

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
OKANAGAN COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Open Session**

**Tuesday, March 31, 2015, 1 p.m.
Room E102/103, Vernon Campus**

Approved May 19, 2015

Members Present: T. Styffe (Chair)
C. Denesiuk
C. Derickson
W. Favro
C. Gerbrandt
J. Hamilton (President)
S. Johal
S. Lupul
J. Maciel
D. Manning
B. McGowan
C. Mitchell
L. Thurnheer

Board Secretary: L. Le Gallee

Vice Presidents: R. Daykin
A. Hay
C. Kushner

Directors: A. Coyle

Observers: R. Vilene (BCGEU Support Staff)
T. Walters (OCFA) *arrived at 1:15, left at 2:40 p.m.*

Regrets: N. Ankerstein, Administrative Association
C. McRobb, BCGEU Vocational
K. Tracz, Student Observer
L. Stanley, Student Observer
J. Poirier, Student Observer
T. Leneveu, Student Observer, VSU

Guests: J. Lister, Students OCSU (*left at 2:15 p.m.*)

There being a quorum present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: C. Denesiuk/D. Manning

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the March 31, 2015, OC Board open session meeting agenda is approved”.

The motions in section 6.1 were revised as to order of approval.

MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT

No conflicts were declared.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Items Approved:

Motion: C. Gerbrandt/S. Lupul

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the January 27, 2015, Open Session minutes were approved.”

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board agrees to collect student fees for Okanagan College for 2015/16 on behalf of the Okanagan College Student Union and the Vernon Student Association as outlined in the submissions that are included in the agenda”.

MOTION CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

5. PRESENTATION/DELEGATIONS

5.1 Regional Dean Report (J. Lister)

Although there has been an over expenditure on the track project, all is on schedule and showers will be added to the building once funding is secured for this component. The Grand Opening will be in July.

The Demonstration Garden has been worked on for four years; this is an investment from the community and it will continue to be used for programming purposes as well as there is a lease with Young Farmers. A grant has been awarded from the Okanagan Water Board to upgrade the irrigation and the Regional Dean will continue to work with the community on sustainable practices.

The third annual John Lent Prose Award is the focus of the Kalamalka Press. This will be made available to the Board once complete.

With regard to enrolment, head count is up at the Vernon Campus with trades and vocational being heavily subscribed to. The Regional Dean is working on a concept to offer a rotating trades program in Vernon. An area has been identified on campus for a Trades facility, this has been included in the Master Capital Plan.

There will be a presentation of natural playgrounds at the reception later today. This is a project the Regional Dean has been working on in conjunction with the Director of Learning and Teaching.

The District is experiencing declining registration in the schools, the campus is hosting an information session tonight. This decline is expected to level out in three to four years as registrations in primary schools are increasing.

T. Walters arrived at 1:15 p.m.

5.2 Student Presentation re: Tuition

5.2.1 Okanagan College Student Union. ¹ Presentation was given by Chelsea Gritsch.

Board members noted that they share the students' concerns with regard to access.

Questions included:

- A Board member asked for more information with regard to the statistics used in the presentation and requested more information with regard to the costs associated with attending the College.

¹ Presentation is posted on Board MyOkanagan website under Board/2015/Presentations

- It was noted that a large majority of the students take longer to complete their credential as they do not attend full time. This has occurred in the last two years and the data has not been compiled yet as this is a recent trend;
- It was noted that the comments with regard to regulations around bursaries needs to be looked into further.

Motion: D. Manning/C. Denesiuk

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors direct administration to consult with OCSU and VSA to review the rules and regulations associated with scholarships and bursaries at Okanagan College and identify possible improvements”

MOTION CARRIED

5.2.2 Vernon Student Association. Representatives were unable to attend but sent the following statement by email:

“It was decided by student council last night at the student council meeting that, based upon the updated details of the budget that were provided by Roy, Jim and Allan last Thursday, the VSAOC really has nothing to contribute to the BOG decision today regarding tuition. While the VSAOC contends that all increases in tuition and fees negatively impact students and student accessibility to post-secondary education, the student council is pleased to see that OC has deferred the implementation of ABE tuition until the 2016/2017 academic year. The decision to increase tuition by the provincially legislated maximum of 2% was anticipated, and the student council is pleased that there are no planned program reductions or cuts”.

6. NEW BUSINESS/RESOLUTIONS

6.1 Finance, Audit and Risk Review Committee (B. McGowan)

6.1.1 Okanagan College Budget 2015/16

a) Comments from Education Council (A. Hay)

The Acting Chair of Education Council was unavailable to attend the meeting, however the following comments were provided by the VP, Education:

“Education Council reviewed the draft Budget as presented by VP Roy Daykin at the March 23, 2015 meeting of Education Council. The budget was generally well received. Comments or questions were made regarding the magnitude of the contingency within the Budget, the importance of continuing to maintain current course and program offerings at each campus, and concern regarding the Government’s direction regarding tuition. Education Council asked that these comments be relayed to the Board, and moved to receive the Budget as presented.”

b) Comments from Chair, Finance, Audit and Risk Review Committee (B. McGowan)

The Board attended a budget workshop in January, and the Finance, Audit and Risk Review Committee has met a number of times since then.

6.1.2 Tuition Recommendation 2015/16

Motion: B. McGowan/D. Manning

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve an increase to domestic tuition and mandatory fees for 2015/16 of 2% as recommended by the Finance, Audit and Risk Review Committee”

A Board member questioned if the 1% for domestic tuition and the 5% for international tuition had been considered (as recommended in the student presentation). The VP, Finance, stated that the numbers have been analyzed following the 8% increase to international tuition last year and the advice from the Director of International Education was that a 2% increase would be recommended. Last year’s 8% increase created a balance between domestic and international tuitions.

The OCFA representative noted that the OCFA has been lobbying government on behalf of the students and offered their assistance to administration to find alternative solutions to raising the cost of tuition. He raised a concern that consultation does not occur early enough in the budget planning process. He recommended not adopting the 2% increase.

MOTION CARRIED
1 opposed (L. Thurnheer)

6.1.3 International Tuition

Motion: B. McGowan/C. Derickson

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve an increase to international tuition of 2% for 2015/16 as recommended by the Finance, Audit and Risk Review Committee”

MOTION CARRIED

6.1.4 Budget

Motion: B. McGowan/S. Johal

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2015/16 balanced operating budget of \$94,945,262 as recommended by the Finance, Audit and Risk Review Committee

The unit plan process begins in the fall with the individual unit managers. They meet with the VPs in January and February and set out their short and long term priorities, the budget is then developed. Consultations occur with the employee groups and student union/association part way through the process to update them. Further consultation could occur at the department level earlier in the process. Administration committed to review this to improve the process prior to the 2016/17 budget year.

The Chair asked the OCFA representative to send the Board a letter outlining their suggestions; this will be taken to the Finance Committee for review.

MOTION CARRIED

6.1.5 ABE/ESL Tuition

Amended Motion: B. McGowan/D. Manning

“That the Okanagan College Board of Governors approves the implementation of domestic tuition fees for Adult Basic Education (ABE) and English as a Second Language (ESL) courses, based on the following conditions:

- 1) ***Fees will be established at a maximum level of \$1,600 per semester and will be implemented at a later date, but not prior to the 2016/17 fiscal year,***
- 2) ***No domestic student will pay tuition fees for ABE & ESL courses in the 2015/16 fiscal year,***
- 3) ***Board approval of a detailed implementation plan prior to any fees being charged, that addresses the following issues:***
 - ***Research and consultation that assesses the potential impact of fees on adult access to secondary school level education throughout the College region,***
 - ***Any new registration and tuition processes will not negatively affect program delivery models.***
 - ***A tuition fee implementation plan that respects:***
 - ***The importance of minimizing Okanagan College-controlled financial barriers to accessing Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language courses,***
 - ***The financial sustainability of the institution,***
 - ***Provincial policy directions.***

A Board member noted that it is imperative to ensure that barriers to education are not created with the implementation of these fees.

Administration is taking direction from the Finance Committee in this motion, it is part of the College's mandate and strategic plan to not reduce access. Research and consultation will occur with the students so that all issues are considered.

MOTION CARRIED
1 Abstained (L. Thurnheer)

Students left at 2:15 p.m.

6.2 ITA Training Plan (A. Hay)

The Industry Training Authority funds most, if not all, of the Foundation level trades programs.

Motion: C. Gerbrandt/L. Thurnheer

“BE IT RESOLVED that the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve the ITA Training Plan as presented”.

MOTION CARRIED

6.3 Annual Programming Plan (A. Hay)

The ITA Training Plan is embedded in the Annual Programming Plan. This Plan outlines all the training that OC is planning on offering. This includes the programming that will remain unchanged as well as the programming that is undergoing change as well as discontinued programming. New initiatives are also noted. This is developed in conjunction with the regional and program deans.

Motion: S. Lupul/C. Denesiuk

“BE IT RESOLVED that the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve the Annual Programming Plan 2015/16 as recommended”.

Questions with regard to Art X were addressed.

A member asked for information on aboriginal programming offered by Continuing Studies.

MOTION CARRIED

6.4 Education Council Submission (A. Hay)

6.4.1 Program Approvals

Motions: C. Denesiuk/C. Gerbrandt

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approve the revision to the Sustainable Construction Management Technology Diploma, as recommended by Education Council and as presented”

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approve the revision to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Years 1 and 2, as recommended by Education Council and as presented”

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approve the revision to the Bachelor of Business Administration – Accounting Specialty, as recommended by Education Council and as presented

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approve the revision to the Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Accounting, as recommended by Education Council and as presented”

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approve the revision to the Medical Office Assistant Certificate, as recommended by Education Council and as presented”

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approve the revision to the Nursing Unit Assistant Certificate, as recommended by Education Council and as presented”

It was noted that it is not unusual for a program (such as the SCMT Diploma) to require changes after the first year of offering. This will now be offered for the second year.

The BBA change is the result of three accounting bodies becoming one single body; and the Nursing Unit Assistant Certificate changes are to keep the program current.

T. Walters left at 2:40 p.m.

MOTIONS CARRIED

6.5 Revised 2015 Meeting Schedule

Motion; B. McGowan/J. Maciel

“BE IT RESOLVED that the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve the revised 2015 Board Meeting Schedule as recommended”.

MOTION CARRIED

7. VERBAL REPORTS

7.1 Board Chair Report (T. Styffe)

A number of events were attended: Business Reception, Trades Funding Announcement and a Minister's visit in February, to name a few.

7.2 President's Report (J. Hamilton)

The President acknowledged L. Thurnheer and R. Miller for the outstanding coaching they did that led the OC students to place first at the HR competition at Thompson Rivers University.

To celebrate student ambassadors, the President hosts an annual dinner to honour the students and their coaches. This event has grown from 38 to 108 students in just a few years.

8. INFORMATION

There is a community reception in the Vernon cafeteria at 4 p.m. after the Board meeting.

9. TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

Aboriginal programs offered by Continuing Studies.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

11. FOR THE GOOD OF THE INSTITUTION

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: May 19, 2015, Kelowna Campus

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: C. Gerbrandt/B. McGowan

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.