

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

Friday, March 19, 2021

ZOOM Videoconference Only

11:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Present: G. Payne, D. Coxson, P. Sanborn, A. Beswick, A. Ekman (CHAIR), J. McKay, M. Reed, A. Robinson (VICE-CHAIR), G. Stewart, C. Wishart, F. Khan, J. Henley

Regrets: G. Staats

Guest: Christopher Thomas, Senior Manager, Office of the Auditor General of British Columbia

Administration: M. Dale (Interim Provost & Vice-President Academic), Rahim Somani (Vice-President Finance and Administration), K. Lewis (Acting Vice-President Research and Innovation), C. Smith (Associate Vice-President Financial Services), S. Hoff (Governance Officer – Recording)

Regrets: T. Tribe (Vice-President University Advancement)

The meeting commenced at 11:50 am.

1. Chair's Remarks

Correspondence Received – no correspondence received.

The Chair welcomed everyone and acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh.

The Chair acknowledged that this is the last meeting for Undergraduate student, Garfield Staats and Graduate student, Furqana Khan and thanked them for their service and contributions to the Board. There will be an Election held for the Undergraduate and Graduate Student positions on March 30 and 31. The successful candidates terms begin April 1, 2021.

The Chair called for any declarations of conflict with items on the Public Agenda. No conflicts were noted.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: 2021BP03.19.01 (J. Henley / A. Beswick)

That, the Agenda for the Public Session of the March 19, 2021 meeting of the Board of Governors be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. **Approval of Minutes**

a. **Public Session Minutes of January 29, 2021**

MOTION: 2021BP03.19.02 (G. Payne / A. Robinson)
That, the Public Session Minutes of the January 29, 2021 meeting of the Board of Governors be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. **Business Arising from Previous Public Session Minutes**

None

5. **Budget 2021/22: Assumptions and Analysis** – R. Somani **(Discussion 73 minutes)**

The Vice-President, Finance and Administration delivered a presentation on the Budget 2021/22: Assumptions and Analysis. A discussion followed.

The Board Chair reported that in the Closed Session the Board was presented with a tentative agreement between the University of Northern British Columbia and the University of Northern British Columbia Faculty Association. The Board Chair advised that on the recommendation of management, the Board has ratified the tentative agreement.

6. **Motions for Approval**

a. **2021/2022 Consolidated Budget** – R. Somani **(Discussion 2 minutes)**

Materials were reviewed.

MOTION: 2021BP03.19.03 (A. Beswick / C. Wishart)
That, on the recommendation of the Finance and Investment Committee, the Board of Governors approves the 2021/22 Consolidated Budget as presented.

CARRIED

b. **2021/22 Tuition Fees (Discussion 2 minutes)**

Reviewed and discussed.

MOTION: 2021BP03.19.04 (A. Beswick / D. Coxson)
That, on the recommendation of the Finance and Investment Committee, the Board of Governors approves the increase to tuition fees effective 2021/22 as recommended at the January 29th, 2021 Board of Governors meeting with a condition that students will be given a rebate in 2021/22 equivalent to the amount of the tuition fee increase.

CARRIED

c. **2020/2021 Consolidated Budget for Financial Statement Presentation** – R. Somani **(Discussion 1 minute)**

Materials received.

MOTION: 2021BP03.19.05 (A. Beswick / A. Robinson)
That, on the recommendation of the Finance and Investment Committee, the Board of Governors approves the 2020/2021 Consolidated Budget for Financial Statement Presentation for the University of Northern British Columbia, as presented.

CARRIED

d. **2021/2022 Mandate Letter** – Approval – A. Ekman (**Discussion 1 minute**)

The Board Chair suggested that as the University hasn't received the 2021/2022 Mandate Letter that the Board delegate the authority to the Executive Committee to authorize the Board Chair to sign it on behalf of the Board.

MOTION: 2021BP03.19.06 (M. Reed / A. Robinson)

That, the Board of Governors delegates authority to the Executive Committee to authorize the Board Chair to sign the 2021/2022 Mandate Letter on behalf of the Board.

CARRIED

e. **Agreements, Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards** – M. Dale (**Discussion 1 minute**)

Meeting package was received.

MOTION: 2021BP03.19.07 (A. Beswick / G. Payne)

That, on the recommendation of the Finance and Investment Committee, the Board of Governors approves the agreements, scholarships, bursaries and awards as recommended and approved by the UNBC Senate, for the period January 2021 to February 2021, as presented.

CARRIED

7. **Mandatory and Standing Reports - Public Session**

a. **Report of the Interim President – G. Payne (Discussion 6 minutes)**

- Regular Report
Written report received.
- Senate Update (verbal)
 - Regular Senate and Senate committee meetings were held via Zoom in November, January and February.
 - A Special Meeting of Senate was called in December to consider the exceptional delay to the start of the January 2021 Academic Term and adjustments to the 2021 Semester Dates.
 - A Special Meeting of Senate – Closed Session was called earlier this week for a presentation on the 2021-22 budget.
 - Senate continues its usual business of course revisions, approvals and other calendar updates. Some motions of note, include:
 - approval of the Indigenous artwork commission proposal submitted to the University by Mr. Simon Daniel James of Kolus Arts (on behalf of Simon Daniel James and Simon Dick)
 - approval of the Academic Scheduling Principles
 - changes to the exam period for the 2021 Winter session and changes to dates for the remaining academic year
 - Senate approved two Honorary Degrees recipients and two candidates for the title of Professor Emeritus.

(i) **Quarterly Public Reports of the Vice-Presidents, written (Discussion 5 minutes)**

- Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic – M. Dale
Written report received.
- Vice-President, Finance and Administration – R. Somani
Written report received.
- Acting Vice-President, Research and Innovation – K. Lewis
Written report received.
The Acting Vice-President, Research and Innovation provided an overview of the Office of Research and Innovation's portfolio, that included a summary of the role of the Research Ethics Board and its report.

b. Reports of Committees: (Discussion 2 minutes)

- (i) Audit and Risk Committee – G. Stewart, Chair
The Committee Chair advised that he had a number of conversations with Christopher Thomas, Senior Manager, Office of the Auditor General of British Columbia, the President and the Vice-President Administration and Finance to discuss planning and the roles of this Committee. The Committee will be meeting on March 26, 2021 to review the Audit Plan and Schedule.
- (ii) Executive Committee – A. Ekman, Chair
No report.
- (iii) Finance and Investment Committee – A. Beswick, Chair
The Committee Chair reported that the Finance and Investment Committee received Quarterly Reports, including General Operating Fund Report to December 31, 2020, Year to Date Financial Report to December 31, 2020 and Third Quarter Forecast.

8. Other Business

- a. FIPPA – Annual Statistical Report – G. Payne **(Discussion 1 minute)**
Report received.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: 2021BP03.19.08 (C. Wishart / G. Payne)
That the Board Public Session be adjourned.

CARRIED

Adjourned at 1:35 pm.