



Motion to Condemn Racist Language and Implications of SSMU Fall 2017 Referendum Question to raise General Assembly Quorum

Whereas the SSMU Fall 2017 Referendum question to raise General Assembly quorum to 350 passed,

~~Whereas, because the 100 person quorum was already difficult to attain, the quorum raise effectively renders the General Assembly obsolete and eliminates the opportunity for direct democratic student participation,~~

Whereas the language of the referendum was not objective and encouraged students to vote YES: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tWa5Oj8LhrWaSIDpi55nxCT07ma-QRO0>,

Whereas the language of the motion derives from racist rhetoric used to silence minority groups, specifically invoking the language of a “loud minority” and “silent majority”: “The current quorum limit enables small interest groups to push and dismiss policies that fit their personal agenda, influencing the broader McGill student body on what policies they can and cannot vote on,”

Whereas, by evoking “the broader McGill student body,” the motion has clear racial implications that reinforce white supremacy,

Whereas the referendum question and quorum raise exacerbates the structural racism that students experience every day on McGill campus,

Whereas it is the responsibility of every student to call out racism, racist language and policies,

~~Be it resolved that the AUS condemn the racist language and implications of the referendum question and the quorum raise,~~

Be it resolved, that the AUS condemn the language of the question as discriminatory toward minority groups and acknowledge its racist implications,

Be it resolved, that this motion is not a condemnation of the decision made in the SSMU Referendum, and takes no action, in its own capacity, to lower SSMU GA quorum back to 100,

Be it further resolved that the AUS mandate the Arts Representatives to raise these issues at SSMU Legislative Council.

Moved by

Thomas MacDonald DESA VP External
Sarah MacRae-Korobkov AHCSSA President
Jennifer Chan Arts Representative
Kevin Zhou Arts Representative
Rebecca Scarra AUS VP Internal

APPROVED