

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PUBLIC SESSION AGENDA

Friday, September 15, 2023

South-Central Campus – Quesnel

Present: I. Agoston, A. Alexander, A. Beswick, D. Den Duyf, J. Henley, D. McIntosh, J. McKay – CHAIR, T. Morrison, P. Mullins, G. Payne, G. Stewart, T. Whitcombe, C. Wishart – CHAIR

Absent: A. Beswick, K. Farrell, M. Reed – VICE-CHAIR,

Governance: K. Howitt (Senior Governance Officer), A. Parent (Governance Officer – Recording), M. Rennie (Governance Coordinator)

Administration: L. Haslett (Associate Vice-President, Administration) A. Lucarelli (Executive Director – Strategy and Staff), W. Rodgers (Vice-President Academic & Provost), R. Somani (Vice-President Finance and Administration), P. Wood-Adams (Vice-President Research and Innovation)

The meeting commenced at 2:15 pm

1. **Acknowledgement of Territory**

The Chair acknowledged the First Nations territories on which we work and that the South-Central campus in Quesnel is situated on the traditional territories of the Lhtako Dene Nation, Nazko First Nation, Lhoosk'uz Dené Nation, and ?Esdilagh First Nation (formerly Alexandria Band). Lhtako, Nazko, and Lhoosk'uz are on traditional Dakelh territory, and ?Esdilagh is a member of the Tsilhqot'in Nation.

2. **Chair's Remarks**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the South-Central Campus.

There are three programs at the South Central campus; Nursing, Education and Social Work.

These three programs support both traditional students and mature students as they gain the education required to fill critical roles as teachers, nurses and social workers in and around Quesnel. The South Central campus supports non-traditional students with families who want to live, learn and work in their home communities.

The Chair acknowledged UNBC partnership with CNC to deliver the Northern Collaborative Baccalaureate Nursing Program (NCBNP), a four year degree program where students attend the first two years at CNC and the final two years at UNBC. CNC supports UNBC students at the Quesnel campus with a rich compliment of student life events, First Nations cultural support, Library Services and many other services that are vital to the student experience.

The Chair acknowledged the staff at the South-Central Campus with his appreciation. The Chair reported that Cathe Wishart has been appointed as the Chair of the University Advancement Advisory Board.

- Declarations of Conflict

The Chair called for any declarations of conflict with items on the Agenda. There were none.

- Correspondence Received

There was no correspondence for the Public Session.

3. **Report from the Closed Session of the Board**

The Chair reported the following items for the June and July Closed Sessions:

a. **June 22, 2023**

- i. Registrar Appointment – Ms. Kimberly Read
- ii. Executive Compensation for the President
- iii. Vice-President, Research and Innovation – Dr. Paula Wood-Adams
- iv. President's Recommendation for Promotion and/or Tenure
- v. Faculty Market Differential Stipend
- vi. University Advancement Advisory Board – Appointments
- vii. UNBC Investment Corporation – Appointments

b. **July 13, 2023**

- i. Ratification of the Tentative Collective Agreement with the UNBC Faculty
- ii. Ratification of the Tentative Collective Agreement with the CUPE 3799

4. **Approval of Agenda**

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.01 (C. Wishart / T. Whitcombe)
That, the Agenda for the Public Session of the September 15, 2023 meeting of the Board of Governors be approved as presented.
CARRIED

5. **Approval of Minutes**

Items 5.a and b were moved as an omnibus motion. Corrections noted to attendance.

a. **Public Session Minutes of March 30, 2023**

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.02 (T. Whitcombe / G. Stewart)
That, the Public Session Minutes of the March 30, 2023 meeting of the Board of Governors be approved as presented.
CARRIED as amended

a. **Public Session Minutes of June 22, 2023**

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.03 (T. Whitcombe/G. Stewart)
That, the Public Session Minutes of the June 22, 2023 meeting of the Board of Governors be approved as presented.
CARRIED as amended

6. **Business Arising from Previous Public Session Minutes**

None.

7. **Reports of Committees and Related Motions**

- (i) **Audit and Risk Committee** – G. Stewart, Chair (**Discussion 2 minutes**)
Written report received.

a. ***Financial Information Act Report*** – R. Somani (**Discussion 1 minute**)

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.04 (G. Stewart / A. Alexander)
That, on the recommendation of the Audit and Risk Committee, the Board of Governors approves the Financial Information Act Report to March 31, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED

- (i) **Finance and Investment Committee** – A. Beswick, Chair
Written report received.

a. Five Year Capital Plan – R. Somani (**Discussion 5 minutes**)

Five Year Capital Plan was received. R. Somani reviewed with the Board and noted two changes from previous submissions:

- IT related projects were included in the Capital Plan
- We were asked to prioritize projects.

A discussion followed. The capitalization of the digital infrastructure is there to support strategic enrollment.

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.05 (G. Stewart / A. Alexander)

That, on the recommendation of the Finance and Investment Committee, the Board of Governors approves the 2024/25 to 2028/29 Five Year Capital Plan for the University of Northern British Columbia, as presented.

CARRIED

b. Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards – P. Wood-Adams/K. Lewis (**Discussion 1 minute**)

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.06 (T. Whitcombe/T. Morrison)

That, on the recommendation of the Finance and Investment Committee, the Board of Governors approves the scholarships, bursaries and awards as recommended and approved by the UNBC Senate, for June - August 2023, as presented.

CARRIED

a. Quarter 1: April to June 2023 Summary (for information) – R. Somani (**Discussion 1 minutes**)

Report received.

- (iii) **Governance and Human Resources Committee** – J. McKay, Chair (**Discussion 2 minutes**)
Written report received.

a. Strategic Plan – G. Payne (**Discussion 13 minutes**)

The Strategic Plan was received. The Board discussed the roll out of the plan and how it will flow down to impact both academic and non-academic departments.

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.07 (G. Payne/T. Morrison)

That, on the recommendation of the UNBC Senate and the Governance and Human Resources Committee, the Board of Governors approves the UNBC Strategic Plan, as presented.

CARRIED

Items 7 (iii) (b) and (c) were moved as an omnibus. (**Discussion 4 minutes**)

b. Memorandum of Understanding – UNBC, CNC, and SD57 – Technology Exploration Program - W. Rodgers

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.08 (T. Whitcombe / D. Den Duyf)

That, on the recommendation of the UNBC Senate, the Board of Governors, approves the Memorandum of Understanding between UNBC, the College of New Caledonia, and School District No. 57 be approved as proposed.

CARRIED

- c. **Memorandum of Understanding** - UNBC, CNC, and Coast Mountain College – Northern Collaborative Baccalaureate Nursing Program – W. Rodgers

There was a question where it says the Collaborative Management Committee each school has one vote and the Terms of Reference where it says 'consensus'.

M. Caldwell indicated that this question would need to go back to the partners to resolve the discrepancy. She will report back.

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.09 (T. Whitcombe / D. Den Duyf)

That, on the recommendation of the UNBC Senate, the Board of Governors, approves the Memorandum of Understanding between UNBC, College of New Caledonia, and Coast Mountain College for the joint-delivery of the Northern Collaborative Baccalaureate Nursing Program as presented.

CARRIED

8. **Board Motions**

- a. **UNBC Pension Trust** - R. Somani (**Discussion 4 minutes**)

The Chair acknowledged that there was a question on conflict for faculty, staff and administrators who are contributors to the pension plan. This was discussed and it is considered that 'entitlement to a pension or other benefit under the Plan does not in itself constitute a conflict of interest'.

The Pension Trust motions went to all three committees for approval as the pension plan crosses over into the terms of reference for all three committees. Prior to 2015, the committee of responsibility varied – for example, the Trust Agreement went to the committee responsible for employment relations and the audited pension statements went to the audit committee.

- i. **Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures (SIP&P)**, Superseding Document; UNBC Statement of Investment Policies December 6, 2008

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.10 (C. Wishart/T. Whitcombe)

That, on the recommendations of the Governance and Human Resources Committee, the Finance and Investment Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee, the Board of Governors, approves the Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures as presented.

CARRIED

- ii. **Trust Agreement, effective October 1, 2022**, Superseding Document: UNBC Pension Trust Agreement November 26, 2005

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.11 (D. Den Duyf / T. Morrison)

That, on the recommendations of the Governance and Human Resources Committee, the Finance and Investment Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee, the Board of Governors, approves the Trust Agreement as presented.

CARRIED

- iii. **Governance Policy UNBC Retirement Savings Plan**; Superseding Document: Governance Policy January 1, 2016.

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.12 (C. Wishart/G. Stewart)

That, on the recommendations of the Governance and Human Resources Committee, the Finance and Investment Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee, the Board of Governors, approves the Governance Policy UNBC Retirement Savings Plan Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures as presented.

CARRIED

- iv. **Ellement Performance Report – University of Northern BC Staff Pension Plan** (*for information*)

9. Mandatory and Standing Reports – Public Session

a. **Report of the President – G. Payne (Discussion 10 minutes)**

- Regular Report
Written report received and discussed.

- Senate Update (verbal)
 - Regular Senate meetings were held in June and August.
 - Next Senate regular meeting is on September 27, 2023.
 - Senate continues its usual business of course revisions, approvals and other calendar updates. Some motions of note, include:
 - New academic courses in Engineering, Chemistry and Counselling
 - Change(s) to Degree Title for the Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a Bachelor of Nisga'a Language Fluency Degree to a Bachelor of Arts.
 - Changes to Degree and program requirements for the MNRES Program, the Bachelor of Social Work Program, the MEd Counselling Program, the BEd program and Engineering.

 - Senate received a Presentation on the Student Research Ambassadors.
 - Senate has been having Open Discussions on Chat GPT and the use of other Applications. As this is a quickly evolving topic, this will continue to be a standing item.
 - Changes to the Term of Reference for the Senate Committee on Academic Affairs.
 - Approval of Memorandum of Understandings between UNBC, CNC and SD 57 and between UNBC, CNC and Coast Mountain College.
 - Approval and recommendation to the Board of the Strategic Plan.
 - Approval and recommendation to the Board of two Naming Proposals.
 - Senate approved 6 new Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries.
 - Senate revised the terms of reference and conditions for nine awards and bursaries.
 - Senate approved the 2023 Academic Distinction Recipients.
 - Senate revised the criteria for the UNBC Scholars Award.
 - Senate will be receiving presentations in the Fall on:
 - Curriculum Cyle at UNBC - K. Read
 - Graduate Admissions – J. Mitchell Nielsen, K. Read

b. **Public Reports of the Vice-Presidents, written**

- Vice-President Academic and Provost – W. Rodgers (**Discussion 7 minutes**)
Written report received and discussed.

- Vice-President, Finance and Administration – R. Somani (**Discussion 6 minutes**)
Written report received and discussed.

L. Haslett provided update on the damaged Wood Innovation Research Lab (WIRL). On August 22 an explosion and fire at an adjacent property damaged the WIRL building, resulting in significant structure and equipment damage. (**Discussion 17 minutes**)

- Vice-President, Research and Innovation – P. Wood-Adams/K. Lewis (**Discussion 14 minutes**)
Written report received and discussed. P. Wood-Adams discussed her priorities as the new VPRI.

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.13 (Mullins/C. Wishart)

The board expresses its sincere thanks and gratitude to Dr. Kathy Lewis in recognition of her extraordinary contributions and assistance to UNBC as Interim Vice President Research, and Interim

Dean of Faculty of Environment, over and above her long service to the University as a Faculty member and program chair.

CARRIED

10. Other Business

a. Mandate Letter to the Board Chair - J. McKay

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.14 (D. Den Duyf/ T. Morrison)

That on the recommendation of the Governance and Human Resources Committee, the Board of Governors approves the signing of the 2023/2024 Minister Letter, and further recommends that the Board authorize the Board Chair to sign the Minister Letter on behalf of the Board.

CARRIED

b. Schedule of Upcoming UNBC Events

- September 24 – Soccer – Pride Day
- October 5 – Strategic Plan Roll Out
- October 13 - Soccer - Nats'ilnik
- October 15- Soccer - Women's Senior Day
- October 22 - Soccer - Men's Senior Day
- October 24 – Informal Board and Senate Get Together
- October 28 – Fall Discovery Open House
- November 3 – First Basketball Game
- November 16 – Quarterly Board Meeting

For more UNBC events, please visit www2.unbc.ca/events

It was noted that there are no UNBC events listed for September 30 Truth and Reconciliation Day. The President indicated that we are encouraged to participate in community events hosted by the Nations.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: 2023BP09.15.15 (T. Whitcombe)

That the Board Public Session be adjourned.

CARRIED

Adjourned at 3:40 pm.