

**Referenda Results History
2000-2009**

“Based on the hardly unexpected low voter turnout, no. In fact, one was hard pressed to spot even the candidates through the night. The more important question however is should you care? The Students’ Society of McGill University does control a significant amount of money, ringing in at the multi-million mark, and despite all of its disparities and popularity contests, remains the most credible voice mediating student concerns and administrative realities”

-McGill Tribune March 13, 2001

“Essential translation: McGill sucks, SSMU sucks, but on the bright side I’m great. Vote for me, thank you. Weren’t paying attention? Don’t worry, you will hear it all again next year.”

-Mike Bargav (March 6, 2001)

Spring Referendum Period 2000

Do you agree that the constitution of the Students’ Society of McGill University be amended to include as a full voting member of the Students’ Society of McGill University council a First Year Councillor who shall be elected according to the procedures set out by the bylaws of the SSMU? (this will mean adding to Article 4.1 of SSMU constitution, approved through referendum in 1999: the first year councillor.)	PASSED
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Do you authorize the SSMU to enter into a long-term campus wide exclusive cold beverage agreement?	FAILED No- 56.4%
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Spring Referenda period 2001

FEUQ 1.50\$ fee increase	FAILED
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Spring Referenda period 2001

Do you agree to pay an additional \$3.90 to the Students’ Society of McGill University per semester	PASSED Yes 59.2%
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Do you agree to pay an additional \$1.25 to the McGill Legal Info Clinic per semester	PASSED 50.85%
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Do you agree to amend the QPIRG constitution?	PASSED 62.2%
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Fall Referenda Period 2001

SACOMSS funding	PASSED After being sealed and a J-Board hearing due to a
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	petition which accused the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) of breaking constitutional bylaws regarding referendum procedures
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Spring Referenda Period 2002

SSMU Accreditation Referendum Yes:3983 No:635 Spoiled: 280	FAILED 25% (approx. 4200 voters) approval was required.
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Daily Publications Society	PASSED Yes*: 2346 No: 1705 Spoiled: 193
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FEUQ Referendum	PASSED Yes*: 2012 No: 1605 Spoiled: 567
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SSMU Capital Fund	FAILED Yes: 1593 No*: 1957 Spoiled: 727
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Spring Referenda Period 2003

Fee referendum to renovate the Shatner University Centre “The \$11.84 fee, which will be charged to students each semester for the next seven years, will pay for the last part of a three-phase renovation project; it will also settle the Students' Society's \$580,000 debt to the University for the second phase of renovations, completed in 2001”	PASSED
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Spring Referenda Period 2004

Replace the McGill Student Fund with the McGill Undergraduate Student Fund	PASSED Yes-55.3 %
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Fall Referenda Period 2004	
SSMU Base Fee	PASSED Yes - 2107 (58.1%) No - 1378 (38%) Spoiled - 141 (3.9%)
SACOMSS Fee	PASSED Yes - 3105 (85.6%) No - 452 (12.5%) Spoiled - 69 (1.9%)
McGill Daily Fee Opt-out Yes - ? No - ? Spoiled - ? Results temporarily sealed as per Judicial Board instructions on Wed. November 3rd at 3:49pm.	SEALED
DPS Financial Autonomy Yes - ? No - ? Spoiled - ? Results temporarily sealed as per Judicial Board instructions on Wed. November 3rd at 3:49pm.	SEALED
Spring Referenda Period 2005	
Language clarifications and changes to the membership and procedures of council	PASSED
The Treasurer position will be eliminated, and duties will be transferred to the Vice President (Operations and Finance) portfolio.	PASSED
The elected student seat at the Board of Governors will be eliminated, leaving the president as its sole representative.	PASSED
Clarifies the by-election procedure in case an executive resigns- If the resignation occurs within the first six months of the term, a mandatory by-election will be held. If the resignation occurs after the first six months, the decision to hold a by-election will be put to vote at council.	PASSED
Fall Referenda Period 2005	
Do you think there is a shortage of lounge space for students on campus?	Plebiscites of 5.4% of undergraduate students yes 67.4%

Do you think there is a shortage of club office and meeting space?	yes 50.8%
Do you think there is a shortage of quality study space on campus?	yes 52.4%
Do you think there will be a need for another building along the same lines as the Shatner center?	yes 55.4%
Do you believe McGill should construct a multi-faith centre on campus?	no 47.4%
Do you think online lecture recordings and other teaching aids enhance your academic experience?	yes 88%
* CKUT fee renewal postponed until Spring “this is characteristic of a fall electoral period in which there were no referendum questions that were addressed the full student population”	

Spring Referenda Period 2006	Turnout 29.8% - 5592 votes
Institute regular General Assemblies , to be held five weeks after the start of each semester, and to lower the quorum for General Assemblies from 200 to 100 students.	PASSED (Yes 63.7% no 17.3%, spoiled 11.4%)
\$1.75 Referral Services Network fee, which will provide funding to Queer McGill, Nightline and SACOMSS.	PASSED (yes 60.8% no 32.6% spoiled 6.6%)
Renew the \$4 CKUT fee	PASSED (yes 63.4% no 31.9% spoiled 4.7%)
The \$1.50 SSMU Daycare fee	PASSED (yes 63.7% no 32.6% spoiled 3.8%)
Reinstate the Board of Governors representative	PASSED (yes 69.6% no 17.9% spoiled 12.5%)

Fall Referenda period 2006	Turnout 26.7% 5145 votes
FEUQ Referendum Be it resolved that the SSMU immediately terminate its membership in the FEUQ, and accordingly that the SSMU base fee be permanently reduced by 5\$ per year (2:50 per semester), as of Winter 2007.	PASSED (yes 73.9% no 24.9% spoiled 1.2%) *

*results released on Nov. 29th due to a challenge made to the

question requiring the temporary sealing of results. J-Board heard the case and published decision to dismiss complainant's challenge and order the results unsealed.

Winter Referenda Period 2007	Turnout 31.9% 5911 votes
Constitutional amendment 1 (C&E to Internal)	PASSED (yes 77.4% no 9.5% spoiled 13.2%)
Constitutional amendment 2 (removal of the position of student representative to the board of governors)	PASSED (yes 60.5% no 20.6% spoiled 19%)
Constitutional amendment 3 (restriction of fee referendums to the fall electoral period)	PASSED (yes 61.1% no 21.5% spoiled 17.3%)
Constitutional amendment 4 (addition of a framework for affiliation status)	PASSED (yes 57% no 17.5% spoiled 25.5%)
Daily publication society fee (increased by 1.50 to 6.50 per semester)	FAILED (yes 37.7% no 50% spoiled 12.2%)
QPIRG student support	PASSED (yes 56% no 30.1 % spoiled 13.9%)
Tribune fee establishment (renew .50 \$ per semester fee)	PASSED (yes 48.7% no 39.6% spoiled 11.7%)
CKUT fee increase (increase to 6.04 at a rate of 51 cents per year each semester over two years)	FAILED (yes 36.6% no 52% spoiled 11.4%)
Midnight kitchen fee (1.25\$ each semester)	PASSED (57.5% no 31% spoiled 11.6%)
SSMU environment fee (1.25\$ per semester)	PASSED (yes 66% no 24.1% spoiled 9.9%)
Blood Drive constitutionality- should SSMU reinstate blood drives in the Shatner Building?	SEALED*

*The results of the referendum indicate that of 5911 votes, 68.5 per cent, voted Yes to have SSMU reinstate blood drives in Shatner, while only 20.6 per cent voted No.

J-board deemed results null and void

Fall referenda period 2007	17.2% turnout, 3375 votes
<p>Space Fee Whereas student space and space in general are pressing concerns for students and across McGill; Whereas at the most recent General Assembly, students called on the SSMU to prioritize space for students; Whereas the SSMU does not currently have the financial ability to fund this student-initiated mandate,</p> <p>"Do you agree to raise the SSMU base fee by \$1 per student per each fall and winter semester, for the purposes of improving student space?"</p>	<p>PASSED (yes 54.8% no 37.5% spoiled 7.7%)</p>
<p>SACOMSS fee Whereas students have chosen to fund the Sexual Assault Centre of McGill Student Society (SACOMSS) since 1994;</p> <p>Whereas the fee is subject to renewal every three years; Whereas SACOMSS continues to provide essential services to the McGill and Montreal communities; Whereas the current funding is essential to maintain the level of service provided by SACOMSS; Do you agree to renew a \$0.75 per fall and winter semester (for full-time and part-time students) to fund the Sexual Assault Centre of McGill Student Society (Winter 2008 up to and including Fall 2010)?</p>	<p>PASSED (85.5% no 12.6% spoiled 1.9%)</p>
<p>GA change of date Do you agree that the above section of the SSMU Constitution be removed and replaced with the following?</p> <p>29.2 The Speaker of Council shall call a Regular General Assembly to be held before the end of the seventh (7th) week of the fall and winter semesters: Items on the agenda shall be submitted in writing to the Speaker of Council two weeks before the date of the Regular General Assembly, either by no fewer than four (4) councilors or one hundred (100) members of the Society from at least four (4) different Faculties or Schools without more than fifty percent (50%) being from any one Faculty of School.</p>	<p>PASSED (yes 65.3% no 17% spoiled 17.6%)</p>
<p>GA change of quorum Do you agree that the above section of the SSMU Constitution be removed and replaced with the following?</p>	<p>PASSED (60.1% no 24.9% spoiled 15%)</p>

29.4 Quorum for a Regular or a Special General

Assembly shall be one hundred (100) members of the Society from at least four (4) different Faculties or Schools. A maximum of fifty (50) members from a particular Faculty or School are counted for purposes of quorum. Qualified quorum for a Regular or a Special General Assembly shall be two percent (2%) members of the Society from at least four (4) different Faculties or Schools. A maximum of fifty percent (50%) members from a particular Faculty or School are counted for purposes of quorum.

29.5 Should a General Assembly fail to reach qualified quorum, the motions approved shall be ratified by an online vote prior to taking effect.

29.5.1 This vote shall be held no more than forty-eight (48) hours following the close of the General Assembly. It shall be open for a period of forty-eight (48) hours, and no campaigning shall be allowed on the motions in question. Quorum for this online vote shall be fifteen percent (15%).

29.5.2 Motions which fail to make quorum shall be inscribed on the agenda for the next regular General Assembly.

29.5.3 The proceedings of the General Assembly shall be video recorded, and this recording shall be made available, along with a written transcript, as well as an online forum for discussion.

Constitutional Cleanup

Whereas Article 19.4 does not exist in the current SSMU Constitution,
Do you agree to the following Constitutional Amendment?
In Article 25.5, the reference to Article 19.4 be changed to 25.4

PASSED

(yes 61.2% no 17%
spoiled 21.8%)

Exec Term Change:

Whereas the SSMU recently has regained its seat on the McGill Board of Governors;
Whereas as part of these negotiations with McGill included the promise of the SSMU to amend its terms of office to include a two term limit on any elected officer of the society;
Whereas the term was previously May 1st to May 1st and the transition period was April;
Whereas many incoming SSMU executives are full time students and have a great deal of course work to finish in April;
Whereas the current SSMU executive term of office precludes a smooth and orderly transition;
Whereas currently the academic governance year is split by the current terms of office;
Whereas the current SSMU Executive and the General Manager unanimously agree to the below change;
Whereas the SSMU financial year begins June 1st;
Whereas changing the term in office by one month will facilitate the smoother and better functioning of the SSMU;
Do you agree to the following new wordings to the SSMU Constitution as follows

PASSED

(yes 65.9% no 14.3%
spoiled 19.9%)

Article 6

6.8 For the period of the first (1st) of May to the thirtieth first (30th) of May, the executive officers-elect shall be non-voting members of the Executive Committee.

Article 24 – Terms of Office

24. 1 All elected officers, councillors, and student representatives hold office from the first (1st) of June of the year in which they are elected, to the thirtieth first (31st) of May of the following year, or until their successors are elected (whichever comes later), with the exception of Undergraduate Student Senators who shall hold office from the first (1st) of September in the year in which they were elected, to the thirty-first (31st) of August of the following year, or until their successors are elected (whichever comes later).

24.2 The Executive Officers shall undergo a one (1) month (May 1st to May 31st) period of training, during which time they shall be entitled to sit, with voice but no vote, on all Society committees on which their incumbents sit.

24.3 No individual may be an elected officer of the Society for more than two terms.

Winter Referenda period 2008	30.9% turnout, 5729 votes
Daily Publication Society fee renewal	PASSED
SSMU to lobby to end the current Minerva opt-out system	PASSED (yes 65.6% no 27.5% spoiled 6.9%)
SSMU should support clubs and services	PASSED (yes 81.3% no 11.5% spoiled 7.2%)
Elections McGill chief Returning Officer changes title to Chief Electoral Officer	PASSED (yes 72.2% no 16.4% spoiled 11.5%)
SSMU allowed to hire auditors	PASSED (yes 68.8% no 14.9% spoiled 16.3%)

Fall referenda period 2008

Referendum Question on the McGill Undergraduate Students' Fund (MUSF)	NO QUORUM
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Do you agree to increase the accessibility of student resources at McGill University by renewing the contribution of \$19.00 per semester as a full-time undergraduate student (\$9.50 as a part-time undergraduate student) to the MUSF to be collected by the University on behalf of the SSMU for the next five (5) years recognizing that this money will be distributed as:

- a) \$8.50 (\$4.25 part-time) to the Access Bursary Fund
- b) \$2.00 (\$1.00 part-time) to the Campus Life Fund
- c) \$8.50 (\$4.25 part-time) to the Library Improvement Fund

Referendum question re: Quebec Public Interest Research Group Fee	NO QUORUM
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Do you agree to increase the opt-outable QPIRG-McGill fee by seventy-five cents (\$0.75) for a total of \$3.75 per fall and winter semester?

Fall 2008 Athletics and Recreation Facilities Improvement Fund Question:	NO QUORUM
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Whereas current McGill athletics facilities and programs operate near of at full capacity; Do you support a renewal of student contribution to the Athletics and Recreation Facilities Improvement Fund by agreeing to contribute \$10 per semester for the next five years in order to both complete the development of the Athletics Complex and create additional space for student use and activities in order to meet the current student demand

Winter Referenda period 2009	18.2 % undergrad turnout, 3631 votes
General Assemblies constitutional amendment	PASSED (yes 54% no 25.4% spoiled 20.6%)
McGill undergraduate students' fund fee renewal	PASSED (yes 57.2% no 36.6% spoiled 6.3%)
Athletics and Recreation Facilities Improvement Fund fee renewal	PASSED (yes 50.7% no 44.3% spoiled 5%)
Quebec Public Interest Research Group fee increase	PASSED (yes 48.3% no 46.4% spoiled 5.3%)
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Fall 2009 Referenda	
Ambassador Fee	PASSED (yes 51.6% no 42.7% spoiled 5.7%)
MILIC Fee renewal	PASSED (yes 74.6% no 19.2%)
Sustainable projects fund	PASSED (yes 78.9% no 19.4%)