



TO: Election Procedures Committee

J. Shin Doi, Chair  
S. Rychlo, TMAPS Representative  
S. El Tawil, Staff Representative  
M. Jordan, Alumni Representative  
J. MacInnis, Committee Secretary  
M. Gerges, TSU Representative

FROM: Colleen Dempsey, Returning Officer

DATE: November 4, 2022

RE: Future of Student Wellbeing Referendum

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The Office of the Vice Provost Students (“OVPS”) at Toronto Metropolitan University (the “University”) received approval from the Board of Governors to hold a referendum among undergraduate and graduate students, asking for their support of an expanded health and wellbeing levy.

**BACKGROUND**

On September 28<sup>th</sup> the Board of Governors of the University approved the holding of a referendum among all full and part-time undergraduate and graduate students in degree programs to raise the existing health and wellness fee by a per-term amount of up to Thirty-Four Dollars and Ninety Cents (\$34.90) for the fall and winter terms to support a vital expansion of student and community health and wellbeing services and supports including the possible capital and construction costs of a brand new student wellbeing centre at the heart of campus, should the project be approved by the Board at a future date.

**THE REFERENDUM QUESTION**

***Do you agree to raise the health and wellbeing fee by an amount up to \$34.90 for each of the fall and winter terms (pro-rated for part-time students) to fund expanded health and wellbeing initiatives (such as additional counselling, health***

***supports, and new facilities) at Toronto Metropolitan University, to be paid by all students enrolled in Toronto Metropolitan University undergraduate and graduate degree programs starting in September 2023, and indexed annually to the Toronto Consumer Price Index?***

The referendum took place from October 3, 2022 to November 3, 2022 with voting from November 1, 2022 to November 3, 2022.

**THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTRONIC VOTE ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

<b>Students Eligible to Vote</b>	<b>46,005</b>
<b>Ballots Submitted:</b>	<b>3,908</b>
<b>Votes Cast:</b>	<b>3,865</b>
<b>YES Vote:</b>	<b>2,218</b>
<b>NO Vote:</b>	<b>1,647</b>
<b>Declined to Vote:</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Participation Rate:</b>	<b>8.5%</b>

**SUMMARY**

According to the University's Referendum Policy there is no minimum quorum (voter turnout) required to validate a referendum and there must be a 50% + 1 vote threshold to determine the outcome. As the above results demonstrate, the Referendum question was successful.

Therefore, based on the applicable policy and the results of the referendum, it has been determined that a sufficient number of students agreed to an increase in the health and wellbeing fee by an amount up to \$34.90 for each of the fall and winter terms (pro-rated for part-time students) to fund expanded health and wellbeing initiatives at Toronto Metropolitan University, to be paid by all students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate degree programs starting in September 2023, and indexed annually to the Toronto Consumer Price Index.