



Concordia Student Union - Council of Representatives  
CSU Regular Council Meeting  
Wednesday, November 10, 2021  
Via Zoom, 18h30

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

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

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**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.**

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## 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), Shania Bramble (Arts & Science), Nathaniel Ouazana (Arts & Science), Brandon Grimaldi (Arts & Science), Howard Issley (John Molson School of Business), Boutaïna Chafi (Arts & Science), Edel Kilkenny-Mondoux (Arts & Science), Jeremy Deneault (John Molson School of Business), Olivia Lafreniere (John Molson School of Business), Lily Charette (Arts & Science), Lauren Perozek (John Molson School of Business), Emmanuel Gaisie (John Molson School of Business)

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

**Councilors absent for the meeting were:** Noah Mohamed (John Molson School of Business), Nick Bonneau (John Molson School of Business), Ikrame Housni (Arts & Science), Ariane Drouin (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Paula Colmenares (Independent), Anais Gagnon (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Alina Murad (Arts & Science), Marissa Profetto (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Samuel Thibodeau (Fine Arts)

**Tzvi Hersh Filler** motions to excuse all absences from tonight's meeting. Seconded by **Jeremy Deneault**. Motion passes.

### **3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

#### **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Tzvi Hersh Filler** motions to approve the agenda and all items under consent. Seconded by **Malcolm Asselin**. Motion passes.

### **5. PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST SPEAKERS**

#### **a) Referendum Question Presentation**

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** The question is as follows.

Fee Levies are charges charged alongside tuition which go to support various groups on campus, are instituted through referenda, and can be opted out of during the opt out period.

As it stands now, once a fee levy is confirmed at referendum it never expires.

Do you want the CSU to advocate for and enact whatever is necessary to ensure that a fee levy charge must be confirmed at a minimum of once every 4 years in order to remain in effect?

Note that this change might be phased in for pre-existing fee levies over the 3 years following the adoption of whatever changes are implemented.

Once a fee levy is passed, it's there forever. However we have a complete turnover of students every four years. This question will change it to a system where fee levies have to be reaffirmed every four years or so, similar to McGill's system. The wording is vague intentionally.

**Lauren Perozek:** This is deja vu vibes from the positions book referendum question. Were there any fee levies that you're concerned about? I don't see how People's Potatoes would ever be questioned into existence

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** Nope

**Calvin Clarke:** For fee levies who have been around for a long time, would we have them reaffirm after four years?

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** It would be a good idea to phase this in for new fee levies who come into effect

**Calvin Clarke:** I feel like trying to clump in all fee levies into something like this will be more harmful than productive. Especially for fee levies who have proven themselves to be valuable to the student community.

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** That's an interesting concern. I see where you're coming from. Arguably, if a fee levy is sent to referendum and it fails, that would mean that the students don't want it anymore. This is something to be taken into consideration.

**Malcolm Asselin:** My only concern is that if you're saying there is a rotation every four years of a new group of students, how would we expect them to know what these services are if they're new students. This would cause trouble for fee levy groups trying to engage student life

**Lauren Perozek:** I see what you mean by this, Hersh. But we had 2000-3000 students vote in our last election, out of 30,000 students. You're having a lot of students vote on something that would potentially affect a larger group of students. Was this reviewed by the fee levy committee at all? Ed has worked really hard over the past few years to rebuild our relationship with the fee levies, and something like this could really damage that relationship

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** The first one is a definite no, the second is a probable no.

**Hannah Jamet-Lange:** Is this passed, are there any legal implications of this and have they been reviewed by the lawyers?

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** I don't understand the question

**Hannah Jamet-Lange:** The fee levies have their own organizations, and their own different corporation acts. Would there be any legal implications for this for both the fee levies and the CSU? Have we done the research on this process? We've been threatened with lawsuits before

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** My general assumption is that this does not put the CSU in jeopardy. I would not given access to some of the documents, but I believe the executive team has access to them

**Calvin Clarke:** Now that we have online opt-outs, fee levies are now having problems retaining members in their organization. This would further drive that stake between the students and the specific projects that are available to them

**Lauren Perozek:** If the issue here is if students should continue paying for something they don't believe in, we already have a system for that where students can opt-out. What's the point of this redundancy if we already have that system?

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** The system right now is not perfect

**Lauren Perozek:** It seems like the system you're proposing isn't thought out

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** It isn't, but the first step of action is to ask the students if they want us to explore this.

## **6. APPOINTMENTS**

### **a) 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 2-3 PM. We can also wait for next meeting where new councillors will be joining us

### **b) Appointments Committee**

**S Shivaane** motions to appoint **Naschra Paul** as the BIPOC seat to the **Appointments Committee**. Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

**S Shivaane:** It's important to have BIPOC representation to the Appointments Committee

### **c) Judicial Board**

**Eduardo Malorni** motions to enter closed sessions. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes unanimously.

**Eduardo Malorni** presents the following motion. Seconded by **Boutaina Chafi**. Motion passes unanimously.

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT* the following students be appointed to judicial board:  
Maia Fukuyama, Nairuz Almaghrawi, Mowahib Hassan Doualeh, and Kira Postak

**Eduardo Malorni** motions to enter open sessions. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes unanimously.

**Tzvi Hersh Filler** motions to approve the minutes from closed sessions. Seconded by **Malcolm Asselin**. Motion passes unanimously.

## **7. RETURNING BUSINESS - SUBSTANTIVE**

## **8. NEW BUSINESS – SUBSTANTIVE**

### **a) Letter to the Concordia Board of Governors**

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

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE* CSU write a letter to be delivered to the BoG of Concordia regarding their displeasure at the actions of the University Administration

**Eduardo Malorni:** We've been trying to represent student concerns to the University for the past six months. We've had a good relationship with the Admin but recently that's taken a nosedive to a disrespectful level where it doesn't matter what students are telling them. Students have been pushing for pass/fail to return, we explained this to the Admin and offered alternatives, but they took all of that and moved on. What we found upsetting is when we presented a motion to discuss pass/fail, they removed us from the Senate and wouldn't be allowed to present our arguments. This was, in my opinion, an abuse of power. They said we didn't have enough documentation, but they were sending motions to the Senate with less documentation.

**Hannah Jamet-Lange:** Student voices have been constantly dismissed in so many aspects. Any meeting we have with the Admin ends with them explaining in detail why they can't do the

things we are asking for. The goal of this letter is to inform the BoG, who might not know what's going on internally at Concordia.

**Nathaniel Ouazana:** If this letter is sent to the BoG and they also ignore it, what are the next steps?

**Eduardo Malorni:** Because the BoG are external to the University, and often sit on this Board because of the prestige that comes along with it. They don't look good if the University doesn't look good. We hope this letter prompts them to ask questions to the Administration and pushes them to do something. The next step would be a strike or a protest, which is realistically the other option that is available to us.

**Calvin Clarke:** Have we thought about reaching out to fee levy groups to sign on with this letter? I think we could garner a lot of solidarity

**Eduardo Malorni:** There have been discussions about that. I wouldn't mind reaching out to the fee levy groups

**Hannah Jamet-Lange:** We've also been coordinating with the other faculty associations to see if they want to also sign on to this. We're planning on having an open letter that students-at-large can sign on to, as well. It would be really great to have that solidarity from as many students as possible

**Eduardo Malorni:** Academic caucus also felt the need to write a letter themselves, which was published in The Link a couple of hours ago. We want more traction on this letter to get students aware of these issues. It would be very helpful if councillors could also share this with your networks.

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** When we say "The CSU", which particular person is that?

**Eduardo Malorni:** The organization

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** Interesting. Who actually takes charge of writing and sending this off?

**Eduardo Malorni:** I can personally be responsible of it, since I already sit on BoG

## **9. NEW BUSINESS – INFORMATIONAL**

## **10. QUESTION PERIOD & BUSINESS ARISING**

## **11. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Malcolm Asselin:** We have a climate conference on the 19th at 6 PM at St-Jacques

**Eduardo Malorni:** November 18th is the birthday of a CSU employee and we can all sign and send a birthday card to them

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

**Malcolm Asselin** moves to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.