



**FOR APPROVAL**

**PUBLIC**

**OPEN SESSION**

**TO:** University Affairs Board

**SPONSOR:** Sandy Welsh, Vice Provost, Students  
**CONTACT INFO:** Phone (416) 978-3870 / Email [vp.students@utoronto.ca](mailto:vp.students@utoronto.ca)

**PRESENTER:** David Kim, Warden, Hart House  
**CONTACT INFO:** Phone (416) 978-0020 / Email [dy.kim@utoronto.ca](mailto:dy.kim@utoronto.ca)

**DATE:** April 24, 2025 for May 1, 2025

**AGENDA ITEM:** 3

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:** Hart House Constitution: Revisions

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Hart House Constitution provides that the Board of Stewards may recommend amendments to the Governing Council.

Section 5.1.3. (c) of the University Affairs Board Terms of Reference notes that “The Board approves the Constitution of Hart House.”

**GOVERNANCE PATH:**

**1. University Affairs Board (May 1, 2025) [For Approval]**

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

The Constitution of the Board of Stewards of Hart House was first approved by the University Affairs Board on February 8, 1994. Subsequent revisions to the Constitution were approved by the University Affairs Board on: March 27, 2001; January 18, 2005; April 17, 2012; May 25, 2016; March 6, 2017; and April 22, 2021.

For over a decade, a number of issues have been raised about the Community Members Committee and alignment of their core mandate, governance, and oversight with Hart House and University of Toronto policy and practice.

Recognizing the complicated issues surrounding the Community Members Committee that had gone unresolved for many years, at the March 7, 2024 Board of Stewards meeting, Warden David Kim announced a formal review of the Community Members Committee.

An external reviewer, Dr. Tanya Lewis of BKL Consultants, conducted the review and guided a robust engagement process to identify issues and solutions. Following a series of meetings with key stakeholders, Dr. Lewis produced a report that was shared with the Board of Stewards at the November 14, 2024 meeting. The recommendation to resolve the governance issues included the following elements:

- The Board of Stewards should consider disbanding the Community Members Committee in its current form which would cease their ex-officio membership at the Board of Stewards.
- The Board of Stewards should consider a club, registered program or affiliate program model to deliver Community Members Committee traditional programming.
- To ensure continued representation of non-students in the governance of Hart House, the position of Community Members Committee Chair as an ex-officio representative on the Board of Stewards should be replaced with a Presidential Appointment for an Alumni representative.

A motion was introduced ahead of the January 16, 2025 meeting of the Board of Stewards that spoke to these recommendations, but the motion did not pass as there were a number of questions raised and requests for further exploration. To address these concerns, Agenda Committee representatives convened discussions with student stewards on February 3 and 20, 2025 to identify questions and explore next steps. Stewards requested responses to a series of questions about the motion. An FAQ was produced and shared as part of the March 6, 2025 Board of Stewards meeting package.

The Board was then provided with formal notice of the forthcoming changes ahead of its April 3, 2025 meeting, thus fulfilling the fourteen-day requirement for notice of Hart House constitutional changes. The proposed amendments were ultimately voted upon and approved by the Hart House Board of Stewards on April 3, 2025 (documentation attached).

#### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

The proposed revisions can be divided into two different categories, that were approved by the Hart House Board of Stewards in two separate motions:

**1) The Community Members Committee be abolished as a Standing Committee of the Hart House Board of Stewards.**

This motion resolves the governance issues raised at the outset of the Community Members Committee review, maintains the current composition of the Board of Stewards, while also providing clear pathways for the continuation of key Community Members Committee programming.

**2) The Board of Stewards amend sec III.9 and sec III.19 of the Constitution of Hart House to read as follows:**

The following shall be members of the Board of Stewards:

- a) The President of the University (ex officio) or his or her designate
- b) The Warden of Hart House, (ex officio)
- c) An appointee of the Governing Council
- d) Three appointees of the President of the University, one of whom is an Alumni of the University of Toronto.
- e) An appointee of the Association of Part Time Undergraduate Students
- f) An appointee of the Graduate Students' Union
- g) An appointee of the Students' Administrative Council (operating as the University of Toronto Students' Union)

- h) The Student Stewards (ex-officio) of the Hart House Student Art Committee, Hart House Student Debates and Dialogue Committee, Hart House Student Farm Committee, Hart House Finance Committee, Hart House Student Literary and Library Committee, Hart House Student Music Committee, Hart House Recreational Athletics and Wellness Committee, Hart House Student Social Justice Committee, and Hart House Student Theatre Committee, and any other Standing Committees as may be constituted by the Board of Stewards (to be elected by and from the membership of their respective committees)
- i) A student representative of the University of Toronto Scarborough Students' Union
- j) A student representative from the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union
- k) A Community Member (to be elected by and from the non-student members of Hart House)

Section III.19 The Board of Stewards may appoint Standing Committees for areas including but not limited to Art, Debates and Dialogue, Farm, Finance, Literary and Library, Music, Recreational Athletics and Wellness, Social Justice, and Theatre. The Board may also abolish Standing Committees.

#### **FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:**

The Community Members Committee will no longer receive Committee funds through the Committees on Budget process.

The Board of Stewards will include a Presidential Appointee that is an Alumni of the University of Toronto.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Be It Resolved,

THAT the amended Hart House Constitution of the Board of Stewards, which was approved by the Board of Stewards on April 3, 2025 be approved, effective July 1, 2025.

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#### **DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:**

- Board of Stewards Two (2) Agenda Items Re: Hart House Constitution Proposed Revisions to the Hart House Constitution
- Hart House Constitution (3) (current, tracked changes and clean version)

CONSTITUTION  
HART HOUSE  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

THE CONSTITUTION OF  
THE BOARD OF STEWARDS OF HART HOUSE

*University Affairs Board of Governing Council  
University of Toronto  
February 8, 1994  
Amended March 27, 2001  
Amended March 15, 2012  
Amended May 25, 2016  
Amended March 6, 2017  
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## I INTRODUCTION

1. In accepting the gift of Hart House from the Massey Foundation, the University of Toronto affirmed its belief that it regards education as more than the mastery of a particular discipline of study. The University accepted the House, and has preserved it, as an integral part of its educational programme. The vibrant life of the House since 1919 has proven the University's conviction that there is much to learn that cannot be taught in the formal course and that students, staff and faculty and alumni can learn from each other when they meet as equals in pursuit of common interests.

### *The Nature and Purpose of Hart House and its Relation to the University of Toronto*

Hart House is a unique focus for the union of the University's academic, spiritual, athletic and social elements in the pursuit of a truly humane education through informal learning. Its administration and institutional structures foster among its members cooperation and mutual respect as they pursue a common good. The House strives to answer in each generation the Prayer of the Founders acknowledged by the University of Toronto in the Deed of Gift, May, 1920.

That Hart House, under the guidance of its Warden, may serve in the generations to come the highest interests of this University by drawing into a common fellowship the members of the several Colleges and Faculties, and by gathering into a true society the teacher and the student, the graduate and the undergraduate; further, that the members of Hart House may discover within its walls the true education that is to be found in good fellowship, in friendly disputation and debate, in the conversation of (the) wise and earnest...., in music, pictures and the play, in the casual book, in sports and games and the mastery of the body; and lastly, that just as in the days of war this House was devoted to the training in arms of the young soldier, so in the time of peace its halls may be dedicated to the task of arming youth with strength and suppleness of limb, with clarity of mind and depth of understanding, and with a spirit of true religion and high endeavour.

In 2011, the Board of Stewards approved a Vision Statement for Hart House:

Hart House is a living laboratory of social, artistic, cultural and recreational experiences where all voices, rhythms and traditions converge. As the vibrant home for the education of the mind, body and spirit envisioned by its founders, Hart House encourages and supports activities that provide spaces for awakening the capacity for self-knowledge and self-expression.

2. Hart House has a strong history of achievement in responsible self-governance. It is built upon the cooperation of the Warden and the Board of Stewards, the staff and the membership, and the committees and clubs of the House. The Hart House traditions of mutual respect, trust, civility, and responsibility aim to create a

humane atmosphere. Such an atmosphere forms an essential context for the educational experience which the Massey Foundation and the University intended Hart House to provide.

3. Hart House forms part of the property of the University of Toronto and as such is, like other property of the University, under the supervision of the properly constituted authority of the Governing Council of the University of Toronto.

## **II MEMBERSHIP**

4. Hart House is an association of members. There are two kinds of members of the House - the University of Toronto Student Members, and Community Members. The Community Member is a person who elects to join Hart House. All registered University of Toronto students are automatically University of Toronto Student Members of Hart House if they have been charged and have paid the requisite compulsory non-academic incidental fees.

### ***Classifications of Members of Hart House***

Community Members of Hart House shall be those Members aged 18 or over who are not University of Toronto Student Members and who have paid the requisite membership fees.

### ***Community Member Eligibility***

The Board of Stewards should review the categories and policies for membership from time to time.

5. Members of Hart House who are in good standing shall be entitled to the full use and enjoyment of the House, its activities and its facilities, consistent with level of privileges.
6. Members of Hart House shall abide by the Constitution, policies and rules of Hart House, as well as University of Toronto policies on conduct. *Failure to do so on the part of a member will render him or her liable to disciplinary actions, according to procedures as established by the Board of Stewards, in accordance with University of Toronto policies and practices. The Board of Stewards shall review these policies, rules and procedures regularly and update them as necessary.*
7. Members shall be renewed annually upon the payment of the requisite membership fee in accordance with Section 15, below.

### ***Rights, Privileges and Obligations of the Members***

## **III GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION OF HART HOUSE**

8. Subject to the authority of the Governing Council of the University of Toronto, the governance of Hart House shall be delegated to a body known as the Board of Stewards.

These oversight responsibilities will be exercised in accordance with principles, mandates and expectations of governance within the University of Toronto as approved by the Governing Council from time to time.<sup>1</sup> The Board may also establish its own guidelines that would be consistent with these standards and taking into account the unique nature of Hart House.

As a governing body, the Board of Stewards is expected to:

- a. Consider for approval specific policies, plans or projects according to established procedures;
- b. Monitor the quality and substance of the House's administration and its decision-making through reports to the Board or its committees; and
- c. Advise on initiatives proposed by the Warden .

The Board of Stewards may exercise its responsibilities for particular matters itself, reserving final decision-making authority, or it may delegate initial review and final decision-making to various of its committees.

9. The following shall be members of the Board of Stewards:
  - a) The President of the University (*ex officio*) or his or her designate
  - b) The Warden of Hart House, (*ex officio*)
  - c) An appointee of the Governing Council
  - d) Two appointees of the President of the University
  - e) The Chair of the Community Members Committee (*ex officio*)
  - f) An appointee of the Association of Part Time Undergraduate Students
  - g) An appointee of the Graduate Students' Union
  - h) An appointee of the Students' Administrative Council (operating as the University of Toronto Students' Union)
  - i) The Student Stewards (ex-officio) of the Hart House Student Art Committee, Hart House Student Debates and Dialogue Committee, Hart House Student Farm Committee, Hart House Finance Committee, Hart House Student Literary and Library Committee, Hart House Student Music Committee, Hart House Recreational Athletics and Wellness Committee, Hart House Student Social Justice Committee, and Hart House Student Theatre Committee, and any other Standing Committees as may be constituted by the Board of Stewards (to be elected by and from the membership of their respective committees)
  - j) A student representative of the University of Toronto Scarborough Students' Union
  - k) A student representative from the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union
  - l) A Community Member (to be elected by and from the membership of the Recreational Athletics Committee)

***Membership of the  
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Members of the Board of Stewards shall act with diligence, honestly and with good faith in the best interests of Hart House in the University of Toronto. From

***Powers and Duties of  
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time to time, the Board may establish particular expectations for its members in relation to the conduct of their duties. Such expectations would be in accordance with the University's governance principles and practices.

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|---|------------------------------------|
| 10. All appointments and elections to the Board shall take effect at the beginning of each fiscal year, May 1st. The Board of Stewards shall prescribe the method of all elections or appointments in Hart House, for designated Board, Committee and Club positions.   | <i><b>Elections</b></i>            |
| 11. The Board of Stewards upon the recommendation of the Warden shall appoint a person to be Chair for the Board of Stewards meetings subject to terms and conditions to be agreed with the person, and within such regulations as may be enacted by the Board of Stewards. This Chair must be a member of Hart House but shall not be a chair or secretary of any Hart House club or committee. When no such Chair is in place, the Warden or a Steward shall chair. | <i><b>Chair</b></i>                |
| 12. Quorum for the meetings of the Board of Stewards shall be eight members with a minimum of five student members in attendance.   | <i><b>Quorum</b></i>               |
| 13. The Board of Stewards shall enact rules concerning the calling of its own meetings, and the procedures to be followed thereat.  | <i><b>Meetings</b></i>             |
| 14. The Board of Stewards shall recommend an annual Operating Plan and Budget for approval by the Governing Council of the University.  | <i><b>Finance</b></i>              |
| 15. Subject to the approval of the annual Operating Plan and Budget by the Governing Council, the Board of Stewards shall establish the schedule of fees for the various classifications of memberships and privileges in the House. Where student fee changes are proposed, public notice of reasonable duration to the University community is required.  | <i><b>Fees</b></i>                 |
| 16. The Board of Stewards shall approve policy respecting the use and allotment of all rooms and space in Hart House, and all House facilities and conveniences.  | <i><b>Use of Space</b></i>         |
| 17. The Board of Stewards shall have disciplinary authority over its members insofar as the use of the facilities and participation in the programs of Hart House are concerned. The Board shall establish disciplinary processes in accordance with University of Toronto policies and practices regarding such matters. These policies and practices shall be reviewed regularly and updated as necessary.  | <i><b>Discipline</b></i>           |
| 18. The Board of Stewards may appoint special committees to carry out certain tasks,  | <i><b>Committees and Clubs</b></i> |



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19. The Board of Stewards may appoint Standing Committees for areas including but not limited to Art, Debates and Dialogue, Farm, Finance, Literary and Library, Music, Recreational Athletics and Wellness, Community Members, Social Justice, and Theatre. The Board may also abolish Standing Committees.
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The Board shall maintain a listing of recognized Hart House Clubs, and shall review this list annually as part of its Operating Plan and Budget approval process. The Board shall have the power to remove recognition and remove groups from the list according to criteria to be set from time to time.

21. The Board of Stewards upon the approval of two-thirds of members present at any meeting, may recommend an amendment to the Constitution of the Board of Stewards of Hart House, to the Governing Council of the University. At least fourteen days notice shall be given to the Board of Stewards of any proposed amendment.
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**Warden**

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expression.

2. Hart House has a strong history of achievement in responsible self-governance. It is built upon the cooperation of the Warden and the Board of Stewards, the staff and the membership, and the committees and clubs of the House. The Hart House traditions of mutual respect, trust, civility, and responsibility aim to create a humane atmosphere. Such an atmosphere forms an essential context for the educational experience which the Massey Foundation and the University intended Hart House to provide.
3. Hart House forms part of the property of the University of Toronto and as such is, like other property of the University, under the supervision of the properly constituted authority of the Governing Council of the University of Toronto.

## II MEMBERSHIP

4. Hart House is an association of members. There are two kinds of members of the House - the University of Toronto Student Members, and Community Members. The Community Member is a person who elects to join Hart House. All registered University of Toronto students are automatically University of Toronto Student Members of Hart House if they have been charged and have paid the requisite compulsory non-academic incidental fees.

### ***Classifications of Members of Hart House***

Community Members of Hart House shall be those Members aged 18 or over who are not University of Toronto Student Members and who have paid the requisite membership fees.

### ***Community Member Eligibility***

The Board of Stewards should review the categories and policies for membership from time to time.

5. Members of Hart House who are in good standing shall be entitled to the full use and enjoyment of the House, its activities and its facilities, consistent with level of privileges.
6. Members of Hart House shall abide by the Constitution, policies and rules of Hart House, as well as University of Toronto policies on conduct. *Failure to do so on the part of a member will render him or her liable to disciplinary actions, according to procedures as established by the Board of Stewards, in accordance with University of Toronto policies and practices. The Board of Stewards shall review these policies, rules and procedures regularly and update them as necessary.*
7. Members shall be renewed annually upon the payment of the requisite membership fee in accordance with Section 15, below.

### ***Rights, Privileges and Obligations of the Members***

### III GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION OF HART HOUSE

8. Subject to the authority of the Governing Council of the University of Toronto, the governance of Hart House shall be delegated to a body known as the Board of Stewards.

These oversight responsibilities will be exercised in accordance with principles, mandates and expectations of governance within the University of Toronto as approved by the Governing Council from time to time.<sup>1</sup> The Board may also establish its own guidelines that would be consistent with these standards and taking into account the unique nature of Hart House.

As a governing body, the Board of Stewards is expected to:

- a. Consider for approval specific policies, plans or projects according to established procedures;
- b. Monitor the quality and substance of the House's administration and its decision-making through reports to the Board or its committees; and
- c. Advise on initiatives proposed by the Warden.

The Board of Stewards may exercise its responsibilities for particular matters itself, reserving final decision-making authority, or it may delegate initial review and final decision-making to various of its committees.

9. The following shall be members of the Board of Stewards:
- a) The President of the University (*ex officio*) or his or her designate
  - b) The Warden of Hart House, (*ex officio*)
  - c) An appointee of the Governing Council
  - d) Three appointees of the President of the University, one of whom is an Alumni of the University of Toronto.
  - e) An appointee of the Association of Part Time Undergraduate Students
  - f) An appointee of the Graduate Students' Union
  - g) An appointee of the Students' Administrative Council (operating as the University of Toronto Students' Union)
  - h) The Student Stewards (*ex-officio*) of the Hart House Student Art Committee, Hart House Student Debates and Dialogue Committee, Hart House Student Farm Committee, Hart House Finance Committee, Hart House Student Literary and Library Committee, Hart House Student Music Committee, Hart House Recreational Athletics and Wellness Committee, Hart House Student Social Justice Committee, and Hart House Student Theatre Committee, and any other Standing Committees as may be constituted by the Board of

#### ***Membership of the Board of Stewards***

Stewards (to be elected by and from the membership of their respective committees)

- i) A student representative of the University of Toronto Scarborough Students' Union
- j) A student representative from the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union
- k) A Community Member (to be elected by and from the non-student members of Hart House)

Members of the Board of Stewards shall act with diligence, honestly and with good faith in the best interests of Hart House in the University of Toronto. From time to time, the Board may establish particular expectations for its members in relation to the conduct of their duties. Such expectations would be in accordance with the University's governance principles and practices.

***Powers and Duties  
of the Board of  
Stewards***

10. All appointments and elections to the Board shall take effect at the beginning of each fiscal year, May 1st. The Board of Stewards shall prescribe the method of all elections or appointments in Hart House, for designated Board, Committee and Club positions.

***Elections***

11. The Board of Stewards upon the recommendation of the Warden shall appoint a person to be Chair for the Board of Stewards meetings subject to terms and conditions to be agreed with the person, and within such regulations as may be enacted by the Board of Stewards. This Chair must be a member of Hart House but shall not be a chair or secretary of any Hart House club or committee. When no such Chair is in place, the Warden or a Steward shall chair.

***Chair***

12. Quorum for the meetings of the Board of Stewards shall be eight members with a minimum of five student members in attendance.

***Quorum***

13. The Board of Stewards shall enact rules concerning the calling of its own meetings, and the procedures to be followed thereat.

***Meetings***

14. The Board of Stewards shall recommend an annual Operating Plan and Budget for approval by the Governing Council of the University.

***Finance***

15. Subject to the approval of the annual Operating Plan and Budget by the Governing Council, the Board of Stewards shall establish the schedule of fees for the various classifications of memberships and privileges in the House. Where student fee changes are proposed, public notice of reasonable duration to the University community is required.

***Fees***

16. The Board of Stewards shall approve policy respecting the use and allotment of all rooms and space in Hart House, and all House facilities and conveniences.

*Use of Space*

17. The Board of Stewards shall have disciplinary authority over its members insofar as the use of the facilities and participation in the programs of Hart House are concerned. The Board shall establish disciplinary processes in accordance with University of Toronto policies and practices regarding such matters. These policies and practices shall be reviewed regularly and updated as necessary.

*Discipline*

18. The Board of Stewards may appoint special committees to carry out certain tasks, and shall prescribe the method of appointment of members to such committees and their duties and powers.

*Committee and Clubs*

19. The Board of Stewards may appoint Standing Committees for areas including but not limited to Art, Debates and Dialogue, Farm, Finance, Literary and Library, Music, Recreational Athletics and Wellness, Social Justice, and Theatre. The Board may also abolish Standing Committees.

20. The Board of Stewards may recognize members of Hart House who have organized into groups or clubs, as Hart House Clubs according to criteria established by the Board. The Board shall prescribe the rights, responsibilities, activities and accountabilities of all such clubs. No group or club may use the name or logos of Hart House for its publicity unless the group or club is recognized by the Board of Stewards.

The Board shall maintain a listing of recognized Hart House Clubs, and shall review this list annually as part of its Operating Plan and Budget approval process. The Board shall have the power to remove recognition and remove groups from the list according to criteria to be set from time to time.

21. The Board of Stewards upon the approval of two-thirds of members present at any meeting, may recommend an amendment to the Constitution of the Board of Stewards of Hart House, to the Governing Council of the University. At least fourteen days notice shall be given to the Board of Stewards of any proposed amendment.

22. There shall be a chief executive officer of Hart House, who shall be known as the Warden and appointed in a manner prescribed by the Governing Council on the recommendation of the President of the University. The Warden reports directly to the Vice-President and Provost or his/her designate. While the Warden may elect to delegate authority to other administrators in Hart House, he/she must retain responsibility for the overall direction of the House,

*Warden*

and in particular for authority over the budget, appointments and promotions. The Warden shall consult with the members of the Board of Stewards on matters of policy and practice, but is ultimately responsible for all administrative decisions that are within his/her jurisdiction and authority, and the general supervision over the direction of the operations and activities of Hart House.

<sup>1</sup> On October 28, 2010, the Governing Council approved three documents – *Principles of Good Governance*, *Mandate of Governance*, and *Expectations and Attributes of Governors and Key Principles of Ethical Conduct* – that form the basis of the Governing Council’s governance practices.





TO: Hart House Board of Stewards  
FROM: Shanti Dhoré and Rianne Matthias  
FOR: Meeting of April 3, 2025  
AGENDA ITEM: 4b

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**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Removal of the Community Members Committee from the Hart House Constitution.

**SPONSOR:** Warden David Kim

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

Section III.19 of the Constitution of Hart House gives the Board of Stewards the power to appoint or abolish Standing Committees, including the Community Members Committee.

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

For over a decade, a number of issues have been raised about the Community Members Committee and alignment of their core mandate, governance, and oversight with Hart House and University of Toronto policy and practice.

Recognizing the complicated issues surrounding the Community Members Committee that had gone unresolved for many years, at the March 7, 2024 Board of Stewards meeting, Warden David Kim announced a formal review of the Community Members Committee.

An external reviewer, Dr. Tanya Lewis of BKI Consultants, conducted the review and guided a robust engagement process to identify issues and solutions. Following a series of meetings with key stakeholders, Dr. Lewis produced a report that was shared with the Board of Stewards at the November 14, 2024 meeting. The recommendation to resolve the governance issues included the following elements:

- The Board of Stewards should consider disbanding the Community Members Committee in its current form which would cease their ex-officio membership at the Board of Stewards.
- The Board of Stewards should consider a club, registered program or affiliate program model to deliver Community Members Committee traditional programming.
- To ensure continued representation of non-students in the governance of Hart House, the position of Community Members Committee Chair as an ex-officio representative on the Board of Stewards should be replaced with a Presidential Appointment for an Alumni representative.

The Warden will continue to meet with the participants in the Community Members Committee to develop opportunities to deliver their programming through a clubs or affiliated programs model, and to consider solutions to the full range of issues raised in the review.

**ACTION SOUGHT:**

*Be it resolved that the Community Members Committee be abolished as a Standing Committee of the Hart House Board of Stewards.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

This motion resolves the governance issues raised at the outset of the Community Members Committee review, maintains the current composition of the Board of Stewards, while also providing clear pathways for the continuation of key Community Members Committee programming.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The Community Members Committee will no longer receive Committee funds through the Committees on Budget process.

**FUTURE ACTION NEEDED:**

If motion 4b is approved, the Constitution of Hart House will need to be amended by the Board of Stewards to reflect the removal of the position of The Chair of the Community Members Committee (*ex officio*) from the membership of the Board of Stewards, and to add a member who is a University of Toronto Alumni representative, to be appointed by the President in alignment with the other Presidential appointees on the Board of Stewards (motion 4c).

Hart House is further committed to continuing to work with the participants of the current Community Members Committee to build and affirm pathways for continued program opportunities that engage their participants in the life of Hart House, either through the Hart House Clubs model or through an affiliated programs model. Any decision around the creation of a club to continue the programmatic traditions of the group will come to the Hart House Board of Stewards at a future meeting for a vote, as consistent with all Hart House clubs.

TO: Hart House Board of Stewards  
FROM: Shanti Dhoré and Rianne Matthias  
FOR: Meeting of April 3, 2025  
AGENDA ITEM: 4c

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**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Amendments to the Hart House Constitution.

**SPONSOR:** Warden David Kim

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

The composition of the Hart House Board of Stewards is constitutionally mandated by Section III.9 a-m of the Constitution of Hart House.

Section III.19 of the Constitutions lists the recognized Standing Committees of Hart House.

Section III.21 of the Constitution of Hart House states that “The Board of Stewards upon the approval of two thirds of members present at any meeting, may recommend an amendment to the Constitution of the Board of Stewards of Hart House, to the Governing Council of the University. At least 14 days’ notice shall be given to the Board of Stewards of any proposed amendment.”

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

Motion 4c amends the constitution of Hart House to reflect Motion 4b approval of the recommendation to abolish the Hart House Community Members Standing Committee. The Hart House Constitution was last amended April 22, 2021.

**ACTION SOUGHT:**

*Be it resolved that the Board of Stewards amend sec III.9 and sec III.19 of the Constitution of Hart House to read as follows:*

The following shall be members of the Board of Stewards:

- a) The President of the University (ex officio) or his or her designate
- b) The Warden of Hart House, (ex officio)
- c) An appointee of the Governing Council
- d) Three appointees of the President of the University, one of whom is an Alumni of the University of Toronto.
- e) An appointee of the Association of Part Time Undergraduate Students
- f) An appointee of the Graduate Students’ Union

- g) An appointee of the Students' Administrative Council (operating as the University of Toronto Students' Union)
- h) The Student Stewards (ex-officio) of the Hart House Student Art Committee, Hart House Student Debates and Dialogue Committee, Hart House Student Farm Committee, Hart House Finance Committee, Hart House Student Literary and Library Committee, Hart House Student Music Committee, Hart House Recreational Athletics and Wellness Committee, Hart House Student Social Justice Committee, and Hart House Student Theatre Committee, and any other Standing Committees as may be constituted by the Board of Stewards (to be elected by and from the membership of their respective committees)
- i) A student representative of the University of Toronto Scarborough Students' Union
- j) A student representative from the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union
- k) A Community Member (to be elected by and from the non-student members of Hart House)

Section III.19 The Board of Stewards may appoint Standing Committees for areas including but not limited to Art, Debates and Dialogue, Farm, Finance, Literary and Library, Music, Recreational Athletics and Wellness, Social Justice, and Theatre. The Board may also abolish Standing Committees.

### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

This motion resolves the governance issues raised at the outset of the Community Members Committee review, while also providing for the continuation of an Alumni position on the Board of Stewards in alignment with Hart House and University of Toronto governance frameworks.

The selection of the Presidential Appointee, Alumni will be administered by the following framework:

1. Creation of Selection Committee
  - A deputized sub-committee will be formed through a motion at the Board of Stewards (BoS), comprising the Warden, Chair, and 3 stewards.
2. Eligibility Criteria For Appointee
  - Must be a U of T graduate.
  - Minimum of 2 years of demonstrated involvement with Hart House.
  - In good standing (i.e., no outstanding financial obligations to Hart House or U of T; no disciplinary concerns).
3. Nomination & Review Process
  - A public call for nominations will be issued via the Hart House Newsletter and posted on the Hart House website.
  - Individuals may self-nominate or be nominated by others.

- The sub-committee will review nominees based on the established criteria and invite shortlisted candidates for an interview or discussion before making a final decision that will be presented to the Board of Stewards.

#### 4. Term & Renewal

- The initial term will be two years, with the possibility of one-year renewals, up to a maximum of four years.
- Renewal will be reviewed by the Chair of the BOS in consultation with the Warden and other Board members based on the following criteria:
  - Active Engagement – Continued meaningful participation in board meetings, committees, and Hart House initiatives.
  - Contributions & Support – Demonstrated contributions and support to Hart House's mission, programs, and governance.
  - Attendance & Commitment – Consistent attendance at meetings and fulfillment of Board responsibilities.
  - Upholding Values & Conduct – Maintains good standing with Hart House and U of T, adhering to conduct that aligns with institutional values and policy.

This motion also moves the Community Members position currently embedded within the Recreational Athletics and Wellness Committee, outside of the Committee, as per the recommendation of the Recreational Athletics and Wellness Committee.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

N/A

#### **FUTURE ACTION NEEDED:**

If approved by the Board of Stewards, the Amendment of the Constitution of Hart House will need to be brought forward to the University Affairs Board for approval and to the Governing Council of the University of Toronto for information.

Upon approval of the amended Constitution, the process for appointment of a Presidential Appointee, Alumni will be initiated.