



1. Call to Order: **18:26**

The Speaker calls the meeting to order at 18:26.

2. Land Acknowledgement

***The Speaker presents the Land Acknowledgement.***

***The SSMU acknowledges that McGill University is situated on the traditional and unceded territory of the Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee nations. The SSMU recognizes and respects these nations as the true and constant custodians of the lands and waters on which we meet today. Further, the SSMU commits to and respects the traditional laws and customs of these territories.***

3. Adoption of Standing Rules — **ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY**

The Speaker presents the standing rules. There are no questions on the standing rules. The standing rules are approved by unanimous consent.

4. Approval of the Minutes

a. Fall 2020 General Assembly Minutes 2020-11-24 — **ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY**

There are no changes to the minutes. The minutes are approved unanimously.

5. Approval of the Agenda — **ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY**

VP External moves to add motion 7b (***Motion to Adopt the Divest for Human Rights Policy 2020-02-16***) to the agenda. VP External states that there have been no substantive changes since the motion was reviewed by the Steering Committee. As such, the Speaker states that it is appropriate for the motion to be added to the agenda.

**Students' Society of McGill University**

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Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories

There are no further changes to the agenda. The agenda is adopted unanimously.

## 6. Question Period

**Question:**

VP University Affairs asks if there is anything that can be done to maintain quorum.

**Answer:**

The Speaker explains that there is no way to mandate people to stay in the meeting, but

**Question:**

Councillor Karasick asks the Speaker if they can provide a timeline of the motion's changes as proposed by the Steering Committee.

**Answer:**

The Speaker states that the motion was submitted on time and rejected by the Steering Committee. It was returned to the movers with a list of proposed changes, and those changes were implemented and returned to the Steering Committee the week ending February 13th. The motion was reviewed again the evening of February 15th, and there were additional suggestions that were approved by the movers. The Speaker confirms that all items on the Agenda have been approved by the Steering Committee.

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There are no further questions.

7. New Business

- a. Motion Regarding Nomination of the Auditor for the Fiscal Year 2021 2021-02-06 —  
**APPROVR**



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Reem Majid asks why the policy provides a specific mandate to the VP External to mobilize a campaign rather than another Officer.

**Answer:**

VP External states that according to the SSMU Constitution, the VP External is the Officer with the mandate to coordinate political mobilization.



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Zeke Bertrand states that this discussion should be sensitive to the needs of Jewish, Palestinian and First Nations students, and ensure that it is clear that everyone has a right to be at McGill University, taking into account communities that are being harmed by McGill's actions.

Avishai Infeld believes this motion goes against the 2017 ruling of the Judicial Board. If dividing the question would violate the Judicial Board decision, surely the entire motion would. The Speaker states the Steering Committee has concluded that this is not the case.

Adam Gwiazda-Amsel states that the most recent reference stated that isolating the questions is what caused the 2017 motion to be unconstitutional. By isolating the question, the motion becomes a discussion of specific nations and peoples, not divestment.

VP University Affairs states that the recent JBoard reference clarifies that the SSMU can take positions on the actions of a government, regardless of this, the policy does not refer to a government.

Michael Chalkoun-Herbella moves to appeal the decision of the Speaker to rule the motion to divide the question out of order. Chalkoun-Herbella states that a division that could be constitutional is dividing the motion based on clauses which could be deemed to have a sensitive issue regarding xenophobia. Dividing the question may seem as it is exclusionary, but it is a way to include people who would like to approve parts of the motion and disagree with others. This is a way to approach the motion in a way that is not black or white.

The General Assembly votes on the motion. The motion fails.

Danielle Fuchs states that they believe it is important to recognize the differences between the issues mentioned in this motion. Fuchs believes that few at the General Assembly take issue with voting to pressure McGill to divest from companies causing harm to the West's people, using forced labour or Lockheed Martin whose weaponry is in use in Yemen. The fact that there is opposition to the sections regarding Israel are unfair to the other causes listed and could result in them being voted down even though there is widespread support. The situation in Palestine is different in nature from other points, and the motion repeats talking points of Israel that seem as if they are a





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**Answer:**

The Speaker responds that the procedure and debate will be the same, however only SSM

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For Approval

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VP University Affairs presents their report on the structured...  
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semester were required to attend. The VP Student Life thanks everyone who was in attendance. They are working on a clubs portal, and are looking for a software supplier and are receiving demonstrations from potential partners. They hope this will be in place by Fall 2021. The club audit was due January 25th and submission review is ongoing.

VP Student Life is in the process of checking in with Services. The Services' summit took place on February 7th, and a new Instagram account was created to showcase services. The MSA is the SSMU's newest Service and the Services Review Committee is currently developing its annual report. The SSMU Family Care Policy is up for review at the Legislative Council, and the daycare is currently running smoothly despite personnel changes.

The Mental Health Action week was January 25-29 and surveys are ongoing regarding the McGill Wellness Hub. The Mental Health Fee is up for renewal this semester. KeepMeSafe/MySSP has seen increased usage.

There are no questions on the report.

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