

**THE GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE  
OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 12, 2020  
200 KING ST EAST, TORONTO  
5:30 P.M.**

<b>Present:</b>	Omo Akintan Bruce Choy Andrea Elliott ( <i>via teleconference</i> ) Kevin Costante, Chair Julia Deans	Erica Goddard Gerard Hayes Joshua Li Nancy Prenevost	Bob Richardson Anne Sado Martha Tory Laurel Walzak
<b>Guests:</b>	Rick Huijbregts Chris McGrath Adrienne Galway	Michael Herrera Leslie Quinlan Cory Ross	Paul Ruppert Susan Bowrah
<b>Regrets:</b>	Wing Ki Chan	Kevin King	Pradeep Sood
<b>Minutes:</b>	Diane Fantinato		

## **1.0 Chair's Report**

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Chair Kevin Costante brought the meeting to order. He introduced the newest member to the board, Nancy Prenevost, Head of Legal Operations at Oxford Property Group.

On behalf of the board, he congratulated Andrea Elliott, who is taking on the role of Executive Vice President at Moose Knuckles and Julia Deans who has been named President and CEO for Habitat for Humanity Canada.

It was noted that the next meeting would take place on April 15 with the board retreat the following day – April 16.

The Chair recognized Paul Ruppert, retiring CIO, thanking him for his commitment and leadership to the college and wished him well in this next stage of life.

## **2.0 Consent Agenda**

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### **MOTION 2020-03-01**

**That the Board of Governors approves the Consent Agenda for the meeting held on February 12, 2020 which includes the following items:**

- **Approval of the Draft Board of Governor Minutes – December 11, 2019**
- **Approval of the Honours Bachelor of Food Studies Degree Program**
- **Approval of the following financial policies:**

- **Procurement Policy**
- **Expense and Travel Policy**
- **Signing Limit and Approval Policy**

Moved: J. Li

Seconded: M. Tory

CARRIED

### **3.0 “Did You Know” Presentation: Occupational Health & Safety Report**

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Susan Bowrah, Director, HR Consulting, Labour Relations and Safety and Wellness advised that health and safety was identified as an area for upskilling and investment. The leadership team, as well as our union, have been supportive partners. Susan provided the framework used to facilitate the change from incident response to prevention, which included restructuring the health and safety team, conducting a gap assessment identifying hazards across the college, and implementing an internal responsibility system. Four college-wide areas of risk management were identified. Although the college is in the early stages of this work, there are clear indications of college-wide engagement.

Susan advised that a clear reporting structure of WSIB statistics for the college was underway.

### **4.0 Truth and Reconciliation (TRC) and Anti-Racism Report**

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Adrienne Galway, Special Advisor to the President, provided background regarding the engagement of Charles Smith Consulting for the Truth and Reconciliation (TRC) and Anti-Racism report. A framework was developed to assist in gathering information on how the college was addressing the TRC report and recommendations, adopting and implementing the anti-racism and diversity initiatives, and the impact of those initiatives. The consultants found many examples of Indigenous and Anti-racism initiatives across the college. Some key observations brought forward from various stakeholders to the consultants were presented. Adrienne noted that the college has signed off on the CiCan Indigenous Education Protocol. Leslie Quinlan, VP, HR and Public Safety and Security, provided the action plan for both the indigenous and anti-racism strategies

The board suggested investigating funding opportunities from the federal government. They also encouraged future training for members.

### **5.0 Governance Committee Report**

Julia Deans, Chair, Governance Committee, advised that the committee has not met since the last board meeting. She reported that college appointments have been filled for 2020 with one appointment and reappointment to be completed for 2021. Regarding government appointments, one is still pending and the committee is working on three applications for 2021. Lia De Cicco-Remu has joined the Academic and Student Affairs Committee as a community member. The members were encouraged to continue to send in recommendations for potential board members.

## 6.0 December Year-to-Date Financial Report 2019-20 and Budget 2020-21 Status

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Michael Herrera, Interim CFO, reported on the college's financial position as of December 31, 2019. Overall the college continues to project a positive variance to plan. 2019-20 projected revenues are expected to exceed the current year's budget while expenses are projected to be below but higher compared to prior year's actuals. It is anticipated the college will have a surplus of \$10.3M at the fiscal year-end compared to the approved budgeted surplus of \$5.8M.

For the 2020-21 budget, Michael advised that at the December board meeting, the members were provided key budget assumptions including risk areas that were being considered during this year's planning process. In addition, the 2020 strategic commitments and major initiatives were presented. At the February Finance & Property Committee, management discussed the possibility of funding the strategic investments outside of regular operations to allow for appropriate resources to be made available and at the same time invest in next year's operations. The committee was open to the proposal but requested a business case be provided for each strategy. They also supported having funding requests come for approval outside of the regular budget process based on when funding was needed, and plans were completed. Management will present an operating budget to the committee in March with final board approval in April.

## 7.0 GBC Endowment Investments

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Michael Herrera advised that at the February Finance and Property Committee meeting, management presented recommendations regarding oversight of the \$13M of matching endowment grant monies from the Province of Ontario. A background memo was provided to the board prior to the meeting. With changes to the rules as how the funds can be invested, the college has been looking into different options for investment and governance of these funds in partnership with the Foundation. Recommendations on the structure and responsibilities of a newly appointed Investment Committee were presented.

### **MOTION 2020-03-03**

**The Finance and Property Committee recommends to the Board of Governors approval of the Investment Committee which includes members of the Foundation's current Finance and Investment Committee.**

**Moved: B. Richardson      Seconded: J. Deans      CARRIED**

## 8.0 Strategy 2022/Vision 2030

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At the February Finance & Property Committee meeting, Rick Huijbregts, VP, Strategy & Innovation presented a detailed update on planning to date. Background on the evolution of S2020 and V2030 was provided. V2030 and the four strategic commitments for 2020 are guiding planning and the major initiatives (MI) in a coordinated process. Rick advised that each MI has a corporate and academic sponsor. Initial work is underway to explore prioritization of MI activities and projects along with development of draft business cases. The need for ensuring appropriate governance was discussed.

## **9.0 Committee of President's Report 2022/Vision 2030 and Budget 2020-21 Status**

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Anne Sado forwarded a report from the College's Ontario Committee of President's (CoP) December meeting to the members prior to the meeting. Key items of discussion included public-private partnerships, audit and pension committee recommendations, apprenticeship reform, and a national strategy on micro-credentials. Minister Ross Romano joined the meeting to discuss a series of policy issues. Anne also advised of a recent announcement to grant colleges the ability to offer bachelor degrees in nursing independently. Since 2000, the province has required any college wishing to offer a nursing degree program to partner with a university. Certain guidelines will be in place and closely monitored.

## **10.0 President's Report 2022/Vision 2030 and Budget 2020-21 Status**

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Anne Sado forwarded her report to the members prior to the meeting. Highlights included enrollment, fundraising, and student/staff successes.

She cited the passing of two students – Kiana Ghasemi and Darya Toghian - who were among the passengers on the plane that crashed in Tehran on January 8. A student-led vigil was held for Kiana and Darya at Casa Loma Campus, and flags on campus were lowered to half-mast. Support was provided to both students and staff. She thanked Chris McGrath, VP Student Success and Maryam McKenzie from his team, for proactively reaching out to offer condolences and support to the families.

**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to a Private Session.**