

SCHOOL OF HEALTH**COUNCIL OF THE SCHOOL OF HEALTH**

**Minutes for the meeting held on February 12, 2026, at 3:00pm
GM 940.38 and <https://concordia-ca.zoom.us/j/88410322891>**

PRESENT**Voting members:**

V. Pepin (Chair), T. Evans (online), A. Champagne, A. Piekny (online), R. Reilly (online), C. Bruce (online), S. Granger (online), L. Barker (online), M. D'Amico (online), M. Evans, A. W. Mudiyansele (online), K. Toledano (online)

Non-voting members:

K. Dunfield, K. Hall, L. Roy (Secretary), P. Sullivan (Recording Secretary)

REGRETS**Voting members:**

G. Carr, E. Diamantoudi, J-P. Gouin, C. Plissonneau, L. Kadem, S. Shih, S. De Celles

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved and seconded (M. D'Amico, S. Granger). Carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes of December 4, 2025

Moved and seconded (A. Champagne, L. Barker). Carried.

4. Chair's Remarks

The chair, V. Pepin, opened the meeting with several updates.

She first mentioned that the School of Health underwent the 2026–2027 budget exercise under the Vice-President, Research and Innovation (VPRII). As with other sectors, VPRII will face budget cuts. She met with T. Evans, who will be submitting his sector budget. It is not yet known how this will

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impact the School's allocation. She noted that the School remains in a strong position, having generated additional revenues and reduced expenses, and having spent less than its allocated budget for the past three years. Efforts to increase revenues across all platforms are ongoing, and early results are beginning to emerge. The School continues to work on improving cost effectiveness within the broader institutional context.

She then announced that the Loyola Health Services Clinic will be moving from the basement of the AD building to the basement of the PC building by Fall 2026. Transition work will take place over the spring and summer. She noted that this follows several years of planning and expressed gratitude to the Health Services team, who recently transitioned from paper to electronic medical records and are now preparing for another major change.

Modifications have been made to the PC basement reception area to accommodate the clinic. The four consultation offices, already adapted for medical use, will move from being largely underutilized to regular use. Additional rooms will be allocated for required clinical functions. She noted that this is viewed as a positive development for both parties, increasing visibility of the School's public platforms while bringing healthcare professionals into the building. Counseling services will not relocate at this time due to space requirements. An article announcing the move will be prepared for university-wide distribution in late spring.

5. Update: Associate Dean, Research and Infrastructure

A. Pickny gave a presentation.

She reported that the recent call for research proposals closed with 14 applications received across the three hubs. These are currently under review, with the aim of funding at least one proposal per hub. She noted challenges in identifying reviewers and invited suggestions from Council members.

She presented an overview of the exercise to map the School of Health research landscape, based on keywords provided by members. Six major themes were identified. She noted that areas not reflected may indicate insufficient representation rather than absence of activity.

She also presented draft core values and newly conceptualized strategic research priorities for feedback.

She spoke briefly about efforts to increase research capacity, accelerate knowledge translation and commercialization, increase visibility of health research at Concordia, and strengthen core infrastructure and platforms.

The chair invited comments.

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C. Bruce requested access to the slides. A. Piekny asked P. Sullivan to distribute them.

T. Evans noted that the identified themes would benefit from further clarification and that some areas, including healthy aging and creative arts therapies, were not clearly reflected. He suggested that developing a conceptual framework could help better describe the range of research activities and identify areas of convergence.

A. Piekny agreed. V. Pepin clarified that the themes were generated using member-provided keywords and may not fully capture all areas.

C. Bruce noted that creative arts therapies and disability research appeared underrepresented and suggested that terminology differences may have influenced the analysis. The chair suggested follow-up discussion to better understand these areas.

S. Granger noted that occupational and organizational health were not clearly reflected and observed that some faculty members in these areas may not currently be engaged as members. A. Piekny emphasized the importance of consultation and outreach.

K. Dunfield noted that the description of the community health hub may require revision to help members better identify their place within the School. V. Pepin agreed that the terminology may need updating.

T. Evans expressed willingness to assist in refining the framework to better reflect the breadth of research activity.

6. Update: Associate Dean, Academic Programs and Student Services

A. Champagne provided updates on several initiatives.

He reported on the goal for 2026–2027 to sponsor course sections funded by the School of Health that are relevant across faculties, including environmental health and well-being, and public health. He noted that the previously planned health entrepreneurship section will not move forward, as the work on the microprogram in Global Health Entrepreneurship is advancing, and that a Letter of Intent will be brought forward for discussion. Work is moving forward on environmental health and well-being, and discussions are ongoing regarding public health offerings.

The chair clarified that these courses would be funded by the School, with instructors appointed through faculty processes and teaching assistant support provided by the School.

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A. Champagne reported that the microprogram in public health is nearing submission of a Letter of Intent and is intended to target early-career professionals. He also reported that development of the PhD program is progressing. A student survey has been completed, and an industry survey is being prepared. Approval is anticipated to be sought in Fall 2026.

He also noted that a call for thesis-based Master's admission awards is in development to support additional graduate recruitment.

The chair invited feedback and noted that ideas for future programs are welcome.

7. Discussion and feedback: [LOI: Microprogram in Global Health Entrepreneurship](#)

A. Champagne provided an update on the microprogram and noted that informal feedback has been received from the Provost's Office.

He presented the Letter of Intent and explained that the program would target medical residents and health system professionals. T. Evans would play a leadership role and contribute to teaching.

T. Evans thanked A. Champagne and noted that global health entrepreneurship has been an area of focus for some time. He emphasized that the program is intended to foster entrepreneurial thinking across healthcare and related sectors.

The chair invited comments. A. Champagne noted that additional members may be added to the working group.

V. Pepin stated that if the proposal receives approval from the Provost's Office, it will return to Council for formal review.

8. Updates and Announcements

V. Pepin opened the floor to updates.

R. Reilly provided an update on interviews conducted for a Canada Research Chair position and noted that participation from the School of Health was beneficial.

T. Evans provided an update on the federal Impact Chairs initiative, noting the accelerated timeline and encouraging members to share information about the opportunity with potential candidates.

V. Pepin expressed hope that health-related appointments may result from this initiative.

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K. Dunfield noted the challenges associated with securing reviewers for Impact Chairs and thanked A. Champagne for his support.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 PM.

Next meeting: April 2, 2026, 3:00-4:30pm, PC 2.405 and Zoom

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Sullivan
Recording Secretary
Council of the School of Health