

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY

APPROVED minutes of the open session of the 271st regular meeting of the Board of Governors of Athabasca University held virtually on Friday, March 21, 2025.

Present: Byron Nelson (Chair), Alex Clark, Larry Spagnolo, Dan Leckelt, Don Gnatiuk, Terry Lovelace, Lori Van Rooijen, Elena Gould, Roger Morrill, Martha Cleveland-Innes, Anshuman Khare, Brenda Kuzio, Monical Arcilla, Jan Lehmann, 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, Catherine Swindlehurst, Matthew McCreary, Megan Hall, Steven Johnson, Manijeh Mannani, Alain May, Andrew Perrin, Shauna Zenteno, and Candy Khan

Absent with Regrets: Leo de Bever, Jacqueline Hobal and Wilfred Willier

The Chair provided the AU land acknowledgement.

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m. having achieved quorum.

1.0 Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda

271-01 MOVED That the Board of Governors approves the open session agenda for meeting 271, and thereby approves the consent agenda, as presented.

Gould/Cleveland-Innes

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 Approval of Minutes

271-02 MOVED That the Board of Governors approve the minutes of meeting 270 held December 13, 2024, as presented.

Morrill/Ramirez

Carried

4.0 President's Report to the Board

The President presented his report and reviewed it with the members. Amongst other items, he noted that Dr. Catherine Swindlehurst would be assuming the role of Provost on April 17th and welcomed her to her new role, and further thanked Dr. Matthew Prineas, Athabasca University's inaugural Provost, for his work over the past seven years.

The Board Chair expressed his appreciation on behalf of the Board to Dr. Prineas for his work.

5.0 Action, Information / Discussion Items

5.1 Review 2024-25 3rd Quarter Variance and Year End Forecast Report

The President and the Acting Vice President Finance and Operations & Chief Financial Officer presented this item providing an overview of the key drivers behind the third quarter variance, and the year-end projections.

5.2 Motion: Approve Integrated Resource Plan 2025-2026

271-03 MOVED That the Board of Governors approve the 2025-26 Integrated Resource Plan, subject to non-substantive editorial revisions.

Lehmann/Cleveland-Innes

The Chair, Finance & Property Committee confirmed that the draft Integrated Resource Plan 2025-2026 was reviewed by the Finance & Property Committee on March 11, 2025 and was recommended for approval.

The President and the Acting Vice President Finance and Operations & CFO presented this item. An overview of the processes followed in the development of the draft Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) was provided, after which the IRP was presented including an overview of the IRP Context noting that the IRP proposes a balanced approach (values for value, sustainable academic business model, strategic growth targets, strategic operational efficiencies and an emphasis on revenue-generated initiatives) resulting in a balanced budget. Details of the balanced budget were provided, as well as projections for two subsequent years including the risk reserve, as well as a financial risk analysis, and priority initiatives contained within the Summary Capital and Infrastructure Plan 2026-28.

Carried

5.3 Motion: Approve 2026-2028 Athabasca University Capital and Infrastructure Plan

271-04 MOVED That the Board of Governors approves the Summary Capital and Infrastructure Plan 2026-2028, subject to non-substantive editorial revisions.

Khare/Gnatiuk

The Chair, Finance & Property Committee confirmed that the draft Summary Capital and Infrastructure Plan 2026-28 was reviewed by the Finance & Property Committee on March 11, 2025 and was recommended for approval.

The President and the Acting Vice President Finance and Operations and CFO presented this item and reviewed the proposed three-year plan with the members.

Carried

6.0 Business Arising from the Consent Agenda - None

7.0 Board Chair Report and Closing Comments

The Board Chair provided closing comments including the following:

- Provided notice of motion that proposed revisions to the Board General Bylaws will be coming forward to the May meeting.
- Noted that proposed revisions would also be coming forward for Board Committee terms of reference and memberships
- Provided a general update regarding the provincial government's recent budget

8.0 Adjournment

The open session of Meeting 271 was adjourned at 9:21 AM.