opt outable Student Life Fund Fee;

WHEREAS the increase in the Canadian economy's general price levels (i.e. inflation) has resulted in \$8.00 in 2016 being equivalent to \$8.56 in 2020 (Source: Bank of Canada CPI calculator);

WHEREAS non-opt outable student fees must be brought to the Society's membership after two years for renewal by referendum.

Question 1:

“Do you agree to renew the non-opt outable Student Life Fund Fee of \$8.00 per term for both the full and part-time students under the MCSS, beginning in the Fall 2021 semester and to be brought back to the Society's membership in the Winter 2023 semester for renewal, with the understanding that a majority “no” vote would result in the absence of funding for the four (4) Undergraduate Student Associations on the Mac Campus (AESUS, DHNUS, FSA and BESS)”

Yes/No/Abstain

Question 2:

“Do you agree to increase the non-opt outable Student Life Fund Fee by exactly the national inflation rate from \$8.00 to \$8.56 per term for both the full- and part-time students under the MCSS, beginning in the Fall 2021 semester and expiring after the Winter 2023 semester (unless renewed through a student referendum), with the understanding that a majority “no” vote could result in a decrease in the spending of the four Undergraduate Student Associations on the Mac Campus for the next five years (AESUS, DHNUS, FSA and BESS)”

Yes/No/Abstain

Marie Prémont St-Jean (*VP Internal*) seconded.
Unanimous, carried.



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4- Nikulas Dworek (*President*) moved to adopt the Amendments to the MCSS Constitution, VP Positions referendum question as follows:

Vice-President Positions Question

WHEREAS the MCSS Council would like to update the names of two (2) positions (Equity Commissioner and Environmental Advisor) in order to acknowledge and better reflect the equal importance and responsibilities that these positions have compared to the other Vice-President positions.

Question:

“Do you agree to the following changes to the MCSS Constitution?”

Change all mentionings of “Equity Commissioner” to “Vice-President of Equity Affairs” in the following sections:

- 1.3.1.2.2 under sub-section labelled “Non-discrimination notice”
- 2.8 under section labelled “Definitions”

Change all mentionings of “Environmental Advisor” to “Vice-President of Sustainability” in the following sections:

- 2.8 under section labelled “Definitions”

Remove all mentionings of “Environmental Advisor” and “Equity Commissioner” in the following sections:

- 4.2.3 under sub-section labelled “Elected Representation”
- 7.2.1.1.8 under section labelled “Full Council Meetings”
- 7.2.1.1.9 under section labelled “Full Council Meetings”

Yes/No/Abstain

Leela Riddle-Merritte (*VP External*) seconded.
Unanimous, carried.

3.2 MCSS Budget 20-21(Discussion, Vote)

Keel Scruton (*VP Finance*) presented the MCSS Budget 20-21(see attached).

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1oWY0pqLkIR5i-I3zXQFm5JaocjJIuvXAxlTqT6TpDfk/edit?usp=sharing>

A discussion followed: Details were clarified about the Dean’s Fund, how it came to be, and its allocation to MCSS Clubs.

Keel Scruton (*VP Finance*) moved to adopt the MCSS Budget 20-21 as presented, Nikulas Dworek (*President*) seconded.
Unanimous, carried.



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3.3 MARTLET Constitution Adoption -New Club (Discussion, Vote)

Keel Scruton (*VP Finance*) presented the MARTLET Constitution (see attached).
All the suggested changes discussed in the Feb 23rd, 2021 Council meeting were made.

Keel Scruton (*VP Finance*) moved to adopt the MARTLET Constitution as presented Nikulas Dworek (*President*) seconded.
Yes: 15 Abstain: 1 Motion Carried.

3.4 Chief Returning Officer –Email vote results (see attached)

Leela Riddle-Merritte (*VP External*): An MCSS Executive meeting was held on Feb 25th, 2021, where a discussion on the MCSS Election rules concluded that must be adapted for the pandemic. The President decided email voting was acceptable, as it was time sensitive.

Email voting results:

Yes: 13 Abstain: 1 Motion Carried.

3.5 In-Person Town Hall (Informational)

Leela Riddle-Merritte (*VP External*): McGill is hosting an in-person Town Hall on March 12th, at 12pm, for those wanting to attend, if not send her your questions and concerns.

4. Reports N/A

5. Next Meeting

Nikulas Dworek (*President*): Next meeting on Tues, March 23rd, 2021 at 6pm, on Microsoft Teams

6. Adjournment

Nikulas Dworek (*President*) moved to adjourn, Leela Riddle-Merritte (*VP External*) seconded.
Unanimous, carried.

President _____ Secretary _____