

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

**Tuesday, February 23, 2016, 10:45 a.m.
Room S103B, Kelowna Campus**

Approved March 29, 2016

Members Present:	C. Denesiuk (Chair) C. Bransfield J. Hamilton (President) S. Johal J. Maciel D. Manning B. McGowan L. Thurnheer
Regrets:	A. Beaumont C. Derickson C. Gerbrandt S. Jung S. Lupul
Board Secretary:	L. Le Gallee
Vice Presidents:	R. Daykin A. Hay C. Kushner
Directors:	A. Coyle
Observers:	C. McRobb, BCGEU Vocational J. O'Brien (Administrative Association) T. Thiessen, Student Observer T. Walters (OCFA) R. Vilene (BCGEU Support Staff)
Regrets:	M. Moffat, Student Observers P. Bradley, Student Observer
Guests:	C. Grisch, B. Berchowitz, D. Sullivan (OCSU); D. Olson (Director, Legal Affairs and Policy Development); delegation of faculty and students

There being a quorum present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: D. Manning/S. Johal

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT the February 23, 2016, OC Board open session meeting agenda is approved".

MOTION CARRIED

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT

No conflicts were declared.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: L. Thurnheer/J. Maciel

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Consent Agenda be approved”

Items Approved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the January 26, 2016, open session minutes be approved”.

MOTION CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

5. PRESENTATION/DELEGATIONS

5.1 OCSU Students (C. Grisch, B. Berchowitz)¹

A handout was distributed.

The following recommendations were made:

- Promote awareness and assistance in the application of the AUG (Adult Upgrading Grant) process. Assistance could take the form of a soft deadline for students to submit their application for financial aid;
- Ensure that OC funding is drawn from a sustainable source;
- Advocate against the 2% increase for domestic tuition;
- That Okanagan College explore further the competitiveness of international markets and analyze the reason international students are choosing Okanagan College;
- The OCSU is willing to work with the College to determine the demographics of ABE learners at the College.

It was noted that the students will have the opportunity for the union to be a part of the internationalization plan as this is being developed as part of the Strategic Plan.

The Board requested a copy of the presentation notes.²

The Board Chair noted that changes were made to the ABE tuition structure after the students' presentation in January and she thanked them for their presentations.

6. NEW BUSINESS/RESOLUTIONS

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

6.1.1 Committee Chair Report

In March 2015 the Board approved a motion with regard to principles for implementing ABE tuition. After reviewing the process extensively, the Committee is recommending approval of an ABE tuition structure.

The contract for the auditors expires June 2015. Due to workload in the Finance area, the VP Administration, proposed that the current auditors be extended for one year and then the tender process would go out next year for a 5 year term. He will discuss this with the auditors (Grant Thornton) and the Auditor General and will then bring it back to the Committee for approval.

6.1.2 ABE/ESL Tuition

After further review since the January 2016 meeting, the College is proposing a structure that situates Okanagan College not at the high or low end compared to other institutions. This will be implemented in

¹ This Presentation is posted on the Board *MyOkanagan* website and is available upon request.

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May 2106. Regardless of income, students will receive assistance from either the AUG grant or from the College bursary. The implementation will be further developed as this initiative moves forward and more information is gathered with regard to student income levels.

Motion: B. McGowan/D. Manning

“BE IT RESOLVED that the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve the implementation plan to charge tuition for domestic Adult Basic Education (ABE) and English as a Second Language (ESL) courses as recommended by the Finance, Audit and Risk Review Committee.”

A Board member who was not able to attend submitted some questions for consideration. These were addressed:

- 1) Currently there is no limit how much money the College can receive from the Ministry to fund the AUG. If the OC Grant was limited by the Ministry, this would be dealt with on an as needed basis; it was further noted that ABE programming is essential to the BC Jobs Plan.
- 2) Currently the AUG pays for ancillary fees. The OC funding would cover tuition only.
- 3) Whether Adult Special Education students will be eligible for the OC Grant has not been discussed. These students are still tuition free.
- 4) There will be multiple income levels for the OC Grant based on family size.
- 5) Details are still being worked on in the instance of students being denied the AUG. Currently this occurs if they reach the maximum number of weeks allowed for the AUG funding or if they have been previously funded by the AUG for the same class. This will need to be discussed in relation to the AUG and the OC Grant.

The observer from BCGEU Vocational read a statement expressing their concerns with regard to the proposed tuition implementation for ABE/ESL.

The observer from OCFA noted that administration received a letter from OCFA prior to the last Board meeting with concerns as well. His current concern was that there was insufficient information in the proposal in the current agenda. He further stated that OCFA is formally opposed to this increase in student fees due to a shortfall in funding.

The government elimination of the tuition compensation grant equates to \$750,000. The expected net tuition revenue will replace the grant.

Beginning with the Fall term, if a student applies and they are studying at the Fundamental or Intermediate levels they will receive either the AUG or OC funding. For Advanced or Provincial levels, income thresholds that are higher than the AUG program will be established for students to receive OC funding. The objectives when implementing this fee structure were to make the prices comparable, eliminate barriers and offer quality education.

C. Grisch left at 11:25 a.m.

MOTION CARRIED
1 opposed (L. Thurnheer)

6.1.3 Domestic Tuition

Motion: B. McGowan/S. Johal

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve an increase to domestic tuition and mandatory fees for 2016/17 by 2% as recommended by the Finance, Audit and Risk Review Committee”

It was noted that Okanagan College is not implementing new mandatory fees, however, existing fees will be increased by 2% with this approval.

The College is facing a \$2 million revenue gap, the proposal is to increase revenues as opposed to decreasing services to reduce costs. It was noted that mandatory salary increases over the last year have been funded by the government.

The OCFA observer noted that this increase makes it more difficult for students financially. He commented, as in other years, that the College should consider decreasing the size of the management team.

The President thanked him for his comments and noted that there will be opportunity for feedback during the budget process in March. He invited any suggestions during the consultation process.

MOTION CARRIED
1 opposed (L. Thurnheer)

6.1.4 International Tuition

Motion: B. McGowan/J. Maciel

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve an increase to international tuition for 2016/17 by 2% for 2016/17 as recommended by the Finance, Audit and Risk Review Committee”

MOTION CARRIED

7. VERBAL REPORTS

7.1 Board Chair Report (C. Denesiuk)

Students and C. McRobb left 11:45 a.m.

The Chair attended the plaque unveiling wine and cheese reception at the Centre for Excellence and the Venture Okanagan event on February 18th.

7.2 President’s Report (J. Hamilton)

The President noted that the Jim Pattison Centre of Excellence has received LEED Platinum status certification.

The President’s office is in the process of finalizing the selection of a project manager for the Indigenization Task Force. He and A. Isaac, Aboriginal Access and Services Coordinator, will be attending the CICan National Indigenization Conference in Whitehorse later this week. He will report back to the Board on this at the next meeting.

7.3 Education Council Chair (C. Bransfield)

Elections for six faculty and two support staff members ends on March 13th. The first call for the election of the Education Council Chair will occur on March 3rd.

8. INFORMATION

9. TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

10. OTHER BUSINESS

11. FOR THE GOOD OF THE INSTITUTION

L. Thurnheer together with instructor, B. Baldwin, and student, S. Jung, attended the Vanier Canadian Marketing Competition in Montreal from February 11th – 15th. The team made it to the finals.

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** March 29, 2016, Kelowna Campus

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn: B. McGowan/D. Manning

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

MOTION CARRIED