



**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**Approved Minutes of the Meeting (Open Session) held on**  
**Tuesday, November 28, 2023, 3:00 p.m.**  
Lord Dalhousie Room, Henry Hicks Building

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Kristan Hines (Meeting Chair), Eshan Arora, Kim Brooks (President), Ryan Dee, Cassandra Dorrington, Cheryl Fraser (Board Chair), Jo Galarneau, Ahsan Habib, Shona Kinley, Mariam Knakriah, Jay MacIsaac, Merle MacIsaac, Catherine MacPherson, Alana Riley, Angela Siegel, Rustum Southwell, Louise Spiteri, Caroline Zayid

**MEMBERS REGRETS:**

Paul Beesley, Joyce Hoeven

**NON-MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Alice Aiken (Vice-President Research & Innovation), Sheila Blair-Reid (Acting Vice-President Research Advancement), Frank Harvey (Provost & Vice-President Research Academic), Grace Jefferies-Aldridge (Vice-President Research People & Culture), Gitta Kulczycki (Vice-President Research Finance & Administration), John Hope (General Counsel & University Secretary), Cheryl MacDonald (Associate Secretary, Board of Governors), Judith Ng'ethe (Associate Secretary of Senate)

**GUESTS:**

Tareq Abdullah (Director, Campus Planning), Gaelle Coullon (Davis Pier Consultants), Mike Davis (Davis Pier Consultants), Zahra Dhubow (Davis Pier Consultants), Colin Mitchell (Davis Pier Consultants), Laurel Munroe (Director of Communications & Public Relations), Matt Proctor (Assistant Vice-President Communications, Marketing & Creative Services), Erin Stewart-Reid (Chief of Staff, President's Office), Gefu Wang-Pruski (Campus Principal and Dean, Faculty of Agriculture), David Westwood (DFA Observer)

**1. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as presented.

**2. Consent Agenda**

All items were adopted by consent.

**2.1 Minutes of Meetings of October 17, 2023**

**THAT the minutes of the meetings of October 17, 2023 be approved as presented.**

**Approved by CONSENT.**

**3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business noted.

**4. Chair's Report**

K. Hines began her report by welcoming Grace Jefferies-Aldridge, the newly appointed Vice-President People and Culture. She spoke to the importance of Giving Tuesday, the campus-wide initiative to raise funds for campus food banks, and extended well wishes to students as they prepare for the upcoming exam period.

## 5. President's Report

K. Brooks referred members to her written report provided in the meeting materials and welcomed G. Jefferies-Aldridge, the newly appointed Vice-President People and Culture.

K. Brooks provided a brief introduction on work to explore opportunities at the Truro campus by considering academic offerings, research strengths, campus experience and influence on the surrounding area, and partnerships with key stakeholders. Davis Pier has been engaged to carry out this work.

Representatives from Davis Pier presented a high-level overview of the proposed engagements with a goal to understand what it would take to make the Truro campus a thriving component of Dalhousie University, how to increase the impact of research on campus, and how to support a thriving community in mainland Nova Scotia. Members engaged in questions and discussion related to the engagement process and the planned consultations with various groups.

## 6. Dalhousie Student Union President's Report

M. Knakriah reported on recent initiatives undertaken by the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU), with a goal to strengthen connections with the student body. She spoke to restructuring efforts to enhance efficiency and support for students. These include creating Commissioner roles and the position of Advocacy and Research Coordinator, and expanding the survivor support centre to increase services. She provided a high-level overview of recent policy amendments and noted that the DSU has been granted observer status by Students Nova Scotia.

M. Knakriah spoke to the very successful fall orientation week, which enjoyed the highest turnout in several years, and detailed the eight bursaries the DSU offers, included a new bursary to assist international students with travel expenses.

## 7. Items for Decision

### 7.1 Facilities Renewal Preliminary Budget 2024-2025

J. MacIsaac presented the Facilities Renewal preliminary budget for 2024-2025, highlighting the seven proposed projects estimated to exceed \$1 million.

Following the report, G. Kulczycki responded to questions of clarification and spoke briefly to work underway to explore opportunities to upgrade labs currently located in the Chemistry and Dunn buildings.

Moved by A. Habib, seconded by E. Arora:

**THAT the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Capital Projects and Facilities Committee, approve the list of significant projects (greater than \$1 million for FY) for 2024-2025. Facilities Management is authorized, prior to April 1, 2024, to spend and enter into contractual commitment totaling no more than \$10 million to support the implementation of the approved Facilities Renewal projects.**

**CARRIED.**

## 8. Items for Information

### 8.1 Understanding our Roots - Task Force on Settler Misappropriation

F. Harvey presented an overview of the report “Understanding Our Roots: Nestimuk tan wtapeksikw – Task Force on Settler Misappropriation of Indigenous Identity” and the recommendations contained therein. The report was prepared by the task force following an extensive 12-week consultation process with community leaders, governing bodies, the Indigenous Advisory Committee, and kinship networks, and will inform the policies and procedures at Dalhousie related to the verification of Indigenous identity, citizenship, or membership.

Following the report, questions and discussion focussed on the importance of consistent language when developing and amending policies and procedures related to the disruption of false claims to Indigenous identity, membership, and citizenship at Dalhousie University; the process to be followed for verification of Indigenous membership or citizenship at the University; and current scholarship and bursary supports available for Indigenous students.

### **9. *In Camera* Session**

The Board moved to the *in camera* session.

### **10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.