



**PREPARATION BOOKLET FOR THE APRIL 23rd AND 24th  
2016 ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR  
SOLIDARITY AMONG STUDENT UNIONS**

*April 18th Version*

**Place**

Conseil régional FTQ Québec et Chaudières-Appalaches  
5000 des Gradins Boul., Quebec City

**Time**

Call to order on Saturday April 23rd at 9:00 AM

**Participation costs**

15\$ (members) / 20\$ (non-members)

**Transportation**

Departure from Montreal at 6:00 PM (corner of Berri & Ste-Catherine)

Departure from Drummondville at 7:20 PM (125 St-Joseph Boul.)

Transportation fees: \$35

**Useful documents for the Congress (available at [www.asse-solidarite.qc.ca](http://www.asse-solidarite.qc.ca)) :**

- Bylaws

- Codes and procedures

- Minutes of the previous Congress (February 20th-21st 2016)

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# **AGENDA PROPOSAL**

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0. Call to order
1. Procedures
  - 1.1 Praesidium
  - 1.2. Motion to adopt the agenda
  - 1.2 Motion to adopt the minutes
2. Welcoming new members
3. Deliberation on notice of motion
4. Summary
5. Finances
6. Women
7. Elections
8. Action Plan
9. Demands
10. Submission of notice of motion
11. Varia
12. Adjournment

## REFLECTION TEXTS

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### DRUMMONDVILLE'S HAD ENOUGH

*(Submitted March 11th, 2016)*

We became activists in Drummondville. Some of us are still there, some are now in Montreal. Our activism began “in a region” and has continued or will certainly continue in an “urban center” since there isn’t a University where we live or used to live. We don’t care how you call these realities. “Urban center”, “large city”, “metropolitan city”, versus “region” or “association outside Montreal”, it doesn’t really matter to us. What does matter is that the way the debates surrounding montrealcentrism are taking place is very frustrating. We either vigorously deny it, push it aside, or manipulate it for our own political agenda. The reality is that montrealcentrism exists, and that it’s more insidious than you think and that it’s up to activists in the regions or from the regions to bring forth change and solutions. No need to speculate between people from Montreal. This text won’t present any solutions. This text isn’t here to make you feel good or to be appealing. This is the expression of an overload, and it aims to show you our reality. Maybe if you listened for once, you could understand.

Being an activist in a region means having an Executive isn’t always full, with lots of new people, with a mobilization committee that brings together exactly the same people (if they bother showing up), and the same goes for the rest of the committees. It means having to constantly struggle to have a full Executive and active committees while also having to think about who’s going to pick up the baton. Because when you do finally get someone to get involved, they’re often in their final year.

Being an activist in a region means to be perpetually informing the student population that their student association exists. It’s a permanent battle to show what your union is for. Before thinking about an action plan to join in a national campaign or to defend your members’ rights, you have to mobilize for your election GA, otherwise you won’t have an Executive Council and you can’t go forward. It means being confronted with students’ questions, contempt, disinterest and even disgust when you’re mobilizing. But we draw our motivation from the rare but relevant discussions with students we don’t know but who seem interested. It also means having to inform a student population of 2500 people when you’re a group of 5-10 people on a good day.

Being an activist in Montreal means Executives that are often full, where we can have discussions on how to best open it to more members. Open Executive? Executive by committees? Adjunct or deputy positions? All damn good ideas. We have to open democratic spaces, but when you have to bend over backwards just to have a full Executive, this debate isn’t quite as stimulating. It sounds much more theoretical than anything. It also means having diverse and active committees. Hey, at Maisonneuve, there are over 12 active organisms! That’s more active members than we had or currently have at Drummondville.

Being an activist in a region means that you need a car to meet the closest neighbouring student union because it's a 45 minute drive away. It means having to pay for gas to attend meetings. It means not really having any associations with whom we can share our realities because we're not in the same administrative region as the MASSE, our current regional council. The associations from the regional council we should be in are even further and have realities that our different from ours. It means knowing that, in the end, we're pretty isolated.

Being an activist in Montreal means being able to meet a phenomenal amount of other associations without even have to change public transport services. It means thinking that Marie-Victorin is too far to go and lend a hand because the metro doesn't reach it. It not only means having associations with similar realities nearby, but also the capacity of seeing them on a regular basis.

Being an activist in Montreal means being able to call a General Assembly one week after losing quorum because you know that activists from neighbouring associations can easily come over to lend a hand. That's just swell.

Being an activist in a region means knowing that ASSÉ, in the end, is far from you. Going to the office, even when you're on the national team, isn't easy. It means knowing that you're lucky if an instance takes place in your town, and that every other time it'll be in Montreal where you'll have to deal with sleeping on cold floors and driving back from Congress exhausted. I was only going back to Drummondville, never mind St-Félicien. We must never forget how impressive it is that they're there every time, and the level of dedication that requires. It means not being aware of all the national issues because you don't have the time to look into all the local, regional and national struggles while keeping your own association alive. When you arrive in Congress, you don't always understand everything very well, but you make do with what you have. Your delegation is smaller than other associations'. Sometimes you're even alone while others are stacked together in a group of ten with the observers they brought with them (that's more than our mobilization committee...). It's of course ideal that more people participate in the instance, but let's admit it, it's pretty intimidating. And it means that the bigger associations monopolize the speech turns. It simply isn't possible to take as many speech turns when you're alone in your delegation. And often when you're more than one, you're with newer activists who are still too shy to speak in Congress, shyness that's only reinforced by the way you ignore them or by the faces you make. We see you. So the same message is often repeated and your mandates aren't heard. Long live democracy. It means having to endure the Congress without taking breaks that are voted by the other associations, because the so-called debate is more important than your mental health, and having to be there the next morning, regardless of the time at which the Congress adjourned the previous day because you don't have a team to replace you. Finally, it means having to leave the place you call home so you can continue studying and organizing.

Being an activist in a region means arriving in Congress less prepared than the Montreal associations because we get less information and couldn't meet with the other unions from our region because of the distance, and often the realities of the nearby associations are very different from ours. It also means being looked down upon, especially when we're still in Cégep, by

associations having more experienced delegates or by associations having “a better reputation” in the national association or in the student movement. It also means not being listened to by other associations in Congress for some obscure reason. It means contempt, or being erased by these delegations. It means being spoken to in a paternalistic tone to make sure that we understand the realities of Montreal. No, we don’t know the Montreal realities, but not because they’re too complicated for small regional associations, but because no one tells us anything about what’s going on. And then we look soft because we stay in our corner and not get involved in these projects. We’re excluded and forgotten when things go well and when things go bad, we’re accused of not joining in.

Being an activist in a region means not having as many leftist groups around you, if there are any at all. Conflicts between extreme Left groups seem ridiculous to you. Maybe you don’t agree on self-management with the Maoist in your Cégep, but it’s only an individual debate. There aren’t as many protests, and when there is one, you can be sure you took an active part in it. It means not having any kind of counter-discourse in the media other than what comes out of the mouths of your comrades. It means accepting that Québec Solidaire is the farthest Left organization in your region. It means having to deal with the prejudices of people who are afraid of your association’s office because you’re not “normal” enough for these people.

Being an activist in Montreal means that there’s an effervescence of leftist and even radical leftist groups. When you finish unpacking your last box, when your Internet’s finally plugged in and you try to see which radical Left group is in your neighbourhood, you get a little dizzy. All this? You realize after a moment that for some reason, all of these groups barely work together at all and there’s tension between them. You at once start understanding the dynamics of the shadow politics. When you’re mobilizing in Montreal, you’re not starting from the same square. You don’t have to fight as hard against mass media. The Left succeeded in creating a counter-discourse, and although it’s weaker than we’d like, it still acts in your favour. And you can go further from there.

Being an activist in a region means being far from the “action” and the information. It means not having as many resources as in Montreal. It means willing to get informed and to learn on your own, but that the issues and realities are hard to reach. And also, resources are a lot fewer than if you were in Montreal. Realities are different, and the resources that could make a difference aren’t always there. We don’t have a big library where we can find the information that could deepen our understanding on a certain subject. We have few groups, if any, with whom we can identify and organize and get informed. Alternative media isn’t a part of our culture, and even if you do follow it, the “quality” information you may find is smothered by mass media. Of course we have access to Internet and all the information we can find there, but for that we need to know what to look for, and above all else you need the will to learn, which isn’t implanted in people’s lifestyles.

Being an activist in a region isn’t just negative however. It means knowing that we have a much bigger impact in our communities. A 50 person demo? It’s enough to paralyze the town and to get all the local media talking. It means having greater autonomy, it means being able to



develop our own reflections far from Montreal's sectarian conflicts. It also means getting to know just about everyone at your Cégep as you mobilize. It means truly feeling like a student community, even if some people will run away from you knowing that you're one of the people from the association. It means having a constant feedback from your student population. You've gone too far in your political positions or your mobilization? Don't worry, someone'll talk to you about it in class, at the gym or the cafeteria. It's grueling work, but oh so essential. It means being side by side with the same comrades day in and day out. It's not always easy, but at the end of the day, you become a family and these people help you through the rough patches. These friends will be there if you need them and you'll always be there for them.

And montrealcentrism in all this? It's when you don't bother to listen to criticism brought by associations on how we do things. It's when you don't see the importance of ASSÉ in the development of regions. It's when you completely ignore the participation and transportation costs when it comes to the dues increase. It's when you adopt a superior, even elitist attitude when it comes to smaller associations and when you think you have all the answers. It's when you come to the regions not to help, but to push your political agenda when we're not there yet, and spoil weeks of mobilization and then you have the gall to call us soft on your way out. It's when you hand out your pamphlets and put up your posters without even discussing it with the local association when we have no idea what your Spring 2015 is and we'd only like to know more. We could've been interested, but we simply didn't understand. It's thinking that the regions are going to follow a general strike campaign at the same rhythm without even being informed. It's blaming tourist activism when sometimes we genuinely ask for help, while you invite yourself over. It's not bothering to show up at a national demo in Quebec City but expecting eight buses from the regions to come to a demo in Montreal called a week in advance. It's simply thinking that your privileged reality comes before ours and that you know what's good for us better than we do. It's to transmit your reflections exclusively on platforms consulted by people in Montreal. If this is what you think, take two minutes to ask yourself if by combating domination dynamics that must be forever destroyed, you're not creating new ones. Finally, montrealcentrism is when you leave the region you started organizing in and you begin to forget where you came from and that there's a whole other something outside the metropolis.

We don't want your pity. We only ask that for once, you listen a little further than the Hochelaga archipelago. Where people also struggle every day with all their might for the same causes as you. In a different way, of course, and at their own pace, but still the same causes. We'd tell you that it's high time that we lend each other a hand and take up the struggle once more before it's too late.

Fridoline Bédard (AGECD)

Henrick Bendwell (ex AGECD)

Louis Paulhus (AGECD)

Kathy Teasdale (ex AGECD)

# RESIGNATION LETTERS

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## MARIE-ÈVE TREMBLAY-CLÉROUX'S LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM THE ASSÉ TRAINING COMMITTEE

*(Submitted February 23rd, 2016)*

Comrades and friends,

It's with regret and sadness that I announce my resignation from the Training Committee.

It was with a feeling of enthusiasm that I ran for the Training Committee last April in order to prepare the mobilization, and the strike, during the autumn against austerity. Yes, we were collectively exhausted from the spring, but I had hoped that we could start it all up again and build solidarity with the most mobilized workers.

This autumn was a failure. A failure that doesn't belong to the national team, but to ASSÉ's structural capacity to successfully build a social struggle. And consequently, on its capacity to question itself. Founded in 2001 by the few combative student associations in Quebec, ASSÉ has been a powerful vehicle in a struggle against the Quebecois State. In fact, before being a union aiming to defend the rights of the student population in Quebec, ASSÉ has been a space, an environment, capable of bringing together a radical left that is critical of the State and of Capital.

At least, that's the ASSÉ that I remember. But my return to ASSÉ Congresses last weekend confronted me with a harsh reality. Political tension, which can be a powerful vector for internal cohesion, now paralyzes our national organization because it can no longer be properly heard. In this context, I doubt that ASSÉ can still be a vehicle that can effectively fight against neoliberal policies. Of course, Congresses are no picnic. Of course, direct democracy can take time. This isn't the topic of my criticism.

I'm not resigning because of the tense political climate, or because of conflicts within the committee or the rest of the national team. I'm resigning because I don't believe that my energy is well invested in an organization whose practices no longer align with my values. In this context, I don't see how I can continue to be involved in the national team.

See you in the streets,

Love & Rage

Marie-Ève Tremblay-Cléroux

**JEAN-PHILIPPE GUAY-CLAUDE'S LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM  
THE ASSÉ RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
(RAAC)**

*(Submitted on February 28th, 2016)*

February 28th, 2016

To whom it may concern,

If I may introduce myself, my name is Jean-Philippe Guay-Claude, member of the RAAC since just under a year ago. I took part in several of the RAAC's projects over the year, but for different personal and political reasons I'm leaving the RAAC.

In short, I'm simply offering you my resignation from the RAAC. I believe in ASSÉ and I believe that we must begin preparing ourselves today for the upcoming struggles that the student movement will have to face. This is why I'm going to continue, if some associations ask me, to give conferences on the Demers and Roy-Tremblay reports with my colleagues from the RAAC.

Jean-Philippe Guay-Claude

# **BENJAMIN GINGRAS' LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM THE ASSÉ NEWSPAPER COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted on March 5th, 2016)*

Hello everyone,

It's with regret that I announce my resignation from the ASSÉ Newspaper committee.

As much as I would've loved to continue my involvement on the committee and contribute more directly to the realization of the upcoming editions of the Ultimatum, I find myself in a situation that renders that impossible. Actually, I've been attributed the translation contract at ASSÉ, and for deontological reasons, accumulating positions at ASSÉ is impossible. Therefore, I can't hold a position with executive responsibilities while being a paid employee.

I'm particularly pleased and proud of the quality of the Ultimatum. As much as our mandates were difficult in a tense and divided political context, I believe we've successfully produced information material that is mobilizing and that reflects the incredible wealth of knowledge of ASSÉ's members and of the Congress' political projects.

I would like to thank and congratulate my comrades on the Newspaper committee for their outstanding work. It was my sincere pleasure to work with you throughout the year. I would also like to thank all the people who contributed to the Ultimatum, be it by writing, editing, and especially by distributing.

I wish the very best of luck to those of you who will succeed us at the Newspaper committee in 2016-2017. Know that I remain available and interested in helping in whatever way you ask, as a collaborator.

To all members of ASSÉ, I wish you the very best in the upcoming struggles, and I hope you enjoy reading the new feminist edition of the Ultimatum!

Yours in solidarity,

Benjamin Gingras

Member of AFESH-UQAM

## **FÉLICIA ST-ARNAULT'S LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM THE ASSÉ WOMEN'S COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted on March 12th, 2016)*

Hello comrades,

I must unfortunately offer you my resignation from the ASSÉ Women's committee. For several reasons, both personal and political, but also for lack of time. Having to pay rent means having to work long hours, and the constant traveling to Montreal and its surrounding areas make it all very difficult. Also, the hateful climate conveyed by some associations in Montreal make working in the national team not only painful, but invisible and minimized.

Solidarity with all who are involved in ASSÉ, I'm sorry to leave you like this and I realize that this can seem selfish on my part, but having to manage associations going through their adolescent crises is beyond me and I'd rather deal with my own first.

I'd like to state however that with the Women's Congress fast approaching, I remain available for logistical support, or any other kind of help. In short, I'm not abandoning you.

I'd like to offer special thanks to Raffaella Abbate and Laura Martin who at every moment give their entire selves; you're the best.

In solidarity,

Félicia St-Arnault

## **ÉMILE SEPTEMBRE'S LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM THE ASSÉ MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted on March 29th, 2016)*

I hereby offer my resignation from the ASSÉ mobilization committee.

In solidarity,

Émile Septembre

# CANDIDACY LETTERS

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## MATHIEU NOËL BROUILLETTE'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE POSITION OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS SECRETARY

*(Submitted March 27th, 2016)*

Friends and comrades,

The time has come for me to submit to you my candidacy for the position of ASSÉ Internal Affairs Secretary.

My name is Mathieu Noël Brouillette and I'd to become, should the Congress accept, one of the three ASSÉ Internal Affairs Secretaries. The reason is quite simple, I take this organization to heart and I believe I can help maintain a strong and cordial relationship between the national team and the local associations. For the rest, please refer yourselves to the praises I make for mobilization in the following paragraph.

Regarding my activist experience, I was involved with the IWW primarily in the organization of events and of information campaigns. I then briefly returned to school. It's actually thanks to my unquenchable thirst for knowledge that I had the chance to meet wonderful people at SOGÉÉCOM (they're the ones who taught me everything). Hence, I became Mobilization Deputy and then Mobilization Delegate on the Executive, where I fine-tuned this magnificent practice, the backbone of combative unionism as an American politician would say; to get out of the office and talk to people, or in other words, mobilizing. It's worth mentioning that I enjoyed my experience as a local "mobber" so much that I ran for the ASSÉ Mobilization Committee. I had the chance to develop my skills in mobilization even further from tour to tour.

So in short, I believe I'm a fairly affable, friendly, and easy to talk to person. If ever you have any questions, I'm entirely at your disposal to answer them.

In solidarity,

Mathieu Noël Brouillette

# ÉLISABETH BÉFORT-DOUCET'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE POSITION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS SECRETARY

*(Submitted March 29th, 2016)*

Comrades,

With this letter, I hereby submit my candidacy for ASSÉ's Secretary of Academic Affairs. I am currently a undergraduate student in anthropology at the University of Montreal.

I began my involvement at SOGÉÉCOM (Collège de Maisonneuve) where I held the position of Assistant to Internal Affairs and helped the local Mobilization Committee. This activist association to which I owe my first contact with the student movement also served as a vehicle towards my national involvement. During the summer following the completion of my college degree, I was in contact with several people who were on the national team to become familiar with the different instances. During the congress held in September 2015, I was elected on the ad hoc Maintenance and Strike Enlargement committee and in the following congress on the Mobilization Committee: the migration from an ad hoc committee to another committee was to ensure, to quote my personal statement on my election "that my work with ASSÉ would become permanent." I am doing mobilization work on this committee since my election; I wish to thank my colleagues with whom I have worked that have taught me so much. I was present at every instance of ASSÉ that I could attend, have followed up with several members of student associations and done mobilization tours, as my mandate indicated.

My involvement today leads me elsewhere. I applaud the work of the Committee for Research and Academic Affairs that has tickled my interest towards this other type of activism: a field, say, more theoretical than practical. I also had the chance to attend one of their meetings to better understand the inner working dynamics.

Reading government reports, pillars of state decisions affecting the educational system, is essential to create a solid argumentative pitch; we must first know our enemy before we fight it. An in-depth thinking is essential : again and again ASSÉ's plea against the commercialization of education is questioned. We need strong and clear demands to deal with these attempts of the public sphere to delegitimize our struggle. The Committee for

Research and Academic Affairs still produces this necessary work tirelessly, like the rest of the committees and the national team who also remain highly invested in their mandates.

Thus, I want to get involved at the executive level to provide support to the national team that is currently working with minimal staff. Field work is as vital as academic work; I would, occupying this position, merge both and lend a hand to internal and external challenges to education. I believe in the militant organization that is ASSÉ. Its existence as a vector of politicization through the transmission of information is essential. Our national association claims to use fighting unionism as a method of combat; in this method, the first essential step is,

evidently, communication!

Whereas official community support is no longer required, I remain available by email if ever an explanation or clarification is needed, and could attend your instances if desired.

Feministly yours,

Élisabeth Béfort-Doucet. [elisabeth.befort-doucet@hotmail.fr](mailto:elisabeth.befort-doucet@hotmail.fr)



# CLAUDIA CACHAY-OSORIO'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE POSITION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS SECRETARY

*(Submitted on March 30th, 2016)*

*“Dreams and reality are opposites. Action synthesizes them.”*

Assata Shakur

Comrades,

It must be recognized that 2015 wasn't an easy year. Two strike movements left us reeling with uncertainty, tension, repression, and exhaustion. Little good appears to have come from the austerity campaigns we held at ASSÉ.

However, I think it's important to underscore its formative aspect. For me, and for many other students, the struggle against austerity was like activism school. It meant learning to do one-on-one mobilization, to design GA leaflets, and to make banners with whatever we had at an arm's length. It meant overcoming my shyness and speaking up during meetings, during classroom announcements, in assemblies, and to realize that I was at least as relevant as my male comrades. It meant many things, but above all else, it meant realizing all the work that's behind every “Be it therefore resolved” adopted in GA. To transform the principles voted in Congress into local realities is a politicization effort that doesn't stop after the high seasons of mobilization.

This is what drives me to believe that despite the important reflections we must have about our recent campaigns, it's also time to roll up our sleeves and get back to work, because the economic elites and the State won't wait. Modulating University tuition fees, adapting education to private sector interests, deteriorating working conditions in education... but seeing activists mount pressure against ancillary fee increases, protesting against military recruitment on their campuses, or keeping their associations' head over water despite demobilization, I'm confident that we can overcome. It's with this will to support these incessant efforts that I hereby submit my candidacy as ASSÉ Coordination Secretary.

If I may introduce myself, I was an activist at SOGÉÉCOM, Collège de Maisonneuve's union, for about a year and a half. I first got involved with the Women and LGBTQ Committee, then the Mobilization Committee and the Executive as Coordinator. I took a break from full-time studies at my beloved Cégep during the winter of 2015. That brought me to run for the elected team at ASSÉ, first as Secretary-General of Central Council, and then this year on the Social Struggles Committee and the position of Secretary-General of the Coordination Council. Regarding next year, I'll once again be in Cégep in social sciences during the fall and I'll begin my studies in Sociology at UQAM the following semester.

I'll be transparent. One of the main reasons why I'm running is to coordinate the application of ASSÉ's feminist mandates so that they be held up by the whole organization, and

not just the Women's Committee. ASSÉ is a feminist union and that must mean more than just a simple principle in our Bylaws, but rather a constant power relationship with the men in our society and in our political organizations. Too often are they the ones who take up the valued tasks and forget the minutes-keeping or doing the dishes, as if they were done by magic. Too often are they the ones who confidently speak up, while we're taught that our place is in the private spaces, in silence. A flagrant example was during the recent Women's Congress, where for the first time I saw the vast majority of attending delegations take speech turns. Solidarity, to me, means reminding ourselves that our struggle isn't only about white men. We therefore have to ask ourselves, why are they always at center stage?

Finally, here are a few ideas that I have for my mandate:

- Formalizing the ASSÉ national team's training, primarily through workshops and transition documents that are available to everyone.
- Putting in place feminist squads during instances, which would intervene in the case of problematic situations and to ensure that the instances remain a safe space.
- Continue sending the Executive Council's monthly report, and include a section on the financial situation, and make sure that the Committees also send out summaries of their activities.

I encourage you to contact me should you have any questions or comments, or to invite me in your own instances to discuss my candidacy.

In solidarity,

Claudia Cachay-Osorio

# **HENRICK BENDWELL'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE POSITION OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS SECRETARY**

*(Submitted on April 1st, 2016)*

Comrades,

It's with both joy and apprehension that I announce my candidacy for the position of Internal Affairs Secretary.

With apprehension, because we must stare reality in the face. The internal situation at ASSÉ isn't at all rosy and the Secretaries elected this year will have their work cut out for them. With the current tension between member associations, the criticism of the national team and the Orientation Congress to organize, we'll also have to renew, collectively, the mobilization effort that's been slowed down after two attempts at a general strike that didn't have the expected success. With apprehension also because, even if my mind and motivation are set, my personal situation is difficult at this time and I don't know if I'll have the ability to meet the upcoming challenges while remaining intact.

On the other hand, I'm running with joy, because I believe in ASSÉ. I see ASSÉ as a vehicle for struggle and for developing political awareness and that is essential to the student radical left in Quebec, and the thought of giving back to it brings a smile to my face. The scope of the task is imposing, but it's also stimulating.

My activism began in Drummondville where I was principally External Affairs Coordinator, but also natural sciences representative (before realizing that that position was more for organizing parties than politics), and also Information Coordinator before realizing that my inaptitude with computers and my visual disability limited my capacity to create pamphlets and posters. My experience in Drummondville taught me the fundamentals of activism, of organizing protests, of preparing for Congresses and for doing one-on-one mobilization. It also taught me the importance of the national team whose support allowed us to vote a one-day strike on April 2nd 2015, a first since 2012.

I was then elected to the national team on the Social Struggles Committee. My experience on the committee was rather lukewarm. On one hand, the team we were was certainly pleasant and certain comrades are now my close friends. On the other hand, it made me realize several things. If I initially wanted to be a part of the Social Struggles Committee, it's because that's the role that seemed closest to my former position as External, for which I had a particular affection. What I realized during my term was that the people I liked meeting as External was first and foremost you, the members. I know that may sound cheesy, but it's true.

For this reason and thanks to an extremely flexible schedule, I became involved with the Strike Maintenance and Enlargement Committee during the fall. Even if we didn't end up maintaining or enlarging anything, my experiences during different tours were particularly

positive. I really fell in love with helping local associations in many ways: praesidium, mobilization, handing out newspapers, helping organize, etc. I also got to meet new activists who don't necessarily come to Congress and whose contributions are often forgotten. It's this experience that brings me to run for Internal rather than External Affairs Secretary, which is a more logical step from the Social Struggles Committee to the Executive.

Finally, here I am at SOGÉÉCOM where I'm not as heavily involved due to the fact that I'm not elected here and that the mobilization has since slowed down. I'm also tending to my own wounds and am attempting to restore my finances in order to start my term in such a way as to be able to give more time to the organization. Nonetheless, I'm involved with the FRAC-Maisonneuve and with the Mobilization Committee, depending on my availabilities and well-being.

Finally, in order to give you an idea of what kind of person I am, here's a little sample of the projects that motivate my candidacy:

- Better accessibility for people with disabilities in ASSÉ instances and events.
- Alternative spaces for care, outside of bars and of intoxication culture during Congresses and training camps.
- Better inter-association communication, without necessarily going through the national level, in order to better understand the different local realities.
- Restructuring the national team's work so that it may become more organic, and decentralizing the Executive Council's information towards the rest of the national team.
- Organizing a populous and relevant Orientation Congress, whose reflections will bring real change to ASSÉ.
- Working to demontrealize the national level's work.

If you have any questions regarding my candidacy, I strongly invite you to contact me before the Congress. It'll be my pleasure to answer your questions and talk with you.

In solidarity,

Henrick Bendwell

# **ROSALIE ROSE'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE POSITION OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS SECRETARY**

*(Submitted on April 1st, 2016)*

Hello comrades,

By the following letter, I announce my candidacy for the position of ASSÉ External Relations Secretary. I'm currently a student in Cultural Animation and Research at UQAM, in my second year. Activist involvement has been at the heart of my preoccupations for several years now, and it's with the objective of continuing in that vein that I'm now submitting my candidacy for 2016-2017.

Like for many others, 2012 was the beginning of my active involvement. Then, at the beginning of my University Studies, I took part in the AFÉA Mobilization Committee, while studying Theatre. My activist involvement took a different turn when I took part in several mobilization tours in Cégeps and Universities, being informally involved in the austerity campaign led by ASSÉ. Meanwhile, following my admission to the program I'm currently studying in, I also informally participated in the mobilization at AFELC until my election this year as AFELC's External Affairs Secretary.

It's in 2014 that I decided to get formally involved with ASSÉ. First, on the Training Committee, where we were mandated to organize training camps throughout the year. Then, in 2015, I was elected as an interim member of the Social Struggles Committee. Therefore, being part of the national team as External Relations Secretary would allow me to participate in maintaining the relationships ASSÉ has with community organizations and the labour movement. For me, it's simply the next logical step, considering my current involvement in the Social Struggles Committee. It's necessary to unite struggles on different levels: feminism, anti-racism, discrimination, environmentalism, LGBT struggles, and many more.

In solidarity,

Rosalie Rose

# CHARLES BESNER'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE TRAINING COMMITTEE

*(Submitted on March 5th, 2016)*

Greetings everyone,

By this letter, I submit my second candidacy for the formation committee of ASSÉ. I began my involvement in the student movement in AÉCS (Cégep of Sherbrooke) during fall 2012 where I occupied diverse responsibilities, notably as responsible for external affairs and represent to the Commission of college studies. I will also pursue my college course in organic farming techniques at the Cégep of Victoriaville next year.

I keep similar motivations to involve in the national team than the previous year. Firstly, it appears important to my eyes that the regional activist base invest ASSÉ's structures, and this, for the sake of representation and belonging. Secondly, the formation committee's democratization function of the practices and militant culture concord with the role I would like to play in the organization.

In that sense, I also retain the project to build a formative bank and trainers for the next school year, and this, to facilitate access to various workshops on local campus, which will complement the traditional formation camps. I am confident of being able to translate adequately in actions the orientation that will take the congress.

Do not forget what brings us together, otherwise it will be necessary to learn it again.

Cordially,

*Charles Besner*

# MARION MILLER'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE TRAINING COMMITTEE

*(Submitted April 20th, 2016)*

Hello all,

I am presenting my candidacy for the Training Committee for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Originally from Nova Scotia, I spent my youth picketing ex-Minister Peter MacKay's office before moving to Montreal in 2009 to pursue my studies at Cégep Saint-Laurent where I was involved in the mobilization activities leading up to the 2012 strike. While I was not a student during the 2011-2012 year, I continued to lend a hand at St-lo while implicating myself more largely throughout Montreal among other things in the strike choir and gumboot collective.

During the 2012-2013 school year, I co-founded the first student association functioning with direct democracy in New Brunswick, at the New Brunswick College of Craft and Design. After starting my studies in Fine Arts at Concordia in the fall of 2013, I became implicated in mobilization activities at FASA, especially in the ASSÉ affiliation campaign of 2013-2014 and the strike of 2015.

Yet another example of the different realities between the Anglophone and Francophone activist circles is the very different way we do training and the sharing of mobilization tactics and strategies. I hope to bring some of my experiences from the Concordia milieu to the Training committee as well as my pedagogical knowledge from my studies in Art Education to propose a variety of workshop styles and approaches that address diverse learning styles.

Unfortunately, I will only be coming up to the Annual Congress as of Saturday night, so do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions,

In solidarity,

# **DANIEL BÉLANGER'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE LEGAL COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted on April 5th, 2016)*

Hello comrades,

By the following, I hereby announce my candidacy for the ASSÉ Legal Committee.

As a Law student at UQAM, I'd be happy to share and deepen my knowledge of the judiciary system, and to lend support to those who face the State's repressive apparatus for having gotten socially involved.

My involvement in the student movement began during the Great Strike of 2012, during which I, with a handful of comrades, built a mobilization committee at Cégep Gérald-Godin. In a few weeks, we succeeded in interesting and in raising awareness of the importance of the movement among many students, in an environment that has been historically skittish with regards to mass mobilizations. I'm currently involved in the transitory Executive Committee of AFESPED as Treasurer.

Although my experience with ASSÉ has been rather minimal, I believe in this organization, and I'm convinced that it constitutes a necessary organ in the defense of the student community's rights and interests. Should I be elected, I'd be honoured to defend its principles of direct democracy, solidarity, and combativeness.

Yours truly, Daniel Bélanger



# **OLIVIER VÉZINA'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE LEGAL COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted on April 5th, 2016)*

Hello,

With the following letter, I submit my candidacy for election on the ASSÉ Legal Committee.

I'm currently a first-year undergraduate student in Law at UQAM; studies which I will pursue next year.

My activist experience is mostly derived from the student movement and from the right to housing movement, often referred to as the "Community movement".

I now wish to offer my theoretical and practical knowledge in service to the Legal Committee.

In solidarity,

Olivier Vézina

# EMMANUELLE ARCAND'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE LEGAL COMMITTEE

*(Submitted on April 6th, 2016)*

Good evening comrades,

By the following, I wish to submit my candidacy for the Legal Committee.

I'm currently in my first year in Law at UQAM. I'll be pursuing these studies in the fall.

I started getting involved in the student movement in the fall of 2012, at Collège de Valleyfield. With other comrades, we founded a Women's Committee. That's what motivated me to run for the ASSÉ Women's Committee in 2013-2014. Afterwards, I was elected to the position of ASSÉ External Affairs Secretary in 2014-2015. That year, we can all agree, was anything but easy. I pretty much withdrew from the student movement for this year, in order to renew my energy and my motivation. I now feel ready to get my hands busy again by running for the Legal Committee.

We're in a heavily criminalized movement and our legal system is inaccessible. It's important that activists have access to legal resources, and I believe the Legal Committee is one of them. This is notably what motivates me to get involved. Furthermore, I'm motivated by the idea to accomplish different projects, such as conferences and workshops.

Don't hesitate to write me if you have any questions.

In solidarity,

Emmanuelle Arcand, member of AED

## **RAFIK BENTABEL'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE LEGAL COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 14th, 2016)*

Hello comrades,

The following aims to submit my candidacy for the ASSÉ Legal Committee.

I'm currently studying Law at UQAM and it'd be my pleasure to share and deepen my knowledge of the judiciary system. I therefore wish to offer my time and knowledge in order to support those who, within our organization, have been criminalized for their social involvement.

My involvement in student politics began in 2014-2015, where I held the position of External Affairs Delegate at Cégep de Maisonneuve. I have to admit it was a pretty busy year, especially with Spring 2015 and the back-to-back Congresses, Maisonneuve's Occup'Toute, the "Jihad crisis" and its lot of journalists, as well as the essential roles of a student association executive.

During my year at SOGÉÉCOM, I've become familiar with ASSÉ's structures and with the essential role that the committees play. Finally, I've spent last year as coordinator for the ASSÉ Montreal Regional Council, where I participated in drafting a new set of Bylaws.

I'm of course at your disposal should you have any questions.

In solidarity,

Rafik Bentabbel

# **CHARLES CARRIER-PLANTE'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE LEGAL COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 20th, 2016)*

The following is to announce my intention to pursue my recently-begun involvement in the ASSÉ Legal Committee. Over the previous weeks, I've had the opportunity to participate in the Committee's efforts and familiarize myself with its ways of doing things and with the ongoing cases.

Over the past few years, many people have had to answer for their political involvement in the Courts. Since 2011, more than 7000 criminal charges and tickets have been issued for protests. In this context, lending support and accompanying criminalized people has become an essential part in the political struggle between the student movement and the institutional powers.

Regarding the repression of protests, the likely adaptation of police forces to a recent decision by the Superior Court as well as the results of four ongoing trials, initiated after the issuing of tickets under article 6 of municipal bylaw P6, will require our sustained attention over the coming months.

I believe I have the required skills and necessary motivation in order to assist the Legal Committee in its objective of supporting arrested activists, in collaboration with anyone interested in participating in the struggle against the criminalization of activists.

Cordially,

Charles Carrier-Plante

Sociology, UQAM

# **ALEXANDRE B. ROMANO'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE LEGAL COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 20th, 2016)*

To whom it may concern,

I'd like to submit my candidacy for the ASSÉ Legal Committee for 2016-2017.

I'm currently doing doctoral studies in Philosophy at UQAM, where I've also done my Master's and undergrad in Philosophy. However, I'll be starting a Bachelor's in Law in September at Université de Montréal.

During my University studies, I've been involved in the Philosophy departmental student associations, during my undergraduate (ASSOPHIA) and graduate studies (AEEAP-UQAM). At the time, I was primarily interested in academic affairs and I worked so as to represent students' opinions in the Program Committee as well as the Master's Program Self-evaluation Committee.

I would now like to get involved with the Legal Committee. Having been arrested during the strike in 2012, I greatly benefited from the help from those who were involved. I feel like it's my turn to help.

Unfortunately, for professional reasons, I won't be present during the elections in Quebec City on April 24th.

Cordially,

Alexandre B. Romano

## **JIMENA ARAGON'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE ASSÉ MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 10th, 2016)*

Dear members of the Executive Council, dear members of ASSÉ:

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Jimena Aragon and I'm currently a second-year undergraduate student in International Studies and Modern Languages (ABEILL) at Université Laval.

Today, I submit my candidacy as a member of the ASSÉ Mobilization Committee for the coming year.

During my Cégep and University studies, I've had the opportunity to get involved in student associations at different levels, which allowed me to acquire the necessary skills to accomplish my mandate on the ASSÉ Mobilization Committee. While in Cégep, I've had the chance to be my DEC's representative as well as associate editor-in-chief of our student newspaper. When my Cégep's association disaffiliated from FECQ, I decided to attend ASSÉ Congresses as an observer so I could learn more about it. From that moment on, I've been wanting to get involved in this feminist association that defends the interests of thousands of students across Quebec. I've always been someone who loved getting involved. I've also been on the coordinating committee of Quebec Solidaire in Trois-Rivières and member of the Trois-Rivières Solidarity Committee, where our role was to promote fair trade among the population. Currently, I'm starting a term as Finance Coordinator of ABEILL.

I believe I have the necessary experience in order to be able to coordinate mobilization teams and to ensure that local and regional action plans are established. What motivates me in submitting my candidacy is knowing that I'll have the opportunity to make a difference. By helping member associations across Quebec mobilize, we'll be able to better defend our common interests. I believe I have the necessary organization skills and determination in order to help both regional and metropolitan associations mobilize. Obviously, like all of us, I'm not perfect and still have a lot to learn on combative unionism. But despite this, I'm not worried because ASSÉ is a space where we can learn and where we help each other.

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, I'm very anxious to work with all of you.

Cordially,

Jimena Aragon,

[jimena.jra@gmail.com](mailto:jimena.jra@gmail.com)

# MATHIEU DESMARAIS' CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE

*(Submitted April 20th, 2016)*

Hello to those who will read this,

This letter is to inform you that I wish to mobilize all over Quebec next year! (I'm running for the ASSÉ Mobilization Committee).

Country boy that I am, I was actively involved in my student association (AGEEM) for two years. I arrived at a time when there was only one person on the Executive. We had to start from nothing, which allowed us to gain a lot of experience in how to run a Cégep student union. We had to work very hard from the get go in order to mobilize a student population that wasn't even aware of our existence. As I continued on this path, I discovered a love for one on one mobilizing. This love pushed me to run for this crazy committee! So, I think I can contribute by rallying a truckload of people for revolution, and/or for a General Assembly.

This fall I'll be starting a bachelor's degree in Physics at Université de Montréal. Unfortunately, the departmental or faculty associations aren't part of ASSÉ. However, I don't want to leave you! Since Physics is mostly just a whole lot of logic, I believe I have the time to help mobilize wherever the wind should take me.

It's with the desire of a fresh and active ASSÉ that I wish to join this committee. Because like we say "We have to give ourselves the means for our goals" or something like that ;)

Wishing you a wonderful evening or day!

As Nietzsche said "A state, is called the coldest of all cold monsters. Coldly lieth also; and this lie creepeth from its mouth: "I, the state, am the people."

Think about it, comrades!

Mathieu Desmarais

Cégep de Mont-Laurier

# **LOUIS PAULHUS' CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 20th, 2016)*

Hello comrades,

By the following, I wish to submit my candidacy to the ASSÉ Mobilization Committee.

My interest for the student movement began on March 22nd 2012, when I saw, sitting in my living room, hundreds of thousands of people in the streets of Montreal. I then realized the sheer scale of the social movement that was unfolding at that time and I took an interest in the struggle for access to education, which concerned me since I was in secondary 4. It however took a year at Cégep de Drummondville before I started getting involved in my student association. Participating in my first strike GA was the mobilizing moment that rekindled my interest in getting involved, which I had lost during my final year of high school and first year of Cégep. I then began participating in events organized by AGECD and started getting involved with the Mobilization Committee. Following that path, I ran for the position on the Executive Council as Mobilization Coordinator, which I've been occupying since September of 2015.

My term on AGECD's Executive meant having to learn from the get go. I learned a lot, namely the bases of mobilization, direct democracy and solidarity, but during this past year, I mostly learned about myself. For one of the first times in my life, I love and know what I want to do.

This long path has brought me to run for the ASSÉ national team because I've also learned to know you and I want to remain by your side. I want to give back to the student union that's given me so much, both through the people I've met and the new concepts that I've learned. I'm running for the Mobilization Committee, because I want to visit the different campuses and offer my help to activists in their local association. Mobilization tours will also allow me to observe and learn about different ways of organizing, but especially about your associations' different regional realities, which is fundamental. And finally, what motivates me most, is the opportunity to meet you and work with you. I therefore enthusiastically wish to become a member of the ASSÉ Mobilization Committee.

Wishing you an excellent day,

Louis Paulhus

Member of AGECD (Association générale étudiante du Cégep de Drummondville)

PS: I've also recently learned what montrealcentrism is, and I don't really like it...



# KYRYL NYEMTSEV'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE

*(Submitted April 20th, 2016)*

Friends and comrades,

By the following letter, I wish to inform you that I'm submitting my candidacy for the Mobilization Committee.

My name is Kyryl Nyemtsev and I'm currently AGEBdeB (Bois-de-Boulogne)'s External Affairs Secretary. It was in that association that I began my activism in late 2014, and that's where I understood the importance of mobilization in student struggles (and, in fact, all forms of political and social struggle).

It's important to know that Bois-de-Boulogne's not a traditionally activist Cégep and that, consequently, even relatively modest victories are fought hard for. By being involved with AGEBdeB, I've taken part in very successful mobilization campaigns (including when the local Mobilization Committee succeeded in voting a one-day strike for the national demo on November 5th with a strong majority, despite the local Executive's opposition to the strike), as well very unsuccessful ones (for example, a referendum to decide if AGEBdeB... would be on strike for the demo on April 2nd, 2015).

During these campaigns, we've received help from ASSÉ activists on several occasions, and it's been valuable. My experience in an environment in which mobilization is difficult has allowed me to understand at what point activists in a local association can need their national association's help. That being said, I'm also very well aware of the national level's limited resources (regarding activists, money, and time). Consequently, I want to lend my support my getting involved in the Mobilization Committee and therefore help build, in my own way, a strong and democratic student movement, one that is connected to the actual student population, and that is able to defend both its immediate interests as well as social progress in a broader sense.

I'm particularly interested in getting involved in this Committee because this is my last semester in Cégep, and consequently, my last term at AGEBdeB. I therefore won't be a part of a student association that is affiliated to ASSÉ next semester. Nonetheless, I wish to continue being involved, and in the current state of affairs, this national student union remains is still the one spearheading the student movement.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at Congress. In solidarity,

K. Nyemtsev,

External Affairs Secretary, AGEBdeB

# **OLIVIER GAUDREAU-LACASSE'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 20th, 2016)*

Hello everyone,

This short letter is to announce my candidacy for the ASSÉ Mobilization Committee.

I've always been interested in politics which is what brought me to get involved in AGEEM [Mont-Laurier]. At first, we had only very little information from our predecessors. We had to start mobilizing from the very beginning. Since then, we've succeeded in reaching quorum at all but one of our GA's, we've implemented different committees (radio, party, social/cultural), and created and participated in various events. For example, we organized a conference on austerity, where 20% of our student population participated, which only amounts to about 60 students, but it's thanks to mobilization that we've been able to accomplish all these events and committees. So I'm running for the ASSÉ Mobilization Committee because I believe I have the right skillset.

I'll be starting a Bachelor's in Sociology at UQAM next year, so I'll be living in Montreal. Therefore, I'll be available to fully invest myself in my new responsibilities.

Finally, I wish to get involved because I believe in this movement and the values it promotes with any fibre of my being. I wish to help defeat adversity and gnaw at the silent majority until it becomes a minority, or at least until the end of my term!

PS: I'm sorry I can't attend Congress, I'm going to a play Saturday night and Mont-Laurier's kind of far.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me, I'm very active on my cell phone.  
819-660-0590

Good day to all of you!

Olivier Gaudreau-Lacasse

## LÉNY PAINCHAUD'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE

*(Submitted April 20th, 2016)*

Hello comrades,

By the following, I wish to submit my candidacy for a new term on the ASSÉ Mobilization Committee.

I've had the opportunity over the year to mobilize on several occasions in Cégep de Drummondville, in St-Félicien, Alma, and Université Laval. I just finished my first year in Modern Languages and International Studies (ABEILL). I've finally had the chance to get involved in an association affiliated to ASSÉ and this school year ended on a high note with the successful affiliation referendum at Collège d'Alma!

My motivations for joining the ASSÉ Mobilization Committee?

I wish to continue giving time and energy to the mob committee because I believe that mobilization, promotion raising awareness, almost even conversion, are things that we must constantly do and redo in spaces as rapidly changing as ours. I believe the only way to turn a student, lobotomized by television, into a comrade is by multiplying opportunities to discuss and communicate with them. I believe in diversity of tactics, in combative unionism and in solidarity among struggles in order for ASSÉ's and other groups' demands against austerity to be more visible.

If and when I'm elected, I pledge to be accountable to ASSÉ's members, and to offer my best qualities, which are patience and a very good mood, for mobilizing, building a common front and reaching those who for whatever reason aren't fully aware of how austerity is an annihilating force.

Yours in solidarity,

Lény Painchaud

# **ISABELLE LE BOURDAIS' CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE ASSÉ RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 13th, 2016)*

To whom it may concern,

I hereby announce my intention to join the Research and Academic Affairs Committee (RAAC).

I've had the opportunity to get involved in my departmental association (AEMSP-UQAM), which allowed me to appreciate the importance of research in activism's daily life. When the student movement has a deep understanding of the issues that concern it, it's inevitably better armed. It's therefore in the aim of contributing to this research effort that I wish to join the RAAC.

I'm currently in my second year in the undergraduate program in Political Science. My taste for political thought has however brought me towards the more theoretical aspects. This inclination can, I fear, lead me away from action (which is ironic considering my passion for Arendt).

Quite candidly, I wish to reconcile political action with the more reflective aspects of activism by joining the committee, in order to help the other members as best as I can.

Wishing you all an excessively good day,

In solidarity,

Isabelle Le Bourdais

# **BILLY SAVOIE'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE ASSÉ RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 17th, 2016)*

Hello everyone!

I'm submitting to you my candidacy letter for the Research and Academic Affairs Committee.

My name is Billy Savoie. I'm currently completing my studies in Social Sciences at Cégep de St-Félicien, in the heart of the Lac-St-Jean region. My passion for activism has its roots in the period surrounding the spring of 2015, during which we undertook a mobilization campaign with the aim of combating austerity through a strike. Since then, I can difficultly imagine my life without being part of this struggle.

One thing I've noticed at St-Félicien is how we've been able to develop an activist culture over the past years. At what point ASSÉ, without being paternalistic, helped us appropriate our local struggles. It's what I love most about ASSÉ; its enormous potential for union solidarity and radicalization, even if it's sometimes hard for some associations to remember that now.

As an activist from Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean, I can bring a regional perspective to ASSÉ. I know what it is to organize in a region, and I understand the dynamics it involves; having fewer activists, fewer material and intellectual resources, more hours of transportation, but also the feeling of community, of being close to the student population and being able to block an entire town's traffic with only fifty people.

Also, if my mandates allow it, I'd like to one day theorize montrealcentrism, which is a problem that is often neglected and even ignored in our organization. However, if we want to undertake effective national struggles once more, we inevitably have to recognize and eliminate this domination dynamic.

Since I'll be studying Political Science at Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (UQAC) next year, the several hundred kilometers separating me from the urban centers will make my involvement a bit more complicated. That's why I decided to run for the RAAC, where most of the work can be done from a distance. I nonetheless consider my candidacy to be a challenge for inclusivity within the ASSÉ national team.

Please note that I'll be at the Annual Congress should you want to ask me questions.

In solidarity,

Billy Savoie

# **KATHY TEASDALE'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE ASSÉ RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 17th, 2016)*

Comrades

By the following, I submit my candidacy for the ASSÉ Research and Academic Affairs Committee.

My first contact with activist spaces was in the fall of 2014 during the ABC's of feminism workshop that took place during AGECD's first read-in. In 2014-2015, my involvement was limited to participating in actions organized by my local association as well as 1 on 1 mobilizing in my own circles. My involvement in the student movement really took off when I arrived in Montreal, when I got involved with the Mobilization and Feminist committees at SECMV. I decided to join the ASSÉ Research and Academic Affairs Committee at the end of October in order to satisfy my intellectual curiosity and growing desire to document different struggles, which my involvement at the local level offer me.

Currently, I'm a student at Collège de Maisonneuve where I coordinate the SOGÉÉCOM Women's Committee's activities, and I've been occupying the position of Feminist Affairs Delegate since its creation a couple of weeks ago.

The Research and Academic Affairs Committee particularly interests me because I believe that research at ASSÉ is at the heart of having strong, well developed arguments. It's of vital importance in order to take position and to have our opinions heard that we have a deep understanding of the issue we're debating. Also, it's a matter of giving ourselves the means to better inform the student population by appropriating data and by basing ourselves on facts rather than the superficial content of mere premises. I know that this isn't a small task, but I have the necessary motivation.

Here is a short list of my motivations and of the objectives that have brought me to run for this committee:

- Including a feminist and intersectional analysis as well as considering students with disabilities in the RAAC's publications;
- Collaborating with the ASSÉ Women's Committee for researching and writing a document on rape culture as well as other projects;
- Developing new workshops for training camps;
- Improving access to distribution of the committee's publications so that its discourse and information may be appropriated by local activists.

In solidarity,

Kathy Teasdale

## **JEAN-PHILIPPE COLLINS-HOUE'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE ASSÉ RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 20th, 2016)*

Hello everyone!

My name is Jean-Philippe Collins-Houde and I wish to join the Research and Academic Affairs Committee. My finals are forcing me to write a short letter, but my motivation and interest remain unaffected by the threat of missing deadlines. My involvement began at Cégep de Drummondville. I then spent a year at Université de Montréal before starting in International Studies and Modern Languages at Université Laval, where I recently began getting involved with my program's student association (ABEILL) as well as in different associations and committees.

I wish to join the RAAC for two reasons. First of all, I believe in its importance. The first thing we think of when we heard the word activism is mobilization and organizing actions and protests. However, research, financial questions, care and archiving are as essential as any other tasks. I want my contribution to writing the annual argumentary document to be my way of helping our struggle. The second reason that brings me to run for the RAAC is more personal. By furthering the reflections on different topics at ASSÉ, I hope to help others, but I'll also get to learn about myself and be able to better defend ASSÉ's positions. Finally, I have some free time this summer, I might as well put it to good use!

Thank you and have a care-filled struggle!

Jean-Philippe Collins-Houde

# **SANDRINE DOBSON'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE ASSÉ WOMEN'S COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 14th, 2016)*

Hello everyone,

The following letter is to announce my candidacy for the ASSÉ Women's Committee.

## **Who am I?**

My name is Sandrine Dobson and I'm a future student in the technical program in nuclear medicine at Cégep Ahuntsic and I was a student at Collège de Maisonneuve for the last three years. I started getting involved at SOGÉÉCOM about two years ago during a mobilization campaign for a one-day strike on April 3rd 2014. Following that strike vote's failure at Collège de Maisonneuve, I decided to get more involved in my local association by running for the position of Treasury Delegate, which I occupied during the 2014-2015 school year. During my involvement at SOGÉÉCOM, I, among other things, participated in creating the position of Feminist Affairs Delegate.

## **My motivations**

Fuck egalitarianism. I'M A FEMINIST.

I'm a feminist because I have the right to walk alone at night without being afraid. I'm a feminist because I have to speak twice as loudly as my male counterparts in order to be heard and I'm tired of it. I'm a feminist because I'm sick of being called hysterical when I'm angry. I'm a feminist because I consider women to be people in their own right. Oppression simply shouldn't exist.

It's important for me to get involved with the ASSÉ Women's Committee, because although I do have certain privileges as a white woman in an acceptable economic situation, solidarity with all women, including those who are even more marginalized through different oppressions, is important to me. In fact, I consider that we all endure a common oppression based on sex.

I wish to get involved with ASSÉ because I consider it to be one of the most important Leftist organizations in Quebec, and since I'll be a member of the (oh, glorious!) FECQ next year, getting involved in AGECA, my local association, seems unappealing. Furthermore, I thought a lot about my involvement in the ASSÉ Women's Committee over the past months and I feel up to the challenge. If and when I'm elected, I'll be very anxious to get involved in the ASSÉ Women's Committee.

I probably won't be at the Annual Congress, so I invite you all to send me your questions by e-mail if you want.

Sandrine Dobson



# **JOSÉ-FRÉDÉRIQUE BIRON'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE ASSÉ WOMEN'S COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 16th, 2016)*

Hello everyone,

My name is José-Frédérique Biron and I'm currently a master's student in Political Science at UdeM. By the following letter, I submit my candidacy for a second term on the national team, but rather than run for the RAAC a second time, where I'm currently elected, I'm running for the ASSÉ Women's Committee. My motivations for getting involved at the national rather than local level remain pretty much the same as last year. My local association not being very combative or prone to activism, I have no other option but to look elsewhere. Also, ASSÉ is by far the national association that connects the most with my political convictions and ideologies. That being said, this year I want to get involved in the Women's Committee rather than the RAAC because I believe that feminist issues are too often pushed aside, even at ASSÉ, an association that proclaims itself as feminist.

One of my motivations is to ensure that feminist issues are more intensely reappropriated by member associations, namely by collaborating with local feminist or women's committees as well as female activists, according to their needs. By doing so, I hope that feminist issues won't be pushed aside as much and that they'll be the topic of interesting and positive debate in Congress. It was mentioned at the last Congress as well as during the Women's Congress that we should, rather than adopt a coercive approach with regards to associations that have difficulty adopting feminist mandates, instead adopt a position of solidarity and mutual aid among women, feminists and female student activists. I believe that the ASSÉ Women's Committee has an important role to play in building solidarity among and within different Women's Committees (although it shouldn't be alone in doing so).

I believe I have a lot to bring to the ASSÉ Women's Committee, since I already have project ideas outside of the responsibility of organizing the Women's Congress or the feminist training camp. I intend on completing the document on rape culture that was started this year in collaboration with several women on the national team but that wasn't finished, since we ambitiously intended on producing an exhaustive piece that touched on as many situations as possible. At the latest Congress (the Women's Congress), several possible solutions were touched upon, namely to better use the Women's section of the ASSÉ-Support listserv and to render available feminist documentation to member associations. I intend on going forward with these proposals and on seeing what can be done to make this documentation accessible to everyone.

Feministly yours,

José-Frédérique Biron

# AUDREY SOUCY-ROULEAU'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE ASSÉ WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

*(Submitted April 18th, 2016)*

To whom it may concern,

Ladies,

I recently learned of the possibility of joining your Women's Committee and I'd like to tell you why I believe I'm a perfect candidate! Like most women today, I've always experienced unfortunate situations that have left a bitter taste in my mouth without having the words to describe the reality I was living. Since I started my activism for the feminist cause, I've had the extreme relief of finally being able to put words on situations, feelings, impressions, and it's been very liberating for me. Obviously, as a Translation student, I'm passionate about the power of words. Being able to talk about sexism, misogyny, gendered socialization, intersectionality, social injustice or even rape culture, to name the situations I was living or the frustrations I had has created a feeling of power within me. For me, feminism has been a liberation, a power of knowing and taking control of the issues that concern me. Since then, I've been craving to learn and do more, because I believe knowledge will also be our greatest defense.

Regarding my own path, it's had its share of hurdles. First, I began identifying as a feminist very recently, during the fall of 2015, after my involvement at AGEFLESH. I put a lot into question, but I believe my ability to do so as well as my open-mindedness make me someone who's very respectful and attentive to other people. Since then, I've evolved, grown, learned, shared, etc. I've had some successes of which I'm very proud: having forced my University to change its sexual harassment denunciation policy with a single poster, having been published in our student paper *Le Collectif*, having convinced my mom to come to the feminist training camp, having spoken up in my own family to denounce *Cards Against Humanity*, having had exchanges that led to reflections among several other students, etc. I therefore wish to join your committee in order to continue my direct action and to promote feminism by having even more resources at my disposal in order to continue learning and evolving within a feminist student space.

Cordially,

Audrey Soucy-Rouleau

# JASMINE LÉGER'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE ASSÉ WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

*(Submitted April 20th, 2016)*

Hello,

By the following letter, I wish to submit my candidacy for the ASSÉ Women's Committee.

Since I might not be at the elections Congress, I'll try to write this letter in a way that best answers the questions that could be asked. However, I remain at your disposal for any other questions.

Who am I?

I've been a part-time student in Women's Studies at UQAM since the winter semester of 2015. I was on the Representation Committee of Cégep Lionel-Groulx for three years, where I was notably president of the Women's Committee which was reinstated from 2013 until 2015. We're currently attempting to implement a Feminist Committee at AFESH. My current involvement is primarily in feminist projects, such as video capsules (...).

I'm also a permanent at AGES [St-Jérôme]. Should I be elected to the Women's Committee, AGES' BOD and I have agreed to sign a contract that would guarantee that there'd be no interference on my behalf, namely by stating that I wouldn't participate in writing their feminist motions.

I grew up in a family environment where we actively spoke of feminist issues, but without truly understanding what "feminism" meant. Having grown up in Saint-Colomban and in Saint-Jérôme in an underprivileged environment, I've realized that these principles and values are far from being a priority for everyone. I've also personally experienced blatant examples of inequality concerning different feminist issues.

## *Motivation*

My studies have helped me develop a theoretical foundation with which I can understand the bases of women's oppression, but I keep in mind that feminist practices can sometimes be at the antipodes of theory.

AFESH's notice of motion has made me realize that the student movement's different realities require a different application of our activist means. Within the Women's Committee, I therefore hope to significantly help in diversifying promotion material and to render feminist theory more accessible through feminist information material, training, and discussions, but I also hope to help student associations appropriate and adapt feminist theory and practice to their local realities.

Thank you. In solidarity,

Jasmine Léger

## **MYRIAM ENNAJIMI' CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE ASSÉ AD HOC ANTIRACIST COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 14th, 2016)*

*(This candidacy is conditional to the adoption of a motion proposing the committee's creation.  
See motion 8.6)*

Hello compañeras y compañeros!

My name is Myriam Ennajimi, I was on the Executive of AGEBdeB in 2014, first at Social Struggles and then Finances. I'm a racialized woman, which I'm specifying for the needs of my candidacy, so that already grants me a certain amount of legitimacy regarding my involvement with this committee.

In 2015, I was a member of the Al-Massir committee, a group for Arab feminists/Queer people, but the initiative is kind of dead at the moment. Also, I gave a workshop on antiracism in the student movement during an ASSÉ training camp. But... I'm not going to try to show you that I'm a good activist or that I've proven myself, because this struggle is one that I undertake everyday: when I have to manage racism, or micro-aggressions in the media or in society at large. Colonialism, capitalism and patriarchy plague humanity. Struggling for one's self is all well and good, but going past our individuality in order to fight evil, that's good too.

That's why I want to get involved at the national level. I want to bring this struggle everywhere, I want people like me to tell themselves that activism isn't just for white people. I want the antiracist mandates adopted by student associations to reflect reality and not just be good intentions, as they often are to remain. Wishful thinking? I think not! Oh, and I'm in Biology at UdeM, death to FAECUM.

The struggle continues,

Myriam Ennajimi

# FRANÇOIS DESROCHES' CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE ASSÉ INFORMATION COMMITTEE

*(Submitted April 16th, 2016)*

Hello comrades,

I hereby submit to you my candidacy for the Information Committee for 2016-2017.

I began my involvement in the student movement in January 2013, during the Higher Education Summit and ASSÉ's campaign on free education. At the time, I was elected as Archivist for my student association, AGECD, in Drummondville. The following year, I was elected as Mobilization Coordinator. In 2014-2015, I ran for the ASSÉ national team on the Information Committee, where I was the sole member. Finally, I'm about to end my term on the Executive Council as Information Secretary.

Next year, I'll be leaving Cégep de Drummondville to study in Montreal. So here I am, nearing the end of my term, still enthused by the idea of getting involved. I thought a long time about which committee I'd be running for, hesitating between Information and Mobilization.

I want to learn how to do tours and help people on their campuses. When I was AGECD's Mobilization Coordinator, I always appreciated ASSÉ's help, which made a real difference in the mobilization done in a regional Cégep. Also, I really want to give the ABC's of mobilization workshop, which radically changed my way of seeing activism. I'd also like to help improve communication between local student associations. If there's a single issue that's important to me, it's montrealcentrism. The recent discussions and debates surrounding this question prove that it's a problem that must be fixed, and I believe that can be done through an exchange of experienced realities, through communication and especially through cooperation between student associations.

On the other hand, I can go back to the Information Committee. Since no candidacies for Information Secretary or for the Information Committee have been received by the time I wrote this letter, I believe my expertise can be put to good use so that people who mobilize will have something to hand out. I'd also like to add that I'm proud of the fact that I'm using open-source software more and more frequently. Furthermore, ASSÉ allowed me to discover that visual design is truly a passion of mine, and now my field of study, and I've begun acquiring more appropriate software and hardware for producing information material.

This wasn't an easy decision to make, but I decided to run once more for the Information Committee. I'd like to state though that if the future Mobilization Committee agrees, I'd like to lend a hand, either by doing mobilization tours with them or by giving the ABC's of mobilization workshop.

I'd like to add that I won't be attending the Annual Congress. My sister will soon be

undergoing a very important operation and will be in intensive care for the duration of the Congress, and I intend on being at her side. So, if you have any questions about me (or about anything else, really), I'd be very happy to answer them. Don't hesitate to contact me.

In solidarity,

François Desroches

## **ARIAN OMERANOVIC'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE ASSÉ SOCIAL STRUGGLES COMMITTEE**

*(Submitted April 12th, 2016)*

Good day or good evening,

My name is Arian Omeranovic. I'm an 18 year old Social Sciences student at Cégep de Ste-Foy. I'm a member of my Cégep's political committee le Démos. For over two years, before the Spring 2015 events, I've been following politics. In high school, with the new information acquired through reading and History classes, I grew sympathetic towards the different social-historical struggles. And it's really by reading texts critical of capitalism that I began to want to go beyond my passive high school activism. First, I did my personal project on anarchism (a mandatory project in the International Education Program). It was an "essay". Then came Spring 2015. It's during that period that my activism took to the streets. Along with participating in protests, I also became aware of the different social movements in Quebec. It's at that time that I learned about ASSÉ and its functioning. After Spring 2015 and high school, I started my college studies. And it's during my very first semester that I improved my knowledge of the Quebec student movement thanks to discussions with other activists in Quebec City and, once more, thanks to my reading. In November 2015, I participated in ASSÉ's training camp and in last March, I went to the feminist training camp.

With all this experience, I took an interest in the student movement, in social struggles, and in improving people's material conditions. Also, since I'm "closer and closer" to ASSÉ, I'd like to get involved with this organization as soon as I can, which is today. Therefore the Social Struggles Committee would allow me to organize with a student association that I love and to be a part of something important to me: struggle. It is for these reasons that I submit my candidacy for this committee. During this quiet time for social struggles in Quebec, I believe this committee is even more important, if we wish to organize tomorrow's battles. Despite a busy schedule with work, school and le Démos, I'd like to lend my strength to ASSÉ and this committee and help foster the student movement and organize for a student union that I know and love.

Arian Omeranovic, student and activist

# NICOLAS PELLETIER'S CANDIDACY LETTER FOR THE ASSÉ SOCIAL STRUGGLES COMMITTEE

*(Submitted April 19th, 2016)*

Comrades,

My name is Nicolas Pelletier, I'm 24 and I'll be starting a Masters in Sociology at Université Laval this fall. By the following, I wish to submit my candidacy for the ASSÉ Social Struggles Committee.

My involvement in the student movement, and by extension, in the world of activism and social struggles in a broader sense began in 2010-2011, when I started my second year at Cégep de Limoilou. There I also learned the value of on-the-ground and one-on-one mobilization for student life: this is how I got more and more involved in student activism. It's also during that school year and the following one that I discovered ASSÉ through its "broadened body", CLASSE. Everything came together – and I realize that this may lack originality – at the start of the general unlimited strike in the spring of 2012, a movement in which I actively participated and was fertile ground for the subsequent political radicalization that brings us here today: throughout the years, I've felt that my activism has been hardened, ideologically clarified and made concrete through praxis.

In 2012, I joined AÉÉH-UL [History student union of Université Laval], where I quickly became involved as Internal Affairs Coordinator. This experience was truly a "baptism" into student union activism. During the following years, I became involved as Secretary of different committees and as Secretary of the newly founded Mobilization Committee, which was created during 2012. I'm currently completing my term as General Coordinator of an AÉÉH that is newly affiliated to ASSÉ (during the fall semester of 2015). I hope that the end of my undergraduate studies will not mean the end of my involvement in the student movement! This is why I decided to join the ASSÉ national team.

Generally speaking, I believe that academics mustn't make us forget the particularities of a struggle that we would want to be – as many others – broad and permanent. It's in order to fight the irresistible attractiveness of the ivory tower that I wish to join a committee, so that student issues many resonate in the public sphere, while contributing to building a common platform of resistance and activism. I wish to participate in invigorating and broadening our struggles; I wish to participate in creating a real network of solidarity and combativeness; I wish to work so as to make the will to struggle contagious; I wish to contribute in building more spaces of freedom and organization so as to build an activist convergence in a society plagued by Capital; in short, I wish to breathe new life in the old May 68 slogan that said that students and workers share a

common struggle.

In solidarity,

Nicolas Pelletier

Outgoing General Coordinator of Association des Étudiantes et Étudiants en Histoire de  
l'Université Laval (AÉÉH)



# SUMMARY

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## MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, FEBRUARY 2016

*(Submitted March 14th, 2016)*

Good evening everyone,

A new permanent employee was hired during the month of February: welcome to Éric Faucher! Also, the hiring process for a translator is underway as well as the preparation of the feminist training camp in collaboration with the ASSÉ Women's Committee and the Women's Committee of Cégep de Limoilou. The winter training camp took place on February 6th and 7th at Cégep de Valleyfield. Noteworthy fact, an action took place where several women denounced sexist acts done by participants at the camp. The text that was read can be found in the latest feminist Ultimatum.

Also, the winter Congress took place on February 20th and 21st in Desbiens. Although the space was smaller than expected, many issues were discussed, from the dues increase to the nature of feminism practiced by the various associations affiliated to ASSÉ.

Regarding external affairs, we've notably begun attending organization meetings with the May 1st Coalition. For internal affairs, it's important to mention, as we expected, Cégep André-Laurendeau decided in a referendum to no longer be a member of ASSÉ. An explanatory e-mail was sent out on ASSÉ-Support.

In conclusion, let's not forget that the Women's Congress (non-mixed Congress) will take place in Montreal, at the CAP St-Barnabé on March 26th and 27th. It's possible to sign up by going to the ASSÉ website. Also, the annual Congress will take place in Quebec City on April 1th and 17th. The preparatory documents for these two instances will be available very soon. Reflection texts for the annual Congress (which is also an election Congress) are more than welcome.

In solidarity,

The Executive Council of ASSÉ

# MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, MARCH 2016

*(Submitted on April 5th, 2016)*

To start the month on the right foot, the feminist training camp took place on March 5th and 6th at Cégep de Limoilou, in Quebec City. Thanks again to the ASSÉ and Limoilou Women's Committees for their hard work! Regarding internal affairs, the national team also organized the ASSÉ Women's Congress.

Also, a meeting of the Coordination Council took place on March 16th. Several interim elections took place, as well as some fruitful discussions, namely regarding an ancestral motion by the Legal Committee and concerning greater inclusivity for Anglophone associations. In the same order of ideas, a translator began working in March: welcome to Benjamin Gingras. This will (finally!) allow us to systematically translate the official documents and, therefore, allow for more effective inclusivity for Anglophone students.

Also, the first ever ASSÉ Women's Congress took place on March 26th at the CAP St-Barnabé in Montreal. Due to a lack of participation, the Congress didn't continue the next day, much to the disappointment of the attending delegates... A reflection text will soon be sent out on ASSÉ-Support in order to reflect more deeply on what transpired. In any case, and despite the fact that the instance was shortened, here's the link to access the motions that were adopted [in French]: <http://www.assesolidarite.qc.ca/document/congres-femmes-des-26-et-27-mars-2016/>

Regarding external relations, it's our pleasure to announce that the Cégep d'Alma has affiliated to ASSÉ by referendum at the end of the month! It'll be possible to officially welcome them during the Annual Congress. Also, the Executive Council has already begun organizing the said Congress. It'll take place on April 16th and 17th [since modified to April 23rd and 24th] in Quebec City. You may register by clicking the following link: [http://www.asse-solidarite.qc.ca/?post\\_type=evenement&p=3415](http://www.asse-solidarite.qc.ca/?post_type=evenement&p=3415). In that sense, we encourage you to submit your reflections, candidacies and motions as soon as possible on ASSÉ-Support!

In solidarity!

The ASSÉ Executive Council

# ASSÉ LEGAL COMMITTEE REPORT

*(Submitted April 14th, 2016)*

Having a reduced workforce since the beginning of the year and the Committee members having other important personal obligations, we've limited ourselves to doing the more usual and administrative tasks since the last Congress: answering e-mails, following up with various groups of arrested people, helping and supporting newly arrested people, distributing money from the Arrest Fund, accompanying people to Court, etc.

We've also worked on a motion that would modify the Committee's mandate (see Appendix 1 of the preparatory booklet) that we hope will be adopted at the upcoming Congress and would reflect the Committee's current practices and guide our decisions better. We've also cleaned up the Committee's old files (redacting the names of people who receive the Committee's financial assistance, updating funding request documents, tidying up old files, etc.), so that the next Committee may start on the right foot.

We're overjoyed by the many candidacies the Committee's received and we hope that the next team will be able to go above and beyond the more usual and administrative tasks and work on more activism-oriented projects: developing workshops, the Wiki, a project for archiving and documenting verdicts and Court decisions in collaboration with an attorney, etc. The next team will have to look into the Arrest Fund's finances, and eventually think of a fundraising campaign.

In solidarity,

The Legal Committee

legal@asse-solidarite.qc.ca

# **SUMMARY OF MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS' FEMINIST DEMANDS, PRACTICES AND PRINCIPLES**

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## **AGECFXG'S SUMMARY**

*(Submitted March 8th, 2016)*

### **Demands: women, feminism and parenthood**

AG-13-02-2014.19 – AGECFXG adopts a position against xenophobia, sexism, homophobia and transphobia.

AG-01-11-12-19 – AGECFXG reiterates its feminist position, encourages alternating between men and women in speech turns and moves to immediately feminize all its official documents.

AG-A06-758 – AGECFXG adopts a position against the consideration of alimony for single mothers and fathers who are students in the financial aid calculation.

AG-A06-724 – For the promotion and accessibility of public daycares and for daycare schedules adapted to class schedules.

### **Women's Committee**

At Cégep Garneau, there's been a (non-mixed) Women's Committee for a long time, since at least the beginning of the 1980s. According to our permanence's memory, the Women's Committee has always been non-mixed. Fitted with their own room and often acting as a safe space, the Women's Committee is the site of discussion groups and debates on abortion, etc.

Over the years, the committee's had its share of highs and lows, sometimes intense, and was sometimes empty. Over the past 15 years, the times at which feminism was the most active coincided with the student mobilizations of 2005 and then 2012. It's worth mentioning that, in some cases, feminist activists preferred getting involved with the Executive while also organizing feminist activities, but it's sometimes difficult to bear the double burden of feminist and student organization (that is, feminist organizing within the Executive while being in a non-mixed committee while also being involved in different struggles). In conclusion, the Women's Committee is currently active and has been so since 2013 and has organized numerous awareness and mobilization activities (namely on consent, rape culture, the Polytechnic massacre, prostitution, cat-calling, etc.) every two weeks or every month. The more recent mobilizations have been around struggles against sexual assault, for feminism, etc. The Women's Committee also manages a Facebook page and has been confronted with an important antifeminist backlash. In 2014-2015, the Women's Committee was the most active of the entire student association.

## **Board of Directors**

Since 2009-2010, regarding the student association's Board of Directors (Garneau's Executive), women do not have equal representation. They represent about 46% of elected officials, although this number is difficult to calculate because of the high turnover rate within the Executive (the number should be above 46% if we exclude the empty positions – so about 50% - and it's been above 50% for over a year). However, in 2011, women represented 63% of the student body. Finally, the position of coordinator has been occupied by a woman over 60% of the time since 2009.

## **Student movement**

It's worth mentioning that female leadership within the student movement has been very present around Quebec City since 2012 (namely within the FRAQ-ASSÉ or the ASSÉ Executive). Regardless, that hasn't always translated into performative feminist demands and gender inequality is still present, namely with "false feminism", "patriarchal ambiance", and gendered division of activist labour. Nonetheless, the question of activist leadership is still (and always) relevant. Female leadership not only allows for a redistribution of powers and responsibilities otherwise appropriated by men, but also to change the organizational and activist culture of student associations and of activist circles (Maxim Fortin, Rouge de colère, October 2012). Finally, we can state that the renewal of feminism in the Quebec City area is probably due to the renewal of the student movement itself or to ASSÉ's leadership in the student movement around the Capital.

## AFESH-UQAM'S SUMMARY

*(Submitted March 8th, 2016)*

*Whereas the seventh principle and criteria 4 and 5 of the ASSÉ Bylaws are to be respected,*

Be it therefore resolved that ASSÉ respect its Bylaws;

Be it further resolved that, in that sense, AFESH call upon ASSÉ to consider as non-member the student associations that don't have feminist principles, practices and demands, if they don't pledge to rectify the situation before the annual Congress.

*January 14th 2015*

### **Recent history of feminist struggles at AFESH**

If there've been feminists who have been members of AFESH throughout the years, there hasn't always been a spirit of collaboration. A complete history that can be found on the web journal Françoise Stéréo: <http://francoisestereo.com/uqam-champ-de-bataille-histoire-incomplete-desactions-feministes-sur-le-campus/> . The bylaws include a Women's Committee, which has been inactive for years. Generally speaking, feminists prefer to organize within affinity groups rather than in the association, due to the flexibility and autonomy that come with this model. This is possibly due to bad previous experiences in other student associations. If they submit a request, we can fund their projects, if need be.

Most of our mandates concern reproductive issues or of women's sexuality in a patriarchal system. This domination produces a reproduction of sexual inequality, which feminists seek to counter. Even (pro-)feminist men have committed assaults. The sexual division of labour, leaving women to handle invisible tasks (care, logistics, etc.), is also a theme we touch upon. Our feminist perspective is materialist, which some support to queer and LGBT struggles. Many gaps in our principles, namely regarding students who are parents, could be addressed. Furthermore, we observe that our mandates are adopted in a specific effervescent context which makes them relevant and performative. The subsequent actions allow for a definite impact on people's lives.

Recently, our struggles have centered on sexual violence. For example, several sexual assaulters have been excluded from positions of power, like Ivan Brika (from the band Mise en Demeure), Frank Lévesque-Nicol (then-Coordination Secretary and masters student in sociology with a concentration in women's studies), and Valentin Bellec (sociology student and activist with Spring 2015). We noticed that since the student movement constantly includes new people, sexual assaulters take this as an opportunity to reinsert themselves in these spaces against the will of the survivors. For more information, you may consult the article in issue #15 of Les nouveaux cahiers du socialisme, « Ni déni ni police : réagir aux agressions sexuelles dans le mouvement étudiant » [French only].

## Principles

A moral rule or belief that helps you know what is right or wrong and that influences your actions. A basic truth or theory: an idea that forms the base of something.

*Source: Webster's online dictionary*

*Whereas AFESH has mandates to support feminist initiatives after sexual assaults and to support the survivors,*

*Whereas it is necessary to empower activist collectives in the transformation of society and to abolish rape culture,*

*Whereas money is the sinews of war,*

Be it therefore resolved that AFESH temporarily suspend its funding of collectives that include one or more assaulters that are not presently collaborating with the survivors, for as long as the demands of the survivors are not met.

Be it further resolved that all actions be taken in accordance with the will of the survivors, anonymously, without asking for any kind of proof beyond the survivor's word.

Be it further resolved that AFESH adequately publicize this motion during the grant submission and grant attribution periods.

*April 21st, 2015*

(...) Be it resolved that AFESH call upon women in the public sector, which is composed primarily of women, to make this strike a feminist one, stretching beyond traditional unionism and refocusing the debate on the question of women's struggles against the State, which systematically deprives women of their right to strike through the Essential Services Act, which condemns women to be the domestic workers of all of society; (...)

*February 17th, 2015*

*Whereas there are obvious gaps in the Quebec education system regarding sexual education and the need for consent to be taught since primary school;*

*Whereas that sexual assault is an act of domination, humiliation, abuse of power, and of violence perpetrated primarily against women and children by men;*

*Whereas that sexual assault against women is a systemic phenomenon due to fundamentally heteropatriarchal society;*

*Whereas that several cases of sexual assault have been denounced in the Montreal student movement after large-scale social mobilizations such as 2005 and 2012;*

*Whereas the #BeenRapedNeverReported movement demonstrates the extent of the problem that is sexual assault and harassment towards women and that thousands of other women still live in silence or have been murdered;*

*Whereas that violence towards women is still trivialized through political, journalistic, "comedic" or institutional discourse or through advertising, and that rape culture is omnipresent in mass media and University culture, which is rarely called into question;*

*Whereas the Women's Center and its activists don't have the energy or the tools to help*

*or support all victims of sexual assault or harassment;*

*Whereas the system for submitting complaints regarding sexual assault or harassment, the application of Policy 16, is still inadequate at UQAM since only 4% of complaints filed in 2012-2013 were deemed to be founded, and that this process works in favour of professors in positions of power and that this process drives women to abandon their studies and/or their complaint;*

*Whereas the justice system is not at all adapted to the reality of systemic sexual violence done towards women;*

*Whereas Sexual Assault Resource Centres already exist at Concordia and McGill University;*

Be it therefore resolved that AFESH demand a diverse, feminist, anti-oppressive and nonheterosexist sexual education beginning in primary school (...)

Be it further resolved that AFESH recognize the choice of survivors to publicly denounce their assaulters or harassers so that this problem may be brought to the public eye, that it become a social issue and that the necessary transformations may be created by the community.

*January 14th 2015*

*Whereas denunciations have been made public;*

*Whereas there is a disagreement on the collective process regarding how survivors break the silence surrounding sexual assault and sexual violence in our spaces;*

Be it therefore resolved that AFESH support the search for a transformative justice process, be it further resolved that it be done in non-mixity.

Be it further resolved that it be done is close collaboration with the victims, according to their needs.

Be it further resolved that it be done in collaboration with feminists.

*November 25th, 2013*

Be it resolved that CLASSE publicly condemn the sexist, homophobic, ageist, fat-phobic comments held by several comedians during the June 18th show since this discourse and the ideas behind them contravene the basic principles of the organization.

Be it further resolved that in the future, CLASSE refuse to associate itself with any event without previously consulting its members, particularly if it can expect that the discourse at the event may contravene the basic principles of the organization.

Be it further resolved that CLASSE accept 50% of the profits for Juripop anyway, and that part of this money be handed to the Women's Committee.

*June 19th, 2012*

*Whereas AFESH-UQAM has often presented itself as an organization in favour of feminist struggles;*

*Whereas that, contrary to popular belief, AFESH-UQAM has rarely ratified or adopted truly feminist positions in its General Assembly;*



*Whereas that this lacking has gone on long enough;*

*Whereas that feminist struggles must be pursued and intensified for AS LONG AS IT TAKES!*

Be it therefore resolved that AFESH-UQAM reiterate its solidarity with women's struggles, feminist struggles, LGBT struggles, queer struggles, intersex struggles, and the struggles related to specific oppressions related to the intersection of multiple oppressions, namely related to class, national origin, skin colour, religion, or sexual orientation;

Be it further resolved that AFESH-UQAM condemn all sexual violence and all non-consented relation, particularly those done towards women;

Be it further resolved that AFESH-UQAM reiterate its support for practices encouraging, within its structures, the disempowerment of men, and allowing for a true equality between the sexes that's not only on paper; such as non-mixed caucuses, man/women alternating in speech turns and equal distribution of different tasks between the sexes;

Be it further resolved that AFESH-UQAM position itself in favour of radical feminist analyses and practices opposed to patriarchal and white heteronormativity, that are critical of the differential capitalist oppression against men and women, and that it also adopt a position that is critical of gender clichés and stereotypes in a deconstructive perspective;

Be it further resolved that AFESH-UQAM recognize and condemn the impact of the different specific oppressions on the living conditions of women, people of colour and LGBT people.

*March 30th, 2012*

Be it resolved that AFESH-UQAM denounce Minister Christine St-Pierre's inaction regarding the impact of any tuition fee increase on women as they contravene her mandate of supporting "the female condition".

*March 30th, 2012*

Be it resolved that AFESH adopt an anti-masculinist position.

*April 15th, 2004*

## **Demands**

*An act of demanding or asking especially with authority. Something claimed as due. A forceful statement in which you say that something must be done or given to you.*

*Source: Webster's online dictionary*

Be it resolved that AFESH demand that the administration create a permanent position for a feminist counsellor on the UQAM campus.

Be it further resolved that UQAM and AFESH engage in a feminist campaign against rape culture, since a single feminist counsellor on campus is insufficient.

Be it further resolved that we recommend Audray Lemay as feminist counsellor.

*April 21st, 2015*

(...) Be it resolved that we found an ad hoc committee for the material and emotional needs of striking students. (...)

*September 16th, 2014*

This committee would become the Collective Wellbeing Committee, which aimed to publicize, politicize and collectivize care, which is primarily done by women.

*Whereas there are obvious gaps in the Quebec education system regarding sexual education and the need for consent to be taught since primary school;*

*Whereas that sexual assault is an act of domination, humiliation, abuse of power, and of violence perpetrated primarily against women and children by men;*

*Whereas that sexual assault against women is a systemic phenomenon due to fundamentally heteropatriarchal society;*

*Whereas that several cases of sexual assault have been denounced in the Montreal student movement after large-scale social mobilizations such as 2005 and 2012;*

*Whereas the #BeenRapedNeverReported movement demonstrates the extent of the problem that is sexual assault and harassment towards women and that thousands of other women still live in silence of have been murdered;*

*Whereas that violence towards women is still trivialized through political, journalistic, "comedic" or institutional discourse or through publicity, and that rape culture is omnipresent in mass media and in University culture, and that it is rarely called into question;*

*Whereas the Women's Center and its activists don't have the energy or the tools to help or support all victims of sexual assault or harassment;*

*Whereas the system for submitting complaints regarding sexual assault or harassment, the application of Policy 16, is still inadequate at UQAM since only 4% of complaints filed in 2012-2013 were deemed to be founded, and that this process works in favour of professors in positions of power and that this process drives women to abandon their studies and/or their complaint;*

*Whereas the justice system is not at all adapted to the reality of systemic sexual violence done towards women;*

*Whereas Sexual Assault Resource Centres already exist at Concordia and McGill University; (...)*

Be it resolved that AFESH demand that the administration of UQAM and Student Services create a Sexual Assault Resource Centre with a feminist approach so that qualified people may work there full time.

*January 14th, 2015*

*Whereas that AFESH-UQAM reiterates its support with women's struggles and feminist struggles as well as its support for practices encouraging, within its structures, the disempowerment of men, allowing for true equality between the sexes that's not only on*

paper;

*Whereas we must recognize the important contributions of women in the previous student strike and recognize the historical involvement of feminists within combative and associative spaces;*

*Whereas the text in the UQAM student agenda Luttés féministes: toujours pertinentes dans une société sexiste on the relevance of feminism and on violence towards women by men in student spaces was censored, instrumentalized and recuperated by the Agenda Committee of 2013-2014, because among other reasons, they judged the text irrelevant and uninviting;*

*Whereas initiation/frosh events are sexist, racist, colonialist, classist, homophobic, transphobic, and lesbophobic (for example, the communications frosh in autumn 2013) also demonstrates the necessity of feminism in student spaces;*

*Whereas male sexual violence, which are a part of a war on women, severely hinders the participation of women in mixed collective struggles including the student movement and that's unacceptable for female activists to be attacked by their own comrades;*

*Whereas that the efforts of feminists at UQAM against sexual violence by men against women must be supported;*

*Whereas that AÉÉF [Women's Studies Student Association] wishes to struggle against violence against women including sexual violence and to promote feminism;*

Be it therefore resolved that AFESH support feminist initiatives against sexual violence, and that it elaborate feminist information material about feminist struggles in collaboration with AÉÉF and other groups or organizations, and that a popular education event/feminist discussion event on violence against women including sexual assault as part of March 8th 2014 be organized, and that the details of these projects be discussed in a future General Assembly;

Be it further resolved that AFESH condemn the decisions taken by the Agenda Committee of 2013-2014 regarding the text on feminist struggles and it also demand that such a situation never take place again.

Be it further resolved that AFESH financially support the Association étudiante en études féministes (AÉÉF) by offering \$3000 in solidarity.

*November 25th, 2013*

*Whereas a cult of personality may arise if only one person is systematically put forward to represent ASSÉ and that this would be detrimental to the student movement;*

*Whereas we are in favour of equal representation between men and women;*

*Whereas we are in favour of equal representation between Cégep and University students;*

Be it therefore resolved that ASSÉ name a woman as spokesperson;

Be it further resolved that there be two spokespeople;

Be it further resolved that AFESH remind its national organization of the importance of feminization and of feminist practices as presented in the Bylaws;

Be it further resolved that the choice of spokespeople respect equal representation between

men and women and between Cégep and University;

Be it further resolved that AFESH endorse the candidacy of Camille Robert as spokesperson.

*September 22nd, 2011*

*Whereas AFESH stands in solidarity with feminist struggles;*

*Whereas AFESH supports several feminist demands and principles;*

*Whereas AFESH endorses and supports women's struggles (article 1.4.3. of the Bylaws);*

*Whereas legislative proposal C-484 Unborn Victims of Crime Act is a serious and insidious attack on abortion rights;*

*Whereas the media and political class are silent on this issue, and therefore little information is reaching the population;*

Be it therefore resolved that AFESH oppose legislative proposal C-484 and any other legislation that would negatively affect abortion rights;

Be it further resolved that AFESH participate in providing information on this legislative proposal and on the mobilizations that could be organized to prevent its adoption;

Be it further resolved that AFESH pledge to bring this motion and defend it in ASSÉ Congress.

*April 23rd, 2008*

Be it resolved that AFESH set up a fund in order to buy keepers and reusable feminine hygiene products.

*January 26th, 2005*

Be it resolved that the rights and privileges of the Center for Men be stripped and that their space be given to an accredited student group.

*April 15th, 2004*

## **Practices**

*Something that is usually or regularly done, often as a habit, tradition, or custom.*

*Source: Cambridge Dictionary*

At AFESH, most feminists choose to not organize within the structures of their faculty association, preferring affinity groups or the feminist movement, for various reasons. Therefore, this isn't an exhaustive list, not including for example the actions of the sociology or sexology feminist committees. In order to help with the empowerment of entire groups of women rather than only a few women in leadership positions, we've decided not to appropriate them by including them in AFESH's actions.

Basic

- Majority of women on the Executive (but AFESH is composed primarily of women)

- Both permanent employees are women
- Alternating speech turns between men and women in all instances
- All communications are feminized
- Publicizing of feminist collectives' events

#### Feminist initiatives

- Frequent mood-watching during GA's, including a cell phone belonging to AFESH so that mood-watchers aren't harassed afterwards.
- Menstrual cups available at low cost at Café Aquin
- Frequent "feminist" agenda items during General Assemblies
- Purchase and distribution of large quantities of condoms and lubricant

#### Annual campaign against rape culture

- Anonymous fund for supporting feminist actions following sexual assault
- Possibility to suspend funding of a collective which includes a sexual assaulter who is not collaborating with the survivors, giving full decision-making power to feminists
- Two explanatory posters and a series of "bubbles" directly addressing passerby's.
- Posters on consent are always available on the mobilization material table in front of the office
- Popular education on the topic of sexual assault on the Facebook page
- Presence on UQAM's Policy 16 on sexual harassment's revision committee
- Support for initiatives seeking to exclude sexual assaulters, at the survivor's request
- Support for any feminist initiative against harassment at UQAM or that is critical of Policy 16, which often leads to media coverage

- Funds dedicated to maintaining the committee for the revision of Policy 16, which was threatened by UQAM's restructuring plan

#### Support for the feminist movement

- Financial support for the Montreal Sisterhood, for two publication initiatives by sexual assault survivors, for the Edgy Redux Festival, for an activism 2.0 initiative which includes a workshop on cyberfeminism, for a queer and feminist library, a \$1000 dues refund for the women's studies student association, financial support for the feminist magazine Féminétudes, for the group Fillosophie, for an LGBT suicide prevention project, for LGBT correspondence, as well as other anonymous projects.
- Free access to the photocopier for all collectives who request it
- Calendar of activities related to March 8th
- Any student feminist initiative who requests it can have their events publicized

# ACSSUM'S SUMMARY

(Submitted March 15th, 2016)

## Principles

### *Foundation of the Women and Sociologies Committee:*

- “Be it resolved that ACSSUM encourage and support the foundation of the Women and Sociologies Committee whose goal is to create a safe space for female students in sociology department of the Université de Montréal.

Be it further resolved that ACSSUM recognize the Women and Sociologies Committee as a body that can bring forth recommendations and act as a counter-power.

Be it further resolved that ACSSUM pledge to allocate to the Women and Sociologies Committee the amount of \$2 per member of the association, funds which will be notably be used for purchasing mobilization material, for organizing activities and events, for funding feminist research, etc., on a bi-annual basis.

Be it further resolved that ACSSUM recognize the sovereignty of the Women and Sociologies Committee regarding the management of its expenses. In return, the Women and Sociologies Committee pledges, in the name of transparency, to present its annual budget, upon request.

Be it further resolved that ACSSUM ensure the posterity of the Women and Sociologies Committee by enshrining it in its bylaws”.

*Adopted unanimously (April 16th, 2015)*

- “Be it resolved that ACSSUM strongly oppose the reduction of an individual to their biology”  
*(Adopted June 14th, 2012)*
- “Be it resolved that ACSSUM adopt a position that anyone – regardless of assigned sex or gender – can be considered feminist in the fullest sense of the word.”  
*(adopted June 14th, 2012)*
- “Be it resolved that ACSSUM condemn any legislative proposal that is detrimental to women’s rights”.  
*(adopted November 27th, 2013)*
- “Be it resolved that ACSSUM reiterate the necessity of considering, in certain feminist actions and spaces for reflection, the place of oppression of embodied feminism and of the practices of men for broader solidarity”  
*(adopted February 5th, 2015)*
- “Be it resolved that ACSSUM proclaim itself for a plurality of feminisms that recognize the different forms of direct violence and of devalorization of women’s

bodies, but also of the broader devalorization of the values and practices historically considered to be feminine”

*(adopted February 5th, 2015)*

- “Be it resolved that ACSSUM reiterate that it is necessary to consider different power relationships within feminisms, based on class, race, age, religion, sex, ability, ethnicity, sexual orientation, identity, immigration status and gender expression, among others.”

*(adopted February 5th, 2015)*

- “Be it resolved that ACCSUM encourage the creation of non-mixed safe spaces for all people who identify in full or in part as women within mixed Congresses, allowing for the development of awareness, as well as for the development of discourses and action plans.”

*(adopted February 5th, 2015)*

- *“Whereas there exists a tendency in ASSÉ Congresses to relegate feminist causes to the second level;*

*Whereas we have our own feminist positions;*

Be it therefore resolved that ACCSUM reiterate the importance of feminist issues that are multidimensional and that must not be put overshadowed by different societal and activist issues.”

*(adopted March 17th, 2015)*

## **Demands**

- “Be it resolved that ACSSUM ask professors to develop a greater sensitivity regarding their choice of required reading materials and to consider they underlying gender issues;

Be it further resolved that ACSSUM ask the sociology department to encourage its professors to include more required reading from female authors;

Be it further resolved that ACSSUM mandate its representative to promote this position in the next departmental assembly;

Be it further resolved that ACSSUM do a follow-up of this issue in September 2015.”

*(adopted January 13th, 2015)*

- Be it resolved that ACSSUM bring this motion, with the following arguments, to ASSÉ:  
*Whereas women occupy a majority of public sector jobs;*  
*Whereas recent economic stimulus measures principally favour men, while austerity measures primarily affect women;*  
*Whereas the State has progressively abandoned public services in the context*



*o*austerity measures, which will impact the invisible work done by women;

Be it therefore resolved that ACSSUM consider austerity measures to be sexist.

Be it further resolved that ACSSUM condemn the government's refusal to analyze the differential impact that austerity has based on gender, and that it insist on the necessity to do said analyses."

*(adopted March 17th, 2015)*

- *"Whereas legislative proposal 20 adds quotas to the practice of voluntary termination of pregnancies and they are no longer considered to be high-priority medical procedures;*

*Whereas the explanations offered by Minister Barrette do not sufficiently reassure us about the potential impacts of this legislation;*

Be it therefore resolved that ACSSUM consider this legislative proposal to be an unacceptable regression of women's rights to bodily autonomy, and that we demand its withdrawal." Adopted unanimously

*(adopted April 16th, 2015)*

- *"Considering AFESH's motion:*

*Whereas the seventh principle and criteria 4 and 5 of the ASSÉ bylaws are to be respected; Be it therefore resolved that ASSÉ respect its bylaws; Be it further resolved that, in that sense, AFESH call upon ASSÉ to consider as non-member the student associations that don't have feminist principles, practices and demands, if they don't pledge to rectify the situation before the annual Congress.*

Be it therefore resolved that ACSSUM demand a more gradual approach, starting for example with the withdrawal of voting rights and ending with the expulsion of the student associations in question." Adopted unanimously

*(adopted April 22nd, 2015)*

- *Whereas ASSÉ has adopted motion 6 (Be it resolved that AFESH call upon women in the public sector, which is composed primarily of women, to make this strike a feminist one, stretching beyond traditional unionism and refocusing the debate on the question of women's struggles against the State, which systematically deprives women of their right to strike through the Essential Services Act, which condemns women to be the domestic workers of all of society) in its February 21st-22nd Congress;*

*Whereas the RSÉ on September 26th-27th unanimously adopted motion 14 (Whereas women occupy a majority of public sector jobs and are therefore the first to feel the impacts of budget reductions; Whereas that cuts in the public sector increase the invisible workload of women; be it therefore resolved that the RSÉ condemn the sexist aspect of budget reductions and of the increase in job insecurity in the public and para-public sector, as well as the disinvestment in social services.)*

Be it therefore resolved that ACSSUM bring a motion of censure towards ASSÉ at the next Congress in order to condemn its participation in the minorization of women's

issues in common struggles.”  
(adopted October 13th, 2015)

## **Practices**

Within the Executive:

- Executive currently composed of 7 women and 3 men. The positions with the highest number of responsibilities are occupied by women (for example, general coordination, treasury, etc.).
- The names of the positions are feminized.

Communications:

- All communications with members are feminized, including ACSSUM’s Bylaws.
- Invitations to participate in various feminist events, such as protests, are regularly sent to members.

During General Assemblies:

- Members are required to feminize their comments when addressing the Assembly.
- Speech turns are done by alternating between men and women.
- A mood-watcher is elected when deemed necessary, for example during debates on sensitive subjects.

Activities organized with the Women and Sociologies Committee

- Feminist “4 to 7’s” are organized several times throughout the year in order to fund the Women’s Committee and to promote feminist issues.
- Several conferences/discussions are organized every semester in the form of “Feminist lunch hours”. Professors from all horizons are invited to present different feminist issues.

- Last year's feminist summer University at Université de Montréal was organized with the logistical and financial support of the Women and Sociologies Committee.
- Several workshops on different feminist regarding our department were organized, for example on the presence of female authors in our mandatory reading material.
- A project aiming to develop an index of female authors in sociology through a website (in the same way as what was done for women in political science) is currently being organized.

## **AECS' SUMMARY**

*(Submitted March 18th, 2016)*

### **WOMEN RISING!**

Several schools of thought, political ideologies, and societal debates are present in the student movement. Most notable are the working class' struggle, the labour movement, and national liberation, particularly in Quebec. But above all else, the issue that will have a profound and prolonged impact in our debates, political orientations as well as the political protagonists in the Quebec student movement is none other than feminism.

The appropriation of women's self-assertion spaces within the student movement is remarkable, especially when compared to the place they occupy in traditional political bodies.

Feminist content has occupied an important place in AECS' publications in the 1980s when a more radical critique of patriarchy was being heard. The condemnation of sexist inequalities and calls for women's mobilization were a regular sight in AECS' student press.

Important problems such as assault and abuse by male teachers are brought to light. Several articles condemn the administration's inaction on this issue and urge AECS' members to file complaints.

AECS' Women's Committee was founded in 1982 by and for female students. At the time, it had its own spaces. The issues it addressed were sexist education and publicity, rape, sexual harassment, domination dynamics, inequality and pornography.

The use of the feminine form in writing can be traced back to the 1980s and continues today. The practice of alternating between genders in speech turns started in 1982: during a General Assembly, the praesidium asked for a microphone to be set up for men and another for women.

These two pioneering practices, along with the inclusion of feminist demands in AECS' platform, demonstrate how equality between men and women has been at the heart of AECS' values for almost 40 years.

Our positions:

Be it resolved that AECS demand, in recognition of women's difficulties and in accordance with feminist ideology:

- Oral and written feminization in all educational institutions;
- Daycare services in all post-secondary educational institutions;
- That the opening hours of daycare services be aligned with class schedules;
- The implantation of nurseries for children under the age of 2;
- That the loans and bursaries program be adjusted according to the needs of student mothers, women, and single-parent families, in accordance with the actual cost of raising children;
- The development and implantation of women's studies departments in all cycles of post-secondary education;

Be it resolved that AECS demand that women have the right to control their own bodies. AECS underscores the importance of abortion rights and pledges to act in favour of women's right to choose with regards to pregnancy.

Be it resolved that AECS condemn any attempt by a legislative project, committee or any other structure that would criminalize abortion or that would legislate this issue in such a way that would harm the freedom of choice or access to abortion services.

*Whereas the French language considers the male form to take precedence over the female form and that this consideration reflects the notion that women are biologically and intellectually inferior to men;*

*Whereas the feminine half of humanity is as important as the other half;*

*Whereas the first lines of Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms reads as such: "Whereas every human being possesses intrinsic rights and freedoms designed to ensure his protection and development; Whereas all human beings are equal in worth and dignity, and are entitled to equal protection under the law; Whereas respect for the dignity of human beings, equality of women and men, and recognition of their rights and freedoms constitute the foundation of justice, liberty and peace.";*

*Whereas the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states in its preamble: "Whereas the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom."*

Be it therefore resolved that AECS support the Women's Committee in its demands to retroactively feminize all written documents produced by the Cégep de Sherbrooke.

Be it further resolved that AECS adopt a position against government's draft Charter, and that it condemn its sexism and discriminatory content, and that it actively fight against its adoption.

## **AESPEP'S SUMMARY**

*(Submitted on March 30th, 2016)*

Hello comrades,

At the last Congress, AFESH-UQAM submitted a notice of motion. This notice of motion concerned feminism, pertaining to the positions, practices and demands within ASSÉ. Furthermore, it directly targeted the student associations that weren't present at the Congress, or that didn't speak up, or that simply didn't have "demands, principles or practices that were 'sufficiently' feminist in order to meet the seventh principle". The targeted associations were called upon to submit a summary of their feminist demands, principles and practices through ASSÉ-Support before the Annual Congress, where the notice of motion would be discussed. Following the notice of motion, SOGÉÉCOM submitted a motion asking all student associations to produce a summary of their feminist demands, positions and practices which would then be sent out to ASSÉ-Support where all members could consult them. This is what AESPEP has done. We've produced our summary of feminist demands, principles and practices.

However, we would like to remind everyone that feminism is plural. And in that sense, all forms of feminism are to be accepted, and that diversity of tactics is a means to achieve our goals. That judging of associations' feminism is akin to reproducing society's patriarchal schemata. Furthermore, if associations are currently affiliated to ASSÉ, it's because they already have feminist demands, positions or practices or are in the process of obtaining them. Let us remind ourselves that it takes YEARS of struggle in order to change a culture or its, values, customs, norms, and traditions. And bearing in mind local sovereignty and other progressive values that are important to ASSÉ's members, local student associations have the right to self-management and self-determination, without the involvement of more influential associations or associations that are more advanced in their feminist realization.

With this in mind, AESPEP has produced its summary, in a positive manner. It means to encourage student associations' local initiatives that aim to adopt positions and to have feminist practices and demands, in a way that is respectful of their local sovereignty and therefore respectful of their realities and their struggles. AESPEP is submitting its summary, to possibly help associations get ideas for feminist positions, practices and demands.

## **Summary of AESPEP's feminist demands, practices and positions**

- AESPEP is in favour of free and consented sexual practices, and rejects any and all forms of sexual violence, be it physical or discursive.
- AESPEP condemns the use of slogans and/or signs and/or promotional videos and/or advertising that refer to sex in a degrading manner or that refer to rape.
- AESPEP is in favour and encourages equality between men and women, meaning that AESPEP pledges to develop feminist tools (such as feminization and promoting alternating between men and women in speech turns), to open spaces for feminist reflection among students in Political science and Philosophy, to support women's struggles and movements and to feminize its Bylaws and all of its communications.
- AESPEP is clearly and publicly in favour of the respect of all opinions expressed in its formal (GA, committee, etc.) and informal meetings between members of AESPEP, as long as these opinions don't include any hateful, racist, sexist, homophobic or transphobic content.
- Be it resolved that AESPEP remind the ASSÉ Congress that feminism is plural and that it implies diversity of tactics.
- Whereas AESPEP has pro-feminist positions; Be it therefore resolved that AESPEP pledge to include in the program's structure any new class dedicated to feminism in Political science and Philosophy so that it may be available as an elective.

### Article 18: Feminist Council

The Feminist Council is a decision-making body. In that sense, it can adopt positions on certain subjects and issue mandates to the Executive. Its decision-making power is however limited as it cannot adopt positions that don't concern the cause of feminism. The body is mixed in its deliberations, but non-mixed in its decision-making. Meaning that all members may deliberate, but voting rights are reserved to people of female sex or gender. The positions and mandates adopted in this instance have the same value as those adopted in General Assembly, but any decision impacting the bylaws must be ratified by the GA.

The minimum quorum for the Feminist Council is that a third of the participants are of female sex or gender and are members of AESPEP, or in the case that there are fewer than nine participants who are members of AESPEP, the quorum is of three people of female sex or gender. The Feminist Council must convene at least once during the fall semester and once during the winter semester, with a minimum notice of one week. It may be convened independently from the General Assembly and may also be convened within a GA under the condition that the GA specify that the Council will convene inside the GA. In any case, the Feminist Council must be chaired by a person of female sex or gender. Any member of AESPEP may request that the

Council convene. He or she must submit such a request to the president who then has three days to convene the Council, which must take place at in at least seven and at the most fourteen days after the convocation. All procedures not otherwise specified in the present article are the same as in a GA.

Non-mixed caucus:

If the context requires it, people of female sex or gender may convene amongst themselves to discuss certain sensitive subjects, but may not adopt a position or resolution (except to waive the voting rights exclusivity for people of female sex or gender). The non-mixed caucus is convened as soon as a person of female sex or gender expresses the need for it. Discussions in non-mixed caucuses are based on good faith and must not be used as a means to exclude male members of AESPEP from the dialogue. Therefore, if the chairwoman considers that the request for a non-mixed caucus is done in bad faith, she may refuse the request. It is possible to appeal the chairwoman's decision through the regular procedures for doing so. Once back in mixed Council, the chairwoman must present a summary of the discussions that took place in non-mixity without disclosing any information that would undermine the anonymity offered by the caucus.

Waiving the voting rights exclusivity for women:

The Council may, if it deems it necessary, to give voting rights to all members of AESPEP on certain subjects according to the modalities it deems fit. Waiving the voting rights exclusivity for people of female sex or gender must be done by a 2/3 vote and must be decided in a non-mixed caucus.

## **SECMV'S SUMMARY**

*(Submitted April 15th, 2016)*

The SECMV Feminist Committee was created in 2007, and has endured many highs and lows since then. For several years, the Feminist Committee was relatively moribund, but several women organized themselves in order to put forward feminist practices and principles at SECMV, as well as in Cégep Marie-Victorin. It's important to understand that the Cégep's population is 75% female, and that feminism both in practice and in principle are at the heart of the student association.

Since fall 2015, the women of the SECMV Women's Committee have been particularly active. A safe space was furnished for female students. Meetings are held every week in order to organize among women and to create new projects. A feminist library was founded and is open to all students in the Cégep. A compendium of feminist texts and zines was also created.

The Feminist Committee also published a reflection text on the place of feminism at ASSÉ, following several problems with the provincial organization (“Critical reflection text on the ASSÉ Women’s Committee and the place of feminism in our organization”). Different information materials were created on a variety of subjects, namely on sexist Halloween costumes, condemning sexist advertising, as well as creating a campaign on consent in collaboration with our self-managed student café, l’Exil. Workshops on topics such as the importance of non-mixity were organized in order to deconstruct prejudices surrounding such topics. Recently, the Feminist Committee took on an important project: organizing a feminist training camp which will take place on April 30th and May 1st. Finally, SECMV has several daily feminist practices, such as distributing free condoms, pamphlets on attitudes to avoid during parties as well as flyers on consent during all of our festive events. We also alternate between men and women in all our instances. We also promote the importance of feminizing written documents and speech turns during General Assemblies, committee meetings, Executive Council meetings and even between activists.

**Attached you’ll find a list of demands adopted by our General Assembly.**

Be it resolved that ASSÉ launch a campaign whose principle demands are (on the topic of student labour):

- Full wages for all students at any level doing an internship
- The abolition of parental contribution in the financial aid contribution
- Collegial management (between students, professors, and employees) of educational institutions
- The recognition of the value and the concrete use of student production by the implementation of such a program at both the Cégep and University levels
- In the perspective of recognizing studies as intellectual labour worthy of wages and of decent conditions.

Be it further resolved that the feminist aspect of this campaign and its demands be put forward, namely because the current financial aid format contributes in maintaining the patriarchal institution of marriage.

Be it further resolved that the anti-ableist aspect of this campaign and its demands be put forward, since students with special needs are particularly penalized by the obligation of balancing work and studies.

Be it further resolved that this campaign put forward the too-often despised reality of LGBTQIIAA+ students, for whom the actual student condition forcing them to live in sometimes tense situations with families who are opposed to the student’s sexual freedom.

Be it further resolved that this campaign put forward the too-often despised reality of students in technical programs, for whom internships and financial aid have a greater



impact than University tuition fees, an issue that is constantly at the heart of the student struggle.

Be it further resolved that we study the possibility of including guaranteed minimum wage and/or the inclusion of students in this measure into our demands.

*Whereas it's important that equality between the sexes be promoted in school settings;  
Whereas literature is an important instrument in reproducing social and cultural values;  
Whereas literary works written by women are underrepresented in school curricula;*

Be it therefore resolved that SECMV be in favour equal representation between male and female authors in all Cégep-level required readings.

Be it further resolved that SECMV be in favour of feminizing post-secondary education.

*Whereas the feminist movement is in constant evolution and encompasses several heterogeneous and conflicting feminists;  
Whereas since the feminist movement involves taking position, the content of the taught class will be irremediably subjective;  
Whereas it would be detrimental to women in the feminist struggle if a Ministry took charge of the creation of such a program;*

Be it therefore resolved that SECMV oppose the creation of an institutionalized Cégep-level class on feminism.

06-05-2015

Be it resolved that SECMV demand the abolition of the (fictitious or actual) position of ASSÉ spokesperson, and that all communications with media be done by local spokespeople, alternating between men and women and between Cégep and University students.

01-04-2015

Be it resolved that SECMV condemn rape culture as well as all acts of sexual assault, abuse or harassment.

Be it further resolved that SECMV create safe spaces available to everyone in all events it organizes or takes part in.

Be it further resolved that SECMV not tolerate any slogan, action or discourse that legitimizes or trivializes rape.

Be it further resolved that SECMV support as best as it can any member wishing recourse against anyone or against an assaulter, keeping in mind that the survivors are in the best position to decide which is the most effective way for them to begin the healing process.

Be it further resolved that SECMV ensure that the recourses done by members against an assaulter in the context of transformative justice be respected within its instances and events that it organizes.

11-02-2015

*Whereas the 7th core principle and the sixth criterion 4 and 5 of the ASSÉ Bylaws are to be respected;*

Be it therefore resolved that SECMV demand that ASSÉ respect its Bylaws.

Be it further resolved that, in that sense, SECMV demand that ASSÉ consider as non-member the student associations that don't have feminist principles, practices and demands unless they pledge to do so before the Annual Congress.

07-04-14

Be it resolved that SECMV support LGBTQ struggles (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer).

30-11-11

*Whereas the question of access to education in feminism has and still continues to be very important;*

*Whereas problems related to gender equality often take place during periods of intense mobilization, such as a general unlimited strike;*

*Whereas the need for feminist information material, training and support in sustaining or creating local feminist committees has been felt among student associations;*

*Whereas a will to bring a feminist discourse into CLASSE's discourse, mobilizations and actions has been manifested;*

*Whereas the feminist movement is, as much as the current struggle, a combative one;*

Be it therefore resolved that CLASSE integrate a Feminist Committee, of which the members of the Women's Committee would be de facto part of.

The Committee's functioning: The Feminist Committee will, during the Coalition period, be a committee in support of the ASSÉ Women's Committee. The Feminist Committee will include collaborators [male and female] that are not under the obligation to be elected by Congress, but who must submit a letter to Congress signifying their membership. They remain accountable to Congress. The mandate of the Committee is to:

- Organise feminist actions;
- Train feminist spokespeople;
- Create feminist mobilization material;
- Publish feminist texts or articles;
- Ensure feminism's visibility during demonstrations.

18-02-09

Be it resolved that SECMV propose that feminism not mandatorily be a demand in every ASSÉ campaign, but that its analysis be included globally, should the topic relate to it, as much as any other related factor (social, economic, etc.).

Be it further resolved that SECMV support the WOMEN-FAMILIES committee in its demands.

## RESUL'S SUMMARY

*(Submitted April 19th, 2016)*

Here you'll find a list of feminist mandates and demands adopted by RESUL's General Assembly, as well as a list of concrete feminist practices that apply the said mandates.

### **Mandates and demands adopted by General Assembly:**

#### **Position 18**

Be it resolved that RESUL be in favour of promoting that teaching should consider:

- Relevant feminist approaches to the studied subject matter (equal to any other field deemed relevant).
- The historical participation of both sexes with regards to the development of the studied subject matter (for example: through feminist content and a feminist bibliography).
- The "bad habits" that have been accumulated throughout history regarding shortcuts in the use of language or expressions, as well as solutions in order to avoid or resolve them (For example: when instead of "Humankind", we say "Mankind").

#### **Position 19**

Be it resolved that RESUL be opposed to the use of terminology or vocabulary that overshadow one sex or the other or that don't respect scientific neutrality.

#### **Position 20**

Be it resolved that RESUL be opposed to any and all forms of advertising that promote a standardized female or male body, namely those employed or broadcasted by capitalism and patriarchy.

**Position 21**

Be it resolved that RESUL be opposed to the commercial exploitation of one's image, namely in advertising.

**Position 22**

Be it resolved that RESUL be in favour of equal wages as well as equality for social benefits related to being a parent.

**Position 23**

Be it resolved that RESUL be in favour of free contraceptives.

**Position 24**

Be it resolved that RESUL be in favour of abortion rights as well as its economic, political and geographic accessibility.

**Position 25**

Be it resolved that RESUL be opposed to the promotion of the heterosexual couple as an ideal model for sexual orientation, and that it be opposed to any and all benefits (economic or social) granted to couples.

**Position 32**

Be it resolved that RESUL support the UL Women's Committee in its efforts to implement feminist popular education and to broadcast its projects and activities related to feminist issues;

Be it further resolved that RESUL donate a \$40 photocopy card to the UL Women's Committee;

Be it further resolved that RESUL call on other associations to support the UL Women's Committee;

Be it further resolved that the Executive place a pot for contributions at the RESUL office as well as during events and that all proceeds be given to the UL Women's Committee.

**Position 39**

Be it resolved that RESUL be opposed to heteronormativity and that it support LGBTQIA struggles as well local (University) initiatives opposing the binary categorization of gender.

### **Practices:**

Here is a list of practices that are always in place at RESUL:

- Feminization of speech and of written communications;
- Alternating speech-turns between men, women, and non-binary people during GA's and Exec meetings;
- We encourage non-mixity in all our instances;
- Presence of a mood watcher during our GA's.
- Equal representation in our Executive (there are even more women than men).
- Encouraging feminist initiatives on campus.

Since our association only has about one hundred members, it's impossible for us to have our own Women's Committee.

Since there are many diverse feminist initiatives on campus and that RESUL members can participate in them (conferences, café-discussions, non-mixed discussion circles), RESUL considers that encouraging these initiatives is sufficient in order to favour feminist reflection and discussion on campus.

### **Reflections regarding the notice of motion:**

This notice of motion could be an excellent occasion for collectively thinking about our feminist positions and practices within our instances and on campus. We consider this reflection to be important and one that must be frequently renewed. Therefore, we're grateful for this opportunity, although it could've been brought in a different way. That being said, we consider our feminist practices to be sufficient.

Keeping in mind the particular context that is Quebec City, where mobilization in a broad sense is less active and where values such as feminism are less promoted, we consider that encouraging existing initiatives is sufficient, since in any case, the same women would be the ones holding the torch in different instances, which would mean a significant increase in their workload.

It'd undoubtedly be beneficial if every association were as active as the ones in Montreal, but one must understand local realities and respect as well as encourage these localities when adopting new practices and mandates. Rather than seeking to understand associations' dynamics, we consider that AFESH is institutionalizing a domination dynamic between itself and other associations, which contributes in excluding associations from outside Montreal.

# ABEILL'S SUMMARY

*(Submitted April 19th, 2016)*

## 1. Positions and demands

### ABEILL's old positions

- For equality between men and women.
- For feminizing written documents. (2012)
- ABEILL is anti-homophobic, anti-heteronormative and against all forms of religious, racial, and sexual discrimination (15-04-2015);

### Positions adopted during the 2015-2016 schoolyear

Be it resolved that ABEILL encourage local (University) initiatives opposing a binary categorization of gender, such as gender-neutral bathrooms.

*(23-03-2016)*

Be it resolved that ABEILL be in favour of teaching that recognize the historic gains made by women with the aim of recognizing their participation, their struggles and their demands, both past, present, and future, in their quest for a more just society.

*(23-03-2016)*

Be it resolved that ABEILL be opposed to the use of terminology or vocabulary that overshadow one sex or the other or that don't respect scientific neutrality.

*(23-03-2016)*

Be it resolved that ABEILL be opposed to any and all forms of advertising that promote a standardized female or male body, namely those employed or broadcasted by capitalism and patriarchy.

*(23-03-2016)*

Be it resolved that RESUL be in favour of equal wages as well as equality for social benefits related to being a parent.

*(23-03-2016)*

Be it resolved that ABEILL be in favour of free contraceptives, and that it be opposed to taxation of feminine hygiene products.

*(23-03-2016)*

Be it resolved that ABEILL be in favour of abortion rights as well as its economic, political and geographic accessibility.

*(23-03-2016)*

Be it resolved that ABEILL recognize the intersectionality and the plurality of feminist and

LGBTQ+ struggles, meaning the diversity of material conditions and social, economic, political, geographic, and spiritual contexts surrounding different realities and demands.  
(23-03-2016)

## **2. Practices and accomplishments**

First of all, when reforming the Bylaws last year, ABEILL recognized the necessity of having a mood watcher during its General Assemblies and, therefore, added such a position to its praesidium. Also, we alternate between men and women during speech turns in GA's. Furthermore, although it's not enshrined in its Bylaws, ABEILL has had over the past years (or at least in the past three and also next year), an Executive Council composed mostly of women. The Executive also feminizes its speech and written documents, and promotes this practice among its members.

Feminist activities are organized by ABEILL's Mobilization Committee since it doesn't have a Women's Committee and due to difficulties in reaching students. Also, the UL Women's Committee was pretty active over the past year and ABEILL's Mobilization Committee has always invited its members to the events and conferences that are organized. Recently, ABEILL's Mobilization Committee organized a "trust event" dealing with feminist and Queer events as well as domination dynamics. This event also included a presentation on the history of the different feminist and LGBTQ+ movements. We also explained some lesser known concepts and explained the importance of non-mixed discussion groups. We then did a presentation on domination dynamics and then, in break-out groups, did a game where one person mimed the dynamic and the others had to guess it.

## FASA'S SUMMARY

(Submitted April 20th, 2016)

### Motions adopted in a General Meeting:

Be It Resolved That FASA reiterate its position for a combative feminism towards the abolition of the patriarchal system, against all forms of oppression and discrimination.

BIRFT FASA favor, in its structures, the empowerment of women, towards a complete gender equality, by the creation of non-mixed caucuses and the implementation and full support of a Women Committee, under the responsibility of the Mob Squad.

BIRFT FASA make it mandatory for all its coordinators and for one representative of every clubs and affiliates to attend a workshop on consent and the effects of sexual and gender-based violence.

BIRFT FASA invites all other student associations of Concordia and the administration of Concordia to make this workshop mandatory for every student leaders.

*Adopted at the 2015 AGM*

*Considering the motion notice deposited by AFESH (Social Sciences UQAM student association) to be considered at the Annual ASSÉ Congress the 16th- 17th of April 2016;*

*Considering that this motion calls on certain targeted member associations of ASSÉ to publicly prove their feminist positions, principles and practices;*

*Considering that this motions calls for the exclusion of any associations who fail to adequately publicly prove their feminist positions, principles and practices;*

Be it resolved that FASA oppose the divisive nature of this motion which creates a division and a hierarchy of 'most feminist' and 'least feminist' associations;

Be it resolved that FASA encourage the sharing of resources and information between member associations of ASSÉ in order to favor the growth of local feminist mobilization across CEGEP and University campuses;

Be it resolved that FASA invite its membership to partake in feminist activities organized by ASSÉ and its member associations in order to continue fostering feminist culture and debate within FASA;

Be it resolved that FASA publish a report summarizing its feminist principles, practices and points of future improvement and disseminate this report over ASSÉ-support (internal mailing list of ASSÉ) in the desire to inspire and enhance collaboration between member associations around feminist issues;

Be It Resolved That FASA reiterate its position for a combative feminism towards the abolition of the patriarchal system, against all forms of oppression and discrimination.

BIRFT FASA favor, in its structures, the empowerment of women, towards a complete gender equality, by the creation of non-mixed caucuses and the implementation and full



support of a Women Committee, under the responsibility of the Mob Squad.

BIRFT FASA make it mandatory for all its coordinators and for one representative of every clubs and affiliates to attend a workshop on consent and the effects of sexual and gender-based violence.

BIRFT FASA invites all other student associations of Concordia and the administration of Concordia to make this workshop mandatory for every student leaders.

*Adopted at the 2016 AGM*

### **General feminism practice:**

FASA support and finance many feminist oriented initiatives within Concordia's Fine Arts community such as Ylara Magazine and the Queer Print Club.

#### **Ylara**

Ylara Magazine is a student-run feminist art and art history undergraduate publication. Based in Montreal, our project includes an annual printed magazine, an exhibition, along with other community events. Past publications have featured a variety of written and visual material from McGill, Concordia, UdeM and UQAM. By encouraging feminist dialogue within the field of art, we strive to examine representations of women, raise questions in relation to the art historical canon and foray into the realm of gender exploration.

#### **Queer Print Club**

The Queer Print Club is a student-run Concordia University fine art print media collective of queer, lesbian, gay, trans\*, two-spirited, bisexual, asexual, intersex, questioning, and allies. Members of the club include Concordia students enrolled in Print Media classes. QPCC is a branch of SPA (Student Printmaking Association, Concordia).

The QPC aim to create a non-hierarchical space to discuss, share ideas and make together (or apart) zines and other print projects. Their projects mostly explore the collaborative, community-based and democratic aspects of print as well as creating a space to fuel personal projects.

# MOTIONS

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## 0. CALL TO ORDER

## 1. PROCEDURES

### 1.1. Praesidium

### 1.2. Motion to adopt the agenda

#### 1.3.1. Be it resolved that we adopt this agenda :

« 1. Call to Order Procedures

1.1. Call to Order

1.2. Animation

1.3. Agenda

1.4. Motion to adopt the minutes

2. Welcoming new members

3. Deliberation on notice of motion

4. Summary

5. Finances

6. Women

7. Elections

8. Action plan

9. Demands

10. Submission of notice of motions

11. Varia

12. Adjournment »

*Submitted by the Executive Council*

*(Submitted on April 1st, 2016)*

### 1.3. Motion to adopt the minutes

## 2. WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

2.1. Be it resolved that we welcome AECA within ASSÉ.

*Submitted by the Executive Council  
(Submitted April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016)*

## 3. DELIBERATION ON NOTICE OF MOTION

3.1. *Whereas the 7th core principle and article 5 of the second chapter of the Bylaws, modified in 2013 are to be considered,*

*Whereas feminist principles, demands and practices are expected to be plural,*

Be it therefore resolved that the Congress invite the associations affiliated to ASSÉ to apply and organize more feminist practices,

Be it further resolved that AGECD, AGEBdeB, AGES, RÉÉSUM, AGEECLG, ABEILL and AGEEM must prove that they have feminist demands,

Be it further resolved that AGECAL, AECS, SCPASA, ACCSUM, FASA, AÉÉCSGUM, AELCUM, AÉMUM, Asso-CETASE, AEHUM, ADÉPUL, AÉÉA-UL, AGEPP-UL, AGÉÉTUL, RÉÉAV, RÉFUL, AHCSSA, AGEMDELCUS, MEDIAS, AECSSP-UQAM, and AGEDEV must prove that they have feminist principles, demands, and practices,

Be it further resolved that AGEFCXG must prove that it has feminist principles and practices,

Be it further resolved that the Liberal Arts Society must prove that it has feminist principles,

Be it further resolved that AECSAUM must prove that it has feminist demands and practices,

Be it further resolved that these mandates be sent on ASSÉ-Support,

Be it further resolved that if these conditions aren't met by the annual Congress, that the Congress consider these associations as non-members,

*Submitted by AFESH-UQAM*

3.2. Be it resolved that we add "Article 30" to Chapter 6 "Executive Council" of the ASSÉ Bylaws:

"The minutes of the Executive Council meetings are deemed public. The minutes are put on-line on the ASSÉ website three (3) weeks after their adoption.

*Submitted by the Executive Council  
(Submitted March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016)*

3.3. Be it resolved that we modify Appendix I of the ASSÉ Bylaws in accordance with Appendix 1 of the preparation booklet.

*Submitted by the Coordination Council  
(Submitted March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016)*

## 4. SUMMARY

**4.1.** *Whereas these associations haven't participated in any ASSÉ instances for at least a year, whereas we've been unable to contact these associations for a while, whereas being a member of ASSÉ means at the very least to attend ASSÉ's instances.*

Be it therefore resolved that we expel the following members: AÉÉCSGUM, AÉMUM, AGEMDELCUS, Asso-CETASE, RÉÉAV.

*Submitted by the Executive Council  
(Submitted April 1st, 2016)*

## 5. FINANCES

**5.1.** Be it resolved that ASSÉ allocate \$150 from its Mutual Assistance Fund to AHCSSA which would allow it to remain a member of ASSÉ and to develop its ability to engage and work alongside ASSÉ.

*Submitted by AHCSSA-McGill  
(Submitted February 11th, 2016)*

**5.2.** *Whereas AÉCSAUM is a small association and that it doesn't have very high dues, Whereas AÉCSAUM will have difficulty assuming its regular expenses before the end of the semester,*

Be it therefore resolved that ASSÉ allocate \$300 from its Mutual Assistance Fund to AÉCSAUM

*Submitted by AECSAUM  
(Submitted March 12th, 2016)*

**5.3.** Be it resolved that ASSÉ make a donation to AGEFLESH through the Arrest Fund equivalent to the amount of its fall 2015 dues, meaning \$3075.

*Submitted by AGEFLESH  
(Submitted March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016)*

**5.4.** Be it resolved that the Executive Council give a 30 minute presentation of the 2014-2015 financial statements, followed by a 15 minute question period.

*Submitted by the Executive Council  
(Submitted April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016)*

**5.5.** Be it resolved that ASSÉ allocate \$840 (the amount of its debt caused by unpaid dues) from the Mutual Aid Fund to ADEPUL.

*Submitted by ADEPUL  
(Submitted April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016)*

**5.6.** Be it resolved that we allocate \$3500 to AECSF from the Mutual Aid Fund in order to help cover expenses regarding participation in ASSÉ's instances.

*Submitted by AECSF  
(Submitted April 12th, 2016, after deadline)*

5.7. Be it resolved that we adopt the 2016-2017 budget proposal (See Appendix 5).

*Submitted by the Executive Council  
(Submitted April 18th, 2016)*

5.8. Whereas the associations that are a part of CRASL are small and far from one another;  
Whereas transportation fees will inevitably rise if we wish to have a strong and activist body;  
Whereas there's a need to create specific mobilization material for the region;

Be it therefore resolved that we add \$1000 to the \$500 already proposed for CRASL.

*Submitted by AECSF  
(Submitted April 19th, 2016)*

## **6. WOMEN**

## **7. ELECTIONS**

## **8. ACTION PLAN**

8.1. Be it resolved that the Orientation Congress be centered on the following themes:

1) direct democracy, inclusion, centralization of power and montrealcentrism

2) committees and councils' mandates

3) ASSÉ's policies

4) antiracist practice and discourse

5) feminist practice and discourse

*Submitted by the Executive Council  
(Submitted April 1st, 2016)*

8.2. Be it resolved that the annual campaign be on the financial instability of the student class.

Be it further resolved that, in this campaign, ASSÉ demand an improvement in the student class' living conditions.

Be it further resolved that, to this end, ASSÉ oppose any and all increase in education fees (tuition fees, ancillary fees, related costs, or mandatory institutional fees).

Be it further resolved that ASSÉ demand an increase in funding for the financial aid program, as well as the abolition of the parental contribution.

Be it further resolved that ASSÉ condemn the exploitation of students through their use as cheap labour, namely through the free labour that they offer during unpaid internships.

Be it further resolved that ASSÉ condemn the cuts done to student services in educational institutions.

Be it further resolved that ASSÉ condemn the cuts and fusions of Cégep and University programs across Quebec.

Be it further resolved that ASSÉ demand that regional Cégeps' and Universities' existence as well as of their activities and funding be maintained.

Be it further resolved that ASSÉ highlight the fact that women and people of colour are disproportionately affected by these deteriorations in the student class' conditions.

Be it further resolved that the campaign be named "Sick of being poor!"

*Submitted by the Executive Council*

*(Submitted April 3rd, 2016)*

**8.3.** Be it resolved that ASSÉ launch a campaign whose principle demands are (on the topic of student labour):

- Full wages for all students at any level doing an internship
- The abolition of parental contribution in the financial aid contribution
- Collegial management (between students, professors, and employees) of educational institutions
- The recognition of the value and the concrete use of student production by the implementation of such a program at both the Cégep and University levels in the perspective of recognizing studies as intellectual labour worthy of wages and of decent conditions.

Be it further resolved that the feminist aspect of this campaign and its demands be put forward, namely because the current financial aid format contributes in maintaining the patriarchal institution of marriage.

Be it further resolved that the anti-ableist aspect of this campaign and its demands be put forward, since students with special needs are particularly penalized by the obligation of balancing work and studies.

Be it further resolved that this campaign put forward the too-often despised reality of LGBTQIIAA+ students, for whom the actual student condition forcing them to live in sometimes tense situations with families who are opposed to the student's sexual freedom.

Be it further resolved that this campaign put forward the too-often despised reality of students in technical programs, for whom internships and financial aid have a greater impact than University tuition fees, an issue that is constantly at the heart of the student struggle.

Be it further resolved that we study the possibility of including guaranteed minimum wage and/or the inclusion of students in this measure into our demands.

*Submitted by SECMV*

*(Submitted April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016)*

**8.4.** *Whereas several associations have mandates for decentralizing and opening executive*

*power;*

Be it therefore resolved that we create an ad hoc committee for organizing the Orientation Congress that is independent of the Congress.

Be it further resolved that the principal responsibilities of this committee be:

- Ensure the logistics of the Orientation Congress;
- Call for memoires on the themes decided upon by Congress;
- Create a reflection forum that would broadcast these texts and that would allow for comments on them;
- Ensure a follow-up with member associations.

Be it further resolved that this committee be constituted by an unlimited number of people;

Be it further resolved that this committee ensure a follow-up with active regional councils and with individual associations who are not members of an active regional council;

Be it further resolved that, as a matter of independence and of decentralizing executive power, we invite members of the national team to not attend committee meetings.

Be it further resolved that the Executive Council only lend support to the committee, upon request.

*Submitted by AECSL  
(Submitted April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016)*

**8.5.** *Whereas it is important to hold intermediate instances to ensure effective logistical follow-ups and to ensure the application of Congress mandates;  
Whereas, as was adopted at the fall Congress, the Coordination Council was on a trial period until the Annual Congress;*

Be it therefore resolved that we retain the Coordination Council until the next Congress.

*Submitted by the Executive Council  
(Submitted April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016)*

**8.6.** *Whereas institutional and everyday racism are part of our society;  
Whereas a significant increase in xenophobia and racism has been observed over the past years in Quebec;  
Whereas there's a need to actively respond to this situation through struggle;  
Whereas our organizations are not exempt of racist dynamics;  
Whereas racialized people aren't generally involved in their student associations, including in ASSÉ;  
Whereas our Bylaws state that one of ASSÉ's aims is to "unite local student unions at a regional and national level in order to defend students' interests through or by: [...] supporting progressive struggles, including those led by workers, women, native peoples, and immigrants;*

Be it therefore resolved that we create an ad hoc Antiracist Committee at ASSÉ until the Orientation Congress of fall 2016.

Be it further resolved that this Committee be tasked with bringing reflections on antiracist struggles at ASSÉ to the said Orientation Congress.

Be it further resolved that the Committee's description read as follows:

The Antiracist Committee is non-mixed. It is therefore composed of racialized students. Its aims are to promote the struggle for the condition of racialized people in education and in the rest of society, through all of ASSÉ's instances. It may also:

- Produce, in collaboration with the Information Committee, material concerning its topics.
- Ensure the presence of an antiracist analysis, in an intersectional perspective, within its publications.
- Organize, in collaboration with local and regional mobilization committees, antiracist actions.
- Encourage the creation of non-mixed spaces for racialized students and encourage their involvement in student associations.
- Sit at the Coordination Council, where it has the right to second and submit motions.
- Name someone as responsible for coordinating the Committee in order to ensure close collaboration with the Secretary General of the Coordination Council or with the Executive Council.

*Submitted by the Executive Council*

*(Submitted April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016)*

**8.7.** Be it resolved that the next ASSÉ Orientation Congress (in the fall of 2016) be on the topic of ASSÉ's democratic structures.

Be it further resolved that the sub-topics be the following:

- Communication between local associations;
- Links between local associations and the national level (ASSÉ's national team);
- Associations' corporatism (broadening struggles, links with labour federations, transparency, etc.);
- National team's structure;
- Internal domination dynamics.

*Submitted by AFÉA-UQAM*

*(Submitted April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016)*



**8.8.** Be it resolved that the associations affiliated to ASSÉ that do not respect its seven principles before the next Orientation Congress no longer be recognized as members of ASSÉ.

*Submitted by AFÉA-UQAM  
(Submitted April 19th, 2016)*

## **9. DEMANDS**

**9.1.** Be it resolved that ASSÉ's mandate of mistrust towards the student federations be extended to include the Quebec Student Union [Union Étudiante du Québec, UEQ].

*Submitted by the Executive Council  
(Submitted April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016)*

## **10. SUBMISSION OF NOTICE OF MOTION**

**10.1.** Modifying article 59 – “General considerations and caucuses” of the ASSÉ Code for Rules of Order.

“During sittings, conversing aloud is prohibited. However, any delegation may request that the Chair grant a period for consultation for a maximum of two (2) minutes. The Chair decrees a caucus. The caucus ends when the delegation requesting it no longer needs it or when the allocated time has elapsed. A delegation may then ask for a new caucus. There cannot be more than a maximum of three (3) consecutive caucuses on any given motion. It is not possible to request a caucus during voting procedures.”

*Submitted by the Executive Council  
(Submitted April 1st, 2016)*

## **11. VARIA**

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

# APPENDICES

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## APPENDIX 1 : MOTION TO MODIFY APPENDIX I OF THE ASSÉ BYLAWS

*(Submitted by the Coordination Council)*

### APPENDIX I : ARREST FUND

#### Article A27 : PRINCIPLES

The Fund exists in solidarity with those who are arrested in the context of demonstrations and actions that are in accordance with the principles and demands of ASSÉ, as well as those who are facing administrative or disciplinary measures by their educational establishment's administration, regardless of their role or political position in the organization. The Fund considers that all activists arrested in the context of the student struggle have the right to logistical, human and financial support. The ASSÉ Legal Committee seeks to respond to every need expressed by these people and considers that no one should be forced to plead guilty for reasons of financial need.

#### Article A28 : CRITERIA

The Fund is primarily destined to people who have been arrested in the context of protests and actions that are in accordance with ASSÉ's principles and demands, as well as those who are facing administrative or disciplinary measures by their educational establishment's administration, and who have made contact with ASSÉ's Legal Committee.

Financial resources are allocated to people who request it according to the following order of priority:

1. People facing criminal charges, particularly those that could lead to imprisonment;

1.1. Individual trial: in the case of Legal Aid being refused, the Fund covers all costs related to the defense. Regarding Contributory Legal Aid, the Fund covers the cost of the requested contribution;

1.2. Collective trial (mass arrest leading to criminal charges or individual arrests leading to criminal charges in the context of a single event): the Fund's support is determined according to, among others, the following criteria: the amount of people arrested – the amount of Legal Aid mandates – the amount of lawyers representing the group – the length and complexity of the case;

2. People who are facing administrative or disciplinary measures by their educational establishment's administration, such as expulsion or threats of expulsion;

3. People facing penal charges (e.g.: tickets, mass arrests);
4. People who targeted for their role in political organizing.

Considering the transformation and expansion of the forms of repression, the ASSÉ Legal Committee has a certain degree of flexibility in the application of its mandates, which is oriented towards the preoccupation of offering its support to people who are targeted by new forms of repression.

When evaluating requests for financial aid, the Committee considers the following criteria:

- Other resources (Legal Aid, local associations, etc.) people have access to;
- The risks for targeted individuals and the impacts on their lives;
- Political profiling;
- Equity among requests;
- The impact of a legal decision on current struggles;
- Other considerations.

#### **Article A29 : EXPENSES COVERED**

This list applies to people who are representing themselves as well as people represented by a lawyer.

1. Bail;
2. Lawyers' fees (a prior agreement with the Legal Committee is required);
3. Legal fees (transcripts, etc.);
4. Logistical fees (transportation to the venue, etc.);
5. Access to information requests;
6. Other defense-related expenses.

In cases of emergency only, a loan may be done to a person in order to avoid any important consequences related to their prosecution (e.g.: paying a fine after a plea of guilty or a verdict of guilt).

### **Article A30 : CONFLICTS OF 'INTEREST**

Lawyers cannot be elected to the Legal Committee. Members of the Legal Committee must declare to the other members of the Committee any actual or apparent conflict of interest related to any decision. Members of the Legal Committee must recuse themselves from any decision in cases where an actual or apparent conflict of interest may arise. The Legal Committee is accountable to ASSÉ's instances at all time.

The Committee approves of the Bylaws enacted above and ensures their application. It must receive and rule on funding requests for legal defenses. It is also authorized to reimburse accrued expenses, solely upon presentation of receipts.

## **APPENDIX 2 : CURRENT VERSION OF APPENDIX I OF THE ASSÉ BYLAWS**

*(Submitted by the Coordination Council)*

### **APPENDIX I : ARREST FUND**

#### **Article A27 : Principles**

The Fund exists in solidarity with those who are arrested in the context of demonstrations and of the student struggle, regardless of their role in organizing the demonstrations or of their political position. The Fund considers that all activists arrested in the context of the student struggle have the right to logistical, human and financial support. The Committee considers that no one should be forced to plead guilty for reasons of financial need, and it seeks to respond to the needs of all those who have been arrested.

#### **Article A28 : Criteria**

The Fund is primarily intended for people arrested during student demonstrations and who make contact with ASSÉ's legal committee in accordance with the following criteria.

Money will be distributed according to the following order of priority:

1. To those facing criminal charges that could lead to imprisonment;
2. To those without access to other sources of funds (legal aid, local associations, etc.);
3. To militants targeted for their role in political organizing.

#### **Article A29 : Expenses covered**

1. Transportation to the venue;
2. Legal fees (transcripts, etc.);
3. Bail;
4. Logistical costs;
5. Access to Information requests;
6. Lawyers' fees (a prior agreement with the Legal Committee is required);

7. Other expenses linked to legal costs.

**Article A30 : Conflicts of Interest**

Those who are accused and lawyers cannot be elected to the Legal Committee. The members of the Committee must recuse themselves from meetings in situations where they might have conflicts of interest of another kind. The ad hoc Legal Committee acts autonomously but answers at all times to ASSÉ's Congress. The Committee approves the Bylaws enacted above and ensures that they are implemented. It must receive and rule on funding requests for legal defenses. It is also authorized to reimburse accrued expenses, solely upon presentation of receipts.

# **APPENDIX 3 : MOTION FOR A NEW CHAPTER 5 OF THE ASSÉ BYLAWS**

*(Submitted by the Executive Council)*

## **CHAPTER 5: COORDINATION COUNCIL**

### **ARTICLE 20: COMPOSITION**

The Coordination Council is made up of the following delegations: the Executive Council, the Committees and the active Councils, and the member associations. Every delegation can count up to three persons with at least one woman or one non-binary person if the delegation is made up of two or three persons. Every delegation has a right to vote and propose but only the Executive Council, the Regional Councils and the Committees have the right to vote.

### **ARTICLE 21: AIMS AND FUNCTIONS**

The Coordination Council aims to coordinate the national campaigns. It is responsible to put in motion, assisted by the Executive Council, the Congress' decisions. It also has the following duties:

1. Produce a report of its activities to every Annual Congress;
2. Promote ASSÉ and student unionism;
3. Insure and improve the internal cohesion of ASSÉ;
4. Supervise, assist and insure the well-being of the Executive Council and the Committees.

### **ARTICLE 22: POWERS**

The Coordination Council is responsible of ASSÉ's decision making process in-between Congresses although it cannot in any case make decisions regarding affiliations, suspensions, expulsions, the Bylaws, membership dues or ASSÉ's dissolution. Any decision made by the Coordination Council must be made in conformity with the Congress' general political and ideological orientations. It can precise and add content to existing resolutions but cannot adopt new ones. It can precise and add content to the existing action plan but cannot adopt a new one. The Coordination Council cannot come back on any decision made by the Congress but the Congress can come back on decisions made by the Coordination Council. Every Regional Council has a veto to bring any subject to the Congress.

The powers administered to the Coordination Council are the followings:

1. Make recommendations and propositions to the Congress;
2. Create ad hoc committees to help its work;
3. Insure the execution of the decisions made by the Congress;
4. Resolve any dispute between ASSÉ and its many bodies;
5. Define the tasks assigned to the Committees.
6. Appoint an interim member of the Executive Council or the Committees until the next Congress;
7. Relieve of its functions any individual it has appointed.

### **ARTICLE 23: QUORUM**

The quorum is set at 50%+1 of ASSÉ's Committees and active Councils.

### **ARTICLE 24: SECRETARY-GENERAL**

There is one (1) Secretary-General of the Coordination Council. It is elected in Congress in accordance with the usual election procedure.

It has the following duties:

1. Share to ASSÉ's members the summon to the Coordination Council and insure the participation of the summoned delegations;
2. Prepare the agendas and preparation booklets of the Coordination Council meetings;
3. Supervise the execution of the mandates given by the Coordination Council to the Committees and Councils;
4. Make follow-ups regarding the decisions made by the Coordination Council;
5. Assist the Committees and Councils if needs be.

### **ARTICLE 25: CONVENING**

The Coordination Council has to be convened at least once a month with a maximum of 45 days between each meeting. It may be convened by itself, by the Secretary-General or by the Executive Council if the two others are not capable of doing so. In the case where the Executive Council is the only abled body to convene a Coordination Council, it may do so in a minimum of



14 days.

In the event of an extraordinary meeting of the Coordination Council, it has to be convened by at least three Committees or Councils. To do so, a written demand must be sent to the Executive Council who will then convene a meeting in the next 5 days following the demand.

The Coordination Council is convened through ASSÉ-Support in a message including the preparation documents, the minutes and the link to the video-conference.

## APPENDIX 4 : FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2014-2015

<i>Result</i>	
<b>INCOME</b>	
Fundraising activities	155,00 \$
Others	2 686,41 \$
Dues	198 939,99 \$
Donations	660,00 \$
Arrest fund	24 807,95 \$
Training camps	5 717,50 \$
Congress	2 356,60 \$
MSMC	1 449,75 \$
<b>Total income</b>	<b>236 773,20 \$</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>Administration</b>	<b>9 934,01 \$</b>
Various	74,58 \$
Registry fees	488,97 \$
Professional fees	9 370,46 \$
<b>Office</b>	<b>38 027,38 \$</b>
Office foodstuffs	1 611,86 \$
Insurance	3 225,00 \$
Office supplies	1 267,57 \$
Computer-related	77,17 \$
Rent	15 049,94 \$
Photocopier	16 795,84 \$
<b>Communications</b>	<b>14 870,37 \$</b>
CNW Telbec	2 989,38 \$
Press conference	1 088,96 \$
Mail	201,27 \$
Publicity	0,00 \$
Telecommunications	8 925,18 \$
Web	1 665,58 \$

<i>Forecast</i>	
<b>INCOME</b>	
Fundraising activities	0,00 \$
Others	0,00 \$
Dues	234 000,00 \$
Donations	500,00 \$
Arrest fund	35 000,00 \$
Training camps	3 000,00 \$
Congress	4 500,00 \$
MSMC	0,00 \$
<b>Total income</b>	<b>277 000,00 \$</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>Administration</b>	<b>7 600,00 \$</b>
Various	1 000,00 \$
Registry fees	600,00 \$
Professional fees	6 000,00 \$
<b>Office</b>	<b>43 500,00 \$</b>
Office foodstuffs	2 000,00 \$
Insurance	2 500,00 \$
Office Supplies	3 000,00 \$
Computer-related	1 500,00 \$
Rent	16 500,00 \$
Photocopier	18 000,00 \$
<b>Communications</b>	<b>17 700,00 \$</b>
CNW Telbec	7 000,00 \$
Press conference	500,00 \$
Mail	500,00 \$
Publicity	0,00 \$
Telecommunications	9 000,00 \$
Web	700,00 \$

Bas-Saint-Laurent	0,00 \$
CRAALLL	149,20 \$
CRAM	0,00 \$
FRAQ	0,00 \$
MASSE	0,00 \$
Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean	0,00 \$
<b>Various 1 700,00 \$</b>	
Legal fees	1 400,00 \$
Others	100,00 \$
T-shirts	0,00 \$
Donations	200,00 \$
Special projects	0,00 \$
<b>Employees 53 086,71 \$</b>	
<b>Mutual Aid Fund 5 000,00 \$</b>	
<b>Arrest Fund 40 938,36 \$</b>	
<b>Information 15 596,15 \$</b>	
Documentation and references	0,00 \$
IRIS	500,00 \$
Information material	5 711,37 \$
Translation	0,00 \$
Ultimatum and express	8 800,63 \$
Videos	584,15 \$

Bas-Saint-Laurent	500,00 \$
CRAALLL	500,00 \$
CRAM	500,00 \$
FRAQ	2 500,00 \$
MASSE	500,00 \$
Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean	500,00 \$
<b>Various 5 100,00 \$</b>	
Legal fees	3 000,00 \$
Others	100,00 \$
T-shirts	0,00 \$
Donations	2 000,00 \$
Special projects	0,00 \$
<b>Employees 40 000,00 \$</b>	
<b>Mutual Aid Fund 15 000,00 \$</b>	
<b>Arrest Fund 35 000,00 \$</b>	
<b>Information 35 200,00 \$</b>	
Documentation and reference	1 000,00 \$
IRIS	500,00 \$
Information material	9 000,00 \$
Translation	2 000,00 \$
Ultimatum and express	22 000,00 \$
Videos	700,00 \$

<b>Instances</b>	<b>34 005,41 \$</b>
Training camps	16 423,07 \$
Committees and CoCo	3 931,64 \$
Congresses	13 400,70 \$
Special instances	250,00 \$
<b>Mobilization</b>	<b>54 640,94 \$</b>
Material for actions	23 589,02 \$
Tours and representation	31 051,92 \$
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>267 948,53 \$</b>

<b>Instances</b>	<b>13 500,00 \$</b>
Training camps	5 500,00 \$
Committees and CoCo	2 000,00 \$
Congresses	6 000,00 \$
Coalition	0,00 \$
<b>Mobilization</b>	<b>37 000,00 \$</b>
Material for actions	12 000,00 \$
Tours and representation	25 000,00 \$
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>254 600,00 \$</b>

<b>ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE</b>	
As of June 30th, 2015	
Training camps	8 239,02 \$
CLASSE	7 647,50 \$
Congresses	4 804,00 \$
Dues	54 181,90 \$
Reimbursements receivable	9 718,04 \$
RNE	740,00 \$
<b>Accounts Receivable Total</b>	<b>85 330,46 \$</b>

## APPENDIX 5 : BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2016-2017

		Budget 2015-2016	Différence	Budget 2016-2017	NOTES ET EXPLICATIONS
<b>Income</b>					
	<i>Members</i>	78000	0,00	78000	Amount of members remains stable
<b>Dues</b>		<b>234 000,00 \$</b>	0,00	<b>234 000,00 \$</b>	
<b>Instances</b>		<b>7 500,00 \$</b>	10 500,00	<b>18 000,00 \$</b>	
	<i>Congress</i>	4 500,00 \$	5 500,00	10 000,00 \$	
	<i>Training Camp</i>	3 000,00 \$	5 000,00	8 000,00 \$	
	<i>Coalition</i>	0,00 \$	0,00		
	<i>Spéciales</i>	0,00 \$	0,00		
<b>Donations</b>		<b>500,00 \$</b>	(500,00)	<b>0,00 \$</b>	
<b>Arrest Fund</b>		<b>35 000,00 \$</b>	(20 000,00)	<b>15 000,00 \$</b>	
<b>Retrait du fond de grève</b>		<b>10 000,00 \$</b>	(10 000,00)	<b>0,00 \$</b>	
<b>Fundraising Activities</b>		<b>0,00 \$</b>	0,00	<b>0,00 \$</b>	
<b>Total</b>		<b>287 000,00 \$</b>	(20 000,00)	<b>267 000,00 \$</b>	
<b>Dépenses</b>					
<b>Strike fund</b>		<b>0,00 \$</b>	15 000,00	<b>15 000,00 \$</b>	It's important to keep our strike fund well stocked
<b>Mutual Aid Fund</b>		<b>15 000,00 \$</b>	(3 300,00)	<b>11 700,00 \$</b>	5% of our dues
<b>Information</b>		<b>44 500,00 \$</b>	(22 000,00)	<b>22 500,00 \$</b>	
	<i>Ultimatum</i>	30 000,00 \$	(18 000,00)	12 000,00 \$	
	<i>Information material</i>	10 000,00 \$	(5 000,00)	5 000,00 \$	
	<i>Videos</i>	1 000,00 \$	0,00	1 000,00 \$	
	<i>Translation</i>	2 000,00 \$	2 000,00	4 000,00 \$	
	<i>Documentation &amp; references</i>	1 000,00 \$	(1 000,00)	0,00 \$	
	<i>IRIS</i>	500,00 \$	0,00	500,00 \$	
<b>Instances</b>		<b>13 500,00 \$</b>	14 500,00	<b>28 000,00 \$</b>	
	<i>Congress</i>	6 000,00 \$	9 000,00	15 000,00 \$	5 Congresses at \$3000
	<i>Training Camp</i>	5 500,00 \$	6 500,00	12 000,00 \$	4 Camps at \$3000
	<i>Comittees &amp; CoCo</i>	2 000,00 \$	(1 000,00)	1 000,00 \$	Food and transport for the CoCo
	<i>Coalition</i>	0,00 \$	0,00	0,00 \$	

<b>Mobilisation</b>		<b>47 000,00 \$</b>	(19 000,00)	<b>28 000,00 \$</b>	
	<i>Tours and representation</i>	30 000,00 \$	(12 000,00)	18 000,00 \$	
	<i>Actions</i>	17 000,00 \$	(7 000,00)	10 000,00 \$	
<b>Office</b>		<b>45 000,00 \$</b>	1 700,00	<b>46 700,00 \$</b>	
	<i>Rent</i>	18 000,00 \$	700,00	18 700,00 \$	The rent will go up
	<i>Insurance</i>	2 500,00 \$	500,00	3 000,00 \$	
	<i>Office Supplies</i>	3 000,00 \$	0,00	3 000,00 \$	
	<i>Computer-related</i>	1 500,00 \$	500,00	2 000,00 \$	
	<i>Office foodstuffs</i>	2 000,00 \$	0,00	2 000,00 \$	
	<i>Printer</i>	18 000,00 \$	0,00	18 000,00 \$	
<b>Administration</b>		<b>7 600,00 \$</b>	0,00	<b>7 600,00 \$</b>	
	<i>Professional fees</i>	6 000,00 \$	500,00	6 500,00 \$	
	<i>Banking fees</i>	600,00 \$	0,00	600,00 \$	
	<i>Miscellaneous</i>	1 000,00 \$	(500,00)	500,00 \$	
<b>Communication</b>		<b>19 900,00 \$</b>	(5 900,00)	<b>14 000,00 \$</b>	
	<i>Telecommunications</i>	9 000,00 \$	0,00	9 000,00 \$	Cellphones, internet and landline
	<i>Press Conferences</i>	1 000,00 \$	(500,00)	500,00 \$	
	<i>CNW Telbec</i>	8 000,00 \$	(6 000,00)	2 000,00 \$	
	<i>Mail</i>	500,00 \$	0,00	500,00 \$	
	<i>Web</i>	1 400,00 \$	600,00	2 000,00 \$	
	<i>Advertisements</i>	0,00 \$	0,00	0,00 \$	
<b>Employees</b>		<b>44 000,00 \$</b>	11 341,00	<b>55 341,00 \$</b>	Eric: 25hrs at third level Pascal: 25hrs at fourth level
<b>Regional councils</b>		<b>7 000,00 \$</b>	0,00	<b>7 000,00 \$</b>	
	<i>CRAM</i>	1 000,00 \$	0,00	1 000,00 \$	
	<i>MASSE</i>	1 000,00 \$	0,00	1 000,00 \$	
	<i>FRAQ</i>	3 000,00 \$	0,00	3 000,00 \$	
	<i>CRABS</i>	0,00 \$	0,00	0,00 \$	
	<i>SAGLAC</i>	1 000,00 \$	0,00	1 000,00 \$	
	<i>CRAALL</i>	1 000,00 \$	0,00	1 000,00 \$	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		<b>45 500,00 \$</b>	(25 500,00)	<b>20 000,00 \$</b>	
	<i>Legal affairs</i>	7 500,00 \$	(2 500,00)	5 000,00 \$	
	<i>Donations</i>	2 000,00 \$	(2 000,00)	0,00 \$	
	<i>Shirts</i>	0,00 \$	0,00	0,00 \$	
	<i>Arrest funds</i>	35 000,00 \$	(20 000,00)	15 000,00 \$	
	<i>Special projects</i>	1 000,00 \$	(1 000,00)	0,00 \$	
<b>Totaux</b>		<b>289 000,00 \$</b>	(33 159,00)	<b>255 841,00 \$</b>	
<b>Surplus/(déficit)</b>		<b>-2 000,00 \$</b>	13 159,00	<b>11 159,00 \$</b>	