

**Voting Members:** Adrian Stimson, Chair, Sheila Taylor, Vice-Chair, Sara Anhorn, Patrick Chiu, Dr. Daniel Doz, Tom Graham arrived at 4:29 p.m., Ruby Gupta arrived at 4:21 p.m., Chi Iliya-Ndule, Mackenzie Kelly-Frère, Samantha Mirjah, Tanya Mryglod arrived at 4:23 p.m., Tammi Price, and Murray Wittmeier.

**Management & Resource Members:** Joanne Deaver, Executive Assistant to the President (Scribe), Dr. Janis Goldie, Dean, Academic Programs, Jamie Leong-Huxley, Vice President Advancement, Scott Powell, Vice President Finance and Operations and Cherie Tutt, University Secretary.

**Regrets:** Chris Cran, Nurgul Balac and Evan Legate.

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The Chair welcomed members to the February 25, 2025 meeting, provided the land acknowledgement, called the meeting to order at 4:11 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

### **1. Approval of the Agendas**

**Moved / Seconded**

That the Agendas for the February 25, 2025 Board of Governors meeting be approved.

**Carried**

### **2. Conflict of Interest Declaration**

No conflicts were declared.

### **3. Adoption and Receipt of the Open Consent Agenda Items**

Documentation was included in the meeting materials.

The following Consent Agenda items were adopted:

3.1 December 10, 2024 Board of Governors Meeting Minutes.

That the Minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held on December 10, 2024 be approved.

**Adopted**

The following Consent Agenda items were received by the Board for information:

- 3.2 Board Standing Committee Reports
  - 1. Advancement
  - 2. Governance & HR
  - 3. Finance and Audit
- 3.3 Board Work Plan
- 3.4 Constituent Reports
  - 1. Students' Association
  - 2. General Faculties Council
  - 3. Alberta Union of Provincial Employees
  - 4. Faculty Association
- 3.5 Cabinet Reports
  - 1. Dean, Academic Programs
  - 2. Vice President Advancement
  - 3. Vice President Finance & Operations
  - 4. Dean Innovation, Learning & Development
  - 5. Dean of Students
  - 6. Executive Director, People & Culture
- 6.7 Policy Updates
  - 1. Delegation of Signing Authority Policy

#### **4. 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 Board and Standing Committee Meeting Schedule**

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Chi Iliya-Ndule, Chair, Governance and HR Committee and University Secretary presented this item.

Highlights:

- It was reported that the meeting schedule for next year is consistent with prior years, but has been adapted from January to June to reflect the upcoming change from a fiscal year end in June to a fiscal year end in March, including the addition of a special Board meeting at the end of May to approve the Financial Statements.
- There were no questions.

#### **Moved / Seconded**

That the Board of Governors approve the Board and Standing Committee Meeting Schedules for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 as recommended by the Governance & HR Committee.

**Carried**

## **5. Board of Governors Expenses Policy**

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Chi Iliya-Ndule, Chair, Governance and HR Committee and University Secretary presented this item.

Highlights:

- It was reported that the Board of Governors Expenses Policy undergoes an annual review, but that no changes are being proposed at this time.
- There were no questions or suggested changes to the Policy.

## **6. Tuition and fees proposal**

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Tom Graham, Chair, Finance and Audit Committee and the Vice President Finance and Operations presented this item.

Highlights:

- Management provided a presentation on the proposed tuition for 2025-2026 noting that the Post-Secondary Learning Act and Tuition and Fees Regulation cap domestic tuition at 2% and that a 7% increase to international undergraduate tuition is proposed to bring the institution closer in line with competitors as well as minimal changes to other fees.
- The Board discussed:
  - That the gap between income and expenses continues to increase year over year but understands that due to the government freeze the university is tied to the current proposal. It was reported that differential tuition can be sought for new degree programs as it is a requirement that the tuition for any new program cover all program costs.
  - The federal government regulations impacting international student enrollment and the impacts to international tuition revenue. It was noted that although many schools in Alberta have enough spots to offer to international students, the change to policy/regulations has damaged the Canadian brand and applications are down significantly.
- In response to a question, it was confirmed that when the existing degree programs were reconfigured there was not an opportunity to apply for a change to tuition for these programs.

*Secretary's Note: In follow-up to a question regarding work-visas raised at the meeting, the Dean of Students confirmed that international students can still apply for a post-graduation work permit after graduating, but that there have been some changes to the eligibility requirements.*

**Moved / Seconded**

That the Board of Governors approve the 2025-2026 tuition and fees proposal as set out in the documents provided to the Board, and as recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee.

**Carried**

## **7. Centennial Update**

The Chair, the Chair of Advancement Committee, the President and CEO and the Vice President Advancement presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters reported that:
  - One on one sessions with all board members are almost complete to discuss ways board members would like to contribute to the centennial.
  - Work is being done to create talking points for board members to communicate to potential donors.
  - Marketing and Communications is creating a quarterly communication on all AUArts events.
  - There will be three more exhibitions tied to the centennial, one in September 2025, January 2026 and September 2026.
  - A sponsorship with Calgary Arts Development has been secured.
- There were no questions.

## **8. Board Chair Report**

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. The Chair presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Chair reported on activities, noting his primary focus on the President and CEO transition and participation with the Indigenous Advisory Committee.
- It was reported that the meeting with the Advanced Education Minister was cancelled at the last minute, but that a productive meeting with the Chief of Staff to the Minister was completed.

## **9. President and CEO Report**

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. The President and CEO presented this item.

Highlights:

- The President and CEO reported:
  - That he has been participating in conversations with city partners regarding developing an innovation hub and there is the possibility of AUArts will being an anchor in this project. The City of Calgary is focusing on developing the west end of downtown.
  - As the President's end of term approaches, he is prioritizing the fundraising campaign and donor engagement.
  - The Chamber of Commerce recently hosted the Minister of Advanced Education for a luncheon, which representatives of Management attended. The focus of the presentation was on jobs tied to current labour market conditions.

## **10. Motion to Adjourn the Open Session and Move into the In-Camera Session**

<b>Moved / Seconded</b>
That the Board of Governors adjourn the Open Session and move into the In-Camera Session.
<b>Carried</b>

The Committee adjourned the Open Session at 4:51 p.m. and the Chair called a 10 minute-break.

*Secretary's Note: The Agenda for the In-Camera Session was approved at the beginning of the meeting. The In-Camera Session commenced at 5:03 p.m.*

## **11. Fundraising Update – Year End Summary**

The President and CEO and Vice President Advancement presented the year end fundraising update.

## **12. HD Update**

The President and CEO provided an update on the HD selection for the 2025 Convocation ceremony.

### **13. Board Succession Planning**

The Board Chair and Chi Iliya-Ndule, Chair of the Governance and HR Committee provided an update on Board membership and succession planning.

### **14. EDIA Update**

The President and CEO provided an update on the University's EDIA Strategy development.

### **15. President Transition Update**

The Board discussed the upcoming President and CEO transition.

### **16. Board Meeting Evaluation**

### **17. Other Business in the In-Camera Session**

There was no other business.

The Board of Governors adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m.