

MCGILL UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS Report of the Executive Committee GD20-07 Board of Governors Meeting of October 1, 2020

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This report summarizes approvals made by the Executive Committee in the name of the Board of Governors at the Committee's June 12, June 18 and August 25, 2020 meetings and by means of an electronic vote that concluded on July 17, 2020. It also presents key informational items reviewed by the Executive Committee. It is presented to the Board of Governors for information.

# I. APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN THE NAME OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

#### 1. Contracts for Cleaning Services

The Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance), approved four contracts for the supply of cleaning service on the downtown campus, Macdonald campus and the Gault Nature Reserve.

The contracts are for a term of four years, with a one-year possible extension, for a total of five years. Altogether, the base value of all contracts is estimated at \$12.6 million, and the maximum at \$18.4 million, when cleaning services related to special events services are included.

#### 2. Recommendation Concerning Honorific Naming Proposal [ED20-04]

The Executive Committee of the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Principal and Vice-Chancellor, and pursuant to the advice of an ad hoc committee established under the *Policy Relating to the Naming of University Assets*, approved a naming proposal concerning University assets. The naming of the asset will be announced publically in due course.

Report of the Executive Committee

[ED19-47]

## **3.** Board Committee Reports

## 3.1 Report of the Building and Property Committee [ED19-44, ED19-48 & ED20-05]

## 3.1.1 The New Vic Project: Submission of the Dossier d'opportunité

The Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Building and Property Committee, approved the submission of the *Dossier d'opportunité* (DO) for the New Vic Project to the Quebec government, on the understanding that the University's maximum contribution towards the cost of the project would be \$225M.

The DO will be considered first by the *Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur* (MES) and the *Société québécoise des infrastructures* and lastly by the *Conseil du Trésor* before it is submitted by the MES to the *Conseil des ministres* for final approval and authorization to proceed to the *Dossier d'affaires* phase, at which point the Quebec government will also officially confirm its financial contribution to the project.

A decision by the government is expected by the end of 2020. Subject to government approval, the Board of Governors will be consulted and asked to approve to proceed to the *Dossier d'affaires* phase.

## 3.1.2 Proposed Transaction Framework for Student Residences

The Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Building and Property Committee, approved, in principle, the monetization of McGill University's Student Residences portfolio, based on a proposed transaction framework, with the understanding that any recommended transactions would follow appropriate governance approvals.

McGill's objective with the monetization of certain assets of the student residence portfolio is to generate capital to reinvest in the University's Master Plan and to fund major construction and renovation projects, such as the New Vic.

The Executive Committee also authorized the University to prepare the necessary documentation and bring to market the Student Residences portfolio, taking into account market conditions, and subject to regular reporting to the Building and Property Committee and the Board of Governors.

## 3.1.3 Plan décennal des investissements universitaires 2021-2031

The Executive Committee of the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Building and Property Committee, approved the submission of the *Plan* 

décennal des investissements universitaires (PDIU) 2021-2031 to the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation (MEI) and the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES), and any other governmental authority, as required.

The Government of Quebec requires that all universities submit a PDIU annually along with a Board resolution. The PDIU outlines all major capital projects planned to be executed over the next ten years.

# 3.1.4 Renovations to Raymond and Stewart Biology Buildings Related to CFI Grant – Work Package 2

The Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Building and Property Committee, approved to proceed with Work Package 2 of the project involving renovations to the Raymond and Stewart Biology Buildings, in relation to a Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) grant, led by Professor Geitmann, Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

Work Package 2 in the Stewart Biology Building, South Wing (Downtown Campus), includes renovations to receive a new phenotyping system. The work is scheduled to begin in August 2020 and be completed by the end of November 2020.

The cost of construction of Work Package 2 is \$143,471 based on tender results, and the total project budget is estimated at \$8,251,828. The Project will be mainly funded by the CFI Grant and by the *Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur* (MEES) in the form of capital allocations for deferred maintenance projects and institutional priorities (Institutional Priorities Capital Budget).

# **3.2** Joint Report of the Building and Property Committee and [ED19-39] Finance Committee

The Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Building and Property Committee and Finance Committee, approved the acquisition of a property. The acquisition and financing proposal will require Quebec government approval.

The purchase of the property was identified as a strategic opportunity that would result in a significant reduction to the University's leasehold obligations, which is a top priority for the University, as expressed in the Board-approved McGill University Master Plan.

## **3.3** Report of the Investment Committee

# 3.3.1 Proposed New International Equities Manager: Mawer Investment Management Ltd

The Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Investment Committee, approved an allocation totaling 5.2% of McGill Investment Pool to Mawer's International Equity strategy. Mawer is a United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI) signatory and it includes Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) considerations in its investment process.

# **3.3.2** Proposed Revisions to Statement of Investment Policy

The Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Investment Committee, approved the revisions to the <u>Statement of Investment Policy</u>. The changes responded to the recommendations contained in the Reports of the Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility (CAMSR), approved by the Board of Governors in December 2019 and April 2020.

# **3.3.3** Annual Distribution Rate for Endowment Income FY2022

The Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Investment Committee, approved, for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2022, an income distribution rate of 4.0% applied to the three-year rolling average of the McGill Investment Pool market value determined at April 30, 2018, April 30, 2019 and April 30, 2020.

## **3.4 Report of the Human Resources Committee** [ED19-46]

## 3.4.1 Revisions to the McGill University Pension Plan (Amendment 25)

The Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, approved the proposed amendment (Amendment #25) for the implementation in the McGill University Pension Plan Document. The amendment was approved in order to introduce new design elements, for ease of administration or for compliance purposes. The main changes approved were as follows:

1. Fixed member deficit sharing contribution rates to be removed from Plan document, and automatically set in accordance with the results of an actuarial valuation exercise;

- 2. Introduce the option to receive the Supplemental Retirement Benefit Value as a pension;
- 3. University funding maintained in order to allow member's access to 100% of the transfer value of the Supplemental Retirement Benefit Value;
- 4. Reflect the fact that refunding of member excess contributions can no longer be made from within the Plan, as a result of new calculation methodology. The PAC recommended that the University continued to refund excess contributions to members outside of the Plan;
- 5. Introduce a Variable Benefit option for the defined contribution segment of the Plan; and
- 6. Other nominal changes including modifications of an administrative nature, in order to comply with applicable legislation and to harmonize the Plan Document with current practices or practices which would be impacted by the transition from Banner to Workday.

# **3.5 Report of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee** [ED20-02]

## **3.5.1** Appointments to Board Standing Committees

The Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee, approved the following:

- The appointment of Mr. Dakota Rogers as a student observer on the Finance Committee for a term commencing immediately and ending May 31, 2021 or sooner should the incoming 2020-2021 PGSS Secretary-General assume this role once elected.
- The appointment of Mr. Keel Scruton as a student member of the IT Committee for a term commencing immediately and ending May 31, 2021.
- The appointment of Mr. Dakota Rogers as a student member of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee for a term commencing immediately and ending May 31, 2021 or sooner should the incoming 2020-2021 PGSS Secretary-General assume this role once elected.
- The appointment of Mr. Keel Scruton as a student member of the Committee on Sustainability for a term commencing immediately and ending May 31, 2021.

#### 4. **Report from Senate**

The Executive Committee, on the recommendation of Senate, approved the appointments of the following Professors to the University Appeals Committee, each for a term beginning September 1, 2020 and ending August 31, 2023:

- Professor Stéphane Laporte (Departments of Endocrinology and Experimental Medicine, Faculty of Medicine)
- Professor Steven Jordan (Department of Integrated Studies in Education, Faculty of Education)

## 5. **Reports on New Appointments, Promotions and Tenure** [ED19-40 & ED19-49]

The Executive Committee approved six academic appointments and six promotions, a record of which is provided in Appendix A.

## II. FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

#### 1. Update on the Delegation to the Principal Related to COVID-19 [ED19-43]

The Executive Committee received a report of the actions authorized by the Principal pursuant to the delegation approved by the Executive Committee on March 26, 2020. This delegation is in effect for the duration of the public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and up to a three-month period following such emergency.

The Committee was informed that pursuant to this delegation, the Principal authorized pretenure professors and librarians to elect to defer their consideration for reappointment and tenure by one full year. She also authorized two requests for the suspension of delays prescribed by the *Policy against Sexual Violence* and the *Regulations Concerning the Investigation of Research Misconduct*, effective until September 30, 2020 inclusive.

## 2. Annual Reports

## 2.1 Annual Report on Research Ethics Board-3 [ED19-42]

The Executive Committee received the Annual Report on Research Ethics Board-3 for 2019-20. The Research Ethics Board-3 (REB-3), one of the five Research Ethics Boards in place at the University, is designated by the *Ministère de la Santé et des services sociaux* (MSSS) to review research that falls under the auspices of Article 21 of the Quebec Civil Code. Article 21 requires that research which could interfere with the integrity of a person

who is a minor and/or an adult unable to consent for themselves must be reviewed by a Research Ethics Board that has been designated by the MSSS.

The REB-3 is required to complete an annual report for the MSSS on the membership, the operating procedures of the REB-3 and the projects that the REB reviewed throughout the year. The Board of Governors, in accordance with the requirements of the MSSS, is to receive this annual report from the REB-3 for informational purposes.

# 2.2 Report of the Advisory Council on Human Research Ethics [ED19-41]

The Executive Committee received the Report of the Advisory Council on Human Research Ethics (ACHRE) for 2018-19. The University's five Research Ethics Boards (REBs) report annually to the ACHRE, which has a mandate that includes: i) facilitating the development of consistent practices across the REBs; ii) ensuring the ethics review operation at McGill is compliant with all applicable requirements; and iii) where necessary, proposing changes in ethics review policies to the Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation).

In compliance with the Secretariat of the Tri-Council Panel on Research Ethics, Article 2.1 of the McGill *Policy on the Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Human Participants* requires that the ACHRE submit an annual report of its activities to the Board of Governors.

## 3. Executive Committee Orientation Package 2020-2021 [ED20-03]

The Committee received an orientation package for the 2020-2021 governance year, containing updated reference documents for the Committee's information.

## 4. Board Standing Committee Reports Received

- Report of the Building and Property Committee (meetings of June 4, August 21, 2020 and e-vote of July 17, 2020)
- Joint Report of the Building and Property Committee and Finance Committee (meeting of June 9, 2020)
- Report of the Investment Committee (meeting of June 16, 2020)
- Report of the Human Resources Committee (meeting of June 11, 2020)
- Report of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee (e-vote of August 14, 2020)

## 5. Other Reports Received

- Senate Report (Senate Steering meeting of June 16, 2020)

END October 2020

# Appendix A

The following appointments and promotions were approved by the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors:

# 1. Appointments to the Rank of Full Professor with Tenure

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Faculty</u>	Effective Date
Rosenblum, Darren		Law	August 1, 2021
Zumbansen, Peer		Law	January 1, 2021
Creech, Andrea	Music Research	Schulich School of Music	August 1, 2020

## 2. Appointment to the Rank of CAS Full Professor (Clinical)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Smith, Charles	Anesthesia	Medicine	March 1, 2020

# 3. <u>Promotions to the Rank of Full Professor</u>

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Darin Barney	Art History & Communication Studies	Arts	August 1, 2020
Delphine Collin-Vézina	School of Social Work	Arts	August 1, 2020
Benjamin Fung	School of Information Systems	Arts	August 1, 2020
Saku Manterre	n/a	Desautels Faculty of Management	August 1, 2020

# 4. <u>Promotions to the Rank of Full Librarian</u>

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<b>Faculty</b>	Effective Date
Daniel Boyer	n/a	Libraries	August 1, 2020
Louis Houle	n/a	Libraries	August 1, 2020