



## **Motion to lobby the Quebec Government to change the language of instruction of FMD lectures at the Gatineau campus from French to English**

Submitted to the General Assembly, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**Whereas**, the McGill Faculty of Medicine will open a satellite campus in Gatineau (hereafter, the “**Gatineau Campus**”) in 2020;

**Whereas**, the Gatineau Campus will have an enrollment of 24 students, thus reducing the number of students at the Montreal Campus by 24;

**Whereas**, regarding the Gatineau Campus, Dean Eidelman (hereafter, the “**Dean**”) originally announced that FMD lectures would be delivered via videoconference from the Montreal Campus, and that all other instruction would be conducted in French (the “**Proposed Curriculum**”);

**Whereas**, the Dean stated that the Proposed Curriculum would result in 92% of instruction at the Gatineau Campus being given in French;

**Whereas**, following the announcement of the Proposed Curriculum, three francophone-rights organizations, including the Société Saint-Jean Baptiste, lobbied the Quebec Government to require that all instruction at the Gatineau Campus, including FMD lectures, be given in French;

**Whereas**, following pressure by said organizations, the Quebec Government has required that the entirety of medical instruction at the Gatineau Campus, including FMD lectures, be given in French;

**Whereas**, it is now the intention of the Faculty of Medicine to create a parallel FMD program in French for students at the Gatineau campus;

**Whereas**, the leading proposal is that FMD lectures at the Gatineau Campus be verbatim translated copies delivered in French by instructors not involved in their preparation or determining their content, and that examinations administered at the Gatineau campus be translated versions of those administered at the Montreal Campus (hereafter, the “**Revised Program**”);

**Whereas**, implementation of the Revised Program may seriously compromise the quality of medical education at the Gatineau Campus for reasons including, but not limited to:



- a) Diminished quality of lectures: Montreal Campus students will receive lectures from instructors who prepared and are intimately acquainted with lecture materials, while as Gatineau Campus students will receive lectures from instructors who were not involved in their preparation or content;
- b) Unequal forms of assessment: Gatineau Campus students will be assessed by the same examinations, in French, despite any differences in the content of lectures delivered;

**Whereas**, the McGill Medical Education committee voted in favor of bringing forth said motion;

**Whereas**, all Canadian medical faculty satellite campuses instruct material via videoconferencing, thus maintaining a high and uniform standard of educational excellence across campuses,

**Whereas**, the quality of medical education is of primordial importance, and should be privileged over the language of instruction;

**Be it resolved**, that the MSS actively lobby the Quebec Government to change the language of instruction of FMD lectures at the Gatineau Campus from French to English.

**Moved** by Alex Derstenfeld (M2)

**Seconded** by Liang Chen (M2)