



# UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

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### Board of Governors Open Session Minutes

Monday, June 01, 2015  
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)  
10:00 - 11:00 AM

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#### **ATTENDEES:**

##### Voting Members:

Shenaz Jeraj	Appointed Vice-Chair, General Public
Dick Wilson	Appointed Vice-Chair, General Public
Mike Belosevic	Member, General Faculties Council
James Heelan	Member, General Public
Barry James	Member, Senate
LeRoy Johnson	Member, General Public
Azhar Khan	Member, Students' Union
Navneet Khinda	Member, Students' Union
Steven LePoole	Member, General Public
Colin More	Member, Graduate Students' Association
Raymond Muzyka	Member, General Public
Robert Parks	Member, Alumni
Christopher Pu	Member, Non-Academic Staff
Michael H. Ross	Member, General Public
Indira Samarasekera	Member, President
Robert H. Teskey	Member, General Public
Ralph Young	Member, Chancellor

##### Non-Voting Officials Appointed by the President:

Lorne Babiuk	Vice-President (Research)
Phyllis Clark	Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Marion Haggarty-France	University Secretary
Brad Hamdon	General Counsel
Don Hickey	Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
Debra Pozega Osburn	Vice-President (University Relations)
Colm Renehan	Interim Vice-President (Advancement)
Olive Yonge	Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

##### Regrets:

Douglas O. Goss	Appointed Chair, General Public
David Cooper	Member, Academic Staff (AASUA)
Jane Halford	Member, Alumni
Deborah Holloway	Secretary
Marcia Lang	Senior Strategic Advisor to the President
Nizar Somji	Member, General Public

##### Presenter(s):

Martin Coutts	Associate Vice-President (Finance and Supply Management Services)
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##### Staff:

Juli Zinken, Acting Board Secretary and Manager of Board Services

## **OPENING SESSION**

### 1. Call to Order

*Presenter(s):* Dick Wilson

Ms Zinken confirmed that the attendance constituted quorum. The Acting Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., noting that the Board Chair was away at meetings in Chicago and had asked him to Chair the meeting on his behalf.

The Acting Chair informed the Board that this would be Dr Mike Belosevic's final Board of Governors' meeting and reviewed Dr Belosevic's contributions to the Board of Governors and its Committees. In recognition of Dr Belosevic's service, the Acting Chair presented him with the gift of a book donation in his name to the University's *Peel's Prairie Provinces* digital library collection: "Biological investigation and fisheries management at Lac la Ronge, Saskatchewan". Board members thanked Dr Belosevic for his service to the University.

### 2. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Dick Wilson

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Open Session Agenda as presented.

**CARRIED**

### 3. Conflict of Interest - Opportunity for Declaration Related to the Agenda

*Presenter(s):* Dick Wilson

The Acting Chair made note of the following:

- The University of Alberta has policy and procedure in place for Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment, and Board members make annual disclosures.
- In addition, Board members must declare any conflict related to the Board Agenda of each meeting and, in the event of such conflict, absent themselves from the discussion and voting on the item.
- The Post-Secondary Learning Act, Section 16(5) states that: The members of the board must act in the best interests of the university.

The Acting Chair invited members to declare conflicts of interest related to the Open Session Agenda of the meeting. Dr Belosevic indicated that he was a resident of Grandview Heights and would have a conflict related to any South Campus discussions. Mr James reminded the Board of his role on the Province of Alberta's Audit Committee. The Acting Chair acknowledged these declarations, observed no further declarations, and declared that the question was duly asked and answered.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### 4. Report of the Audit Committee

*Presenter(s):* Michael H. Ross

#### 4a. Management's Annual Consolidated Financial Statements (Draft)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s)*: Phyllis Clark; Martin Coutts

*Purpose of the Proposal*: To recommend to the Board the approval of the audited Consolidated Financial Statements as required by the *Post-Secondary Learning Act*.

*Discussion*:

Mr Ross introduced the item, informing the Board that this year's audit process was very well conducted. He acknowledged the efforts and cooperation of management and reported that the Auditor General had offered no new recommendations.

Ms Clark reviewed the document, noting in particular the increases in endowments and the \$58.7 million in government funds received to match documented philanthropic commitments through the Access to the Future Fund. She also highlighted that there had been no Auditor's observations.

Ms Clark responded to a question from the Board regarding the statements' indication that the University has an excess of revenue over expense of \$75.3 million. She clarified that this was a one-time operating surplus based on several factors and that the University still has a \$32 million accumulated deficit of unrestricted net assets.

Ms Clark and Mr Coutts responded to questions from Board members regarding the University's policies regarding transfer of funds toward endowments, the University's endowment policy compared with peer institutions, the structure and role of the Board Investment Committee, how the land trust will influence the financial statements, and whether or not the land trust will be included in the consolidated financial statements.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Audit Committee, approve the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2015.
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**CARRIED**

**CLOSING SESSION**

5. Adjournment

The Open Session was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

**IN CAMERA SESSION OF VOTING MEMBERS ONLY**

Members met briefly *In Camera*.