



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Held on Thursday, May 14, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. (Atlantic)  
Windsor Grand Room**

**Attendees:** Cheryl Hodder (Chair), Gita Anand, Sarah Crawford, Michael Gibbens (joining remotely), Dr. Lisa-Dawn Hamilton, Brent Hawkes, Paul Henry, Lynn Loewen, Dr. Robert MacKinnon, Zac Mclsaac, Dale Noseworthy, Dan Nowlan, Jeff Paikin (joining remotely), Mark Sevestre, Dave Shastri, Brent Spencer, Dr. Phil Tibbo, Christina Vroom, Alivia Warr, Dr. Andrew Wilson, and Lisa Yarmoshuk.

**Guests:** Heather Bembridge, Anne Comfort (Vice-President, International and Student Affairs), Reid Delaney (Incoming President, MASU), Robert Inglis (Vice-President, Finance and Administration), Kris Kierstead (Director of Facilities Management), Chris Milner (Budget Director), Dr. Vicki St. Pierre (Interim Provost & Vice-President Academic and Research), Courtney Pringle-Carver (Vice President University Advancement), Dr. Rachel Rubin (Dean of Libraries & Archives), and Brittany Trafford (secretariat support).

**Observer:** Dr. Ian Sutherland (Incoming President).

**Regrets:** Martine Savoie and Spencer Scott.

Item	Topic	Summary of Discussion	Decision
1.	Call to Order	Quorum being present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 8:58 a.m.	
	Territorial Acknowledgement	The Chair acknowledged that Mount Allison is located within the traditional territory of Mi'kma'ki, the unceded ancestral homelands of the Mi'Kmaq.	
	Approval of the Agenda	The agenda was approved as circulated.	Approved by Consent
<b>2.</b>	<b>Consent Agenda</b>		
	a. Minutes of the Meeting of 15 February, 2024	The Consent Agenda was approved following discussions relating to the reports from the committees:	Approved by Consent
	b. Reports from Board Committees	The Audit Committee Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was noted that the Audit Committee has a lot of responsibility in their terms of reference over risk. There has been consideration for changing the</li> </ul>	

		<p>title of the committee to the “Risk and Audit Committee”.</p> <p>Nominating and Governance Committee Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was a presentation at the Committee meeting on Governance including risks. It is important to have a good overview of the risks. This is also why there will be specific professional development sessions in June.</li> </ul> <p>University Advancement Committee Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Committee discussed the gap in funding for the CIL Project and the plan for the funds.</li> <li>• It was noted that funding gap is a risk. There are other donors who may give donations. There is also an opportunity to identify cost savings and to apply interest from donations already received.</li> <li>• The Committee discussed possible funding sources. It was noted that the consideration must be made for the full project and that federal money can be used for any part of the project allowing for flexibility soliciting donations.</li> </ul> <p>Finance and Administration Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Board asked the Committee about the fewer scholarships and bursaries granted this year. It was noted that the amount of spending in the operating fund went down but the operating plan was to have this go back to historical amounts (it was elevated in COVID). The plan is set in January. The plan was consistent with prior plans and less had to be paid out of the operating fund.</li> </ul> <p>Investment Committee Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Board asked about the timeline for the action plan for Responsible Investment. A preliminary sketch was provided to the Committee and now will be built out. There may be an updated plan ready for the Committee meeting in the fall.</li> </ul>	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Issues Agenda</b>		
	<b>Strategy / Planning</b>		
<b>4.</b>	Draft Budget 2024-2025	The Draft Budget was presented to the Board.	

		<p>It was noted that Government grants have not kept pace with increase costs, tuition has not been raised and maintenance creates risk.</p> <p>Robert Inglis provided an overview of the Draft Budget as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The goals are to: not inject significant changes, set the university up for success, be mindful of the Board directive to reduce the deficit. These goals have been accomplished.</li> <li>• The Federal Government’s policy on international students impacts the budget. This is likely going to have an impact of 40 less international students. Mount Allison was doing its best to support international students and all had housing last year.</li> <li>• More students are budgeted for in fiscal 2024/2025. This is because of retention but it is difficult to assess the impact of the Federal policy on international students.</li> <li>• Domestic applications are strong this year. 750 students are projected this year. International applications dropped off dramatically after the Federal announcement. The policy is in place for 2 years but this will result in a 5 to 6 year impact to the University.</li> <li>• For the Ancillary Budget, there is a budget based on 871 students and fee increases.</li> <li>• On Advancement, there is no change to the budget. The endowment has a slight increase in the budget.</li> <li>• The exceptions to the budget are the same as last year.</li> </ul> <p>The Board discussed the Federal policy on international students and the attestation letter allotment. The Province is the one that issues the attestation letters and they have agreed that they will only issue one letter for NB schools but this does not control letters from institutions outside NB.</p> <p>The Board considered the impact of the deposit requirement. It was noted that the deposit required from international students is moderate compared to other institutions. There is an impact to the Canadian brand overall which is a main obstacle.</p> <p>The Board discussed potential provincial support in light of the impacts of the Federal policy.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the impact of the Endowment fund on a per-student basis.</p>	
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<p>5.</p>	<p>CIL Project</p>	<p>The Board received an update on the CIL Project.</p> <p>The CIL consists of various separate and interrelated projects. There are also related projects such as campus parking.</p> <p>Key risks and mitigations were considered. There is a gap in funding. The critical path requires that approval be granted after this Board meeting and before the fall meeting.</p> <p>The schedule for the CIL Project was presented.</p> <p>The map/locations of construction were presented to the Board.</p> <p>The Board discussed the new paid parking lot. The Board discussed communication related to the parking lot. The parking lot is separate from the CIL project.</p> <p>The Board considered the implications of student parking fees. All parking will be paid.</p> <p>Updated renderings were shown to the Board. It was noted that the Property and Facilities Committee provided input on the importance of the aesthetic of the complex.</p> <p>An internal interim library layout was presented to the Board as well as a layout for the Multi-Purpose Athletic Complex.</p> <p>The executive will need to approve the next steps for tenders for site work to start.</p> <p>The Board asked about the laydown site when completed. It will be parking.</p> <p>The Board asked about the design and integration of the new buildings. There has been more focus on the brick building next to the Multi-Purpose Athletic Complex.</p>	

		<p>The Board confirmed the accessibility of the buildings.</p> <p>Any Regent who has thoughts or questions on the CIL Project were asked to send these to Robert Inglis this week.</p>	
<b>Oversight</b>			
6.	Report from the President	<p>The Board received a report from the President.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new Dean and new President will be starting soon.</li> <li>• The colloquium set up by the Department of Economics with alumni recently resulted in excellent discussion with students.</li> <li>• Vice Presidents and President have been discussing the importance of Government relations.</li> <li>• Some new challenges have arisen: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Vice President of International and Student Affairs is retiring. Work is being done to have a strategy in place soon.</li> <li>○ The Moncton Flight College has announced a partnership with St. Thomas University with their BA Program. The Board asked about the capacity of the flight school. They have a set-up in Fredericton and they still have capacity in Moncton for Mount Allison students.</li> <li>○ It was mentioned that it is important that to ensure the Moncton Flight College has flight times for students. It was noted that their academic load is making finding flight times challenging and they are struggling to get hours completed. This is an important issue for retention.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• An important position in the recruitment office is vacant and there is a strategy for an interim solution.</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that some students have mentioned they are impressed with changes and in the University's efforts to ensure safety and in filling empty positions.</p> <p>There were no questions on the VP's Reports.</p>	
7.	Update on Sexualized Violence Policy Review	<p>An update on the Sexualized Violence Policy was provided to the Board.</p> <p>The Policy was implemented last year and must be reviewed at the one-year point. The Committee met</p>	

		<p>in February and March. There will also be procedures and a document provided related to the education component.</p> <p>The goal is to have this in place in September. Final approval will be required by the Board.</p> <p>There is a new Sexual Violence Educator at Mount Allison.</p> <p>The Board discussed the education requirement in the policy. Students that live in residence will be required to complete the training.</p> <p>The Board considered the issue of repercussion of not taking the training, legislation in other provinces, approaches at other schools, the opinion of the experts and the research relating to culture and sexual violence.</p> <p>The Board considered the importance of transparency. It was noted that the reviewing committee has discussed the importance of communication with the university community.</p> <p>The Board discussed potential concerns and collective agreement negotiations.</p> <p>It was mentioned that the training must be effective.</p>	
<b>8.</b>	Other Business	<p>No other Business was raised.</p> <p>It was noted that the CCAA Basketball Tournament hosted in the new gym was a success. This was a proud moment for Mount Allison.</p> <p>The Board thanked Anne Comfort for her years of dedicated work on behalf of Mount Allison students.</p> <p>The Board thanked Dr. St. Pierre for her work in the role of Acting Provost and Vice President, Academic and Research.</p> <p>The Board thanked Dr. MacKinnon for his work and dedication as Interim President.</p>	
<b>9.</b>	In-camera	<p>Upon motion by Sarah Crawford and seconded by Cristina Vroom, the Board held an in-camera session.</p>	
<b>10.</b>	Adjournment	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 1:00</p>	