# SUMMARY OF MOTIONS 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Montreal Coalition for Paid Internships

October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 - Cégep Marie-Victorin

### 2. Membership

 That the Coalition can include as members, in addition to student associations (whatever their affiliation), trade unions and political, community or other groups, as well as individuals actively supporting the remuneration of internships in any discipline and at all levels of education.

## 3. Demands

 Considering that the labor carried out by students has a qualitative dimension linked to the acquisition of competences (discipline, writing, reading, etc.) and that this dimension is obscured in the legislative definition of paid labor, which considers only its most visible dimension: its quantitative dimension (number of hours performed on average, tasks clearly defined and computable, subordination to a single employer in a fixed workplace, etc.);

Considering that hours in class and labor performed by students before and outside internship locations do not agree with this definition, but nevertheless contribute to making it possible to carry out the latter by equipping students with the skills required to complete the internship;

Considering that students must regularly, against their own will, go into debt and find "student jobs" by inserting themselves in a relationship of subordination to a spouse, their parents or a banking institution. These same "student jobs" are often precarious, demanding without a remuneration at their true value and far from anything that concerns the student's field of study;

Considering that post-secondary academic training intensively trains students and compels them to carry out more and more free tasks by promising them jobs that are non-existent, more and more atypical and precarious;

Considering that emotional and caring labor is carried out largely by women at home and that this form of unpaid labor is historically devalued and continues to be before and after the completion of internships;

Considering that the government's response to the remuneration of internships could lead to selection quotas in school programs with mandatory internships;

Be it resolved that the Coalition demand:

- the addition of an article to the Act respecting labor standards (ALS) stipulating the prohibition of unpaid internships;
- that educational institutions whose programs involve the completion of internships, be they mandatory or not, for academic credits require that they be remunerated;
- the repeal of Articles 3 (par. 5) and 77 (par. 7) and of the following part of Article 88: "and trainees in a vocational training or integration framework recognized by a law", of the ALS;

- the repeal of Article 2 (par. 2) of the Regulation respecting labor standards (RLS).
- That the Coalition recognize that unpaid internships are part of a free labor exploitation system, which exploits women's work first.

## 4. Regional actions

- Considering that several students and interns will participate in a day of visibility in Europe and in Canada as part of International Interns' Day on November 10;
  Be it resolved that:
  - Coalition participants develop a joint statement in favor of the remuneration of all internships and call for a interns strike.
  - Such statement be published on November 10, as part of International Interns' Day.
  - All signatory groups and associations be in favor of the remuneration of all internships at all levels of education and participate in the organization of awareness-raising or mobilizing activities on November 10.
- That a drafting committee be created to write a first draft of the statement within a week.
- That the Coalition organize a joint gathering on November 10 as part of International Interns' Day.

#### 10. Adjournment

• That the next Coalition meeting be held on the November 25-26 weekend at Université de Montréal.