

**MINUTES OF THE 503<sup>rd</sup> SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF  
DAWSON COLLEGE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2020 AT 11:00 A.M. BY  
VIDEOCONFERENCE, 3040 SHERBROOKE STREET WEST, MONTREAL, QUEBEC**

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PRESENT:            Francesca Cuffaro            Michael Goldwax, Chair            Frank Runcie  
                         Richard Filion            Igor Gorelyshev            Jamie Singerman  
                         Anna Gagliardi            Steve Hatajlo            Victoria Trim  
                         Diane Gauvin            Azra Khan            Anna Villalta  
                         Ioana Geles            Alex McComber            David Wolfson

REGRETS:            Sonya Branco  
                         Maurice Hughes

College Officers:    Monique Magnan            Pascahl Scott  
                         François Paradis            Wai Bong Shum  
                         Glenys Ronnie

Chair of Senate:    Jonathon Sumner

Also Present:        Leanne Bennett            Catherine LeBel  
                         Isabelle Carrier            Kelly-Ann Morel  
                         Carmela Gumelli            Maeve Muldowney  
                         Max Jones            Christina Parsons  
                         Wolfgang Krotter            Mylène Saucier

Recording Secretary  
to the Board:        Janet Pakulis

## **Agenda**

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- 503.1    ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE 503<sup>rd</sup> MEETING**
  
- 503.2    PANDEMIC IMPACT ON THE COLLEGE'S OPERATIONS**
  
- 503.3    ADJOURNMENT**

Prior to the adoption of the agenda, Michael Goldwax, Board Chair, thanked all for attending and wished all to stay healthy during this pandemic.

In a response to a Board member's request to add an item to the agenda, François Paradis, Director of Corporate Affairs stated it is not possible because there are two absences and according to Bylaw 1, article 4.02, modification of the agenda of a Special Board meeting requires all Board members to be present and agree.

### **503.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE 503<sup>rd</sup> MEETING**

It was moved by Alex McComber, seconded by Steve Hatajlo, **THAT THE AGENDA OF THE 503<sup>rd</sup> SPECIAL MEETING BE ADOPTED.**

The motion was adopted unanimously.

### **503.2 PANDEMIC IMPACT ON THE COLLEGE'S OPERATIONS**

Following the closure of the College on March 13, Richard Filion elaborated on the resumption of College activities. Firstly he thanked all employees for their outstanding collaboration during this unprecedented time. Teaching activities are gradually resuming on-line. Diane Gauvin, Academic Dean stated the College will be closed until May 1 according to Ministry guidelines, which emerge every day, and we will continue with distance education.

Mr. Filion stated that IT services is responding quickly and efficiently to equipment needs. Collaboration with the unions has been very positive.

Monique Magnan, Director of Student Services reported that all services are open for questions, on-line books are available and video streaming for teachers and students is available. Students can have access to lockers by appointment only for a limited time period. Concerns were raised about students coming to the college by metro, but it was confirmed that most of the students are arriving by car with their parents and that once students arrive at the College all proper measures are being followed.

Mr. Filion stated that if we are able to return by mid May or beginning of June, intensive courses may be put in place to finish the semester. Regarding Summer School, at the present time the situation is too volatile to predict what the impact would be.

Mr. Filion then went on to explain the motions and reasons for which they are being presented, stated below.

WHEREAS the College needs to respect related Ministry directives, in particular requiring the College to complete the Winter 2020 semester;

WHEREAS the Board wishes to do all it can to support students' academic progress in these exceptional circumstances;

WHEREAS the Board recognizes the challenges this poses for College operations and for respecting academic policies and procedures as well as course outlines;

WHEREAS the Board wishes to ensure timely decisions can be taken for College operations and courses to proceed in an orderly fashion;

It was moved by Francesca Cuffaro, seconded by Alex McComber **THAT THE ACADEMIC DEAN MAY SET ACADEMIC ORIENTATIONS THAT ADAPT THE PROVISIONS OF THE INSTITUTIONAL POLICY ON THE EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND OTHER ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO THE CONTEXT OF THE HEALTH CRISIS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS, WHILE ATTEMPTING TO RESPECT THE SPIRIT AND INTENT OF THE PROVISIONS THAT CANNOT BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED;**

**THAT THE DIRECTOR GENERAL MAY SET OPERATIONAL ORIENTATIONS THAT ADAPT THE PROVISIONS OF COLLEGE BY-LAWS, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO THE CONTEXT OF THE HEALTH CRISIS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS, WHILE ATTEMPTING TO RESPECT THE SPIRIT AND INTENT OF THE PROVISIONS THAT CANNOT BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED; AND**

**THAT ANY SIGNIFICANT EXCEPTIONS MADE BY THE ACADEMIC DEAN AND/OR THE DIRECTOR GENERAL AS PER ABOVE WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.**

A Board member proposed an amendment to the motion.

It was moved by Igor Gorelyshev, seconded by Franck Runcie **to replace “The Academic Dean” in the first paragraph by “The Academic Dean, after having received a recommendation from Senate”, to replace “The Director General” in the second paragraph by “The Executive Committee”, and to replace “any significant exceptions” in the third paragraph by “Exceptions”.**

The amended motion was taken to a vote with 2 in favour and 12 against. It was not carried.

The original motion was taken to a vote and carried with 12 in favour and two abstentions.

Before the adjournment of the meeting, Igor Gorelyshev requested that it be recorded in the minutes that he was denied to add an item to the agenda, which had reference to the Optional Student Fee Contribution of \$10 per semester which was adopted at the last Board meeting of February 25, 2020.

### 503.3 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Signatures:

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Michael Goldwax  
Chair

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François Paradis,  
Director, Corporate Affairs

