

Board of Governors – Regular Meeting

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Nova Scotia Community College's Board of Governors, held on April 24, 2025 virtually via Microsoft Teams.

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Jackie Poirier (Chair)
Krista Jangaard (Vice Chair)
Donna Bonner
Jason Crowell
Lisa Donovan
Andrea Glenen
Arthur Kidston
Angélique LeBlanc
Diane MacConnell-Cameron
Sara Napier
Damilola Oluyemi
Michael Peters
Gerry Post
Nicole Robinson
Kathleen Yurchesyn

Also Present:

Don Bureaux, President
Anna Burke, VP, College Services & Strategy
Erin Elliott, Executive Assistant to the President
Lynn Hartwell, VP, Campuses & Communities
Andrew Lafford, VP, Academic
Christabell Pinchin, Secretary, Board of Governors
Jill Provoe, VP, Equity & International

Kevin Cowper, Core Services Administrator
Jamus Dorey, Senior Advisor, Persons with Disabilities & 2SLGBQ+
Sara Hall, Dean, School of Trades & Transportation
Ashley Power, Executive Director, NSCC Foundation
Kate Snyder, Director, Office of Learning and Transformation
Jeff Taylor, AVP, Research, Innovation & Workforce Development
Sheri Williams, Senior Manager of Entrepreneurship

Regrets:

Hira Bari
Lee Erickson
Andy Knowles
Kevin McCann

1. Call to Order

Quorum being present, the Chair, Jackie Poirier, called the meeting to order and reminded Governors and guests about protocols for a virtual meeting.

The Chair acknowledged that in Nova Scotia, we are all Treaty People. We recognize the land upon which we work, live and learn is the unceded territory and ancestral homeland of the Mi'kmaq Nation. Our relationship is based on a series of Peace and Friendship treaties between the Mi'kmaq Nation and the Crown, dating back to 1725. She acknowledged that NSCC recognizes African Nova Scotians as a distinct group who arrived here 400 years ago. From that time on, they have contributed to the infrastructure and economic wealth of the towns and cities they helped to build, but from which they could not benefit.

She reminded Governors that we act in the best interest of the College, we demonstrate good judgement and act in an ethical manner, maintain confidentiality and comply with the Board's By-Laws and policies. She noted we encourage diverse conversation but leave with one voice.

2. Affirmation of Absence of Conflict

Governors affirmed the absence of conflict of interest in the business coming before the Board.

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3. Consent Agenda

It was moved by Diane MacConnell-Cameron / Andrea Glenen

That the Board of Governors approve the consent agenda for the April 24, 2025 meeting as presented. (Agenda, Minutes, February 20, 2025, Governance Committee Terms of Reference, Occupational Health & Safety Policy, Sustainability Policy, and Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form)

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

4. President's Update

Don Bureaux provided an update at the meeting and referenced his written report that was included with meeting materials. He spoke about:

- CICan Leadership Summit. Don shared that he is in Ottawa attending the Summit which includes Presidents and Senior Leaders in post-secondary from across Canada to discuss the Geopolitical climate.
- Dalhousie Senior Leaders' Dinner. Don shared that senior leaders from both Dalhousie University and NSCC had a dinner together to discuss collaboration and access.
- Enrolment. Don provided a brief enrolment update noting that the enrolment is at 94% of target compared to 75% of target at this time last year.
- Cyber Security Exercise. Don spoke about the recent cyber security tabletop exercise attended by several key individuals at NSCC led by an outside firm. Don noted that the facilitators will work with Derek McCurdy, Chief Information Officer, post-simulation to review the findings and outcomes of the exercise providing recommendations for potential actions and improvements to the College's Data Incident Management Plan and processes.
- Standing Committee on Health. Don spoke about appearing before the Nova Scotia Standing Committee on Health to respond to members' questions about Continuing Care SLTC Workforce Initiatives. Don was joined by Connie Fisher, Dean, Health & Human Services. Representatives from the Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care and representatives from two Long-Term Care facilities also attended.

5. People of NSCC – Entrepreneurship Then & Now

Sheri Williams, Senior Manager – Entrepreneurship presented on the evolution of Entrepreneurship at NSCC.

6. Move to In-Camera <<see in-camera minutes>>

It was moved by Krista Jangaard / Kathleen Yurchesyn

That the NSCC Board of Governors Meeting of April 24, 2025 move to In-Camera.

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

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7. Executive Committee Update

Foundation Update

Gerry Post provided an update on the Foundation. He shared that they have raised \$12.5M vs. \$7.3M the prior year with no active campaign. He indicated they have granted \$7.6M in awards and bursaries. He touched briefly on their work with the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency and their generous support to the NSCC Foundation. The Sydney Waterfront Campus campaign continues with \$1.3M secured in donations and \$4.3M of asks still in play. He indicated there are two new Foundation Board of Director members. Gerry concluded speaking about the first annual awards dinner that needed to be cancelled due to weather. He referenced the good work of the staff who arranged to have the 100 meals and flowers from the event packaged and distributed throughout Wolfville as a donations.

Finance, Audit & Risk Committee

Diane MacConnell-Cameron, Chair, Finance, Audit & Risk Committee provided an update on the recent committee meeting. She shared that they reviewed their workplan, held the annual private meeting with Bruce Spares, Director, Internal Audit. Foundation third quarter financial report was presented. Glenda Barrett, Chief Financial Officer presented a year-end update consistent with last time the Board met looking at a small surplus to end the year. The Director's Statutory Liabilities were reviewed as they are every meeting. Daniel Kelly, Director, Facilities & Engineering presented the On-Campus Housing Update. She briefly referenced the in-camera items handled earlier in today's meeting were also reviewed at the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee meeting.

On-Campus Housing Update

Anna Burke, Vice President College Services & Strategy presented the on-campus housing update and reference the report that was included with the meeting materials. She noted that the College is on the home stretch of the 200-bed Ivany Campus Housing project. The project is on track to be completed by June. There will be some summer housing on the main level used as a testing case over the summer months. She then provided a brief update on the other three projects noting that Cumberland will depending on the timing of the Fire Hall space. She indicated that Kingstec is furthest along with an awarded construction build partner (Iron Maple and TA Scott). She indicated that significant discussions continue on opportunities for the IT Campus housing with potential learning spaces being incorporated into the build. Lunenburg continues to be in the early stages with not much to update at this time.

Programs Committee

Sarah Hall, Dean, School of Trades & Transportation joined the meeting. Sara Napier, Chair, Programs Committee provided an update on the Programs Committee noting that the meeting earlier in the month included an enrolment update, the College's program mix and the large amount of work taking place, she indicated that Sarah Hall presented the NSCC/NSAA Joint Stewardship report. Sarah Hall then presented the NSCC/NSAA Joint Stewardship report that was included with the meeting materials to the Board for their review and consideration.

It was moved by Sara Napier / Donna Bonner

That the NSCC Board of Governors approve the 2023-2024 NSAA / NSCC Joint Stewardship Report as presented.

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

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Governance Committee

Jamus Dorey, Senior Advisor, Persons with Disabilities & 2SLGBQ+ joined the meeting. Kathleen Yurchesyn, Chair, Governance Committee provided a committee update. She noted that the committee met earlier this month and was the first meeting since 2023 due to membership/quorum issues. The committee is back on track and is set to meet again in December. She also noted that there could be an ad-hoc meeting between now and then due to policies that are related to the work of the Special Task Committee. She referenced the items included in today's consent agenda. She also noted that Mike Chapman, Manager, Infrastructure, Sustainability and Space Planning joined the meeting to present both the Sustainability and Safety annual reports that were included with meeting materials for information. She shared that the committee also received the presentation by Jamus Dorey that he is about to share with the Board.

Jamus Dorey presented the College's Accessibility Plan that was provided with meeting materials. He noted that the Nova Scotia Accessibility Act was enacted in 2017 and Nova Scotia was the third province to be legislated for Accessibility following Ontario (2005) and Manitoba (2012). Jamus referenced the three main requirements as per the Accessibility Legislation including that the College have a plan, that the plan is posted, and that it is demonstrated within the plan how the College is preventing and removing barriers for those with disabilities. Jamus spoke about the plan, the process and the work before the College on implementing the plan.

8. Other Business

Earlier in the meeting Gerry Post referenced a cancelled alumni awards event and the donation of flowers and food. Ashley Power read an email of thanks that was provided by one of the families who received the donated flowers. The family noted that their 94 year-old mother was in hospice. They shared that she loved gardening, specifically roses and that the donation of roses and carnations provided such joy in her final days. Governors thanked Ashley for sharing the message and for their teams work in ensuring those items were donated.

9. Adjourn and Move to Governors Forum

The Chair called to adjourn the meeting of April 24, 2025 and move to Governors' Forum.

It was moved by Diane MacConnell-Cameron / Krista Jangaard

That the NSCC Board of Governors regular meeting of April 24, 2025 adjourn and move to Governors' Forum.

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

Approved by Board Motion: June 19, 2025