



# CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



## 6th Annual General Meeting

Thursday, September 26, 2019

6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

John Molson School of Business, Room MB-9, Room A  
1450 Guy Street, Montreal  
Sir George Williams Campus

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**MINUTES** of an annual general meeting of members of the Concordia University Alumni Association (“CUAA”) held at Concordia University, 1450 Guy Street, MB 9, Room A, Montreal, Québec, on Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

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### 1. Call to order

K. Fuller, Chairperson of the meeting, welcomed attendees to the 6<sup>th</sup> annual general meeting of the members of the Concordia University Alumni Association (“CUAA”).

### 2. Welcome and report by the President, CUAA

K. Fuller, President of the CUAA, highlighted the vision and mission of the CUAA by asking the members present at the meeting to engage in a poll on their phones by accessing slido.com. This interactive exercise helped in getting the pulse of the members on the various questions asked and in particular regarding the understanding of the mission of the CUAA, which was understood by 90% of the members who responded.

In addition, K. Fuller presented a summary of the CUAA’s accomplishments during FY2019, which included:

- Strategic workshop
  - CUAA directors participated in an annual workshop where they had the opportunity to meet P. Chesser, VP of Advancement.
  - G. Carr, Interim President of Concordia provided an update on the university and the nine strategic directions.
- Hong Kong Dinner
  - Over 200 guests gathered in Hong Kong to celebrate the Concordia University Hong Kong Foundation’s (CUHFK) 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The gala raised \$370,000 to be shared between the CUHFK and Concordia’s Next-Gen Campaign. S. Tam was in attendance to represent the CUAA.
- Student funding reception and networking
  - Board members attended a networking reception and were introduced to students who had received project funding from the CUAA.
- Donor and Students Reception
  - L. Small and D. Doran attended the Donor and Students Reception on behalf of the CUAA to meet students who benefited from the association’s bursaries.
- Conclusion of the three-year pledge for the endowment fund
  - The CUAA concluded a three-year pledge for the CUAA’s endowment fund. In total, the CUAA donated \$90,000 since 2016.

- Launched fundraising team
  - An ad hoc fundraising team was launched and is to be tested in the upcoming year.
- Alumni Recognition Awards - new format
  - The Alumni Recognition Awards occurred in May 2019 and the new format was well received.
- MBA 50th anniversary
  - The CUAA helped the University celebrate the 50th anniversary of the University's MBA program.
- Increased chapter engagement and volunteers
  - K. Fuller noted that there has been an increase in chapter engagement and a number of new volunteers have been recruited.
- Convocation
  - Board members were present at the Convocation ceremonies in June to welcome over 5,500 new graduates into the Concordia alumni family.

Further, K. Fuller provided an update on the CUAA's plans for the upcoming months:

1. Piloting new technology
  - a. K. Fuller noted that the CUAA is looking for ways to leverage technology and increase communication with Board members and volunteers who do not reside in Montreal.
2. Building stronger ties with Career and Planning Services (CAPS) on campus to help alumni further their careers
3. Phase 2 of our geographical engagement
  - a. K. Fuller informed attendees that the association is hoping to increase engagement from alumni located in different cities such as New York and Beijing.
4. Alumni listening tour
  - a. The CUAA and the Alumni Relations team will be launching an alumni listening tour which will allow both parties to gain feedback and personal engagement at events. The tour is an opportunity for the CUAA to hear what kind of programming graduates would benefit from.
5. Succession planning
  - a. It was noted by K. Fuller that the board is working on succession planning in order to improve governance. This process includes updating the Board members' onboarding process.
6. Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education (CCAEE)
  - a. K. Fuller and a member from the alumni relations team will be showcasing the Board at an upcoming conference in February 2020.

K. Fuller also introduced and congratulated the 2019 Loyola Medal Recipient, Samantha Nutt, Founder of War Child Canada. In addition, she invited attendees to register for the award ceremony on November 28, 2019.

Lastly, K. Fuller encouraged attendees to register for the Shuffle on September 27, 2019. She noted that the CUAA has raised over \$1,500 for this initiative.

### **3. Welcome by the Vice-President, Advancement & External Relations and report by Associate Director, Alumni Relations**

P. Chesser greeted and introduced himself to attendees at his first Annual General Meeting since his appointment in December 2018. As the first Concordia graduate to be appointed in his position, he expressed his excitement to be back at the University and working with the CUAA. K. Fuller was thanked for her leadership and continuously ensuring a positive Board volunteer experience.

P. Chesser provided statistics regarding the Concordia alumni family and noted that the community is growing as there is continued increase in enrollment. In addition, he mentioned that the University is competing against the best universities in the country and over the last seven years, Concordia's research funding has increased from \$50 million to \$70 million a year.

An update was provided on the University's fundraising initiatives and its growth over the last ten years. P. Chesser reported that in the last three years, Concordia has exceeded \$35 million in donations. He noted that this accomplishment is a positive testament of alumni, friends and donors recognizing Concordia for its strengths and investing in its future.

Lastly, P. Chesser discussed the Next-Gen campaign and expressed enthusiasm that the University was already more than halfway in meeting its fundraising goal of \$250 million. While there are a few years left, P. Chesser noted that the campaign was already the most successful having surpassed \$165 million in donations.

T. Akin-Aina, Associate Director, Alumni Relations of Concordia University provided a report on Alumni Relations and the last year's programming.

She discussed the following highlights of FY2019:

- Over 140 events with more than 10,000 attendees
- 3000 (+) graduates engaged with the University's virtual programs including virtual networking events, webinars and our online mentor portal *Concordia Alumni Connect*
  - The online portal has been joined by over 1,000 alumni who are willing to mentor alumni and the next generation of students.
- The former President, A. Shepard, met with 400(+) alumnus in Florida, London, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Ottawa, New York City, Washington DC, Calgary, Vancouver and Toronto.
- Engagement Programs:
  - Students and Young Alumni
    - Young Alumni Entrepreneurs
      - Over 200 graduates attended an event which saw several young alumni pitch their start ups in order to get advice from volunteers, faculty, and staff in attendance.
    - Do Well and Do Good
      - Alumni relations hosted a student-focused event which focused on alumni panelists involved in philanthropy.
    - Visual Note Taking
      - Two sold out workshops focused on visual note taking were hosted for young alumni.
    - Almost Alumni Brunches
      - Two brunches were held for the graduating class to celebrate them but also inform the group on the benefits and services they will have access to as Concordia alumni.
  - Homecoming
    - Queer Homecoming
      - Homecoming kicked off with Queer Homecoming enabling Concordia's queer community to come back and reconnect with friends.
    - Loyola Art Hives
      - Alumni were invited to Loyola for the launch of an on-campus art hive which is open to the Concordia community.

- Faculties & Reunions
  - This is Concordia. Now – Storytelling
  - This is Concordia. Now – Mergers & Acquisitions
- Global & Regional Engagement
  - Concordia President Alumni Tour
  - New York
    - The event “Leonard Cohen, a Crack in Everything” was hosted at the Jewish Museum for graduates in the region.
- Targeted Engagement
  - Multiple Women in Leadership events were hosted for the community
  - Parents programming has continued to allow parents to re engage with Concordia as an institution and see the Concordia experience through their students’ eyes.
- Alumni Career Services (“ACS”)
  - The ACS program has grown enabling the University to reach out to alumni, particularly through virtual programming and webinars.
    - On average, ACS webinars see a registration of over 500 participants.
  - The Alumni Matters conference, a graduation transition conference for students has continued to welcome alumni back on campus to provide expertise to soon-to-be-graduates.
- Volunteer Impact:
  - The CUAA pledged to support the Next. Gen. Campaign through three \$30,000 grants over three years.
  - \$17, 515 was provided in student funding support by the CUAA to help student groups organize projects and events.
  - 51 events were attended by volunteers to talk to alumni and be ambassadors of the University.

#### **4. Report from the CUAA Board of Governors representative**

P. Pourreaux, the CUAA’s Board of Governors representative, noted that Concordia University recently had a leadership change as A. Shepard stepped down as President.

In addition, he noted that Concordia’s student body has been growing rapidly and faster than most universities in Quebec. P. Pourreaux attributed this growth to Concordia’s faculty and research facilities. He encouraged attendees to visit the 4<sup>th</sup> Space which is a new facility under the Webster Library which showcases student research.

Lastly, P. Pourreaux provided an update on the University from a financial perspective and reported that balanced budgets were submitted for the upcoming year, meaning the University will be able to reinvest in the nine Strategic Directions.

He invited attendees to visit the University’s website to read the Board of Governor’s meeting minutes for more information.

#### **5. Notice of Meeting**

Notice calling this meeting of members was sent on August 30, 2019 to all members of record of the CUAA as of August 30, 2019.

## **6. Quorum**

The scrutineers submitted the scrutineers' report on the members' attendance at the meeting and reported that there were at least twenty-five (25) members present at the meeting. Consequently, the Chairperson declared the meeting regularly constituted for the transaction of business on the agenda. The scrutineers' report on attendance is annexed to these minutes as Schedule A.

## **7. Minutes**

On motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was unanimously resolved:

**THAT** the meeting be dispensed from the reading of the minutes of the Annual General and Special Meeting of members held on September 20, 2018.

The Chairperson declared that the meeting be dispensed from the reading of the minutes of the Annual General and Special Meeting of members held on September 20, 2018.

## **8. Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements and Accountant's Report**

On motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was unanimously resolved:

**THAT** the meeting be dispensed from the reading of the Accountant's Report attached to the financial statements of the Corporation.

The Chairperson declared that the financial statements for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2019, together with accountant's report have been received by the members of the CUAA.

For the year ending April 30, 2019, T. De Capua, Treasurer, reported that total revenues totaled to \$302,952 and were higher than the budget amount of \$277,090. She explained that revenue is derived mainly from affinity partners including MBNA, TD Insurance, Manulife and photographic service providers. Incurred expenses for the 2018-2019 fiscal year in combination with revenues from the 2018-2019 fiscal year resulted in a \$14,587 deficit vs. the projected amount of \$39,976. The deficit of revenues over expenses results in a year-end balance of unrestricted funds of \$179,333.

Given the association's healthy state of finances and the purpose it serves as a non-profit organization, T. De Capua noted that the intention of the CUAA's Board of Directors, for the foreseeable future, is to incur a manageable deficit of revenues over expenses to reduce the size of the CUAA's unrestricted funds to the vicinity of \$100K.

T. De Capua stated that, in doing so, the CUAA will continue to contribute towards alumni programming and initiatives and also the endowment funds of the Association of Alumni of Sir George Williams University and Loyola College. It was noted that FY2018-2019 was the last year in which the CUAA made a contribution to the endowment fund and the Board's \$30K annual contribution for a period of 3 years has been honored. In the future, the CUAA's contribution to the endowment fund will be done at the Board's discretion and will be reassessed on a yearly basis.

## 9. Appointment and Remuneration of Accountants

On motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was unanimously resolved:

**THAT** Mizgala & Cie Inc. be appointed accountants of the CUAA to hold office until the next annual meeting of members and that the Board of Directors be authorized to determine their remuneration.

## 10. Report from the Nominating Committee and election of incoming directors and directors standing for re-election for 2019-2021

D. Kierans, Chair of Nominating Committee, presented the 2019-2021 proposed slate of directors and recognized the contribution of the following retiring directors:

- Helen Downie (BA 11, MA 16)
- Jameson Jones-Doyle (BA 08, MSc 12)
- Sunil Manjunath (Meng 13)
- Jaymee Shell (BSc 14)

As indicated in the slate of directors, the Board proposes 21 directors, (i) 3 of which are ex-officio directors, (ii) 11 of which have been elected last year for a two-year term, and (iii) 5 of which are nominated for election as directors of the CUAA for a two-year term.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was unanimously resolved:

**THAT** the following list of nominees be elected as Directors of the CUAA to hold office for a one or two year term, as the case may be, until the either the 2020 or 2021 Annual Meeting of Members, as the case may be, or until their successors are otherwise elected or appointed:

### Directors Standing for Re-Election

Sonia Di Maulo (BA 95, MA 01)	Term 2019-2021
Linda Donnini (BSc 91)	Term 2019-2021
David Kierans (BA 75)	Term 2019-2021
Miranda Melfi (BComm 86)	Term 2019-2021
Patrick Van de Wille (BA 91)	Term 2019-2021

### Incoming Directors

Ven Virah (BComm 10)	Term 2019-2021
Current TT Liang (BComm 81)	Term 2019-2021

There being no further nominations, the Chairperson declared those nominated to be duly elected as directors of the CUAA to hold office for a period of one or two years, as the case may be, until the 2020 or 2021 annual meeting of Members, as the case may be, or until their successors are otherwise elected or appointed.

Therefore, the complete slate of directors is:

**Directors Standing for Re-Election**

Sonia Di Maulo (BA 95, MA 01)	Term 2019-2021
Linda Donnini (BSc 91)	Term 2019-2021
David Kierans (BA 75)	Term 2019-2021
Miranda Melfi (BComm 86)	Term 2019-2021
Patrick Van de Wille (BA 91)	Term 2019-2021

**Incoming Directors**

Ven Virah (BComm 10)	Term 2019-2021
Current TT Liang (BComm 81)	Term 2019-2021

**Returning Directors**

Mario Ciaramicoli (BEng 02)	Term 2018-2020
Tania De Capua (BComm 11)	Term 2018-2020
Daniel Doran (MBA 16)	Term 2018-2020
Lyn Fong (BA 02)	Term 2018-2020
Kim Fuller (BFA 96)	Term 2018-2020
Julia Khon (MBA 13)	Term 2018-2020
Caroline Samné (MA 03)	Term 2018-2020
Lauren Small (BA 95, MA 97)	Term 2018-2020
Susannah Tam (MBA 82)	Term 2018-2020
Vicki Variantzas (BA 96)	Term 2018-2020
Hanna Vineberg (BA 88)	Term 2018-2020

**Ex-officio Directors**

Steve Avram (BEng 71, MEng 85)
Leisha LeCouvie
John Limeburner (BComm 68)
Philippe Purreaux (BComm 00)

**11. Closing remarks and termination of meeting**

There being no other points of order and the agenda was completed, the Chairperson asked for a motion to terminate the meeting.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was unanimously resolved:

**THAT** the meeting be terminated.

K. Fuller invited attendees to enjoy the cocktail reception in room D.

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Chairperson  
K.Fuller

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Secretary  
M. Melfi

## Schedule A

### Scrutineers' Report on Attendance

The following members of the CUAA were in attendance representing at least twenty-five (25) members present at the Meeting:

**Directors:** Kim Fuller (Chair), Steve Avram, Mario Ciaramicoli, Tania De Capua, Daniel Doran, Linda Donnini, Julia Khon, David Kierans, John Limeburner, Sonia Di Maulo, Miranda Melfi, Philippe Purreaux, Caroline Samné

**Members:**

Alain Ajamian, Paris Arnopoulos, Sara Baptiste-Brown, Shelley Bartholomew, Marie Bedard, Stan Brasgold, Angus Campbell, Jim Cartier, Donald Chambers, Donna Chan, Karin Doerr, Helen Downie, Ugonma Ejeh, Franklin Freedman, Lyn Fong, Alexandre Gauthier, Didier Giovannangeli, Branka Halar, Elizabeth Henrik, Karin Hilker, Paul Hwang, Alan Jones, Jameson Jones-Doyle, Rose Kalba, Kevin Kane, Ronald Knight, Ian MacLeod, Kathryn McMorrow, Jose Medeiros, John Monroe, Retselisitsoe Moshabesha, Christabell Moyo, Agahubeziam Okwudi, Maben Poirier, Cynthia Rezgui, Michael Richardson, Ian Robinson, Patrick Sabbah, Mohamad Sadek, Alexandre Tabarah, Stephen Talko, Francois Tardy, Maria Valdes, Patrick Van de Wille, Vicki Variantzas, Sidney Watkins, Xenos Whiston, Boris Zelikin

**Advancement Staff:** Paul Chesser, Temi Akin-Aina, Nancy Wada