



**UPEI BOARD OF GOVERNORS
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
Thursday, October 20, 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; Mr. Brian Affouan; Ms. Mary Best; Mr. Akshay Bhasjar; Dr. Rabin Bissessur ; Mr. James Bradley; Ms. Bertha Campbell; Professor Tim Carroll; Mr. Charles Curley; Dr. Adam Fenech; Dr. Albert Fogarty; Ms. Donna Hassard; Dr. Geraldine Johnston; Ms. Kathy Hambly; Mr. Peter Hayes; Mr. Alex MacBeath; Ms. Shannon MacDonald; Dr. Stan MacPherson; Dr. James Moran; Ms. Perlene Morrison; Dr. Liane Nelson; Ms. Donna Profit; Mr. Brian Thompson,

Regrets: Dr. Sandy MacDonald

Invited guest: Dr. Kathy Gottschall-Pass, Vice-President Academic and Research

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 6:05 p.m. and thanked everyone for attending via Zoom.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The draft minutes of the UPEI Board of Governors' meeting of August 18, 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 Dr. Albert Fogarty, that the minutes of the August 18, 2020 meeting of the UPEI Board of Governors be approved as presented. CARRIED.**

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Sinnott expressed great appreciation to all members of the Board of Governors for their continued dedication, in particular, during these difficult days of COVID-19.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Abd-El-Aziz acknowledged the UPEI Actuarial Program which has received significant recognition by the Society of Actuaries for all three VEE's (Validation by Educational Experience). He expressed appreciation to Mr. Pat Sinnott and Mr. Peter Hayes for their support of the School of Mathematical and Computational Sciences. President Abd-El-Aziz thanked all faculty and staff that have been doing an outstanding job during the COVID-19 pandemic as well as our students who choose UPEI as their home. He thanked members of the Board of Governors for their support with the roadway and residence.

6. STUDENT UNION REPORT

Mr. Brian Affouan, Student Union President, provided an update on various areas the Student Union is involved in. Given the pandemic situation, the Student Union Food Bank is operating by not only handing out food but also gift cards. Student Union events are happening as a hybrid model. Clubs and societies have sanitization kits that can be signed out. The Fox and Crow is now back open. Council elections have just taken place. Any events that occur are in accordance with the PEI Chief Public Health Office guidance.

6. SENATE REPORT TO THE BOARD:

Ms. Bertha Campbell reported that Senate met on September 18 and covered the following topics:

- i. Senate unanimously approved that UPEI will continue with a blended delivery model for the Winter Academic Semester, January–April 2021, but we will also look at providing additional in-person experiences and activities, where possible, that align with PEI Chief Public Health Office guidance.
- ii. An ad-hoc committee, chaired by the Vice-President Academic and Research is looking into Convocation options and will bring a proposal regarding Convocation to Senate for discussion.

7. BOARD COMMITTEES' UPDATES:

a) Finance and Audit Committee: Mr. Alex MacBeath provided updates on several items from the October 6 Committee meeting.

At the committee meeting, Ms. Tara Judson, Comptroller, presented the UPEI Consolidated Financial Statements April 30, 2020. These were circulated to Board members in advance of the Board meeting. Representatives from Grant Thornton were in attendance at the committee meeting and discussed the Audit findings.

- 2) MOVED by Mr. Alex MacBeath, SECONDED by Mr. James Bradley, that the UPEI Board of Governors approve the UPEI Consolidated Financial Statements April 30, 2020 as presented and recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee. CARRIED.**

Mr. Alex MacBeath provided an overview of the discussion from the committee meeting in regard to the External Auditors Oversight and Appointment Process.

- 3) **MOVED by Mr. Alex MacBeath, SECONDED by Mr. Stan MacPherson that the UPEI Board of Governors appoint Grant Thornton as the External Auditors for the period ending April 30, 2021, as recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee. CARRIED**

(It is noted that Ms. Perlene Morrison abstained from the vote.)

b) Development, FR and ER Committee: Ms. Kathy Hambly reported on the September 30 committee meeting. There were a total of eleven (11) awards approved both via e-vote and at the meeting. During the meeting, robust updates were provided by staff from the Departments of Development and Alumni Engagement, Marketing and Production and Communications and University Relations.

c) Governance and Appeals Committee: Ms. Shannon MacDonald informed members that the meeting was canceled as there were not urgent items to be dealt with.

d) Property and Asset Committee: Mr. Peter Hayes reported that the Committee met on November 19 and received updates on the roadway, the residence and the Canadian Centre for Climate Change and Adaptation (CCCA). Dr. Adam Fenech shared a drone video of the CCCA with Board Members.

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:

Dr. Geraldine Johnston acknowledged and congratulated President Abd -El-Aziz who not only was named one of Atlantic Canada's Top 50 CEO's but was named as the recipient of the Innovator of the Year Award by *Atlantic Business Magazine*.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.