



**MINUTES OF A MEETING  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
February 17, 2021  
8:30 am – 10:30 am  
Microsoft Teams**

Present: J. Fleming, Board Chair, D. Hampton-Davies, M. Rubinoff;  
S. Abd El-Sayed; P. Palermo; J. Rivard; V. Varma; M. Dubé; B. Dosunmu;  
M. Hofstetter; T. Leedale; K. Mann; A. McDonald; C. Ezeokafor; R. Poulton

Ex Officio: J. Morrison, President and Vice Chancellor

Treasurer: W. Steffler, VP Finance and Administration and CFO

Recorder: J. Hinchliffe

Guests: D. McKerrall; C. Altilia; R. Sandhu; J. Ngobia; R. Piper; C. Szustaczek; D. McQuarrie; M. McCollum; P. Davey

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 8:30 am.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

It was moved by C. Ezeokafor, seconded by P. Palermo;

Be it resolved:

THAT The Board of Governors approve the agenda for February 17, 2021 as presented.

Carried.

**3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

In response to the Chair's query, there were no conflict of interest.

**4. Chair's Remarks**

J. Fleming provided remarks that included the following topics:

- Welcome Robert Poulton, newly appointed Governor.
- Consent agenda reintroduced.
- Chancellor search suspended. The Board will reassess plans in the future.
- Chancellor McCallion has agreed to continue in the position of Chancellor.

## 5. President's Remarks

J. Morrison provided remarks on the following topics:

- PSE is managing changes to risk management.
- Culture shift at Sheridan influenced by pandemic disruption.
- Reviewed Sheridan's financial position considering Laurentian University financial challenges.
- Government relations will be the focus at a future meeting.

## 6. Consent Agenda

It was moved by M. Hofstetter, seconded by S. Abd El Sayed;

Be it resolved:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the following documents in the consent agenda:

1. Minutes from December 9, 2020
2. Delegate Authority to Adjust Academic Calendar Dates

Carried.

There were no questions pertaining to the consent agenda.

## 7. External Audit Plan

Finance, Audit and Property committee had an extensive conversation with external auditors, KPMG, regarding the external audit plan. New accounting standards were introduced and explained. The rationale for an increase in audit materiality was discussed in detail at the committee.

It was moved by D. Hampton-Davies, seconded by K. Mann;

Be it resolved:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the external audit plan for 2021-2022 and execution of the engagement letter as presented.

Carried.

## 8. Flexible Budget Update

Improved enrolment and expense management have made positive impacts on our budget. Sheridan is tracking toward an improved deficit of \$26M compared to \$31M approve budget. There are sufficient reserves to cover the delta. Like last year's budget timeline, additional time was requested to push the budget approval to late April to better understand the international market and enrolment numbers for Fall 2021. There were no questions from the Board.

## 9. New Programs: 5 Ontario College Graduate Certificates

Program development was reviewed by the Academic and Student Affairs committee in detail. The Board was reminded that the Academic and Student Affairs committee is to review the full program proposal and alignment to academic direction and strategic plan. The Board's focus is on due diligence and final program approvals before they are sent to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

Ontario College Graduate Certificate is to deepen knowledge and skills already gained from previous studies. It provides knowledge and skills within the context of an applied profession or occupation. All five Ontario College Graduate Certificates were reviewed.

It was moved by V. Varma, seconded by K. Mann;

Be it resolved:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Ontario College Graduate Certificate for:

- Urban Design
- Internet of Things and Machine Intelligence
- Applied Creativity and Innovation
- Clinical Research
- Regulatory Affairs

Carried.

The Board inquired about competition with Ontario Graduate Certificates. Market research is used to inform where the focus is needed most urgently. The added credential will position students for employment. Programs reflect strategic enrolment management.

Risks were not clearly indicated for these programs but will be better reflected in future presentations to the Board.

## 10. Conferral Practice

A recommendation was made to the Board to confer the credentials for students who have completed their graduation requirements in the fall semester each February. Approximately 3,500 students complete their credentials by the end of fall semester each year. Including the degree conferral in February would avoid a delay in releasing the parchment to those students.

Be it resolved:

THAT the Board of Governors confer the credentials of students who have completed graduate requirements in Fall semester each February.

Carried.

The Chair read the following statement:

*In maintaining our commitment to public health directives aimed at protecting people's safety, we are required to postpone our traditional, in-person convocation ceremonies that are typically held in June.*

*Our institutional priority is to confer the credentials of those who have completed their academic program requirements by December 2020.*

*Therefore, presented to the Sheridan Board of Governors, is the list of Graduands who have successfully completed the curriculum of their chosen program and have been recommended by the faculty to be awarded their credentials in recognition of their academic accomplishment.*

*On behalf of the Board of Governors, I confer their diplomas, degrees, and certificates on them with all the honours, privileges and responsibilities pertaining thereto, in absentia.*

### **11. Front Running Projects**

An update on the front running project for Trafalgar campus and proposed next steps. The concept development work for the project at Trafalgar will be finalized, advocacy meetings will continue, and detailed work to development space programming requirements will begin. A future process to develop a front running project concept at the Davis campus will start in March 2021. A further update to the Board is scheduled for April 2021.

### **12. Sheridan Signature Learning**

An overview of signature learning at Sheridan was shared by the Provost and Vice President, Academic. The strategy is backed by design thinking and human centred design. Members remarked on the interest that industry has in these types of strategies. A review of international partnerships is being undertaken as they relate to the Strategic Plan with a lens on equity, diversity, and inclusion.

### **13. Community Give Back Strategy**

An overview of the community give back strategy was provided to the Board for information. This will become an ongoing pan-institutional strategy. The Board is viewed as executive champions of the strategy along with the President and Vice President team.

### **14. In Camera**

The meeting moved in camera at 10:27 am. Guests were thanked for attendance and departed the meeting.

### **15. Adjournment**

Having no further business, the Board meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.