

MINUTES OF THE 551st MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF DAWSON COLLEGE HELD ON TUESDAY OCTOBER 14, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE BOARDROOM 5B.13, 3040 SHERBROOKE STREET WEST, MONTREAL, QUÉBEC

PRESENT: Diane Gauvin Karina D’Ermo Jean-Philippe Fournier
Leanne Bennett Ella Dubé Benoit Larose
Sean Smith, Chair Gabriel Sperneac Paul Hawkins
Danica V. Meredith Julia Cohen-Levy Daniel Kocur
Catherine Loiacono Steve Hatajlo

REGRETS: Pelagia Nickoletopoulos Émilie Richer Luis Dieppa Perez

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

Chair of Senate: Ben Seamone

Also Present: Gabrielle Gayrard Maria Lavoie
Vittoria Fusco Christina Papathanasopoulos
Allison Kurz Anca Oprisi

Recording Secretary to the Board: Elise Harding

Agenda

551.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE 551st MEETING

551.2 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 550th MEETING

551.3 CORRESPONDENCE & PRESENTATIONS

551.4 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

551.5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

551.6 NEW BUSINESS

- .1 Summer 2025 Graduates
 - .1 Diplomas of College Studies
 - .2 Attestations of College Studies
- .2 Diagnostic Imaging Technology – Program Accreditation Report
- .3 Appointment to the Research Ethics Board (REB)
- .4 Protocol Agreement with the SPVM: Designated Personnel for Verification of Judicial Records

- .5 Revision of the Policy to Stem Violence, Discrimination, Harassment and the Abuse of Power
- .6 Selection of External Auditor
- .7 Motion from Senate - Investigation

551.7 VARIA

551.8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

551.9 ADJOURNMENT

551.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE 551ST MEETING

Agenda items 551.6.2 and 551.6.5 will be presented following the adoption of the minutes. Item 551.4.5, Report of the Chair of Senate, will be moved towards the end of the meeting.

It was moved by Daniel Kocur, seconded by Steve Hatajlo, **THAT THE AGENDA OF THE 551ST MEETING BE ADOPTED.**

The motion was adopted unanimously.

551.2 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 550TH MEETING

It was moved by Gabriel Sperneac, seconded by Diane Gauvin, **THAT THE MINUTES OF THE 550TH MEETING BE ADOPTED.**

The motion was adopted unanimously.

551.3 CORRESPONDENCE & PRESENTATION

There was none.

551.4 REPORTS

.1 Report of the Executive Committee

Diane Gauvin, Chair of the Executive Committee, reported on the following items:

At a regular meeting of the Executive Committee on September 30 (EC 505), the following were approved:

- A transfer of responsibility for FRQ-S Research Projects and Research Support Account Funds to the Lady Davis Institute and the CIUSSS de Centre-Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal, for an amount of \$195,068.38.
- The position of Administrative Officer, class 3 (ISIT-107) was transferred to the General Administration Department – Administrative Officer, class 3 (GEAD-107), effective November 3, 2025.
- The vacant position of Computer Technician (ISIT-443) was abolished effective October 1, 2025.
- The vacant position of Laboratory Technician (STSV-447) was abolished effective October 1, 2025.
- The revised Capital Budget 2025-2026, revision #1, with allocations of \$5,490,000 and expenses of \$5,490,000 was approved.

.2 Report of the Chair of the Board

Sean Smith, Chair of the Board, reported that the DG Selection Committee is moving forward and will be meeting on October 20th. A date for the appointment of the new Director General has not been set yet. He also announced that this will be Steve Hatajlo's final Board meeting and thanked him for his 13 years of dedicated service on the Board.

.3 Report of the Director General

Diane Gauvin, Director General, provided an update on the rental situation, noting that they are now considering two final rental options. They aim to sign a lease within the next few months, with an estimated timeline of 18 months to prepare, renovate and move into the new space. At the moment, the Science and Computer Science programs are expected to relocate to the new facility. The move is expected to result in approximately \$1 million in additional operating expenses per year and the College is seeking assurance that the additional costs will be covered by the Ministry.

.4 Report of the Academic Dean

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, reported that the series of brown bag lunches has begun, providing an opportunity for members of the community to engage in discussions. So far, two sessions on Academic Freedom have been held, both of which sparked positive and constructive dialogue.

She also reported that the first meeting of the year on generative AI has taken place, with a focus on examining the broader implications of the technology. Consideration will be given to its environmental impact, and students will be consulted at the program level as part of the ongoing discussions.

.5 Report of the Chair of Senate

Ben Seamone, Chair of Senate, reported that at the most recent Senate meeting, discussions focused on the academic implications of the second campus, as well as the timing of Spring Break.

551.5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was none

551.6 NEW BUSINESS

.1 Summer 2025 Graduates

.1 Diplomas of College Studies

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, presented this item and stated that she comes to the Board three times a year to have graduates awarded their Diplomas or Attestations of College Studies. She also explained the difference between the two: Diplomas are awarded by the Ministry, whereas the College awards Attestations of College Studies.

Il est proposé par Daniel Kocur, appuyé par Leanne Bennett, QU'IL EST RÉSOLU DE RECOMMANDER À LA MINISTRE DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR D'ACCORDER UN DIPLÔME D'ÉTUDES COLLÉGIALES À CHACUN DES 381 ÉTUDIANTS DONT LES NOMS FIGURENT SUR LA

DEMANDE DE CERTIFICATION.

La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.

(It was moved by Daniel Kocur, seconded by Leanne Bennett, **THAT IT IS RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO AWARD A DIPLOMA OF COLLEGE STUDIES TO EACH OF THE 381 STUDENTS WHOSE NAMES APPEAR ON THE ATTACHED REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATION.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

.2 Attestations of College Studies

*Il est proposé par Daniel Kocur, appuyé par Steve Hatajlo, **QU'IL EST RÉSOLU QUE L'ÉTUDIANT DONT LE NOM FIGURE SUR LA DEMANDE DE CERTIFICATION CI-JOINTE REÇOIVE UNE ATTESTATION D'ÉTUDES COLLÉGIALES.***

La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.

(It was moved by Daniel Kocur, seconded by Steve Hatajlo, **THAT IT IS RESOLVED THAT THE STUDENT WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THE ATTACHED REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATION BE AWARDED AN ATTESTATION OF COLLEGE STUDIES.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

.2 Diagnostic Imaging Technology – Program Accreditation Report

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, introduced the teachers, Maria Lavoie, Vittoria Fusco and Christina Papathanasopoulos and the pedagogical counsellor, Allison Kurz, who worked on the Diagnostic Imaging Technology Program Accreditation report. The Diagnostic Imaging Program is one of three programs accredited by the EQA, which is Accreditation Canada's specialized health professional education accreditation program. Further to the Institutional Policy on the Evaluation of Programs (IPEP), accreditations are in-depth evaluations that are required by an external body (Section 6.2).

The self-assessment has been undertaken by the department and by the College. It was received by Senate on October 7, 2025, according to section 8.10 of IPEP and is being presented to the Board of Governors, according to section 8.11 of IPEP. Vittoria Fusco and Allison Kurz gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the key elements of the report. For information only.

.3 Appointment to the Research Ethics Board (REB)

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, stated that on October 29, 2024, the REB Selection Committee convened to interview Jonathan Nordland. After a successful interview and observer period, the Selection Committee is recommending the appointment of Jonathan Nordland to the Dawson Research Ethics Board. On June 13, 2025, the REB Selection Committee convened to interview Mélanie Piggott-Nardoza. After a successful interview and observer period, the Selection Committee is recommending the appointment of Mélanie

Piggott-Nardozza to the Dawson Research Ethics Board.

*I) Il est proposé par Paul Hawkins, appuyé par Julia Cohen-Levy, **QUE LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION NOMME JONATHAN NORDLAND AU COMITÉ D'ÉTHIQUE DE LA RECHERCHE DU COLLÈGE DAWSON À TITRE DE MEMBRE POSSÉDANT DES CONNAISSANCES EN ÉTHIQUE ET DANS LES DISCIPLINES PERTINENTES, AVEC EFFET RÉTROACTIF AU 25 FÉVRIER 2025.***

La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.

*II) Il est proposé par Paul Hawkins, appuyé par Daniel Kocur, **QUE LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION NOMME MÉLANIE PIGGOTT-NARDOZZA AU COMITÉ D'ÉTHIQUE DE LA RECHERCHE DU COLLÈGE DAWSON À TITRE DE MEMBRE DE LA COMMUNAUTÉ, À COMPTER DU 14 OCTOBRE 2025.***

La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.

I) (It was moved by Paul Hawkins, seconded by Julia Cohen-Levy, **THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS APPOINTS JONATHAN NORDLAND TO THE DAWSON COLLEGE RESEARCH ETHICS BOARD AS A MEMBER KNOWLEDGEABLE IN ETHICS AND THE RELEVANT DISCIPLINES, RETROACTIVELY EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 25, 2025.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

II) (It was moved by Paul Hawkins, seconded by Daniel Kocur, **THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS APPOINTS MÉLANIE PIGGOTT-NARDOZZA TO THE DAWSON COLLEGE RESEARCH ETHICS BOARD AS A COMMUNITY MEMBER, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 14, 2025.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

.4 Protocol Agreement with the SPVM : Designated Personnel for Verification of Judicial Records

Gabrielle Gayrard, Associate Director of Corporate and Legal Affairs, stated that Dawson College, represented by the Dean of Science, Medical Studies and Engineering, signed a protocol agreement with the Service de police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM) for the verification of judicial records of the people working with vulnerable people on October 4, 2023. Owing to personnel changes since that date, an updated annex to the protocol agreement will be signed between the SPVM and the College. The SPVM requires the Board of Governors to adopt a resolution concerning the employees who will act as the College's designated personnel for managing the agreement.

*Il est proposé par Gabriel Sperneac, appuyé par Steve Hatajlo, **QUE LES EMPLOYÉS SUIVANTS SOIENT DÉSIGNÉS AFIN D'AGIR À TITRE DE REPRÉSENTANTS DU PROTOCOLE D'ENTENTE SUR LA VÉRIFICATION DES EMPÊCHEMENTS DE PERSONNES APPELÉES À ŒUVRER AUPRÈS DE PERSONNES VULNÉRABLES DU SPVM : JONATHON SUMNER, BRID NIC NIOCAILL, TIMOTHY MILLER, SELMA HAMDANI, ANITA LINECKER.***

La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.

(It was moved by Gabriel Sperneac, seconded by Steve Hatajlo, **THAT THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES BE DESIGNATED TO ACT AS DESIGNATED PERSONNEL OF THE PROTOCOL AGREEMENT FOR VERIFICATION OF JUDICIAL RECORDS OF THE PEOPLE WORKING WITH VULNERABLE PEOPLE WITH THE SPVM: JONATHON SUMNER, BRID NIC NIOCAILL, TIMOTHY MILLER, SELMA HAMDANI, ANITA LINECKER.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

.5 Revision of the Policy to Stem Violence, Discrimination, Harassment and the Abuse of Power

Maxwell Jones, Director of Student Services and Anca Oprisi, Associate Director in Human Resources, presented the revisions to the Policy to Stem Violence, Discrimination, Harassment and the Abuse of Power. The policy was last revised in February 2017, but only to reflect the change in college leadership structure. The College convened a committee composed of representatives from Student Services and Human Resources, as well as members from each employment union or association and student representatives.

The updated policy reflects the committee's recommendations and addresses the significant societal changes that have occurred since the policy was first adopted in 2008. The revised policy continues the college's commitment to take reasonable measures to prevent incidents of violence, discrimination, harassment and the abuse of power. As per the last article of the policy, it will be reviewed every three years.

*Il est proposé par Jean-Philippe Fournier, appuyé par Daniel Kocur, **QUE LES MODIFICATIONS À LA POLITIQUE POUR LUTTER CONTRE LA VIOLENCE, LA DISCRIMINATION, LE HARCÈLEMENT ET LES ABUS DE POUVOIR SOIENT ADOPTÉES ET PRENNENT EFFET IMMÉDIATEMENT.***

La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.

(It was moved by Jean-Philippe Fournier, seconded by Daniel Kocur, **THAT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE POLICY TO STEM VIOLENCE, DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND THE ABUSE OF POWER BE ADOPTED EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.**)

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

.6 Selection of External Auditor

Samuel Vallery Saint-Hilaire, Director of Facilities Management, stated that on September 5, 2025, a public call for tenders was posted on SEAO (electronic tendering service) with a closing date of September 22, 2025, for the acquisition of the Independent Financial Audit Services for the College. This acquisition is essential in order to ensure the certification by a third independent party of the accuracy and completeness of the College's financial statements. A selection committee was formed and approved by the General Directorate with two internal members and one external member. Four firms picked up the tendering documents on SEAO, however, only one firm submitted a bid. The selection committee members performed a qualitative evaluation and concluded the bid

compliant with all the requirements.

The Board members discussed the fact that only one firm submitted a bid and expressed that best practice recommends appointing a different firm every few years. They requested that at least the signing partner be different than in previous years. It was discussed that the contract is for a year, with renewal options for the four subsequent years. The Board requested that the administration inquire with the other potential bidders to determine the reasons they chose not to submit a bid.

Il est proposé par Jean-Philippe Fournier, appuyé par Benoit Larose, QUE LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION AUTORISE LE COLLÈGE À ATTRIBUER UN CONTRAT DE SERVICES D'AUDIT FINANCIER INDÉPENDANT À RAYMOND CHABOT GRANT THORNTON S.E.N.C.R.L., COMME SUIVIT :

- A) CONTRAT INITIAL 2025-2026, POUR UN MONTANT ALLANT JUSQU'À 70,000 \$ AVANT TAXES;*
- B) OPTION DE RENOUVELLEMENT 1 : 2026-2027, POUR UN MONTANT ALLANT JUSQU'À 72 000 \$ AVANT TAXES;*
- C) OPTION DE RENOUVELLEMENT 2 : 2027-2028, POUR UN MONTANT ALLANT JUSQU'À 74 250 \$ AVANT TAXES;*
- D) OPTION DE RENOUVELLEMENT 3 : 2028-2029, POUR UN MONTANT ALLANT JUSQU'À 76 500 \$ AVANT TAXES;*
- E) OPTION DE RENOUVELLEMENT 4 : 2029-2030, POUR UN MONTANT ALLANT JUSQU'À 78 750 \$ AVANT TAXES.*

La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.

(It was moved by Jean-Philippe Fournier, seconded by Benoit Larose, **THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AUTHORIZES THE COLLEGE TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL AUDIT SERVICES TO RAYMOND CHABOT GRANT THORNTON S.E.N.C.R.L AS FOLLOWS:**

- A) INITIAL CONTRACT: 2025-2026 FOR AN AMOUNT UP TO \$70,000.00 BEFORE TAXES**
- B) OPTION 1 RENEWAL: 2026-2027 FOR AN AMOUNT UP TO \$72,000.00 BEFORE TAXES**
- C) OPTION 2 RENEWAL: 2027-2028 FOR AN AMOUNT UP TO \$74,250.00 BEFORE TAXES**
- D) OPTION 3 RENEWAL: 2028-2029 FOR AN AMOUNT UP TO \$76,500.00 BEFORE TAXES**
- E) OPTION 4 RENEWAL: 2029-2030 FOR AN AMOUNT UP TO \$78,750.00 BEFORE TAXES.)**

(The motion was adopted unanimously.)

.6 Motion from Senate - Investigation

Leanne Bennett, Academic Dean, introduced the Chair of Senate and provided context regarding Senate's role. She then invited Ben Seamone, the Chair of Senate, to present the motion. His presentation was followed by an hour-long discussion.

Board members discussed the political implications of adopting the motion, as well as their mandate and responsibilities as Board members. Questions were raised

regarding the purpose of adopting the motion and the general atmosphere on campus following the investigation. The Board also discussed the possibility of dividing the motion into separate resolutions and if there was any urgency in adopting it.

Ultimately, the Board concluded that the members did not have sufficient information to make an informed decision at this time. It was therefore agreed to form a committee to review the formulation of the motion and the following resolution was passed:

*Il est proposé par Daniel Kocur, appuyé par Danica Meredith, **QUE LE CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION COMPREND L'ESSENCE DE LA DEMANDE DE LA COMMISSION DES ÉTUDES, MAIS PROPOSE TOUTEFOIS DE REPORTER LA DISCUSSION À LA PROCHAINE RÉUNION DU CONSEIL ET ENTRE TEMPS DE FORMER UN COMITÉ POUR RÉVISER LA RÉSOLUTION PROPOSÉE.***

La résolution a été adoptée à l'unanimité.

It was moved by Daniel Kocur, seconded by Danica Meredith, **THAT WHILE THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS UNDERSTANDS THE ESSENCE OF SENATE'S REQUEST, IT PROPOSES TO POSTPONE THE DISCUSSION TO THE NEXT BOARD MEETING AND MEANWHILE TO FORM A COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE PROPOSED MOTION.**

The motion was adopted unanimously.

551.7 VARIA

Sean Smith, Chair of the Board, announced that a mandatory governance training session for Board members will be scheduled for January 2026.

He gave notice of motion that the College is currently working on revisions to Bylaw 5 concerning financial management and Bylaw 10 concerning procurement.

According to motion 551.6.6, a committee was formed to review the motion from Senate. The Chair determined that the committee would consist of a maximum of five members and that only individuals present at the meeting could serve on it. The committee is composed of: Benoit Larose, Danica Meredith, Karina D'Ermo, Leanne Bennett and Julia Cohen-Levy.

551.8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for October 29, 2025.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Governors is scheduled for November 12, 2025.

551.9 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Signatures:

Sean Smith
Board Chair

Donna Varrica
Director, Communications & Corporate
Affairs