

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY

APPROVED minutes of the open session of the 257th regular meeting of the Board of Governors of Athabasca University held virtually on Friday, August 26, 2022.

Present: Byron Nelson (Chair), Peter Scott, Sharon Anderson, Bryan Berg, McDonald Madamombe, Tracey Maguire, Larry Spagnolo, Andrew Ko, Sir John Daniel, Elena Gould, Roger Morrill, Jacqueline Hobal, Sandip Lalli, Marti Cleveland-Innes, Richard Huntrods, Liam Connelly, Chris Edwards, Karen Fletcher and Dur-E-Najaf Syed.

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

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

Absent with Regrets: Lynn Hamilton

The Board Chair introduced Dur-E-Najaf Syed, the new student member and welcomed her to the Board.

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:09 P.M. having achieved quorum and delivered the AU land acknowledgement.

1.0 Approval of Agenda

257-01 MOVED That the Board of Governors approves the open session agenda for Meeting 257, as presented.

Scott/Ko

Carried

2.0 Discussion with the Minister, Advanced Education

At the invitation of the Board Chair, the Minister, Alberta Advanced Education, Mr. Demetrios Nicolaidis (Minister), addressed the Board on the topic of his unilateral amendments to the 2022-2025 Investment Management Agreement (IMA) dated July 29, 2022, as well as the directives as contained in his correspondence to the Board Chair of the same date.

The Minister engaged in a question-and-answer period with Board members, noting his willingness to be flexible, and his openness to discuss, in more detail, the different strategies that the Board could employ to support the economic growth of the Town of Athabasca. The Minister confirmed that he did not wish to see any staff, whether executive or otherwise, being forced to relocate to the Town of Athabasca, and maintained his reticence at extending the deadline by which he expects the Board to sign the 2022-2025 IMA dated July 29, 2022; that being August 31, 2022. The Minister also noted his willingness to provide Athabasca University with additional funding to assist Athabasca University with its economic development goals as it relates to the Town of Athabasca.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 P.M.