



# Memorandum

**Secretariat**

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**TO:** Senate

**FROM:** Ms. Edyta Rogowska, Secretary-General

**SUBJECT:** Report from the Board of Governors to Senate

**DATE:** March 24, 2021

**DOCUMENT #:** D20-44

**ACTION REQUIRED:**  INFORMATION     APPROVAL/DECISION

<b>ISSUE</b>	The Report of the Board of Governors on the February 11, 2021 Board meeting and the January 29 and March 2, 2021 Executive Committee meetings is presented to Senate for information.
<b>BACKGROUND &amp; RATIONALE</b>	A Report from the Board of Governors to Senate is provided on a quarterly basis in order to keep Senate apprised of the Board’s activities.  The last report was presented to Senate on January 20, 2021.
<b>PRIOR CONSULTATION</b>	N/A
<b>SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS</b>	The Report allows for a sustainable framework that provides continuous reporting between the Board of Governors and Senate.
<b>IMPACT OF DECISION AND NEXT STEPS</b>	The next report will be presented to Senate in May 2021.
<b>MOTION OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL</b>	This item is presented for information.
<b>APPENDICES</b>	Appendix A: Report of the Board of Governors to Senate



The following report is presented to Senate for information.

Since last reporting to Senate on January 20, 2021, the Board of Governors met on February 11, 2021. The Executive Committee of the Board of Governors held electronic votes on January 29 and March 2, 2021.

Appendix A contains a series of appointments, promotions and grants of tenure, which were approved by either the Board of Governors or its Executive Committee.

Appendix B contains a series of appointments and reappointments to Board Standing Committees, Advisory Committees, internal and external non-Board bodies, committees arising out of University Regulations and health care bodies which have been approved by the Board of Governors or its Executive Committee.

The Board of Governors meeting documents are available at:  
<https://www.mcgill.ca/boardofgovernors/meeting-documents>

## **I. APPROVALS**

### **1. Report from Senate** [GD20-33]

#### **1.1 Proposal to Rename the Department of Civil Engineering and Applied Mechanics**

The Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approved the renaming of the Department of Civil Engineering and Applied Mechanics to the Department of Civil Engineering.

The proposed name more accurately reflects the scope of the teaching and research activities conducted by Faculty members and aligns with the title of the undergraduate degree issued by the Department (i.e., B.Eng. in Civil Engineering).

### **2. Report of the Audit and Risk Committee** [GD20-41]

#### **2.1 Revisions to the Policy on the Approval of Contracts and Designation of Signing Authority**

The Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Audit and Risk Committee, approved the proposed revisions to the *Policy on the Approval of Contracts and Designation of Signing Authority*, effective May 1st, 2021. The revised Policy is available in [Appendix B](#) of the Committee's Report.

The current [Policy on the Approval of Contracts and Designation of Signing Authority](#), which replaced the Regulations on the Approval of Contracts and Signing Authority, was

approved by the Board of Governors in October 2017 and came into effect on May 1, 2018. The Policy was approved by the Board with the understanding that it would be reviewed following the first year of implementation.

The review of the Policy was done in consultation with a working group; it was also informed by feedback from the community of signing officers and delegates. The most notable points of the proposed revisions are presented in [Appendix A](#) of the Committee's Report.

### **3. Report of the Building and Property Committee** [GD20-32 & GD20-40]

#### **3.1 Stewart Biology West Wing Redevelopment Project: Lot 4 of 4**

The Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Building and Property Committee, approved Lot 4 of 4 of the redevelopment of the West Wing of the Stewart Biology Building, involving the fit-out of the interior spaces.

The Stewart Biology Building, constructed between 1964 and 1966, is one of the largest buildings on campus. The scope of the project includes complete asbestos removal, new fireproofing of the structure, full interior renovation, reorganization of the interior vertical circulations, complete replacement of electrical and mechanical systems, construction of a new mechanical penthouse, construction of a new electrical room, replacement of exterior windows and repair of the exterior envelope. The project is being funded in part by the Government of Canada's Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund, as well as by bond proceeds and by the *Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur* in the form of capital allocations for deferred maintenance projects.

The construction of Lot 4 is planned to begin in June 2021, with substantial completion anticipated for the Summer 2022.

### **4. Report of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee** [ED20-25]

#### **4.1 Creation of a Working Group to review the Terms of Reference of the Joint Board-Senate Committee on Equity (JBSCE)**

The Executive Committee of the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee, approved the creation of a Working Group to Review the Joint Board-Senate Committee on Equity's Terms of Reference.

Established in 1994, the JBSCE's terms of reference have never been subject to a comprehensive review. Given the increased recognition of equity's centrality to McGill's academic mission, notably through instruments such as:

- the Strategic Academic Plan
- the Strategic Research Plan
- the Strategic EDI Plan
- the Report of the Task Force on Indigenous Studies and Indigenous Education
- the Action Plan to Address Anti-Black Racism

a review of the JBSCE's terms of reference is opportune. The review will evaluate whether McGill's governance capacities can support McGill's enhanced institutional commitments to equity.

The Working Group will conduct its review and submit a report by the end of June 2021.

### **III. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

#### **1. Progress Report on Key Performance Indicators** [GD20-39]

The Board of Governors received the [2020 Report on Key Performance Indicators](#) (KPIs).

The KPIs are a set of twenty-five metrics developed by the University to track its progress towards realizing its strategic priorities.

#### **2. Report of the Committee on Sustainability** [GD20-37]

The Committee on Sustainability received the final report on the achievement of McGill University's Vision 2020 Climate and Sustainability Action Plan. The Climate and Sustainability Action Plan (2017-2020) was launched in December 2017. The plan consisted of 22 priority actions organized into five categories: Research, Education, Connectivity, Operations, and Governance & Administration. It also identified two long-term targets: attain a STARS® Platinum sustainability rating by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2040.

The final report, which is available [here](#), outlines the degree of completion and key facts for each action, notably: 28 deliverables are complete, 6 are in progress, and 11 are recurring deliveries. On average, the University accomplished 94% of the 2017-2020 Action Plan.

The Committee also received the first dashboard report tracking the progress of McGill's new [Climate and Sustainability Strategy](#) (2020-2025). [Appendix A](#) of the Committee's Report presents the dashboard for the reporting period of December 2020 to January 2021.

#### **3. Report of the Finance Committee** [GD20-42]

The Board of Governors received the second of three presentations regarding the budget planning exercise for FY2022.

The Presentation in support of the budget planning exercise is available in [Appendix A](#) of the Committee's Report and outlines the major considerations shaping the budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

The proposed budget for FY2022 will be presented for approval at the Board's April 2021 meeting.

#### **4. Board Committee Reports**

The Board and its Executive Committee received the following Committee Reports:

- Report of the Building and Property Committee (meeting of January 26, 2021)
- Report of the Audit and Risk Committee (meeting of February 2, 2021)
- Report of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics (NGE) Committee (e-vote of January 25, 2021 and special meeting of February 24, 2021)
- Report of the Human Resources Committee (meeting of January 21, 2021)
- Report of the Information Technology (meeting of January 27, 2021)
- Report of the Finance Committee (meeting of February 9, 2021)
- Report of the Executive Committee (e-votes of January 29 and March 2, 2021)
- Report of the Committee on Sustainability (meeting of February 4, 2021)

#### **5. Other Reports**

- Report from Senate (meeting of January 20, 2021) [GD20-33]

#### **6. Other informational Items**

- 2021 – 2022 Board of Governors Meeting Dates [GD20-38]

## **APPENDIX A: New Appointments, Promotions and Tenure**

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

### **1. Promotions to the Rank of Full Professor)** [GD20-31]

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Department</u></b>	<b><u>Faculty</u></b>	<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>
Niladri Basu	Natural Resource Sciences and School of Human Nutrition	Agricultural and Environmental Sciences	March 1, 2021
Gordon Hickey	Natural Resource Sciences	Agricultural and Environmental Sciences	March 1, 2021
Murray Humphries	Natural Resource Sciences	Agricultural and Environmental Sciences	March 1, 2021
Reza Salavati	Institute of Parasitology	Agricultural and Environmental Sciences	March 1, 2021
Keshav Dasgupta	Physics	Science	March 1, 2021
Brigitte Vachon	Physics	Science	March 1, 2021
Andreas Warburton	Physics	Science	March 1, 2021

## **APPENDIX B: Appointments and Reappointments to Board Standing Committees and Internal and External non-Board Bodies**

The following appointments and reappointments were approved by the Board of Governors or the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors.

### **1. Appointments to Board Standing Committees** [ED20-23]

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

- The appointment of Mr. Dakota Rogers as a student observer on the Finance 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.

### **2. Appointments to the Working Group to Review the Terms of Reference of the Joint Board-Senate Committee on Equity** [ED20-25]

The Executive Committee of the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee, approved the appointment of Ms. Inez Jabalpurwala as a representative of the Board of Governors to the Working Group to Review the Joint Board Senate Committee on Equity's Terms of Reference and the appointment of Ms. Lili de Grandpré as an alternate member.