

March 16, 2023

1:00 p.m.

MRU, EC 1040

**PRESENT:**

Sherri Evers – Public Member

Dawn Farrell- Chancellor

Brenden Hunter- Public Member

Pam Karlenzig - Staff Member

Chris Lee, Vice-Chair-Public Member

Carrie Lonardelli - Public Member

Jacqueline Musabende - Faculty Member

Joseph Nguyen – Student Member

Thomas O’Leary – Public Member

Kenna Olsen - Faculty Member

Shannon Pestun - Alumni Member

Alex Pourbaix, Chair - Public Member

Tim Rahilly - President and Vice-Chancellor

David Routledge – Alumni Member

Shannon Ryhorchuk - Public Member

Rob Schaefer – Public Member

Salimah Walji-Shivji - Public Member

**RESOURCES:**

Kathy Homer, Assistant University Secretary-Board, Recording Secretary

Chad London, Provost and Vice President, Academic

Mustansar Nadeem, Vice-President, Finance and Administration

Amy Nixon, General Counsel and University Secretary

Paul Rossmann, Vice-President, University Advancement

Phil Warsaba, Vice-President, Students (virtually)

**REGRETS:** Denise Man – Public Member

**GUEST:** Evan Cortens, Director, Institutional Research and Planning

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

C. Lee, Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors and Chair of the meeting called the Open Session to order at 1:00 p.m., confirmed quorum, and C. London commenced with a land acknowledgement.

**1.1. Conflict of Interest Declaration**

S. Ryhorchuk declared a conflict of interest with item 13.4.1 Students’ Association Annual Report and will abstain from discussion or decision-making related to the item. No other conflicts were declared.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved and seconded:

**THAT** the agenda be approved, as distributed.

**CARRIED.**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**3.1. Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on December 2, 2022.**

Moved and seconded:

**THAT** the minutes of the Open Session of the Board of Governors' meeting held December 2, 2022, be approved as distributed.

**CARRIED.**

**3.2. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the past set of minutes.

**4. BUDGET PLAN: 2023-2024 TO 2025-2026**

The Board of Governors considered the 2023-2024 through 2025-2026 budget plans that were presented for approval. The budget assumptions, capital allocation, and unconsolidated and consolidated statements were provided.

The plan reflects a three-year balanced budget which is based on stable enrolment targets, includes a 0.6% increase in base grant in 2023-2024 based on the Provincial Budget February 28, 2023, and no increase to base operating grants for 2024-2025, 2025-2026; keeping them the same as 2022-2023 actuals. MRU's strategic priorities, program expansion, critical infrastructure needs, student financial support and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion initiatives are reflected in the budget. Recruitment and retention continue to be the institution's focus and are reflected in the budget.

The draft budget includes capital spending primarily related to the G-wing renovation, which is funded through the combination of a government grant and donated funds. In addition, the 2023-2024 and beyond budget plan includes capital investment in critical infrastructure and library technology upgrades.

R. Schaefer, Chair of the Finance Committee reported that the full Board received a briefing on the budget plan earlier in the month and that the Finance Committee considered the plan and is recommending it for approval.

M. Nadeem thanked the Financial Services department for the work done to bring forward a balanced budget using a risk-based approach. He reported the budget will be monitored and regular updates will be brought to the Board through the Finance Committee.

T. Rahilly echoed the comments made and thanked the Finance team for their work.

Moved and seconded:

**THAT** the Board of Governors approve the three-year budget plan inclusive of the 2023-24 budget and the 2024-25 and 2025-26 forecast budgets.

**CARRIED.**

*T. Rahilly and P. Warsaba exited the meeting.*

**5. INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

Guest, E. Cortens, addressed the Board of Governors regarding the Investment Management Agreement. He provided an overview of the current targets and reported that the government will be coordinating with Mount Royal University to discuss two new targets: an administration expense ratio metric and a research and commercialization metric.

*Dawn Farrell entered the meeting.*

## **REPORTS**

### **6. REPORTS**

#### **6.1. Board Chair**

A. Pourbaix, Board Chair, provided a written report that highlighted communications received from the Ministry on various topics including anticipated campus free speech reporting; a review of 2022; an announcement regarding the Bridge to Canadian Nursing program expansion funding; and as part of Budget 2023, the government plans to improve affordability for students at public post-secondary institutions.

#### **6.2. Executive**

A written report was provided that included updates regarding academic affairs; enrolment management; student affairs; international education; fundraising; Alumni relations; and marketing and communications.

C. London highlighted the announcement from the government to support the Aviation Diploma and noted that development and approval of the curriculum are ongoing.

More than fifty internal consultations were held regarding the Academic Plan development, which wrapped up in January. External consultations are now being conducted. Other institutional plans (Indigenization, EDI, Internationalization, Research etc.) will follow as there is an integrated planning approach.

C. London encouraged Board members to review the report in its entirety as there were many accomplishments in research and scholarship, which all deserve highlighting.

#### **6.3. General Faculties Council**

The General Faculties Council report for the past three meetings was received for information.

#### **6.4. Chancellor's Report**

D. Farrell highlighted the upcoming Chancellor's Dialogue that will occur on April 12, 2023. The event will focus on how musicians and other artists can support health and well-being in clinical and non-clinical populations.

## **COMMITTEE MATTERS**

### **7. AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE**

#### **7.1. Committee Report**

A report outlining the items considered by the Committee at the March 16, 2023 meeting was included for information. S. Ryhorchuk, Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, reported that dialogue was held regarding the charters, the ERM report, and the Internal Audit update.

### **8. CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

#### **8.1. Committee Report**

A written report from the February 27, 2023 meeting was included in the package for information. D. Routledge, Chair of the Campus Development Committee, thanked management and the Committee for the work over the last year and highlighted the completion of the W-wing, also noting further discussion to follow regarding the G-Wing project.

**9. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**9.1. Committee Report**

A report outlining the items considered by the Committee at the March 16, 2023 meeting was included for information. R. Schaefer, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported the budget was the main focus of the meeting along with the review of the Committee's charter.

**10. GOVERNANCE AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**10.1. Committee Report**

A. Pourbaix, Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee, provided a written report summarizing the discussions from the February 27, 2023 meeting. It was reported that P. Malec, Student Representative, resigned from the Board on March 2, 2023, and that her resignation letter was sent to the Board Chair, the Vice-Chair, the President and the Minister.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**11. ITEMS REMOVED FOR DISCUSSION**

There were no items removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

Moved and seconded:

**THAT** the Board of Governors approve the consent agenda items for the March 16, 2023, Open Session.

**CARRIED.**

**12. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

**12.1. Board Committee Chair Appointments**

*THAT the Board of Governors approve the Board committee chair appointments for a one-year term, commencing July 1, 2023, until June 30, 2024:*

- *Chris Lee, Vice-Chair, Board of Governors*
- *Shannon Ryhorchuk, Chair, Audit and Risk Committee*
- *Dave Routledge, Chair, Campus Development Committee*
- *Rob Schaefer, Chair, Finance Committee*
- *Alex Pourbaix, Chair, Governance and Nominating Committee*
- *Chris Lee, Chair, Human Resources Committee*

**12.2. Banking Resolution**

*THAT the Board of Governors approve the change in authorized banking signing officers, and the authorized investment signing officers effective March 16, 2023.*

**12.3. Conflict of Interest in Research Policy Rescindment**

*THAT the Board of Governors approve the rescindment of the Conflict of Interest in Research Policy. The accompanying Conflict of Interest in Research Procedures will be rescinded automatically upon rescindment of the policy.*

**13. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**13.1. Financial Report: Third Quarter to December 31, 2022**

Received for information.

**13.2. Capital Maintenance Renewal (CMR) Projects**

Received for information.

**13.3. Journalism Publishing Annual Report**

Received for information.

**13.4. Students' Association of Mount Royal University**

13.4.1. Annual Report 2021 -22 (including Audited Financial Statements to June 30, 2022)

13.4.2. Student Centre Liaison Committee Report for 2021 – 2022

Received for information.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**14. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business identified for the consideration of the Board.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

Joseph Nguyen was acknowledged for his two years of service on the Board. The SAMRU is currently undergoing elections and J. Nguyen put his name forward for the role of President, SAMRU. Pending election results, he may be back on the Board for 2023-2024.

Moved and seconded:

**THAT** the Board of Governors meeting be terminated at 1:30 p.m.

***CARRIED.***