



Graduate Students' Association
Association des étudiant(e)s aux études supérieures
Local 110 of the Canadian Federation of Students
Section 110 de la Fédération canadienne des étudiantes et étudiants

Re: Student Mental Health and Wellness Referendum Results

Dear GSA Member,

The GSA has been advocating to Laurentian Administration to increase Mental Health services, specific to Graduate Student needs, for the last three years. With help from the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), the GSA conducted a survey to provide rationale to Laurentian Administration of this need (report attached). This report has also been circulated to the GSA Membership for many years.

While the GSA continually maintained the push for service without increasing fees; the recent referendum question was posed by Laurentian University, only after the Student Associations all agreed to put the question to the membership for their collective decision. An email was sent (April 3rd) to all Laurentian students informing the result that with 41.58% of students having voted in support of the referendum, **the referendum did not pass**. There will be no increase to the existing Health and Wellness fee.

Although there will be no increase, the GSA was the only Student Association to have over 50% voter support of the proposed. The results of the referendum confirmed our advocacy efforts. Know that though budget consultations, committees, and direct meetings with Laurentian Executives, the GSA will continue to advocate the need for increased Graduate Student service, with possible solutions proposed that do not only seek to put the bill on our Membership.

GSA Executive 2016-2017

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GSA Executive 2017-2018