Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the NSCC Board of Governors, held on October 24, 2019 at the IT Campus in Halifax.

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Also Present:
Bob MacEachern (Chair) Don Bureaux, President
Dima Aburub Monica Foster, CFO & VP College Services
Lore Bowers Rosalind Penfound, VP Organizational Development
Kevin Cowper Cathy MacLean, VP Campuses and Communities
Howie Doiron Christabell Pinchin, Secretary, Board of Governors
Joe Kidston Erin Elliott, Executive Assistant to the President
Jim King
John Lindsay Jill Provoe, Senior Advisor, Educational Equity
Stephen Maltby Michelle Bussey, Executive Director, NSCC Foundation
Sam McBeth Niki Toomey, Communications Specialist
Amanda Peters Jolene Pattison, Faculty
Rustum Southwell
Marlene Usher

Board Members Regrets:
Karen Churchill
Judith Ferguson
Jennifer Gogan
Jeff Ransome
Paul Tingley
John Volcko

1. Call to Order

Quorum being present, Bob MacEachern, the Chair, called the meeting to order.

The Chair welcomed the new Vice President, Campuses & Communities, Lynn Hartwell. The Chair also noted this would be the final meeting for Jennifer Gogan, Sam McBeth and Joe Kidston.

Before the meeting began, the Chair acknowledged that we are in traditional Mi’kmaq 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. In Nova Scotia we recognize that we are all Treaty people. He 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. Lastly, he noted we encourage diverse conversation but leave with one voice.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts were declared for the regular portion of the meeting.
3. Consent Agenda

The Chair reminded Governors that the Consent Agenda allows Board Members more time for items that require further explanation and discussion.

It was moved by John Lindsay / Howie Doiron

*That the Board of Governors approve the consent agenda for the October 24, 2019 meeting as presented. (Agenda; Minutes – June 27, 2019; Executive Committee Terms of Reference; Guidelines for Governors’ Forum and Dialogue; Programs Committee Terms of Reference; Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Terms of Reference; and the Banking Resolution and Addendum Update.)*

This motion was put to a vote and CARRIED.

4. Move to In-Camera <see In-Camera Minutes>

It was moved by Lore Bowers / Karen Churchill

*That the NSCC Board of Governors Meeting of October 24, 2019 move to In-Camera.*

This motion was put to a vote and CARRIED.

5. Enrolment Presentation

Anna Burke, Vice President Academic presented an in-depth Enrolment Update. She began by highlighting that September 30th is the date used across the country to have a final enrolment count used for Statistics Canada. Fall 2019, the College was offering 139 programs across 14 campuses (13 physical campuses and one online campus – eCampus). There are 294 unique combinations for students. Of the 139 programs, 5 programs were new this year to the College: Music Production and Engineering, Electro-Technical Officer, Marine Mechanical Technician, Business Fundamentals (first year program of Business Admin), and Cannabis Cultivation.

The Academic Schools were reorganized and now include: Access, Education and Language; Business and Creative Industries; Health and Human Services; Technology and Environment; and Trades and Transportation. Anna compared programs by credential and by school. She noted that the new schools were used for the enrolment update this year.

Enrolment Targets were reviewed in detail. Anna then reviewed the applicant profile. She indicated there were 19,065 unique applicants, 29,637 application choices because applicants often choose more than one program, and the College put out 12,008 offers. She noted that some high-demand programs result in waitlists and most waitlists clear in the current academic year. Approximately 27% of offerings had waitlists at September 30th. Some applicants accepted a second-choice program. 14% of offerings had multi-year waitlists (a wait of more than one year). It is worth noting that 70% of the waitlist is in 8 high-demand programs (Heavy Duty Truck and Transport, Electrical, Practical Nursing, and Med Lab, for example). The College is working closely with the Health Authority and the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency to understand how we can expand offerings in some of these programs.
On September 30, 2019 the College landed at 10,843 for an enrolment count. A number of charts were shared showing target versus actual by various factors including program, incoming students, returning students, campus, region, and school.

The latter half of the presentation included an overview of the student profile. Anna provided a breakdown by average student age. In 2015 the average age was 25. For 2019, the average age is at 26. The presentation included a breakdown of Diversity from 2015 to 2019. The Diversity breakdown included African Canadian, Indigenous, Students with Disabilities, Women in Trades and Technology and International. Anna shared details on the gender profile of students by School.

Nearing the end of the presentation Anna also provided details on international student enrolment. She noted there are 791 international students from 76 countries representing 7% of NSCC’s enrolment. Most international students are enrolled in the School of Business and Creative Industries, the smallest number of international students are enrolled in the School of Access, Education and Language. The largest number of international students are located at Ivany Campus and the lowest number reside at Cumberland Campus.

6. Foundation Update

John Lindsay provided a Foundation update and referred to the report included with the meeting materials. He noted that the major initiatives in the Foundation are not just shifting from Make Way but in fact are consolidating the gains of Make Way into a more sustainable focused structure. Committees have been set and are now up and running. Proper stewardship of new donors and gifts are important and being looked at. He also shared details on KCI and the work they are doing at assessing what part the Foundation can play on fundraising for the three new capital projects. This research will be shared with the Foundation Board of Directors in December.

7. President’s Report / Update

Don Bureaux provided a brief update to the Board. He thanked Anna Burke and her team on the work involved in reaching the enrolment targets. Don started by talking about the national election and the Minority Government. Don has had many conversations with CICan around what this will mean for post-secondary education in the country. President’s on the Hill allows for post-secondary Presidents from across the country to meet in Ottawa. Don mentioned this will be taking place in November and he is looking forward to engaging in conversations on this very topic with his peers from across the country. Don talked about the change in leadership across the Atlantic provinces for post-secondary institutions. He noted that he recently met with the new president of Mount Allison University in New Brunswick and shared that Dalhousie, StFX, and Memorial are all hiring new presidents. Don talked about Research Nova Scotia and his role on the Board. He noted that Dalhousie and NSCC have a permanent seat on their Board. They recently hired a new CEO.

Don concluded his update by asking Governors to keep him, and the College, in mind for speaking engagements around the province where we could continue to share the College’s message.
8. Committee Updates

Report to the Community:
Monica Foster, Vice President, College Services and CEO introduced Niki Toomey, Communications Advisor who led the work on the Report to the Community this year. Monica also referenced Mel Hattie and her work on the photography within the report. Niki began by thanking the team who worked on the report with her. The report is about demonstrating the tangible impact of the College on the province. The Strive brand was weaved throughout the report. She also noted that the pillars of the strategic plan and the goals of the business plan are seen throughout the report through story telling.

Niki noted that, as in the past, the report will be printed but most copies will be shared extensively online and through email. Every Mayor and Warden across the province will receive a paper copy, every MLA will receive the report electronically. There will be a robust social media approach this year that will be monitored closely. Niki expanded on each of the stories highlighted throughout the report.

Finance, Audit & Risk Committee:
Marlene Usher, Chair Finance, Audit and Risk Committee provided a meeting update and noted that there was an in-depth update by the College’s internal auditor, Bruce Spares.

It was moved by Marlene Usher / Dima Aburub

That the NSCC Board of Governors approve the First Quarter Financial Report for the period ending June 30, 2019.

This motion was put to a vote and CARRIED.

Monica Foster referred to the Capital Project’s Update report that was included with the meeting materials. She reminded Governors that the Marconi Campus relocation is separate from the capital project update. That Marconi project is 100% funded by the province. She noted the Strait Area Campus Residence in Port Hawkesbury will cost $7.5M and be 20,000 square feet resulting in a 51-bed residence expanding the reach of the Nautical Institute offerings. The Annapolis Valley Campus Residence will cost $9M and be a 27,000 square foot building housing a geospatial analytics business research centre with a 40-bed residence. She concluded with a brief overview of the Information Technology Innovation centre budgeted at $7.5M. The building will be a 19,000 square foot building focused on job creation and industry-driven problem solving and will accommodate an additional 100 students in IT programs.

Programs Committee:
Howie Doiron provided an overview of the Programs Committee. He indicated that the meeting was a light meeting. He thanked Jennifer Gogan and Joe Kidston for serving on the Programs Committee and noted it was their last meeting. The meeting included the approval of the Terms of Reference, there was an enrolment update similar to what Anna provided earlier in the meeting. Committee members were provided with an overview of the new Viewbook and Anna Burke provided an overview of the Academic restructure around the new Schools.
9. Student Governors’ Comments

Joe Kidston, Student Governor from IT Campus thanked the Board for the experience on the Board. He is grateful for his time at NSCC and on the Board. He shared that his classmate was the 1000th student hired by the provincial government as part of a graduate hiring programing offered by the province.

Sam McBeth, Student Governor from Burridge Campus thanked Governors for being so welcoming when she joined the Board. She has a higher awareness of the College and the impact on the province since serving on the Board. Sam presented Board Members with hand-made Zen gardens as a thank you.

10. Other Business

The Board Chair noted that it was the final meeting for Joe Kidston, Sam McBeth and Jennifer Gogan. He thanked Joe, Sam and Jennifer for taking on the governor role and for being involved and engaged at the meetings. Jennifer thanked Governors for their support and for the opportunity to serve on the Board. Gifts of thanks were presented to Joe, Jennifer and Sam.

11. Adjourn

The Chair called to adjourn the meeting and move to Governors’ Forum.

It was moved by Jennifer Gogan / Paul Tingley

That the NSCC Board of Governors regular meeting of October 24, 2019 adjourn and move to Governors’ Forum.

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

Approved by Board Motion: December 12, 2019