

Question Regarding Fee Increase for PGSS Members

Whereas, the Quebec Public Interest Research Group - McGill (QPIRG) is a student-initiated, student-run organization with the mandate to engage McGill students in the Montreal community with a commitment to social and environmental issues;

Whereas, QPIRG connects campus and community through annual event series for McGill students (e.g., Rad Frosh, Culture Shock, Social Justice Days) and through numerous working groups (e.g., KANATA, Solidarity Across Borders, Accessibilize Montreal!);

Whereas, QPIRG provides essential resources, training, funding and meeting space to students and community groups, supporting these groups to conduct applied student research and to organize and participate in a diversity of environmental and social justice initiatives;

Whereas, QPIRG was founded by students in 1988, and is funded primarily through the student fee-levy that was originally set at \$3.00;

Whereas the QPIRG fee never been increased since 1988 from its original \$3.00;

Whereas, had the QPIRG fee been indexed to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), a measure of inflation, since 1988, it would currently be \$4.98;

Whereas, inflation has increased QPIRG's expenses without a corresponding increase in revenue, resulting in a reduction in programming and services capacity, such as diminished student research funding, applied skills workshops, and community engagement initiatives;

Whereas, this fee increase would allow for the further development of employment opportunities and applied research opportunities for students through programmes like the Community-University Research Exchange (CURE), the Study in Action undergraduate research conference, the Convergence journal, and the Alternative Research Library; the improvement of popular education initiatives; and make investments to increase the accessibility of our programming and resources.

Do you agree to, effective Fall 2015 up to and including Winter 2017, an increase the current opt-outable QPIRG-McGill fee of \$3.00 by \$2.00, bringing it to a total of \$5.00 per term for graduate students on the downtown campus who are "full-time", "half-time" or "part-time", with a corresponding increase of \$1.00 to a total of \$2.50 per term for "additional session", "non-thesis extension" or "thesis evaluation term" students, with the understanding that a majority "no" vote would result in the absence of such a fee increase and the inability to maintain the current programming and service levels?