

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY

APPROVED minutes of the open session of the 256th regular meeting of the Board of Governors of Athabasca University held virtually on Friday, May 20, 2022.

Present: Nancy Laird (Chair), Peter Scott, Lynn Hamilton, McDonald Madamombe, Tracey Maguire, Larry Spagnolo, Andrew Ko, Sir John Daniel, Elena Gould, Jacqueline Hobal, Roger Morrill, Sandip Lalli, Martha Cleveland-Innes, Richard Huntrods, Liam Connelly, Karen Fletcher and Chris Edwards

Governance Staff: Sara Kunto (Chief Governance Officer and General Counsel) and Barbara Kowalchuk (Recording Secretary)

Others Present: Matthew Prineas, Deborah Meyers, Jennifer Shaeffer, Kristine Williamson, Charlene Polege, Gilbert Perras and David Head

Absent with Regrets: Sharon Anderson, Bryan Berg

The Chair introduced Sir John Daniel, Elena Gould, Jacqueline Hobal and Roger Morrill all of whom were recently appointed to the Board as Public Members and welcomed them to the Board.

The Chair introduced Chris Edwards who was recently appointed to the Board as the Graduate Student Member and welcomed him to the Board.

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:45 P.M. followed by the delivery of the AU land acknowledgement.

1.0 Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda

256-01 MOVED That the Board of Governors approves the open session agenda for Meeting 256, and thereby approves the consent agenda including the open session minutes of meeting 255, held March 25, 2022, as presented.

Ko/Maguire

Carried

2.0 Conflict of Interest Declaration

Subject to the Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Guidelines for the Board of Governors, members were asked to declare any conflict they may have with respect to particular agenda items contained within the meeting agenda.

Member Gould noted a conflict with Agenda Item 5.1. It was noted that Ms. Gould would exit the meeting during discussion and deliberations for agenda item 5.1 and would return to the meeting once the vote on the motion had been completed.

3.0 Presentations/Information Sessions

3.1 Athabasca University Students Union – Student Survey Results

Member Fletcher, President, Athabasca University Students Union (AUSU), provided a presentation on the results of the recent student survey undertaken by AUSU.

3.2 Athabasca University Brand Update

A presentation on recent updates to the Athabasca University Brand Strategy was provided to the members.

4.0 President’s Discussion and Analysis

4.1 Discussion and Analysis

The President presented this item and in response to inquiries provided further clarification on items contained within the report. He noted that convocation was upcoming and encouraged everyone to register to attend.

4.2 Receive Year-End Variance Report

The President and the Vice President Finance and Performance Services and Chief Financial Officer presented this item providing an overview of the key drivers behind the year-end results.

5.0 Action, Information/Discussion Items

Member Gould exited the meeting.

5.1 Approve Transfer of Funds

256-02 MOVED That the Board of Governors approves the following transfers (amounts in thousands) for the year ended March 31, 2022:

- Transfer from Unrestricted Surplus (Deficit) from Operations to Internally Restricted Future Student Awards Fund \$ 34
- Transfer from Internally Restricted Pension Plan Liability Fund to the Internally Restricted Risk Reserve Fund \$ 814
- Transfers from Unrestricted Surplus (Deficit) from Operations to Internally Restricted Risk Reserve Fund \$ 2,784
- Retention of Unrestricted Surplus (Deficit) from Operations to fund capital investment, including Capital Carryforward, in 2022-23 \$ 5,057

Maguire/Ko

The Chair, Finance & Property Committee noted that the proposed transfers had been reviewed by the Finance & Property Committee and had been recommended for approval. It was further noted that the proposed transfers have been incorporated into the draft 2021-22 Financial Statements.

Carried

Member Gould rejoined the meeting.

5.2 Approve 2021-22 Financial Statements

256-03 MOVED That the Board of Governors approves the 2021-22 Financial Statements, as presented.

Spagnolo/Lalli

The Vice President Finance and Performance Services and Chief Financial Officer presented this item. It was noted that the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) and PricewaterhouseCoopers (the agent for the OAG) had completed the audit of the 2021-2022 financial statements and were prepared to issue a report without reservation of opinion.

Carried

6.0 Business Arising from the Consent Agenda - None

7.0 Board Chair Report and Closing Comments

The Board Chair thanked everyone for their participation.

8.0 Adjourn

The open session of Meeting 256 was adjourned at 3:38 P.M.