

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Meeting of the Board of Governors
Tuesday, April 30, 2024
AH 527

Present: C. Delorme (Board Chair), K. Addison, A. Cameron, K. Howlett (via videoconference), J. Keshen, P. Klein, M. Lang (via videoconference), T. Patel, A. Russell

Regrets: M. Deters, L. Bellegarde

Resources: D. Biesenthal, L. Campbell, I. Dostaler, D. Ford, G. Sylvestre, C. Yost

Guest: L. Stradeski (part)

Recorder: S. Nelson

1. Call to order and Introductions

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

1.1 Reconciliation

The Chair acknowledged that the University of Regina and its federated colleges are on Treaty 4 and Treaty 6 — the territories of the nêhiyawak, Anihšīnāpēk, Dakota, Lakota, and Nakoda peoples, and the homeland of the Michif/Métis nation.

2. Approval of Agenda

Howlett - Klein

Moved approval of the agenda as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Governor Conflict of Interest

The Chair asked Board members to declare a conflict of interest should they have one with any of the agenda items. No conflicts were declared

(All resources with the exception of G. Sylvestre withdrew from the meeting at 8:03 a.m.)

4. In Camera Session

The Board held an *In Camera* session with resources excused.

(All resources and guests returned to the meeting at 8:15 a.m.)

5. Minutes

5.1 Approval of Minutes of March 12, 2024

Russell - Cameron

Moved approval of the minutes of March 12, 2024 as circulated.

CARRIED

6. Business Arising

None

7. Strategic Presentation – “Indigenous Identity Verification”

C. Delorme invited L. Campbell to provide the presentation.

At the conclusion of the presentation, discussion followed and included:

- The importance of the work and why this matters
- ‘Race shifting’ and the potential for fraud

All questions were addressed by management.

The presentation is appended to the [Official File](#).

(L. Stradeski joined the meeting at 8:54 a.m.)

8. Strategic Items

Motions for 8.1 and 8.2 were put forward as an omnibus motion.

8.1 2024-2025 Tuition and Fees (A&RM)

8.2 2024-2025 Comprehensive Budget Plan (A&RM)

Lang - Howlett

That the Board of Governors approve the following tuition and fee actions effective the Fall 2024 semester:

- *That tuition for undergraduate credit hours be increased by 4.0%.*
- *That tuition in the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy (JSGS) for the Master of Public Administration be increased by 8.0%, and all other programs in JSGS be increased by 4.0%.*
- *That international students in JSGS for the Master of Public Administration, the Master of Public Policy and the Master of Health Administration be assessed a tuition multiplier of 1.75 as opposed to the current 1.56.*
- *That graduate programs in the Levene School of Business will have no tuition increase.*
- *That graduate tuition for all other Master’s and PhD students be increased by 4.0%.*
- *That the tuition for courses in the certificate programs in the Centre for Continuing Education be increased by 4.0%.*

- *That the Co-op Fee be increased by 4.0%.*
- *That the Graduate International Surcharge be increased by 4.0%.*
- *That the Student Services, Health & Wellness fee be increased by 4.0%.*
- *That the Academic Technologies Fee be increased by 4.0%.*
- *That all tuition and fees be rounded to the nearest \$0.25 after percentage increases are applied.*

Lang – Howlett

That the Board of Governors approve the attached Comprehensive Budget Plan for 2024-25.

M. Lang introduced the items to the Board and noted that a commitment was made to have a balanced budget by 2024-2025 and this has been achieved. The budget has been created to allow flexibility in spending to respond to potential enrolment impacts that differ from expectations.

Management provided additional highlights including:

- Tuition recommendation is aligned with the MOU and competitive in a Western Canadian context
- There is planned investment in areas of opportunity, to support the research enterprise and respond to student needs
- The budget was developed through a consultative process, including with the Council Committee on Budget (CCB)

Discussion followed and included:

- The potential impacts of a tuition increase to students and enrolment, with management noting that tuition is not typically one of the main factors in student selection for post-secondary attendance
- Affordability of tuition is also impacted by the cost of living and the minimum wage in the relevant city/province
- Comparative universities for tuition were limited to the Western Universities as these are our main competitors
- Projections of international enrolments are conservative, reflecting current uncertainty
- Facilities Management budget decrease is due to the transfer of Protective Services to Student Affairs
- Campus store revenues continue to fall due to changed behaviours of both students and faculty
- Amounts for La Cité fluctuate from year to year as expenditures match the funding received from the federal government
- Ancillaries operations transfer funds from revenues generated to cover mortgage costs. These appear as Interfund Transfers in the Capital Fund Budget
- The Capital Fund budget shows a small deficit due to timing of cash flows
- Management confirmed that all budgeted capita projects have funding sources arranged prior to coming forward to the Board for Level 3 approval
- The capital monitoring report shows the total costs of projects and where the funds are coming from.
- Management noted two small edits that will be made to the document prior to finalization and posting

The question was called on the omnibus motion.

CARRIED
(T. Patel abstained)

(L. Stradeski withdrew from the meeting at 9:51 a.m.)

8.3 10 Year Capital Plan (I&I)

Addison - Keshen

That the Board of Governors approve the development projects listed in Figure 2 for submission to the Ministry of SaskBuilds and Procurement for incorporation into the Province Wide 2025-26 Integrated Capital Plan.

Management noted that Figure 2 was revised since the item was posted and approved by the Investment and Infrastructure Committee. An updated document was provided to the Board at the meeting, and matches what will be submitted to the government.

Changes from the previously circulated material resulted from a decision to adjust how the items were presented to government to include full project value, removal of an item that was inadvertently included in the earlier draft, and indication of items currently “on hold” therefore not identified as imminent priority.

In response to a question, management confirmed that there is ongoing conversation with relevant government ministries on capital projects and priorities, not limited to an annual submission.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

The final version of Figure 2 is appended to the [Official File](#).

9. Administrative Items

9.1 2024-2025 Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (PMR) Plan, Including Future Commitments (I&I)

Cameron – Keshen

That the Board of Governors approves the Facilities Management (FM) projects listed in Table 1 and Table 2. This approval includes:

1. *Base Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (PMR) Funded Projects for 2024-25 and advance commitments if required for future years of funding for select projects - Table 1; and,*
2. *Approval of PMR projects funded by other University sources – Table 2*

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.2 2025-2026 Strategic Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (SPMR) Plan (I&I)

Addison – Keshen

That the Board of Governors approve the following four projects for submission to the Ministry of SaskBuilds and Procurement for consideration of funding through the 2025/26 Strategic Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (SPMR) Program.

1. *Administration Humanities Elevator Modernization*
2. *Education Building Roof*
3. *University Drive North Roadway Replacement*
4. *Main Substation Building Upgrade*

The Committee noted the imminent need for North roadway replacement.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.3 Renovations for Supply Management Services (I&I)

Camerson – Klein

That the Board of Governors approve Level Three Approval (approval to tender the project) with a \$1M budget for the project to convert Wakpa Tower residence suites to offices.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.4 Classroom and Laboratory Building Elevator Study (I&I)

Patel – Addison

That the Board of Governors approve a \$150,000 budget with Level One Approval (approval in principle) for the Classroom and Laboratory Building Elevator Study.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.5 Classroom Building Student Services Hub (I&I)

Patel – Cameron

That the Board of Governors provide Level One Approval (approval in principle) and a \$100,000 budget for planning and due diligence work as relates to the creation of Classroom Building Student Services Hub.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.6 Faculty of Nursing HyFlex Classrooms (I&I)

Addison – Cameron

That the Board of Governors approve a \$100,000 budget with Level Two Approval (approval to complete the full design) to complete the design of a \$750,000 project for two new HyFlex Classrooms for the Faculty of Nursing. This project is in support of the Faculty of Nursing 24 seat expansion in 2024-25.

Discussion followed and included:

- HyFlex delivery has been utilized by the Faculty of Nursing since its inception, but the need for distributed learning was amplified by the pandemic.
- Nursing programs across Canada have trended to increased distributed learning offerings, in response to the need to increase nursing practitioners

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

9.7 Policy Update – GOV-010-015 – Legal Entities (I&I)

Addison – Cameron

That the Board of Governors approve GOV-010-015 Legal Entities (Attachment A), as attached.

Management noted that a correction to the 'last review date' will be made, as the policy was last updated in December 2019.

The question was called on the motion.

CARRIED

(Board recessed at 10:05 a.m. and returned at 10:23 a.m.)

10. Reports

10.1 Board Chair's Report

The Board Chair provided highlights from the written report circulated prior to the meeting, and also noted his attendance at the First Nations University of Canada Powwow on April 20th.

10.2 Chancellor's Report

The Chancellor provided highlights from the written report circulated prior to the meeting, and expressed her excitement for the 2025 Inspiring Leadership Forum to take place in early March 2025.

The Chancellor provided an update on Chancellor's Community events, and her pleasure at being a part of some of the school visits to surprise scholarship recipients. The intent is to increase the number of Chancellor's Scholars to 20 next year.

The Board Chair thanked P. Klein for her report.

10.3 President's Report

J. Keshen provided highlights from the written report circulated prior to the meeting, and also reported on the following:

- Update on attestation allotment to support international student enrolments
- Update on Spring/Summer 2024 student registration numbers

The Board Chair thanked J. Keshen for his report.

10.4 Key Messages

This report is regularly provided for the Board's information. It provides a few key messages for Governors to speak to in their conversations with community members.

10.5 URSU President's Report

The Chair noted that this will be T. Patel's last meeting. T. Patel thanked governors for their support during his time on the Board. He then presented his report to the Board and noted that URSU continues to try to increase student engagement. He expressed excitement about the new menu and updated patio space at The Lazy Owl.

The Board Chair thanked T. Patel for his report.

10.6 Report from the Vice-President (Research)

C. Yost presented his report to the Board and highlighted the recent successes within the research portfolio. The University continues to do well in the diversity of the research completed spanning across all Faculties and disciplines. Many research projects are undertaken with industry and community partners. C. Yost also noted the Higher Education Strategy Associates publication this morning that highlighted the U of R's exceptional results on citation scores and international co-authorships.

The Board Chair thanked C. Yost for his report.

10.7 Report from the Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Engagement)

L. Campbell provided highlights from the written report circulated prior to the meeting noting that the University of Regina and First Nations University of Canada have been selected to host the National Building Reconciliation Forum in 2025.

The Board Chair thanked L. Campbell for her report.

10.8 Committee Chair Highlights

M. Lang provided an update from the Audit and Risk Management Committee, including:

- Update was received on the Operating Fund, noting that the year-end date is the date of this meeting
- A draft annual report was previewed, and feedback provided

- Enterprise Risk Management update included mitigation activities associated with the risks identified, with good Committee discussion on evaluation of residual risk
 - Internal audit update was provided
- A. Russell provided an update from the Human Resources Committee, including:
- Update on targeted recruitment of indigenous faculty and staff, including changes to process and education on recruitment practices
 - 2023 annual pension reports were reviewed reflecting good results overall
- J. Keshen provided an update from the Investment and Infrastructure Committee, including:
- Major capital projects are all on track and within budget
 - Update on previously submitted SPMR projects, and funding received for emergency power enhancements and LED lighting
 - Facilities condition assessment update was received, noting 20% of the buildings on campus will undergo a review annually
 - Capital fund report was reviewed noting the surplus is due to timing of cash flows
 - Trust and endowment report was received
 - Advancement fundraising activity is positive and ahead of the prior year

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of an upcoming capital campaign.

- A. Russell provided an update from the Governance and Nominations Committee, including:
- Draft of the President's 2024-2025 performance objectives with a final version coming to the Board for approval in July

(Resources with the exception of D. Biesenthal, D. Ford and G. Sylvestre withdrew from the meeting at 11:00 a.m.)

11. In Camera Session I – 11:00 a.m.

These items are recorded in the *In Camera* minutes and are retained in the [Official File](#).

(D. Biesenthal withdrew from the meeting at 11:15 a.m.)

(D. Ford withdrew from the meeting at 11:24 a.m.)

(J. Keshen and G. Sylvestre withdrew from the meeting at 11:26 a.m.)

12. In Camera Session II – 11:26 a.m.

The Board held an *In Camera* session with the President excused.

Adjournment – 11:38 a.m. Moved by Patel.

Cadmus Delorme
Board Chair

Glenys Sylvestre
University Secretary

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