

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

**Friday, April 22, 2022  
Following Public  
MS Teams**

**1 – 5 Opening Information/Discussion**

**1. Roll Call**

**Present:**

Mr. Robert Sampson (Chair), Mr. David Dingwall (President), Ms. Denise Allen (Vice-Chair), Mr. Gordon MacInnis (Treasurer), Dr. Richard MacKinnon (Secretary), Ms. Carol Beaton, Ms. Valerie Bobyk, Mr. Simon Chen, Mr. Michael Claener, Mr. Logan Collins, Ms. Melissa Deane, Dr. Anne Frances D'Intino, Mr. Calvin Howley, Mr. Terry Kelly, Mr. Keith MacDonald, Mr. Bernie MacLennan, Mr. Keith Maher, Ms. Tara Milburn, Ms. Mandy Nguyen, Ms. Kate Oland, Mr. Darryl Poirier, Ms. Dena Richardson, Mr. Michael Sandalis, Ms. Harman Singh, Ms. Chloe Stewart, Ms. Ann Sylliboy, Mr. Steve Wadden

**Regrets:**

Mr. Bill Burke, Dr. Donnie Holland, Ms. Angela Houston, Ms. Amanda Mombourquette, Mr. Kirk MacRae, Mr. Jim Mustard, Dr. Marcia Ostashewski

The Chair declared quorum and called the meeting to order at 9:45 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 the surrender of lands and resources but, in fact, recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) titles and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

**2. Minutes**

**2.1 - It was moved** by Mr. Claener, seconded by Mr. Poirier, to approve the minutes of March 4, 2022. **Motion carried.**

**3 Business Arising – N/A**

**4 Reports**

**4.1 Senate**

Mr. MacLennan reported that the Senate met on March 25<sup>th</sup> and the following items were discussed/approved:

- The final report of the working group on Senate Structure & Succession

- English 2240 (A & B)-Shakespeare and English 3652 (A & B) – The Short Story were retired and replaced with three-credit versions (English 224X – Shakespeare and English 3 – The Short Story)
- New Course: English 3404/4404 Indigenous Drama in Canada
- The final draft of the Revised Graduate Attributes was presented, and Senators were asked to give to their colleagues for input and feedback. A separate communication will be sent to all employees with more information.
- The following change to the subsection ‘General Principles for Scheduling of Final Exams’ of the Exam Policies and Procedures: *“No cumulative test or examination may be held in any course in either the last five teaching days of the term or the study period (defined as the period of time between the last day of classes and the beginning of the examination period) immediately preceding the December and April examination periods, with two exceptions: i. practical laboratory examinations and ii. **make-up exams for individual students who were absent from an exam scheduled earlier in the semester.** The provisions in this paragraph cannot be waived even with mutual consent of students and instructor.” [Substantive change in bold.]*

#### 4.2 Report of the Students' Union

Mr. Collins provided a fulsome year-end report, including the following:

- A record number of student employees were hired for the 2021-2022 academic year while also reducing Union fees by 6.3% and maintaining a strong financial position.
- The new Ekkian *Indigenous Centre* was launched.
- The Union worked with Students’ Nova Scotia to recommend that the provincial government launch a grant to address the financial concerns of students relating to COVID-19 and the housing crisis specifically, this recommendation has been accepted, and all Student Financial Assistance borrowers will receive a non-repayable grant of \$875
- The CBUSU is now an official member, through full membership, of Students’ Nova Scotia.
- A zero textbook cost course list was launched and is available on the CBUSU website.
- The Union successfully advocated for the renewal of the OER grant of \$50,000.
- A COVID-19 vaccination assistance booking program was launched to assist international students without MSI.
- A very successful refresh orientation week was held in September with many in-person events.
- The first on-campus party since the beginning of the pandemic was held, and the Last Class Bash saw a sold-out crowd in The Pit. It was also an incident-free event.
- The food bank served a record number of students this year, and a successful breakfast program was launched. Support from the Giving Tuesday campaign allowed the Union to expand food bank services.
- Over 25 societies were ratified this year.
- A record was reached in fundraising for Capers Helping Capers' charity organization. This year’s recipients will be Loaves and Fishes, the Jane Paul Indigenous Centre, ACAP Cape Breton and the EPIC Youth Peer Program.
- A variety of meetings were held with politicians and key stakeholders in the past year to address two main areas of advocacy; MSI for international students and provincial funding for OER.
- The Union was also able to provide students free access to the Nova Scotia Power Makerspace.

Mr. Sampson thanked the Student's Union members for their participation and service to the Board of Governors during their term and for the great work they have accomplished. He noted that in normal circumstances, the student members would be presented with a parting gift from the Board and that they will be delivered to their offices prior to the end of their term.

### **4.3 Special Announcements, Questions – N/A**

#### **4.4 President**

President Dingwall also thanked the student members for their substantial contributions during their term in office. He then referred to his circulated report and highlighted the following:

- CBU has appointed the first Dean of the School of Nursing: Dr. Kimberly Lamarche.
- An MOU is being signed with a group of solar companies looking at various projects in Cape Breton and across the province, another attempt to reduce CBU's carbon footprint.
- Todd Hiscock has provided a document on the Creative Arts Strategy, which details the breadth of activities taking place. Dr. Marcia Ostashewski, one of the Senate representatives to the Board, submitted a note of appreciation on the importance of creative arts for the University and certainly for the future of the University as we grow this footprint.
- During the Athletic's Award Banquet, to celebrate Ness Timmons' 25th anniversary at the helm of the women's soccer program, CBU officially renamed the soccer field the Ness Timmons Soccer Field.
- A new diploma in Occupational Health and Safety Management has been introduced and will start in September.
- The President's Leadership Dinner will be held in Halifax on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, and our guest of honour will be the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney.
- On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, CBU will have Canada's Ambassador to the United Nations, The Honorable Bob Ray, participate in a Canadian Human Rights Conference. He will be the keynote speaker, and we will also be awarded an honorary degree from Cape Breton University.

Ms. Beaton thanked President Dingwall for his update on the Creative Arts Strategy. She commended Mr. Hiscock for the variety and scope of activities he has developed to provide these creative opportunities for members of the internal and external CBU communities.

Ms. Richardson congratulated Dr. Lamarche on her appointment as the first Dean of Nursing at CBU. For information, she noted that Dr. Lamarche has been the nurse practitioner for the CCGC for many years and has provided exceptional contributions to the College community.

On the question of the number of CBU grads who further their education at a medical school, President Dingwall noted the number to date is 32.

### **5 Treasurer's Report**

#### **5.1 Financial Statements**

The Treasurer's Report, through April 22<sup>nd</sup>, was presented as circulated with the meeting package. Responding to comments and questions as they arose, Mr. MacInnis highlighted the following:

- CBU's cash position remains quite healthy due to the increased deposits from current/future students and the pre-payment of the 2021/22 provincially funded operating grant.

- Investments have lost some ground in the first two months of this calendar year due to the volatility in the market.
- Service Awards and vacation adjustments will be made at year-end
- With 2021/22 winter term enrolment now nearing finalization, it is expected that CBU will record a positive tuition variance in 2021/22 thanks to the strong rebound in post-baccalaureate program enrolment in January 2022.
- Non-tuition revenues, driven by interest earnings and application fees, are very strong.
- Expenditures are tracking as expected.
- Bookstore operations are consistent with the budget target as the operation has been significantly impacted by the COVID closures. CBU continues to work with Follett Canada, the private sector bookstore operator, to support the continued operations. CBU is looking at the future of campus bookstore models.

## 6 Committee Reports

### 6.1 Executive Committee

The Chair, Mr. Sampson, reported that the Executive Committee met on April 21<sup>st</sup> and most items discussed have been, or will be, covered on the Prologue or Public agendas.

### 6.2 Investment Committee

On behalf of Mr. MacRae, Mr. MacInnis reported the Committee met on April 21<sup>st</sup> and the consultant, Eckler, noted that the annual review will be presented during the June meeting. He highlighted the following:

- The fund returned about 53 basis points over the benchmark last year, so it continues to perform well.
- CBU is in the first quartile on a four- and five-year measure.
- The fund topped out at \$52.9 million at the end of December and dropped approximately 4% as of the end of March; this is a reflection of the turbulence in the markets
- A fulsome discussion took place with regard to the measure of ESG.

## 7 Items Requiring Action or Decision – N/A

## 8 New Business – N/A

## 9 Presentations – N/A

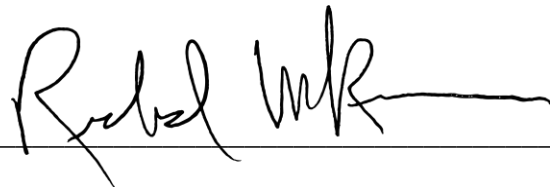
## 10 Open Session – N/A

**11 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Friday, June 24, 2022.

**12 Adjournment**

**It was moved** by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Claener, to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 am.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard MacKinnon", written over a horizontal line.

**Dr. Richard MacKinnon, Secretary to the Board**