

**UNIVERSITY OF REGINA BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**Meeting of the Board of Governors**  
**Tuesday, March 7, 2023**  
**AH 527**

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Present: M. Smadu (Chair), L. Bellegarde (by videoconference), D. Chow, C. Delorme, N. Kaur, J. Keshen, P. Klein, M. Lang, C. Londoño Sulkin, A. Russell

Resources: D. Biesenthal, D. Ford, d. Gregory, G. Sylvestre, C. Yost (part)

Recorder: J. Shafer

Guest: L. Stradeski

**1. Call to order and Introduction**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and acknowledged that the University of Regina is situated on Treaty 4 lands with a presence in Treaty 6. These are the territories of the nêhiyawak, Anihšīnāpēk, Dakota, Lakota, and Nakoda, and the homeland of the Métis/Michif Nation.

Introductions were made, and the Chair thanked D. Chow for staying on the Board until the new order-in-council appointments are in place. She also thanked management for the tour of the Brad Hornung Accommodations Test Centre and the Centre for Experiential and Service Learning.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

The Agenda was amended to move 12.4 Report from the Vice-President (Research) to the beginning of Section 12. Reports.

Londoño Sulkin – Klein  
*Moved approval of the agenda as amended.*

CARRIED

**3. Governor Conflict of Interest**

The Chair asked Board members to declare a conflict of interest should they have one with any of the agenda items. No other conflicts were declared.

*(All resources and guests with the exception of G. Sylvestre withdrew from the meeting at 8:04 a.m.)*

**4. In Camera Session**

The Board held an *In Camera* session with management excused.

*(All resources and guests returned to the meeting at 8:19 a.m.)*

## 5. Approval of Minutes of December 13, 2022

Chow – Russell

*Moved approval of the minutes of December 13, 2022 as circulated.*

CARRIED

## 6. Business Arising

None

## 7. Strategic Presentation – Budget Principles and Assumptions

J. Keshen introduced Dianne Ford and Lamont Stradeski, who presented on Budget Principles and Assumptions.

Discussion followed and included:

- Agreement that budgeting should be more nimble, and support for planned review of the budget process
- Use of \$500K funds set-aside for potential reinvestment as well as the additional MOU funding to invest in projects and plans that will generate revenue, including in international recruitment efforts
- Certain areas will not be subject to budget reductions due to strategic importance, including the Office of Indigenous Engagement and UR International
- Changes to budget process will require a long term, centre-led approach to change management
- Clarification of the tuition increase maximum as prescribed in the MOU with the Ministry of Advanced Education, and confirmation that non-tuition fees typically increase at the same rate as tuition
- Dependence of revenue modelling on enrolment levels, and the responsibility of the entire University community to attract and retain students
- Recognition that innovative and attractive academic programs continue to be created by faculties and academic units and approved by Senate

The Board Chair thanked D. Ford and L. Stradeski for the presentation.

## 8. Chair's Report

The Chair provided an update on activities and meetings. In addition to those provided in her written report, she also noted that members of the Presidential Transition Committee met in December for lunch to recognize completion of their work. In future, it may be beneficial to have a larger committee with broader representation and to assist if not all members are available for every meeting.

## 9. Strategic Items

### 9.1 2023 University Risk Register (A&RM)

Lang – Russell

*That the Board of Governors approve the 2023 University Risk Register (Attachment A).*

M. Lang introduced the item to the Board and noted that the highest risk identified was consistent across units during the interview process.

Discussion followed and included the strategic communication risk and its increased impact level.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

## **9.2 Internal Audit Plan 2023-2024 (A&RM)**

Lang – Delorme

*That the Board of Governors approve the annual internal audit plan for 2023-2024 (Attachment A).*

M. Lang introduced the item to the Board and noted flexibility in the plan to include consulting services as a value add to the organization in addition to the compliance auditing and safe disclosure roles.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

*(L. Stradeski withdrew from the meeting at 9:37 a.m.)  
(The Board recessed at 9:37 a.m. and returned at 9:52 a.m.)*

## **10. Administrative Items**

### **10.1 Faculty of Nursing Office Expansion – CW 228 & 229 (F&F)**

Bellegarde – Londoño Sulkin

*That the Board of Governors grant Level Three Approval (approval to tender the project) to redevelop College West 228 and 229 suites into office, meeting, and research space in support of the Faculty of Nursing's program expansion. This approval provides authorization to proceed to tender the project based on a maximum upset budget of \$600,000, including furnishings.*

L. Bellegarde introduced the item to the Board and noted that nonessential capital projects have been paused due to budgetary constraints. However, this project is using targeted government funding to expand delivery of nursing education.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

### **10.2 Dr. John Archer Library and Administration-Humanities Building Window Replacement – Request for Budget Increase (F&F)**

Bellegarde – Londoño Sulkin

*That the Board of Governors approve a budget increase from \$350,000 to \$500,000 for the Library & Administration Humanities Window Replacement project. This work is being funded in full by the Facilities Management Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (PMR) budget.*

L. Bellegarde introduced the item to the Board and noted this is a planned project using preventative maintenance and renewal funds. Increased budget requirement is largely due to cost increases since initial approval.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

### **10.3 Pension Plans Master Trust and Trust & Endowment–Replacement of Custodian (F&F)**

Bellegarde – Londoño Sulkin

*That the Board of Governors approves a change to the Master Trust and Trust & Endowment custodian from CIBC Mellon to Northern Trust Canada.*

L. Bellegarde introduced the item to the Board and noted significant cost savings associated with the change in custodian.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

### **10.4 User Parking Rates - May 1, 2023 - April 30, 2026 (3 Years) (F&F)**

Bellegarde – Londoño Sulkin

*It is recommended an average increase of 4% to parking rates be approved, with discretionary control of resident and hourly parking to be managed by the Parking and Transportation Services senior management team. Rate increases will be effective May 1, 2023.*

L. Bellegarde introduced the item to the Board and noted that University of Regina would remain competitive with comparators.

Discussion followed and included:

- The University does not currently charge for parking evenings and weekends, and this might be considered in the future to mitigate overall rate increases
- Current year parking surplus will partly offset losses from other ancillary services

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

## **11. Consensus Items**

Londoño Sulkin – Delorme

Agreed to move items 11.1, 11.2, and 11.3 as an omnibus motion as follows:

### **11.1 Faculty Based Research Centre – Centre for Artificial Intelligence, Data, and Conflict (CAIDAC) (F&F)**

*That the Board of Governors approve the faculty based research centre: Centre for Artificial Intelligence, Data, and Conflict (CAIDAC).*

### **11.2 Delegation of Authority, Senior Executive Policy (GOV&NOM)**

*That the Board of Governors approve revised policy GOV-010-010 Delegation of Authority, Senior Executive, Attachment A.*

### **11.3 Board Member Honorarium and Expenses Policy (GOV&NOM)**

*That the Board of Governors approves the revised Board Member Honorarium and Expenses Policy, Attachment A.*

The question was called on the omnibus motion.

CARRIED

## **12. Reports**

*(Item 12.4 was moved to the beginning of this section when the agenda was approved.)*

### **12.4 Report from the Vice-President (Research)**

C. Yost presented his report to the Board and also highlighted the work of U of R Press, particularly in support of Indigenous scholars and authors. He also noted that Dr. Marcella Berg has joined the University as the Fedoruk Chair in Neutron Imaging, and that the University of Regina is a founding member of Neutrons Canada, a university-led group of approximately twelve universities that will promote neutron research.

Discussion followed on the U of R Press, with C. Yost noting that he is currently hiring a Director, who will be tasked with increasing profitability and reputation. The Board discussed future opportunities for U of R Press, as Saskatchewan's only academic press, to increase scholarly publications and support faculty publishing, to align or partner with other organizations in advancing Truth and Reconciliation and Indigenous languages, and to provide more books in audible format where there is a strong business case.

The Board Chair thanked C. Yost for his report.

### **12.1 Chancellor's Report**

The Chancellor provided an update on recent meetings and activities, including a meeting of the Joint Committee of Senate and Council on Ceremonies and attendance at Cougars' basketball games. She noted that a Report from Senate was received by the Governance & Nominations Committee and thanked the President for chairing Senate's most recent meeting. She noted that the Inspiring Leadership Forum would take place on March 8.

The Board Chair thanked P. Klein for her report.

### **12.2 President's Report**

J. Keshen provided a verbal update on events and activities since the last meeting, as well as upcoming meetings and recruitment initiatives.

Discussion followed and included the importance of accessing government funding opportunities, and support for a government relations position funded with savings from the reduction of an associate vice-president position. This position would align the university with competing institutions that already have this role in place.

The Board Chair thanked President Keshen for his report.

### **12.3 Key Messages**

This report is regularly provided for the Board's information. It provides a few key messages for Governors to speak to in their conversations with community members.

### 12.5 URSU President's Report

N. Kaur presented her report to the Board and noted that URSU had its Annual General Meeting on March 2, but not all agenda items were completed. A subsequent meeting will be scheduled prior to the end of April.

The Board Chair thanked N. Kaur for her report.

*(C. Yost withdrew from the meeting at 11:12 a.m.)*

### 12.6 Committee Chair Highlights

M. Lang provided an update from the Audit and Risk Management Committee, including:

- Discussion of the Operating Fund 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report and clarification of carryforward transfers
- Review of the report on Tuition – Comparatives and Affordability, and encouraged all Board members to review this report prior to budget deliberations
- Received an update on insurance, which included two incidents fully covered by CURIE and an update on cyber breach coverage

C. Delorme provided an update from the Human Resources Committee, including:

- Appreciation for the stewardship provided by the AVP Human Resources and his team
- Received the Annual Health, Safety and Wellness Report and noted an increase in reporting largely due to the pandemic

L. Bellegarde provided an update from the Finance and Facilities Committee, including:

- Update on Indigenous procurement initiatives and some preliminary reporting, including discussion of the merits of ensuring smaller purchase amounts are tracked in order to support small and medium-sized Indigenous businesses

C. Delorme provided an update from the Governance and Nominations Committee, including:

- The completed Memorandum of Understanding with First Nations University of Canada and the unique relationship between the institutions

M. Smadu noted that the Board will receive surveys for follow-up on the Board Retreat in January and in relation to Board committee preferences to be completed prior to the April Board meeting.

*(Resources, with the exception of D. Biesenthal and G. Sylvestre, withdrew from the meeting at 11:21 a.m.)*

### 13. In Camera Session I – 11:21 a.m.

These items are recorded in the *In Camera* minutes and are included in the [Official File](#).


*(D. Biesenthal withdrew from the meeting at 11:35 a.m.)*

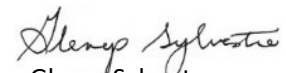
*(J. Keshen and G. Sylvestre withdrew from the meeting at 11:38 a.m.)*

### 14. In Camera Session II – 11:38 a.m.

The Board held a brief *In Camera* session with the President excused.

**15. Adjournment** – 11:46 a.m. Moved by Chow.

  
Marlene Smadu  
Board Chair

  
Glenys Sylvestre  
University Secretary