



Saskatchewan Higher Education Quality Assurance Board (SHEQAB)

Minutes of the Ninth Meeting held June 8, 2015

Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Regina, SK

Members:	Ronald Bond (Vice-Chair); Karen Barnes; Marie Battiste; Robin Fisher; Irene Lewis; Bill McLaughlin; Mhairi (Vi) Maeers
Regrets:	Grant Isaac (Chair)
Guests at the Invitation of the Chair:	From Saskatchewan Polytechnic: Larry Rosia, President (for greetings); Anne Neufeld, Provost and Vice President (for lunch); Arnold Boldt, Associate Vice-President Academic and Research (for lunch) Dr. David Marshall, Consultant (by teleconference for item 4b) Natasha Kikot, Institutions Analyst, Ministry of Advanced Education
Secretariat:	Patti Bateman; Philip Cameron; Tammy Jones-Bonk

1. Greetings

Dr. Larry Rosia brought greetings from Saskatchewan Polytechnic and provided the Board with an overview of the process and implications of the institution's recent transition from a technical institute to a polytechnic.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded (McLaughlin/Fisher) to approve the Agenda as presented, with the addition of an item on Ministry Updates. CARRIED.

3. Ministry Updates

a) AE Representation at SHEQAB Meetings

Philip Cameron informed the Board that a Ministry representative will no longer attend SHEQAB meetings unless the Board specifically requests that someone from the Ministry attend to address a specific topic or issue, or, conversely, the Ministry wishes to bring a particular matter to the attention of the Board. The Ministry believes that since the Board has matured beyond its initial developmental phase, Ministry representation need not be maintained. Philip Cameron will continue to update the Board on Ministry activities.

b) New Minister of Advanced Education

On May 21, 2015, the Honourable Scott Moe was appointed Minister of Advanced Education, replacing the Honourable Kevin Doherty. Minister Moe is a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan. He and his family reside in Shellbrook, Saskatchewan.

4. Minutes of the September 25, 2014, Meeting

It was moved and seconded (Lewis/Barnes) to approve the Minutes of the February 10, 2015 meeting, with one amendment indicating the Board's reconsideration of item 6(b) of those minutes, described in item 6 below. CARRIED.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes of the February 10, 2015, Meeting

a) Board Succession – Nominations for Upcoming Vacant Positions

In 2014, Board members Irene Lewis and Mhairi (Vi) Maeers announced that they would leave the Board at the end of their first term (October 29, 2015). In March 2015, Grant Isaac issued a call for nominations to all Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions and to the public via a posting on the SHEQAB website. A Nominations Subcommittee then reviewed the qualifications of nominees relative to the SHEQAB's *Competency and Composition Matrix*. The members of the Subcommittee were Vi Maeers and Karen Barnes.

The Nominations Subcommittee presented a prioritized slate of nominees for the Board's consideration.

The Board first discussed the number of names to be put forward to the Minister.

It was moved and seconded (McLaughlin/Fisher) to recommend two nominees only, as replacements for the two upcoming vacancies, and that the Board's recommendation be accompanied by an explanation of the recruitment and nomination process. In addition, it was determined that a ranked list of all of the candidates considered for the vacancies would be made available to the Minister upon request. CARRIED.

Following consideration of the qualifications of all nominees, it was moved and seconded (Lewis/Maeers) to recommend two candidates to the Minister. CARRIED

b) Use of the Term "University"

Criteria for the use of the term "university" were developed by a subcommittee of the Board in consultation with Dr. David Marshall, a consultant engaged by the Ministry to assist the Board with this work. The members of the subcommittee were Ron Bond, Karen Barnes, and Robin Fisher.

The subcommittee presented the proposed criteria to the Board; Dr. Marshall joined the discussion by teleconference.

It was moved and seconded (Barnes/Maeers) to approve, with minor edits, the proposed criteria for recommendation to the Minister. CARRIED.

Grant Isaac will inform the Minister of the Board's recommendation. The recommendation will include an explanation of the development process and the rationale for the proposed criteria.

c) Draft Documents for the Public Review of Quality Assurance Standards

As required by subsection 11(b) of *The Degree Authorization Regulations*, the Board will undertake a public review of the quality assurance standards. The review will begin in August 2015 and continue until the end of September 2015.

It was moved and seconded (Fisher/McLaughlin) to approve, with minor edits, the consultation documents. CARRIED.

The Secretariat will coordinate the public consultation process and will report on the results of the consultations at the next meeting.

6. Guidelines for Assessing Financial Viability

At the February 10, 2015 meeting, the Board directed the Ministry to seek the feedback of the financial heads of Saskatchewan's post-secondary institutions regarding proposed guidelines for assessing institutional financial viability. Upon further discussion, the Board agreed that the proposed guidelines were too confining and prescriptive and would likely oversimplify what could be very complex or nuanced financial circumstances. It was also acknowledged that the Board can draw on the expertise of external review panels to assist in situations where there may be concerns regarding institutional financial viability.

The Board agreed that a headnote would be included in the February 10, 2015 meeting minutes to indicate the Board's reconsideration of this item.

7. Current Applications for Authorization

a) Saskatchewan Polytechnic – Bachelor of Science in Construction Management

The Board identified panel nominees for the upcoming organizational and program reviews. The names of the nominees will be submitted to the Minister for approval. Once approval is received, the Secretariat will proceed to coordinate the reviews, to be conducted concurrently in early fall 2015.

b) Briercrest College and Seminary – Bachelor of Arts in Psychology / Psychology (Honours)

The Board reviewed Briercrest's *Organizational Self-Review on the Bachelor of Arts in Psychology* program and identified prospective nominees for an organizational review panel. The names of the panel nominees will be submitted to the Minister for approval. Once approval is received, the Secretariat will proceed to coordinate the organizational review for summer 2015.

8. New Applications for Authorization

a) Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Bachelor of Management

The Board discussed Saskatchewan Polytechnic's Bachelor of Management authorization application. Following a 30-day public review period ending June 10, 2015, the application and feedback will be assessed by the Ministry and then referred to Cabinet for consideration later in the summer. If Cabinet approves the application, it will be referred to the SHEQAB in fall 2015.

9. Next and Future Meetings

The next meeting will be held on November 17, 2015 in Saskatoon.

Adjournment

It was moved and seconded (Fisher/Battiste) to adjourn the Meeting. CARRIED.