



Students' Society of McGill University
Association étudiante de l'Université McGill

Office of the Speakers
Bureau de Présidents du Conseil

Motion Regarding Student Strike Solidarity Fund

Whereas, the SSMU shall “provide services to strengthen the educational, cultural, environmental, political and social conditions of [its] membership”;

Whereas, financial hardship directly or indirectly weakens the educational, cultural, environmental, political and social conditions of members of the SSMU;

Whereas, an unlimited general strike is foreseen this winter semester across Quebec, and could extend to McGill University;

Whereas, an unlimited general strike may, as it has in the past, give rise to the extension of the winter semester and postponement of final exams;

Whereas, the effect of a prolonged semester include financial hardship for students, particularly those who are already economically disadvantaged, as a result of added costs (e.g. rent) and lost revenue (e.g. summer job);

Whereas, the SSMU holds roughly \$2.3 million in investments, and, in a previous session of Council, allocated \$453,000 to renovation of Gerts, but has, to date, spent little of those funds;

Resolved, that SSMU Council be strongly encouraged to create a Student Strike Solidarity Fund in order to provide financial and material support to students who cannot meet basic needs, including food and housing, due to the effects of a student strike,

Resolved, that the 2011-2012 SSMU VP Finance & Operations, investigate the viability of this fund as well as options for its administration and institutionalization and assist in the writing of a motion mandating Council to create the fund.

Submitted by: Daniel Wolfe and Kevin Paul

Signed by:

Adam Winer (Clubs and Services Representative to Council)
Joël Pedneault (Vice-President, External of SSMU)
Carol Fraser (Vice-President, Clubs & Services of SSMU)
Shyam Patel (Vice-President, Finance & Operations of SSMU)