

Board of Governors
Open Session Minutes

Friday, October 13, 2023
Council Chamber, 2-100 University Hall
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Kate Chisholm	Appointed Chair, General Public
Guy Bridgeman	Appointed Vice-Chair, General Public
Chris Ashdown	Appointed Member, Alumni
Bishoi Aziz	Appointed Member, President, Graduate Students' Association
Zarina Bhambhani	Appointed Member, Additional Member
Heather Bruce	Appointed Member, Academic Staff Representative (AASUA Appointee)
Stephanie Dickie	Appointed Member, Non-Academic Staff Representative (NASA Appointee)
Bill Flanagan	Appointed Member, President and Vice-Chancellor
Christian Fotang	Appointed Member, President (Students' Union)
Peggy Garritty	Appointed Member, Chancellor
Janice MacKinnon	Appointed Member, General Public
Sett Policicchio	Appointed Member, General Public
Stephen Raitz	Appointed Member, Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative
Thomas (Tom) Ross	Appointed Member, General Public
Margot Ross-Graham	Appointed Member, University of Alberta Senate Representative
Rakesh Saraf	Appointed Member, General Public
Dilini Vethanayagam	Appointed Member, Academic Staff Representative (GFC Appointee)
Paul Whittaker	Appointed Member, General Public
Kate Young	Appointed Member, Alumni

Non-Voting Officials Appointed by the President:

Todd Gilchrist	Vice-President (University Services and Finance)
Brad Hamdon	General Counsel
John Lemieux	University Secretary
Elan MacDonald	Vice-President (External Relations)
Aminah Robinson Fayek	Vice-President (Research and Innovation)
Andrew Sharman	Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
Verna Yiu	Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Juli Zinken	Board Secretary and Manager of Board Services

Regrets:

Charlene Butler	Appointed Member, General Public
Lillian Zenari	Appointed Member, Additional Member

Presenter(s):

Joanne Lemieux	Professor, Biochemistry
Francis Whiskeyjack	Elder

Staff:

Erin Plume, Associate Board Secretary (University Governance)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. and welcomed members and guests.

She delivered a land acknowledgement, noting the University's strong commitment to working in Good Relations with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit peoples.

CEREMONY

Presenter(s): Francis Whiskeyjack

The Chair welcomed Elder Dr Francis Whiskeyjack and offered him protocol to start the meeting in a good way. He performed a cleansing smudge and offered teachings to Board members about the spiritual significance of the four elements involved in Indigenous ceremony: earth; water; wind; and fire. The Chair thanked Elder Dr Whiskeyjack for sharing learnings with the Board as they begin their academic year.

IN CAMERA SESSION OF VOTING MEMBERS ONLY

Members met *in camera* at the start of the meeting.

WELCOME

1a. Opening Remarks

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The Chair welcomed John Lemieux, new University Secretary, to his first Board of Governors meeting.

1b. Approval of Open Session Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The motion was moved and seconded.

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

1c. Conflict of Interest - Opportunity for Declaration

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The Chair invited members to declare any conflicts of interest related to the open session agenda. No conflicts were declared.

2. Research Learning Moment

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Joanne Lemieux

Discussion:

At the request of the Chair, Joanne Lemieux, Professor in the Department of Biochemistry, provided a learning moment on her work as Scientific Director of the Canadian Biomedical Research Fund (CBRF) PRAIRIE Hub for Pandemic Preparedness.

J Lemieux responded to questions and comments from Board members, including: the interdisciplinary structure of the Hub and how that can be applied to research projects within the university; what attracted her to this discipline and to the University of Alberta; and the role of public health literacy in preparing for a pandemic.

President Flanagan acknowledged J Lemieux and A Robinson Fayek for their leadership and work in securing the PRAIRIE Hub at the University of Alberta.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. Report of the President

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Bill Flanagan

Discussion:

President Flanagan provided verbal updates on the new academic year, including student orientation activities in early September, and record student and Indigenous student numbers; the successful launch of Shape: The University Strategic Plan 2023-2033; the inaugural visit of new Minister of Advanced Education Rajan Sawhney to the University of Alberta on September 28, 2023; and the recent groundbreaking event at Michener Park, a University of Alberta Properties Trust (UAPT) development project.

Report of the Finance and Property Committee

Presenter(s): Rakesh Saraf

4. Budget Update

Presenter(s): Todd Gilchrist; Verna Yiu

Discussion:

T Gilchrist provided a budget update, including indications from the Government of Alberta regarding potential grant reductions or increases; continued advocacy for inflationary increases and enrolment growth funding; stable expenses and a preliminary increase of 1-2 percent to enrolment for fiscal year (FY) 2024; and the implementation of budget model 2.0 in FY 2025 with preliminary targets and budget letters to colleges and faculties by the end of 2023.

T Gilchrist responded to questions from board members regarding budget model 2.0, including: differences in the new model from the previous model, how 'activity' is funded, and whether the model further incents faculties that already attract industry and government grants.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

5a. Open Session Minutes of June 16, 2023

5b. University of Alberta Properties Trust Inc. (UAPT) Bylaw Amendment

5c. Amended Investment Management Agreement (2023-24 and 2024-25)

The motion was moved and seconded.

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

CARRIED

INFORMATION ITEMS

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

There were no requests from members to discuss the information items listed below.

- 6a. Action Arising from Previous Meetings
- 6b. Report of the Audit and Risk Committee
 - Health, Safety and Environment Quarterly Report
 - "Culture of Care" Quarterly Implementation Report
- 6c. Report of the Finance and Property Committee
- 6d. Report of the Governance Committee
 - 2023-24 annual events and engagement calendar
- 6e. Report of the Human Resources and Compensation Committee
- 6f. Report of the Investment Committee
- 6g. Report of the Learning, Research, and Student Experience Committee
- 6h. Report of the Reputation and Public Affairs Committee
- 6i. Chancellor's Report
- 6j. Alumni Association
- 6k. Students' Union
- 6l. Graduate Students' Association
- 6m. Association of Academic Staff
- 6n. Non-Academic Staff Association
- 6o. General Faculties Council
- 6p. Board Chair Report

CLOSING SESSION

7. Other Business

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

There was no other business.

8. Adjournment

Presenter(s): Kate Chisholm

The Chair adjourned the Open Session at 9:15 a.m.