



Concordia Student Union - Council of Representatives
CSU Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, October 27, 2021
Via Zoom, 18h30

1. CALL TO ORDER

The chairperson calls the meeting to order at **18h33**.

We would like to begin by acknowledging that Concordia University is located on unceded Indigenous lands. The Kanien'kehá:ka Nation is recognized as the custodians of the lands and waters on which we gather today. TiohEá:ke/Montreal is historically known as a gathering place for many First Nations. Today, it is home to a diverse population of Indigenous and other peoples. We respect the continued connections with the past, present, and future in our ongoing relationships with Indigenous and other peoples within the Montreal community.

2. ROLL CALL

Council Chairperson: Caitlin Robinson

Council Minute Keeper: Michelle Lam

Executives present for the meeting were: Eduardo Malorni (General Coordinator), Harrison Kirshner (Internal Affairs Coordinator), Hannah Jamet-Lange (Academic & Advocacy Coordinator), Malcolm Asselin (Student Life Coordinator), Camina Harrison-Chéry (External Affairs & Mobilization Coordinator), Aria Khaksar (Finance Coordinator), S Shivaane (Loyola Coordinator)

Councilors present for the meeting were: Tzvi Hersh Filler (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Christopher Vaccarella (Arts & Science), Nathaniel Ouazana (Arts & Science), Howard Issley (John Molson School of Business), Boutaina Chafi (Arts & Science), Edel Kilkenny-Mondoux (Arts & Science), Alina Murad (Arts & Science), Olivia Lafreniere (John Molson School of Business), Ikrame Housni (Arts & Science), Ariane Drouin (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Lauren Perozek (John Molson School of Business), Lily Charette (Arts & Science), Anais Gagnon (Gina Cody School of Engineering)

Executives absent for the meeting were: Faye Sun (Sustainability Coordinator)

Councilors absent for the meeting were: Shania Bramble (Arts & Science), Marissa Profetto (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Noah Mohamed (John Molson School of Business), , Nick Bonneau (John Molson School of Business), Emmanuel Gaisie (John Molson School of Business), Paula Colmenares (Independent), Brandon Grimaldi (Arts & Science), Samuel Thibodeau (Fine Arts), Jeremya Deneault (John Molson School of Business)

Harrison Kirshner motions to excuse Paula Colmenares, Brandon Grimaldi, and Samuel Thibodeau from tonight's meeting. Seconded by **Christopher Vaccarella**. Motion passes.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Hannah Jamet-Lange motions to approve the agenda and all items under consent. Seconded by **Christopher Vaccarella**. Motion passes.

5. PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST SPEAKERS

a) The Link Fee Levy

Sheena Macmillan: I am the Editor-in-Chief of The Link. The Link is an independent, student-run, not-for-profit multi-media publication at Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec. The Link aims to publish stories not usually covered by mainstream media, with a focus on advocacy journalism. Contributors cover stories about student life, as well as local, national, and international issues of interest to the Concordia and Montreal communities. The Link is also a learning space offering guidance and workshops. Our editors work closely with contributors to ensure their work is the best it can be before publishing. We provide a space for contributors to try new things—including writing, photo, video, and graphics. Our masthead members and alumni host workshops about a wide array of topics related to journalism, both to pass on their skills to the next generation but also to give back to the publication that provided them with the opportunities they have today. Since our founding in 1980, The Link has amassed a humble amount of awards and award nominations at the Canadian University Press' national student journalism conference.

During the 2020 JHM Awards, we won the award for Publication of the Year. Cult MTL also named us as one of the best magazines in 2020.

A fee-levy increase of \$0.10 would grant us an extra \$75,000 in a year. We want to invest this money back into the Concordia community through a freelance program, Contributor's Handbook, a professional workshop series, and a conference surrounding diversity in journalism. Contributors are the lifeblood of The Link and it's important we hold them in high regard. However, unpaid internships can sometimes make certain opportunities inaccessible to the entirety of Concordia's student body. Creating a freelance program would provide students, especially Black, Indigenous, and POC students, with an opportunity to be appropriately compensated for their work. This would in turn improve the diversity of our coverage, so we can better serve Concordians. We want to allocate \$37,500 to our freelance project, essentially paying 15 freelancers \$2,500 per year. The Link already offers workshops, but we want to expand on our existing structures. While masthead already hosts workshops available to all students, we want to expand the amount of subjects we can cover relating to the media. We want to arrange a workshop series featuring six to 10 professionals who currently work in the industry to teach students about their expertise—whether it be data journalism, photojournalism, protest coverage, etc. As an attendee, students can learn more about niche media topics that aren't taught as in-depth in journalism school. These workshops will also be more accessible than journalism classes, as the majority of them are only offered to journalism students. The Link has its own Help Library, but as it stands, it exists partly online and partly in print—and it's currently not accessible to contributors. We want to create a Contributor Handbook by using the resources we already have, updating the ones from the past, and creating new ones to serve today's media landscape. The Handbook would serve as a guide to contributors as they tackle their first assignments, and to promote and democratize access to contributing to The Link.

THE LINK, Concordia University's independent student-run media publication, has been in operation since 1980. It is currently supported by a fee levy that has not been changed since 2001. THE LINK is seeking a change in its fee levy to ensure it can continue to fulfill its critical role in keeping students up-to-date on community life and holding the university's administration and student representatives accountable; improve students' access to equipment and learning opportunities in a multimedia landscape; enhance its diversity, equitability and inclusion to ensure it is an accessible and effective voice for students; and to account for inflation.

Referendum Question:

Do you agree to increase The Link fee levy to \$0.29 per credit (an increase of \$0.10 per credit from \$0.19 per credit), from all undergraduate students, annually adjusted to the Consumer Price Index of Canada, to be implemented with registration for the Winter 2022 (2214) term, in accordance with the University's tuition, Refund and Withdrawal Policy?

Eduardo Malorni presents the following motion. Seconded by **Hannah Jamet-Lange**. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following question be sent to the referendum.

Do you agree to increase The Link fee levy to \$0.29 per credit (an increase of \$0.10 per credit from \$0.19 per credit), from all undergraduate students, annually adjusted to the Consumer Price Index of Canada, to be implemented with registration for the Winter 2022 (2214) term, in accordance with the University's tuition, Refund and Withdrawal Policy?

VOTE

8 YES

1 NO

3 ABSTAIN

Eduardo Malorni: The Link is an important part of Concordia, they're helping us take on the admin and hold us accountable. They give a lot of opportunities to students and bring a lot of value to Concordia.

Lauren Perozek: When was the last time you had a fee levy increase?

Sheena Macmillian: 2001.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: I oppose this motion. The Link is currently bringing in 10700 in revenue, 10550 in expenses, leaving a surplus 15,00. Their three largest costs are salaries and social benefits, printing and distribution, and honorariums. Honorariums take up 30.5% of their expenses. Adding the salaries, you end up with the bulk of expenses being almost 55%. This is a student funded and student run media that is spending too much on honorariums and salaries.

Lauren Perozek: The majority of the CSU's budget goes to salaries, as do most companies. We're not here to discuss the merits, we're here to pass the motion to let the students decide if they want this type of increase.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: There is a minimum threshold to get on to the ballot. The students expect that we've looked this over and we don't see any red flags here. 55% on salaries and honorariums is a red flag. Students don't have an abundance of money to begin with to be funding this

Harrison Kirshner: We're talking about 10 cents, which is 30 cents a course.

Calvin Clarke: This is a fee levy group that students can opt out of

Tzvi Hersh Filler: The note that we passed at previous meetings that indicates how much this would cost per 3 credit will also be on this right?

Tzvi Hersh Filler presents the following note to be added to the question . Seconded by **Calvin Clarke**. Motion passes.

Note: Should this pass, this will cause a change in this student fee charge of 0.30\$ per 3 credit course, meaning it will go from 0.57\$ to 0.87\$ per 3-credit course. This charge can currently be opted out from.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: There should be a note to clarify the exact details so that there is clarity

b) UTILE Woodnote Presentation

Laurent Levesque: I am the cofounder of UTILE. The Woodnote, a project with the CSU, launched in September 2020 and it has 90 apartments, 144 rooms, and is located across Parc La Fontaine. As a result, we have 100% occupancy with 400% applications. We have quality housing at a fair price, it has community living with tenant involvement. UTILE's mission is to promote, study, develop, and operate affordable student housing in Quebec. We are a social economy business, self-financed, independent from the State, surpluses are re-invested in mission, have collective, nonprofit ownership, and democratic governance. The current housing crisis and funding opportunities present a unique opportunity to launch a second housing project. We have funding promises from candidates Plante and Coderre, 400000\$ earmarked in PUSH fund, the Federal Liberal government will be increasing investments in housing, and the provincial government is interested as well. We want to replicate the Woodnote. The preliminary project parameters are 100-150 more rooms for Concordia students, near Loyola campus if possible, potential inclusion of daycare location, 1 million dollar contribution from the SSAELC fund, where the estimated project cost will be 20-25M\$.

Eduardo Malorni: This is a very promising proposal.

Calvin Clarke: Is there a projected timeline for this project?

Laurent Levesque: We can look for land next year. We can deliver as early as 2025, latest 2027.

c) Sustainability Concordia

Brett Cox: Hi everyone. My name is Brett Cox (he/him), I'm an alumni from Concordia, and the current Internal Coordinator with the non-CSU fee-levy group Sustainable Concordia, and I'm happy to be here.

So yes, I'll jump into things. SC has existed since 2002, and since we've managed to contribute to and support so many amazing things, from:

- Beginning as a working groups model and providing the base that started groups like Climate Justice Montreal, Concordia Greenhouse, and the Sustainability Action Fund
- Moving into a campaigns model, succeeding in getting Concordia to commit to divesting from fossil fuels
- Running the 8-week Organizing Sustainability course that has now had 310 people graduate from
- Getting Concordia to create and adopt a Sustainability Action Plan
- All the rad workshops we've organized like our Sustain' Alive week of workshops, the Sustainability Mixer that aims to bring together sustainability related organizations for a general mixing and networking event every year, among all the other things we've done and been involved in and services offered

As we've continued to grow over the years, and as we've continued to push our work and organizing efforts into more intersectional directions, we're now naturally in a place where our current 15cents per credit fee-levy, which is one of the lowest out of all the fee-levy groups, is simply not sustainable for our organization. After a lot of brainstorming between coordinators and board members, including having our Summer 2021 retreat focussed on the potential for asking to increase our fee-levy, we determined that asking the student body to support a fee-levy increase is needed and justified in order to maintain and support our growth as an organization, and to help us stay principled in our ethics and values.

And so with a current 15 cents per credit undergraduate fee-levy, we're now coming to you students, to ask for an increase of 7cents per credit to help us continue to support a sustainable culture at Concordia (totalling \$0.22 per credit).

More specifically, this increase in funding would go towards:

- Increased funding for our campaigns and workshops, which includes "Institutionalizing" Organizing Sustainability, one of our main programmes
- Increasing wages to provide a living wage – so, being in a position to pay coordinators a living wage (increasing starting wages from \$17 to \$20/hour), and being able to provide fair value for the work of interns, and external facilitators and mediators
- Providing funding to an increased commitment to bridging accessibility gaps
- Providing health insurance to our staff
- Increase funding for professional development for staff and board members
- Providing funding for PPE
- Providing funding to support working remotely

And so with that, I'm here today to present the following question for approval to be included in the by election,

“Do you as an undergraduate student at Concordia approve of Sustainable Concordia’s fee-levy being increased by \$0.07 per credit [bringing their fee-levy to \$0.22 per credit, annually adjusted to the Consumer Price Index of Canada]? The fee would be effective starting with the 2022 winter semester, and completely refundable in accordance with Concordia University tuition and refund policy.”

Malcolm Asselin presents the following motion. Seconded. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following be sent to the referendum.

Sustainability Concordia has existed since 2002, and since then they have managed to contribute to and support so many amazing things. As they have continued to grow over the years, and as they continued to push our work and organizing efforts into more intersectional directions, they are now naturally in a place where they are now coming to you students, to ask for an increase of 7 cents per credit to help us continue to support a sustainable culture at Concordia (totalling \$0.22 per credit).

More specifically, this increase in funding would go towards:

- Increased funding for their campaigns and workshops, which includes "Institutionalizing" Organizing Sustainability, one of their main programmes
- Increasing wages to provide a living wage to staff and external facilitator
- Providing funding to an increased commitment to bridging accessibility gaps
- Providing health insurance to their staff
- Increase funding for professional development for staff and board members
- Providing funding for PPE
- Providing funding to support working remotely

Do you as an undergraduate student at Concordia approve of Sustainable Concordia’s fee-levy being increased by \$0.07 per credit [bringing their fee-levy to \$0.22 per credit, annually adjusted to the Consumer Price Index of Canada]? The fee would be effective starting with the 2022 winter semester, and completely refundable in accordance with Concordia University tuition and refund policy.

VOTE:

10 YES

1 NO

1 ABSTAIN

Calvin Clarke: Are there any projects that SC is focusing on?

Brett Cox: We campaigned around systemic racism being a sustainability issue. We're developing a podcast with CJLO.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: We need the preamble to be here before sending it off. The percentage being spent on salaries is concerning as it's 80% of expenses. It's a red flag.

Paige Keleher: We're a non-profit, we're not supposed to be making profit. Providing students with knowledge and opportunities is more important to us than revenue. Since it's funded by students, it makes sense for students to get honorariums to fill in the gaps of other lack of income streams. Most non-profits also spend a lot on employee salaries. We do a lot of work for a small team and this gap in living wage has made it hard for us to retain employees. There's a high turnover rate that affects our projects. We noticed a few years ago that there are accessibility issues and we're working on addressing them at our building, which is not cheap

Tzvi Hersh Filler presents the following note to be added to the question. Seconded by **Calvin Clarke**. Motion passes.

Note: Should this pass, this will cause a change in this student fee charge of 0.21\$ per 3 credit course, meaning it will go from 0.45\$ to 0.66\$ per 3-credit course. This charge can currently be opted out from.

d) Recreation and Athletics

Kathleen DiCaprio: I'm the marketing manager for the Concordia Stingers, Recreation and Athletics. We have 9 Stingers teams; we have recreational clubs, leagues, and sports; we also run Le Gym. We're here to discuss our current fee levy situation, where we receive \$2.92/credit. Our fee levy is the lowest of the other Montreal universities. Our suggestion is an increase of \$1/credit annually adjusted to the CPI, which totals \$3.92/credit. This will increase recreation, which will provide more types of sports, alternative recreation, and expand our spaces. We'll also be creating a student advisory group, provide more student jobs, and provide outlets for stress relief.

Harrison Kirshner: For the revenue stream, you also get funding from the University, can you speak on how much you get from them?

Graeme McGravie: We have not had an increase in the student services sector in 10 years.

Boutaina Chafi: Are there any plans to increase the number of machines at the gym at Loyola

Graeme McGravie: It is not a gym. The Perform Centre is a research centre run by the exercise science program, we are separate from them.

Keroles Riad: What happens when you have surplus in the budget?

Graeme McGravie: We haven't had a rollover in two years, but if we did we would have to give it back to the University.

Malcolm Asselin presents the following motion. Seconded by **Aria Khaksar**

BE IT RESOLVED that the following be sent to the referendum.

With health and wellness as a priority for Concordia University students, the recreation and athletics department would like to increase its activity offerings while making them more accessible and diverse. This increase would allow the department to update its recreational equipment, create more recreation opportunities, create more student jobs and much more.

Do you agree to increase the Concordia recreation and athletics department's fee-levy by \$1 per credit from \$2.92 to \$3.92 per credit, annually adjusted to the Consumer Price Index of Canada, to be implemented at registration for the January 2022 academic term in accordance with the University's tuition, refund, and withdrawal policy?

Note: Should this pass, this will cause a change in this student fee charge of 3.00\$ per 3 credit course, meaning it will go from 8.76\$ to 11.76\$ per 3-credit course. This charge cannot currently be opted out from.

VOTE:

4 YES

5 NO

2 ABSTAIN

Tzvi Hersh Filler VOTES NO.

MOTION FAILS.

Malcolm Asselin: Rec and Athletics is one of the biggest parts of student life at Concordia, it's a foundational part of the University.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: It is a good thing that the fee is the lowest in the city. This fee is different from all of the other fees, it is a University fee, you cannot opt out of it. We don't know if this is a firm commitment that it will benefit the students entirely. It might end up being an increase

Kathleen DiCaprio: You need to pay more to get a better level of service

Calvin Clarke: This is a compulsory fee. As the CSU states in the Positions Book, we oppose increase in tuition fees, which this is. This is not a student fee. This would lock students in with index inflation for who knows how long. If there is a lack of support for this fee, this falls more on University and Government support rather than relying on students to alleviate these costs.

Kathleen DiCaprio: Our gym was built in 1964, it is not regulated to play volleyball, we can't even compete with the Universities in the city right now. This is an increase, and it is an overdue increase. The positives and the benefits outweigh the costs.

Harrison Kirshner: I wish you could get more funding from the University, given that students already pay so many fees to you.

Tzvi Hersh Filler motions to add the following to the question. Seconded by **Aria Khaksar**. Motion passes.

Note 1: Given that this is a change in institutional fee, the elector is consenting to an increase to a mandatory institutional fee to Concordia University beyond the normally allowed increase as defined by the Règles Budgétaires and the Quebec Ministry of Education, Leisure and Sports

Tzvi Hersh Filler: It's required by the bylaws.

Graeme McGravie: I get the feeling that people think the money will go towards brick and mortar, but it will help the Stingers and the Concordia community.

Keroles Riad: How much surplus did you have before COVID? Can't you ask the University to keep the surplus?

Graeme McGravie: The University takes back the money to pay off debts and that's the same for every department. Not to throw diGrappa under the bus but our budget was cut. The dome, for example, operates.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: To clarify, I was never under the impression that the money was going to buildings. The bulk of the money being paid is by students who don't have the time to use it. Most of the money doesn't serve the students.

Boutaina Chafi: You mentioned students don't have the time to engage with services, could you provide those statistics?

Tzvi Hersh Filler: You cannot possibly be providing \$1 of services per student. From the application, this service is currently actively engaging with

Boutaina Chafi: That didn't answer the question. I was asking about how he mentioned that as a student, he did not have time to go to the gym. But I don't believe he can provide those statistics because I don't think they exist.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: It is an additional obstacle to education. Factoring in student debt, it does increase over term it takes to pay off the debt

Chairperson: You can always return and submit again.

e) SEIZE

Olivia Champagne: SEIZE is a member-driven nonprofit organization that educates, incubates and organizes in support of a democratic economy rooted in ecological vitality and human solidarity. Why is SEIZE Needed? there are misperceptions about cooperatives, a lack of social enterprise support, and lack of access to financing. we're addressing this through popular education & workshops, mentorship & consultations, and access to seed funding & resources. We will deliver monthly workshops, consultations & mentorship, organizational training, and start-up seed funding. How does SEIZE benefit all Concordians? We support existing organizations, create meaningful jobs, capacity building opportunities, and all undergraduate students are members

Marcus Peeters: We're involved with a lot of organizations in the Concordia sphere, and often they are in need of support. There is a lack of understanding about cooperatives. A co-op is a democratic enterprise that is needed to create a social solidarity community.

Olivia Champagne: Our salaries are at 43%, the other bulk of our funding will go to incubation, we will also allocate 10% of funding to education, and the rest to admin expenses. We've been operating for a while on a skeleton budget, and the value we provide to students has proved itself. We're hoping to ask the following question:

Do you as a member of the Concordia Student Union (CSU) agree to pay 29 cents per credit (indexed to inflation in accordance with the Consumer Price Index of Canada) effective winter 2022, towards the establishment of a solidarity economy incubator, that will primarily engage students through the support, development, study, and promotion of democratic enterprises?

Eduardo Malorni presents the following motion. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following be sent to the referendum.

Do you as a member of the Concordia Student Union (CSU) agree to pay 29 cents per credit (indexed to inflation in accordance with the Consumer Price Index of Canada) effective winter 2022, towards the establishment of a solidarity economy incubator, that will primarily engage students through the support, development, study, and promotion of democratic enterprises?

Note: Should this pass, this will cause a creation of a student fee charge of 0.87\$ per 3-credit course. This charge can currently be opted out from.

Eduardo Malorni: Making long term boards will provide institutional knowledge. Co-ops are the best structures for students.

Calvin Clarke: In the positions book, we have a mandate to fight for quality education and programs. SEIZE is fighting to fill that gap.

f) Orientation Post-Mortem

Malcolm Asselin: We didn't find out the status of whether our orientation would be online or in person until very late. I was under the impression that it would be online, which is why I didn't hire any help, leading to a lot of overwork. I made it a one-week long event, all in person except for one component. Our budget was 28,755.90\$ for events, 40,633,00\$ for merchandise, leading to 69,418.90\$ in total. We collaborated with ASFA and went to La Ronde, it made our planning easy since it's an outdoor venue. We hosted Koffee Kids, where we gave away our merchandise and provided free coffee to students. We had an art exhibit, in collaboration with FASA. We put together a place where FASA students could showcase and sell their art. We had Wednesday Wellness, which was unfortunately cancelled as it was raining and we didn't want to host it indoors. The next day we had Rap Battles, in collaboration with SEIZE, CUTV, and the CSU. The turnout was great. For Meet the Clubs, we limited it to 30 clubs per two hours. It was held at the Loyola campus. The Meet the Community event brought together outside organizations at Loyola campus and was less successful. The last event, Pins and Poetry, was in collaboration

Collective 4891, where people could make pins and share poetry. For the online component, we held Concordia's Got Talent, where students show off their talent in a one minute video and students can vote for a winner within their faculty. Thank you to Keroles and Waste Not, Want Not for being present at all the in-person events and educating students on composting.

Eduardo Malorni motions to approve the report. Seconded by **Hannah Jamet-Lange**. Motion passes.

Eduardo Malorni: What Malcolm has accomplished is incredible. Every orientation before this spent upward of 100,000 and he managed to spend less than that and threw one of the best orientations.

6. APPOINTMENTS

a) Appointments Committee (BIPOC seat)

S Shivaane: We still don't have a seat. It's in progress.

Camina Harrison-Chery presents the following motion. Seconded by **S Shivaane**. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED that the seat on Appointments Committee reserved for a BIPOC committee member be open to students-at-large, with the appointments process to be completed by the BIPOC committee, notwithstanding 4.1.2.1.2.2 of the Policy on Council and Committees

Camina Harrison-Chery: This is a positive step in the right direction for the CSU to have our Appointments Committee be more diverse.

b) Sustainability Committee

Christopher Vaccarella: We're working on projects to make Concordia the most sustainable campus in Montreal. We'd love to hear more input and ideas on this committee. We meet biweekly on Monday's at 3-4 PM, so 2-3 hours/month at most.

7. RETURNING BUSINESS - SUBSTANTIVE

8. NEW BUSINESS – SUBSTANTIVE

a) Charter of Student Rights Referendum Question

Hannah Jamet-Lange presents the following motion. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following be sent to the referendum.

In the last 25 years, students have attempted to have Concordia University adopt a Charter of Student Rights, similar to what exists at other universities in Canada. As it stands, Concordia does not have a comprehensive document compiling all student rights, including fundamental rights, academic rights, procedural rights, rights to association and representation, and rights related to access to personal information. Instead, students' rights are spread out through several policies and documents, making it difficult for students to be aware of their rights. The CSU has started preliminary work on consolidating these rights afforded to students into one document. Further, the CSU wants to work on drafting on a new proposal to the university to adopt a Charter of Student Rights.

Do you support the CSU working on and advocating to Concordia University for the creation of a Charter of Student Right with the understanding that any proposed Charter of Student Rights would be coming back to referendum prior to being agreed upon?

Hannah Jamet-Lange: We are looking at the different student rights at Concordia, and we want to have all of that information in one place.

b) Recorded Lectures Referendum Question

Christopher Vaccarella presents the following motion. Seconded by **Hannah Jamet-Lange**. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following be sent to the referendum.

During the start of the COVID -19 pandemic, Concordia University allowed for classes to be recorded and uploaded to Moodle pages. This helped international students who had no choice but to go back to their country of residence during COVID and students in marginalised communities. During the Fall 2021 semester and the return to campus, recorded and live-streamed classes have been reduced dramatically. This has put a strain on international students who could not return to campus and has impacted those who are in marginalised communities and those who are working more hours to recoup losses from the pandemic.

Do you support the CSU to advocate to the Concordia Administration for the implementation of a live-streaming or recording of in-person classes?

Christopher Vaccarella: There is a lot of anxiety over going to campus during the pandemic. This will provide an option where all lectures will be recorded, which will alleviate the anxieties of missing classes and provide more accessibility.

c) Curriculum Referendum Question

Christopher Vaccarella presents the following motion. Seconded by **Calvin Clarke**. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following be sent to the referendum.

Only 8.5% of Concordia graduates come out of a program with any sustainability learning outcome. The national average in Canada is 37%. This data is self-reported by Concordia to STARS, the North American gold standard for assessing sustainability in universities. The majority of the 8.5% are from engineering undergraduate programs because they are required by accreditation to learn about sustainability in their curriculum. Concordia is four times lower than the Canadian national average in sustainability learning outcomes in the curriculum. In fact, out of all 30 Canadian Universities reporting to STARS, Concordia is eighth to last when it comes to sustainability learning outcomes. One of the leading universities is our neighbour: the Université Laval at 95%. Université Laval achieved that 95% because its senate made an institutional decision that sustainability must be integrated into all undergraduate programs in 2009, a dozen years ago. The Canadian Business Youth Council recently called for all business students in Canada to learn about the climate crisis in their curriculum. Additionally, there are over 130 professors at Concordia spanning almost every department across all four faculties who conduct sustainability-related research.

Do you agree to call on Concordia University to make an institutional commitment that all Concordia students will learn about sustainability and the climate crisis in their curriculum by 2030, and to mandate the Concordia Student Union to advocate to achieve that goal?

VOTE:

8 YES

1 NO

Tzvi Hersh Filler votes no

Keroles Riad: I've been involved with developing the Sustainability plan for the past five years. Universities are a tax-funded institution, we pay them to educate us, and we're not being taught

or equipped with the tools to combat the climate crisis. Students should have the opportunity to demand that the University provide us with this.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: I'm against this motion. For programs such as engineering it would make sense to have a sustainability course. In regards to other courses, such as accounting or classics, it's unrelated. We can't come in and say that "you can't get your degree unless you complete this course in sustainability", that is not our job.

Keroles Riad: Sustainability is very broad, it doesn't only include the environment. It also includes social issues, economic justice. There isn't a field or program that wouldn't be affected by sustainability. Our job is to provide degrees that are valuable and prepare students for the job market. The job market right now is requiring more sustainability skills.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: I'm not saying students shouldn't have the option to take a sustainability course, but they should have the choice in which courses are valuable to them. A lot of courses would enhance students' lives.

Calvin Clarke: There are already required courses that students have to take, this isn't an outrageous idea.

Hannah Jamet-Lange: We are rapidly entering a climate crisis. All of us can agree that learning about climate change would enhance our lives. This would be a benefit for everybody. Sustainability affects every discipline in different ways.

d) Foundation Referendum Question

Eduardo Malorni presents the following motion. Seconded by **Calvin Clarke**. Motion passes. *BE IT RESOLVED* that the following be sent to the referendum.

Do you, as a Concordia undergraduate, hereby mandate the Concordia Student Union (CSU) to institutionalize the administration of the annual interest accrued from its investments in the Student Space, Accessible Education, and Legal Contingency (SSAELC) fund, in collaboration with the Concordia undergraduate student community, towards supporting the development of social-solidarity, non-for-profit, and democratic enterprises?

Eduardo Malorni: This is an opinion question. If students vote *yes*, we would then conduct further research before being presented to council, who will then decide if we send it to referendum in the future.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: What currently happens with the SSAELC fund interest?

Eduardo Malorni: Part of it goes to the Community Action Fund, the rest gets reinvested into the SSAELC fund. The plan is to allocate a portion of the interest in certain projects and causes. The SSAELC fund will still exist.

e) Councillor Training Requirements

Tzvi Hersh Filler presents the following motion. Seconded by **Lily Charette**.

WHEREAS section 2 of the policy on Sexual Violence was meant to comply with Bill 151,
WHEREAS Bill 151 requires that the training be given by SARC or a representative of SARC (DoS),

WHEREAS the training run by SARC through the DoS do not comply with the requirements of article 2.2 of the policy above,

WHEREAS the deadline in the policy to do the trainings, namely October 1st, has passed,

BE IT RESOLVED that council excuses all those having done the SARC training through DoS, in accordance with Article 2.5 of the Sexual Violence and Safer Spaces Policy,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the budgetary impact of this motion is nil.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: section 2 of the policy on Sexual Violence has specific time requirements, and the training run by SARC through the DoS do not comply with the requirements. The training we got was equivalent to the training we were supposed to get.

Hannah Jamet-Lange: Bill 51 is for universities themselves, and while we are part of the university community. We don't fall under this Bill so that part is irrelevant. Needing to be completed by SARC, we did do that. For not complying with 2.2, everyone had the opportunity to do it by October 1. Motivation behind this policy was to have an actual sexual violence policy, and this was long before Bill 51. Overall, unfortunately, we didn't manage to exactly adjust this policy in time. But I am in the process of reworking all policies related to harassment and violence. I believe all councillors completed training in time.

Harrison Kirshner: Two training offered by DOS. Every councillor and executive has completed the training.

Hannah Jamet-Lange motions to table indefinitely. Seconded by **Harrison Kirshner**. Motion passes.

Hannah Jamet-Lange: This motion is not relevant since everyone was able to complete the policy requirements.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: There are requirements that the SARC training does not meet. However, we can table this indefinitely and figure it out later.

f) Position on Transphobia Referendum Question

Hannah Jamet-Lange presents the following motion. Seconded by **Christopher Vaccarella**.

Motion passes.

WHEREAS the CSU has a mandate to advocate for and defend students' rights;

WHEREAS Quebec Justice Minister Simon Jolin-Barrette introduced Bill 2, project de loi no. 2, last Thursday, October 21st, 2021,

WHEREAS this proposed Bill has been called a “huge regression” on trans rights by trans advocates and would further discriminate against and harm trans people;

WHEREAS the CSU already has a position in solidarity with LGBTQIA2S+ folks;

Do you agree to adopt the following position against Transphobia into the CSU Positions Book?

The CSU stands in solidarity with trans, nonbinary and gender-non-conforming folks. The CSU strongly opposes transphobia in all its forms and rejects all structures, behaviours and laws that perpetuate systemic transphobia. The CSU recognizes the gender binary as a social construct that must be dismantled. Further, the CSU recognizes that there is no one step or set of steps to undergo in order to have one's gender identity be affirmed and respected. People must have the right to change the sex designation on their birth certificate and other documents if it does not represent their gender identity without having to undergo surgery. As such, the CSU strongly denounces Bill 2, project de loi no. 2, which would effectively further discriminate against and harm trans people. Trans, nonbinary and gender-non-conforming folks must have the right to safety and security on their own terms.

Hannah Jamet-Lange: Bill introduced last week is very transphobic and will cause a lot of harm to trans people. That was the motivation to place a specific position in the positions book affirming trans people and moving against this bill.

9. NEW BUSINESS – INFORMATIONAL

10. QUESTION PERIOD & BUSINESS ARISING

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Malcolm Asselin: Halloween at Reggies tomorrow!

Camina Harrison-Chery: Blood Quantum screenings!

Calvin Clarke: Hive Free Lunch is launching a Queer and BIPOC initiative.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Malcolm Asselin moves to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by **Aria Khaksar**. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 PM.