



Minutes of Open Session

Thursday, December 15, 2022 22-23 BR:02

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Governors held on Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 4:40 p.m. in Room 301 of the James Administration Building, and via the Zoom Conferencing Application.

Present:

Abdalazez, Osman	Hakim, Joseph	Paul, Maarika
Babinski, Bob	Halperin, Stephen	Piggott, Adrienne
Bertrand, Maryse (<i>Chair</i>)	Headon, Fred	Prando, Diletta
David, Gregory	Jabalpurwala, Inez	Rohrbach, Petra
Deckelbaum, Ariel	Manfredi, Christopher (<i>ex-officio</i>)	Sakhia, Samira
D'Iorio, Luciano	Matuszewski, Pierre	Sigler, Jonathan
Généreux, Claude	McCall MacBain, John	Wright, Risann
Gilbert, Lucy	Panda, Ram	Zorychta, Edith
Greenwood, Celia		

Regrets: Alireza Roosta, Naga Thovinakere.

Secretary-General: Edyta Rogowska, supported by Pietro Mastromatteo (Associate Director) and Emily Barriere (Governance Officer), Secretariat.

Resource Persons: Professor Yves Beauchamp, Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance); Professor Angela Campbell, Co-Acting Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic); Professor Fabrice Labeau, Co-Acting Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic).

Guests: Ms. Sophie Leblanc, Chief Investment Officer & Treasurer; Professor Bruce Lennox, Dean, Faculty of Science; Professor Deep Saini, Incoming Principal.

9. Chair's Remarks

Governor Maryse Bertrand, Chair of the Board of Governors, welcomed members to the second regular meeting of the Board of Governors for the 2022 – 2023 governance year.

10. Consent Items

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, the Board of Governors approved the following as consent items:

10.1 *Minutes (Open Session) of October 6, 2022*

10.2 *Report of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee* [GD22-28]

The following items were received by the Board of Governors, as consent items, for information:

10.3	Report of the Sustainability Committee	[GD22-29]
10.4	Report of the Executive Committee	[GD22-30]
10.5	Report of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee (EDIC)	[GD22-31]

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| 10.6 | Report of the Joint Board Senate | [GD22-32] |
| 10.7 | Report from Senate | [GD22-33] |

11. Business Arising from Open Session Minutes

There was none.

12. Interim Principal's Remarks (Continued)

Professor Christopher Manfredi, Interim Principal and Vice-Chancellor, began his remarks by congratulating Professor Deep Saini on his appointment as the eighteenth Principal and Vice-Chancellor of McGill, and by thanking the Chair of the Board of Governors, the Chancellor, Secretary General, and all members of the advisory committee for their work and dedication.

With regard to government relations, the Interim Principal informed members that the University had received a visit from Pascale Déry, *Ministre de l'Enseignement supérieur* in November to discuss some of McGill's priority initiatives and noted that the visit had gone well. He added that Dean Anja Geitmann had hosted André Lamontagne, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, at Macdonald campus, who visited McGill's dairy production facility and had a roundtable discussion with some of the University's leading agricultural and environmental researchers.

In terms of community relations, the Interim Principal highlighted a number of important gifts to the University, including a donation of \$30M from McGill alumnus Dr. Victor Dahdaleh to launch the Victor Phillip Dahdaleh Institute of Genomic Medicine, and a \$5M donation from Charles Bronfman in support of the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada. He added that the University had celebrated the public launch of the Laidley Center for Business Ethics thanks to a \$5M gift from David Laidley, as well as a \$15.3M gift from the Ludmer Family Foundation to launch the Ludmer Centre for Neuroinformatics and Mental Health. The Interim Principal also noted that the McGill Space Institute (MSI) and the Institute for Research on Exoplanets (iREx) at Université de Montréal had received a generous \$26M gift by the Trottier Family Foundation, with \$16M going to the MSI, including support for graduate and postdoctoral fellowships and the construction of an annex to the Institute's current building, which would now be renamed the Trottier Space Institute at McGill. He emphasized that the scientific and outreach potential of this amazing gift had attracted kudos from several Nobel Prize winners in the field and noted that it marked the beginning of an exciting new collaboration with Université de Montréal.

The Interim Principal concluded with some selected kudos, first noting that the team behind the Canadian Hydrogen Intensity Mapping Experiment (CHIME) telescope had won the Brockhouse Canada Prize for Interdisciplinary Research in Science and Engineering. He informed members that Professor Cindy Blackstock from the School of Social Work had

earned the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Gold Medal for her commitment to advancing First Nations children’s rights in Canada, adding that she was McGill’s fourth faculty member to win this award. The Interim Principal shared that Professor Alain Farah from the *Département des littératures de langue française, de traduction et de création* won the 2022 Governor General's Literary Award in the French-language fiction category for his novel *Mille secrets mille dangers*, published by Le Quartanier. He acknowledged Atia Amin Human, a McGill graduate student in Human Genetics, for winning the People’s Choice Award at the North American Three Minute Thesis (3MT) showcase in San Francisco, noting that her thesis explored Leishmaniasis, a little-known disease affecting approximately 1M people each year. The Interim Principal highlighted that the McGill Redbirds rugby team had won silver at the Canadian University Men’s Rugby Championship in Vancouver earlier in the month, and that a group of 16 McGill researchers had made it on the 2022 Clarivate Analytics Highly Cited Researchers list. Finally, the Interim principal offered kudos to McGill graduate Sophia Roy, the latest recipient of the Order of the White Rose scholarship, awarded annually by Polytechnique Montréal to honor the 14 women who were killed there in 1989. On a related note, he stated that McGill had held a campus commemoration on McTavish Street last Tuesday to mark National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women, adding that the event had been attended by Despina Sourias, City Councillor for the Loyola District and Special Advisor on the Status of Women, Youth, Diversity and Seniors (BA ’03).

13. Board Committee Reports: Part II

13.1 Report of the Finance Committee

[GD22-34]

Governor Pierre Matuszewski, Chair of the Finance Committee, assisted by Professor Fabrice Labeau, Co-Acting Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic), presented the Report of the Finance Committee arising from the Committee meeting of December 8, 2022, noting that there was one item for approval.

13.1.1 Short-Term Line of Credit with *Financement-Québec*

Governor Matuszewski presented, for approval, a standard resolution for the renewal of the short-term line of credit with FQ which is set to expire December 31, 2022.

Governor Matuszewski noted that the Finance Committee had been asked to recommend for Board approval the renewal of the University’s short-term line of credit with *Financement-Québec* and reminded members that this short-term line of credit had initially been approved by the Board in September 2021 on the Committee’s recommendation. He also reminded members that it was a requirement that the University use this line of credit to finance all capital projects, or portions thereof, funded by the *Ministère de l’Enseignement supérieur* (MES),

and that operations and any non-MES-funded portions of capital projects were financed by means of established bank facilities. He added that financing was available immediately, and that the amount drawn could not exceed the amounts approved by the MES. Governor Matuszewski stated that the MES required that the Board of Governors approve a standard resolution as a condition to renew the short-term line of credit facility with *Financement-Québec*.

Following the presentation, the Board approved the motion, as presented below.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, approved the resolution for the renewal of this short-term line of credit with Financement-Québec, as presented.

13.1.2 Budget Planning 2023 – 2024: Report I

Governor Matuszewski reminded members that the report was the first of three reports shared during the year regarding the budget planning exercise for FY2024.

Professor Labeau noted that this presentation had two objectives, the first to look at the current year and assess where the University stood in the middle of FY2023, and the second to examine budget assumptions for FY2024. He reminded members that the Board had approved a potential deficit of \$9.4 M for FY2023, including a \$20M contingency. He stated that the University was currently tracking towards a deficit of \$9.2M, consistent with what was approved, but noted that only \$5.5M of the contingency remained and as such, it was important to be careful with expenditures for the rest of the fiscal year. On a positive note, Professor Labeau emphasized that the volume of sales of goods and services had picked up more than expected, and that activity on campus was now at 89% of what it was before the pandemic. In terms of current challenges, he highlighted a \$23M reduction in income from tuition due to a decrease in deregulated, tuition paying international students, positing that this might be due to difficulties experienced by students in procuring visas. He noted that increases in admin and support staff salaries resulting from staff collective agreements that concluded this year, including retroactive payments. He noted that the University was still collecting information at this stage ahead of finalizing the budget but noted that the aim was to present a balanced budget for FY2024 while still prioritizing the University's mission and commitment to competitive salary policies. He noted that issues like recruitment and HR shortages in certain areas would be addressed and noted that the University would commit to maintaining the financed accumulated deficit below \$130M.

Governor Matuszewski added that this was the first year that McGill had a deficit, noting that this was a result of the pandemic, and saluted the McGill budget team for adapting to the events of the past few years.

13.2 Report of the Building and Property Committee

[GD22-35]

Governor Jonathan Sigler, Chair of the BPC, presented the Report of the BPC arising from the meeting of December 1, 2022.

13.2.1 Lot 1 of New Residence Hall – Repairs to the Façade (Project 18-103)

Governor Sigler noted that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the BPC, was being asked to approve to proceed with Lot 1 of 3 of Project 18-103: New Residence Hall: Repairs to the Façade. He informed members that, in June 2018, a section of bricks from the façade of New Residence Hall facing Parc Avenue fell to the street below, adding that had been no injuries and that immediate steps had been taken to secure the façade and perimeter. He stated that emergency repairs to stabilize the façade had been undertaken between October 2018 and January 2019, and that an architectural firm was hired to conduct a survey of the envelope and to provide a long-term corrective solution. Governor Sigler noted that reconstructing the façade had been determined to be the least invasive and most cost-effective option that would still ensure a high quality of work, and that the project had been divided into three lots due to the disruptive nature of the work.

Governor Sigler informed members that Lot 1 involved the replacement of the blocks and repair of concrete surfaces on the north and east façades and stated that the funding required to proceed with this phase was \$5,425,000, based on tender results, bringing the total funded project budget to \$7,658,741. He added that the estimated current total project budget was approximately \$15.5M, to be funded by Student Housing and Hospitality Services (SHHS).

Following the presentation, the Board approved the motion, as presented below.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Building and Property Committee, approved construction of Lot 1 of 3 of Project 18-103: New Residence Hall – Repairs to the Façade at a cost of \$5,425,000 to bring the total project budget funded for this project to date to \$7,658,741.

The Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Building and Property Committee, also authorized the Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance), the Associate Vice-Principal (Facilities Management and Ancillary Services) or the Director, Project Management, to sign contracts and any other agreements relating to this project on behalf of The Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning/McGill University, provided that the total amount of the contracts does not exceed the total budget amount, and that the contracts are reviewed by Legal Services.

14. Annual Reports

14.1 2021-22 Report on the Implementation of the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Strategic Plan [GD22-37]

14.2 Annual Implementation Report: Action Plan to Address Anti-Black Racism [GD22-38]

Governor Maryse Bertrand, Chair of the Board of Governors, introduced the two reports and invited Professor Angela Campbell, Co-Acting Provost and Associate Provost (Equity & Academic Policies), to speak to them. Professor Campbell noted that it had been helpful to work within a framework, and with help from the administration and different units across the university. She emphasized the importance of aligning the University’s EDI goals with its academic mission and thanked the Co-chairs of EDIC for their work. It was noted that the Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity Committee (EDIC) had received the reports and were impressed with the level of detail and action items included.

15. Faculty Presentation: Science [GD22-19]

Governor Maryse Bertrand, Chair of the Board of Governors, stated that the presentation would be deferred due to the reduced meeting time.

16. Welcoming New Principal and Vice-Chancellor

Governor Maryse Bertrand, Chair of the Board of Governors, introduced and welcomed Professor Deep Saini, the Incoming Principal of University. She reminded members that Professor Saini was currently President and Vice-Chancellor of Dalhousie University and had also served as President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Canberra in Australia. She added that he had spent close to two decades at the Université de Montréal, notably as Director General of the *Institut de recherche en biologie végétale*. The Chair noted that Professor Saini had been selected from a large pool of talented candidates and invited him to say a few words.

Professor Saini greeted members and noted that he was grateful for the opportunity to join a renowned university with a global reputation. He stated that his role at McGill would be to turn a great institution into an even better one, and to take the University to its next level. He noted that, while McGill had remained a stellar institution, other institutions had accelerated faster in recent years. Professor Saini emphasized that he would like to see McGill considered the top university in Canada, which would involve building on the University’s strengths, addressing critical weaknesses, and prioritizing improvements to achieve progress.

17. Other Business

There was none.

The meeting ended at 6:27 p.m.

END.

SUMMARY OF MATTERS CONSIDERED IN CLOSED SESSION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS HELD ON DECEMBER 15, 2022

I. CLOSED SESSION OF DECEMBER 15, 2022

1. Recommendations arising from Decanal Advisory Committee Processes

The Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee for the Possible Reappointment of the Dean of the Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences of McGill University, approved the reappointment of Professor Elham Emami as Dean of the Faculty of Dental Medicine and Oral Health Sciences of McGill University for a second five-year term, commencing 1st July 2023 and ending on 30th June 2028.

The Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee for the Possible Reappointment of the Dean of the School of Continuing Studies of McGill University, approved the reappointment of Professor Carola Weil as Dean of the School of Continuing Studies of McGill University for a second five-year term, commencing July 1, 2023 and ending on June 30, 2028.

In addition, the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Interim Principal and Vice-Chancellor, approved that the term of Professor Martha Crago’s appointment as Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation) of McGill University be extended for a one year, from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

2. Report on New Appointments

The Board of Governors approved the appointment of four candidates to the rank of Full Professor with Tenure, one candidate to the rank of Associate Professor with Tenure, and six candidates to the rank of Full Professor.

3. Board Committee Reports

3.1 Report of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee

The Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee, approved the appointment of Ms. Maarika Paul as Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors of McGill University for a two-year term commencing July 1, 2023.

3.2 Report of the Building and Property Committee

The Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Building and Property Committee, approved the first of three construction lots of a project to repair the façade of the New Residence Hall building.