



## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### **PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

Friday, September 17, 2021

ZOOM Videoconference Only

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

**Present:** A. Alexander, K. Bach, J. McKay, G. Payne, M. Reed, A. Robinson – VICE-CHAIR,  
G. Stewart, C. Wishart – CHAIR

**Regrets:** A. Beswick, D. Coxson, J. Henley, M. Lo, P. Sanborn

**Guests:** Mark Barnes, Director, Research and Innovation, Ann Duong, Aiden Winkel

**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)

---

The meeting commenced at 11:31 am.

1. **Acknowledgement of Territory**

The Chair acknowledged the First Nations territories on which we work.

2. **Chair's Remarks**

The Chair welcomed everyone.

The Chair reported that the Times Higher Education World University ranking for 2022 saw UNBC increase its scores in all categories, with significant increases in both the teaching and research pillars.

The Chair advised that she attended the opening of The Cedar Plank Project in the Gathering Place on the Prince George Campus on September 10, 2021.

The Chair recognized that former UNBC Chancellor Dr. Peter Bentley passed away on Monday, September 6, 2021 at the age of 91.

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

Correspondence Received – no correspondence received.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

The Chair advised that changes to the order of the Public Agenda were made to the originally published agenda due to Minister Anne Kang attending and visiting UNBC this afternoon. She also noted that M. Dale will provide a presentation on the Degree Quality Assessment Board ("DQAB") under his report.

MOTION: 2021BP09.17.01 (A. Robinson / J. McKay)  
*That, the Agenda for the Public Session of the September 17, 2021 meeting of the Board of Governors be approved as amended.*

CARRIED

4. **Approval of Minutes**

a. **Public Session Minutes of June 19, 2021**

OMNIBUS MOTION: 2021BP09.17.02 (G. Payne / M. Reed)  
*That, the Public Session Minutes of the June 19, 2021 meeting of the Board of Governors be approved as presented.*

CARRIED

b. **Public Session Minutes of July 13, 2021**

OMNIBUS MOTION: 2021BP09.17.02 (G. Payne / M. Reed)  
*That, the Public Session Minutes of the July 13, 2021 electronic meeting of the Board of Governors be approved as presented.*

CARRIED

c. **Public Session Minutes of September 3, 2021**

OMNIBUS MOTION: 2021BP09.17.02 (G. Payne / M. Reed)  
*That, the Public Session Minutes of the September 3, 2021 electronic meeting of the Board of Governors be approved as presented.*

CARRIED

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

None

6. **Presentation – Students and Research** – K. Lewis (**Discussion – 24 minutes**)

Mark Barnes, Director, Research and Innovation, Ann Duong and Aiden Winkel delivered a presentation on UNBC's Youth and Student Engagement Programs. A discussion followed.

7. **Reports of Committees and Related Motions**

(i) **Audit and Risk Committee** – G. Stewart, Chair (**Discussion – 9 minutes**)

The Committee Chair reported that the Committee met on September 16, 2021 and T. Fuson and D. Kubert delivered a presentation on the Information Technology Risk Register. The Committee received an update on the Enterprise Risk Management Framework, the risks associated with the fall semester return to campus, and an update on the University's policies and procedures project. The Committee also discussed Wildfire Risk.

- a. **Financial Information Act Report** – C. Smith / R. Somani  
Received and reviewed.

MOTION: 2021BP09.17.03 (G. Stewart / A. Robinson)  
*That, on the recommendation of the Audit and Risk Committee, the Board of Governors approves the Financial Information Act Report to March 31, 2021, as presented.*

CARRIED

(ii) **Executive Committee** – C. Wishart, Chair (**Discussion – 3 minutes**)

The Committee Chair reported that the Committee met twice as a whole over the summer and held four in-camera sessions in preparation for the presidential search and the President's annual review. The President's annual review is underway and the presidential search is launching shortly. The Committee discussed policy reviews, developed and assessed the Board matrix, worked with the Crown Agencies and Board Resources Office to advertise the eighth order in council appointment, and received an update on COVID-19. The Committee also reviewed the recommendations and priorities from the Governance review and will provide the Board with future updates.

- a. **Standardization for Vice Presidents Professional Development Funds** – G. Payne  
Received and reviewed.

MOTION: 2021BP09.17.04 (C. Wishart / G. Payne)

*That, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Board of Governors approves the proposed Standardization for Vice Presidents Professional Development Funds as submitted.*

CARRIED

(iii) **Finance and Investment Committee** – A. Beswick, Chair (**Discussion – 5 minutes**)

G. Stewart provided the Finance and Investment Committee report on behalf of A. Beswick. The Committee recommended a closed session motion to start the disposal process of two parking lots and received Quarterly Financial Reports. The Committee was also provided with the revised Human Resources organizing framework but due to time constraints that item was deferred to a future meeting.

- a. **Agreements, Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards** – M. Dale  
Meeting package was received.

MOTION: 2021BP09.17.05 (G. Stewart / M. Reed)

*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 of June 2021 to August 2021, as presented.*

CARRIED

- b. **Five Year Capital Plan** – R. Somani  
The Five Year Capital Plan was received and discussed.

MOTION: 2021BP09.17.06 (G. Stewart / A. Robinson)

*That, on the recommendation of the Finance and Investment Committee, the Board of Governors approves the 2022/23 to 2026/27 Five Year Capital Plan for the University of Northern British Columbia, as presented.*

CARRIED

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

a. **Report of the Interim President – G. Payne (Discussion – 13 minutes)**

- Regular Report  
Written report received.
- COVID-19 – Update (verbal)
  - The Interim President provided an update on COVID-19 including the return to campus, the September 2, 2021 Town Hall, the mandatory mask mandate, pop-up vaccination clinics, and vaccination passports in mandated areas including student residences, the Thirsty Moose and the Northern Sports Centre.

- Senate Update (verbal)
  - Regular Senate meetings were held via Zoom in June and August.
  - Senate has received notice of motions regarding the Structure and Governance documents for each of the five (5) Faculties.
  - Senate continues to review the recommendations from the Ad Hoc Governance Review Committee.
  - Senate approved changes to the UNBC academic dates to include the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.
  - Senate received presentations from the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology (CTLT) and the Chair of the Board of Governors.

**b. Public Reports of the Vice-Presidents, written (Discussion – 9 minutes)**

- Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic – M. Dale  
Written report received.  
The Provost and Vice-President Academic delivered a presentation on the Degree Quality Assessment Board.
- 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 update on staffing changes in the Office of Research and Innovation.

**9. Board Motions**

**a. President Search Committee Process – C. Wishart (Discussion – 2 minutes)**

C. Wishart reported that Senate and the Board have approved the interim changes to the Search Committee composition for the President and Vice-Chancellor. The interim selection procedures have been revised to include five faculty members, one from each faculty, and one representative from CUPE and one Exempt staff member. The Board has committed to review and update the policy over the next year.

MOTION: 2021BP09.17.07 (C. Wishart / A. Robinson)

*That, the Board of Governors requests to the search committee that the final short-listed candidate(s) will make public presentation(s) to the university community with subsequent opportunities for feedback from the university community to the search committee.*

CARRIED

**b. Memorandum of Understanding – UNBC and University of Central Asia – M. Dale (Discussion – 5 minutes)**

Materials reviewed and discussed.

MOTION: 2021BP09.17.08 (M. Reed / G. Payne)

*That, the Board of Governors approves the Memorandum of Understanding between University of Northern British Columbia and University of Central Asia, as recommended and approved by the UNBC Senate.*

CARRIED

**c. Changes to the Master of Education Degree Program – Multidisciplinary Leadership Specialization and Special Education Specialization – M. Dale (Discussion – 4 minutes)**

M. Dale, Dr. Tina Fraser, Acting Chair, School of Education and First Nations Studies, and Dr. Catherine Whalen, Professor School of Education, reviewed the changes to the Master of Education Degree Program – Multidisciplinary Leadership Specialization and Special Education Specialization. A discussion followed.

MOTION: 2021BP09.17.09 (A. Robinson / M. Reed)

*That, the Board of Governors approves the changes to UNBC's Master of Education Multidisciplinary Leadership Specialization and Master of Education Special Education Specialization.*

CARRIED

10. **Other Business**

a. **Chancellor Search – Letter from the President – G. Payne (Discussion – 1 minute)**

The President advised that pursuant to the Chancellor Nomination, Selection and Appointment Procedures the President sent notification to the Senate, the Alumni Council, Undergraduate and Graduate Student Societies and the Board to initiate the process to begin the search for the University's next Chancellor.

b. **Schedule of Upcoming UNBC Events (Discussion – 1 minute)**

C. Wishart advised that in the future we will be listing upcoming University events.

11. **Adjournment**

MOTION: 2021BC09.17.10 (G. Stewart / M. Reed)

*That the Board Public Session be adjourned.*

CARRIED

Adjourned at 12:54 pm.