

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY

APPROVED minutes of the open session of the 269th regular meeting of the Board of Governors of Athabasca University held virtually on Friday, September 20, 2024.

Present: Byron Nelson (Chair), Alex Clark, Larry Spagnolo, Dan Leckelt, Don Gnatiuk, Terry Lovelace, Lori Van Rooijen, Leo de Bever, Roger Morrill, Martha Cleveland-Innes, Richard Huntrods, Brenda Kuzio, Monical Arcilla, Chantel Groening, Diana Ramirez and Sunny Bhasin

Governance Staff: Tyler Tollefson (Chief Governance Officer and General Counsel) and Barbara Kowalchuk (Recording Secretary)

Others Present: Matthew Prineas, Kathleen Roberts, Jennifer Pascoe, Ray Welshman, Catherine Swindlehurst, Pauline Smeltz, Matthew McCreary, Priscilla Campeau, Shawn Fraser, Megan Hall, Steven Johnson, Manijeh Mannani, Alain May, Andrew Perrin, Bailey Sousa, Lisa Watson, Shauna Zenteno and Candy Khan

Absent with Regrets: Elena Gould, Jacqueline Hobal, and Wilfred Willier

The Chair provided the AU land acknowledgement.

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. having achieved quorum.

1.0 Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda

269-01 MOVED That the Board of Governors approves the open session agenda for meeting 269, and thereby approves the consent agenda as amended including the open session minutes of meeting 268, held May 31, 2024.

Lovelace/Cleveland-Innes

Consent Agenda Item 1.1.6 "Report of the Chair – Executive Committee" was removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the agenda as item 5.1.

Consent Agenda Item 1.1.5 "Report of the Chair – Human Resources Committee" was removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the agenda as item 5.2.

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.

No conflicts were declared.

3.0 President's Report to the Board

The President presented his report and reviewed it with the members.

4.0 Action, Information / Discussion Items

4.1 Review First Quarter Variance and Year End Forecast

The President, the Provost and the Acting Vice President Finance and Operations & CFO presented this item providing an overview of the key drivers behind the first quarter variance, and the year-end projections.

4.2 Motion: Approve Athabasca University Annual Report to Alberta Advanced Education for the year ended March 31, 2024

269-02 MOVED That the Board of Governors approves the Athabasca University Annual Report to the Ministry of Advanced Education for the year ended March 31, 2024, subject to non-substantive editorial revisions.

Morrill/Gnatiuk

The Chair, Audit Committee confirmed that the draft Annual Report was reviewed by the Audit Committee on September 10, 2024 and was recommended for approval.

The President and the Chief Growth Officer presented this item, noting that the Annual Report is a mandatory submission to the Ministry of Advanced Education each year, reporting on the previous fiscal year. It was noted that a new reporting template was provided by the Ministry this year, and further that the report is particularly focused on the Ministry's strategic priorities.

Carried

5.0 Business Arising from the Consent Agenda

5.1 Report of the Chair – Executive Committee

The Chair noted that this item was pulled from the consent agenda to provide an update, noting that an additional meeting of the Executive Committee had been held after the meeting materials were published in order to undertake an appointment to the Universities Academic Pension Plan Board of Trustees.

5.2 Report of the Chair – Human Resources & Compensation Committee

An inquiry was made in relation to what information could be shared with respect to current collective bargaining. It was noted that while a great deal of collective bargaining is confidential, a web page exists with regular updates on information that is able to be shared publicly.

6.0 Board Chair Report and Closing Comments

The Chair noted that the upcoming Board Retreat was scheduled in Athabasca and further details would be provided in the near future. He thanked everyone for their participation in the meeting.

7.0 Adjournment

The open session of Meeting 269 was adjourned at 9:14 AM.