

Senate Minutes

**September 16, 2022
CE339 / MS Teams**

The Vice Chair, E. Robertson, called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

1. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum and Land Acknowledgement

The Vice Chair 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.

She then welcomed Senators to the first meeting of Senate and to the new and returning Senators.

Present:

Catherine Arseneau, Sahand Ashtab, Nofisat Banjo-Saibu, Danielle Boudreau, Mary Beth Doucette, Ayse Ersoy, David Gerbasi, Jan Hancock, Michael Henick, Samantha Hodder, Jasmine Hoover, Patrick Howard, Katherine Jones, Himali Kadam, Harkanwal Kaur, Mary Keating, Karen Kennedy, Janet Kuhnke, Carolin Kreber, Kimberley Lamarche, Doug Lionais, Richard MacKinnon, John MacMillan, John Nadeau, Felix Odarety-Wellington, Marcia Ostashewski, Peter Oyedijo, Natalia Parsons, Andy Parnaby, Rick Pierrynowski, Michelle Prendergast, Erin Robertson, Karen Rowe, Samarjeet Singh, Chloe Stewart, Ann Sylliboy, Laurianne Sylvester, É. Thériault, B. Whiting, T. MacDonald, J. Mayich

Regrets:

Carol Beaton, Tanya Brann-Barrett, David Dingwall, Jason Loxton, Gordon MacInnis, Damanpreet Singh, J. Tunnicliff, T. Urbaniak

2. Consent Agenda – N/A

3. Matters to be Considered in Closed Session/Confidential Business

It was moved by C. Arseneau, seconded by L. Sylvester, **to move into Closed Session for the purpose of conducting confidential business. Motion carried.**

Following a closed session, **it was moved** by C. Arseneau, seconded by Laurianne Sylvester, **to move to Open Session. Motion carried.**

4. Reports and Items for Information

4.1 President & Vice President Academic and Provost

R. MacKinnon reported and provided updates on the following:

- The Bachelor of Social Work program has received approval from the Atlantic Advisory Committee on Health Human Resources (AACHHR), which allows us to submit to the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC).
A self-study is being prepared for application for pre-accreditation through the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE). This is a significant undertaking, requiring a substantial level of detail on program content and administrative processes. The deadline for submission of the self-study is November 1st.
The faculty complement for this program must be in place before the start of the accreditation process so the hiring process has begun. Direct support for the social work program will require a program director, a field education lead, and two tenure-track faculty positions.
Students cannot be accepted into the new BSW program until it receives approval from the MPHEC and pre-accreditation is granted by CASWE. If all goes well, the expected timeline for this is January or February. The goal, therefore, is still to accept students into the program for a September 2023 start.
- The Week of Welcome was very successful due to the committee's hard work, and all those who helped and took part were thanked.
- Work continues on the Strategic Enrolment Management plan with many interventions from the Grand Meeting.
- CBU's presence is growing in downtown Sydney with offices opening at 500 George Street. This space will house a dedicated space for student support services and meeting and study space.
- MPHEC has begun its meetings for the fall term
- CBU was honoured to welcome Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for a campus tour on July 21st.
- Cadets from the Canadian Coast Guard College were on campus on September 1st for a tour and social.
- The Cape Breton Victoria Center for Education held the beginning of term sessions on the CBU campus, and a social was held in their honour in the Pit.
- A search committee for the new Dean of Education and Health has been formed.
- He referred Senators to the [Academic Plan](#) portion of the CBU website, where an update session is available for each of the four focus areas.

4.2 Unama'ki College

L. Sylvester provided updates on the following:

- There are approximately 240 students in the in-community programs
- An orientation was held at Unama'ki College on September 7th

- The Bachelor of Science cohort in Nursing is nearing the halfway mark, and tutors in the classes have been very well received and appreciated.
- September 29th will be Orange Shirt Day, and an event will be held that morning.
- On October 26th, a career fair will be held to provide students with information connecting their studies to a number of careers.
- Tara Johnson will be joining the team in the MRC position, and Nina Kent has begun a new position as Operations Director
- Funding has not yet been received for the Mi'kmaw Ethics Watch position.
- New offices have been finished in Membertou and Eskasoni.
- The wellness space in UC will be renamed the Maw'iommi Room.
- A presentation on the TRC and Calls to Action will be given during Senate's next meeting.

4.3 Students' Union

P. Oyedijo welcomed everyone back after the summer break and, for the benefit of the new Senators, introduced the Student Executive and Senators: Damanpreet Singh, President, Peter Oyedijo, Executive Vice President, Himali Kadam, VP Finance & Operations, Chloe Stewart, VP Promotions, Student Senators, Nofisat Banjo-Saibu, Mandy Nguyen, Natalia Parsons, and Samarjeet Singh. He then provided updates on the following:

- The Executive team has successfully hired 28 student staff, including coordinators for many of the centers, administrative staff and store clerks. They have also hired a new Job/Housing/Information Coordinator who will work closely with CBU Off-Campus Housing Coordinator Kelsey Johnson.
- During the summer months, the Executive team attended several conferences, meetings and roundtables to represent, engage and advocate for the students of CBU.
- For the first time, the CBUSU hosted the SNS meetings on campus.
- The Union and the University have partnered to provide subsidized bus passes for students, and the Union has extended its services to the Cineplex location.
- An MOU has been signed with the Jennifer Keeping Centre to further strengthen the existing relationship with the Centre and to improve employment and work opportunities for students with disabilities.
- As mentioned in a previous report, the Week of Welcome was a huge success, and students were very pleased with the events.

4.4 Executive Committee

J. Hoover reported that the Executive Committee met on September 9th to set the agenda for this meeting. The Committee also received a report from Rod Nicholls on strategic enrolment management. The committee mandate letters were updated and she provided a brief overview of each. Special presentations for future meetings was discussed and a question regarding the Cineplex site was formulated for today's meeting. The committee also discussed their recommendations on the trimester model and a survey will be circulated before bringing anything to Senate. It was also noted that an election for a replacement of a Senate representative on the Board of Governors will take place at the end of today's meeting. Also there have been some committee membership additions, **it was moved** by J. Hoover, seconded by P. Oyedijo, that Senate approve that Jan Hancock and Carolyn Kreber will join the Research Committee and Felix Odartey-Wellington join the Bylaws and Procedures Committee. **Motion Carried.**

4.5 Board of Governors

R. MacKinnon reported that the Board of Governors met on June 24th where members were given regular reports from the President, the Student's Union and the Senate. The financial statements were also presented by the Vice President Finance & Operations. The Audit Committee submitted the draft audited financial statements which were approved as well as the appointment of auditors. The Investment Committee provided the annual report and a report was received from the Presidential Review Committee.

5. Special Presentations - World Tourism Institute

K. Brown, Managing Director of the World Tourism Institute (WTI), provided background information of the WTI. He noted that Senate approved by the WTI on December 14, 2018. The Goals of WTI are as follows:

- Through the application of both Basic and Applied Research, to be disseminated through peer reviewed journals, industry fora and colloquia, the WTI will contribute to the expansion and creation of new knowledge;
- To enhance existing programming specifically within the envelope of the Bachelor of Hospitality and Tourism Management (BHTM) and generally within the Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) (Tourism) and Master of Business Administration, Community Economic Development (MBA CED) (Tourism) and through industry liaison and intelligence, propose and develop new programming. Areas including Indigenous, Golf, Cruise, Events, Culture & Entertainment and Winter product and offerings will be explored. Atlantic Canadian students will be encouraged to become internationally "acculturated" through the diversity of the student body and through the profession of internships for global placements.
- In consultation with industry and industry associations, there is a need to develop short-term Industry Professional Development Modules. These modules may be taken as stand alone or bundled into a recognized certificate;
- To encourage entrepreneurial development, promote and enhance immigration opportunities and work with industry to support industry succession planning. Industry focus may vary from issues of infrastructure development, human resources development and new market entry. To coordinate BHTM Programming and Industry "Best Practices" with Conference Services at CBU to demonstrate Industry Excellence and to create opportunities for an Experiential Learning Laboratory.

An advisory board has been established which includes: Chair, The Hon. Rodney MacDonald, CEO, The Gaelic College, St. Anne's, NS, Vice Chair, Tracy Menge, Benefits Officer, Mi'kmaw Rights Initiative, Eskasoni and Millbrook First Nations, Secretary: Terry Smith, CEO, Destination Cape Breton Association, Sydney, NS, Robert Bernard, President and CEO, Diversity Management Group, We'koqma'q First Nation, Darlene Grant Fiander, President, TIANS, Halifax, NS, Michelle Bianchini, General Manager, Cambridge Suites Hotel, Sydney, NS, Blair Parry, Field Unit Superintendent, Parks Canada, Cape Breton, and Tyler Matthias, CEO, Cape Breton Partnership, Sydney, NS. He noted that as per Senate guidelines, all Advisory Boards must meet at least once a year. The WTI Advisory Board has met six times since August 2019 and he provided a detailed list of the activities the Board has engaged in. Stephanie MacPherson

continues to Chair the Conference, *Reimagining the Tourism & Hospitality Industry Workforce* scheduled virtually in November. Currently, presenters from eight countries have confirmed and topics for the conference include:

1. Workforce Recovery in the Tourism Sector,
2. Opportunities and Challenges from Egypt, India and the United Kingdom,
3. Google Canada Head of Travel update on current trends,
4. Maori to Mi'kmaw Indigenous Tourism, Recruiting, Retention and Reconciliation,
5. Microcredentials,
6. Spanning the generations in tourism employment.

More information can be found on the CBU website: <https://www.cbu.ca/wti/>

6. Question Period - Updates on Concerns about Classes held at Cineplex

J. Mayich provided updates of the three intake periods since opening classroom space in Cineplex. He noted that at the end of each semester, Kim Deveaux, the program manager has been surveying students at the end of classes and some differences in the student experience and in the satisfaction levels has been noticed. One of the major differences was with transit and a transit subsidy has been implemented this semester. He detailed the January operations of the office location two doors down from the Cineplex which houses the program manager, a part-time space for the Dean of the SSOB, career service placement officers and various other support staff. Inside the Cineplex location itself, IT services and the Student Union had staff on site regularly for the first few weeks of classes to assist students. There was an orientation conducted during the week of welcome in January, introducing services such as health and counseling, the international insurance program, what it's like to live in the CBRM, transit and various other items. He detailed the various offerings that were provided to students on site and noted that any student having transportation issues to the University for a health and counseling appointment, were provided with free taxi services. In May the situation was very much the same so all offerings continued with one addition of the CBU shuttle vans being onsite to bring students back and forth to campus for registration issues fee payments. With regard to September, the numbers have exceeded expectations and with the feedback received from the previous surveys, adjustments have been made to the timetable to have some classes from the post baccalaureate programs on campus as well as Cineplex. In addition to the Cineplex location, suite 100 at 500 George Street has added with faculty offices and students study rooms for both private study or group study and staff within Student Affairs, have been fully allocated to the two downtown locations. He drew attention to the recent safety notice circulated to the University community and encouraged faculty to share that message in your classrooms. The Canada Revenue Agency was on site at 500 George in late August and early September to provide social insurance numbers for new students and the Library is looking at providing some additional site services for students at either the 500 George or the Cineplex location. He then welcomed any comments or questions.

7. Take Note Debate – N/A

8. Approval of the Minutes

Due to the timing of the circulation of the minutes, it was agreed to defer the approval of the minutes and the business arising from them to the October meeting.

9. Business Arising from the Minutes

10. Report of Other Committees of Senate:

i) Academic

For information, it was noted that the the Bachelor of Social Work program has been approved by the Dean and Chairs group within SASS, and was approved unanimously by the School. The next stop internally is Academic Committee of Senate and the next step is MPHEC. For the quality assurance educational approval, and then by by November a submission to the National accreditation body. If the proposal is successful internally and externally on this timetable, CBU will be able to admit to the first class a year from now.

M. Keating then referred to the report circulated with the meeting material. **It was moved**, by M. Keating, seconded by P. Howard, that Senate approve the changes to the Bachelor of Education admission requirements and program. **Motion carried.**

ii) By-Laws and Procedures

The committee has not yet met but Ayse Ersoy was appointed as the new chair fo the committee.

iii) Planning and Review

J. MacMillan reported that the committee has met and he was elected and he expressed thanks to Ken Oakes and Geoff Carr for their continued support to the committee. The Committee is hoping to have the pre-budge process to begin earlier than normal and hopes to have more information for the October meeting.

iv) Quality Assurance

On behalf of the Chair, K. Jones, J. Nadeau referred to the report circulated with the meeting material and noted there was nothing further to add at this time.

v) Research

É. Thériault reported that the committee met and he was elected Chair and they also assessed their priorities for the year as described in the mandate letter.

vi) Teaching, Learning and Evaluation

On behalf of the Chair J. Loxton, P. Howard noted that the committee has reviewed its mandate letter to set priorities for the year.

Prior to adjournment, E. Robertson requested that all faculty members remain to hold an election of a Senate member to the Board of Governors and that following the elections a Senate orientation will be held.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, **it was moved by**, L. Sylvester, seconded by J. Nadeau, to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 pm. **Motion carried.**

Jasmine Hoover
Secretary to Senate