**Statement Regarding the Hillel Trip**

**Whereas,** student leaders across campus were offered a trip to Israel over the upcoming Winter by Hillel Montreal funded by the Maccabee Task Force, a group whose goals are explicitly to influence student leaders to oppose BDS through trips of this kind;

**Whereas,** the contents of the open response published by the SSMU Executives following their suggested overlap between being an elected representative and attending as independent students;

**Whereas,** one executive has already dropped this trip following the voicing of concerns from their constituents’

**Be it resolved,** the AUS Legislative Council agrees to this statement, which shall be sent out to AUS constituents in a special listserv in the next seven days and via any other appropriate forms of communication:

The AUS Legislative Council would like to express our profound disappointment with the decision of two members of the AUS executive - VP Finance Stefan Suvajac and Arts Representative Andrew Chase - to attend a trip funded by an interest group (The Maccabee Task Force) whose leaders have explicitly stated their goal to influence the decision-making processes of student leaders on campus, and call on the two executives to refrain from participating in this trip.

The AUS Legislative Council would like to re-emphasize to Palestinian students and to all other students who have been personally affected by the executives’ actions that even in spite of this decision, we stand in solidarity with their concerns and with their lived experiences of oppression. We do not believe that the ruling of any policy, in this case the SSMU Conflict of Interest Policy upon the concerned AUS Executives, should serve as a moral compass.

The AUS Legislative Council endorses the letter published by the SSMU executives in asking for increased transparency from Hillel Montreal with regards to whom was offered a position on this trip and why, as we find this lack of transparency deeply concerning.

Moved by,

Myriam Driss, MESS Representative

Mo Rajji Courtney, RSUS Representative

Andreas Koch, WIMESSA Representative

Dalton Liggett, HSA Representative