



THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF GOVERNORS PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday, March 28, 2024

1:00 PM

Clock Tower Boardroom, CT309

MINUTES

Board members present:

DeDe DeRose, Hasnat Dewan, Heather Fader, Brett Fairbairn, Katy Gottfriedson, Jim Hamilton, Dian Henderson, Marilyn McLean, Cindy Ozouf, Anshuman Walia

Regrets:

Hee Young Chung, David Hallinan

Absent:

Shariyer Chowdhury

Executive and others present:

Gillian Balfour (Provost and Vice-President Academic), Baihua Chadwick (Vice-President International), Brian Daly (Vice-President University Relations), Matt Milovick (Vice-President Administration and Finance), Shannon Wagner (Vice-President Research), Scott Blackford (Legal Counsel), Charlene Myers (Manager, University Governance), Lynda Worth (University Governance Coordinator), Jeneen Hems-Jensen, Natasha Ramroop Singh

1. CALL TO ORDER

The chair, M. McLean, called the meeting to order at 1:02pm.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

M. McLean delivered the territorial acknowledgment.

3. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

a. Natasha Ramroop Singh, BCcampus Award for Excellence in Open Education

Presenting Natasha Ramroop Singh with a certificate of recognition, the board congratulated her for the BCcampus Award for Excellence in Open Education.

- b. Jeneen HERN-JENSEN, All My Relations (Knowledge Makers) collaboration with the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization

The board presented J. HERN-JENSEN with a certificate of recognition for the work done by the team in All My Relations on this collaboration.

4. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

*On motion duly made and adopted, it was **RESOLVED** that the agenda be adopted as circulated.*

5. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES**

No governors expressed conflicts of interests.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Minutes of Extraordinary Public meeting of January 29, 2024

*On motion duly made and adopted, it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the extraordinary public board meeting of January 29, 2024 be approved as circulated.*

- b. Minutes of Board Public meeting of February 23, 2024

*On motion duly made and adopted, it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public board meeting of February 23, 2024 be approved as circulated.*

7. **BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT**

M. McLean delivered her report.

- a. Report on election of board chair and vice-chair, to assume office on April 2, 2024

M. McLean reported that the Presidential Search Committee would begin meeting soon and that the board chair is the chair of that committee. She explained that she would be unable to fulfil this responsibility because her term as a governor was ending in July and that, therefore, she was stepping down as board chair effective April 2. M. McLean added that H. Chung had been elected as board chair and D. Hallinan had been elected as board vice-chair, effective April 2.

b. Presidential Search Committee appointments

M. McLean reported that D. Hallinan and H. Fader had been appointed to serve on the Presidential Search Committee (in addition to the board chair, who is the committee's chair).

c. Joint workshop of governors with members of Senate

The chair reported that this workshop would be held sometime soon.

8. REPORT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

In the absence of the committee's chair, D. Hallinan, M. McLean presented the report from the Finance Committee.

M. McLean invited G. Balfour and M. Milovick to present the 2024-2025 Budget.

a. 2024-2025 Budget

G. Balfour and M. Milovick presented the budget. Discussion ensued.

*On motion duly made and adopted, it was **RESOLVED** that the board approve the 2024-2025 Budget, as circulated.*

i. Funding for capital projects

M. Milovick spoke about the proposed funding for capital projects, asking the board to approve the capital budget of \$26.3M for FY2024/25, including the estimated FY24/25 spending for the Low Carbon District Energy System project, Phase I (est. \$6M) and the Indigenous Education Centre (est. \$4M) that had already received Board approval.

*On motion duly made and adopted, it was **RESOLVED** that the board approve the funding for capital projects, as circulated.*

9. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Fairbairn delivered his report.

a. President's Report to the Board

B. Fairbairn spoke to several matters in his written report, a copy of which had been circulated with the agenda package.

b. President's Reports to Senate

The following reports from the president to senate were circulated with the agenda package.

- i. February 2024
- ii. March 2024

10. SENATE REPORT

B. Fairbairn, chair of senate, delivered the report from senate.

a. Population Health and Aging Rural Research Centre (PHARR)

B. Fairbairn presented information about research centres at TRU, and the PHARR in particular.

*On motion duly made and adopted, it was **RESOLVED** that, on the recommendation of senate, the board approve the proposal for the establishment of the Population Health and Aging Rural Research (PHARR) Centre as presented.*

b. Proposed revisions to BRD 26-0 Annual Academic Schedule

B. Fairbairn indicated that notice of motion for the proposed revisions to this policy had been served by the board on February 23, 2024. He explained the proposed revisions to this policy and the Examinations policy, and added that the changes to each policy were contingent on the proposed changes being approved to the other policy.

*On motion duly made and adopted, it was **RESOLVED** that the board approve the proposed changes to BRD 26-0 (Annual Academic Schedule), as circulated.*

11. BUSINESS

a. Tuition and fee structure for the Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Engineering

G. Balfour presented this agenda item, explaining the background to the proposal.

*On motion duly made and adopted, it was **RESOLVED** that the Board of Governors approve the tuition and fee structure for the first intake of students for the Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Engineering, as circulated.*

b. Master of Arts in Human Rights and Social Justice extension rates

G. Balfour presented this agenda item.

*On motion duly made and adopted, it was **RESOLVED** that the Board of Governors approve the Master of Arts, Human Rights and Social Justice extension rate proposal, as circulated.*

c. BRD 23-0 Environmental Policy

M. Milovick asked that the board approve this policy in principle. He reported that the secretariat would post it for notice of motion for two weeks and asked that, if there were no salient changes recommended by any comments received, the board consider it approved. M. Milovick explained that he was requesting a deviation from the typical policy approval process for this policy because there was some available grant money on the table, contingent upon the proposed updates to the policy being approved by the board.

*On motion duly made and adopted, it was **RESOLVED** that the board serve Notice of Motion (a two-week notice period) for the proposed revisions to BRD 23-0 Environmental Policy and approve the revised policy In Principle with the understanding that, if there is no material feedback received through the notice of motion period, the approval will be formalized at the end of the notice period.*

d. Policy Development and Approval Policy

S. Blackford explained that the board was being asked to serve notice of motion for this policy, which had already undergone extensive consultation, and that it would be considered for decision at the June board meeting.

12. PRESENTATION

a. Empowering Future Canadians

B. Chadwick presented this topic to the board, for information.

13. NEXT BOARD MEETING

a. The next board meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 14, 2024 in the Clock Tower Boardroom.

14. TERMINATION OF MEETING

As there were no further agenda items, the meeting terminated at 2:34pm.