



**NORTHERN COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING NO. 411
GENERAL SESSION**

Wednesday, March 5, 2014
1:30 p.m.

Moosonee Telepresence Room
Video and Teleconference

PRESENT:

PRESENT:

- Board:** D. Berube (First Vice-Chair) Acting as Chair for this meeting
F. Gibbons (President)
R. Pineault (Governor at Large)
J. Collins
A. Spacek
T. Rosko
D. Nankervis
M. Baker
C. Le Clerc
M. Miller
- Staff:** P. Fortier, Executive Assistant, Office of the President and Board of Governors
C. Verdu, Interim Director of Finance
D. Leblond, Training Consultant, ACCT
J. Harrington, Purchasing Officer
- Guests:** Norm Hardisty Jr., Chief, Moose Cree First Nation
John Beck, Director, Moose Cree Education Authority and NCACE Member
George Small, Health Director, MoCreebec Council of the Cree Nation

- REGRETS:** S. Molson
C. Carbone
G. Kemp
M. Milinkovich
R. Foy
S. Louttit
D. Wyatt

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

(a) CALL TO ORDER

Chair Berube moved the meeting into the General Session at 1:30 p.m.

(b) CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chair Berube welcomed community dignitaries and staff joining the meeting and shared a Traditional Territory Acknowledgement.

2. AGENDA

(a) MODIFICATIONS/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 5 c (iii) Approval for Budget Expenditures; and
- 7 e Advisory Committee Appointment

A modification was made to item 1 (d) which will be combined with item #4.

(b) ADOPTION

Moved by: J. Collins

Motion

Seconded by: T. Rosko

19-03-14

THAT the agenda for the Meeting No. 411 of the Board of Governors of Northern College of Applied Arts & Technology dated March 5, 2014 be adopted as amended.

Carried

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST – DECLARATIONS

The Chair called for disclosures of actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest. None were expressed.

4. COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

President Gibbons remarked that it was a great honour to be able to conduct our first Board of Governors meeting in Moosonee in quite some time. The college delegation had an opportunity to host community leaders at an informal dinner yesterday evening (March 4th) and the Board is pleased our guests were also able to join us today for the Board meeting. The President elaborated on why the Board is meeting in Moosonee and taking such efforts to engage with community leadership. Our last few strategic plans have been focused on helping to develop the capacity of Aboriginal communities in terms of workforce and of postsecondary offerings. In the same period of time spanned by these strategic plans, we have made efforts to be more respectful of Aboriginal communities and Aboriginal Peoples – we now have an Aboriginal Council that provides guidance and advice with establishing policy, with our strategic plans and guiding us on operational matters. The President provided examples of initiatives the college has put in place and how, with guidance and direction we want to position ourselves to better serve Aboriginal communities and achieve our aspiration to become the College of Choice for Aboriginal People. Having provided this context, the President then invited Chief Norm Hardisty Jr. to address the Board.

Chief Hardisty acknowledged the traditional homeland of the Moose Cree First Nation and thanked the Board for the invitation to speak. Chief Hardisty elaborated on traditions and the population of the region which has recently surpassed 4000 residents with approximately half residing on reserve. The population of the region is very young: many are entering or will be entering postsecondary institutions while a number are returning to postsecondary studies as adults with dependents. Chief Hardisty focused on the many opportunities presenting themselves both in terms of training and workforce development and on the achievement of three First Nations resource development agreements—two in mining and one in hydro—resulting in specific training and employment commitments and opportunities to develop a skilled labour force. Moose Cree First Nation Training and Employment has been working with Northern College and the Moosonee Campus to provide the required trades training. Chief Hardisty also identified some of the challenges faced by apprentices who need to leave their communities to complete trades training indicating we need to do more to address challenges and barriers. Chief Hardisty concluded by stating he is confident that by working together and with good communication we can continue to strengthen our relationship and that he looks forward to continuing to work with Northern College. Chief Hardisty appreciated the opportunity to meet with the Board and expressed thanks to President Gibbons and Chair Wyatt for the invitation.

Fred welcomed Mr. John Beck, Director of Education for Moose Cree Education Authority and current member of the Northern College Aboriginal Council on Education. Mr. Beck thanked the Board for the invitation. As expressed by Chief Hardisty, the First Nation has been committed to fostering, supporting and enabling the education of the membership through an Education Authority. The First Nation provides the political support and advocacy required so the Education Authority may provide programs and services in the region. Mr. Beck elaborated on the progress made and the positive relationship now established between the Education Authority and Northern College. Mr. Beck felt privileged to have worked with college in the past as a Governor and he looks forward to continuing to strengthen that partnership with NCACE. Mr. Beck further commented he looks forward to having the Board meet again in Moosonee with more Board members. Mr. Beck commended college administration for establishing the Northern College Aboriginal Council on Education that is not only an advisory committee but a Council where members sit as equals and really share a vision for “our college, our community.” Mr. Beck thanked everyone for their visit and invited them to visit again many more times.

Fred introduced Mr. George Small, Health Director with the MoCreebec Council of the Cree Nation. Mr. Small thanked Chief Hardisty and Mr. Beck for their comments and also acknowledged the traditional territory of the Moose Cree Nation. Mr. Small expressed his appreciation for the invitation and for the opportunity to network with Board members and staff at the dinner last night. Over the last few months, Cree Village Eco Lodge has been looking at initiatives and programs that could be established in partnership with Northern College. Mr. Small was happy to have recently participated in community consultations and while reading the college’s newsletter, *The Feather*, he noted a vacancy on the Aboriginal Council and inquired about the possibility of having a MoCreebec representative on the Council. Mr. Small was a student at Northern College; he is a proud resident of Moose Factory who feels that the college is essential for northern communities and he looks forward to continuing to work in partnership with the college.

Chair Berube thanked our guests for joining us and for their comments to the Board.

5. STANDING ITEMS/BUSINESS ARISING

(a) APPROVAL OF GENERAL SESSION MINUTES NO. 410

(Meeting Held January 14, 2014)

Moved by: M. Baker

Motion

Seconded by: J. Collins

20-03-14

THAT the minutes of Meeting No. 410 dated January 14, 2014 be adopted as presented.

Carried

Motions from the Committee of the Whole minutes of Meeting No. 410, dated January 14, 2014 follow.

Moved by: M. Baker

Motion

Seconded by: A. Spacek

01-01-14

THAT the Committee of the Whole Agenda No. 410 dated January 14, 2014 be adopted as presented.

Carried

Moved by: J. Collins

Motion

Seconded by: D. Berube

02-01-14

THAT the Committee of the Whole Minutes No. 409 dated November 12, 2013 be approved as presented.

AND THAT motions 88-11-13 to 94-11-13 be recorded in the General Session of the minutes.

Carried

Moved by: C. Carbone

Motion

Seconded by: D. Berube

03-01-14

THAT the Board of Governors receive minutes of Board Executive Committee Meetings held October 30, 2013 and November 5, 2013.

Carried

Moved by: M. Milinkovich

Motion

Seconded by: M. Baker

04-01-14

THAT the Board of Governors receive minutes of the Board Policy Review Committee Meeting held October 31, 2013.

Carried

Moved by: T. Rosko

Motion

Seconded by: R. Foy

05-01-14

THAT the Board move into the General Session, time noted at 1: 40 p.m.

Carried

(b) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

i. Strategic Mandate Agreement Update

As previously reported by President Gibbons, the SMA will be signed by the end of March. Since submitting our most current revisions to the Ministry in late December, President Gibbons has had discussions with Ms. Sue Herbert and the college is in a good position. A second conversation with Ms. Herbert is scheduled for tomorrow to finalize some of the

metrics against which outcomes will be measured. The document remains substantially unchanged and the Board did not express a desire to review or re-approve the document.

(c) FINANCIAL INFORMATION

i. Finance Report

Ms. Claire Verdu, Interim Director of Finance presented the finance report for the period ended January 31, 2014. The college has further reduced its projected deficit to \$38K and is anticipating a break-even position on March 31, 2014.

Chair Berube commended administration for their work towards achieving a balanced year-end budget. The President also commended staff for this achievement.

ii. 2014-2015 Budget

President Gibbons apprised the Board about the 2014-15 budget process. Realizing that the provincial government has forecasted a 1% increase for the postsecondary system this year, we are presented with a challenge and currently face a \$940K deficit. The President assured the Board that we are looking at all avenues to reduce this amount, but despite our efforts, we anticipate we will present a budget similar to that for 2013-14 with an approximate \$500K deficit and with a view to achieving balance during the year.

iii. Approval of Budget Expenditures

Given that the college does not have an approved budget effective April 1st, the following motion was presented.

Moved by: A. Spacek

Motion

Seconded by: M. Baker

21-03-14

THAT the Board of Governors has received an update on the 2014-2015 budget development process; and

THAT the Board of Governors approve continued operating expenditures, in a fiscally responsible manner, from April 1, 2014 to May 13, 2014, not to exceed total expenditures of \$10M.

Carried

6. NEW BUSINESS

(a) PROGRAM APPROVAL: ABORIGINAL ENTREPRENEURIAL LEARNING PATH PROGRAM

Ms. Diane Leblond joined the Board to present a proposed new program whose purpose is to recruit individuals in First Nations communities and Aboriginal individuals living in urban centers to become entrepreneurs.

Moved by: T. Rosko
Seconded by: R. Pineault
THAT the Board of Governors approve the Northern College Aboriginal Entrepreneurial Learning Path Certificate program.

Motion
22-03-14
Carried

(b) EXTENSION OF AUDIT SERVICES

Moved by: A. Spacek
Seconded by: M. Baker
THAT the Board of Governors extend the appointment of KPMG as auditors for one year, to March 31, 2015.

Motion
23-03-14
Carried

(c) COLLEGES ONTARIO GOVERNANCE STUDY

President Gibbons informed the Board about an initiative undertaken by Colleges Ontario on behalf of Colleges. With the Colleges Act introduced in 2002, there was a transfer of greater authority and autonomy to Boards of Governors, e.g. Boards were given authority to approve college programs. Despite this legislation being in place, the government has been doing things over the last few years that are contrary to this legislation by getting more directly involved in matters handled by Boards. Thus the Committee of Presidents requested that Colleges Ontario engage a third party to undertake a governance study – the phase I report is provided in the Board package. College governance is robust, has integrity and can withstand a number of tests. The next step is for the same third-party to contact the Board Chairs or Vice-Chairs of the 24 colleges to provide additional information and data to write a narrative report for the provincial government essentially asking them to stop meddling in areas where they have no justification to do so. Chair Don Wyatt is being interviewed by the consultant today.

This is presented to the Board for information purposes.

(d) APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICIES

Moved by: M. Baker
Seconded by: A. Spacek
THAT the Board of Governors approve the following policies, as presented

- A-2 Programs of Instruction
- A-3 Strategic Plan
- A-4 Business Plan
- A-5 Annual Report
- D-10 Leadership Succession Plan

Motion
24-03-14
Carried

(e) PROGRAM QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCESS AUDIT (PQAPA)

President Gibbons reminded the Board that we will be undergoing our second PQAPA Audit later this month; an extensive briefing note on PQAPA is provided in the Board package. A few Board members have been invited to join the audit panel for lunch on March 27th and we have made it clear to the audit team that discussion should deal with matters of policy governance.

(f) 2014 GRADUATION AND AWARD CEREMONIES

A schedule of upcoming graduation ceremonies is provided and Chair Wyatt had confirmed his availability for the Timmins and Kirkland Lake graduations. President Gibbons invited members to participate at the Haileybury and Moosonee graduations and to let Pierrette know at their earliest convenience if they are available.

(g) ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE MATERIALS JOINING INNOVATION CENTRE

The annual report is provided as scheduled in the Board Work Plan. There were no questions from the Board.

7. ROUTINE ITEMS

(a) CORRESPONDENCE

A letter of congratulations was forwarded to Ms. Mireille Walsh on receiving an award and is provided in the Board package.

(b) NORTHERN COLLEGE ABORIGINAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

Governor Miller acknowledged and supported remarks by Mr. John Beck and stated his appreciation for Mr. Beck's contribution to the Aboriginal Council laying a great foundation for the committee to reach its goals. At their last meeting, the committee provided input on the college's strategic enrolment management plan, welcomed a new member representing Metis Nation of Ontario and will be looking to have representation from MoCreebec in the near future. The committee also discussed the upcoming Lightning Trail Summer Camp to be held in August. Governor Miller informed the Board a naming process is under way for the permanent tipi at the Timmins campus and invited everyone to be involved. NCACE values feedback received from students and feels having this dialogue is important.

(c) PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As provided in Board Package.

(d) EXECUTIVE TEAM REPORTS AND STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS

President Gibbons thanked Mr. Beck for staying with us through the Board meeting and, as our Vice-Presidents were not available, he highlighted some of the initiatives achieved under the Aboriginal Perspectives strategic direction including:

- The development of Aboriginal specific marketing and recruitment tool.
- A total revamp of the Aboriginal portal on the college website.

- Creation of unique marketing materials for the Lightning Trail Aboriginal Student Summer Camp as well as other distinctive promotional materials for various activities along the coast (a post-summer camp survey reflects a 75% satisfaction rate by participants in the first year of offering this camp).
- Embedding Aboriginal content into course curriculum; although we have realized this is an ambitious pursuit and that not every program is conducive to this, we continue to make progress particularly with general education courses.
- The college is in the final stages of developing an online Diversity General Elective course to be available to students from all programs.
- The Moosonee Campus Plan steering committee has now completed a full-range of community consultations along the coast; this data has been gathered and a final report will be prepared and shared with participating communities and the Board.
- As recommended by a student at an Aboriginal Council meeting, an Aboriginal Awareness week was held for the first time last September and will now be held every year, at every campus.

In closing, President Gibbons highlighted partnerships with local agencies including Attawapiskat Health Services to offer a Health Care Aide program and with the Red Cross to offer a PSW program.

(e) PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Moved by: T. Rosko

Seconded by: J. Collins

THAT the Board of Governors approve the appointment of Ms. Rachele Pelletier to the Early Childhood Education program advisory committee.

Motion

25-03-14

Carried

(f) ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

As provided in the package.

(g) REPORTS FROM BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Governor Collins attended the Civil/Construction Engineering Management program advisory committee meeting.

(h) BOARD MEMBER COMMUNITY-RELATED UPDATES

Noted.

(i) BOARD OF GOVERNORS WORK PLAN

As provided in the Board package.

(j) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Noted.

(k) NEXT MEETING

Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 13, 2014
Kirkland Lake Campus
3:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole
3:30 p.m. General Session

8. BOARD EDUCATION SESSION

Mr. John Harrington, Purchasing Officer gave a presentation on Broader Public Sector Procurement guidelines that are strictly adhered to by the College. Chair Berube thanked Mr. Harrington for his presentation.

9. INFORMATION REPORT

As provided in the Board package.

10. PROPOSED MOTIONS

As recorded in the minutes.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: T. Rosko

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Time noted at 3:25 p.m.

Motion
26-03-14
Carried

P. Fortier,
Executive Assistant to the Board