CÉGEP HERITAGE COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

March 23, 2022
B - 228

Minutes of the two-hundred and twenty-eighth (228th) SPECIAL meeting of the Cégep Heritage College Board of Governors, held on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 5:30pm via (ZOOM).

Members Present:

S. Townsend	*Parent (Chair)*
A. Kayolo	*Socio-Economic (Vice-Chair)*
G. McIvor	*Director General*
R. Abouzia	*Academic Dean*
L. Daignault-Desroches	*Faculty*
C. Fleury-Gow	*Professional Staff*
T. Yank	*Alumni (Pre-U)*
J. Howard	*Support Staff*
A. Lamirande	*Labour Market*
S. Syed	*Faculty*
H. Forget	*Universities*
M. Brown	*Student Association*
R. Su	*Student Association*
T. Malashenko	*Secretary to the Board*

Administrators:

M. Charlebois	*Director Human Resources*
K. Lamarche	*Director Building Services*
J. Goulet	*Director Student Services*
G. Boudreau	*Director, Information Systems & Technology*

Regrets:

D. Bouguem	*Socio-Economic*
E. Kuekam	*Parent*
G. Blais	*Economic Sector*
K. Baskerville	*Alumni (Career)*
M. Hétu	*Director Finance*

The Chair confirmed *quorum* and called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

B22-03-23-228-1.0 **<u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</u>:**

On a motion by S. Syed, seconded by L. Daignault-Desroches, the following agenda was carried:

Item	Title/Description
1.0	**Approval of Agenda.**
2.0	**New Business**
	2.1 Bill 96 "*"An Act Respecting French, The Official and Common Language of Quebec"*
3.0	**Date of Next Meeting:** **Wednesday, March 30, 2022.**
4.0	**Adjournment**

B22-03-23-228-2.1 **Bill 96**

S. Townsend introduced this item. The following motion was presented:

Proposed Motion #B228-2.1
Bill 96 *"An Act Respecting French, The Official and Common Language of Quebec"*

WHEREAS the Board of Governors of Cégep Heritage College strongly supports the intent of increasing the French language skills of its students (as detailed in its 2017-2022 Strategic Plan, Orientation #1);

WHEREAS Cégep Heritage College is located within only a 30-minute drive of a competitor Ontario college, to which Outaouais students have access to pursue college studies in English;

WHEREAS on November 6, 2019, the Quebec National Assembly unanimously passed a resolution that recognizes the Outaouais as an administrative region with important features ('*une région administrative avec des particularités importantes*') in regards to its border location and lags in public funding for higher education, resulting in negative consequences on the regional economy of Outaouais;

WHEREAS in early February 2022, the government suspended the Dawson College expansion project stating that it needed to prioritize its infrastructure investments in francophone cégeps;

WHEREAS the current wording of the proposed Bill 96 would, among others:

a) indefinitely limit enrolment in English cégeps to the registered numbers of Fall 2019;
b) require that all allophone and francophone students pass the French exit exam;
c) require that admissions priority be given to what is termed "les ayants droit" ; and
d) impose three (3) additional French courses on all students for completion of their DEC;

WHEREAS the proposed changes would most likely reduce the success rates of approximately 47% of our students, who would normally be enrolled in our lower level French as a Second Language (FSL) courses;

WHEREAS the requirement of the French Exit Exam would impose three (3) French Literature Courses on approximately 38% of our students, which are not presently offered in English courses;

WHEREAS the impact of the changes would reduce graduation rates, encourage some anglophone students to leave Quebec for their education, thus worsening the existing labor market shortage in the Outaouais region;

WHEREAS the impact of the changes would further reduce the graduation rates of Indigenous students, thus increasing the difficulties faced by these marginalized and underserved groups;

WHEREAS the impact of the changes would further affect adult learners by limiting their retraining and post secondary educational options;

WHEREAS the proposed changes would be logistically difficult to implement and would require a significant increase in teachers that can teach in the French language, thus jeopardizing a significant number of existing teaching positions;

Moved by: R. Abouzia

Seconded by: S. Syed

THAT the Board of Governors of Cégep Heritage College strongly opposes the current proposed anglophone cégep implications of Bill 96, and the resulting development of a two-tiered cégep system, and if the contentious clauses cannot be removed, it requests that the government add a clause in Bill 96 that allows the Minister of Higher Education to schedule the implementation of these clauses in a slow and progressive way that ensures student success is not negatively impacted.

Motion carried.

B22-03-23-228-3.0 Date of Next Meeting:

- Wednesday, March 30, 2022 via ZOOM

B22-03-23-228-4.0 Adjournment.

On a motion by G. McIvor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.