

TO: Senate  
FROM: Senator Keita  
SUBJECT: Motion Regarding the Annual Celebration of Black History Month  
DATE: February 15, 2017  
DOCUMENT #: D16-36

ACTION  
REQUIRED:  INFORMATION  APPROVAL/DECISION

ISSUE The annual recognition and celebration of Black History Month is not officially institutionalized at McGill University.

BACKGROUND  
& RATIONALE Student Life and Learning's Final Report on Understanding Diversity : Discrimination (2015) identifies

Whereas, 2017 is the first year in which McGill University has celebrated Black History Month in an official capacity;

Whereas, in the past Black History Month has been celebrated in an unofficial capacity at McGill University by students, staff, faculty, units, associations, and other groups;

Whereas, black community experiences and accomplishments in Montreal, Canada are often overlooked and neglected in terms of historical, cultural, social, and economic importance;

Whereas, the official celebration of Black History Month in 2017 has garnered overwhelming interest and response, including over capacity attendance at the opening ceremony;