



BOARD OF GOVERNORS' MINUTES
Cranbrook Campus
Thursday October 8, 2015
Public Session 4

Jim	Abbott	Appointed member
Glen	Campbell	Appointed member
Dave	Handy	Appointed member
Darryl	Hyde	Appointed member
Steen	Jorgensen	Appointed member
Jesse	Nicholas	Appointed member
Gloria	Perry	Appointed member
Wilda	Schab	Appointed member – Chair
Krys	Sikora	Appointed member
Cindy	Yates	Appointed member
Avery	Hulbert	Chair – EdCo
Mary	Davies	Elected CUPE
Betty	Mosher	Elected Faculty
David	Walls	President & CEO
Stan	Chung	Vice President, Education & Applied Research
Dianne	Teslak	Vice President, Finance
Sheila	McDonald	Executive Director, Human Resources
Pat	Bowron	Executive Director, International and Regional Development
Susan	Woods	Executive Assistant to the Board

* Highlighted indicates NOT in Attendance

3.1 Welcome and Call to Order

The Public Session of the Board was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair, Wilda Schab. Wilda welcomed members of the public to the session.

3.2 Order of Business

Agenda approved as presented

3.3 Confirmation of Minutes: September 8, 2015

MOTION to accept the minutes as amended
MOTION by Cindy, seconded by Glen, carried

3.4 Finance:

Cindy reported that both the Status Report and Q2 Report were approved at both the Finance and Private Sessions.

3.5 Monitoring Report:

Nothing to report

3.6 Unfinished General Business:

Nothing to report

3.7 Business Arising and/or New Business:

a. 2012 – 2013 to 2015-2016 Tuition Fees & Mandatory Fees

Dianne shared the 2012–2013 & 2015-2016 Tuition Fees and Mandatory Fee reports that show the level of tuition for various institutions across the province.

3.8 Correspondence:

Nothing to report

3.9 Items Brought Forward from the Private Agenda;

a. Indigenous Protocol Agreement

The Indigenous Education Protocol Agreement was signed in July between the Ktunaxa, Shuswap, and Metis Nations and the College of the Rockies. This agreement is part of the CICan mandate in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Reports: Calls to Action and is a strong move forward in the process of reconciliation.

b. Board Retreat

Board Members will be attending a retreat in Fernie on November 4, 5 & 6th involving professional development, meetings and a community consultation. We rotate the retreat between all of the communities that we serve.

c. 40th Anniversary Celebration

The College's 40th Anniversary celebration will be held on February 2nd in conjunction with the Open house with an expanded and themed format.

d. Domestic ABE and ELT Tuition Fees

A motion was passed by the Board of Governors in the Private Session for the implementation of tuition fees for ABE, Directed Studies and ELP courses to take effect January of 2016.

3.10 Linkage to Ownership:

a. Chair's Report

Wilda reported that the past month she has been communicating with various members of the Board and attended the Executive and Governance committee meeting.

b. President's Council Reports

Written reports submitted

President and CEO, David Walls

David will be going to Beijing October 18 -28 with a CICan led group of four Canadian college presidents (NAIT, Centennial, CNC, COTR) to negotiate the establishment of bilateral agreements for joint programming (2+1 and 3+1) between Chinese and Canadian colleges.

David attended the October 2nd media announcement of \$700,000 of Community and Employer Partnership funding for COTR provided by the Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation. The funding is for two 17 week Forestry Skills programs for entry

level workers involving a total of 24 student participants. Bill Bennett was originally scheduled to attend, but was unable to do so.

Members of the Board and President's Council recently attended the COTR Fun Golf tournament where Glen won men's longest drive. Mary was on the tough luck team and Jesse volunteered for one of the activities.

Vice President Academic and Applied Research, Stan Chung

Stan shared information on a number of agreements in principle that he is currently working on with UVIC in regards to having fourth year nursing available in Cranbrook, forming a dual admissions agreement and creating a guaranteed admission agreement for COTR students that would go beyond block transfer agreements. Having these agreements in place would provide access to 200 programs that were not available previously.

We will be signing an applied research agreement which will allow UVIC Applied Researches to come here.

Vice President Finance and Corporate Services, Dianne Teslak

The College recently migrated to SQL technology for Finance, HR, and Payroll which will help to streamline processes. The Finance Department is busy preparing for mid-year planning cycle and budget planning for the next fiscal year. They are focusing on customer services, internal and external and have developed a *How To* information section on their website. Dianne was one of the members on the winning team at the COTR Fun Golf Tournament.

Executive Director International & Regional Development, Pat Bowron

Pat shared that we are up 15% for the fall semester for enrolled International Students with 1/3 of these students in ELP programs with the others enrolled in University Studies and Business courses. Pat also shared details of the Forestry Upgrading program that is currently underway.

Executive Director Human Resources and College Relations, Sheila McDonald

Sheila was unable to attend today and has provided a written report.

c. EdCo Report

Written report submitted

Avery reported that Jason Colombo has been promoted to a management position so there is a vacancy for his position on EdCo. Karen Langan will be acting Vice Chair until elections are held later in October. EdCo has two new members; Joan Kaun for faculty and Lois Murray for staff along with returning members Avery Hulbert, Sharon Richardson, Sandi Lavery, Karen Langan and Leslie Molnar. Avery would like to acknowledge David Dyck who has stepped down to allow others the opportunity.

CASC (Curriculum & Articulation Standing Committee) is currently updating student affairs policies which will then go to EdCo for approval.

Avery shared that the Scholarship & Awards Committee awarded \$21,000 in entrance awards over the summer and are currently adjudication 30 COTR/SIDIT Trades and Technology applications.

3.11 Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

None identified

3.12 Information and Good of the Institution:

- a. Dianne shared that we recently received information regarding FTE accomplishments for academic courses and we are #1 when compared to the other small colleges in BC.
- b. Avery reported that we had our first COTR Pub night hosted by Corporate Services. The next one will be hosted by the Academic division.

3.13 Questions from the Public regarding any Agenda item:

Leslie Molnar, CORFA President, thanked everyone who came out from the public to offer their support and asked to make some brief remarks before questions from the public.

Leslie expressed her understanding of the financial constraints that the institution is facing but also voiced concerns about the recent decisions and cuts that have been made by the Government. She has concerns that the new tuition will put up roadblocks to education for already marginalized students.

Questions from the public:

1. How do the approved fees compare to those of other institutions

David thanked everyone for coming and recognized their passion and commitment to the needs of their students. He indicated that we have done a careful analysis of what other institutes are charging and have chosen to tie our fees to those of our current University Studies courses. We do not want to use this as a method to overcharge students but just to recover what we will be short from the grant. From our perspective we are looking at a cost recovery model.

2. The AUG grant is available to some students. How will COTR assist the students in filling out the 8 page application?

David indicated that we are currently working on a process to ensure student support. In the interim we will be directing students to our Financial Aide officer's desk for assistance.

3. Could you please provide information on the proposed Completion Award.

David explained that we are currently looking at implementing a completion grant to encourage students to complete their course/s. This completion grant would be used towards further education.

4. Is the College supporting the Government in the discontinuation of this funding?

David has expressed his concerns to government about the implementation of tuition and the impacts on students and institutions. As a result of his and others concerns the Government did increase the funding available through the AUG and subsidized us and other institutions for one year to help facilitate the transition. This change has provided us with some opportunities to rework the current model and services that we can provide to ensure student success.

5. Is there an expectation for further funding?

Our grant has been reduced by \$230,000 with no expectation of them reinstating it.

6. Expressed that the tuition will be a barrier for some of our students. These students also feed some of our University Study programs. Is the college looking towards staff reductions?

David expressed that we are not thinking about faculty layoffs. We are concentrating on building enrolments and improving services to support continued enrollment and improved completion rates. We are not anticipating any layoff at this time.

**3.14 Adjournment
MOTION to Adjourn, Krys**

DRAFT