Cape Breton University Board of Governors Public Meeting

Friday, January 18, 2019 Following Prologue CE-339

1 - 5 Opening Information/Discussion

Present:

Mr. Robert Sampson (Chair), Mr. Mark Shannon (Vice Chair), Mr. David Dingwall (President), Mr. Gordon MacInnis (Treasurer), Dr. Richard MacKinnon (Secretary), Mr. Nagy Abdou, Mr. Pat Bates, Ms. Carol Beaton, Mr. Parteek Brar, Dr. Sheila Christie, Mr. Michael Claener, Ms. Bhreagh Gillis, Mr. Calvin Howley, Mr. Pierre Jean, Mr. Terry Kelly, Mr. Clayton Locke, Mr. Keith MacDonald, Mr. Bernie MacLennan, Ms. Emily MacLennan, Mr. Kirk MacRae, Mr. Jim Mustard, Mr. Steve Parsons, Mr. Darryl Poirier, Mr. Michael Sandalis

Regrets:

Dr. Ann Francis D'Intino, Tara Milburn, Ms. Ann Sylliboy

The Chair declared quorum and called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.

Mr. Sampson began with the acknowledgement that Cape Breton University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) people first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

2 Minutes

2.1 - It was moved by Mr. MacLennan, seconded by Mr. Poirier, to approve the Public Minutes of October 25, 2018. **Motion carried.**

3 Business Arising – N/A

4 Reports

4.1 President's Report

President Dingwall referred to his report as circulated electronically in advance of the meeting and welcomed any comments or questions. On the question of technical support for the implementation of the new ERP system, Mr. MacInnis reported that through the service provider, most of these services are from a US company.

4.2 Report of Senate

Dr. Christie reported that Senate met in November and December where approvals were granted to change dates for drop dates without academic penalties, the Planning and Review Committee has established three academic priorities: provide logistical support for off-campus educational activities, review and upgrade learning spaces, and to explore what sustainable growth will look like. Senate also discussed the various stresses on all departments within CBU with regard to the large enrolment influx. Senate wishes to bring to the attention of the Board the development of a University of Canada being developed in Egypt and that CBU is in talks to ensure we are involved and included in their offerings. During the last meeting, Senate approved the World Tourism Institute

and received a presentation from Parks Canada CBU Hub. Finally, she noted, that Senate continues to review the articulation and transfer agreements. Mr. Bates also noted that he is involved in the branding sessions on behalf of Senate.

4.3 Report of the Students' Union

Mr. Parteek Brar, CBUSU President, reported that the Union has been quite busy with the increased enrolment of international students. Housing and transport have become less of an issue and students are reporting positively in these areas. The Union is working with Mr. Scott Thomas to assist with various student concerns. He also reported that general elections for 2019/20 will be taking place on February 14/15.

On the question of housing, Mr. Brar responded that biggest issue for international students is that they are not fully aware of housing regulations in Canada. He suggested that additional educational pieces are needed during the recruitment and orientation processes.

4.4 Special Announcements, Questions - N/A

5 Treasurer's Report

5.1 Financial Statements

Mr. MacInnis referred to the Financial Statements circulated with the meeting package and the following key items were highlighted and discussed:

- CBU's cash position is very healthy.
- The student accounts receivable balance has increased due to increased international student enrolment which, in turn, generates higher tuition and fee charges.
- Higher enrolment levels will also result in increased and unbudgeted instructional costs and student support service expenditures.
- The treasury agreement with BMO has been renegotiated.
- Service award liability continues to decline as CBUFA members have now transitioned to the provincial pension plan (PSSP).
- Investments are reporting approximately \$33.4 million; market value \$37.3 million.
- Increased liabilities are due to accrued salaries, human resource obligations, accrued costs to fund anticipated growth in vacation accruals and pension contributions, monies generated through student union fees, and normal trade payables.
- Expenditures are tracking as expected however, with the enrolment growth unanticipated expenses in various areas are expected.
- A positive variance is expected for year end.

6 Committee Reports

6.1 Executive Committee

Mr. Sampson, reported that the Executive Committee met on January 17th. He noted that all items discussed have been, or will be, covered on the Prologue or Public agendas with one acceptation of the suggestion change of the April meeting. It was suggested that this meeting be moved to May 3, 2019. Members accepted this change with acceptation to the SU members expressing concern that this would be the first meeting of the newly elected members.

6.2 Investment Committee

Mr. Kelly reported that the Committee met on January 17th and that the year-end reports will be available for the next meeting. He reported that globally, CBU is break-even which, considering the less than favorable previous month, is positive. A more fulsome report should be expected during the next meeting.

- 7 Items Requiring Action \ Decision N/A
- 8 New Business N/A
- 9 Presentations N/A
- 10 Open Session N/A

11 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Friday, March 8, 2019. Members agreed to move the scheduled April meeting to May 3rd.

12 Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. MacLennan to adjourn the meeting at 12:39 pm. Motion carried.

Dr. Richard MacKinnon, Secretary to the Board