



NORTHERN COLLEGE

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING NO. 458

Tuesday, January 11, 2022
1:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

PRESENT:

Board:

D. Walsh, Chair
C. Stringer (First Vice-Chair)
J. Molyneaux (Second Vice-Chair)
A. Penner (President)
C. Ellis
P. Hamilton
J. Harrington
L. Innes
R. Mathews
A. McCormack-Andia
M. Metatawabin
E. Poulin
A. Robichaud
H. Studholme

Guest:

L. Cotgrave, Web Developer / Social Media Liaison, Marketing, Communications, and External Relations

Staff:

D. Nankervis, Executive Assistant, Office of the President and Board of Governors
M. Dumas, Senior V.P. Corporate Services
C. Heavens, Ex. Director, Community, Business Dev. & Employment Services
S. Hunter, Chief Cultural Officer, Marketing, Communications and External Relations
A. Klooster, V.P. Academic & Student Success
C. McEachern, Ex. Director, Student Services, Institutional Research & Registrar
F. Nickner, Chief Information Officer and Director of Information Technology

Regrets:

C. Reasbeck (Governor-at-Large)
K. Wojtus
L. Trapper

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Remarks from the Chair

Chair Doug Walsh called the meeting to order and welcomed Board members, staff and guests to our first Board meeting of 2022 and acknowledged regrets received from Governors Wojtus, Reasbeck, and Trapper.

Mr. Walsh noted that Governor Ken Wojtus' Lieutenant Governor in Council 3-year appointment had been approved as of December 16th.

1.2 Acknowledgment of Territory

The Chair acknowledged the lands of the Ojibway, Cree, Algonquin and Metis Peoples that our campuses occupy. The First Nation communities now located on these lands include Beaverhouse, Flying Post, Wahgoshig, Taykwa Tagamou, Mattagami, Matachewan, Temagami, Timiskaming, Moose Cree, Fort Albany, Kashechewan, Attawapiskat and Weenusk.

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chair Walsh called for disclosures of actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest. Governor Harrington declared a conflict with item 6.5 Contract for Services to Develop Micro-credentials, and item 6.6 Master Plan Consultant Contract.

3. AGENDA

Moved by: P. Hamilton

Motion

Seconded by: C. Ellis

01-01-22

THAT the agenda for Meeting No. 458 of the Board of Governors of Northern College of Applied Arts & Technology dated January 11, 2022 be adopted as presented.

Carried

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Songs of the Land

President Audrey Penner welcomed Governor Metatawabin. Several governors expressed gratitude for sharing such a truthful, courageous, and powerful presentation. President Penner shared that Governor Metatawabin has been invited to present at the annual Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) Conference in Halifax April 25-27, 2022.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Walsh thanked Governor Metatawabin for today's presentation.

4.2 Digital Transformation

President Penner welcomed Chief Information Officer & Director of IT Frédéric F. Nickner to present on Digital Transformation.

President Penner flagged with the Board to expect to be asked to support significant capital investments over the next 3-5 years to move Northern College forward in digital transformation and digitization.

Governor Stringer expressed support and understanding of the significant investment required to move the college forward with digital transformation.

Chair Walsh thanked Mr. Nickner for his presentation.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Walsh noted there are vacancies on a couple of Program Advisory Committee meetings. Board members encouraged to fill vacancies.

The Chair asked if any governor wished to comment on or remove any items from the Consent Agenda. There were no comments or requests to remove items.

- 5.1 Receive Board Committee Minutes
- 5.2 Program Advisory Committee Appointments
- 5.3 Program Advisory Meeting Schedule
- 5.4 Board of Governors' Work Plan
- 5.5 2021-2022 Board Goals
- 5.6 Correspondence and Information Report

Moved by: J. Molyneaux

Motion

Seconded by: H. Studholme

02-01-22

THAT Consent Agenda items be approved, including all applicable motions.

5.1 Receive Board Committee Minutes

THAT the Board of Governors receive Committee Minutes

5.2 Program Advisory Committee Appointment

THAT the Board of Governors approve the following Program Advisory Committee appointments:

Early Childhood Education: Roxy Bird

Health Sciences: Cindy Salonen

Social Service Worker: Kristy Jones and Paula Crotteau

Carried

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Approval of Minutes of Meeting #457 held November 9, 2021

Moved by: C. Stringer Motion
Seconded by: A. McCormack-Andia 03-01-22
THAT the Board of Governors approve minutes of meeting #457 held November 9, 2021 as presented. Carried

6.2 Approval of Revised Board Policies

President Penner reviewed policy changes recommended by the Board Policy Review Committee.

Moved by: P. Hamilton Motion
Seconded by: E. Poulin 04-01-22
THAT the Board of Governors approve the following policies, as revised,
A-6 Student Success; A-7 Our Communities; A-8 Our Staff; B-4 External Governor Representation; B-5 Effective Student Governor Representation; B-6 Election of Internal Board Members; B-7 Board and Member Self Evaluation; B-8 Board of Governors Agenda; B-13 Presentations to the Board Carried

6.3 Approval for 2022-2023 Ancillary Fees

Executive Director Cam McEachern presented the proposed ancillary fee changes. Mr. McEachern anticipates the student health plan fees may change, and if so, he may need to bring back to the Board at a later date.

Governor Hamilton asked if we were still charging recreation and field trip fees during pandemic. Mr. McEachern confirmed, yes however last year when it was determined that we would be closed for an extended period, management funded half of the recreation fee with the understanding the other half would be utilized for virtual participation through the Student Executive Council. This will be reviewed again this year.

Moved by: P. Hamilton Motion
Seconded by: J. Harrington 05-01-22
THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2022-23 Ancillary Fees schedule and the Protocol Agreement for Compulsory Ancillary Fees, as presented. Carried

6.4 Program Approvals

V.P. Aaron Klooster presented on the proposed Welding Techniques-Apprenticeship one-year Ontario College Certificate. This program is part of a system wide initiative geared to award apprenticeship students with an Ontario College Certificate when they have successfully completed all levels of their apprenticeship training.

V.P. Aaron Klooster presented on the Fitness and Health Promotion two-year Ontario College Diploma program. This program is a high demand program in international markets. We are well positioned to bring this online utilizing current programming. We are exploring an articulation agreement in Bach of Kinesiology with an Ontario University. What makes this program unique is that Indigenous content has been imbedded into the curriculum. In response to governor questions, V.P. Klooster confirmed there is not a huge outlay of capital for this program, as well, confirmed ladder opportunities are embedded into the program to attain professional certifications.

Executive Director Christine Heavens presented the proposed Environmental and Field Monitor local board certificate program. This program was developed for the mining sector who are looking to work with indigenous communities to fill positions to support environmental monitoring at and around their sites. Already quite popular, receiving inquiries from Northern Ontario Business and several mines expressing interest. One intake is scheduled for the end of March in partnership with Sioux Lookout Friendship Accord and their mining partners in Northwestern Ontario.

Moved by:	C. Stringer	Motion
Seconded by:	J. Molyneaux	06-01-22
THAT the Board of Governors approve:		
the Welding Techniques-Apprenticeship Ontario College Certificate;		
the Fitness and Health Promotion Ontario College Diploma;		
and the Northern College Environmental and Field Monitor Local Board Approved Certificate.		
		Carried

6.5 Approval of Contract for Services to Develop 3 Micro-Credential Suites

V.P. Aaron Klooster presented.

Having declared a conflict, Governor Harrington did not vote on the motion.

Moved by:	H. Studholme	Motion
Seconded by:	C. Ellis	07-01-22
THAT the Board of Governors approve a sole-sourced contract for services with Pathways Training and eLearning to develop three micro-credential suites for the amount of \$165,000 +HST.		
		Carried

6.6 Approval for College-Wide Master Plan Consultant Contract

Senior V.P. Mitch Dumas presented. The development of a new master plan is timely in light of the pandemic and the college approving a Work from Home policy. We did tender this with two other colleges, however, only one tender responded to Northern. Funds will come out of the Plant and Property operating budget.

Noted, as this is a business plan initiative, SrVP Dumas will be reporting further at the March Board meeting.

Having declared a conflict, Governor Harrington did not vote on the motion.

Moved by:	E. Poulin	Motion
Seconded by:	C. Stringer	08-01-22
THAT the Board of Governors approve DIALOG Ontario Inc. as the consultant for the College-Wide Master Plan consulting contract with a bid of \$168,890.00 + HST.		Carried

6.7 Covid-19 Update

President Penner updated the Board on College operations since a further lockdown was instituted by the province on January 5, 2022. With the continued increase in COVID-19 cases and the highly transmissible Omicron variant in our region and across the province, all college employees have been directed to work from home, whenever and wherever possible, until further notice. Classes officially started January 10th and we continue to offer a hybrid of on-site and eLearning per Ministry and local health unit guidelines.

Northern is exploring the addition of hepa filters into classrooms through government funding. This would be in addition to the high quality air exchange that we already have built in.

Northern continues to host COVID vaccine clinics. Some of these clinics will be run by our own nursing students and will be part of their preceptorship training.

We are still hopeful that a face-to-face graduation will be possible in May, however, this is dependent upon what happens over the next few months.

Chair Walsh thanked Dr. Penner for this update.

7. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

7.1 Financial Reports

7.1.1 Finance Report for the period ended November 30, 2020

Senior V.P. Mitch Dumas presented the finance report for the eight months ended November 30, 2021, reviewing changes in revenues and expenditures. Mr. Dumas reviewed changes in the statement of operations resulting in an increase to the projected surplus of \$1.1M to anticipated surplus of \$10.6M. Mr. Dumas elaborated on revenue and expense changes, unbudgeted activity, as well as adjustments revenue reductions due to COVID restrictions, increased enrolment with our private partner, as well as adjustments from internal budget mid-year reviews.

President Penner addressed increased enrolment with our private partner. This resulted from deferred applications. Steps have been put in place to ensure numbers are managed moving forward. As a result, January enrolment is more in line with our cap.

7.1.2 Financial Health Indicators Report

Senior V.P. Mitch Dumas reviewed the report which provides data on eight key Financial Health Indicators that are tracked by the Ministry for all 24 colleges. This data is based on colleges' last audited statements or as of March 31, 2021. Northern College is in strong financial health.

7.2 Verbal Update on January 2022 Enrolment

Executive Director Cam McEachern reported numbers are tentative as we are early in the semester, only day two of classes. We anticipate a significant increase in enrolment to 1,500+ FTE (full-time equivalent) students (accounts for students who graduated and withdrew), compared to 1,275 last fall. To date, we have welcomed 20 new domestic students (higher than usual); anticipate 300 international students (record setting); 34 withdrawals; 30 graduates out of December. Private partner enrolment numbers are at 1,500 new and 1,400 progressing students. We are confident the prescribed cap will be met.

Too soon to predict Fall 2022 applications. New this year, applicant acceptances were issued November 1st rather than previous years at February 1st. Expect to see results mid-February.

7.3 East End Family Health Team Annual Report

Senior V.P. Mitch Dumas introduced the annual report for the period ending December 31, 2021 and commended the EEFHT team for their hard work navigating the challenges presented during a pandemic. Chair Walsh commended Dr. Penner and Senior V.P. Mitch Dumas for their leadership navigating through these challenging times.

7.4 EDI Presentation

President Penner elaborated on the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) presentation provided in Board package. The EDI task force has completed its first full year. Thank you to Natalie Dorval for the background research and development, and Stephanie Tamming for completing the benchmarking analysis and preparing this presentation. The Global Benchmarks were mapped to what we have defined as the Ideal College (a task force objective). The taskforce will now take the measures and prioritize a starting point, then develop and launch implementation strategies. Benchmarking process will be done yearly. We will be dedicating resources more permanently to EDI. We have also started paralleling indigenous initiatives more closely with EDI. We will continue to report back to the Board.

7.5 Northern College Indigenous Council on Education

President Penner reported Northern College Indigenous Council on Education (NCICE) as not met since our last board meeting, however, Indigenous Services has taken the initiative to work with the NCICE committee to review goals and hopefully renew and energize membership moving forward.

7.6 President's Report

Dr. Penner acknowledged the report provided in the Board package focuses mainly on operations. Effective February, will join the Timmins Economic Development Corporation (TEDC). Also sitting on the Timmins & District Hospital Strategic Planning Steering Committee. Was pleased that CTV news reached out to Northern to ask questions about the Fraser Institute Report on job growth, providing opportunity to parallel our answers to the KL project proposal.

Chair Walsh asked about a Northern College advertisement on CNN. CIO Hunter confirmed Northern has signed a contract to advertise on some very large Northern American networks (requiring Canadian content) for a very affordable rate.

7.7 Executive Team / Business Plan Presentations

President Penner encouraged board members to review the Q3 Business Plan quarterly report provided in the Board package and invited members of the Executive Team to report on the 2021-22 Business Plan. Two specific initiatives were explained in depth.

Executive Director Cam McEachern reported on the BP initiative 2.2.1-21 to develop a college-wide Student Support and Development framework and process that will triage a student's challenges and offer appropriate interventions to assist them in achieving academic success.

Chief Cultural Officer Susan Hunter introduced Lynn Cotgrave to present on the redesign of Northern College website. Goal was to update branding elements, layouts, and overall design; restructuring web pages and menus to improve navigation and accessibility; and revising content and implementing some automation for timely and accuracy of information

Governor commended Lynn Cotgrave for the television commercials. Very well done!

7.8 Reports from Board Advisory Committee Representatives

Governor Walsh noted we do have some vacancies on program advisory committee vacancies and encouraged members to join.

Governor Molyneaux provided update from the Welding Program Advisory Committee. The discussion of the 3rd year of welding program went very well. The Dean of Trades and Technology did an excellent job presenting and the committee discussion was very positive.

Governor Harrington provided update from the Vet Sciences Program Advisory Committee. Discussion included Northern's summer and fall exam success rates comparison to provincial average, COVID impact on program delivery, reading week, and overall challenges students are experiencing.

7.9 Board Member Community-Related Updates

Higher Education Summit – Governors Walsh and Reasbeck were able to attend;
Unfortunately, Governor Studholme was unable to attend.

8 MOVE TO IN-CAMERA MEETING

Moved by:	C. Ellis	Motion
Seconded by:	J. Harrington	09-01-22
THAT the Board of Governors move in-camera at 3:46 p.m.		Carried

The Board resumed the open session at 4:02 p.m.

9 NEXT MEETING

10.1 Date and Location:

Tuesday, March 8, 2022 – (All sites/video)

10.2 Future Agenda Items

Members invited to forward agenda items.

The Chair thanked everyone for their participation and called for adjournment.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by:	C. Stringer	Motion
THAT the meeting be adjourned.		11-01-22
Time noted at 4:04 p.m.		Carried

D. Nankervis
Executive Assistant to the Board