

MINUTES

BOARD OF GOVERNORS — REGULAR SESSION

Thursday, September 29, 2022 — 3:45-5:00 p.m.
In person + Zoom webinar

ATTENDANCE:

Voting Members:

Keith Kerrigan (Board Chair)	Mary Macaulay	Esther Rausenberg
Gillian Siddall (President + Vice Chancellor)	Lindsay McIntyre	Keith Reynolds
Megan Ellis	Lorcan O'Melinn	Carleen Thomas
Gaye Fowler	Alex Phillips	

Regrets: Stephanie Schneider, Ishika Tripathi,

Resource Viktor Sokha (Vice-President, Finance + Administration), Marcia Guno (Vice Provost, Students), Adrian Tees (Associate Vice-President, HR), Mark Douglas (Executive Director Financial Services), Heather Sanford (Interim University Secretary), Christen Downie (Associate University Secretary), Alex Muir (IT support)

Guests:

We respectfully acknowledge that Emily Carr University is situated on the unceded, traditional and ancestral territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1. Call to Order + Chair's Remarks — Keith Kerrigan, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

2. Adoption of the Agenda.

Moved / Seconded

Carried as amended.

A Board member requested an addition to the agenda under item: II. Business: 3. Extension of Appointment of Current External Auditors.

There was a request for discussion of the Final Report on the 2017-21 ECU Strategic Plan for the next board meeting in December 2022.

3. Approval of the Board Regular Session Minutes of June 2, 2022

Moved / Seconded

Carried.

II. BUSINESS

1. Approval of the 2021/22 Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) Report

V. Sokha, Vice-President, Finance + Administration, noted the SOFI Report is an annual mandatory report that is submitted to Government by all public post-secondary institutions in BC.

Moved / Seconded that, on the recommendation of the Finance + Audit Committee, the Board approve the Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) for 2021/22 as presented.

Carried.

2. Information: Financial Review for the five months ended August 31, 2022

L. O'Melinn, Chair, Finance + Audit Committee, introduced the audited financial statements. There was a brief discussion including:

- Board member inquired about salary expenditures related to three new Associate Dean positions.

The VP, Finance + Administration will follow-up with information for the Board member.

3. Information: Extension of Appointment of Current External Auditors

The Chair of the Finance + Audit Committee reported on the Committee's support for a one-year extension to the current auditor's (KPMG) contract. It was reported that the Committee had a detailed discussion and, considering the focus on an earlier budgeting process underway this year, the Committee agreed to support the extension of KPMG's contract by one year and then review. It was further reported that a change in process from last year will be regular oversight by the Office of the BC Auditor General. It was explained that this increased oversight is part of a regular cycle of review by the Auditor General's Office.

III. REPORTS

1. President + Vice-Chancellor's Report

G. Siddall, President + Vice-Chancellor, provided an update on the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training (AEST) Post-Secondary Funding Formula Review. It was reported that members of the Funding Review team are meeting with all post-secondary institutions in B.C., including ECU. The members met with representatives of the President's Executive team, the Faculty Association and CUPE. The team members received detailed information on ECU's structural deficit and the significant challenges presented by the current funding model. It was further reported that the Funding Review team will provide a report of key findings to the Ministry by September 2022.

The President reported that the ECU Strategic Planning Advisory Group has initiated the consultation and engagement phase of planning with the ECU community.

A Board member inquired about the President's election to the Post-Secondary Employers' Association (PSEA). It was noted that involvement with PSEA may provide the opportunity to raise awareness of ECU's concerns, particularly in relation to the university's designation as a Special Purpose, Teaching University.

A Board member inquired about the potential that the Aboriginal Gathering Place offer space and programming for students from Mexico and other Indigenous students from around the world.

2. Vice President, Academic + Provost's Report

The Provost was not in attendance, and it was noted that any questions Board members may have about the VP, Academic + Provost's submitted report could be forwarded. There were no questions from Board members.

3. Vice President, Finance + Administration Report

V. Sokha, VP, Finance + Administration, reported that a Risk Register is being developed for the Board's review by the end of the fiscal year.

There was discussion, including:

- Risk Register will address all types of risk (operational, enterprise), not solely financial.
- Inquiry about correlation between the Risk Register and ECU's Threat Assessment Team.
- Recommended communication about the Risk Register with the entire ECU community.

4. Vice Provost, Students' Report

M. Guno, Vice Provost, Students, referred to the circulated report and offered to take any questions. A Board member inquired about the number of students currently enrolled in Foundation year who are covered by the provincial grant. A response will be provided at the next Board meeting.

IV. NEXT MEETING: December 1, 2022

V. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.