



**Meeting of the Board of Regents
October 22, 2021
Minutes**

The fall meeting of the Board of Regents of Mount Allison University was held virtually on Friday, October 22, 2021, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Mr. Cooper called the meeting to order.

The following Regents were present: Gita Anand, Jean-Paul Boudreau, Charlie Burke, George Cooper (Chair), Jane Craighead, Sarah Crawford, Mark Fraser, Brent Hawkes, Paul Henry, Cheryl Hodder, Lynn Loewen, Nicholas Nauss, Susan McIsaac, Dan Nowlan, Jill Rafuse, Odette Snow, Brent Spencer, Phil Tibbo, Andrew Wilson, Peter Winters, and Lisa Yarmoshuk

Regrets were received from the following Regents: Vett Lloyd and Brian MacLeod.

The following non-Regents attended: Jeff Hennessy, Provost and Vice-President, Academic and Research; Anne Comfort, Vice-President International and Student Affairs; Robert Inglis, Vice-President, Finance and Administration; Courtney Pringle-Carver, Vice-President University Advancement; Guylaine Roy, Director of Finance – Controller; Barb MacIntosh, Director of Special Projects

Acknowledgement of aboriginal custodianship

Mr. Cooper acknowledged the Aboriginal custodianship of the land on which the University is situated.

I) Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was adopted as presented.

It was requested that committee reports provide a bit more detail.

Included within the consent agenda were:

- Minutes of the meeting May 18, 2021
- Reports from Board Committees
 - Academic Affairs.
 - Audit.
 - Finance and Administration.
 - Executive.
 - Investment.
 - Property and Facilities.
 - Student Affairs.
 - University Advancement; and
 - Ad hoc Advisory Committee on the Prevention of Sexual Violence.
- Quarterly Report from the Maple League of Universities

II) Decisions and Action Items

4. Audit Committee

The Chair, Brent Spencer, reported on the work of the Committee. The Director of Finance – Controller Guylaine Roy and Director of Special Projects – former Controller Barb MacIntosh, joined the meeting for this agenda item and provided a high-level overview of the reports.

i. Annual Financial Report and Draft Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended April 30, 2021

Motion B21-02:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Annual Financial Report which included the draft audited financial statements for the year ended April 30, 2021, as recommended by the Audit Committee, are approved.

Moved by B. Spencer
Seconded by S. Crawford
Motion Carried

ii. Management Discussion and Analysis 2020-2021

The Chair reminded the Board that this is not a public document and is intended for the use of the Board and Senior Administration only.

Motion B21-03:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Management Discussion and Analysis for the year ended April 30, 2021, as recommended by the Audit Committee is approved.

Moved by B. Spencer
Seconded by L. Yarmoshuk
Motion Carried

5. Harper Hall Design Work

The Chair of the Property and Facilities Committee, Mr. Fraser, said that the Board of Regents had conceptually approved the early design work for the renovation of Harper Hall. At that time, a number of questions were raised regarding the scope and potential phasing options for a project. The outcome of the exploration of this is that it is recommended that a complete renovation be done. The recommendation to the Board is to approve the funding to proceed with work to complete all design stages to prepare for tendering of such a project.

In addition, the Committee had an extensive discussion on risk management, and it is felt that a risk registry relating to buildings and facility condition would be beneficial.

The Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee, Mr. Henry, said that there are two pieces to this. The commitment to spending the funds for planning, for a total to \$2.5 million, and then to the overall cost for the project, estimated at \$20 million plus, which will be refined through the planning stage of the process.

Mr. Henry proceeded to explicitly outline the implied commitment to proceed with the project if the Board approves this phase. Noting that for the University to advance this to a construction phase it will require borrowing funds externally.

The Chair, Mr. Cooper, said that he wanted a discussion to proceed with the full knowledge that this is a departure from Board practice over the last 25 years.

A fulsome discussion ensued, which included the following matters: questioned the inclusion of micro apartments; potential to expand Harper in the future; student capacity; enrolment; and confirmation of the residence system ability to repay a loan.

The two proposed motions were consolidated into one motion.

Motion B21-04:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Regents, based on the recommendation of the Property and Facilities Committee approves the concept of renovating Harper Hall involving student rooms, micro-apartments, and a residence zone. Further, **be it resolved** that the Board of Regents approves completion of all design work up to the tender phase on a renovation of Harper Hall at a cost of up to \$2.5 million based on recommendations of the Property and Facilities, and Finance and Administration committees.

Moved by M. Fraser

Seconded by P. Henry

Motion Carried

II) Discussion Items

6. President's Cabinet Report

Dr. Boudreau welcomed Regents to the meeting and noted that he is looking forward to the day when they can once again meet in person.

The President highlighted the following items from his report:

- The University continues to work in a healthy living environment around the pandemic and has had three COVID cases over the past 24 months.
- The term began with an energizing positive vibe on the campus and planning for the winter term with as much, if not more in person elements –pandemic shifts notwithstanding.
- New Brunswick has seen a recent surge in the number of cases and is in a circuit breaker at this time.
- The University community has 97.99% of its students and 95.2% of all faculty and staff fully vaccinated – two doses. Unvaccinated students and staff on campus are tested twice a week.
- A positive increase in enrolment of 3.8%.
- Work on the Academic Plan and strategic support continues and will provide opportunities for enrolment growth across academic programs.
- Work is ongoing on new academic programs and an application for a Bachelor of Arts and Science in Interdisciplinary Health Studies has been submitted to the MPHEC.

- Students continue –even with the pandemic challenges– to be out in the community making a difference – this includes working with the business, enterprise, voluntary, not-for-profit, and work integrated learning communities.
- Elder William Nevin and Knowledge Keeper and Elder Connie Nevin have joined Mount Allison as the elders in-residence to help support our indigenous efforts.
- Student athletes, varsity, and club athletics represent a little over 12% of the student body.
- Planning for the budget process is underway.
- Planning is on track for the Hub for Innovation as well as how to stagger modifications to update and modernize the Athletic Centre.
- Work is planned to begin in early 2022 on The Ideas Lab, which will provide an innovation teaching sandbox for students and faculty for entrepreneurial community engagement.
- Planning for establishing a volunteer leadership committee for the campaign is underway.
- Launches were held on campus in September for the McCain Scholars and the Pierre Lassonde School of Fine Arts.
- Planning is underway for in person convocation celebrations for the classes of 2020, 2021 and 2022.
- A young alumni reunion is being planned for May 2022 and special summer reunion in July.
- The University has started the process to hire a Spiritual Care Advisor to be broad facing, inclusive, across all spiritual communities.
- Mount Allison was recognized in McLean’s magazine ranking system as one of the top two undergraduate universities in the country.

The President proceeded to answer questions arising from his report.

7. Update from President’s Cabinet on Sexual Violence Prevention

The President said the material circulated outlined the work that has been done.

The President said the Administration has taken time over the past few months to conduct a deep dive of the CLISAR report and to prioritize the items within it. The President and Vice-president VPISA reviewed the recommendations implemented and to be implemented– the short, medium, and long-term goals. Emphasizing the importance of oversight and operational governance of these items going forward.

The President thanked the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee members for encouraging the

administration to not just respond to the issues going forward, but put in place a model to support students, faculty and staff, and the University.

A discussion ensued. The role of the Student Affairs Committee in the review of the sexual violence prevention response policy was confirmed and that the review would address the implementation and allocation of resources.

It was noted that on social media individuals have posted their perceptions that change is not being done fast enough. Vice-President Comfort said this is a societal problem, one that Mount Allison is striving to do better. However, it takes time, labour, and resources.

8. Campaign Discussion: Readiness, Board Leadership, and Next Steps

Ms. Pringle-Carver, Vice-President University Advancement, was joined by Mr. Wright, Executive Director of Development for this agenda item.

Ms. Pringle-Carver and Mr. Wright spoke of the goals of the campaign, what must be achieved over the next year before going public, and the roles of Regents in the success of the campaign.

Ms. Pringle-Carver said this is an exciting trajectory for Mount Allison.

IV. Other Business and Board Comments

Dr. Boudreau and Mr. Henry spoke of the upcoming strategic session planned for December 10th – *"Where to Play, How to Thrive"*. It was noted that materials were distributed, and Regents were asked to provide feedback.

V. In Camera

The Board moved in camera.

VI. Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Bembridge
Assistant Secretary