

# ***Board of Governors – Regular Meeting***

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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the NSCC Board of Governors, held on October 21, 2021 at the Institute of Technology Campus in Halifax.

## **MINUTES**

### **Board Members Present:**

Judith Ferguson (Chair)  
Howie Doiron (Vice Chair)  
Daniel Abbott  
Dima Aburub (virtual attendance)  
Lore Bowers  
Trevor Capern  
Jim King  
John Lindsay (virtual attendance)  
Diane MacConnell Cameron  
Sara Napier  
Chief Sidney Peters  
Jackie Poirier (virtual attendance)  
Jeff Ransome  
Rustum Southwell (virtual attendance)  
Marlene Usher (virtual attendance)

### **Also Present:**

Don Bureaux, President  
Monica Foster, CFO & VP College Services  
Anna Burke, VP Academic  
Lynn Hartwell, VP Campuses & Communities  
Christabell Pinchin, Secretary, Board of Governors  
Erin Elliott, Executive Assistant to the President  
  
Michelle Bussey, Executive Director, NSCC Foundation  
Janet Byrne, Director, Organizational Development  
Bruce Kelloway, HR Manager, Labour & Employee Relations  
Niki Toomey, Communications Advisor  
Kevin Cowper, Core Services Administrator  
Margaret Champion, Dean, School of Health & Human Services

### **Board Members Regrets:**

Mike Buist  
Karen Churchill  
Quentrel Provo  
Yvan Silva

## **1. Call to Order**

Quorum being present, Judith Ferguson, the Chair, called the meeting to order. She welcomed newest members Chief Sidney Peters and Diane MacConnell Cameron to the meeting. She thanked Governors for joining in person for the first time in over 18 months and welcomed those joining remotely. She asked Governors, staff and guests to introduce themselves. She noted it is the final meeting today for Yvan Silva, Lore Bowers, and Daniel Abbott.

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.

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.

## ***Board of Governors – Regular Meeting***

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### **2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts were declared for the regular portion of the meeting.

### **3. Consent Agenda**

It was moved by Jim King / Sara Napier

*That the Board of Governors approve the consent agenda for the October 21, 2021 meeting as presented. (Agenda; Minutes, June 24, 2021; Executive Committee Terms of Reference; Committee Placements; Programs Committee Terms of Reference; Admissions Policy; and the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference.)*

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

### **4. President's Report/Update**

Don Bureaux referenced the written report that was included with the meeting materials. He began by noting that since the Board last met there is a new provincial government who continue to be a critical partner to NSCC. The new government changed the structure of the Department of Labour and Advanced Education into two separate departments which now include the Department of Advanced Education and the Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration. NSCC will report into both departments. Don shared that though the departments are separate they will work closely together and are seeking common space to work in together.

Don provided a brief update on the provincial announcement yesterday noting NSCC will be receiving three new residences to help with the housing shortage in Nova Scotia. Akerley Campus in Dartmouth, Ivany Campus on the waterfront in Dartmouth and Pictou Campus in Stellarton have been identified by government as locations for the new residences.

### **5. Move to In-Camera**

<<See In-camera Minutes>>

It was moved by Jeff Ransome / Diane MacConnell Cameron

*That the NSCC Board of Governors Meeting of October 21, 2021 move to In-Camera.*

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

### **6. Enrolment Presentation**

Anna Burke presented the annual enrolment update. She began with a Fall 2021 Programming overview comparing Fall 2020 (pre-covid numbers) to Fall 2020 (covid-adjusted numbers) to Fall 2021.

## ***Board of Governors – Regular Meeting***

---

Anna explained the difference between a program and a program offering – noting that Practical Nursing, for example, is a program that is offered at 10 campuses and therefore the College has 10 offerings of that program. Fall 2020 had 139 programs with 292 offerings, those were adjusted due to covid to 127 programs with 270 offerings. The numbers for 2021 included 285 program offerings of 138 programs.

Program delivery dramatically changed from 2019 where 96% of learning was face to face compared to fall 2020 where the majority moved to blended and online with no face to face. Looking at fall 2021 face to face returned with at least half of the delivery taking place in that method and a smaller portion of online with a large portion continuing to be blended.

The enrolment count for 2021 was 10,101. There has been significant enrolment growth over the past 20 years. Anna shared a graph showing the growth in enrolment since 1998. The current dip in enrolment is a direct result of the global pandemic.

The presentation also included a look at enrolment by School, by Year of Study, and by Campus noting 40% metro, 48% non-metro and 12% eCampus.

Anna then provided an overview of the Student Body Profile noting the age range of the NSCC student, she compared the fall 2021 numbers to fall 2017 as a reference. The presentation included an overview of Enrolment Diversity, Gender by School, and provided details on International Enrolment. It was noted that over 80 countries are included in NSCC's enrolment with 718 international students which makes up 7% of the 10,101-enrolment count. 75% of international students are located in metro. International enrolment by school and campus was also shared.

Governors had the opportunity to discuss and ask questions. Surveys for High School grads was discussed. Anna noted that several years ago, 20% of high school graduates were intending to go to college for post-secondary, the last time this survey was done (4 years ago) it was noted that 34% were intending on college for post-secondary education. There continues to be 30% of high school graduates who do not plan to attend post-secondary at all. Exciting conversations are happening at the college level on how to reach that cohort. The delivery model for 2022 was also touched on briefly.

### **7. Committee Updates**

#### **Report to the Community**

Niki Toomey, Communications Advisor presented the 2021 Report to the Community. She provided an overview of each of the stories featured within the report. She began with an overview of the cover story, Amelia Dinh a Cumberland Campus, Early Childhood Education graduation. Amelia participated in EduNova's Study & Stay Program, she was born in Vietnam and chose Springhill to experience life in a rural community. She also served as the Student Association President.

Niki also provided a brief overview of Nathan Crowell, AVC Remote Sensing grad, Mark and Krista from Marconi Campus in the Culinary Management program, Riki Lee Christmas from Applied Media and Communications Arts program, and Vanity Thompson from Practical Nursing and the African Canadian Transition program.

## ***Board of Governors – Regular Meeting***

---

Niki also shared details on the stand-alone stories 'Rising from the Pandemic' and 'NSCC Looking Back Thinking Forward.

Niki finished her presentation by providing an overview of the next steps for tabling the report in the House of Assembly, printing and distributing online and sharing via social media and pitching to media.

### **Finance, Audit & Risk Committee:**

Monica Foster, Vice President, College Services and CFO provided an update on the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee meeting. She provided a brief update of the financial report that was reviewed in detail at Finance, Audit and Risk. We are currently showing an unfavorable variance of approximately \$400,000, unique to be in a deficit at this stage of the year. By the end of the year, we expect to be in deficit position of \$1.2M. Enrolment revenue and additional costs for a third and fourth wave are resulting factors including testing facilities for the vaccination mandate. Monica noted that she still feels confident in the process and a surplus could still happen as the team continues to work through the year.

It was moved by John Lindsay / Jackie Poirier

*That the NSCC Board of Governors approve the First Quarter Financial Report for the period ending June 30, 2021.*

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

### **Foundation Update:**

John Lindsay indicated the Foundation report was included in the meeting package. John emphasized the tremendous amount of work with Alumni. Foundation Staff is growing internally, and excellent results are showing in the Lead the Way Campaign with over 85% of the goal earned to date.

### **Downtown Sydney Campus Update**

The Chair referenced the report included with material and opted for no discussion due to timing. This item was for information only. John Lindsay commented on the great work of Monica's team, specifically Dan Kelly, on the budgeting of the project in this current environment.

### **Programs Committee Update:**

Sara Napier provided a brief update on the recent Programs meeting and referenced the materials within the consent agenda. The committee continues to have conversations about the work of the committee and shaping the future agendas and evolution of the committee. Sara thanked Anna and her team for their work.

## ***Board of Governors – Regular Meeting***

---

### **8. Student Governors' Comments**

Daniel Abbot thanked the Chair and said it was an honor to be part of the NSCC Board of Governors. He shared that virtual Convocation is around the corner and students received a graduation package in the mail. He highlighted two of the items included within the package were a result of student lead working group projects. First, he noted a congratulatory card that was printed on paper embedded with wildflower seeds and the other item was a chocolate bar made in partnership with Peace by Chocolate in a wrapper designed by students. Daniel has been speaking with returning Student Association Executives and shared that participation levels are up significantly as those numbers were impacted by COVID-19. He shared that students are happy to be back on campus.

### **9. Other Business**

The Chair thanked Daniel Abbott and Lore Bowers for contributing to the Board and also referenced Yvan who was not able to participate in today's meeting. Don also took a few minutes to speak and thank Daniel and Lore for their contributions to NSCC's Board of Governors. Don presented Daniel and Lore with gifts of thanks.

The Chair thanked Kevin Cowper who joined the meeting today to assist with the technology today to ensure everything ran smoothly with the hybrid meeting.

### **10. Adjourn**

The Chair called to adjourn the meeting of October 21, 2021 and move to Governors' Forum.

It was moved by Jeff Ransom / Sara Napier

*That the NSCC Board of Governors regular meeting of October 21, 2021 adjourn and move to Governors' Forum.*

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

Approved by Board Motion: December 16, 2021