



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

Board of Governors Open Session Minutes

Monday, May 30, 2022
Zoom Virtual Meeting
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Kate Chisholm	Appointed Chair, General Public
Guy Bridgeman	Appointed Vice-Chair, General Public
Zarina Bhambhani	Appointed Member, Additional Member
Ayaz Bhanji	Appointed Member, University of Alberta Alumni Association Representative
Heather Bruce	Appointed Member, Academic Staff Representative (AASUA Appointee)
Alexander Dorscheid	Appointed Member, Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative
Daniel Eggert	Appointed Member, General Public
Anas Fassih	Appointed Member, President, Graduate Students' Association
Bill Flanagan	Appointed Member, President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Alberta
Peggy Garritty	Appointed Member, Chancellor
Mona Hale	Appointed Member, General Public
Janice MacKinnon	Appointed Member, General Public
Abner Monteiro	Appointed Member, President (Students' Union)
Sett Policicchio	Appointed Member, General Public
Thomas (Tom) Ross	Appointed Member, General Public
Rakesh Saraf	Appointed Member, General Public
Andrei Tabirca	Appointed Member, Non-Academic Staff Representative (NASA Appointee)
Robert Ryan Thompson	Appointed Member, University of Alberta Alumni Association Representative
Dilini Vethanayagam	Appointed Member, Academic Staff Representative (GFC Appointee)
Paul Whittaker	Appointed Member, General Public
Lillian Zenari	Appointed Member, Additional Member

Non-Voting Officials Appointed by the President:

Steven Dew	Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Todd Gilchrist	Vice-President (University Services and Finance)
Brad Hamdon	General Counsel and University Secretary
Elan MacDonald	Vice-President (External Relations)
Aminah Robinson Fayek	Vice-President (Research and Innovation)
Andrew Sharman	Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
Catherine Swindlehurst	Chief Strategic Officer (President's Office)
Juli Zinken	Secretary and Manager of Services, Committee Officer

Regrets:

Charlene Butler	Appointed Member, General Public
Margot Ross-Graham	Appointed Member, University of Alberta Senate Representative

Presenters:

Martin Coutts	Associate Vice-President (Finance, Procurement and Planning)
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Staff:

Erin Plume, Assistant Board Secretary

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and welcomed members and guests.

IN CAMERA SESSION OF VOTING MEMBERS ONLY

Members met *in camera* at the start of the meeting.

OPENING SESSION

1. Chair's Session

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The Chair acknowledged Treaty 6 territory, the traditional and ancestral territory of the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Saulteaux, and Nakota Sioux; home to the Metis Settlements and the Metis Nation of Alberta, Regions 2, 3, and 4 within the historical Northwest Metis Homeland; and a traditional gathering place for these diverse Indigenous peoples whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence and enrich our community. She indicated that to acknowledge the territory was to recognize the longer history of these lands, and that the acknowledgement signified our commitment to working in Good Relations with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit peoples as we engage in our institutional work, uplifting the whole people, for the University for Tomorrow

1a. Call to Order and Confirmation of Quorum

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The Board Secretary confirmed that the attendance constituted quorum.

1b. Approval of Open Session Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Open Session agenda, as presented.

CARRIED

1c. Conflict of Interest - Opportunity for Declaration

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The Chair invited members to declare any conflicts of interest related to the open session agenda. Seeing no conflicts, the Chair declared the question asked and answered.

1d. Chair's Remarks

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

There were no comments.

ACTION ITEMS

Report of the Audit and Risk Committee

Presenter(s): Mona Hale

2. Management's Annual Audited Financial Statements (Draft) and review Financial Statement Discussion and Analysis (Draft)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Todd Gilchrist; Martin Coutts

Purpose of the Proposal: To approve the audited Consolidated Financial Statements as required by the Post-Secondary Learning Act.

Discussion:

M Hale introduced the item and informed the Board that the Audit and Risk Committee had met earlier that morning, discussed the financial statements with the External Auditor, and recommended approval of the statements to the Board of Governors. She indicated that it was a clean audit with no observations from the External Auditor, and informed the Board that the university would end the year in a surplus position largely due to unusual onetime factors.

T Gilchrist provided an overview of the 2021-22 context and reviewed the 2021-22 financial results and components of the operating surplus variance to budget, including: the sale of tangible capital assets (\$34.9M), recovery of a cumulative endowment encroachment (\$31.2M), higher-than-anticipated realized gains on non-endowed income (\$53.3M), and lower expenditures than budgeted (\$7.7M). He then briefed members on plans to transfer \$48M into the university's investment income reserve, and an upcoming proposal to seek Board approval for the allocation of \$32M from the Strategic Initiatives Fund (SIF) to fund one-time strategic priorities, including a portion to the university's deferred maintenance liability, and another to the pension reserve.

Mr Coutts then reviewed the operating variance net asset observations, including the increases in unrestricted and internally restricted net assets as well as changes to the investments in tangible capital assets and endowments, and noted that the external auditor had presented no audit recommendations.

Mr Gilchrist responded to questions from the Board regarding: confirmation of the total operating surplus; whether the endowment encroachment had been recently replenished; and whether it was possible to repurpose surplus funds toward human resources or research.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Audit and Risk Committee, approve the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022, as set forth in Attachment 2.

CARRIED

CLOSING SESSION

3. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the Open Session at 11:20 a.m.