

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

DOCUMENT 2016-3-031

JUNE 18TH 2016

MINUTES

Chair:

Robert Hall

Present:

Jane Brydges, Michael Goldbloom, Claire Grogan, Kerry Hull, Deborah Langford, Brian Levitt, Cathy McLean Michel Marleau, Nadia Martel, Chelsea McLean, Ross Osmun, Luce Samoisette Lange Superny Toya White

Samoisette, James Sweeny, Tova White

Senior Administration:

Nick Andrews, Marie-Josée Berger, France Gervais, Isabelle Goyette, Matt McBrine, Michele Murray, Francine Turmel,

Miles Turnbull

Secretary:

Victoria Meikle

ITEM 1: CHAIR'S WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Secretary General Victoria Meikle requested that the renewal of External Board members whose terms are ending in June 2016 be added to the Agenda.

Nadia Martel moved the approval of the Agenda subject to the addition of the item requested. Michel Marleau seconded the motion.

The motion carried.

ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE APRIL 15TH MEETING

Ms Meikle informed Governors that the approval of the Minutes of the April 15th 2016 meeting would be deferred.

ITEM 4: BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising.

ITEM 5: PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The Principal reported on Convocation 2016, held on June 3rd and 4th.

Five hundred and eighty-four people attended the Chancellor's Dinner in the new gym, for graduating students, their families and Honorands. The Principal noted that Deborah Langford and her team had done a beautiful job of converting the gym to a venue appropriate for a celebratory dinner.

Guests of honour included former Quebec Premier Jean Charest and his wife Michele Dionne, as well as Honorands Abel Bosum, Sophie Brochu and Monique Gagnon-Tremblay. Xavier Dolan, the fourth Honorand, had not been able to attend.

The three Convocation ceremonies all went well. The Honorands and valedictorians, Gabrielle Patenaude, Alexander Roy and Anna Rogic all delivered excellent addresses.

Renovations to Abbott Hall Residence

The renovations to Abbott Hall Residence were completed on time and on budget, and the residence reopened in mid-May.

Federal Infrastructure Funding

Both of the projects submitted to Quebec for funding from the federal Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund, the renovation of the John Bassett Memorial Library and transformation into a Learning Commons, and the renovation of labs in the Johnson Science Building, had been approved for submission to the federal government. Responses were expected in June of 2016.

TD Terrace inauguration and Capital Campaign

The TD Terrace of the John H. Price Sports Centre was inaugurated on June 17th 2016. M^e Brian Levitt, O.C., Chancellor of Bishop's University and Chair of the TD Bank, was in attendance, along with senior officials of the Bank.

During the Annual Staff Luncheon held the same day, the Principal recognized the work done by Co-chairs Dan Fournier and Tim Griffin, and all the volunteers, in surpassing the original goal of \$30M for the *Leading the Way Campaign*. Members of the Campaign Cabinet announced that the goal would be increased to \$36M, with a focus on the Learning Commons and residences.

U4 update

A U4 League dinner has been planned for November 9th 2016 in Toronto, with the aim of raising the profile of residential undergraduate universities, highlighting new initiatives and

launching a new name for the League. Representatives, alumni and guests from the four universities - Acadia, Bishop's Mount Allison St. Francis Xavier - would be invited.

Government relations

The Principal concluded by reporting on a meeting with Minister of Higher Education Hélène David that had taken place on Tuesday, June 14th in Montreal.

ITEM 6: ACADEMIC REPORT

Vice-Principal Academic Miles Turnbull spoke to Document 2015-6-06, the Academic Report for June 2016.

Enrolment

Projections as of June 18th indicated that new registrations would surpass those recorded in Fall 2015, and would meet our target of 875.

Academic Hiring

Following an agreement with the APBU to suspend the Faculty complement floor, there had been no tenure-stream hiring for 2016-17. Departments and Schools were proceeding with the recruitment and hiring of sessional instructors into 10-month positions funded through the budget for part-time credits.

Research

Dr. Turnbull noted that several faculty colleagues had received research funding, including grants from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

ITEM 7: REPORT OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE

Me Nadia Martel, Chair of the Sustainable Development and Land Use Committee, recognised the excellent work of Assistant Vice-Principal Finance and Operations Isabelle Goyette in support of the Committee.

M^e Martel noted that the Quebec Ministry of Transportation had undertaken to take steps to minimise the impact of Autoroute 410 on the University campus and the Peter Curry marsh. This undertaking was included in a contract for the sale of 82,000 mtrs² of Bishop's land to the Ministry for the completion of the Highway.

ITEM 8: REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2016-17 Operating and Capital Budgets

Michel Marleau, Chair of the Finance Committee, acknowledged the efforts made by the University to close the gap between revenues and expenditures.

He then asked Isabelle Goyette to give the highlights of the proposed operating and capital budgets for 2016-17. The University had been managing in conformity with the proposed budget since the beginning of the 2016-17 fiscal year on May 1st 2016.

Following the presentation of the highlights, Mr. Marleau moved that the approval of the operating and capital budgets be deferred until the University had a better idea of the terms of its *Plan de redressement* with the Quebec Government. Cathy McLean seconded the motion.

The motion carried.

2016-17 Line of Credit

Ms Goyette reminded Governors that the Board had approved a line of credit for 2016-17 in the amount of \$39.2 million at its April meeting. The estimate of the cash that the University would need during the 2016-17 fiscal year was based on an assumption that the conditional grants for 2014-15 and 2015-16 would be released by the Ministry in August of 2016.

As it was no longer clear whether the conditional grants would be released in August, the Administration asked for approval of an increase to the line of credit of \$5.3 million, bringing it to \$44.5 million.

RESOLUTION 2015-6-02 APPROVING AN INCREASE OF \$5.3M TO THE UNIVERSITY'S LINE OF CREDIT FOR 2016-17

WHEREAS the University Statutes require the approval of the Board of Governors for all contracts or agreements to borrow money;

WHEREAS the University is subject to the Financial Administration Act;

WHEREAS the Board authorized a line of credit for 2016-17 with RBC of \$39.2 million, which assumes the receipt of \$5.3M in August 2016 of the 2014-15 and 2015-16 conditional grants and a reinvestment by government;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, if the additional \$5.3 million is not received in August, the Board of Governors authorizes the University to borrow up to \$44.5 million from RBC for its operations and for the short-term financing of capital expenditures for the 2016-17 fiscal year;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board also authorizes Michael Goldbloom, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, and France Gervais, Vice-Principal Finance and Administration, to co-sign any and all documents required to complete this transaction.

Moved by: Brian Levitt

Seconded by: Michel Marleau

The motion carried.

ITEM 9: REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE HOUSING PLAN

Cathy McLean, Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Housing Plan, reported that the Committee planned to deal comprehensively with housing for students and faculty, on and off campus, and with on-campus food facilities. The Committee would provide a more extensive report during the Fall term.

ITEM 10: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRIGEANTE

Vice-Principal Finance and Administration France Gervais delivered the annual accountability report required of the *dirigeante* by the *Loi sur les contrats des organismes publics* (LCOP), and by the University policy adopted under the LCOP, on enforcement of the policy and on authorizations of derogations from usual practices. Six authorisations would be reported to the *Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor*, as required.

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Michel Marleau moved approval of the report and Tova White seconded the motion.

The motion carried.

ITEM 11: OTHER BUSINESS

Renewal of the terms of the Robert Hall, Brian Levitt and Cathy McLean

On a motion by Nadia Martel, seconded by Michel Marleau, the terms of External Governors Robert Hall, Brian Levitt, and Cathy McLean were renewed until October 15th 2016 to allow the process of consultation of the Nominating Committee.

Revised Policy for the Prevention of Harassment

The Secretary General reported that the revised Policy for the Prevention of Harassment had been presented to Senate, and that she and University Counsel Marie-Josée Dufour would be meeting with the APBU Executive at a Faculty Joint Committee meeting on July 5th.

Board Survey

Ms Meikle advised Governors that the annual Board evaluation survey would be distributed within two weeks.

Before closing the meeting, the Chair recognized the service on the Board of Dr. Claire Grogan, who was stepping down after a three-year term. He thanked Deborah Langford and James Sweeny, whose mandates had also come to an end.

ITEM 12: CLOSED SESSION

There being no other business for the Open Session, the Board moved into Closed Session at 1:35 p.m.

Robert Hall, Chair

Victoria Meikle, Secretary