



Bureau du président du conseil de l'AÉUM

Située sur les territoires traditionnels des collectivités Haudenosaunee et Anishinaabe.

SSMU Office of the Speaker

Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories.

speaker@ssmu.ca | ssmu.ca | (514) 398-6800 | 3600 rue McTavish, Suite 1200, Montréal, QC, H3A 0G3

MOTION REGARDING REFERENDUM QUESTION ON THE RENEWAL OF THE ARAB STUDENT NETWORK FEE 2023-02-09

Submitted for: 2023-02-09

Submitted to: SSMU Legislative Council **Document no.:** LEG-PUB-MOT-2023-02-09-008

Moved by: Hassanatou Koulibaly
VP Student Life **Current Status:** ☐ FOR APPROVAL
☒ APPROVED

Seconded by: Nadia Dakdouki
Clubs Representative ☐ POSTPONED
☐ COMMITTED
☐ NOT APPROVED

Issue

The Arab community at McGill University has been growing significantly, and the Arab Student Network has been actively working to foster unity and promote an inclusive interpretation of collective Arab culture on campus. With the renewal of the fee levy, the Arab Student Network (“ASN”) will be able to provide funding for its activities and events, providing resources and support to Arab students at McGill.

Background and Rationale

The Arab Student Network’s mandate is to represent a secular, non-political and integrative perspective of Arab culture, provide adequate resources, support and awareness, and facilitate the interaction of the network of local Arab professionals, employers, associations or institutions with the student body.

The renewal of the fee levy of \$0.50 per student per semester for the Arab Student Network would enhance its institutional capabilities, supporting the SSMU's ongoing efforts to advance equity and advocacy for Arab students.



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This motion aims to secure funding for the Arab Student Network, getting the resources it needs to ensure it can continue to carry out its essential work on campus for the growing Arab community. A fee levy would offer a consistent and predictable source of financing, allowing the network to plan and budget for its activities and events such as the Arab Fest, a networking event with Arab professionals, winter activities, and more.

Alignment with Mission

The Arab Student Network fee-levy is aligned with the SSMU's Mission by demonstrating its commitment to supporting Arab students at McGill and promoting inclusivity and diversity on campus. This funding would ensure that the Arab community's needs and concerns are being heard and addressed by the SSMU and supports the network's efforts to create an inclusive and equitable environment for Arab students at McGill.

Consultations Completed

Consultations regarding the fee renewal have been completed with the Arab Student Network, VP Student Life, VP Finance, Governance Manager

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

If the fee levy is not renewed, the Arab Student Network will no longer receive the funding necessary to run its operations as efficiently and smoothly, and the SSMU will have limited resources to support Arab students on campus.

Sustainability Considerations

In terms of social sustainability, the fee renewal will continue to benefit the Arab Student Network and the larger McGill University community by providing additional support for its activities and events. This will serve to foster diversity, equity, and inclusion on campus, which aligns with SSMU's efforts.

Impact of Decision and Next Steps

Should the renewal of this fee pass, Members will continue to be charged \$0.50/term unless they opt out of the fee. This will allow the Arab Student Network to organize events and initiatives for the Arab community at McGill, fostering inclusivity and equity on campus in the coming years.



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Should this motion be approved at Legislative Council and ratified by the Board of Directors, it will appear on the Winter 2023 Referendum Period.

Motion or Resolution for Approval

Be it resolved that the Legislative Council approve the following question for the Winter 2023 referendum period:

Do you agree to the renewal of the opt-outable Arab Student Network Fee of \$0.50 per student per semester (excluding summer), payable by all undergraduate students who are members of the SSMU, starting in Fall 2023 and ending in Winter 2028 (inclusive), at which point it will be brought back to the membership for renewal, with the understanding that a majority “no” vote will result in the termination of all undergraduate fee-levy funding to the Arab Student Network?

Be it further resolved, that the SSMU Legislative Council adopts the actionable aspects of this question and that any grammatical or legal changes necessary do not need the re-approval of the Legislative Council.

Be it resolved that, the Legislative Council approve, and recommend the ratification to the Board of Directors.

Results of the Vote

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In favour	(UNANIMOUS)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Opposed	()
<input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain	()



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The fee renewal will provide the Arab Student Network (ASN) with a budget of approximately \$19,000 annually, enabling them to plan and execute their events with ease and efficiency.

The appendix demonstrates that the allocation of \$19,278.87 from student fees has allowed the Arab Student Network to successfully organize and host events during the Fall 2022 and Winter 2023 academic year.

LEG-PUB-MOT-2023-02-09-005 | 4