



**Minutes for the Board Meeting of the
Lethbridge College Board of Governors
Held on Tuesday, October 29, 2019 in
CE2341, the College Boardroom**

Board of Governors

In Attendance

1. Brenda Brindle
2. Paula Burns, President and CEO
3. Kristine Cassie, Interim Board Co-Chair
4. Jennifer Davis
5. Elaine Dixson
6. Jamie Fisher
7. Terri Ann Fitz-Gibson
8. Michael Marcotte
9. Jesse Poriz
10. Tracy Zappone

Regrets

Travis Plaited Hair

Guests

Frederico Marouelli

MANAGEMENT:

Simon Griffiths, Vice President Corporate Services and CFO

Samantha Lenci, Provost and Vice President Academic

Coreen Roth, Vice President People and Planning

Kristen DeMone, Senior Executive Assistant and Board Secretary (recording secretary)

1.0 Call to Order

Michael Marcotte called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Michael acknowledged that everyone was gathered on the traditional territory of the Blackfoot confederacy. He noted that quorum requirements were met.

Michael welcomed Frederico Marouelli, the new student representative to the Board of Governors. He noted that the ministerial order had not yet been received and as such, Frederico was attending the meeting as a guest. Round table introductions took place.

2.0 Consent Agenda

2.1 Approval of the Agenda for October 29, 2019

2.2 Approval of the Draft Minutes of June 11, 2019

Michael asked if there were any questions. None arose.

MOVED by Terri Ann Fitz-Gibson and seconded by Kristine Cassie **THAT**, the Board of Governors approves the consent agenda for the October 29, 2019 meeting.

MOTION: CARRIED

3.0 Conflict of Interest Declarations

No conflicts or perceived conflicts of interest were declared.

4.0 Association Reports

4.1 LCSA Report

4.2 LCFA Report

4.3 AUPE Report

Michael thanked each of the association/union leaders for their reports. He asked if there were any questions. None arose.

5.0 Executive Leadership Team

5.1 President and CEO Report

Paula highlighted her report as circulated in attachment 5.1. She discussed the recent Strategic Framework engagement sessions occurring with the internal college community. Paula provided an update on the President's Indigenous Advisory Council and discussed the important relationships that exist between the college and members of the indigenous community.

Brenda commended Paula and her team for the advocacy work occurring with numerous government ministries. Paula shared that MLA Neudorf has done an excellent job of bringing cabinet ministers to Lethbridge and ensuring the college's presence at these meetings.

6.0 Committee Reports

6.1 Academic Council

6.1.1 Pathway to English and Academic Culture Program

Paula read the motion put forward by Academic Council and asked Sam to discuss the proposed changes to the Pathway to English and Academic Culture Program. Samantha provided background information on the program and spoke to the credit changes, sharing that it will allow for additional pathways for international students. Discussion ensued.

MOVED by Paula Burns and seconded by Kristine Cassie **THAT**, the Board of Governors approve the addition of three General Studies courses to the Pathway to English and Academic Culture program, resulting in a credit increase, and recommend approval to Alberta Advanced Education, effective July 1, 2020.

MOTION: CARRIED

6.2 Governance and Human Resources Committee (GHRC)

6.2.1 Committee Membership

Tracy provided a report to the board on the work of the Governance and Human Resources Committee. She provided details on the most recent committee meetings.

Tracy discussed committee membership for all board committees, sharing that each board member is required to participate on a committee.

MOVED by Tracy Zappone and seconded by Brenda Brindle **THAT**, the Board of Governors approve the addition of student representative Jesse Poriz to the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee.

MOTION: CARRIED

6.3 Finance, Audit and Risk (FAR) Committee

6.3.1 Annual Financial Statements 2019-2019

Kristine provided a brief report on the October Finance, Audit and Risk Committee meeting, sharing that the Auditor General was present to review the audited annual

financial statements.

Kristine invited Simon Griffiths to share a presentation on the annual financial statements.

Simon discussed background information on the audit process. His presentation provided a high-level overview of the audited financial statements. Discussion ensued.

MOVED by Kristine Cassie and seconded by Jennifer Davis **THAT**, the Board of Governors approve the financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2019 as presented in attachment 6.3.1.

MOTION: CARRIED

6.4 External Relations Committee

Elaine provided an update on the October meeting of the External Relations Committee. She shared that the committee is focusing on strategic communications and the committee's work plan for the coming year.

7.0 Freedom of Expression

Paula provided background information on the Freedom of Expression statement put forward for adoption. She highlighted the correspondence from the Minister of Advanced Education mandating Board of Governors of Post-secondary institutions to demonstrate their commitment to principles of the Chicago Statement on free speech. Paula discussed conversations had by the Council of Post-secondary Presidents of Alberta (COPPOA) regarding the mandate.

MOVED by Paula Burns and seconded by Tracy Zappone **THAT**, the Board of Governors adopt the Freedom of Expression statement, effective immediately upon confirmation of the Minister of Advanced Education's approval.

MOTION: CARRIED

8.0 Strategic Discussion – Blue Ribbon Panel Report, Provincial Budget

Paula spoke about the need for strategic discussions for the board to remain forward thinking. Paula provided background information on the MacKinnon Report on Alberta's Finances and the provincial budget tabled on October 24, 2019.

She discussed the impact the budget will have on Lethbridge College. She shared that the board is expected to provide an impact statement to the Minister of Alberta that will demonstrate how the college will balance its budget for 2019-2020. Paula discussed the steps management is taking to adjust its budget.

Questions arose regarding the impact statement that is expected of the board. Paula shared that she believes the Government is looking for assurance that institutions can balance their budgets with adjustments made to government funding. Further discussion related to what to include in the impact statement.

The board discussed funding changes in other ministries that may also affect the college or provide opportunities for the college, specifically focusing on research and agriculture.

There was discussion regarding performance measures and what may be put in place. Paula spoke about the need for the system to be prepared on what it would like the outcomes to be.

There was also discussion about the potential changes to tuition. Paula shared that the college has a relatively complex tuition structure in place and that management will need to look at impacts to the college and students before any decisions are made on tuition.

Further discussion ensued, focusing on the provincial budget's impact to students.

Paula spoke about the Strategic Framework engagement sessions and the question asked to internal employees, what more can Lethbridge College do. She shared that the current environment is an opportunity to explore the current model and see if there are other areas the college can expand into. She provided an example that was given during one of the sessions regarding gap year programming.

9.0 Information

9.1 Ministerial Order – Student Representative Jesse Poriz

9.2 Letter from the Office of the Ethics Commissioner – Gifts from Lobbyists to Board Members and Employees

9.3 Letter from Minister Nicolaidis – Principles of Free Expression

9.4 Letter from Minister Nicolaidis – Response to 2019-2022 Comprehensive Institutional Plan

9.5 Letter from Minister Nicolaidis – Response to CCC Presidents

9.6 Order in Council – Appointment of Board Chair Michael Marcotte

Michael asked if there were any questions. Brenda asked a question regarding item 9.3. Paula discussed the new process in place.

No further questions arose.

10.0 Other

No other business arose.

11.0 Adjournment

MOVED by Michael Marcotte and seconded by Jesse Poriz **THAT**, the Board of Governors adjourns its public meeting of October 29, 2019 at 6:21 p.m. **MOTION: CARRIED**