**Question 1: Amendment to CSU Bylaw 6.3d**

Section 6.3.d of the CSU By-laws currently states:

*6.3 The tasks and powers of the Council of Representatives may only be properly exercised in the course of a duly convened meeting of same. In particular the Council shall do or cause to be done the following:*

*d. Enact, amend or repeal by-laws, policies, regulations and resolution which shall be binding on’ the Student Union, its affiliated organizations, officers, employees, and all others under its authority. Regulations shall be policies of a permanent nature which may only be adopted, amended or rescinded by a two-thirds majority vote of the Council of Representatives at a meeting specifically called for that purpose.*

The CSU Judicial Board interpreted By-Law 6.3.d as meaning all adoptions, amendments or rescindments of regulations may only be done at a Special Council Meeting called only for that one regulation which has led to the CSU having to call multiple SCMs in one day in order to make changes to multiple regulations, presenting a financial and logistical challenge that the following amendment would solve.

Do you agree to amend Section 6.3.d of the CSU Bylaws to the following (changes highlighted):

*d. Enact, amend or repeal by-laws, policies, regulations and resolution which shall be binding on’ the Student Union, its affiliated organizations, officers, employees, and all others under its authority. Regulations shall be policies of a permanent nature which may only be adopted, amended or rescinded by a two-thirds majority vote of the Council of Representatives at a meeting specifically called for the purpose of adopting, amending, or rescinding one or more regulations.*

**Question 2: Amendment to CSU Bylaw 9**

*Do you agree to adopting the following wording for CSU Bylaw 9?*

**9. Elections & Referenda**

9.1. The Student Union shall hold a minimum of 2 elections per year for the purpose of electing Representatives, Executives and Senators, and for holding referenda.

9.2. The three types of Elections shall be Annual General Elections held in March, Byelections held in November, and Special Elections which may be called by a 2/3 majority vote of Council. Any election may only be held during the Fall and Winter academic sessions on days when regular classes are held and the polling phase may not be held on a day defined as a holiday with work restrictions within a religious calendar.

9.2.1. Representatives, Executives, and elected Senators shall be elected in the Annual General Elections which take place in the month of March.

9.2.2. Vacant seats on the Council of Representatives shall be filled in Byelections which take place in November.

9.2.3. Special Elections may only be held for the purpose of Bylaw Amendments and Questions of Importance following a 2/3 majority vote by the Council of Representatives.

9.3. The following dispositions shall apply to the election of positions

9.3.1. Candidates for the Executive run individually for the positions of Academic and Advocacy Coordinator, External Affairs and Mobilization Coordinator, Finance Coordinator, General Coordinator, Internal Affairs Coordinator, Student Life Coordinator, Sustainability Coordinator and Loyola Coordinator, but may campaign together.

9.3.2. Candidates for the Council of Representatives and Senate run individually and independently.

9.3.3. No candidate for any position in Annual General Elections or Byelections shall be elected by acclamation. In the case of an uncontested candidacy, the candidate shall only be declared elected upon obtaining a majority of votes in a ratification poll held during the Annual General Elections or Byelections the candidacy was submitted for.

9.3.4. Representatives and Executives elected at the Annual General Elections, shall take office on June 1st following said election. The elected executive members will start working on May 1st following the elections for a transition period of one month. During that month they shall be given training, have access to the documents related to their portfolios and will have the right to be present at all closed sessions of the Council of Representatives. They will also receive a salary equal to 50% of one month of the salary of an executive member in office for that fiscal year.

9.3.5. Representatives elected in the Byelection shall take office upon the Council of Representatives receiving the final results.

9.3.6. Elected Senators shall start their term in accordance with the University Bylaws.

9.4. The Quorum for Annual General Elections, Byelections, Referenda, and Special Elections shall be 450 members.

9.5. Elections shall be overseen by the Chief Electoral Officer, who shall be appointed by the Council of Representatives. The Chief Electoral Officer shall be charged with the supervision of the said elections, ensure Student Union regulations on Elections and Referenda are followed, and shall report the results of such elections in accordance with the by-laws and regulations.

9.5.1. The Annual General Elections and any referenda held concurrently, and the Chief Electoral Officer’s report of such shall be deemed to form part of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.

9.5.2. The Chief Electoral Officer’s report of the Byelections and any Special Elections shall be received at the first succeeding meeting of the Council following said Byelection or Special Election.

9.6. The following procedures shall be complied with:

9.6.1. The Chief Electoral Officer must file the results of an Election or Referenda with the Chairperson of the Council of Representatives on the day following the expiry of the deadline to contest same, indicating whether such a contestation has been filed.

9.6.2. If a contestation is filed, the Chief Electoral Officer must immediately file a copy of the decision rendered thereon with the Chairperson of the Council of Representatives.

9.6.3. The Judicial Board must immediately file with the Chairperson of the Council of Representatives a copy of any appeal of the decision of the Chief Electoral Officer.

9.6.4. Similarly, the Judicial Board must immediately file a copy of its decision on the appeal, or a notice of discontinuance, with the Chairperson of the Council of Representatives.

9.6.5. Upon the delays to contest or appeal having expired without the filing of a contestation or appeal, or upon a final decision being rendered or a notice of discontinuance being received, the reception of the final results shall be added as the very first agenda point of the next regular meeting of the Council of Representatives.

9.7. Referenda on the Student Union Fee or the introduction, change, or removal of a non-CSU fee-levy may be called to be held during the Annual General Elections and Byelections. Referenda on amendments to these Bylaws or on Questions of Importance may be called to be held during the Annual General Elections, Byelections and Special Elections. Referenda must be called a minimum of 5 days before the beginning of the campaigning period. The Chief Electoral Officer’s report on such referenda shall be submitted concurrently with the report on the Election during which they are held. The procedures set out in 9.6. shall apply mutatis mutandis to referenda.

9.7.1. The Council of Representatives shall have the sole authority to bring to referendum a change in the amount of the Student Union Fee.

9.7.2. A referendum concerning the creation, modification, or removal of a non-Student Union fee levy may only be called to be held during the Annual General Elections and the Byelections and must follow the dispositions of these Bylaws and the regulations of the Student Union. Referenda on the creation or removal of said fee-levy may be called by a petition of at least 3000 members presented to the Chairperson of the Council of Representatives alongside any other dispositions laid out in the regulations of the Student Union, ratified by the Council of Representatives a minimum of 5 days before the beginning of the campaigning period. The promoters of a petition for the calling of a referendum are responsible to come and present their petition to the Council of Representatives prior to circulating it on campus. The purpose of such a presentation is only to allow for discussion between Council and the promoters and to solicit feedback on the proposed question. The Council of Representatives shall have no decision-making power over the ability of the promoters to pursue their petition.

9.7.3. The Council of Representatives may choose to call referenda on amendments to these Bylaws by a 2/3 majority vote.

9.7.4. Referenda on Questions of Importance may be called by the Council of Representatives or by a petition of at least 750 members presented to the Council of Representatives a minimum of 5 days before the end of the Campaigning period. The promoters of a petition for the calling of a referendum are responsible to come and present their petition to the Council of Representatives prior to circulating it on campus. The purpose of such a presentation is only to allow for discussion between Council and the promoters and to solicit feedback on the proposed question. The Council of Representatives shall have no decision-making power over the ability of the promoters to pursue their petition, nor over the ability of the promoters to pursue their petition, nor over the putting of that question to referendum. Questions of Importance shall be defined as anything falling under the scope of the Student Union umbrella or any matters deemed important by the student body.

9.7.4.1. Notwithstanding this, should the Council of Representatives think that the proposed question is in contradiction with the current Bylaws or CSU Regulations, it shall send a request for a reference decision to the Judicial Board. The Judicial Board shall issue a report containing an interpretation of whether the proposed question is in contradiction with the CSU Bylaws or Regulations to the Council of Representatives and to the promoters of the petition. If the Judicial Board’s report concludes that the question is in contradiction with the Bylaws or Regulations, the Council of Representatives shall have the power to remove the question from ballot by a simple majority. Until such a removal from ballot is voted upon by the Council, the promoters of the petition shall have the same rights to collect signatures and campaign as any other promoter of a petition.

**Question 3: Charter of Student Rights**

**Preamble**:

In the last 25 years, students have attempted to have Concordia University adopt a Charter of Student Rights, similar to what exists at other universities in Canada. As it stands, Concordia does not have a comprehensive document compiling all student rights, including fundamental rights, academic rights, procedural rights, rights to association and representation, and rights related to access to personal information. Instead, students’ rights are spread out through several policies and documents, making it difficult for students to be aware of their rights. The CSU has started preliminary work on consolidating these rights afforded to students into one document. Further, the CSU wants to work on drafting a new proposal to the university to adopt a Charter of Student Rights.

**Question**:

*Do you support the CSU working on and advocating to Concordia University for the creation of a Charter of Student Right with the understanding that any proposed Charter of Student Rights would be coming back to referendum prior to being agreed upon?*

**Question 4: Sustainability Curriculum**

**Preamble**:

Only 8.5% of Concordia graduates come out of a program with any sustainability learning outcome. The national average in Canada is 37%. This data is self-reported by Concordia to STARS, the North American gold standard for assessing sustainability in universities. The majority of the 8.5% are from engineering undergraduate programs because they are required by accreditation to learn about sustainability in their curriculum. Concordia is four times lower than the Canadian national average in sustainability learning outcomes in the curriculum. In fact, out of all 30 Canadian Universities reporting to STARS, Concordia is eighth to last when it comes to sustainability learning outcomes. One of the leading universities is our neighbour: the Université Laval at 95%. Université Laval achieved that 95% because its senate made an institutional decision that sustainability must be integrated into all undergraduate programs in 2009, a dozen years ago. The Canadian Business Youth Council recently called for all business students in Canada to learn about the climate crisis in their curriculum. Additionally, there are over 130 professors at Concordia spanning almost every department across all four faculties who conduct sustainability-related research.

**Question**:

*Do you agree to call on Concordia University to make an institutional commitment that all Concordia students will learn about sustainability and the climate crisis in their curriculum by 2030, and to mandate the Concordia Student Union to advocate to achieve that goal?*

**Question 5: CSU Diversity Services Office**

**Preamble**:

1 in 4 students considered leaving Concordia due to feeling unwelcome.  The CSU proposes a Diversity Services Office as a safe space for community building and support. The office will provide support, resources, referrals and guidance on diversity issues

40% of Concordia students have felt discriminated against at Concordia.  Located on campus, this office will be there to support, advocate, celebrate and unite the variety of diverse groups on campus.

1 out of 3 students feel disrespected by people in positions of authority at Concordia.  As an accountable, long-term driven CSU service, this office will serve as a student-centered service unaffiliated with Concordia administration. The office will house the CSU’s newly-hired Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Advisor, who will support the CSU in applying best practices to improve internal structures. Other staff will include Indigenous and Black Student Affairs Directors, who will advocate for sustainable, university-wide initiatives supporting students.

This office improves student well-being by:

* Carrying out anti-discrimination campaigns
* Connecting them with community organizations and resources
* Supporting ongoing CSU demands e.g., hiring diverse therapists

Students have the right to safe and empowering experiences during their studies. For under $3/student per semester, this office will create long-term and meaningful changes for students.

\*Statistics are drawn from the CSU’s recent survey on diversity.

**Question**:

*Do you agree for the CSU to collect a Diversity service Office fee levy of $0.20 per credit, from all undergraduate students, to support resources, referrals and guidance on diversity issues annually adjusted to the Consumer Price Index of Canada, to be implemented with registration for the Winter 2022 (2214) term in accordance with the University’s tuition, Refund and Withdrawal Policy?*

*Note: Should this pass, this will cause a creation of a student fee charge of 0.60$ per 3-credit course. This charge cannot currently be opted out from.*

**Question 6: Position Against Transphobia**

**Preamble:**

Whereas the CSU has a mandate to advocate for and defend students’ rights;

Whereas Quebec Justice Minister Simon Jolin-Barrette introduced Bill 2, project de loi no. 2, last Thursday, October 21st, 2021,

Whereas this proposed Bill has been called a “huge regression” on trans rights by trans advocates and would further discriminate against and harm trans people;

Whereas the CSU already has a position in solidarity with LGBTQIA2S+ folks.

**Question**:

*Do you agree to agree to adopt the following position against Transphobia into the CSU Positions Book?*

*Position Against Transphobia*

*The CSU stands in solidarity with trans, nonbinary and gender-non-conforming folks. The CSU strongly opposes transphobia in all its forms and rejects all structures, behaviours and laws that perpetuate systemic transphobia. The CSU recognizes the gender binary as a social construct that must be dismantled. Further, the CSU recognizes that there is no one step or set of steps to undergo in order to have one’s gender identity be affirmed and respected. People must have the right to change the sex designation on their birth certificate and other documents if it does not represent their gender identity without having to undergo surgery. As such, the CSU strongly denounces Bill 2, project de loi no. 2, which would effectively further discriminate against and harm trans people. Trans, nonbinary and gender-non-conforming folks must have the right to safety and security on their own terms.*

**Question 7: CSU Advocacy Centre**

**Preamble**

 The CSU Advocacy Centre is an essential service for students at Concordia that provides students with independent student representation in Disciplinary Proceedings, Investigations and Tribunal Hearings. It also provides independent consultation and support through unfair obstacles/barriers to academic endeavours, including assistance in drafting complaints, special requests and readmission applications, and assistance in understanding the university’s various policies and procedures. Lastly, the AC reports overarching patterns in student problems to elected student officials.

Successful outreach efforts over the past few years compounded with the negative impact of COVID-19 have caused a significant increase in the number of students who consult the AC, thus both increasing the total number of cases and limiting the number of hours student advocates can spend on each case. Further, because of the increase in cases and student consultations, research at the AC has had to cease in order to prioritise the immediate needs of students seeking assistance. The AC must increase personnel and hours in order to fulfill the increased workload and complete all of these tasks in order to continue serving students well.

The Advocacy Centre also provides quality jobs and work experience to students during their program of study.

The CSU Advocacy Centre has provided invaluable support and services to students facing Concordia University unfair academic treatment and disciplinary overreach. It is part of the CSU mission to protect student’s rights. The AC must be appropriately staffed and financed to fulfill its mandate.

**Question:**

*Do you agree to increase The CSU Student Advocacy Centre’s fee levy to $0.45 per credit (an increase of $0.14 per credit from $0.31 per credit), from all undergraduate students, annually adjusted to the Consumer Price Index of Canada, to be implemented with registration for the Winter 2022 (2214) term, in accordance with the University’s tuition, Refund and Withdrawal Policy?*

*Agreeing to this question means you consent to amending the CSU’s Special Bylaw I to reflect this change.*

*Note: Should this pass, this will cause a change in this student fee charge of $0.42 per 3-credit course, meaning it will go from $0.93 to $1.35 per 3-credit course. This charge cannot currently be opted out from.*

**Question 8: Foundation Referendum Question**

*Do you, as a Concordia undergraduate, hereby mandate the Concordia Student Union (CSU) to institutionalize the administration of the annual interest accrued from its investments in the Student Space, Accessible Education, and Legal Contingency (SSAELC) fund, in collaboration with the Concordia undergraduate student community, towards supporting the development of social-solidarity, non-for-profit, and democratic enterprises?*

**Question 9: Pass/Fail**

**Preamble**:

During the 2020-2021 academic year, Concordia University implemented the pass/fail grading option after significant pressure by students. The implementation of pass/fail in the past has led to reduced stress, anxiety and mental health issues from students, along with increased performance. During the Fall 2021 semester, a lot of classes have returned to on campus learning, which has led to severe burnout, anxiety, fatigue and students being overwhelmed. As we are still in the middle of the pandemic, and because of the drastic adjustment in everyone’s lives after a year away from campus, a return of the pass/fail option for this academic year which allows students to choose between an alphabetical grade or the pass/fail option, the latter of which will not affect their GPA, would be extremely beneficial for all students. It also reduces stress brought on by financial strains due to the pandemic, and recognizes that not all students have the same ability to succeed in their classes.

**Question**:

*Do you believe Concordia University should implement the pass/fail option for this academic year and until the end of the pandemic?*

**Question 10: Recorded Lectures**

**Preamble**:

During the start of the COVID -19 pandemic, Concordia University allowed for classes to be recorded and uploaded to Moodle pages. This helped international students who had no choice but to go back to their country of residence during COVID and students in marginalised communities. During the Fall 2021 semester and the return to campus, recorded and live-streamed classes have been reduced dramatically. This has put a strain on international students who could not return to campus and has impacted those who are in marginalised communities and those who are working more hours to recoup losses from the pandemic.

**Question**:

*Do you support the CSU to advocate to the Concordia Administration for the implementation of a live-streaming or recording of in-person classes?*

**Question 11: SEIZE**

**Preamble:**

According to the Secretariat aux relations avec les Québécois d’expression anglaise, Concordia University is the hub of the social economy in English-speaking Quebec, and this is a direct result of SEIZE Concordia’s organizing. Operating as a loose network with a shoestring budget, SEIZE Concordia collaboratively incubated 5 different co-operative and non-profit organizations: The Hive Cafe (2014), Reggie’s Bar (2015), New Roots Worker Co-operative (2018), The Woodnote (2020), and The Breach (2021).

The numerous projects and campaigns of SEIZE Concordia demonstrate their effectiveness in business development, political advocacy and financial management. Their impacts are further multiplied by the institutional decisions they affect. To cite a few examples, the Hive received $1 million from Concordia University, and sources 75% of its food locally. The Woodnote received $1.6 million from the City of Montreal, and took 90 units of student housing off the predatory market. SEIZE Concordia supported Divest Concordia in pushing the CSU to divest $10 million from fossil fuels, which led to Concordia following suit with $243 million thereby making Concordia the first university in Canada to divest. Establishing SEIZE Concordia as a fee-levy will ensure students have the tools and resources necessary to uphold this tradition of activism, organizing and collective entrepreneurship.

SEIZE Concordia will benefit all Concordia students with the services it will provide:

* Access to start up seed funding for collective entrepreneurs,
* 8-week fundamentals of the Solidarity Economy curriculums each semester,
* Monthly 101 workshops,
* Consultations for supporting new project ideas,
* Mentorship matching for Concordians to learn from experts,
* Well-paid Internship opportunities to gaining practical skills,
* Organizational trainings for existing Concordia groups

There will also be lasting institutional impacts as we shift Concordia’s food contracts, residences, bookstores, and other sectors into solidarity enterprises, meaning drastic reductions in costs and collective carbon footprints, as well as creating direct, permanent representation for students to govern these organizations. With your support, SEIZE Concordia can incubate the next economy.

**Question:**

*Do you as a member of the Concordia Student Union (CSU) agree to pay 29 cents per credit (indexed to inflation in accordance with the Consumer Price Index of Canada) effective winter 2022, towards the establishment of a solidarity economy incubator, that will primarily engage students through the support, development, study and promotion of democratic enterprises?*

*Note: Should this pass, this will cause a creation of a student fee charge of 0.87$ per 3-credit course. This charge can currently be opted out from.*

**Question 12: Sustainability Concordia**

**Preamble**:

Sustainability Concordia has existed since 2002, and since then, they have managed to contribute to and support so many amazing things. As they have continued to grow over the years, and as they continued to push their work and organizing efforts into more intersectional directions, they are now naturally in a place where they are coming to students, to ask for an increase of 7 cents per credit to help them continue to support a sustainable culture at Concordia (totalling $0.22 per credit).

More specifically, this increase in funding would go towards:

* Increased funding for their campaigns and workshops, which includes "Institutionalizing" Organizing Sustainability, one of their main programmes
* Increasing wages to provide a living wage to staff and external facilitator
* Providing funding to an increased commitment to bridging accessibility gaps
* Providing health insurance to their staff
* Increase funding for professional development for staff and board members
* Providing funding for PPE
* Providing funding to support working remotely

**Question**:

*Do you as an undergraduate student at Concordia approve of Sustainable Concordia’s fee-levy being increased by $0.07 per credit [bringing their fee-levy to $0.22 per credit, annually adjusted to the Consumer Price Index of Canada]? The fee would be effective starting with the 2022 winter semester, and completely refundable in accordance with Concordia University tuition and refund policy.*

*Note: Should this pass, this will cause a change in this student fee charge of 0.21$ per 3-credit course, meaning it will go from 0.45$ to 0.66$ per 3-credit course. This charge can currently be opted out from*

**Question 13: The Link**

**Preamble**:

THE LINK, Concordia University’s independent student-run media publication, has been in operation since 1980. It is currently supported by a fee levy that has not been changed since 2001. THE LINK is seeking a change in its fee levy to ensure that it can continue to fulfill its critical role in keeping students up-to-date on community life and holding the university’s administration and student representatives accountable; improve students’ access to equipment and learning opportunities in a multimedia landscape; enhance its diversity, equitability and inclusion to ensure it is an accessible and effective voice for students; and to account for inflation.

**Question:**

*Do you agree to increase THE LINK’s fee levy to $0.29 per credit (an increase of $0.10 per credit from $0.19 per credit), from all undergraduate students, annually adjusted to the Consumer Price Index of Canada, to be implemented with registration for the Winter 2022 (2214) term, in accordance with the University’s Tuition, Refunds and Withdrawal Policy?*

*Note: Should this pass, this will cause a change in this student fee charge of 0.30$ per 3-credit course, meaning it will go from 0.57$ to 0.87$ per 3-credit course. This charge can currently be opted out from.*