

**Cape Breton University
Board of Governors
Public Meeting**

**Friday, March 6, 2020
Following Prologue
CE-339**

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.

1 – 5 Opening Information/Discussion

1. Roll Call

Present:

Mr. Robert Sampson (Chair), Ms. Denise Allen (Vice Chair) Mr. David Dingwall (President), Mr. Gordon MacInnis (Treasurer), Dr. Richard MacKinnon (Secretary), Mr. Parteek Brar, Mr. Bill Burke, Mr. Pat Bates, Ms. Carol Beaton, Mr. Michael Claener, Ms. Melissa Deane, Ms. Emma Drohan, Dr. Donnie Holland, Ms. Angela Houston, Mr. Calvin Howley, Mr. Pierre Jean, Mr. Terry Kelly, Mr. Keith MacDonald, Mr. Bernie MacLennan, Mr. Keith Maher, Mr. Kirk MacRae, Ms. Tara Milburn, Mr. Jim Mustard, Ms. Amera Othman, Mr. Michael Sandalis, Mr. Samual Shaji, Ms. Ann Sylliboy, Mr. Steve Wadden

Regrets:

Dr. Ann Frances D'Intino, Ms. Amanda Mombourquette, Mr. Steve Parsons, Mr. Darryl Poirier, Dr. Scott Rodney, Ms. Harman Singh

The Chair declared quorum and called the meeting to order at 10:30 am. He welcomed the incoming Students' Union executive attending as spectators: Amrinder Singh, President elect and Tom Joseph Scaria, Executive Vice President, elect.

2 Minutes

2.1 - It was moved by Mr. MacRae, seconded by Mr. Kelly, to approve the Public Minutes of December 6, 2019. **Motion carried.**

3 Business Arising – N/A

4 Reports

4.1 Report of Senate

Mr. MacLennan reported that the Senate met on December 13th and January 24th where various items were discussed and approved including; a variety of course proposals, the Academic Plan, the pre-budget report from the Planning & Review Committee, changes to the course syllabus policy, election of a new representative on the Board of Governors, notice was give that a Strategic Research Plan is under development and Fr. Doug MacDonald provided Senators with information on the workings of Chaplaincy.

4.2 Report of the Students' Union

Mr. Brar reported that the Union recently held elections where over 1300 students cast ballots and he too, welcomed Mr. Singh and Mr. Scaria. The Union recently completed their health living week which focused physical and mental health activities each day. Information sharing has begun with regard to the Corona virus to ensure students are aware of the situation and precautions they should take to protect themselves. He also noted the collaborative time introduced in the time table this year, has proven to be an effective and useful time for students.

4.3 Special Announcements, Question – N/A

4.4 President's Report

President Dingwall referred to his report circulated in advance of the meeting. In addition to the report, he noted that 62 seats have been added to the Nursing Program, and referred to the recent announcement from the Government of Nova Scotia with respect to an allocation of \$20 million for infrastructure and deferred maintenance. CBU's share of this fund, \$1.1 million, will be directed to the refurbishment of classroom spaces. He also advised that a task force has been formed to monitor the COVID-19 situation. He noted that the Cabot Links Golf Experience will host professional golfer Brooke Henderson and that Clara Hughes will be the celebrity guest for President's Leadership Dinner in September.

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 remains very strong
- The student receivable balance has grown 53%.
- The book value of investments held by CBU for residence replacement, endowment, and special purposes total \$40,947,000. The January 31, 2020 market value of investments totals \$44.0 million.
- Prepaid student deposits total \$11,061,000 not \$11,061,000,000 as noted in the report.
- Expenditures are substantially within budgeted targets however over-expenditures will occur in academic departments experiencing high enrolment growth, international recruitment due to agency commissions, and the Finance department due to an increased bad debt provision, as well as departments providing support services to the increased numbers of students.
- The 2020/21 budget process is now underway with the budget scheduled to be presented during the April Board meeting.

On the question pre-paid deposits, Mr. MacInnis noted that CBU does not have policy to segregate these deposits but they are tracked. He also responded to questions on outstanding student balances and efforts to address the issue.

6 Committee Reports

6.1 Executive Committee

Mr. Sampson, reported that the Executive Committee met on March 5th when the Committee approved the agenda items for the meetings today. All items discussed have been, or will be covered by other agenda items.

6.2 Investment Committee

Committee Chair, Mr. MacRae reported that the Committee met on March 5th when Eckler provided a presentation on the annual review of investments. He noted that the investments have been performing exceptionally well. One item the Committee is addressing is the asset allocation and if the 40-60 mix should be adjusted. Eckler provided case scenarios that would support the change which included risk levels.

7 Items Requiring Action \ Decision – N/A

8 New Business

8.1 Nursing Program

Referring to President Dingwall earlier comment, Mr. MacInnis noted the addition of 62 new seats for the CBU nursing program for the fall announced by the Province, has a focus on First Nations and African Nova Scotia communities. Resources will be provided to develop a support network, to deliver 60% of the first year in-community, scholarships, and the ability to develop programming in the secondary school systems.

8.2 Notice of Motion

Mr. Bill Burked noted that under the CBU Bylaws and CBU Act an external member can serve no more two three-year terms. In efforts to maintain continuity, CBU is suggesting this be adjusted, however because it is an Act provision, a request must be made to the Province to have the CBU Act amended. It was suggested that should the Act be opened for revision that the composition of members also be reviewed. **It was moved** by Mr. Burke, seconded by Mr. Claener, that administration be approved to approach the Province to request a change in the Cape Breton University Act allow for a change in the number of terms a member can serve. **Motion carried.**

9 Presentations

9.1 Campus Infrastructure – Mr. Donnie MacIsaac

In a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. MacIsaac provided members with the status of current and planned capital projects. He detailed a list of projects completed in the last 12 months, including the cost of each project as well as a list of current and planned projects with estimated costs for each. One of the major projects under consideration is the Linkway Accessibility. The portion of campus between the Arseneau/Britten Building and the Marvin Harvey Building is not fully accessible without having to exit one building and reenter another. He displayed a design submitted by Trifos that could address this issue but noted that to complete the project the linkway would have to be closed for approximately eight months and an outdoor, covered walkway would have to be constructed. He also shared a rendering of the completed Pit Lounge renovation, currently under construction. A project under consideration is the redesign of the Canada Games Complex; one that would include a fitness centre, walking track and storage facility. He provided possible design ideas that have been developed but noted that a final design has not yet been decided upon. In response to the sustainability of the various projects reviewed, Mr. MacIsaac noted that every opportunity for using sustainably and energy efficient options are being explored. President Dingwall added that these items are part and parcel of the Strategic Plan that will benefit students, faculty, and staff and will add to the Recreation Plan of the CBRM.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. MacIsaac and the Facilities Management Department were thanked for their contributions and dedication to the campus during this very busy time.

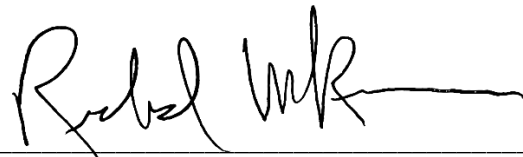
10 Open Session – N/A

11 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Friday, April 24, 2020.

12 Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. MacLennan to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 pm. **Motion carried.**



Dr. Richard MacKinnon, Secretary to the Board