

**MINUTES OF THE 555<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF DAWSON COLLEGE HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE BOARDROOM 5B.13, 3040 SHERBROOKE STREET WEST, MONTREAL, QUÉBEC**

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PRESENT:            Leanne Bennett                      Karina D’Ermo                      Gabriel Sperneac  
                         Sean Smith, Chair                      Jean-Philippe Fournier            Benoit Larose  
                         Pelagia Nickoletopoulos            Danica V. Meredith               Ella Dubé  
                         Catherine Loiacono                    Paul Hawkins  
                         Julia Cohen-Levy                      Lauren Tzimopoulos

REGRETS:           Daniel Kocur                            Émilie Richer                       Luis Dieppa Perez

College Officers:   Maxwell Jones                        Samuel V. Saint-Hilaire            Glenys Ronnie  
                         François Paradis                       Donna Varrica                       Pascahl Scott

Chair of Senate:   Ben Seamone

Also Present:       Gabrielle Gayrard                      Isabelle Carrier                      Sameer Bhatnagar

Recording Secretary to the Board:    Elise Harding

**Agenda**

- 555.1    ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE 555<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**
- 555.2    ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 552<sup>ND</sup>, 553<sup>RD</sup> AND 554<sup>TH</sup> MEETINGS**
- 555.3    CORRESPONDENCE & PRESENTATIONS**
- 555.4    REPORTS**
  - .1 Report of the Executive Committee
  - .2 Report of the Chair of the Board
  - .3 Report of the Director General
  - .4 Report of the Academic Dean
  - .5 Report of the Chair of Senate
  - .6 Report of the Director of Finance
    - .1 Budget Variance Operating Expenses Report December 31, 2025
- 555.5    BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
  - .1 Motion Regarding the Investigation
- 555.6    NEW BUSINESS**
  - .1 Social Science Minor Program Revision (300.A1)
  - .2 Liberal Arts Minor Program Revision (700.B0)

- .3 Arts, Literature and Communication (ALC) Minor Program Revision (500.A1)
- .4 Visual Arts Minor Program Revision (510.A1)
- .5 Program Standing and Advancement Policies
- .6 Revision of Bylaw 5
- .7 Amendments to Bylaw Number 2B
- .8 2026-2027 Academic Calendar
- .9 2026-2027 Kiuna Academic Calendar
- .10 Delegation of Authority – Preliminary Enrolment Projections Fall 2026
- .11 Capital Budget 2026-2027
- .12 Appropriation of Operating Surplus – Withdrawal
- .13 Delegation of Director General’s Authority
- .14 Translation and Linguistic Revision Services
- .15 Management and Development of Services for the SALTISE Agreement
- .16 Election – Executive Committee
- .17 Discussion – Concurrent Interim Director General and Academic Dean Positions (to August 1, 2026)

**555.7 VARIA**

**555.8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**555.9 ADJOURNMENT**

Sean Smith, Chair of the Board, welcomed new member, Lauren Tzimopoulos, who is replacing Daniel Teodori as the Technical Program Student Representative.

**555.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE 555<sup>th</sup> MEETING**

It was moved by Julia Cohen-Levy, seconded by Benoit Larose, **THAT THE AGENDA OF THE 555<sup>TH</sup> MEETING BE ADOPTED.**

The motion was adopted unanimously.

**555.2 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 552<sup>ND</sup>, 553<sup>RD</sup> AND 554<sup>TH</sup> MEETINGS**

It was moved by Karina D’Ermo, seconded by Jean-Philippe Fournier, **THAT THE MINUTES OF THE 552<sup>ND</sup> MEETING BE ADOPTED.**

The motion was adopted unanimously.

It was moved by Karina D’Ermo, seconded by Catherine Loiacono, **THAT THE MINUTES OF THE 553<sup>RD</sup> MEETING BE ADOPTED.**

The motion was adopted unanimously.

It was moved by Julia Cohen-Levy, seconded by Karina D’Ermo, **THAT THE MINUTES OF THE 554<sup>TH</sup> MEETING BE ADOPTED.**

The motion was adopted unanimously.

### **555.3 CORRESPONDENCE & PRESENTATIONS**

There was none.

### **555.4 REPORTS**

#### **.1 Report of the Executive Committee**

Leanne Bennett, Chair of the Executive Committee, noted that the Board meeting package will now include the report from previous Executive Committee meetings.

The following information was included in the report:

At a special meeting of the Executive Committee on December 15, 2025 (EC 507), the following were approved:

- The vacant position of Laboratory Technician (CAAA-404) was abolished effective December 16, 2025.
- The vacant position of Administration Technician (FAMA-465) was abolished effective December 16, 2025.
- The vacant position of Information Technician (COMM-404) was abolished effective December 16, 2025.
- The position of Pipe Mechanic (FAMA-420) was re-created effective December 16, 2025.
- The operating budget (revision 1) with revenues of \$124,933,000 and expenses of \$127,732,000 for a 2025-2026 budgeted deficit of \$2,799,000 was approved.

At a special meeting of the Executive Committee on January 12, 2026 (EC 508), the following were approved:

- The positions of Administrative Support Agents, Class 1 (FAMA-460, FAMA-476 and FAMA-477) were abolished effective February 16, 2026.
- The vacant position of Administrative Support Agent, Class 1 (STSV-423) was abolished effective January 13, 2026.

At a regular meeting of the Executive Committee on February 4, 2026 (EC 509), the following was approved:

- The revised Capital Budget 2025-2026 (revision #2) with allocations of \$6,194,000 and expenses of \$6,194,000.

#### **.2 Report of the Chair of the Board**

Sean Smith, Chair of the Board, provided an update on the recruitment of a new Director General. He stated that the job posting was published today and that the Committee remains on the critical path and are meeting regularly. He encouraged Board members to share the job posting on LinkedIn and within their network.

He also highlighted key takeaways from the Governance training session held in January and invited members to share their feedback.

#### **.3 Report of the Director General**

Leanne Bennett, Interim Director General, reported that the College is close to submitting its recommendation for the new rental building to the Ministry. Once received, the Ministry is expected to take approximately two months to review the proposal. The goal is to present a resolution at the next Board meeting in April. Until then, the sites under consideration must remain confidential.

Regarding the budget, Director Generals of Cegpes have been advised that any new investments in infrastructure, research, Continuing Education or CCTTs are unlikely. The hiring freeze is expected to remain in effect throughout 2026. There is some hope that the Ministry will approve the request for additional hours, however, uncertainty remains as to whether the government will cover salary increases.

It is projected that student enrollment across the college network will increase by 30.7% between 2024 and 2030. Colleges on the Island of Montreal are expected to experience a 23.7% increase over the same period. However, English language colleges remain subject to enrollment caps that limit the number of students they can admit. At the same time, the network is facing significant infrastructure challenges.

The Director Generals of English language colleges met with the Minister of Higher Education and recommended that the caps for English cegeps be applied collectively, rather than on a per-institution basis. They also suggested that the Minister consider easing the penalty for exceeding the limits through this period.

An update on the Brown Bag sessions held for Professionals and Support Staff was also shared.

#### **.4 Report of the Academic Dean**

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, reported on the release of teachers to improve their French skills in order to get to a place where they can teach in French. This will likely be the last semester that the College will be able to provide release for teachers to take French courses.

A teacher was released to work on a generative AI module for students. Students and faculty are going to be surveyed about the uses of AI and what guardrails are needed.

Regarding winter enrollment, the College is projecting enrollment of 7,848 students, which is higher than the projection of 7,642 in order to cover the shortfall that were admitted in the Fall.

#### **.5 Report of the Chair of Senate**

Ben Seamone, Chair of Senate, reported that the Senate has had three meetings since the last Board meeting. The main topics of discussion were the Standing and Advancement Policies, program revisions, the revision of the Institutional Student Evaluation Policy and the academic calendar. The transition to the new book supplier was also discussed. Leanne Bennett, Interim Director General, confirmed that some issues were brought to her attention and that meetings are underway to address them before the next semester.

#### **.5 Report of the Director of Finance**

##### **.1 Budget Variance Operating Expenses Report December 31, 2025**

Glenys Ronnie, the Director of Finance, presented a summary of the operating budget variance report. The College is currently projecting a deficit of \$2.8 million. As of December, the numbers are on track with a loss of \$1.3 million. The cuts are

expected to be even larger next year. The Fédération des cégeps has estimated a \$175 million additional compression to the network in 2026-2027. The final number will only be known in May.

## **555.5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### **.1 Motion Regarding the Investigation**

At the Board meeting on October 14, 2025 (BOG 551.6.7), following a discussion on the implications of adopting a motion regarding the investigation recommended by Senate, the Board concluded that it did not have sufficient information at the time to make an informed decision. It was therefore agreed to form a committee to review the motion. The Committee met on several occasions and is recommending the following resolution.

*ATTENDU QUE le Collège Dawson et Collège Vanier, dans leur déclaration publique conjointe de juin 2025, a réaffirmé leur engagement envers une communauté académique sécuritaire, inclusive et respectueuse, fonctionnant conformément aux cadres juridiques et réglementaires;*

*ATTENDU QUE la commission des études du Collège Dawson a adopté une résolution réaffirmant les principes de liberté académique, de liberté d'expression, d'inclusion, d'équité et de respect de la diversité;*

*ATTENDU QUE le conseil d'administration reconnaît que le maintien de ces principes est essentiel à un environnement académique dynamique où tous les membres – étudiants, professeurs, personnel – peuvent s'engager librement et de manière responsable dans des idées, des croyances et des identités culturelles;*

*ATTENDU QUE la mission et les activités du Collège Dawson doivent toujours rester conformes aux lois et aux valeurs de la société québécoise, notamment le respect des droits de la personne, l'égalité, la dignité et la liberté de pensée, de conscience, de religion, d'identité sexuelle, d'orientation sexuelle et de diversité des origines et des croyances;*

*Il est proposé par Paul Hawkins, appuyé par Gabriel Sperneac,*

**QUE LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION APPROUVE ET AFFIRME LES VALEURS EXPRIMÉES DANS LA DÉCLARATION CONJOINTE DE DAWSON/VANIER ET DANS LA RÉOLUTION ADOPTÉE PAR LA COMMISSION DES ÉTUDES, EN LES FONDANT SUR UN ENGAGEMENT INSTITUTIONNEL CONTINUE ENVERS LA LIBERTÉ ACADÉMIQUE, L'INCLUSION RESPECTUEUSE, L'ÉQUITÉ ET LA DIVERSITÉ.**

**QUE LE CONSEIL RÉAFFIRME LE PRINCIPE SELON LEQUEL LES ACCOMMODEMENTS RAISONNABLES POUR DES MOTIFS RELIGIEUX SONT CONFORMES À LA CHARTE DES DROITS ET LIBERTÉS DE LA PERSONNE DU QUÉBEC.**

**QUE LE CONSEIL S'ENGAGE À RESTER VIGILANT AFIN DE PRÉSERVER CES PRINCIPES ET D'EMPÊCHER TOUTE ACTION OU MESURE FUTURE QUI POURRAIT LES COMPROMETTRE.**

**QUE LE CONSEIL S'ENGAGE ÉGALEMENT À FAVORISER UNE COMMUNAUTÉ OÙ LA LIBERTÉ D'EXPRESSION, LA RECHERCHE ACADÉMIQUE ET LE DISCOURS RESPECTUEUX SONT ÉQUILIBRÉS PAR LE RESPECT MUTUEL, LA SÉCURITÉ ET LA DIGNITÉ DE CHAQUE PERSONNE.**

**QUE LE CONSEIL EST CONVAINCU QUE LE DIALOGUE CONTINU AVEC LES PARTENAIRES GOUVERNEMENTAUX, LES ÉTABLISSEMENTS ACADÉMIQUES ET LE RÉSEAU COLLÉGIAL SOUTIENDRA LES POLITIQUES ET LES PRATIQUES QUI DÉFENDENT CES VALEURS COMMUNES ET RENFORCENT L'INTÉGRITÉ INSTITUTIONNELLE.**

**QUE LE CONSEIL REMERCIE LA COMMISSION DES ÉTUDES, LA COMMUNAUTÉ DAWSON ET TOUTES LES PARTIES PRENANTES POUR LEUR ENGAGEMENT RÉFLÉCHI, ET ENCOURAGE LA POURSUITE DE LA RÉFLEXION ET DE L'ACTION AFIN DE GARANTIR QUE CES VALEURS SOIENT INTÉGRÉES DANS LA VIE QUOTIDIENNE DU COLLÈGE.**

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.*

(WHEREAS Dawson College and Vanier College, in their June 2025 joint public statement, reaffirmed commitment to a safe, inclusive, and respectful academic community, operating in compliance with legal and regulatory frameworks;

WHEREAS the Dawson College Senate adopted a resolution reaffirming principles of academic freedom, freedom of expression, inclusion, equity, and respect for diversity;

WHEREAS the Board of Governors recognizes that sustaining these principles is essential to a vibrant academic environment where all members – students, faculty, staff – can freely and responsibly engage with ideas, beliefs, and cultural identities;

WHEREAS Dawson College's mission and operations must always remain consistent with the laws and values of Québec society, including respect for human rights, equality, dignity, and freedom of thought, conscience, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, and diversity of origins and beliefs.

It was moved by Paul Hawkins, seconded by Gabriel Sperneac,

**THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS ENDORSES AND AFFIRMS THE VALUES EXPRESSED IN THE DAWSON/VANIER JOINT STATEMENT AND IN THE MOTION PASSED BY SENATE, GROUNDING THEM IN A CONTINUED INSTITUTIONAL COMMITMENT TO ACADEMIC FREEDOM, RESPECTFUL INCLUSION, EQUITY, AND DIVERSITY.**

**THAT THE BOARD REAFFIRMS THE PRINCIPLE THAT REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS ON RELIGIOUS GROUNDS ARE ALIGNED WITH THE QUEBEC CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS.**

**THAT THE BOARD COMMITS TO REMAINING VIGILANT IN ORDER TO SAFEGUARD THESE PRINCIPLES AND TO PREVENT ANY FUTURE ACTIONS OR MEASURES THAT COULD UNDERMINE THEM.**

**THAT THE BOARD ALSO COMMITS TO FOSTERING A COMMUNITY WHERE FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, ACADEMIC INQUIRY, AND RESPECTFUL DISCOURSE ARE BALANCED WITH MUTUAL RESPECT, SAFETY, AND DIGNITY FOR EVERY PERSON.**

**THAT THE BOARD EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE THAT ONGOING DIALOGUE WITH GOVERNMENT PARTNERS, ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS, AND THE COLLEGE NETWORK WILL SUPPORT POLICIES AND PRACTICES THAT UPHOLD THESE SHARED VALUES AND STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONAL INTEGRITY.**

**THAT THE BOARD THANKS THE SENATE, THE DAWSON COMMUNITY, AND ALL STAKEHOLDERS FOR THEIR THOUGHTFUL ENGAGEMENT, AND ENCOURAGES CONTINUED REFLECTION AND ACTION TO ENSURE THAT THESE VALUES ARE EMBEDDED IN EVERYDAY COLLEGE LIFE.)**

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

## **555.6 NEW BUSINESS**

### **.1 Social Science Minor Program Revision (300.A1)**

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, explained that program revisions fall into two categories: ministerial revisions and local revisions. This is a local revision. She also outlined the three elements of this revision: title changes for two courses from the Social Science Program, a new profile name and the addition of a second optional math course to the Society and Technology Studies profile.

*Il est proposé par Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, appuyé par Julia Cohen-Levy, **QUE LA RÉVISION DU PROGRAMME SCIENCES HUMAINES (300.A1) SOIT ADOPTÉE PAR LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION AVEC UNE DATE DE MISE EN ŒUVRE À L'AUTOMNE 2026.***

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.*

(It was moved by Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, seconded by Julia Cohen-Levy, **THAT THE REVISION TO THE SOCIAL SCIENCE PROGRAM (300.A1) BE ADOPTED WITH AN IMPLEMENTATION DATE OF FALL 2026.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

### **.2 Liberal Arts Minor Program Revision (700.B0)**

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, stated that the optional courses in the Liberal Arts program are drawn from other programs. As a result of the approved revision to the Social Science program, the titles of the two courses in Liberal Arts Option Course Groups 1 and 2 must be updated.

*Il est proposé par Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, appuyé par Catherine Loiacono, **QUE LA RÉVISION DU PROGRAMME HISTOIRE ET CIVILISATION (700.B0) SOIT ADOPTÉE PAR LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION AVEC UNE DATE DE MISE EN ŒUVRE À L'AUTOMNE 2026.***

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.*

(It was moved by Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, seconded by Catherine Loiacono, **THAT THE REVISION TO THE LIBERAL ARTS PROGRAM (700.B0) BE ADOPTED WITH AN IMPLEMENTATION DATE OF FALL 2026.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

**.3 Arts, Literature and Communication (ALC) Minor Program Revision (500.A1)**

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, stated that the revision to the Arts, Literature and Communication program includes the addition of an optional course in French as an additional way to meet the French requirements imposed by Law 14.

*Il est proposé par Julia Cohen-Levy, appuyé par Benoit Larose, **QUE LA RÉVISION DU PROGRAMME ARTS, LETTRES ET COMMUNICATION (500.A1) SOIT ADOPTÉE PAR LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION AVEC UNE DATE DE MISE EN ŒUVRE À L'AUTOMNE 2026.***

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.*

(It was moved by Julia Cohen-Levy, seconded by Benoit Larose, **THAT THE REVISION TO THE ARTS, LITERATURE AND COMMUNICATION (ALC) PROGRAM (500.A1) BE ADOPTED WITH AN IMPLEMENTATION DATE OF FALL 2026.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

**.4 Visual Arts Minor Program Revision (510.A1)**

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, stated that the revision of the Visual Arts program includes a title change for a Specific Education course offered in French to more accurately reflect the French translation. Since changing the title will require the course number to change, the Board must approve of the revision.

*Il est proposé par Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, appuyé par Catherine Loiacono, **QUE LA RÉVISION DU PROGRAMME ARTS VISUELS (510.A1) SOIT ADOPTÉE PAR LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION AVEC UNE DATE DE MISE EN ŒUVRE À L'AUTOMNE 2026.***

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.*

(It was moved by Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, seconded by Catherine Loiacono, **THAT THE REVISION TO THE VISUAL ARTS PROGRAM (510.A1) BE ADOPTED WITH AN IMPLEMENTATION DATE OF FALL 2026.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

## **.5 Program Academic Standing and Advancement Policies (ASA)**

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, explained that due to the new drop deadline imposed by the Ministry in 2024-2025, many of the program academic standing and advancement policies (ASA) no longer met the requirements as they only referred to passing or failing courses and did not include the option of dropping courses.

In addition, the revision of Bylaw 8 in Fall 2025 introduced the notion of “active” courses. The revision of Bylaw 8 dealt with college-level academic standing policy, but not the program-level ASAs.

A review of every program’s ASA policy was undertaken in order to account for the impact of the new drop deadline, the revision of Bylaw 8 and harmonizing the language for clarity.

Isabelle Carrier, Dean of Academic Development, Sameer Bhatnagar, Associate Dean of the Quality Assurance and Planning Office, Senate and all the programs were thanked for their work on this matter.

*Il est proposé par Paul Hawkins appuyé par Danica Meredith, **QUE LA RÉVISION DU REGROUPEMENT DES POLITIQUES RELATIVES AU STATUT ET LA PROGRESSION DANS LE PROGRAMME SOIENT ADOPTÉES PAR LE CONSEIL D’ADMINISTRATION AVEC UNE DATE DE MISE AN ŒUVRE À L’AUTOMNE 2026.***

*La résolution a été adoptée à l’unanimité.*

(It was moved by Paul Hawkins, seconded by Danica Meredith, **THAT THE REVISION TO THE GROUPING OF ACADEMIC STANDING AND ADVANCEMENT POLICIES BE ADOPTED WITH AN IMPLEMENTATION DATE OF FALL 2026.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

## **.6 Revision of Bylaw 5**

Glenys Ronnie, Director of Finance, reported that due to the recent revisions of Bylaw 10 and the Policy of Procurement and Management of Contracts (FAMA-01), Bylaw 5 has been streamlined. The last revision of Bylaw 5 occurred in November 2016 (BOG 484.6.6). Since that time, there has been considerable inflation in the economy. There have also been changes to the organizational structure of the College. As such, there is a need to increase and modify authority levels. It was also mentioned that the proposed revision is aligned with other colleges.

*Il est proposé par Pelagia Nickolettopoulos, appuyé par Jean-Philippe Fournier, **QUE LA VERSION RÉVISÉE DU RÈGLEMENT NUMÉRO 5 SOIT ADOPTÉE CONFORMÉMENT À LA VERSION CI-JOINTE.***

*La résolution a été adoptée à l’unanimité.*

(It was moved by Pelagia Nickolettopoulos, seconded by Jean-Philippe Fournier, **THAT THE REVISED BYLAW BE ADOPTED AS APPEARS IN THE PROPOSED BYLAW NUMBER 5.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

**.7 Amendments to Bylaw Number 2B**

Maxwell Jones, Director of Student Services, reported that an increase to the student services fees as defined in Bylaw Number 2B has become necessary to offset the increase in costs such as staffing, programming, transportation, equipment, etc. Other changes to the Bylaw are proposed to harmonize fees with *Cégep de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue* for students registered at Kiuna.

Students registered at Kiuna have their files processed either at Dawson College or at *Cégep de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue* and therefore are subject to their respective Bylaws.

*Il est proposé par Jean-Philippe Fournier, appuyé par Danica Meredith, QUE LA VERSION RÉVISÉE DU RÈGLEMENT NUMÉRO 2B SOIT ADOPTÉE CONFORMÉMENT À LA VERSION CI-JOINTE.*

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.*

(It was moved by Jean-Philippe Fournier, seconded by Danica Meredith, **THAT THE REVISED BYLAW BE ADOPTED AS APPEARS IN THE PROPOSED BYLAW NUMBER 2B.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

**.8 2026-2027 Academic Calendar**

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, stated that a sub-committee of Senate creates the academic calendar with the Dean of Academic Systems, which then goes to Senate for feedback. The proposed Academic Calendar for 2026-2027 was endorsed by Senate on February 10, 2026, for recommendation to the Board.

*Il est proposé par Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, appuyé par Paul Hawkins, QUE LES DATES D'ENSEIGNEMENT ET D'ÉVALUATION PRÉSENTÉES DANS LE CALENDRIER ACADÉMIQUE 2026-2027 SOIENT APPROUVÉES.*

*La résolution a été adoptée avec une abstention.*

(It was moved by Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, seconded by Paul Hawkins, **THAT THE TEACHING AND EVALUATION DATES PRESENTED IN THE 2026-2027 ACADEMIC CALENDAR BE APPROVED.**)

(The motion was adopted with one abstention.)

**.9 2026-2027 Kiuna Academic Calendar**

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, stated that after verification that the calendar meets the Ministry's requirements, the proposed Kiuna Academic Calendar for 2026-2027 was endorsed by Senate on February 10, 2026, for recommendation to the Board.

*Il est proposé par Paul Hawkins, appuyé par Gabriel Sperneac, QUE LES DATES D'ENSEIGNEMENT ET D'ÉVALUATION PRÉSENTÉES DANS LE CALENDRIER ACADÉMIQUE 2026-2027 DE KIUNA SOIENT APPROUVÉES.*

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.*

(It was moved by Paul Hawkins, seconded by Gabriel Sperneac, **THAT THE TEACHING AND EVALUATION DATES PRESENTED IN THE KIUNA 2026-2027 ACADEMIC CALENDAR BE APPROVED.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

#### **.10 Delegation of Authority – Preliminary Enrolment Projections**

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, stated that each year at this time, the College needs to make a projection of student enrollment for the Fall semester. A preliminary forecast was shared with Senate on February 18, 2026, and has been sent to the Dawson community for consultation.

As a final enrolment forecast will be prepared in early March, and in order to facilitate timely planning, it is requested that the Executive Committee be authorized to approve the revised projection subject to ratification by the Board of Governors.

*Il est proposé par Paul Hawkins, appuyé par Leanne Bennett, **QUE LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION DÉLÈGUE AU COMITÉ EXÉCUTIF LE POUVOIR D'APPROUVER LES PRÉVISIONS D'INSCRIPTIONS POUR L'AUTOMNE 2026, SOUS RÉSERVE DE RATIFICATION PAR LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION.***

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.*

(It was moved by Paul Hawkins, seconded by Leanne Bennett, **THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS DELEGATE TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE ENROLMENT PROJECTION FOR FALL 2026, SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION BY THE BOARD.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

#### **.11 Capital Budget 2026-2027**

Glenys Ronnie, Director of Finance, reported that since July 2024, the College is now required to monitor two different deadlines regarding Capital. April 1 and March 31 is now defined as the period to monitor capital spending limits. The financial and budget reporting periods remain July 1 to June 30 of each year.

The above changes have resulted in an advancement of the Capital budget timeline, ensuring capital purchases are fulfilled by the Ministry's March 31 spending limit.

In December 2025, the Ministry provided preliminary authorized levels of investment for the next three spending periods which run from April 1 to March 31. The amounts are as follows:

- 2026-2027 \$6.7M
- 2027-2028 \$5.8M
- 2028-2029 \$6.4M

As the amounts of allowable spending remain significantly lower than budgeted by the College in 2023-2024 and prior, care is taken to only replace equipment and do renovations that are considered essential. Also, while the amount for 2026-

2027 is higher than the 2025-2026 initial budget, the Ministry has not granted new funding allocations. Rather the college has received permission to spend accumulated allocations from prior years

At this time, the Board of Governors is asked to approve the Capital Budget for the 2026-2027 academic year.

*Il est proposé par Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, appuyé par Lauren Tzimopoulos, **QUE LE BUDGET D'INVESTISSEMENT 2026-27 AVEC DES REVENUS DE 6 329 000\$ ET DES DÉPENSES DE 6 329 000\$ SOIT APPROUVÉ.***

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.*

(It was moved by Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, seconded by Lauren Tzimopoulos, **THAT THE PROPOSED CAPITAL BUDGET 2026-27 WITH REVENUES OF \$6,329,000 AND EXPENSES OF \$6,329,000 BE APPROVED.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

## **.12 Appropriation of Operating Surplus - Withdrawal**

Glenys Ronnie, Director of Finance, stated that in June 2023, the Board of Governors approved an appropriation of surplus from the accumulated operating surplus to provide financial support to the achievement of the 2024-2029 Strategic Plan goals (BOG 534.6.2). At the time of the appropriation, the college had a healthy surplus and did not have specific concerns about Ministry funding for either operating or capital funds.

In the summer of 2024, the College network received confirmation from the Ministry of significant cuts to the Capital funds. These cuts affect the ability to keep our buildings and equipment up to current standards and put additional pressure on our operating funds to repair rather than replace.

In May of 2025, the College network received an unprecedented cut of \$151 million to operating budgets. As teaching envelopes are closed and are fully funded, the cuts directly affected non-teaching operating budgets of the colleges. Dawson's share amounts to \$5 million, forcing significant cuts to operating expenses. We began the year with a 2025-2026 operating budgeted deficit of \$2.5 million and this has since been revised to \$2.8 million (EC 507.3).

In June, the Board was informed that the period of government austerity was expected to continue until 2029-2030. There has been no indication since this time that the budgetary measures will ease.

In this period of austerity, the college will continue to work towards achieving many of the strategic plan goals, albeit at a slower pace and without adding resources.

The college recommends withdrawing the appropriation of surplus for the Strategic Plan 2024-2029. This will provide more flexibility to meet the financial challenges of the next three years. This would delay the point of reaching an accumulated deficit by approximately 1 year.

*Il est proposé par Benoit Larose, appuyé par Gabriel Sperneac, **QUE LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION APPROUVE LA DÉSAFFECTATION DU SOLDE DE FONDS DE FONCTIONNEMENT CRÉÉE PAR LA RÉOLUTION 534.6.2 ET REMETTE LE MONTANT DE 3 000 000 \$ AU SOLDE DE FONDS DE FONCTIONNEMENT GÉNÉRAL DU COLLÈGE.***

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.*

(It was moved by Benoit Larose, seconded by Gabriel Sperneac, **THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS APPROVES THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE APPROPRIATION OF OPERATING SURPLUS CREATED BY RESOLUTION 534.6.2 AND RETURNS THE AMOUNT OF \$3 000 000 TO THE GENERAL OPERATING SURPLUS OF THE COLLEGE.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

### **.13 Delegation of Director General's Authority**

Leanne Bennett, Interim Director General and Academic Dean, stated that she will be on vacation from March 31 to April 14, 2026. Her authority will therefore need to be delegated.

*Il est proposé par Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, appuyé par Paul Hawkins, **QU'EN L'ABSENCE DE LA DIRECTRICE GÉNÉRALE PAR INTÉRIM ET DE LA DIRECTRICE DES ÉTUDES, DÉLÉGUER LES POUVOIRS DE LA DIRECTRICE GÉNÉRALE À DONNA VARRICA DU 31 MARS AU 14 AVRIL INCLUSIVEMENT.***

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.*

(It was moved by Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, seconded by Paul Hawkins, **THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF THE INTERIM DIRECTOR GENERAL AND THE ACADEMIC DEAN, DELEGATE THE AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL TO DONNA VARRICA FROM MARCH 31 TO APRIL 14 INCLUSIVELY.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

### **.14 Translation and Linguistic Revision Services**

Samuel Vallery Saint-Hilaire, Director of Facilities Management, reported that in the framework of the Entente Canada-Québec (ECQ) for the anglophone network of Colleges and Universities, the College issued a second public call for tenders for the translation and linguistic revision of various documents. The public tender was published on January 26, 2026, on SÉAO (Electronic System for Tendering Services) with a closing date of February 9, 2026. The call for tender was divided in two distinct lots as described in the table below.

All expenses related to these contracts will be fully covered by funding from the translation service agreement under the ECQ for the first three years. Optional years four and five will be subject to the availability of additional funding under the same agreement. The College's financial commitment extended only to the initial three years.

<b>Lot</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Examples</b>
1	Website content	Web pages, newsletters, digital campaigns
2	Legal, institutional and academic documents	Web pages, newsletters, digital campaigns

Fourteen firms downloaded the tender documents and four submitted a bid. The evaluation of the bids was carried out by a selection committee composed of two internal members and one external member. The bidding method used was minimum quality and lowest price. The results and rankings for each lot are presented in the following table for the total of the first three years plus the optional years four and five:

Lot number	Ranking of tenderers per lot	Score	Price
Lot 1	Cancelled		
Lot 2	1- Les traductions AB translations	84.88	209,120
	2- L'Alouette, Coopérative langagière	85	248,600
	3- Les Traductions Ellico	97.77	251,000

Depending on their availability when solicited, the contracts will be awarded starting with the highest-ranked firm and proceeding in order of ranking.

With respect to Lot 1, the administration has decided to cancel this lot, as the lowest compliant bid substantially exceeded the amount allocated under the ECQ grant. A separate public call for tenders will therefore be issued at a later stage for this lot.

Leanne Bennett raised a potential conflict of interest and did not vote on this item.

*Il est proposé par Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, appuyé par Lauren Tzimopoulos, **QUE LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION AUTORISE LE COLLÈGE À ADJUGER LES CONTRATS PAR LOT, EN PROCÉDANT SELON L'ORDRE DE CLASSEMENT, POUR DES SERVICES DE TRADUCTION ET DE RÉVISION LINGUISTIQUE, TEL QUE DÉCRITS CI-DESSOUS :***

**LOT 2 :**

**CLASSÉ 1<sup>ER</sup>**

**LES TRADUCTIONS AB TRANSLATIONS : MONTANT TOTAL ALLANT JUSQU'À 209 120\$**

**A) ANNÉE 1 (2026-2027) : JUSQU'À 45 400\$ AVANT TAXES**

**B) ANNÉE 2 (2027-2028) : JUSQU'À 34 400\$ AVANT TAXES**

**C) ANNÉE 3 (2028-2029) : JUSQU'À 34 400\$ AVANT TAXES**

**D) ANNÉE OPTIONNELLE 1 (2029-2030) : JUSQU'À 47 460\$ AVANT TAXES**

**E) ANNÉE OPTIONNELLE 2 (2030-2031) : JUSQU'À 47 460\$ AVANT TAXES**

**CLASSÉ 2<sup>ÈME</sup>**

**L'ALOUETTE, COOPÉRATIVE LANGAGIÈRE : MONTANT TOTAL ALLANT JUSQU'À 248 600\$**

**A) ANNÉE 1 (2026-2027) : JUSQU'À 53 340\$ AVANT TAXES**

**B) ANNÉE 2 (2027-2028) : JUSQU'À 40 380\$ AVANT TAXES**

- C) ANNÉE 3 (2028-2029) : JUSQU'À 41 920\$ AVANT TAXES**
- D) ANNÉE OPTIONNELLE 1 (2029-2030) : JUSQU'À 55 460\$ AVANT TAXES**
- E) ANNÉE OPTIONNELLE 2 (2030-2031) : JUSQU'À 57 500\$ AVANT TAXES**

**CLASSÉ 3<sup>ÈME</sup>**

**LES TRADUCTIONS ELLICO : MONTANT TOTAL ALLANT JUSQU'À 251 000\$**

- A) ANNÉE 1 (2026-2027) : JUSQU'À 55 600\$ AVANT TAXES**
- B) ANNÉE 2 (2027-2028) : JUSQU'À 42 100\$ AVANT TAXES**
- C) ANNÉE 3 (2028-2029) : JUSQU'À 42 100\$ AVANT TAXES**
- D) ANNÉE OPTIONNELLE 1 (2029-2030) : JUSQU'À 55 600\$ AVANT TAXES**
- E) ANNÉE OPTIONNELLE 2 (2030-2031) : JUSQU'À 55 600\$ AVANT TAXES**

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité des personnes habiles à voter.*

(It was moved by Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, seconded by Lauren Tzimopoulos, **THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AUTHORIZES THE COLLEGE TO AWARD THE CONTRACTS IN LOTS, IN ORDER OF RANKING, FOR TRANSLATION AND LANGUAGE REVISION SERVICES, AS DESCRIBED BELOW:**

**LOT 2:**

**RANK 1**

**AB TRANSLATIONS: TOTAL AMOUNT UP TO \$209,120**

- A) YEAR 1 (2026-2027): UP TO \$45,400 BEFORE TAXES**
- B) YEAR 2 (2027-2028): UP TO \$34,400 BEFORE TAXES**
- C) YEAR 3 (2028-2029): UP TO \$34,400 BEFORE TAXES**
- D) OPTIONAL YEAR 1 (2029-2030): UP TO \$47,460 BEFORE TAXES**
- E) OPTIONAL YEAR 2 (2030-2031): UP TO \$47,460 BEFORE TAXES**

**RANK 2**

**L'ALOUETTE, LANGUAGE COOPERATIVE: TOTAL AMOUNT UP TO \$248,600**

- A) YEAR 1 (2026-2027): UP TO \$53,340 BEFORE TAXES**
- B) YEAR 2 (2027-2028): UP TO \$40,380 BEFORE TAXES**
- C) YEAR 3 (2028-2029): UP TO \$41,920 BEFORE TAXES**
- D) OPTIONAL YEAR 1 (2029-2030): UP TO \$55,460 BEFORE TAXES**
- E) OPTIONAL YEAR 2 (2030-2031): UP TO \$57,500 BEFORE TAXES**

**RANK 3**

**ELLICO TRANSLATIONS: TOTAL AMOUNT UP TO \$251,000**

- A) YEAR 1 (2026-2027): UP TP \$55,600 BEFORE TAXES**
- B) YEAR 2 (2027-2028): UP TO \$42,100 BEFORE TAXES**
- C) YEAR 3 (2028-2029): UP TO \$42,100 BEFORE TAXES**
- D) OPTIONAL YEAR 1 (2029-2030): UP TO \$55,600 BEFORE TAXES**
- E) OPTIONAL YEAR 2 (2030-2031): UP TO \$55,600 BEFORE TAXES)**

(The motion was adopted unanimously by those eligible to vote.)

## **.15 Management and Development of Services for the SALTISE Agreement**

Samuel Vallery Saint-Hilaire, Director of Facilities Management, reported that in the framework of the Entente Canada-Québec (ECQ) for the anglophone network of Colleges and Universities, the College issued a public call for tenders for the management and development of services for the SALTISE (Supporting Active Learning and Technological Innovations in Studies of Education) agreement. The public tender was issued on December 12, 2025, on SÉAO (Electronic Tendering Service) with a closing date of January 12, 2026. All expenses related to this contract will be fully covered by funding from the ECQ agreement. This is a four month contract with four additional year renewal options. Renewal options three and four will be subject to the availability of additional funding under the same agreement.

Two companies picked up the tendering documents, and only one submitted a technical and financial offer. The requestor originally estimated the contract value to be \$700,000 for four years.

The bidding company is eligible, and its offer is compliant and acceptable.

*Il est proposé par Karina D'Ermo, appuyé par Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, **QUE LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION AUTORISE LE COLLÈGE À ADJUGER UN CONTRAT DE GESTION ET DE DÉVELOPPEMENT DE SERVICES POUR L'ENTENTE DE SALTISE À L'ENTREPRISE « LITTLE BOX INC », POUR UN MONTANT TOTAL DE 744 000\$, RÉPARTI COMME SUIT :***

- **CONTRAT INITIAL (1<sup>ER</sup> MARS AU 30 JUIN 2026) : 80 000\$ AVANT TAXES;**
- **OPTION DE RENOUVELLEMENT 1 (1<sup>ER</sup> JUILLET 2026 AU 30 JUIN 2027) : 172 000\$ AVANT TAXES;**
- **OPTION DE RENOUVELLEMENT 2 (1<sup>ER</sup> JUILLET 2027 AU 30 JUIN 2028) : 172 000\$ AVANT TAXES;**
- **OPTION DE RENOUVELLEMENT 3 (1<sup>ER</sup> JUILLET 2028 AU 30 JUIN 2029) : 160 000\$ AVANT TAXES;**
- **OPTION DE RENOUVELLEMENT 4 (1<sup>ER</sup> JUILLET 2029 AU 30 JUIN 2030) : 160 000\$ AVANT TAXES.**

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.*

(It was moved by Karina D'Ermo, seconded by Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, **THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AUTHORIZES THE COLLEGE TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES FOR THE SALTISE AGREEMENT TO "LITTLE BOX INC", FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$744,000, ALLOCATED AS FOLLOWS**

- **INITIAL CONTRACT (MARCH 1 TO JUNE 30, 2026): \$80,000 BEFORE TAXES;**
- **RENEWAL OPTION 1 (JULY 1, 2026 TO JUNE 30, 2027): \$172,000 BEFORE TAXES;**
- **RENEWAL OPTION 2 (JULY 1, 2027 TO JUNE 30, 2028): \$172,000 BEFORE TAXES;**
- **RENEWAL OPTION 3 (JULY 1, 2028 TO JUNE 30, 2029): \$160,000 BEFORE TAXES;**
- **RENEWAL OPTION 4 (JULY 1, 2029 TO JUNE 30, 2030): \$160,000 BEFORE TAXES.)**

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

**.16 Election – Executive Committee**

Donna Varrica, Director of Communications and Corporate Affairs, stated that following the resignation of Steve Hatajlo from the Board of Governors on October 30, 2025, a seat on the Executive Committee is now vacant and will need to be filled.

Sean Smith nominated Benoit Larose. Benoit accepted the nomination.

Gabriel Sperneac nominated Danica Meredith. Danica accepted the nomination.

Karina D'Ermo nominated Catherine Loiacono. Catherine accepted the nomination.

The Board went to a vote by majority. Benoit Larose was elected as a member of the Executive Committee until the end of the 2025-2026 academic year.

*Il est proposé par Catherine Loiacono, appuyé par Danica Meredith, **D'ÉLIRE BENOIT LAROSE À TITRE DE MEMBRE EXTERNE DU COMITÉ EXÉCUTIF POUR LE RESTE DE L'ANNÉE 2025-2026.***

*La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.*

(It was moved by Catherine Loiacono, seconded by Danica Meredith, **TO ELECT BENOIT LAROSE AS AN EXTERNAL MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE REMAINING OF THE YEAR 2025-2026.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

**.17 Discussion – Concurrent Interim Director General and Academic Dean Positions (to August 1, 2026)**

Sean Smith, Chair of the Board, provided an overview of the situation to ensure that all members understood that Leanne Bennett would be serving as both the Interim Director General and Academic Dean simultaneously. The Board emphasized that this discussion was not a vote of non-confidence, but rather an effort to better understand the process. In her capacity as Interim Director General, Leanne explained how she established priorities, delegated responsibilities and noted that certain commitments previously done by the former Director General are no longer part of her responsibilities.

**555.7 VARIA**

There was nothing to report.

**555.8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for March 25, 2026. The next regular meeting of the Board of Governors is scheduled for April 15, 2026.

**555.9 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Signatures:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sean Smith  
Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donna Varrica  
Director, Communications & Corporate  
Affairs