



UNIVERSITÉ
BISHOP'S
UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
DOCUMENT 2022-04-03

DECEMBER 16TH 2022

MINUTES

MCGREER AND VIDEOCONFERENCE

Chair: Robert Hall

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

Regrets: Abel Bosum, Daniel Fournier, Samia Mihoub

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

Secretary: Denise Lauzière

ITEM 1: CHAIR'S WELCOME

Chair Robert Hall called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms Tova White said that under Item 4: Business Arising she would provide an update on the Subcommittee for the creation of the Joint Board of Governors and Senate Standing Committee on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. The agenda was unanimously approved with this addition.

Motion carried.

ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Michel Marleau requested that the text below (in bold) be added to Item 12, fourth paragraph:

The Committee recommended that the University develop detailed plans for the Norton Hall bathroom renovations so that the project specifications will be ready when the University issues a call for tenders for the project, **after the funding for the Kwigw8mna project has been secured.**

The minutes of the November 11, 2022 meeting were approved as revised.

Moved by: Michel Marleau

Seconded by: Mark Caduc

Motion carried.

ITEM 4: BUSINESS ARISING

Ms Tova White, Chair of the Subcommittee for the creation of the Joint Board of Governors and Senate Standing Committee on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion reported that it would bring a proposal to the Board on February 3, 2023.

ITEM 5: PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Zoé Fortier

On December 8th 2022, Zoé Fortier, a first-year Education student from Sainte-Julie, Quebec, died in her Paterson residence room from natural causes related to her epilepsy condition.

With the family's permission, the Bishop's community was invited to a celebration of Zoé's life which was held on December 14th in the Cleghorn Room. Students, faculty and staff shared their stories about Zoé, mourned her loss, celebrated her life and, by expressed their condolences in a book that will be given to the family. Student Services and the Human Resources department have been providing support services to those in need.

Donald Lecture

Ms Eva Kuper gave the second Donald Lecture of the 2022-23 series on November 21st. Ms Kuper is a Holocaust survivor and educator who was born in Warsaw, Poland during WWII. She survived the war by a series of miraculous events, but mainly as a result of the courage and humanity of both family and virtual strangers.

There was a large audience for the lecture and the feedback received from attendees, particularly students, was that they greatly appreciated hearing from Ms Kuper in person. Ms Kuper emphasized that the current generation of university students will likely be the last to meet Holocaust survivors in person and that they will carry a singular responsibility to bear witness.

To mark International Holocaust Day on January 27th, 2023, the University will make Eva Kuper's talk available online.

Principal Goldbloom remarked on the ongoing legacy of John Donald's gift to the University which brings thought-provoking speakers to Bishop's and enhances the intellectual vibrancy of the University.

Centraide Campaign

The Bishop's community raised \$24,658 for this year's Centraide Campaign through the contributions of 130 donors, including the proceeds of the Eight Misbehavin' Octet concert on December 10th.

Principal Goldbloom thanked the 2022 campaign co-leads Dr. Michele Murray and Ms Sonia Patenaude for their leadership, the fundraisers and the members of the Bishop's community for their support of the campaign.

Abenaki Flag

Principal Goldbloom announced that on March 21st, the Spring Equinox, the University will raise the Abenaki flag.

First place - CASE competition

Over the weekend of November 10th – 12th, four students in the Williams School of Business won the gold medal in the Case Competition at the John Molson Sports Business Conference in Montreal in which over 400 students from across North America participated

Teams were tasked with presenting solutions for a sports business-related problem. The teams had to prepare their presentation in advance of the conference and submit a video, with the top six teams presenting to a panel of judges and a company representative at the conference.

Giving Tuesday – Mental Health support

In an effort to support campus-based mental health services, funds were raised on Giving Tuesday for BUnited, the University's peer support service for student wellbeing.

The campaign's goal of \$50,000 was surpassed before the end of the day on Giving Tuesday, December 6th. By December 8th donations totaled \$62,465 of which almost \$44,000 was designated to the BUnited Peer Support Centre.

Alumni receptions

Principal Goldbloom traveled to Toronto and London, Ontario for alumni receptions. He said that it was a pleasure to meet with so many alumni, many of whom were keen to have news of the University as they had not been to campus in several years.

Sports

Principal Goldbloom encouraged Governors to read his report for details on the many successes and achievements of the University's sports' teams. He encouraged everyone to attend a game or competition.

ITEM 6: REPORT OF THE STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

The President of the Students' Representative Council (SRC), Ms Camilla Rizzi, reported that the SRC was deeply saddened by the loss of a student peer, Zoé Fortier on December 8th. The SRC distributed postcards and emailed students on how to access mental health support.

Ms Rizzi expressed her appreciation for the Donald Lecture given by Eva Kuper. As she was in Ottawa for a conference for student unions, she watched the lecture on the live feed that was provided to parents and alumni.

In Ottawa, Ms Rizzi represented the SRC at the Canadian alliance of student associations conference which included meetings with Senators, Members of Parliament and other government officials.

The SRC is hoping to launch a Menstrual Support campaign in Winter 2023. The aim of the campaign is to provide free environmentally sustainable menstrual products to students.

The SRC and Student Services distributed over 1000 exam care packages in early December and hosted two Pet Therapy days attended by over 700 Bishop's and Champlain students.

Ms Rizzi said that the SRC was considering ways of increasing its collaboration with Maple League counterparts. Some ideas discussed have included hosting TEdTalks or a holding collegial competition like Front Page Challenge.

Ms Rizzi announced that she had been appointed on the National Indigenous Committee.

ITEM 7: COVID-19 UPDATE

The Chair of the COVID-19 Task Force, Dr. Stine Linden-Andersen reported that the number and severity of cases had dropped significantly since the creation of the Task Force. She said that a COVID-19 update would no longer be a regular item on the Board agenda unless the situation deteriorates.

ITEM 8: ACADEMIC REPORT

Vice-Principal Academic and Research Andrew Webster reported on the return to pre-pandemic academic practices, the review of the University Librarian, the search process for the Director of the Office of Research and Graduate Studies and the Academic Administrative Structures Committee review.

ITEM 9: REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, Mr. Michel Marleau, reported that the Committee met on December 5, 2022 to review:

- 2022-23 Cash Flow Update
- Debt Management Strategy
- Financing of the New Residence

2022-23 Cash Flow Update

The University presented a budgeted cash flow surplus of \$11.6M for 2022-23 to the Board of Governors in April 2022 and obtained its approval. The December 2022 cash flow update indicated that the cash flow surplus will be closer to \$14.3M assuming the University balances its Operating Budget in 2022-23.

Debt Management Strategy

The University has contracted and will continue to contract important long-term debts to finance the costs of the Housing Plan. It is important for the University to adopt an optimized debt management strategy that maximizes the overall value to the University, considers the lowest debt service costs for the University as a whole, and includes the management of risks associated with the interest rate fluctuations.

The Finance and Audit Committee members reviewed and approved the updated version of the financing strategy document proposed by the University.

Financing of the New Residence

Mr. Marleau reported that since 2015, the University has undertaken various renovation and construction projects as part of its Residence Revitalization Plan. This plan was developed to ensure that adequate student residence accommodations, both in terms of quantity and quality, will be available to support the strategic priorities identified in the Housing Plan and the Strategic Enrollment Management Plan.

The Quebec Government does not fund capital investment in student residences. The University is nonetheless required to obtain permission from the government to undertake any major capital projects. Additionally, the *Ministère des Finances* acts as an intermediary and an advisor for universities who require external funding for such projects.

Currently, a new 93-bed residence is under construction and is nearing completion. Students will begin moving into the new residence in mid-December 2022.

The expected final cost of the new residence is \$15.9M, which corresponds to the amount budgeted for the project.

The University has sufficient reserves set aside to cover the entire cost of the new residence, without jeopardizing reserves for deferred future maintenance.

Given the sharp increase in interest rates over the past few months and the uncertainty of future interest rates, the Committee supported the University's recommendation to use the reserves to pay for the construction of the new residence, rather than obtaining external financing.

The University consulted the *Ministère des Finances*, which supported this strategy.

RESOLUTION 2022-03-01
FINANCING OF THE NEW RESIDENCE

WHEREAS the Finance & Audit Committee of Bishop's University has reviewed and recommends the proposal of the University to finance the costs of the New Residence using accumulated reserves;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approves the proposal of the University to finance the costs of the New Residence using accumulated reserves.

Moved by: Kent Carson
Seconded by: Pierre Cossette

Motion carried.

ITEM 10: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Sustainable Development Committee, Ms Suzie O'Bomsawin, reported that the Committee met on December 6, 2022 to review:

- An update of the 2020-24 Sustainable Development Action Plan;
- Results of the 2021 Greenhouse Gas emission inventory;
- Upcoming Sustainable Development Actions; and
- Sustainable Development Working Groups.

The 2021 Greenhouse Gas Emission (GHG) Inventory has calculated that the University emits 3,432 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e) annually. This is a 23% decrease in the University's GHG emissions over the 2012 GHG inventory.

Greenhouse gas emissions can be categorized into four scopes:

- Scope 1: direct emissions from operations: fossil fuel combustion, fugitive GHG emissions from building and vehicle air conditioning, process emissions (CO₂ gas);
- Scope 2: indirect GHG emissions due to transportation of energy used for operations (electricity);
- Scope 3: GHG emissions associated with transportation (students and employees);
- Scope 4: indirect GHG emissions due to products used by the University (fossil fuel, paper, water, waste and wastewater treatment).

While it is important to reduce all our GHG emissions, only Scope 1 and 2 emissions are attributed to the University and serve as a basis for determining whether we have achieved carbon neutrality.

The University has evaluated its carbon sinks which are significant even if they cannot be used towards attaining carbon neutral status. The University has committed to preserving its carbon sinks for their benefit to the environment.

Ms O'Bomsawin said that the University hoped to announce its plan to become carbon-neutral in Spring 2023.

Ms Isabelle Goyette said that the University would need to offset 1,831 tCO₂e per year (the scope 1 and scope 2 emissions). She said that the University's carbon sinks were evaluated at 1,197 tCO₂e per year.

Ms Goyette said that some options the University is exploring include buying carbon credits, purchasing renewable natural gas for heating, connecting more buildings to the geothermal loop and replacing oil furnace heat with more environmentally friendly heating options.

Dr. Pierre Cossette spoke about the sustainable development options used by the University of Sherbrooke to reduce its carbon footprint.

The Sustainable Development Advisor has been very active:

- supporting student-led SD projects;
- creating connections with Bishop's administrative departments;
- improving waste management; and
- raising awareness on local, provincial, federal and international SD campaigns.

In November 2022, the University obtained the FairTrade designation.

ITEM 11: AD HOC OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR KWIGW8MNA

Ms Suzie O'Bomsawin, a member of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Oversight of Kwigw8mna, reported that the Committee met on November 23, 2022.

Ms O'Bomsawin reminded the Board that on May 4, 2022, the University opened the only bid for the construction portion of the project. The price submitted was about twice the construction budget estimated by the professionals in February 2022. It was decided not to accept the bid and to postpone proceeding with the project. Consequently, the project will not be completed by April 2023 as previously planned.

Ms O'Bomsawin said that if the University is successful in securing the additional funding and receives a construction bid respecting the revised budget, the project is planned to be completed in Spring 2024.

Principal Goldbloom said the guidelines for public tender do not allow for the same project to be offered after a failed tender process. He said that the call for tender for the interior renovations of the Kwigw8mna project would be issued in February 2023 and that the University would seek bidders for the exterior work at a later date.

Ms. Camilla Rizzi expressed the hope on behalf of Indigenous students that the contract for the exterior work would be awarded to an Indigenous construction company.

ITEM 12: POLICY ON THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Vice-Principal Student Affairs Stine Linden-Andersen presented a summary of changes proposed to the Policy for the Prevention of Sexual Violence.

On October 7, 2022 the Board approved a revised Policy which included the right for a complainant to receive information on the outcome of their complaint, including whether or not a sanction was imposed and, if so, the details and terms of the sanction.

Dr. Stine Linen Andersen said that the latest revision of the Policy included recommended revisions and additions by the Independent Review Panel (IRP) established by the Canadian Centre for Legal Innovation in Sexual Assault Response (CCLISAR), whose report was presented to the Board last June.

Immediate measures that the Vice Principal Student Affairs can put into place should a student be a respondent in a complaint are included as Appendix A of the Policy. The immediate measures reinforce the trauma-informed and survivor-centred approach we are taking in the prevention of sexual violence at the University and are pursuant to the IRP's recommendation.

RESOLUTION 2022-03-02
FOR THE APPROVAL OF A REVISED
POLICY FOR THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

WHEREAS the CLISSAR's Independent Review Panel recommended a revision of the immediate measures that the Vice Principal Student Affairs can put in place when a student is a respondent in a report or complaint of sexual violence;

AND WHEREAS there are new job titles for the Vice Principal Student Affairs and the Sexual Violence Response Advisor;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Policy for the Prevention of Sexual Violence is amended accordingly.

Moved by: Suzie O'Bomsawin

Seconded by: Kent Carson

Motion carried.

ITEM 14: SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATES

14.1 Principal and Vice-Chancellor

Chair Robert Hall reported that the recruitment firm had received several applications and that the process for determining a short list of candidates was underway.

14.2 Secretary General

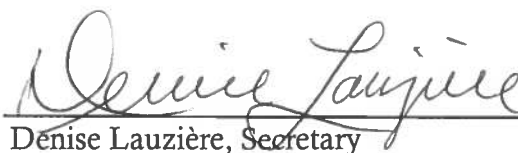
Chair Robert Hall reported that the Search Committee had met and would report more fully to the Board in February 2023.

The open session ended at 4:29 p.m.

The meeting ended at 4:50 p.m.



Robert Hall, Chair



Denise Lauzière, Secretary

