



# UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

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### Board of Governors Open Session Minutes

Friday, May 13, 2016  
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)  
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

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#### **ATTENDEES:**

##### Voting Members:

Michael Phair	Appointed Chair, General Public
Shenaz Jeraj	Appointed Vice-Chair, General Public
Dick Wilson	Appointed Vice-Chair, General Public
Faiza Billo	Appointed Member, Non-Academic Staff Representative (NASA Appointee)
Colin Champagne	Appointed Member, Undergraduate Student Representative to Board of Governors
David Cooper	Appointed Member, Academic Staff Representative (AASUA Appointee)
Sarah Ficko	Appointed Member, Graduate Students' Association (President)
Barry James	Appointed Member, University of Alberta Senate
LeRoy Johnson	Appointed Member, General Public
Steven LePoole	Appointed Member, General Public
Raymond Muzyka	Appointed Member, General Public
Robert Parks	Appointed Member, University of Alberta Alumni Association
Fahim Rahman	Appointed Member, Students' Union President
Jeremy Richards	Appointed Member, Academic Staff Representative (General Faculties Council)
Robert H. Teskey	Appointed Member, General Public
Ralph Young	Appointed Member, Chancellor

##### Non-Voting Officials Appointed by the President:

Lorne Babiuk	Vice-President (Research)
Phyllis Clark	Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Steven Dew	Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Marion Haggarty-France	University Secretary
Brad Hamdon	General Counsel
Don Hickey	Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
Heather McCaw	Vice-President (Advancement)
Debra Pozega Osburn	Vice-President (University Relations)
Catherine Swindlehurst	Chief of Staff (President's Office)
Juli Zinken	Board Secretary and Manager of Board Services

##### Regrets:

Jane Halford	Appointed Member, University of Alberta Alumni Association
James Heelan	Appointed Member, General Public
Nizar Somji	Appointed Member, General Public
David Turpin	Appointed Member, President
Wendy Rodgers	Deputy Provost

##### Presenter(s):

Mary Persson	Associate Vice-President (Audit and Analysis) and University Auditor
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##### Staff:

Erin Plume, Assistant Board Secretary

## **OPENING SESSION**

### 1. Chair's Session

*Presenter(s):* Michael Phair

#### 1a. Call to Order and Confirmation of Quorum

*Presenter(s):* Michael Phair

The Board Secretary confirmed that the attendance constituted quorum. The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

#### 1b. Approval of Open Session Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Michael Phair

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Open Session agenda as presented.

**CARRIED**

#### 1c. Conflict of Interest - Opportunity for Declaration

*Presenter(s):* Michael Phair

The Chair made note of the following:

- The University of Alberta has policy and procedure in place for Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment, and Board members make annual disclosures.
- In addition, Board members must declare any conflict related to the Board Agenda of each meeting and, in the event of such conflict, absent themselves from the discussion and voting on the item.
- The *Post-secondary Learning Act*, Section 16(5) states that: The members of the board must act in the best interests of the university.

The Chair invited members to declare conflicts of interest related to the Open Session Agenda of the meeting. Seeing none, he declared the question asked and answered.

#### 1d. Chair's Remarks

*Presenter(s):* Michael Phair

The Chair welcomed members and guests and acknowledged all Indigenous peoples and the traditional lands on which the Board was gathered.

He informed the Board that President Turpin would not be at the Board meeting as he was attending meetings in Ottawa with the U15 Group of Canadian Research Universities' presidents and senior government officials regarding the federal government's long-term research plan. The Chair noted that it was important for the University of Alberta to have a voice in these critical discussions and that Dr Turpin would report back regarding the discussions and outcome of the meetings at the June Board meeting.

The Chair offered a warm welcome to Ms Sarah Ficko, Graduate Students' Association President, Mr Fahim Rahman, Students' Union President, and Mr Colin Champagne, Undergraduate Student Board Representative,

attending in their new capacity as full voting members of the Board of Governors. He also noted that the University of Alberta Senate had elected Mr Douglas Stollery as the university's twenty-first Chancellor and that Mr Stollery's installation would take place on June 15, 2016.

Finally, the Chair expressed his gratitude to the university community for its efforts in coming together to support the Fort McMurray community. He informed the Board that he had spoken recently with Premier Notley who asked him to extend her gratitude and appreciation for the university community's response to the crisis, particularly noting the university's contributions to help accommodate and feed evacuees.

## 2. Report of the President

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Steven Dew

### *Discussion:*

On behalf of President Turpin, Dr Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), presented verbal points of interest to the Board on the University of Alberta's response to the Fort McMurray crisis and its continued plans for the weeks and months leading up to the beginning of the Fall term. He recognized all of the staff and student volunteers from across campus who are providing ongoing support and thanked them on behalf of the university, community and province.

Dr Dew, Phyllis Clark and Don Hickey responded to questions from the Board regarding: how displaced grade 12 students are being accommodated in relation to diploma exams and applications to post-secondary institutions; whether the university has been asked to assist with Keyano College operations; whether this assistance will have a budgetary impact on the University of Alberta; the university's fire-prevention plans; whether the university had an emergency-response plan in place for this scenario, whether that plan was coordinated with government, and whether there will be a review of lessons learned; the university's next steps in providing assistance while returning to normal operations; and how the university is integrating its emergency plan with other agencies.

## 2a. Fundraising Achievement Report

*Presenter(s):* Heather McCaw

### *Discussion:*

Ms McCaw provided the Board with an update on the university's fundraising achievements to date, indicating that while Advancement is responsible for fundraising, all ends of the campus, including faculty and staff, are involved in either raising funds or stewardship. She informed the Board that the university finished its fiscal year with a \$115.3 M achievement, which is ahead of the previous year, and reviewed recent successes in advancement and alumni engagement.

Members commended Ms McCaw and her team for these accomplishments, particularly in a year of leadership transition for the portfolio, and a member commented that the Board should be mindful of the correlation between advancement's budget allocation and fundraising achievements.

Ms McCaw responded to questions from Board members regarding: how the Board can assist in advancement; advancement's longer-term goals and five-year outlook; whether or not the Giving Day for student mental health was included in this report; how the university can more effectively use the money it raises; and the goals and objectives of the Advancement Council.

3. Report of the University Secretary

3a. 2016-17 Board of Governors Calendar

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Marion Haggarty-France

*Discussion:*

The University Secretary referred Board members to the 2016-2017 Board of Governors' schedule in front of them, noting that it is now available on the University Governance website and Board Portal.

4. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Michael Phair

At the request of a member, the Chair removed Item 4biv, *TEC Edmonton Funding Extension*, from the Consent Agenda.

Action Items

- 4a. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of March 18, 2016
- 4b. Report of the Finance and Property Committee
- 4bi. Collection of GSA Membership, Health and Dental Plan, and Graduate Student Assistance Program Fees
- 4bii. Collection of University of Alberta Students' Union 2016-17 Operating/Referendum Fees
- 4biii. Proposed Supplemental Application Fee for the Doctor of Medicine Program
- 4biv. TEC Edmonton Funding Extension - removed from Consent Agenda
- 4c. Report of the University Relations Committee
- 4ci. Board University Relations Committee Terms of Reference
- 4d. Report of the Board Chair
- 4di. Committee Appointments

Information Reports

- 4e. Report of the Audit Committee
- 4f. Report of the Finance and Property Committee
- 4g. Report of the Human Resources and Compensation Committee
- 4h. Report of the University Relations Committee

Regular Reports

- 4i. Chancellor's Report
- 4j. Alumni Association
- 4k. Students' Union
- 4l. Graduate Students' Association
- 4m. Association of Academic Staff
- 4n. Non-Academic Staff Association
- 4o. General Faculties Council
- 4p. Board Chair and Board Members Activity Report

Motion: The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Open Session Consent Agenda, as amended.

**CARRIED**

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### 4biv TEC Edmonton Funding Extension

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s)*: Lorne Babiuk; Mary Persson

*Purpose of the Proposal*: To extend the financial commitment to TEC Edmonton, as part of a joint venture with Edmonton Economic Development Edmonton (EEDC).

*Discussion*:

Bob Teskey declared a conflict for this item, noting that he is a member of the TEC Edmonton Board of Directors.

In response to a question from the Board regarding why the university is committing more funds to TEC Edmonton when TEC Edmonton was originally intended to generate money, Dr Babiuk and Ms Persson indicated that TEC Edmonton has an expanded mandate to generate matching funds and is also managing all patenting for university researchers as well as entrepreneur-training for professors and post-doctoral fellows. Dr Babiuk noted that most similar organizations are not revenue-generating enterprises.

Dr Babiuk and Ms Persson also responded to questions from Board members regarding: a note in the proposal indicating that "should the Government of Alberta move to take over TEC Edmonton, all funding will be withdrawn"; and how TEC Edmonton fits with other provincial government research initiatives. Ms Persson informed the Board that the CEO of TEC Edmonton reports annually to the Board through the Audit and Finance and Property Committees.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Finance and Property Committee, approve:

- a) that the University of Alberta continue the joint venture (TEC Edmonton) with Edmonton Economic Development Corporation (EEDC); and
- b) a financial commitment to TEC Edmonton of \$1.5M per year for three (3) years, from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019, to fund operating costs.

The Board will receive a report on TEC Edmonton activities on an annual basis and as otherwise requested, through the Office of the Vice-President (Research).

**CARRIED**

### 5. Report of the Finance and Property Committee

*Presenter(s)*: Dick Wilson

#### 5a. Devonian Botanic Garden Islamic Garden – Capital Expenditure Authorization Request (CEAR)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s)*: Don Hickey

*Purpose of the Proposal*: The university is the beneficiary of a generous gift (\$20 million) from His Highness the Aga Khan; the gift includes funding for all design and construction related elements for the Devonian Islamic Garden.

*Discussion:*

Mr Hickey presented the proposal, reviewing the initial 2009 \$20 million donation from His Highness the Aga Khan for the creation of a traditional Islamic garden within the Devonian Botanical Garden and the subsequent \$14 million capital improvement grant from the Government of Alberta. He noted that this proposal is to proceed with the formal design and construction of the Devonian Islamic Garden and that a sod-turning event was likely to take place in summer 2016 with construction completed in 2018.

Mr Hickey indicated that the motion's clause allowing senior administration to ensure that all conditions are met is due to a delay in execution of the project management services agreement and gift agreement.

Mr Hickey responded to questions from the Board regarding whether the university is watching out for potential fire hazards with the current dry conditions at the Devonian Botanical Garden, plans for improving the garden's infrastructure and public facilities, and the future use of lands adjacent to the gardens.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Finance and Property Committee, approve the Capital Expenditure Authorization Request (CEAR) of twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000.00) in Canadian funds for a total project cost of twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000.00) in Canadian funds for the Devonian Botanic Garden – Development of the Islamic Garden, subject to senior administration ensuring that all conditions have been met.

**CARRIED**

**CLOSING SESSION**

6. Adjournment

*Presenter(s):* Michael Phair

The Chair adjourned the Open Session at 9:20 a.m.