

## Memorandum

## Secretariat

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**TO:** Board of Governors

**FROM:** Professor Deep Saini, President and Vice-Chancellor

**SUBJECT:** Report of the Joint Senate Steering and Board Executive Committees Meeting

**DATE:** April 25, 2024

**DOCUMENT #:** GD23-58

ACTION REQUIRED:

**ISSUE** A report on the Joint Senate Steering and Board Executive Committees meeting is presented for information.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

Article 6.3.9.1 of the Statutes of McGill University provides that the Senate and the Board of Governors shall hold an annual joint meeting in the fall term where the President, the Provost, the Deputy Provost, and the vice-principals, as appropriate, shall present for discussion, matters they consider relevant to the University's mission for the ensuing year.

On March 21, 2024, the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors and the Senate Steering Committee met to select a topic for the 2024 Joint Board-Senate meeting, which will be held on November 7, 2024. The Committees considered the following general theme: "Consultations on Vision 2050:

Building McGill's Third Century."

A working group will be established to develop the details of the program and background materials for the joint meeting.

PRIOR CONSULTATION

N/A

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

Sustainability factors will inform the development of the theme.

IMPACT OF DECISION AND NEXT STEPS A working group will be struck to develop the program and prepare the background materials. The Joint Board-Senate meeting will take place on November 7, 2024.

MOTION OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL This item is presented for information.

## Report of the Joint Senate Steering and Board Executive Committees Meeting of March 21, 2024

A joint meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors and the Senate Steering Committee took place on March 21, 2024, in room 302 of the James Administration Building and via the Zoom conferencing application, to set the topic of the annual Joint Board-Senate meeting, scheduled for November 7, 2024. The meeting focused on the review of the following topic for the joint meeting:

## Consultations on Vision 2050: Building McGill's Third Century

This topic was proposed with the intention of creating an opportunity for the Board of Governors and Senate to contribute to a long-term visioning exercise that the University will be undertaking over the next year. This exercise is especially timely in light of the current challenges and opportunities facing McGill University. The visioning exercise will be led by the Provost and Executive Vice-President (Academic). It will involve an initial process of data-gathering and analysis, followed by a community consultation in Fall 2024, which coincides with the timing of the joint meeting planned for November 7, 2024.

The Committees agreed that the visioning exercise was a timely endeavor for McGill, and that the annual joint meeting would be an opportune time for the Board of Governors and Senate to contribute to this process.

Members proposed that the development of McGill's Vision 2050 take into account the following considerations:

- McGill's mission, reflected in a multi-campus structure.
- The importance of social, environmental, and financial sustainability to McGill.
- The value proposition of universities and higher education, and how this might shift over the coming decades.
- The importance of maintaining or renewing a strong McGill identity that resonates with students and alumni alike.
- The evolving role of technology in higher education.

The Committees agreed on the topic as the focus of the annual joint meeting. A working group will be established to develop the program and materials, including the design of key questions that will guide the discussion.