



**UPEI BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING  
Tuesday, December 8, 2020  
Via Zoom  
6:00 – 9:00 pm**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Mr. Pat Sinnott, Chair, UPEI Board of Governors; Dr. Alaa Abd-El-Aziz, President; Hon. Catherine Callbeck, Chancellor; Dr. Rabin Bissessur ; Mr. James Bradley; Ms. Bertha Campbell; Mr. Charles Curley; Dr. Adam Fenech; Dr. Albert Fogarty; Ms. Donna Hassard; Dr. Geraldine Johnston; Ms. Kathy Hambly; Mr. Peter Hayes; Dr. Sandy MacDonald; Mr. Alex MacBeath; Dr. Stan MacPherson; Dr. James Moran; Ms. Perlene Morrison; Dr. Liane Nelson; Ms. Tolulope Oginni; Ms. Donna Profit

**Regrets:** Ms. Mary Best; Mr. Akshay Bhaskar; Professor Tim Carroll; Ms. Shannon MacDonald; Mr. Brian Thompson

**Staff Present:** Ms. Jackie Podger, Vice President Administration and Finance  
Ms. Michelle Arbing, Executive Assistant to the Board

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Pat Sinnott, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. and thanked everyone for attending via Zoom.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The draft minutes of the UPEI Board of Governors' meeting of October 20, 2020 were circulated to Board members prior to the meeting. There being no revisions, the following motion was proposed:

- 1) MOVED by Ms. Donna Hassard, SECONDED by Mr. Charles Curley, that the minutes of the October 20, 2020 meeting of the UPEI Board of Governors be approved as presented. CARRIED.**

**3. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mr. Sinnott acknowledged the outstanding work of the Senate, management, faculty and staff during these difficult pandemic days, to help our students who make UPEI their home.

**4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The President acknowledged the faculty and staff that have been working so hard to ensure our students have the best experience they can have during these unprecedented times. He expressed gratitude for the amazing student leaders, whom we are doing everything we can to support.

President Abd-El-Aziz provided an update on convocation, the new residence, the Canadian Centre for Climate Change and Adaptation as well as the roadway.

**6. STUDENT UNION REPORT**

Ms. Tolulope Oginni provided an update on some of the activities in which the Student Union has been involved, including providing laptops to students, bicycle lending, enhancing the foodbank. Mental health resources for students continue to be a focus for students particularly for those in isolation.

**6. SENATE REPORT TO THE BOARD:**

Ms. Bertha Campbell reported that Senate met on October 23 and November 20 and the Senate held a special meeting on November 25.

The following topics were covered:

- a) Convocation – Senate unanimously agreed that the dates for Convocation for the 2019–20 and 2020–21 academic years be moved to May 14, 2021, for the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, including the DVM and graduate programs; and May 26, 27, 28, 2021 for the other faculties, including undergraduate and graduate programs.
- b) Senate was provided an overview from each Dean about their experiences and lessons learned within their Faculties during COVID-19. The Student Union also provided results from a survey they recently conducted. A discussion resulted and the Senate was provided with the survey results during the meeting.
- c) Senate agreed to change the starting date of the 2021 Winter Academic Semester to provide additional time to students for their health and wellness. The Senate decided unanimously that the UPEI Winter 2021 Academic Semester will begin on January 11, 2021, for students in the Faculties of Arts, Business, Education, Graduate Studies, Nursing, Science, and Sustainable Design Engineering. Other academic calendar dates will be adjusted as required; the last day of the semester will remain April 26, 2021.

**7. BOARD COMMITTEES' UPDATES:**

**a) Finance and Audit Committee:** Mr. Alex MacBeath informed Governors that the November 24 meeting was canceled as there were no urgent items to be addressed.

**b) Development, FR and ER Committee:** Ms. Kathy Hambly reported that the November 18 committee meeting was canceled as there were no urgent items to be addressed.

**c) Governance and Appeals Committee:** Mr. Sinnott informed Governors that the November 25 meeting was canceled as there were no urgent items to be addressed.

**d) Property and Asset Committee:** Mr. Peter Hayes informed Governors that the November 19 meeting was canceled as there were no urgent items to be addressed.

e) **Executive Committee:** Mr. Sinnott noted there were no items to report.

f) **Human Resources Committee:**

**MEETING MOVED TO IN CAMERA**

**MEETING RETURNED TO IN SESSION**

8. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Pension Plan

Mr. Sinnott acknowledged the work of everyone involved in the administration of the Pension Plan. He expressed appreciation to Ms. Charlotte McCardle whose term is ending on the Board of Trustees of the Pension Plan.

- 2) **MOVED by Mr. Peter Hayes, SECONDED by Mr. Alex MacBeath that the UPEI Board of Governors approves the appointment of Mr. Ian Burge as the Employer representative to the Board of Trustees of the Pension Plan for the Employees of the University of Prince Edward Island for a three year term, commencing January 1, 2021. CARRIED.**
- 3) **MOVED by Ms. Perlene Morrison, SECONDED by Mr. Sandy MacDonald that the UPEI Board of Governors approves the reappointment of Mr. Alex MacBeath as the Employer representative to the Sponsor Board of the Pension Plan for the Employees of the University of Prince Edward Island for a two year term, commencing January 1, 2021 and with that, be re-appointed as Co-Chair of the Sponsor Board for the term of his appointment. CARRIED.**
- 4) **MOVED by Mr. Peter Hayes, SECONDED by Mr. Stan MacPherson that the UPEI Board of Governors approves the re-appointment of Ms. Kathy MacKenzie as the Employer Inactive Member Appointee on the Board of Trustees of the Pension Plan for the Employees of the University of Prince Edward Island for a three year term, commencing January 1, 2021. CARRIED.**
- 5) **MOVED by Dr. Geraldine Johnston, SECONDED by Dr. Sandy MacDonald that the UPEI Board of Governors approves the re-appointment of Ms. Jackie Podger as the Employer representative on the Sponsor Board of the Pension Plan for the Employees of the University of Prince Edward Island. CARRIED.**

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.