McGILL UNIVERSITY **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

Report of the Committee on Sustainability and Social Responsibility (CSSR) GD24-16

Board of Governors October 9, 2024

Secretariat
845 Sherbrooke St. West, room 313
Montreal, QC, H3A 0G4
Tel: (514) 398-3948 | Fax: (514) 398-4758

The following item arises from the Committee on Sustainability and Social Responsibility (CSSR) meetings of August 29 and October 2, 2024. It is presented to the Board of Governors for its consideration.

I. FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1. Review of the Expression of Concern [SR24-04]

The Committee reviewed an expression of concern from members of the McGill community that called on the University to divest from direct and indirect holdings in over 40 companies alleged to be complicit in social injury related the ongoing military conflict in Gaza.

The Committee discussed the merits of the expression of concern based on the criterion of social injury as defined in the Committee's Terms of Reference. The Committee will now work on preparing its report to the Board.

2. CSSR Mandate from the Board: Initial Review and Consultations [SR24-05]

As part of the work pertaining to the CSSR mandate approved by the Board at its special meeting of July 8, 2024, the Committee initiated its review process and agreed to launch a broad consultation process with the McGill Community concerning the question of divestment from direct investments in companies that derive a dominant portion of their direct revenues from the production of military weapons, regardless of the countries in which they operate. The format of the consultation was discussed by the Committee at its meeting of August 29, 2024. On September 11, 2024, the Secretariat launched, on behalf of the CSSR, a consultation process seeking confidential written feedback from the McGill community concerning the CSSR's mandate.

Following the completion of the consultation, the Committee met on October 2, 2024, to review and discuss the feedback received. At the meeting, the Committee also consulted an external expert.

3. Other Updates and Reports

The Committee received the following reports and updates for information:

- Update on 2025-2030 Climate & Sustainability Strategy Development [SR24-07]
- Dashboard Report on the Climate and Sustainability Strategy [SR24-08]

- Sustainability Projects Fund Annual Report (FY2024) [SR24-09]

END
October 2024