

Board of Governors – Regular Meeting

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Nova Scotia Community College's Board of Governors, held on April 25, 2024 at NSCC Akerley Campus in Dartmouth.

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Karen Churchill (Chair)
Jackie Poirier (Vice Chair)
Nduka Ahilaka
Lee Erickson
Krista Jangaard
Art Kidston
Jim King
Diane MacConnell-Cameron
Quentrel Provo (virtual)
Nicole Robinson
Kathleen Yurchesyn (virtual)
Laurissa Manning
Sara Napier
Gerry Post

Also Present:

Don Bureaux, President
Glenda Barrett, Chief Financial Officer
Anna Burke, VP, College Services & Strategy
Lynn Hartwell, VP, Campuses & Communities
Jill Provoe, VP, Academic & Equity
Erin Elliott, Executive Assistant to the President
Christabell Pinchin, Secretary, Board of Governors

Myles Cloutier, Core Services Administrator
Jeff Taylor, AVP, Applied Research
Katrina Leighton, Manager, Forest Research and Innovation
Taralee Hammond, AVP, Student Affairs
Lori Foran, Director, Student Awards & Experience
Chauncey Kennedy, Manager, Housing & Student Life
Lisa Mader, Researcher, Applied Research

Regrets:

Trevor Amiro
Jeff Ransome
Shawnee Sylliboy

1. Call to Order

Quorum being present, the Chair, Karen Churchill, called the meeting to order.

She announced that this would be the final meeting for Laurissa Manning who is resigning from the Board early. She noted that there would be time to thank Laurissa at the end of the meeting and shared that Laurissa is moving overseas to Gibraltar.

The Chair acknowledged that in Nova Scotia, we are all Treaty People. We recognize the land upon which we work, live and learn is the unceded territory and ancestral homeland of the Mi'kmaq Nation. Our relationship is based on a series of Peace and Friendship treaties between the Mi'kmaq Nation and the Crown, dating back to 1725. She also noted that NSCC recognizes African Nova Scotians as a distinct group who arrived here 400 years ago. From that time on, they have contributed to the infrastructure and economic wealth of the towns and cities they helped to build, but from which they could not benefit.

She reminded Governors that we act in the best interest of the College, we demonstrate good judgement and act in an ethical manner, maintain confidentiality and comply with the Board's By-Laws and policies. She noted we encourage diverse conversation but leave with one voice.

Board of Governors – Regular Meeting

2. Affirmation of Absence of Conflict

Governors affirmed the absence of conflict of interest in the business coming before the Board.

3. Consent Agenda

It was moved by Diane MacConnell-Cameron / Laurissa Manning

That the Board of Governors approve the consent agenda for the April 25, 2024 meeting as presented. (Agenda and Minutes, Feb. 29, 2024, and the Risk Management Policy)

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

4. President's Update

Don Bureaux provided his President's update. Don referenced the President's report that was included with meeting materials and highlighted recent activities where he attended the Marine Gala held in Port Hawkesbury, WorldSkills Dinner, the Halifax Partnership Breakfast and BHER meeting in Toronto. He provided a brief update on IRCC and international enrolment. Don shared details of the recent announcement that the SEATAC has been renewed for an additional 5-year term which includes a \$2M commitment.

5. NSCC Housing & Akerley Student Housing Tour

Taralee Hammond, AVP, Student Affairs, Lori Foran, Director, Student Awards & Experience, Chauncey Kennedy, Manager, Housing & Student Life, and Lisa Mader, Researcher, Applied Research presented on NSCC Student Housing. Their presentation included Canadian Campus Wellbeing Survey results on Housing and they detailed the housing-related impacts on academics. Lisa Mader presented the *Understanding Student Homelessness NSCC Action Plan* and spoke about the research underway and the opportunity to present at the CIG Applied Research Symposium in Ottawa. Chauncey Kennedy and Lori Foran presented on NSCC Housing. The presentation concluded with an overview of work on the horizon and Governors were provided with a tour of the newly constructed NSCC Akerley Student Housing.

6. Forest Research & Innovation

Katrina Leighton, Manager, Forest Research and Innovation presented the Forest Innovation Voucher Program and the Centre of Forest Innovation. She highlighted core programs at NSCC including Natural Resources Environmental Technology, Forest Geomatics and Biometrics Technology and Ecological Forest Management Technology. She also outlined several customized training opportunities including Chainsaw Safety and Log Scaling which is provided in conjunction with the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources. During the presentation she highlighted program goals including advancing ecological forestry, supporting private landowners in adopting ecological forestry, and scaling and expanding capacity of forestry contractors. Katrina concluded the presentation with an overview of the future vision of this work.

Board of Governors – Regular Meeting

7. Move to In-Camera <<see in-camera minutes>>

It was moved by Jim King / Krista Jangaard

That the NSCC Board of Governors Meeting of April 25, 2024 move to In-Camera.

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

8. Committee Updates

8.1 Foundation Update

Gerry Post referenced the Foundation report that was included with the meeting materials and provided a brief update. He shared that Ashley Power has resumed the acting leadership position for the Foundation & Alumni Relations team with the recent announcement of the current incumbent's departure. The Foundation is working with donors and partners through the spring award cycle. Maestro Fresh Wes has established a scholarship with the College for black youth in skilled trades and the first award was presented to a youth taking the Welding Program. He briefly highlighted the Sydney Waterfront Campaign and the work of the Alumni office specifically around convocation and the Alumni-hosted receptions at Convocation ceremonies across the province and the newly developed Alumni Awards. He concluded with a brief financial overview noting total donations for the fiscal year came in at \$5.7M with a 34% increase over projections and total granting was \$5.5M, which surpassed projections by 25% because of the increase in donations.

8.2 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Update

Diane MacConnell-Cameron, Chair of Finance, Audit & Risk Committee provided an update on the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee meeting. Bruce Spares, Director, Internal Audit provided his regular update, but his annual private meeting was postponed until June due to quorum issues. The Committee met without establishing quorum and passed motions via email with full committee membership. Susan Pike from the Foundation presented the Foundation 3rd Quarter Financial Report. She noted the wonderful work happening there to steward donor relationships and investments, and to provide financial support for students. Glenda Barrett, CFO provided a year-end activity update. The College is in the process of closing its books for the 2023-24 fiscal year and anticipates approximately a \$1M deficit for the March 31st fiscal year end, close to the planned deficit budget of \$1.5M. Daniel Kelly presented the Sydney Waterfront Campus update and On-Campus Housing update. The committee had the opportunity to thank Daniel Kelly for the excellent work he and his team are doing.

8.3/8.4 Sydney Waterfront Campus Update and On-Campus Housing Update

Don Bureaux, President provided a brief update on both the Sydney Waterfront Campus and On-Campus Housing. He referenced the materials included within the meeting materials and indicated the projects are all progressing well. He noted the Sydney Waterfront Campus is soon to be finished and he is proud that it has been such a safe and successful build.

Board of Governors – Regular Meeting

9. Programs Committee Updates

Sara Napier, Chair of Programs Committee provided a committee update. She shared that it was a busy meeting with several programming items brought forward. The committee continued to discuss piloting accelerated certificates. She indicated it is not new but there is an increased uptake with Government funding and pressures, and the Committee will continue to discuss the impacts of these types of programming requests. Student Satisfaction survey results were reviewed and discussed at the meeting.

10. Other Business

The President and Board Chair thanked Laurissa Manning for her time on the Board and wished her the best in her new adventure moving overseas. No other business was discussed.

11. Adjourn and Move to Governors Forum

The Chair called to adjourn the meeting of April 25, 2024 and move to Governors' Forum.

It was moved by Jim King / Nicole Robinson

That the NSCC Board of Governors regular meeting of April 25, 2024 adjourn and move to Governors' Forum.

This motion was put to a vote and

CARRIED.

Approved by Board Motion: June 20, 2024