



UNIVERSITY  
of Prince Edward  
ISLAND

**UPEI BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING**

**Thursday, August 10, 2023**

**7:30 am**

**Via Zoom**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Ms. Shannon MacDonald; Chair, UPEI Board of Governors; Dr. Greg Keefe, President; Mr. Steve Bellamy; Dr. Rabin Bissessur; Kateri Coade; Ms. Karen Creighan; Mr. Peter Hayes; Dr. Geraldine Johnston; Dr. Christian Lacroix; Mr. Alex MacBeath; Dr. Sandy MacDonald; Dr. Bill Montelpare; Ms. Perlene Morrison; Mr. Brian Thompson

**Regrets:** Mr. Shreesh Agrawal; Mr. James Bradley; Professor Tim Carroll; Ms. Camille Mady

**Staff Present:** Ms. Michelle Arbing, Executive Assistant, Board of Governors

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Shannon MacDonald called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

**2. CHAIR'S UPDATE**

Ms. Shannon MacDonald indicated Members that the Presidential Search Committee is progressing according to its timeline. Currently, the consultant, Perrett Laver, is in the consultation phase with UPEI community members, stakeholders and other community members. A firm has been secured to facilitate Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion training for the Committee.

Ms. Shannon MacDonald reminded Members that the Rubin Thomlinson Report noted a shortcoming in governance. The Government of PEI has seconded Ms. Pamela Trainor to the University to assist with strategic initiatives related to the Board and its governance. Currently, there are seven vacancies on the Board. A call for public nomination will occur in the coming month from the Province, with Board appointed vacancies filled subsequently.

**3. PRESIDENT'S UPDATE**

President Keefe indicated that he would not be providing a formal report at this abbreviated meeting but will endeavor to provide highlights of the Summer.

The Native Council of PEI recognized UPEI for its ongoing commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous communities. President Keefe shared the tremendous honour it is for the University to receive an eagle feather in recognition of Indigenous reconciliation efforts.

Students, Staff and Faculty participated in the 2023 Pride Parade.

President Keefe indicated a number of components moving forward as a result of the Rubin

Thomlinson Report. One item is the identification of a governance review. The President, along with Ms. Shannon MacDonald, Mr. Brian Thompson, Ms. Ouma Cuniah have developed a pathway to a governance review and looks forward to welcoming Ms. Pamela Trainor to assist in this area. The President recently hosted two town halls on campus: one for the entire campus and one that was staff specific. Additional listening sessions for smaller groups are being organized.

Work is underway for the process of the Action Plan that the Rubin Thomlinson Report calls for. Consultations with various groups, including Unions and external groups, such as diversity and womens' groups is underway. He indicated an Advisory Group, very broad based, that would work with a facilitator would be formed.

President Keefe noted the importance of continuing to engage and listen and trying to address the issues that were contained within the Report.

**4. 2012-2013 SURVIVORS**

Ms. Shannon MacDonald shared that she has spent time with the two survivors of 2012-2013 over the last few weeks including with Ms. Candice Perry, UPEI's Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Officer. Ms. Shannon MacDonald indicated they wanted to have their voices heard and they want to help others. Not only is this the right thing to do, but it is also in keeping with the intent of Prince Edward Island's new *Non-Disclosure Agreements Act*. Ms. Shannon MacDonald screen shared a draft public statement from her regarding the permanent release of these survivors from their non-disclosure agreements and also read a statement from both individuals, which they had drafted in response.

Members expressed their unanimous support.

**MOVED TO IN-CAMERA**

**MOVED TO OPEN SESSION**

**5. CHAIR'S UPDATE ON PRIORITIES**

Ms. Shannon MacDonald referenced the document circulated to Members in advance of the meeting, noting the Board has a shared voice. Members were supportive of the details provided.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 a.m.