



Minister

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January 26, 2007

MISM Group Inc.
Suite 211, Minto Business Centre
440 Laurier Avenue
Ottawa, ON K1R 7X6

Attention: Dr. M.S. S. ElNamaki

Dear Dr. ElNamaki:

I am writing with respect to the application submitted by the Montreal Institute for Strategic Management to offer an International Executive Master in Business Administration program in Ontario. As you know, pursuant to the *Post-secondary Education Choice and Excellence Act, 2000* (the Act), I referred your application to the Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board.

After due consideration of the board's recommendation, I have determined that I am not prepared to grant consent at this time to the Montreal Institute for Strategic Management to offer an International Executive Master in Business Administration program in Ontario. According to section 5(4) of the Act, this decision is final and cannot be appealed.

The board reviewed the application in accordance with the relevant standards in its *Handbook for Private Organizations, April 2004*. The board's recommendation was based on:

- the applicant's submission,
- the findings of the Organizational Review Committee appointed by the board to assess this program against the board's standards and benchmarks for the operation of a degree-granting organization, and
- the board's assessment of the information.

The board concluded that the proposed program does not meet several of its standards for the following reasons:

- Administrative Capacity: The applicant did not demonstrate organizational readiness in terms of staffing and positions to administer a degree program.
- Ethical Conduct: The applicant did not provide an acceptable statement by the governing board of the ethical standards relating to fair and honest business practices that will guide its conduct in the course of operations in Ontario and in other jurisdictions.
- Academic Freedom and Integrity: The applicant did not provide a policy concerning research standards.
- Financial Stability: The financial projections and the five-year plan did not provide sufficient information to make a reasonable assessment of the financial health and stability of the applicant's organization.
- Dispute Resolution: The application lacked any descriptive, functional reference to the individuals or processes required.

Should the organization wish to reapply for consent at some time in the future, you may wish to work with the board to further understand its requirements.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Christopher Bentley in black ink.

Christopher Bentley
Minister