

Board of Governors – Regular Meeting

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Nova Scotia Community College's Board of Governors, held on April 20, 2023 at Holiday Inn Sydney Waterfront, Cabot Room.

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Karen Churchill (Chair)
Mike Buist
Fletcher Dares (virtual)
Alyssa Jones
Krista Jangaard
Shawnee LaPorte
Diane MacConnell Cameron
Laurissa Manning (virtual)
Quentrel Provo (virtual)
Gerry Post (virtual)
Jeff Ransome
Nicole Robinson
Kathleen Yurchesyn

Also Present:

Don Bureaux, President
Glenda Barrett, Chief Financial Officer
Anna Burke, VP, College Services & Strategy
Lynn Hartwell, VP, Campuses & Communities
Jill Provoe, VP, Academic & Equity
Christabell Pinchin, Secretary, Board of Governors
Erin Elliott, Executive Assistant to the President

Carla Arsenault, Principal, Marconi Campus
Lore Bowers, HR Manager, Consulting (virtual)
Janet Byrne, Director, Organizational Development (virtual)
Michelle Bussey, Executive Director, NSCC Foundation (virtual)
Kevin Cowper, Core Services Administrator
Chris Daly, Director, Policy, Planning & Research (virtual)
Jamus Dorey, Sr. Advisor, Persons with Disabilities & 2SLGBQ+
Brian Fancy, Manager, Energy and Sustainability
Daniel Kelly, Director, Facilities and Engineering

Regrets:

Jackie Poirier (Vice Chair)
Lee Erickson
Jim King
Sara Napier
Chief Sidney Peters

1. Call to Order

Quorum being present, Karen Churchill, the Chair, called the meeting to order. She thanked those joining virtually for being flexible with the meeting start time. She thanked Kevin Cowper for assisting with the hybrid meeting.

The Chair noted that Student Life Appreciation Awards were presented last week at Akerley Campus to celebrate Student Association achievements and to mark the 20th anniversary of the organization, she congratulated student governor Alyssa Jones for receiving the Campus Housing Programming Award.

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.

Board of Governors – Regular Meeting

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.

3. Consent Agenda

It was moved by Diane MacConnell-Cameron / Alyssa Jones

That the Board of Governors approve the consent agenda for the April 20, 2023 meeting as presented. (Agenda; Minutes, February 23, 2023; and Credentials Policy)

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

4. Strengths Based Leadership - Introduction

The Chair welcomed Janet Byrne Director, Organizational Development and former Governor Lore Bowers, HR Manager, Consulting to present. Janet provided a history of the College's work with strengths which began in 2006/2007. She indicated that strengths were used to form the bases for the College's employee success program.

Lore Bowers provided an overview of the strengths' session planned the Board's June meeting. She referenced the book that Governors have been provided and noted that there is a code included with each book providing access to an online survey tool. She asked Governors to complete the survey in advance of the June meeting and to bring with them a copy of the report.

5. President's Update

Don Bureaux provided his President's update and started by thanking Carla Arsenault, Dan Kelly and their teams for providing Governors with a tour of the Sydney Waterfront Campus. Don noted this is the second only building in the history of the College that is a purpose-built education building from the ground up. Don said he looks forward to having the full Board membership back to the Sydney Waterfront Campus in the future. Don indicated that the College's three year ends (fiscal, calendar, and academic) provide opportunity for reflection and renewal. The academic year end is coming to an end in June with a capstone month of 22 convocation ceremonies where Don will shake the hand of 5000 students. 91% will be working within the economy of Nova Scotia post-graduation. Don encouraged Governors to participate in Convocation where possible. Don provided a brief update on budgets being announced both provincial and federally and he provided an overview of the work taking place in the province to address the health care crisis in Nova Scotia. Don concluded his update by talking briefly about the year-end celebration hosted by Akerley Campus called Touch of Class.

Board of Governors – Regular Meeting

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

It was moved by Jeff Ransome / Alyssa Jones

That the NSCC Board of Governors Meeting of April 20, 2023 move to In-Camera.

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

7. Executive Committee Updates

Foundation Update

Gerry Post thanked Michelle Bussey and her team for preparing the report that was included with the meeting materials. He provided a brief overview and highlighted a few details from within the report noting that the Strategic Planning consultations are nearing completion. A draft of the plan is anticipated to be completed by June. Financial numbers for the fiscal year for contributions are at \$5.5M, which exceeded the projected target of \$3.3M. He referenced the Scotia Bank announcement to continue funding the *Entrepreneur in the Making* Program at \$210K over three years. Convocation planning is underway, and the Alumni office will be hosting the receptions at each ceremony this year. Don Bureaux thanked Gerry for stepping in and taking the crossover role between the Foundation Board of Directors and the NSCC Board of Governors.

Five-Year Organizational Review

Chris Daly, Director, Policy, Planning and Research presented the College's Five-Year Organizational Review that was provided with the meeting materials. He reminded Governors this report meets the requirements of the Act to conduct, at least every five years, an organizational and operational review and submit to Government. The report was written based on the Guidelines that were approved by the Board and the Minister in 2022. Governors engaged in conversation and requested that upon submitting the report to Government the accompanying letter acknowledge and recognize the work involved addressing the COVID-19 pandemic.

It was moved by Shawnee LaPorte / Quentrel Provo

That the NSCC Board of Governors approve the 2016-2021 Five-year Organizational Review as presented.

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

8. Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Updates

Anna Burke, Vice President, College Services and Strategy provided a brief meeting update on behalf of the Chair, Finance, Audit & Risk Committee. Anna referenced items addressed during the Finance, Audit and Risk meeting that were covered earlier in this meeting including application fees, the Business Plan and Operating Budget, and Credit Based Tuition. She also noted the regular internal audit update by Bruce Spares, Director, Internal Audit who met privately with the Committee as part of the annual process. She noted that Glenda Barrett, CFO provided a year-end update.

Board of Governors – Regular Meeting

The College is on track to land the fiscal year end budget with the planned and approved deficit of \$1.5M. Statutory liabilities were reviewed and were included with meeting materials for information. Anna also noted that Daniel Kelly, Director, Facilities and Engineering joined the meeting and provided the Sydney Waterfront Campus update, Supplementary Facilities Equipment Planning update and the On-Campus Housing update.

On-Campus Housing Update

Anna Burke, Vice President, College Services & Strategy presented and referenced the report that was included with the meeting materials. Three active construction projects are underway at Akerley, Ivany and Pictou campuses - combined include 350 beds. Pictou and Akerley are on track to open for September 2024. Ivany Campus is on track to open the following year, September 2025. She mentioned that it is a short detour off the highway for anyone who is interested in driving by the Pictou Campus in Stellarton on their way home from Sydney to see the construction project.

9. Programs Committee Updates

Jill Provoe, Vice President, Academic & Equity provided a meeting update on behalf of Sara Napier, Chair of Programs Committee. She noted several items from the Programs meeting were already covered and addressed during the consent agenda earlier in the meeting. She noted that during the Programs Meeting there was a presentation on Student Surveys, a discussion and update on the health care crisis and how the College is working with government partners to bring in new sections of practical nursing to address the crisis, and lastly she referenced conversations at the meeting around the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency Ministers Table.

10. Governance Committee Updates

Diane MacConnell-Cameron, Chair, Programs Committee provided a meeting update. She noted that the meeting included a presentation and update by Manju Varma, Executive Director, Human Rights, Equity & Inclusion (HREI) on the work of HREI. Jamus Dorey, Senior Advisor, Persons with Disabilities & 2SLGBQ+, Brian Fancy, Manager Energy and Sustainability, and Daniel Kelly, Director, Facilities and Engineering presented the NSCC Accessibility Plan and spoke about the Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification; Christabell Pinchin, Secretary Board of Governors presented on legal affairs at the College; Stacey Baillie, Director, Marketing and Communications presented on marketing and branding; and Chris Daly presented on policy.

NSCC's Accessibility Plan & Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification (RHFAC)

Jamus Dorey, Senior Advisor, Persons with Disabilities & 2SLGBQ+ presented and provided context and timelines around accessibility in Nova Scotia. He noted that NSCC was on a journey of accessibility and equity well before it was legislated. Jamus shared that Accessibility is an opportunity for NSCC to achieve its commitment to IDEA² which is equity and inclusion for all. During the presentation Jamus shared the 12 steps of Accessibility Standards, Standards Timeline to 2030 and concluded with an overview of next steps.

Board of Governors – Regular Meeting

Brian Fancy, Manager, Facilities & Engineering presented on the Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification Framework (RHFAC). He noted that 30.4% of Nova Scotians have a disability, the highest of any province in Canada. In 2017, Nova Scotia passed the Accessibility Act, which recognizes accessibility as a human right and sets the goal of an accessible Nova Scotia by 2030. In February 2018, the Province of Nova Scotia, Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC), and the Rick Hansen Foundation formed a partnership to deliver the RHFAC Accessibility Assessor training course. His presentation included information on the work to date at NSCC and he shared details on the categories that are assessed including vehicular access, exterior approach and entrance, interior circulation, interior services and environment, residential units, sanitary facilities, signage, wayfinding and communications, emergency systems, additional use of space and trails and pathways. Brian also spoke about extra points that can be earned for providing innovative building features that increase accessibility of a site. He shared with the Board that NSCC has two sites that have been certified to date including IT Campus and Ivany Campus. The plan going forward is to have 2-3 sites per year rated with COGS and Kingstec underway now for rating. As well the active construction projects are being rated, including Sydney Waterfront Campus, and the three on-campus housing projects.

The Chair thanked Gerry Post for his work in the province tied to accessibility. Gerry then thanked the College for their work in getting the Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility assessor program up and running so quickly.

The Chair concluded by congratulating the College on the two certifications to date.

11. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

12. Adjourn and Move to Governors Forum

The Chair called to adjourn the meeting of April 20, 2023 and move to Governors' Forum.

It was moved by Mike Buist / Quentrel Provo

That the NSCC Board of Governors regular meeting of April 20, 2023 adjourn and move to Governors' Forum.

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

Approved by Board Motion: June 22, 2023