



Report of the VP External to Council

There is nothing like returning to a place that remains unchanged to find the ways in which you yourself have altered.

– Nelson Mandela (1918 -), 'A Long Walk to Freedom'

Government

1. TaCEQ

- a) LPAC and I have begun outlining the tasks ahead for establishing the accounting regime for TaCEQ.

2. Provincial Government

- a) Had meeting on Monday with Claudia Gucciardi and two representatives from the FEUQ regarding the planning of the Montreal demonstration on this issue. We are trying to push the FEUQ to change their date from the March 9th to the week before, since all fourth year education students will be on Spring Break from their stages and available to be present. The FEUQ said they'd get back within two days. Still no response, even after I pestered them yesterday.

3. Going Pro-rogue Day

- a) Been working on the idea of having a day of solidarity for the Harper's prorogation of parliament. More on this to come.

Community

4. CARE – IRC

- a) Meeting with Professor Mendelson on Tuesday went really well. He seems very much on board and spoke of wanting to put this on the website at some point and have the administration sign off on this.

5. BYB – Great opportunity to check out some other cultural elements of Montreal

- a) First event this evening at the Sufi Centre. Turn out for the event was 30 people, despite the snow-storm, of whom I was told approximately half were undergraduates. This was about the maximum turnout.

6. Café Conversations

- a) Event went well on Tuesday night. Turn out of about 15 people, almost equally from the community and students. Conversations went well and everyone seemed to feel warm, fuzzy and communitarian afterwards. Looking forward to the next one.

Other

7. External Affairs committee and Mobilization Committee:

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Students' Society of McGill University
Association étudiante de l'Université McGill

Report to Council
Presented February 4th 2010

Office of the Vice-President (External Affairs)
Bureau du Vice-président (affaires externes)

a) Report from the Chair to come.

8. Opt-outs:

- a) The trend towards increasing opt-outs is very disappointing and the pro-opt-out campaign seems to miss the fundamental fact that they are also funded by students who actually don't have the opportunity to opt-out.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sebastian Ronderos-Morgan, VP (External) SSMU