



**CAMOSUN**  
COLLEGE  
**50 YEARS**  
1971-2021

## **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

### **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**MEETING:** Monday, March 1, 2021  
**TIME:** 5:00 pm  
**ONLINE:** Teams

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#### **BOARD MEMBERS:**

Monty Bryant, Chair  
Bijan Ahmadi  
Sherri Bell, President  
Joanne Cumberland  
Brenda McBain  
Brent Palmer  
Margie Parikh  
Emily Rogers  
Mike Stubbing  
Fillette Umulisa  
Al van Akker  
Lindsay JD van Gerven  
Phil Venoit

#### **ADMINISTRATION:**

John Boraas, VP Education  
Heather Cummings, VP Student Experience  
Deborah Huelscher, VP Administration & CFO  
Rodney Porter, Exec. Director, Communications & Marketing  
Barbara Severyn, Exec. Director, Human Resources  
Geoff Wilmshurst, VP Partnerships

**GUEST:** Ian Tol, Executive Director, Facilities Services and  
Campus Development

**REGRETS:** Tanya Clarmont  
Richard Margetts

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT:** Heather Martin

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#### **I CALL TO ORDER**

Monty Bryant, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

#### **II APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as distributed.

#### **III BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

##### **1. Chair's Report**

Monty Bryant, Chair, welcomed the five guests. The guests attend as observers and do not participate in the meeting. Sherri and Monty met several times virtually and in person for planning. Last fall, with the help of donors and partners, the college delivered 300 care hampers to students as part of the Camosun Cares program. Monty enjoyed volunteering as a delivery driver in the first round, and has signed up again for round two.

Sherri's retirement date has now been announced publically. While Monty was looking forward to more time working with Sherri, he is very happy for her and her family, and offered congratulations. Monty welcomed Brent Palmer back, and wished him good health.

On February 16, Monty was one of many who had the honour of bringing a welcome to the 50th Anniversary 'Conversations Day 2021: Honouring the Past, Inspiring the Future'. It was truly inspiring to hear stories about how Camosun has affected the lives of our students and employees. Thank you to Al van Akker for taking part in a panel. A video clip was shown of the congratulatory messages from Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister, and John Horgan, Premier. Monty commended all those who took part in organizing the Conversations Day event.

## **2. President's Report**

Sherri Bell, President, thanked Monty for attending so many events at Camosun to bring a welcome. The video clip showed two of the speakers, but we also heard from Minister Anne Kang, and alumni Adam Olsen, MLA, and Erinn Pinkerton, CEO of BC Transit. A panel of employees and a panel of Camosun students spoke of their experience at Camosun. The MC, Michaela Pereira, was a Camosun student who went to work for CHEK news and CNN, and who now has a morning show in Los Angeles. Sherri commended the organizing team as they did a tremendous job. She welcomed Brent Palmer back, and wished him well.

Today the Province announced the vaccine rollout. The timeline may be speeded up as some new vaccines are coming on line. Sherri has been working with various levels of Government about what the fall is going to look like for post-secondary. We should know more in the next few weeks. The West Shore project is back on track, and Sherri is working with the Presidents of UVic and Royal Roads. The plan will be updated to include COVID-19 recovery.

## **3. Foundation**

Geoff Wilmshurst, Vice President Partnerships, noted they met last Thursday. Geoff gave the financial statistics at the last Board meeting, and it has not changed. Advancement Officer Angie Bowles is retiring in a few months. She will be very much missed.

## **4. Education Council**

Bijan Ahmadi, Education Council Chair, noted the minutes from the January 20, 2021, meeting were included in the agenda package. Bijan went over the highlights of the February 17 meeting, which included the passing of curriculum and the approval of the Academic Calendar and the Credential Standards policies.

## **5. Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence (PISE)**

Phil Venoit, PISE Board of Directors member, noted PISE meets quarterly. They are planning a break-even budget for the balance of the year. They looked at the Strategic Risk Registry, including a COVID-19 update, the Active for Life Program for Community Health, the Performance Pathways, and the facility itself.

## **6. Finance Update**

Mike Stubbing, Chair, Finance Committee, noted there has been no Finance Committee meeting since the last Board meeting, and there is no financial update. At the end of the first three quarters of the fiscal year, there was a \$6.7M deficit, or 4 - 4.5% of the original budgeted revenues. The Ministry approved the deficit for this year as well as for next year.

#### IV BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### 1. Executive Committee

Monty Bryant, Chair, Executive Committee, noted we met virtually on February 22 using Teams. We began preliminary work on the process for the President Search. The Board Executive has chosen to work with the search firm Leaders International. The firm did extensive consultation during the selection of Sherri Bell for President and is very familiar with the College. They have been involved in over 50 President or Senior Administrator selections across Canada. We received a brief update on the film studio.

#### V APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the February 8, 2021, meeting were approved as distributed.

#### VI NEW BUSINESS

##### 1. Strategic Plan Goal: Corner Post Two – Supporting People in an Engaged Community Dimensions Project

John Boraas, VP Education, reported the college's work on equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) began years ago. The Dimensions Project is a group of six projects that support the college's EDI policy.

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| • John Boraas – Chair                                      |   |
| • Sybil Harrison – Director, CETL                          | The Digital Divide                                    |
| • Pete Moroney – Director, Policy & Planning               | Student Voice   |
| • Richard Gale – Director, Camosun Innovates               | NSERC Dimensions Project                              |
| • Dalia Gonzalez-Harney – Director, Ancillary Services     | Institutional Structure – Create Capacity & Synergies |
| • Gord Stickney – Director, Institutional Analysis         | Data Benchmarks Project                               |
| • Nancy Ali – Organization & People Development Specialist | Increasing Employee Diversity at Camosun College      |

The Digital Divide project looks at how to assist students who do not have access to a device or internet due to funding, so are hindered from online learning. The Natural Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Dimensions project began in 2019 when they identified Camosun to participate due to our best practices in EDI. From that, the other projects were developed. NSERC since put out a call for proposals. We responded with a proposal to make a toolkit and pathway to create a more supportive and diverse college based on our work in Indigenization.

Student Voice in Decision-Making looks at areas and methods to allow students to provide feedback to inform decision making, such as regular meetings with the Deans. Institutional Structure for EDI will investigate what system structures best support EDI, such as safe space and services to students who come from diversity. Data Benchmarks looks at the data that helps us understand the student body such as where they come from and level of education. Inclusive Hiring Practices will address shift hiring, language in posting, diverse assessment practices, and hiring by posting full-time instead of term.

## 2. Wilna Thomas Building Renovation

Sherri Bell, President, noted the Wilna Thomas building (WT) has been empty since Health & Human Services moved to Interurban. The planned renovation is part of the Campus Master Plan (CMP). The \$6.7M deficit is in operating funds, and the renovation will be charged to the capital funds. Capital funds are for infrastructure and capital projects only. The Government provided the funds.

Ian Tol, Executive Director, Facilities Services and Campus Development, presented the layout and concept of how it could be used. We need a student collaborative space. Sybil Harrison facilitated an extensive consultation on how it would work for the community, and eight themes came out.

1. Learning Centred
2. Narrowing the Gap Between Living and Learning
3. Design Informs and Shapes Us
4. Intention and Flexibility
5. Connected Community
6. Reflection of and Connection to the Land
7. Innovation and Possibility
8. Supportive Environment with Robust Technology

The new space will have quiet space, By the Books café, flexible and reconfigurable furniture, a Celebration Hall, informal study and meeting areas, an acknowledgement of traditional territory (wood and biophilia), an experimental classroom, and technology support for students. The Celebration Hall will be a large space that can be configured into smaller spaces. It can hold from 40 to 230 people. Work began in January 2021, and should be complete by May or June in 2022. The Government will allow us to use capital funding from both this and next fiscal year.

## 3. President's Goals - Review & 2021

Sherri Bell, President, presented her goals from last year, which includes a self-evaluation, and her goals for 2021. Sherri worked with Monty Bryant on the goals and evaluation.

## VII ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.



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Monty Bryant, Chair

April 12, 2021

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Date

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Heather Martin, Executive Assistant