



MSS Fall 2018

General Assembly Agenda

Adopted by the General Assembly, December 4th, 2018

Registration

Food Service

An Introduction to Robert's Rules

Introduction of the General Assembly Staff

ORDER OF BUSINESS

(1) Call to Order and Standing Rules

(2) Land Acknowledgement

(3) Approval of the Speaker

(4) Approval of the Minutes

(5) Adoption of the Agenda

(6) Old Business

- a) Report of the Vice-President Finance, including a Presentation of the Budget and audited financial statement

(7) New Business

- a) Motion to Appoint Collins Barrow as the Auditor for the MSS 2015-2016 Audit
- b) Motion to Support the Renegotiation on Physicians' Remuneration
- c) Motion to Adopt the Guide to Equitable Events
- d) Motion to Endorse the SSMU Campaign to Change the "Redmen" Name
- e) Motion to Amend the MSS Policy on Equity and Diversity
- f) Motion to Prohibit MSS Members from Obtaining any Commission for the Provision of Services Relating to Admissions
- g) Motion to Endorse the FMEQ Positions for the Provincial Lobby Day
- h) Motion to Adopt the Position of MSS Gatineau Representative as an Officer within the General Council
- i) Motion to Disincentivize Medical School Applicants from Partaking in Voluntourism
- j) *Rescinded.*

(8) Question Period

(9) Reports

- a) Report of the Executive Council
- b) Presentation of the Sponsorship Policy

(10) Adjournment

Duly adopted as amended, December 4th, 2018.



MEDICAL STUDENTS' SOCIETY *of McGill University*

L'ASSOCIATION *des ÉTUDIANT(E)S en MÉDECINE de l'Université McGill*

Motion to Appoint Collins Barrow as the Auditor for the MSS 2015-2016 Audit

Adopted by the General Assembly, December 4th, 2018.

Be it resolved, that the General Assembly of the MSS appoint Collins Barrow as the Auditor for the MSS 2015-2016 Audit.

Moved by Léanne Roncière (M2)

Seconded by Jesse Chevrier (M2)

Duly adopted, December 4th, 2018.



Motion to Support the Renegotiation on Physicians' Remuneration

Adopted by the General Assembly, December 4th, 2018.

Whereas, the MSS adopted during the spring 2018 General Assembly a motion to “Oppose Physicians' Remuneration Raises and to Support a Strong Public Healthcare System”¹;

Whereas, the newly elected government has signaled its intention to reopen negotiations on the agreement between the Ministry of Health and Social Services and the Fédération des médecins spécialistes du Québec to increase the remuneration of specialist physicians by 11.2%²;

Whereas, Quebec physicians' remuneration envelope accounts for 19% of the provincial health budget³, which in turn represents nearly 50% of the total provincial budget⁴;

Whereas, the mean gross remuneration of a family physician in Quebec is 253 000\$, the mean gross remuneration of a specialist physician is 415 000\$⁵, while the mean gross salary in Quebec is 47 000\$⁶;

Whereas, economic disparities are a matter of public health and both physicians and medical trainees stand to benefit from a renegotiation of the aforementioned agreement between the Ministry of Health and Social Services and the Fédération des médecins spécialistes du Québec;

Whereas, a more responsible allocation of public funds would pave the way for tackling issues that permeate our public health system, such as timely access to primary care services, coverage of essential services and appropriate working conditions of allied health professionals;

Whereas, a public health system should be a way to redistribute wealth and not to create an economic elite;

Be it resolved, that the MSS supports the government's efforts in renegotiating the aforementioned agreement between the Ministry of Health and Social Services and the Fédération des médecins spécialistes du Québec;

¹https://drive.google.com/file/d/11fZrBLMxBMxxgvyi2eGlr0Udm_aUew_w/view

²<https://www.lapresse.ca/actualites/elections-quebec-2018/201809/08/01-5195816-augmentations-aux-medecins-specialistes-legault-veut-suspendre-le-versement.php>

³<https://ici.radio-canada.ca/nouvelle/1097297/remuneration-medecins-infirmieres-systeme-de-sante-quebec>

⁴https://www.tresor.gouv.qc.ca/fileadmin/PDF/budget_depenses/17-18/renseignementsSupplementaires.pdf

⁵<https://santeinc.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/salarystats-2016.pdf>

⁶<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/171130/dq171130b-eng.htm>



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Be it further resolved, that the MSS mandate its President and Vice-President External Quebec to stand for the renegotiation of the agreement at the FMEQ and other relevant forums or media;

Be it further resolved, that the MSS stands for a reevaluation of the remuneration of all physicians, specialists and family physicians, towards a more socially responsible distribution of resources across healthcare services;

Moved by Samuel Montplaisir (M1), for the Government Affairs and Advocacy Committee

Seconded by Élise Girouard-Chantal (M1)

Duly adopted as amended, December 4th, 2018.



Motion to Endorse the SSMU Campaign to Change the “Redmen” Name

Adopted by the General Assembly, December 4th, 2018.

Whereas, McGill’s Men’s Varsity Sports teams carry the name “Redmen”;

Whereas, McGill sports teams’ logos have historically featured stereotypical, dehumanizing, and hyper-masculine imagery of Indigenous people;

Whereas, the “Redmen” name facilitates and creates opportunities for the use of demeaning and racist slurs in reference to McGill sports teams, some examples being phrases such as “Indians”, “Super Squaws”, “indians on the warpath”, and “redmen scalped” which have appeared in McGill media in the past;

Whereas, multiple Indigenous students, student athletes, and professors at McGill have stepped forward to describe how the “Redmen” name has contributed to feelings of anxiety, discomfort, dehumanization, and isolation amongst Indigenous peoples at McGill for many years;

Whereas, the Provost’s task force on Indigenous studies and Indigenous education’s 2017 [report](#) calls for the renaming of the team in the “immediate term”;

Whereas, a [change.org petition](#) has been launched with over 8,000 signatures;

Whereas, the SSMU commissioner of Indigenous Affairs has organized a widely attended demonstration calling for the “Redmen” name to be changed;

Whereas, an [open letter](#) has been published by SSMU calling for McGill to immediately change the varsity men’s team name and to express concerns on the continued use of such an offensive and racist name;

Whereas, more than 30 campus groups have endorsed this open letter including other undergraduate student societies such as the AUS and the SUS;

Be it resolved, that the MSS, as a student group, sign SSMU’s open letter “Call for McGill to Change the Redmen Name,” attached in Appendix I.

Be it further resolved, that the MSS mandates the Medicine Senator to advocate in favor of the name change at the University level.

Moved by Kenzy Abdelhamid (M2 – SSMU Rep)



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Seconded by Julie De Meulemeester (M2 – VP Global Health Senior)

Duly adopted, December 4th, 2018.



Appendix I

Dear:

Principal Suzanne Fortier
Provost Christopher Manfredi
Fabrice Labeau, Interim Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning)
Marc Gélinas, Executive Director, Athletics and Recreation

We are writing this open letter to call for the **immediate renaming of the varsity men's team name**, and to express concerns on the continued use of such an offensive and racist name. Indigenous students, staff, and community members have clearly expressed the desire to change the Redmen name.

Through use of the Redmen name, McGill continues to promote stereotypicalized and hyper-masculine depictions of Indigenous peoples. This has actively contributed to a University that historically has been, and often continues to be, hostile to the presence of Indigenous students. **The usage of the Indian, Squaw, and Redmen names have contributed to feelings of anxiety, discomfort, and isolation amongst Indigenous people's at McGill for many years.** It has also led to the institutionalized ignorance of the lived reality of Indigenous peoples at McGill. No individual, or even team, 'reclaiming' the name can undo both the historic and ongoing damages inflicted by the Redmen name.

The desire to change the name has been expressed most recently in the Provost's Task Force on Indigenous Studies and Indigenous Education, which had been released as part of McGill's reaction to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released in 2015.

As noted in Call to Action 21 of the Task Force, **the Indigenous community has openly questioned "the credibility of the University's efforts in relation to Indigeneity given the pejorative connotation of our men's varsity team name."** It is impossible for the University to position itself as a leader in affirming the Calls to Action in the TRC while also continuing to endorse the Redmen name. Further, the University continues to endorse the psychologically and sociologically damaging effects the Redmen name inflicts on Indigenous students and athletes.

In addressing the historical legacy of the Redmen name, we again draw upon the Provost's Task Force on Indigenous Studies and Education:

The Task Force notes past usages of the name 'Indians' to refer to men's teams, and 'Squaws' or 'Super Squaws' to refer to women's athletics teams, as well as phrases such as 'Indians on a Warpath' and 'Redman Scalped' that appeared in McGill media. Such demeaning and offensive language was used into the 1970s, long after the official naming of the men's varsity team as the 'Redmen.' Furthermore, stereotyped images of Indigenous persons found their way onto McGill



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jerseys and helmets before a 1992 decision of the McGill Athletics Board to cease usage of the offensive logo, while retaining the Redmen name because of the apparently benign origins of the term Redmen.

In recognizing the full and accurate history of the Redmen name, this letter calls on the University to recognize the historic damages caused by the Redmen name. In discussion of the damages of the Redmen name, we turn to the work of former McGill professor of history, Allan Downey, who writes “whether the ‘Indian’ portrayals are ‘positive’ or ‘negative,’ they have adverse psychological consequences for Indigenous youth and for relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.”

Signed,

Tomas Jirousek, Indigenous Affairs Commissioner, Indigenous Varsity Athlete

Sophia Esterle, VP Student Life

Jacob Shapiro, VP University Affairs

Jun Wang, VP Finance

Matthew McLaughlin, VP Internal

Tre Mansdoerfer, President



Motion to Amend the MSS Policy on Equity and Diversity

Adopted by the General Assembly, December 4th, 2018.

Whereas, the MSS Policy on Equity and Diversity, also known as the Equity Policy, was approved in the 2017 Winter General Assembly;

Whereas, the Equity Committee is a Standing Committee created by the adoption of the aforementioned policy to enact its provisions;

Whereas, members of the Equity Committee, in order to best meet its mandate, have operated in a manner which is not accurately reflected by the Equity Policy;

Be it resolved, that the MSS adopt the proposed amendments to the MSS Policy on Equity and Diversity, as outlined in the Appendix I, to reflect the current functioning of the Equity Committee.

Moved by Yseult Gibert, M1
Seconded by Julian Nguyen, M4
For the Equity Committee

Duly adopted, December 4th, 2018.



Appendix I

Proposed Amendments to the MSS Policy on Equity and Diversity

In *Italics*: current wording in the policy

In **Bold**: proposed amendments to the policy

5.1.1. The role of the Equity Commissioners is to provide leadership in organizing the MSS Equity Committee and be a liaison with the MSS. They are responsible for overseeing the Equity Complaint Process as outlined in Section

5.3. They will maintain the Equity Log

5.1.1. The role of the Equity Commissioners is to provide leadership in organizing the MSS Equity Committee and be a liaison with the MSS. They are responsible for overseeing the Equity Complaint Process as outlined in Section 6. They will maintain the Equity Log.

5.1.2.1. Two Equity Commissioners will be chosen once per year and will serve a one year term, which is renewable through the application process.

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5.1.2.3. Outgoing equity commissioners and the MSS president will be on the selection committee and will review the letters of intent, will interview all candidates who submit an application and will select two people to be equity commissioners.

5.1.4.1 If an outgoing equity commissioner wishes to reapply, they will be replaced on the selection committee by an executive member of the MSS, to be chosen by the MSS President.

5.1.2.3. Equity Commissioners will be selected as outlined in the MSS Recruitment Policy.

5.2.5. The Equity Committee will work on the basis of consensus.

5.2.5. The Equity Committee will work on the basis of a two thirds voting majority. When voting is required, members can either vote "For", "Against", or "Abstain". An "Against" vote counts as a veto; members are required to reconsider the vote even if a two thirds majority has been reached.



6.3. Equity complaints will be received and reviewed by both Equity Commissioners, who will investigate complaints and recommend resolution procedures.

6.3. Equity complaints will be received and reviewed by the Equity Commissioners, who will investigate complaints and recommend resolution procedures. Equity Commissioners may seek counsel from members of the Equity Committee.



Motion to Prohibit MSS Members from Obtaining Any Commission for the Provision of Services Relating to Admissions

Adopted by the General Assembly, December 4th, 2018.

Whereas, the provision of services for a commission contributes to an inequitable admissions process, where applicants with the means to engage in such services are put at an unfair advantage;

Whereas, medicine remains a field of study where privilege plays a significant role in the selection of candidates⁷;

Whereas, the *MSS Policy on Equity and Diversity* calls upon the MSS to remove barriers and promote inclusivity, calling upon the Faculty of Medicine to develop admissions initiatives aimed at increasing the enrollment of medical students from underrepresented communities⁸;

Whereas, members of the MSS are privy to confidential information as having been subject to the McGill medicine admissions process, including and not limited to, intimate knowledge of MMI scenarios;

Whereas, information pertaining to admissions is confidential, and enforceable by virtue of the Non-Disclosure Agreement (hereinafter, "**NDA**") entered into by prospective applicants prior to interview;

Whereas, independent of any potential contravention of the NDA, as mentioned above, the practice of providing services in exchange for a commission runs counter to the Québec *Code of ethics of physicians*^{9, 10}.

⁷https://omsa.ca/sites/default/files/position_paper/41/position_paper_socioeconomic_status_as_a_determinant_of_medical_school_admissions_2016_mar.pdf

⁸ <http://www.mcgillmed.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/MSS%20Equity%20Policy.pdf>

⁹https://www.mcgill.ca/ugme/files/ugme/mcgill_university_faculty_of_medicine_supervision_policy_final_fr.pdf

¹⁰ <http://www.cmq.org/publications-pdf/p-6-2015-01-07-en-code-de-deontologie-des-medecins.pdf>



Be it resolved, that the MSS act to prohibit any MSS member from obtaining a commission for the provision of services relating to admissions;

Be it further resolved, that the MSS advocate that the McGill Medicine Admissions Committee enact provisions making admission to the Faculty contingent on a contractual agreement to refrain from provision of services relating to admissions in exchange for a commission;

Be it further resolved, that the MSS advocate that the Faculty of Medicine enact a provision within the *Faculty of Medicine Code of Conduct* which prohibits any student, resident, faculty member and any other person covered by said code from obtaining a commission for the provision of services relating to admissions;

Be it further resolved, that the MSS advocate that all other 16 Canadian medical faculties, enact provisions banning each medical student, resident, administrator and faculty under their purview from obtaining a commission or material benefit for the provision of services relating to admissions;

Be it finally resolved, that the MSS advocate the Admissions Committee create and provide free, standardized, and accessible information sessions regarding applications and interviews to all prospective students to ensure informational symmetry as between candidates.

Moved by Julian Nguyen, M4, Equity Commissioner

Seconded by Alex Derstenfeld, M3, Senior MSS Admissions Representative

Duly adopted, December 4th, 2018.



Motion to Endorse the FMEQ Positions for the Provincial Lobby Day

Adopted by the General Assembly December 4th, 2018

Whereas, the FMEQ requires the approval of its four member schools to adopt a resolution;

Whereas, the FMEQ has chosen to address the topics of promotion family medicine and the impact of climate changes on health for its provincial lobby day (JAP);

1. Promotion of Family Medicine

Whereas, the FMEQ, including McGill, has adopted a position to continue promoting family medicine;

Whereas, future healthcare professionals should be considered socially accountable to the Quebec population;

2. Impact of Climate Changes on Health

Whereas, climate change is a major public health issue;

Whereas, it has been shown that climate change has a significant impact on individual's health¹¹;

Whereas, physicians have an important social responsibility to promote the health of their patients;

Be it resolved, that the MSS will endorse the FMEQ's position in favour of promoting family medicine at the JAP.

Be it further resolved, that the MSS will endorse the FMEQ's position in favour of addressing the issue of climate change and its impact on health at the JAP.

Moved by David-Dan Nguyen (M2)

Seconded by Léanne Roncière (M2)

Duly adopted, December 4th, 2018.

¹¹ World Health Organization. "Climate Change and Health." (2007).



Motion to Adopt the Position of MSS Gatineau Representative as an Officer within the General Council

Adopted by the General Assembly, December 4th, 2018.

Whereas, there has been a historical disconnect between the McGill students who choose to continue their first year of clerkship (M3) in the Gatineau region from those who remain in the Montreal region;

Whereas, the Gatineau students are currently being underrepresented at the various levels of MSS governance;

Whereas, there are few regulations in place to ensure that Gatineau students can actively participate, and be represented, in the political decisions that take place at the level of the MSS General council;

Be it resolved that, the MSS adopt the proposed amendments to the MSS Constitution so as to include the position of MSS Gatineau Representative as an Officer within the General Council;

Be it further resolved that, all General Council meetings be made available via Video Conference to accommodate for the Gatineau Representative.

Moved by Jesse Chevrier, M2

Seconded by Léanne Roncière, M2

Duly adopted, December 4th, 2018.



Appendix I

Proposed Amendments to the MSS Constitution, Section 6.3

In *Italics*: current wording in the policy

In **Bold**: proposed amendments to the policy

6.3. OFFICERS.

- (a) *VICE PRESIDENT, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.*
- (b) *VICE PRESIDENT, STUDENT SPACE.*
- (c) *SSMU REPRESENTATIVE.*
- (d) *MEDICINE SENATOR.*
- (e) *PAST PRESIDENT.*

6.3. OFFICERS.

- (a) VICE PRESIDENT, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.**
- (b) VICE PRESIDENT, STUDENT SPACE.**
- (c) SSMU REPRESENTATIVE.**
- (d) MEDICINE SENATOR.**
- (e) GATINEAU REPRESENTATIVE.**
- (f) PAST PRESIDENT.**



Motion to Disincentivize Medical School Applicants from Partaking in Voluntourism

Adopted by the General Assembly, December 4th, 2018.

Whereas medicine remains a field of study where privilege plays a significant role in the selection of candidates¹²;

Whereas, international voluntourism trips are expensive and, when valued by medical admissions committees, contribute to an inequitable admissions process, where applicants with the means to engage in such trips are put at an unfair advantage;

Whereas, organizations with student chapters in CEGEPs and universities (i.e. MedLife, Global Brigades, Students Offering Support) advertise these opportunities as being important entries in medical school applicants' curriculum vitae;

Whereas, the MSS Policy on Equity and Diversity calls upon the MSS to remove barriers and promote inclusivity, calling upon the Faculty of Medicine to develop admissions initiatives aimed at increasing the enrollment of medical students from underrepresented communities¹³;

Whereas, McGill Global Health Programs and McGill's medical curriculum emphasize the importance of cultural competency and ethical, responsible and sustainable community and global health involvement;

Whereas, students who partake in these trips provide services beyond their level of skill, strip local students from medical education or other professional opportunities do not contribute meaningfully to international communities and/or cause lasting harm^{14,15};

Be it resolved, that the MSS advocate that the McGill Medicine Admissions Committee include a statement on the admissions webpage, or any other measure judged appropriate by the MSS, discouraging applicants from including voluntourism trips on their CVs;

Be it further resolved, that the MSS advocate that all 16 other Canadian medical faculties enact provisions discouraging their applicants from participating in such activities.

¹² https://omsa.ca/sites/default/files/position_paper/41/position_paper_socioeconomic_status_as_a_determinant_of_medical_school_admissions_2016_mar.pdf

¹³ <http://www.mcgillmed.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/MSS%20Equity%20Policy.pdf>

¹⁴ <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2018/sep/13/the-business-of-voluntourism-do-western-do-gooders-actually-do-harm>

¹⁵ <https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/observations/the-trouble-with-medical-voluntourism/>



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Be it further resolved, that the MSS prepare a press release announcing this position to relevant organizations such as IFMSA-Qc and CFMS-Global Health and other organizations that promote these activities as part of the medical school application process.

Moved by Julie De Meulemeester, M2, VP Global Health Senior

Seconded by Amine Zoughlami, M2, MSS Junior Admissions Representative

Duly adopted as amended, December 4th, 2018.