

JUNE 9, 2023

MINUTES

BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY
MCGREER 100 AND VIDEOCONFERENCE

Chair: Robert Hall

Present: Jane Brydges, Mark Caduc, Kent Carson, Nanci Chagnon,
Pierre Cossette, Daniel Fournier, Michael Goldbloom,
Murielle Lortie, Michel Marleau, Heather McKeen-Edwards,
Suzie O'Bomsawin, Jessica Riddell, Sophia Stacey,
Junior Sirivar, Calin Valsan, Tova White

Regrets: Abel Bosum

Senior Administration: Nick Andrews, Reena Atanasiadis, Julie Desjardins,
Isabelle Goyette, Claire Grogan, Kerry Hull, Céline Jury,
Stine Linden-Andersen, Michele Murray, Andrea Robert,
Jacquie Scott, Andrew Webster

Guests: Theresa Gagnon

Secretary: Denise Lauzière, LL.B.

ITEM 1: CHAIR'S WELCOME

Chair Robert Hall called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. and moved into an in-camera session.

Chair Robert Hall called the open session to order at 3:15 p.m.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the Board of Governors meeting of June 9, 2023 was approved as presented.

Moved by: Michel Marleau
Seconded by: Jane Brydges

Motion carried.

ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The April 28, 2023, meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Moved by: Jane Brydges
Seconded by: Michel Marleau

Motion carried.

ITEM 4: BUSINESS ARISING

No items added.

ITEM 5: PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Goldbloom provided the following highlights of his report to the Board of Governors:

Convocation 2023 – On Friday, June 2nd, a new ceremony for graduating Indigenous students was hosted at the Principal's residence. Vicky Boldo and Shawna Jerome '21 of the Indigenous Student Support Centre organized the event to recognize graduating student Katsi'tsaié:ri Paul, a Business Administration student, with her family and friends.

Speakers at the event included Dr. Colette Yellow Robe of the School of Education, Jennifer Kanerahtorónk was Paul '22 and Board member Dr. Abel Bosum, DCL '16.

On Friday evening we welcomed 830 guests for dinner at the *Centre de Foires* Convention Centre to celebrate the Class of 2023. Outgoing Students' Representative Council President Camilla Rizzi addressed the graduating students and their families and the Honorands were introduced informally.

Two ceremonies were held on June 3rd, 2023, with 240 students attending the morning ceremony and 255 students the afternoon ceremony. The Principal encouraged Board members to listen to the citation delivered by Dr. Abel Bosum for the Honourable Justice O'Bomsawin and addresses by Honorands Dr. Margot Heyerhoff and Dr. Patrick Pichette, which are available on the Website.

3M National Student Fellowship - Liam O'Toole, who graduated this year with a degree in International Political Economy, was named one of the ten recipients of the 2023 3M National Student Fellowships, in recognition of his exceptional leadership and commitment to academic excellence.

Liam's academic research interests are focused on work-related experiences and organized labour. He will begin his Master's degree in Political Science at McGill this fall.

Three of this year's 3M recipients are from Maple League universities.

The Consortium of English-language CEGEPs, Colleges and Universities of Quebec is an alliance of the three English universities and six CEGEPs. They created the Consortium in order to collaborate in their efforts to equip their graduates to pursue their careers in Quebec.

At its meeting in April, the members decided to empower the Consortium to communicate publicly on behalf of its members on issues of shared concern.

The Consortium does not intend to engage in advocacy but will equip itself to conduct research in order to inform public discussion.

Principal Goldbloom informed the Board about the *Bureau de coopération interuniversitaire's* (BCI) meeting, held that morning, which included a discussion on the Government's funding model for Quebec universities. Contrary to the initial joint decision to submit only a BCI brief on the subject, many universities have decided to submit individual briefs.

Principal Goldbloom said that Bishop's will determine whether it will submit a brief of its own.

ITEM 6: REPORT OF THE SRC PRESIDENT

Sophia Stacey introduced herself and her executive team, which began its mandate on May 1st, 2023. She reported on her participation as a representative of the SRC and the Quebec Student Union at the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Foundations Conference in Ottawa. The Foundations Conference is designed to develop student leadership and establish advocacy priorities for upcoming meetings with federal legislators. Ms Stacey has been appointed to CASA's Federal Policy Committee, and National Advocacy Committee to represent the Quebec Student Union and the SRC for 2023-2024.

Ms Stacey and the SRC VP of Student Life, Olivia Woods attended the Student Care Annual Stakeholders Conference in Montreal, a conference focussing on health care plans available to students. At the conference, they met with the keynote speaker on mental health, Sarah Mughal, who also co-authored the Bishop's Student Mental Health Policy.

She reminded everyone that June is Pride Month and Indigenous History Month and indicated that numerous projects are underway.

The SRC Executive team attended the Tree Planting Ceremony held on June 2nd, 2023 at which time 23 trees (in honour of the class of 2023) were planted. This event was a collaborative effort of the Advancement Office, the SRC and the Sustainable Development Office.

ITEM 7: ACADEMIC REPORT

Dr. Andrew Webster reflected on his first year as Vice-Principal Academic and Research and recognized the extraordinary efforts of faculty and professional staff.

Governors were informed that Dr. Julie Desjardins, Dean of the School of Education, has been elected as the President of ADEREQ (*Association des doyens, doyennes et directeurs, directrices pour l'étude et la recherche en éducation au Québec*) for the 2023-24 academic year. Additionally, Dr. Webster accepted the position of Chair of the Governing Board of the Maple League for the 2023-24 academic year.

Dr. Webster provided an update on the most recent enrolment numbers as of June 1, 2023, which is the deadline for accepting enrolment applications. The numbers are encouraging, as we are ahead of our target - 1082 candidates have been accepted, which should result in an incoming class of approximately 880 new students.

The Governors were informed of the work of various Academic committees, including the work of the Senate Committee on Academic Integrity. Over the past year, the Committee has worked under the direction of the Dean of the Williams School of Business to produce a final report. This report reviewed all current University regulations pertaining to academic integrity, benchmarked regulations against other universities across Canada, and put forward a series of recommendations for the future direction of the framework to ensure academic integrity at Bishop's. The final report will serve as a significant guide as the University strives to implement its recommendations.

ITEM 8: CAMPUS LANDSCAPE AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Chair of the Committee, Michel Marleau, informed the Board that a Committee meeting was held on May 18th, 2023 to discuss the Kwigw8mna contractors bid submissions and the 2023-28 Capital Plan.

On May 15th, 2023, the tenders were opened for the construction of the Kwigw8mna building and two contractors had submitted qualifying proposals that respected the established budget. As per the Act Respecting Contracting by Public Bodies and the Regulation Respecting Certain Service Contracts of Public Bodies, the University must award the contract to the eligible bidder who submitted the lowest compliant tender.

DRAFT RESOLUTION 2022-08-01
FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE
CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF KWIGW8MNA
AND DELEGATION OF SIGNING AUTHORITY

WHEREAS the Board approved the budget for the construction of Kwigw8mna in the revised 2022-27 Capital Plan on November 11, 2022;

AND WHEREAS the University's Signing Authority Policy requires approval by the Board of Governors for any contract obligating the University where the total amount involved exceeds \$500,000;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves the contract for the construction of Kwigw8mna with Comco Entrepreneur, the contractor who submitted the lowest acceptable bid;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Governors authorizes two of the signing officers (Principal and Vice Chancellor, Vice-Principal Academic & Research, Vice-Principal Finance and Administration and Vice-Principal Student Affairs), to co-sign the contract related to the construction of Kwigw8mna.

Moved by: Michel Marleau

Seconded by: Jessica Riddell

Motion carried.

Isabelle Goyette presented the 2023-28 Capital Plan, which is based on the 2022-2027 Capital Plan. This new Capital Plan was updated to consider new projects as well as the evolution of ongoing projects.

Isabelle Goyette reported on the major projects delivered in 2022-2023 which included the renovation of the pool, the first and third floors of Nicolls' classrooms and labs and the construction of the Janyne Hodder Hall. The installation of new generators, the construction of the new entrance and bike/pedestrian path, the replacement of windows, the progress on the educational farm, the creation of a physics as well as a plurilingual lab and exterior lighting improvements were all small and medium size projects also delivered in 2022-2023.

The 2023-28 Capital Plan includes priorities specified in the Strategic Framework which are:

1. Iconic building renovations (Kwigw8mna). (Isabelle mentioned that McGreer will be assessed in a future capital plan.)
2. Educational Campus Farm
3. Campus Signature (renovation of campus main entrance, renovation of the QUAD)
4. Housing Plan
5. Management of automobile circulation on campus.

Isabelle Goyette informed the Board that the Government's *Plan quinquennial d'investissement (PQI)* envelopes were reduced for all universities.

Pierre Cossette added that the cuts in PQI envelopes are the result of accumulated unspent money by some universities.

Isabelle Goyette presented the main strategic criteria for project investments:

1. Health and Safety
2. Compliance
3. Strategic
4. Environment

The Governors were informed about the budget distribution based on the strategic criteria:

1. Compliance/Obsolescence
2. Mission
3. Health and Safety
4. Environment

And by budget distribution by department:

1. Housing
2. General
3. Academic
4. Student Affairs

The Governors were advised that additional Government funding will be required in order to proceed with new initiatives, as the present envelope will only cover projects planned for the next two years.

Kent Carson questioned the pertinence of developing new prioritization criteria given the cutbacks in government funding.

Isabelle Goyette answered that some priorities will have to be revisited if no additional funding is granted. The projects that were planned for 2023-2024 were pushed back due to COVID, the increase in cost and due to labour shortages. She then presented the project timeline for the next three years.

Nanci Chagnon stressed that it would be important that projects start when classes are not in session. Isabelle Goyette confirmed that the impact on users is reassessed before proceeding with any project.

Michel Marleau underlined the challenges brought by the increase in cost and the reduction of PQI on projects.

DRAFT RESOLUTION 2022-08-02
FOR THE APPROVAL OF
THE 2023-28 CAPITAL PLAN

WHEREAS the *Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur (MES)* requires approval by the Board of Governors of a Capital Plan covering ten years (2023-2033);

WHEREAS the University traditionally plans projects over a five-year period and not a ten-year period and consequently prepared a 2023-28 Capital Plan;

WHEREAS the Campus Landscape and Built Environment Development Committee of the University has discussed the 2023-28 Capital Plan and the associated risks;

AND WHEREAS all contracts exceeding \$500,000 will be submitted to the Board of Governors for approval even if the Board has approved them in the Capital Plan as per the Signing Authority outlined in the University's Statutes;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves the 2023-28 Capital Plan (list of projects, project timelines and budgets) as presented by the Vice-Principal Finance and Administration.

Moved by: Pierre Cossette
Seconded by: Heather McKeen-Edwards

Motion carried.

ITEM 9: PATERSON HALL EXTENSION

Isabelle Goyette provided information about the proposed professional contracts. The proposed expansion of Paterson Hall consists of the addition of a new wing on the south side of the building.

On May 19th 2023, the University issued a call for tenders for professional teams (architects and mechanical, electrical, structural and civil engineers) to work on the expansion of Paterson Hall and an additional Housing Plan project (to be determined). The call for tenders is for three-year contracts for each of the professional teams. The expansion of Paterson Hall will allow the University to move forward with the Housing Plan without compromising on the number of beds offered to students. Once the new wing of the Paterson Hall has been completed, the University will be able to put either Pollack or Paterson (original wings) offline while they are being renovated. She added that the Paterson Hall project will require approximately 13 M dollars.

ITEM 10: INFORMATION RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT

Kent Carson gave an update on the Cybersecurity measures which are required by Quebec government regulations. All the initiatives should be completed by December 2023.

He also informed the Governors that ITS is providing support to the Secretary General for the implementation of policies and procedures to comply with Quebec's new regulations on personal and private information protection – Law 25. The regulation grants new data protection rights to Quebec citizens and applies to all public and private organizations with customers in Quebec. The new regulations are being phased in over a three-year period, with most coming into effect in September 2023.

The Governors were notified that no delays were anticipated in the deliverance of the server and storage project. The new equipment has been installed and the data and applications will be migrated to the new technology over the summer. The project is on schedule and respects the budget.

On the issue of the Microsoft Class Action Settlement, Kent Carson informed the Board that Bishop's received a share of the settlement in the amount of \$125,000. This will be used to offset the University's license fees for Microsoft products over the next three years.

The Governors were briefed on the ITS Budget for 2023-24 which is higher than anticipated due to cost increases, new hires, cybersecurity improvements and multimedia technology investments for classrooms, and the replacement of computers purchased prior to 2016. These additional costs will be offset with money from the capital reserve fund.

Mark Caduc was pleased to inform the Board that Scott Stoddard is returning to Bishop's and will be the new Manager for ITS Client Services as of June 26, 2023.

ITEM 11: GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE – NOTICE OF AMENDMENT OF STATUES

Tova White reminded the Governors that at its April 28, 2023 meeting the Board approved the Principal's recommendation that the academic structures of the University be modified to include five Deans as recommended by the Academic Administrative Structures Committee pending the amendment of the Statutes to reflect these changes.

Section 12 of Division I of the University's Statutes provides that the Statutes may be amended only by resolution of the Board of Governors at a meeting duly called for that purpose.

In order for a meeting to be duly called for the purpose of amending the Statutes, a written notice of motion incorporating the text of proposed amendments must be submitted to each member of the Board at least 60 days prior to the meeting.

The draft revision of the Statutes is being presented to the Board members. She stated that a formal motion will be brought to the Board of Governors in September.

ITEM 12: NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Robert Hall presented the report for the reappointment of Board members on behalf of Ms. Yolande James who sent her regrets.

Pierre Cossette will complete his second three-year term on the Board of Bishop's University on June 30, 2023. As stated by the Statutes of the University, external Governors are appointed for a three-year term, which may be renewed twice (Division I, Section 1.3.3). Dr. Cossette has expressed his interest in remaining in his position as an external Board member.

Chancellor Daniel Fournier expressed his appreciation for the exceptional example of having the *Recteur de l'Université de Sherbrooke* and the Principal of Bishop's University serve on each other's boards. He stated that it sends an inspiring message of cooperation to both the general and student populations.

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS REAPPOINTING AN EXTERNAL GOVERNOR

WHEREAS the Nominating Committee has recommended the reappointment of Dr. Pierre Cossette for a three-year term beginning on July 1st, 2023, and ending on June 30th 2026;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Dr. Pierre Cossette be reappointed to the Board of Governors of Bishop's University for a term ending on June 30th, 2026.

Moved by: Michel Marleau

Seconded by: Kent Carson

Motion carried.

Chair Robert Hall presented the next item of the report, that of the appointment of the Vice-Chair currently held by Mr. Junior Sirivar since July 1st, 2022. As stated in the Statutes, the Vice-Chair is elected by the Board on an annual basis, on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee.

Junior Sirivar has expressed interest in serving as Vice-Chair for 2023-2024.

DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR THE
APPOINTMENT OF THE
VICE-CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

WHEREAS s. 1.4 of Division I of the Statutes of Bishop's University provides that the Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors "shall, upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, be elected from among the External Governors" to serve in such capacity for a one-year term;

AND WHEREAS the Nominating Committee has proposed that Junior Sirivar be reappointed Vice-Chair of the Board for a one-year term, renewable;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors appoints Junior Sirivar as Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors for a one-year term to expire on July 1st, 2024.

Moved by: Jane Brydges
Seconded by: Jessica Riddell

Motion carried.

Principal Goldbloom assumed the Chair's position to coordinate the appointment of the Chair of the Board of Governors.

Robert Hall stated that if he was to be reappointed for the 2023-2024 academic year, it would be his final mandate as the Chair of the Board of Governors and a plan should be put in place to choose his successor.

Principal Michael Goldbloom recognized Robert Hall's outstanding contribution to the Board and the University over more than a decade. He added that Robert Hall's decision is in line with an informal governance succession plan, which had been discussed by Brian Levitt and Daniel Fournier, the previous and current Chancellors, Robert Hall, the Chair of the Board's Governance and Ethics Committee, Tova White and the Principal. The Principal stated that Mr. Hall's willingness to serve for another year will be of great help to the incoming Principal.

As stated in the Statutes of Bishop's University, the Chair is elected by the Board on an annual basis, on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee.

Robert Hall has served as Chair since June 2014.

DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR THE
REAPPOINTMENT OF THE
CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

WHEREAS s. 1.4 of Division I of the Statutes of Bishop’s University provides that the Chair of the Board of Governors “shall, upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, be elected from among the External Governors” to serve in such capacity for a one-year term;

WHEREAS the term of the Chair is renewable;

WHEREAS Me Robert Hall was re-appointed Chair of the Board of Governors on June 10th, 2022 for a one-year term to expire on June 30, 2023;

AND WHEREAS the Nominating Committee has proposed that Me Robert Hall be reappointed Chair of the Board for a one-year term;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors reappoints Me Robert Hall as Chair of the Board of Governors for a one-year term to expire on July 1st 2024.

Moved by: Kent Carson

Seconded by: Mark Caduc

Motion carried.

ITEM 13: POLITIQUE SUR L'USAGE ET LA QUALITÉ DE LA LANGUE FRANÇAISE

Principal Goldbloom reminded the Governors about the amendment to the *Charter of the French Language* which requires each Quebec University to update its Policy on the Use and Quality of the French Language to comply with articles 88.1 to 88.8 of the *Charter of the French Language*.

Principal Goldbloom indicated that for the first time, Bishop's University has been designated as an English institution. He added that the University believes this designation should be interpreted broadly and anything which restricts it should be interpreted narrowly.

Principal Goldbloom pointed out that Section 1.3 of the University's French-language policy refers to the fact that the law recognizes Bishop's as an English Institution and that Section 1.5 states that "*As an English-language university, teaching, research, governance and student life activities are primarily carried out in English*".

Principal Goldbloom mentioned that communications to the Bishop's community from the Principal's Office, the Human Resources and Safety and Security Departments are all provided in both English and French. The Policy was to be submitted to the Government by June 1st, 2023.

Nanci Chagnon commented that some international students already have a hard time mastering English by the end of their studies and to operationalize the requirement in Section 7.7 of having to master French could be seen as discriminatory against students who are domiciled in Québec.

Robert Hall acknowledged the concern but reiterated the legal obligation to comply with the law.

Principal Goldbloom said that this provision is understandable in the context of equipping students to pursue their careers in Quebec. The School of Education would be the only faculty affected by this.

Motion

THAT the Board of Governors approve the *Politique sur l'usage et la qualité de la langue française* as required by the Government of Quebec.

Moved by: Pierre Cossette

Seconded by: Murielle Lortie

Motion carried.

ITEM 14: ACADEMIC FREEDOM POLICY

Andrew Webster reminded Governors that the Quebec government passed the *Act respecting academic freedom in the university sector*, which requires all Quebec Universities to adopt a stand-alone policy on academic freedom. This policy was endorsed by the Senate on June 7th, 2023.

Motion

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Policy on Academic Freedom as required by the Government of Quebec.

Moved by: Jane Brydges
Seconded by: Heather McKeen-Edwards

Motion carried.

ITEM 15: MENTAL HEALTH POLICY

Stine Linden-Andersen informed Governors of the institutional obligation to adopt a student mental policy by September 2023.

Theresa Gagnon, Director of Student-Life and Services, presented the *Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Policy: Creating a Community of Care*.

The policy is intended to provide evidence-based support and streamline crisis management, to implement a campus-wide mental health awareness, literacy and education initiative, to foster a supportive and inclusive campus environment, to promote equity, diversity and inclusion and to reinforce institutional commitment and promote a shared responsibility for student mental health across campus.

Theresa Gagnon gave an overview of the current landscape on student mental health at Bishop's University. She presented the professional support available to students which consists of services offered by psychologists, social workers, a psychotherapist and a counsellor. The services provided are solution-focused short-term counselling on a time-limited approach that focuses on leveraging students' strengths and resources to find practical solutions.

Theresa Gagnon informed the Governors about the main intervention pillars established by the Quebec government, which are:

1. A national consultation for the benefit of the student population
2. Campuses conducive to thriving mental health
3. Support for the student population in the diversity of their needs
4. Accessibility to mental health services for members of the student community

Nanci Chagnon questioned if some elements of the training on violence and threat and risk assessment would be integrated into the policy on mental health. Dr. Linden-Andersen stated that the Policy does mention it, but it was important to have two distinct policies.

Principal Goldbloom asked why Bishop's does not have a waiting list as is apparently the case at most the other universities. Theresa Gagnon answered that the model of services provided that is based on a drop-in counselling service is largely responsible for the absence of a waiting list at the University.

Sophia Stacey endorsed the statements of Theresa Gagnon and Stine Linden-Andersen and underlined the struggles experienced by students. She also specified that students were pleased to be included in the process of establishing the policy.

Motion

THAT the Board of Governors approves the Bishop's University Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Policy as required by the Government of Québec in the *Plan d'action sur la santé mentale étudiante en enseignement supérieur*.

Moved by: Jessica Riddell

Seconded by: Sophia Stacey

Motion carried.

ITEM 16: CHANGE IN THE MASTER USER (USAGER-MAÎTRE) OF THE BUREAU DES SOUMISSIONS DÉPOSÉES DU QUÉBEC (BSDQ)

Isabelle Goyette requested that the Board approve transferring the designation as the master-user for the management of Capital Planning and Projects from David Lacroix to Céline Jury, thereby enabling her to consult the database for subcontractor's bids.

DRAFT RESOLUTION 2022-08-03
MASTER-USER
BUREAU DES SOUMISSIONS DÉPOSÉES DU QUÉBEC (BSDQ)

WHEREAS the *Bureau des soumissions déposées du Québec (BSDQ)* offers an exclusive electronic service (TES) for the transmission of subcontractor tenders accessible to any organization awarding construction contracts;

WHEREAS Bishop's University awards contracts to contractors, who can hire subcontractors to fulfill their obligations;

WHEREAS Bishop's University must name an '*Usager-maître*' who will be in charge of the University's account and who will have access to the electronic service provide by the BSDQ regulations;

WHEREAS the Manager of Capital Planning and Projects is responsible for the management of construction contracts at Bishop's;

WHEREAS the Manager of Capital Planning and Projects position is currently held by Céline Jury;

BE IT RESOLVED that Céline Jury is designated as *Usager-maître* and is authorized to sign the *protocole d'utilisation de la TES*;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that BDSQ may provide Bishop's University's user code and a password to access TES to Céline Jury.

Moved by: Jane Brydges
Seconded by: Murielle Lortie

Motion carried.

The open session ended at 5:45 p.m.

The meeting ended at 6:20 p.m.



Robert Hall, Chair



Denise Lauzière, Secretary