

Present: David Bowra, Chair
Zdenka Buric
Jacob Cutts
Stacey Edzerza Fox
Kwin Grauer
Peter Huron
Gerda Krause
Jeff Lowe
Claude Painter
Lane Trotter, President
Jas Sandhu

Regrets: Charlene Barkman
Anthem Postnikoff
Vanessa Reakes

Employee

Resources: Barry Coulson, Associate Vice President, Administration and Finance
Vivian Lee, Director, Financial Services
Brad O'Hara, Provost and Vice President, Academics and Students
Dawn Palmer, Associate Vice President, Human Resources

Recorder: Diana Falcon, Executive Assistant to the Board of Governors

1. CALL TO ORDER AND CHAIR'S REMARKS

There being a Quorum present, Chair David Bowra called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following item was added to the agenda:

6.3 Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) Conference 2015

It was moved by Z. Buric, seconded by S. Edzerza Fox:

**THAT, the agenda be approved with the addition of
6.3 Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) Conference 2015.**

Carried Unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

With no omissions or errors to the minutes of the in-camera meeting held on November 27, 2014:

It was moved by C. Painter, seconded by K. Grauer

**THAT, the Minutes of the In-Camera Meeting held on
November 27, 2014, be approved.**

Carried Unanimously.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

D. Bowra noted that the Board Resourcing and Development Office (BRDO) have advised that four Board appointments will end on July 31, 2015, those being Charlene Barkman, Stacey Edzerza Fox, Kwin Grauer and Jas Sandhu. The Governance and Nominating Committee has been notified to begin the reappointment process.

5. FOR APPROVAL

D. Bowra presented the revised Board Operating Budget for fiscal year 2015/16 noting that it includes the changes that were recommended at the November Board meeting.

It was moved by K. Grauer, seconded by Z. Buric

THAT, the Board approves its operating budget for fiscal year 2015/16 as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

6. FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

6.1 Draft 2015/16 Ministry Mandate Letter

- a) **Draft Mandate Letter Cover Memo**
- b) **Briefing Note – Draft Mandate Letter and Achieving Government Principles**
- c) **Briefing Note – BC's Skills for Jobs Blueprint**
- d) **Briefing Note – Advancing Government's Key Strategies contained within the Aboriginal Post-Secondary Education Action Plan and the International Education Strategy**
- e) **Briefing Note – Supporting Administrative Services Delivery Transformation (ASDT) Initiative**

L. Trotter highlighted the Draft 2015/16 Mandate Letter attached to the agenda noting that the Ministry has asked for feedback by February 4, 2015. The Mandate Letter replaces the Government Letter of Expectations. The briefing documents attached to the agenda identify how the college is meeting the Taxpayer Accountability Principles that were introduced in 2014, and the initiatives the college has taken to meet governments' key priorities (i.e. supporting its mandate on international education, achieving its objectives outlined in the Skills Blueprint, etc.) Discussion ensued and the consensus was that the Board generally agrees with the intent of the six principles outlined within the Taxpayer Accountability Principles embedded with the Mandate Letter, and enough background and information has been provided regarding the Board's responsibilities and legal liabilities that they are comfortable signing the document.

The Board was concerned with the use of the language to "bend the cost curve" in the Cost Consciousness (Efficiency) principle. It is a vague term that is unidentified, is wide open for interpretation, and could fetter the Board. It was noted that this concern was raised during the TAP orientation session held on October 17, 2014 with the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Advanced Education (minutes attached). The Board recommended that feedback include removing the words "bend the cost curve" so that the language of the principle reads:

Provide public services and programs as efficiently and effectively as possible to "bend the cost curve" and support sustainable public policies and programs as a lasting legacy for generations to come.

It was moved by J. Lowe, seconded by J. Cutts

THAT, based on the clarifications and assurances provided by the Assistant Deputy Minister in a meeting held on October 17, 2014 and documented in the minutes thereof, it was resolved that the Board authorize the Chair and the President to request a deletion of the words “bend the cost curve”, and in any event sign the 2015/16 Mandate Letter; and,

THAT, the Chair and President be authorized to respond accordingly.

Carried Unanimously.

6.2 2015/16 Budget Update

a) Briefing Note on Budget 2015/16

L. Trotter highlighted the briefing note on the Budget 2015/16 attached to the agenda noting that financial projections for 2015/16 and beyond were based on prevailing conditions and revenue projections developed earlier in the current fiscal year. The briefing note provides a summary of significant changes related to revenue and government funding that have occurred since these projections were originally developed. Discussion ensued and it was noted that beginning April 2015 the college will begin work on the fiscal 2016/17 budget, and that the college will be faced with operational pressures of \$1-1.5 M per year.

6.3 Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) Conference 2015

A board member voiced their concern about the lack of college representation at the Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) 2015 Conference. The conference addresses Canadian issues in the post-secondary sector and provides community relations and networking opportunities that allows the college to maintain its national profile. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that the Board send at least one member to the conference. It was also agreed that informed decisions about conference attendance should be based on agenda content and should be made on an annual basis.

7. LIFTING OF CONFIDENTIALITY

It was moved by C. Painter, seconded by P. Huron

THAT, confidentiality be lifted on the Minutes of the Langara College Board In-Camera Meeting held on November 27, 2014.

Carried Unanimously.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

David Bowra
Chair, Board of Governors
Langara College

Lane Trotter
President and CEO
Langara College