

MINUTES
Assiniboine Community College Board of Governors Meeting
4:00 p.m. – May 18, 2021- Virtual session

- Attendance:** Jeff Harwood (Chair), Jody Parsonage, Johanne Ross, Lori Dangerfield, Lloyd Carey, Harvey Laluk, Mark Frison (President), S. Brichon (CFO), Deanna Rexe (VP Academic), Suzanne Nicolas, Ian Grant, Tim Hore, Sheryl Prouse, D. Turner, Jim Simmons, Gabirel Toichoa, Danielle Adriaansen (Acting VP, International), Shaun Cameron (Secretary)
- Guests:** Baljeet Singh, Poonam Singh, Sajjad Rao, Grant Nichol
- Regrets:** Sukhmanpreet Singh, Kate Pelletier, Carla Milne, Kelly Wilson, Julie Muller, Dale McKay (Vice Chairperson)

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Harwood at 4:02 p.m. Attendance constituted a quorum.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Carey/Dangerfield

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of April 20, 2021 (BG: 21/04/20)

MOTION: Ross/Carey

That the minutes of April 20, 2021 (BG: 21/04/20) be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

- 3. i) Applied Research at Assiniboine:** T. Hore (Dean, Agriculture) along with researchers and instructors Grant Nichol, Baljeet Singh, Poonam Singh, and Sajjad Rao took members of the board through a presentation on current research initiatives at the college. This includes field work undertaken by each of the instructors in conjunction with the education benchmarks in place for students of the program. Highlights of this work include qualification for various NSERC grants to look at greenhouse technologies, Indigenous gardens, agronomy projects, sweet potato research and development, and CET projects working alongside the research initiatives of the agriculture and environment programs.

4. Reports from Board of Governors Committees

Finance and Audit Committee: The Finance and Audit Committee met to discuss the financial statements. S. Brichon spoke to the financial synopsis that was provided to the Board. Overall, a number of items remain in flux as we approach year end. There have been moderate strides made on fall enrollment, academic training fees, grant improvements, and being able to

receive funds back from the transitional fund (formerly a reduction from government). Another favorable is the reduction in travel costs due to the pandemic.

One item that has continued to not perform to budgeted levels is contract and market driven training, this is mostly due to the pandemic challenges.

It is hoped as the fiscal year-end approaches, the college will have greater certainty on any travel restrictions (which will impact international enrollment), as well as any changes to public health orders (notably social distancing needs). Relaxed travel or a lessened requirement for social distance will reflect positively on 2021-22 numbers.

At this time the college is indicating a modest surplus at the end of June 2021. It is anticipated that the college will remain in a positive variance at year-end (current projections being in the area of \$430,000).

The positive variance to the end of April 2021 is \$1.865 M.

Board member L. Dangerfield asked if the college could research ways in which to recognize staff for their efforts during the pandemic. M. Frison will report back to board after consultation and some research as to the best way to pursue this.

MOTION: Laluk/Parsonage

On recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee to approve the financials ending April 30, 2021.

College Report: M. Frison and others presented the May 2021 College Report.

REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

MOTION: Laluk

To move to a closed session for consideration of closed session and in-camera agenda items.

4. **Closed Session**
5. **Adjournment** – This meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Date of next meeting – The next meeting of the Board of Governors will take place at 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 22, 2021, via virtual delivery.

PENDING APPROVAL – 2021 06 22

Secretary



Chair

