

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

4:30 p.m. – 6:20 pm

Trail Campus, Room 208 / Zoom

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

BOARD MEMBERS:

Margaret Sutherland, Chair
Debbie Bird
Bronwyn Krause
Kim Pham
Maggie Matear, President

Christy Anderson, Vice Chair
Kris Salikin
Ken Wyllie
Kamalpreet Singh

REGRETS:

John Dutton
Amed Naqvi
Abhilash Bhasin

Danny Bradford
Sarah Lechthaler, EdCo Chair

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS:

Taya Whitehead Vice President Education & Students
Lareena Rilkooff, Executive Director Finance & Risk
Stacey Matthews, Executive Director HR
James Heth, Registrar
Donna Drover, Director Facilities & Business Services
Allison Alder, Dean

Tracy Punchard, Dean

Nick Howald, CIO

GUESTS:

Jennie Barron, Chair, Mir Centre for Peace, Instructor
Andrew Jupp, Acting Manager Advancement & Community Relations

BOARD OBSERVERS:

Ken Laing, SCFA

TOPIC

1. MEETING OPENING

Elder Murhi Kencayd opened the meeting in a good way.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Board Chair, Margaret Sutherland, provided a territorial acknowledgment.

3. ADDITIONS TO THE OPEN SESSION AGENDA OF MARCH 26, 2024

There were no additions to the agenda of March 26, 2024.

4. ADOPTION OF THE OPEN SESSION AGENDA OF MARCH 26, 2024

MOTION: "To adopt the open session agenda of March 26, 2024 as circulated."

Carried

5. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA OF MARCH 26, 2024

- Draft Open Session Board Minutes of February 27, 2024
- March Enrolment Dashboard
- Education Council Report (Strategic Directions 1,2)
- Letter from PSFS Minister Beare dated March 11, 2024

MOTION: "To adopt the consent agenda of March 26, 2024 as circulated."

Carried

6. PRESENTATION

- Mir Centre for Peace
- Presenter Jennie Barron Chair, Mir Centre for Peace, Instructor
- Topics included:
 - Mission, Vision, Values of the Mir Centre
 - College Commitments: Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, Reconciliation, Research & Innovation, Sustainability, Wellness
 - Global Reach, Local Roots
 - Unique Opportunities for Students
 - Impact
 - Community Connections
- Discussion ensued regarding Mir Centre activities.

7. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

- The President reviewed the circulated report and provided a further brief verbal report.
- The college has partnered with Oso Negro resulting in a *Remarkable Futures* medium roast coffee which is being used as gifts to commemorate guest visits. Other similar partnerships are being sought (tea, chocolate).
- To date in the strategic planning process the following have been conducted:
 - Eleven in-person group engagement sessions across all campuses and learning centres.
 - Three online group engagement sessions.
 - Ten one-on-one interviews with six others scheduled.
 - Working toward 300-400 completed online surveys.
 - An environmental scan has been received from HESA and it has been shared with Steering Committee and will be shared with the internal college community along with questions regarding the scan for consideration.
- The Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) program will be extended and renamed. No disruption expected for the people already participating in the program.

8. 2025 DRAFT BUDGET

- The Executive Director Finance & Risk reviewed the circulated briefing note in detail. As stated in the briefing note:
 - The Collective Rate increases, including the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA), have been included in this budget. We have not received confirmation from the Ministry on the offsetting operating grant increase for COLA and therefore, have not included an increase in operating grant revenue in this budget. We anticipate that the operating grant will be increased by the Ministry in April or May 2024. If this occurs, the additional operating grant revenue will be added into the first quarter forecast for fiscal 2025, which would further reduce the projected deficit for the year.
- Discussion ensued.

MOTION: “To approve the 2024/2025 \$2,408,863 deficit operating budget as presented.”

Carried

9. 2023-2024 BOARD OF GOVERNORS AWARDS

- Distinguished Alumna: Frances Swan
- Distinguished Educator, and Honorary Diploma: No nominations were received.

MOTION: “To approve the 2024 Board Award recipient as recommended by the Selection Committee.”

Carried

10. FACILITIES

- The Director of Facilities and Business Services reviewed the circulated briefing note that provided an overview of Facilities as a whole and included:
 - Yearly work order breakdown by campus and category;
 - Status of routine capital projects;
 - Capital project updates; and
 - A list of upcoming major projects being considered.
 - Columbia Basin Trust has donated \$60,000 of e-bikes for students living in campus housing to borrow. Waivers and a training program are being developed.
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11. 2024-2025 PRELIMINARY ENROLMENT PLAN

- The Vice President Education and Students reviewed the circulated briefing note.
 - Overall, the enrolment outlook for 2024/2025 looks positive.
 - The focus for 2024-2026 will be a modest, but steady increase in domestic enrolment.
 - Planning for a potential decrease in international enrolment.
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12. REGIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

- Board members volunteered to present scholarships at regional high school graduation ceremonies this spring.
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13. CHAIR'S REPORT

- The Board Chair's activities over the past month included:
 - BC Board Chair meeting;
 - Introductory meeting by phone with new PSFS Minister, Lisa Beare; and
 - Scheduled to meet with CABRO next week to discuss board appointments.
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14. MEMBERS' REPORT

- The Board Vice Chair attended a breakfast meeting with Selkirk College President, and BC Colleges President last week in Castlegar.
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15. CLOSED SESSION

Motion: "To move into the closed session."

Carried
