



# REPORT: COMPREHENSIVE GOVERNANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Submitted for: December 3, 2020

Members: Lauren Hill (Governing Documents Researcher, Chair; Speaker of Council), Jemarle Earle, (SSMU President), Brooklyn Frizzle (VP University Affairs), Maheen Akter (VP Student Life), Beatrice Mackie (LSA President), Courtney Murdoch (EDuS President), Jake Reed (Councillor), Alex Karasick (Councillor), Michal Chernov (Governance Manager), Nathan Mendel (Member at Large)

Note: two Directors (Director Akter and Director Smith), as well as Senator Addy Parsons will be joining the Committee going forward.

The Comprehensive Governance Review Committee shall review the Society's governance bodies, systems and structures with a view to making them reflective of our Mission. The Committee will devise a system that is: (a) in accordance with Quebec law, (b) as democratic and transparent as possible, (c) simple, accessible and easy for students to understand. The Committee will look to other successful systems and adapt elements to our context. The Committee will also aim to root out inconsistencies that exist within our governance practices.

The Comprehensive Governance Review Committee meets bi-weekly on Fridays, at 1:30 PM EST.

## Meetings

### October 9, 2020

Items for Discussion:

- Introductions
- Review of role and responsibilities of the CGRC
  - Discuss mandate for 2020-21 year
- Discuss issues the committee will be highlighting for the year

### October 23, 2020

Items for Discussion:

- Topics from the 2020 Constitution:
  - Judicial Board
    - Increasing autonomy of the Judicial Board



- Keeping the current name
- Legislative Council representation
  - Senate Caucus representative(s)
- Executive voting on Council

## November 6, 2020

### Items for Discussion:

- Remaining topics from the 2020 Constitution:
  - Legislative Council representation
    - Re-introduction of non-faculty representation
      - Indigenous Affairs, Equity, Francophone Affairs
      - Also the addition of Black Affairs and Queer Affairs
    - Services Representatives
      - Increasing number of seats to two (2)
    - Clubs Representatives
      - Increasing number of seats to three (3)
    - Theology Representative
    - Potential re-removal of Residences Representative
    - Possibility of MCSS representation
  - Joint Board-Legislative Council session
  - Executive voting on Council
- Senate Caucus
  - Clarification of roles and responsibilities
  - Clarification of structure of powers as a governing body within the Society
    - Division of duties between Senate Caucus and Legislative Council

## November 19, 2020

### Items for Discussion:

- Remaining topics from the 2020 Constitution:
  - Judicial Board
    - Increasing autonomy of the Judicial Board
      - Making distinctions between it and other committees of the Board of Directors
    - Re-consideration of existing by-laws for ultimate failure of ratification
    - Clarify separation of powers
    - Clarifying reasons for failure to ratify decisions
  - Board of Directors composition
    - Council representation
    - Alumni representation
    - Professional representation
  - Executive Elections



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*Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories*

- Discussion of slate, appointment, and status quo procedures
- VP Finance - appointment
- Inclusion of criteria for candidates

## Committee Priorities for the Winter 2021 semester:

- Focus on student-led initiatives
  - Ex. addition of an Outaouais representative
- Hosting consultations with stakeholders
- Bringing forward actionable recommendations to Legislative Council
  - Focus on revising the Constitution and other governing documents of the Society