

May 28, 2024

1:00 p.m.

MRU, EC 2010

**PRESENT:**

Chris Lee, Chair-Public Member	Kari Roberts - Faculty Member
Laura Daniels – Public Member	David Routledge – Alumni Member
Sherri Evers – Public Member	Shannon Ryhorchuk - Public Member
Brenden Hunter – Public Member	Rob Schaefer – Public Member
Pam Karlenzig - Staff Member	Sheba Singh – Public Member
Chad London-Acting President and Vice-Chancellor	Anisa Tilston – Student Member
Thomas O’Leary – Public Member	

**RESOURCES:**

Karim Dharamsi, Acting Provost and Vice President, Academic  
Andrea Hennel, Acting Vice-President, University Advancement  
Kathy Homer, Assistant University Secretary, Recording Secretary  
Mustansar Nadeem, Vice-President, Finance and Administration  
Amy Nixon, General Counsel and University Secretary  
Phil Warsaba, Vice-President, Students (virtually)

**GUEST:**

Tala Abu Hayyaneh, President, Students’ Association of Mount Royal University

**REGRETS:**

Dawn Farrell – Chancellor  
Carrie Lonardelli - Public Member  
Jacqueline Musabende - Faculty Member  
Shannon Pestun - Alumni Member- Vice-Chair  
Reynold Tetzlaff- Public Member

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Chris Lee, Chair of the Board of Governors, called the Open Session to order at 1:00 p.m., confirmed quorum, and Shannon Ryhorchuk commenced with a land acknowledgement.

**1.1. Conflict of Interest Declaration**

There were no conflicts of interest 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 March 21, 2024**

Moved and seconded:

**THAT** the minutes of the Open Session of the Board of Governors' meeting held March 21, 2024, be approved as distributed.

**CARRIED.**

**3.2. Business Arising from the Minutes**

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

**4. 2023-2024 YEAR END APPROPRIATIONS AND RESERVE FUNDS**

Information on the proposed appropriation from the operational surplus to internally restricted funds for institutional strategic priorities was presented for approval. R. Schaefer, Chair of the Finance Committee, provided background details and summarized the discussions from the Finance Committee meeting.

Moved and seconded:

**THAT** the Board of Governors approve the appropriation of \$10.0 million from the 2023-2024 year-end operating surplus to internally restricted funds to support investments in University strategic priorities.

**CARRIED.**

**5. CONSOLIDATED AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO MARCH 31, 2024**

The Consolidated Audited Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2024, were provided for approval, as recommended by the Audit and Risk Committee. S. Ryhorchuk reported that the Audit and Risk Committee reviewed and recommended the financial statements, and that the Office of the Auditor General and KPMG acknowledged that MRU presented a clean, unqualified report. She commended management for the quality of the statements and the supporting documents.

Moved and seconded:

**THAT** the Board of Governors approve the Mount Royal University consolidated audited financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2024.

**CARRIED.**

**6. BOARD OF GOVERNORS BYLAWS**

A. Nixon reported that the Board of Governors Bylaws mandate a review of the document every three years. She provided background information and summarized the updates to the bylaws.

Moved and seconded:

**THAT** the Board of Governors approve the updates to the Board of Governors Bylaws, as presented.

**CARRIED.**

**7. MOUNT ROYAL UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

C. London provided an update on the development of measures for the University Strategic Plan that will be discussed at the Board's offsite meeting in the fall.

## **REPORTS**

### **8. REPORTS**

#### **8.1. Board Chair**

C. Lee, Board Chair, provided a written report that included an overview of the activities he has undertaken as Chair. In addition, he thanked Board members for their engagement this year, management for their hard work, and faculty and staff for their ongoing efforts to make Mount Royal University a welcoming environment for students and community members.

He highlighted a meeting held with the Minister of Advanced Education, the Premier and post-secondary institutions' board chairs and presidents. He reported that detailed discussion was held on Bill 18, noting that the concerns voiced were consistent amongst the institutions. The Board discussed some of the implications related to Bill 18 and the Board Chair confirmed that this message was clearly shared with the Minister and the Premier.

#### **8.2. Executive**

C. London provided a written report and highlighted that Convocation is next week, and that the Honorary Degree recipients have been announced. He shared that an MRU faculty member was the recipient of the prestigious 3M national teaching award.

#### **8.3. General Faculties Council**

The General Faculties Council written report for the March 22 and April 19, and May 17, 2024 meetings was received for information. C. London, current Chair of GFC, reported that GFC approved the Research and Scholarship Strategic Plan and that the Student Services Plan is in its final draft stage and was provided to GFC for information. He concluded by reporting that the many concerns around Bill 18 were discussed at GFC at the April 19, 2024, meeting that culminated in approving the following motion: "That the General Faculties Council expresses its deep concerns about Alberta's Bill 18 *'The Provincial Priorities Act'* and the threat it poses, including vetting federal research grants, to university autonomy and to the academic freedom of the university researchers."

## **COMMITTEE MATTERS**

### **9. AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE**

#### **9.1. Committee Report**

A written report outlining the items considered by the Committee at the May 28, 2024 meeting was included for information, and areas of the report discussed at that meeting were summarized by S. Ryhorchuk, Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee.

### **10. CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

#### **10.1. Committee Report**

A written report from the May 6, 2024 meeting was included in the package for information, and areas of the report were highlighted by D. Routledge, Chair of the Campus Development Committee.

### **11. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

#### **11.1. Committee Report**

A report outlining the items considered by the Committee at the May 28, 2024 meeting was included for information, and areas of the report discussed at that meeting were summarized by R. Schaefer, Chair of the Finance Committee.

**12. GOVERNANCE AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**12.1. Committee Report**

C. Lee, Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee, provided a written report summarizing the discussions from the May 6, 2024 meeting and highlighted the Annual Board Assessment survey results will be discussed at the GNC's June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**13. 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 May 28, 2024, Open Session.

**CARRIED.**

**14. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

**14.1 Board Committee Appointments 2024-2025**

*THAT the Board of Governors approve the Board committee chair appointments for a one-year term, commencing July 1, 2024 until June 30, 2025:*

- *Laura Daniels, Chair, Audit and Risk Committee*
- *Dave Routledge, Chair, Campus Development Committee*
- *Rob Schaefer, Chair, Finance Committee*
- *Chris Lee, Chair, Governance and Nominating Committee*
- *Shannon Pestun, Chair, Human Resources Committee*

*And*

*THAT the Board approve the appointment of members to Board standing committees for a one-year term, commencing July 1, 2024, until June 30, 2025, as presented.*

**14.2 Policy Approvals**

**14.2.1 Emergency and Continuity Management Policy (new)**

*THAT the Board of Governors approve the newly drafted Emergency and Continuity Management Policy and associated Emergency Management Procedure and rescind the Emergency Management Policy.*

**14.2.2 Ethics of Research Involving Human Participants Policy (revised)**

**14.2.3 Procedures for Ethics of Research Involving Human Participants (revised)**

*THAT the Board of Governors approve the revised Ethics of Research Involving Human Participants Policy and Procedures effective May 28, 2024.*

**14.2.4 Non-Ministry Approved Curriculum Policy (new)**

*THAT the Board of Governors approve of the Non-Ministry Approved Curriculum Policy and the rescindment of the Extension Curriculum Policy, effective for January 1, 2025.*

**14.2.5 Philanthropic and Honorific Naming Policy (revised)**

**14.2.6 Philanthropic and Honorific Naming Procedures (revised)**

**14.2.7 Fundraising and Gift Acceptance Policy (new)**

*THAT the Board of Governors approve the following policies and procedures effective May 28, 2024:*

- *Philanthropic and Honorific Naming Policy*
- *Philanthropic and Honorific Naming Procedures*
- *Fundraising and Gift Acceptance Policy*

*AND*

*THAT the Board of Governors rescind the following policies and procedures effective May 28, 2024:*

- *University Fundraising Policy*
- *Acceptance of Donated Gifts Policy*
- *Gift of Publicly Listed Securities Procedure*
- *Partnerships and Sponsorships Policy and Procedures*

### **14.3 Policy Rescindment**

#### **14.3.1 Emergency Management Policy**

*Addressed above.*

#### **14.3.2 Illness and Leaves of Absence Management Policy and Procedures**

#### **14.3.3 Tuition Reimbursement Policy**

#### **14.3.4 Compensation Management Policy**

*THAT the Board of Governors rescind the following Human Resources related policies effective May 28, 2024:*

- *Illness and Leaves of Absence Management Policy and Procedures*
- *Tuition Reimbursement Policy*
- *Compensation Management Policy*

#### **14.3.5 University Fundraising Policy**

*Addressed above.*

#### **14.3.6 Acceptance of Donated Gifts Policy**

*Addressed above.*

#### **14.3.7 Gift of Publicly Listed Securities Procedure**

*Addressed above.*

#### **14.3.8 Partnerships and Sponsorship Policy**

*Addressed above.*

#### **14.3.9 Extension Curriculum Policy**

*Addressed above.*

### **14.4 Banking Resolution**

*THAT the Board of Governors approve the amended CIBC Credit Agreement Letter dated April 17, 2024.*

**14.5 Appendix D - Applying Indigenous Perspectives to the *Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria***

*THAT the Board of Governors of Mount Royal University approves that Appendix D, Applying Indigenous Perspectives to the Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria, be added to the Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria document with the associated reference at section 2.1. Intended Application of the Criteria of the document.*

**15. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

The following items were received for information:

**15.1. Fourth Quarter Financial Statements to March 31, 2024**

**15.2. MRU Foundation Audited Financial Statements to March 31, 2024**

**15.3. Mount Royal Early Learning Centre Audited Financial Statements to March 31, 2024**

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

15.4.1. Annual Report for 2022 – 2023 (including Audited Financial Statements to June 30, 2023)

15.4.2. Student Centre Liaison Committee Report for 2022 – 2023

**15.5. 2023-2024 Philanthropic Naming Report**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**16. NEW BUSINESS**

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

The Chair recognized Shannon Ryhorchuk, a public board member whose term is ending this summer, for her valuable contributions to the Board.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved and seconded:

**THAT** the Board of Governors meeting be terminated at 1:40 p.m.

**CARRIED.**