

CAMOSUN COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Monday, November 3, 2008
Lansdowne Campus

I CALL TO ORDER

Robin Adair called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

II APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as distributed.

III APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the October 6, 2008 meeting were approved as distributed.

IV INTRODUCTION [nil]

V UNION REPORTS [nil]

VI ORIENTATION PRESENTATION

1. School of Access and First Nations Education and Services

John Boraas, Dean of the School of Access, and Director of First Nations Education and Services, presented an overview of his school and began by acknowledging the territory Camosun College campuses are located on that is the traditional territory of the Lekwungen, Esquimalt, and W'Sanec peoples. John read the mission statement "The School of Access offers adult learners quality educational programs and services that provide the skills for further studies and for enhanced participation in the economic and social life of their communities."

The School of Access includes upgrading, second language programs, employment training and preparation and career and educational transitions.

First Nations Education and Services supports the financial, educational and cultural needs of over 500 students. Ten years ago 80% of FN students were in upgrading and only 20% in post-secondary programs. Today it is the opposite.

The Aboriginal Services Plan is a 3 year provincial program won by Camosun College in partnership with UVic. The Provincial government paid Camosun approximately \$300,000 for the first year, and \$400,000 for the second to deliver services and programs.

John noted that 80% of the learners are part time and work at either one or two jobs concurrently. The learners are those returning to education, new immigrants, international, aboriginal, special needs, career changes, and those with obstacles. The school must be flexible in the delivery of programs and services to meet the students' needs.

John presented the Board with inspirational web video statements from students sharing their life experiences. The videos were also part of a television marketing campaign.

The school works in partnership with the community including affiliation agreements with Saanich Indian School Board, Songhees Employment Learning Centre, and Victoria Native Friendship Centre. Other partnerships include Bridges for Women Society, Capital Mental Health, Cridge Centre for the Family, Greater Victoria Public Library, Literacy Victoria, Our Place, and PEERS.

John noted that by 2010, all growth in the Canadian economy will depend on immigrants or previously under-utilized populations. Camosun College is the second largest provider of ESL and of ABE in BC.

VII NEW BUSINESS

1. MacLean's On-Line College Fair

David Sovka has been Associate Director, Marketing, in College & Community Relations for the last two years. David noted that new methods are needed to reach the 21st Century students. Recruitment strategies must include technology as 42% look on the internet first for post-secondary information. The Camosun website has been updated and as a result received 6% more hits than last year, views of pages was up 9%, and time spent was up 10%.

David gave a presentation on MacLean's On-Line College Fair, the first in Canada. Camosun employees answered questions on-line at the fair in real time. A short upbeat video showcased Camosun College's main features and Victoria's unique environment. Only five BC post-secondary institutions appeared on the sit. Camosun received 270 hits of five minutes each which is considered to be a success. The fair will remain on-line until January.

College Relations initiated a video contest called "My Camosun" in which they invited students to submit a short video about their experience at Camosun. The 45 entrants mounted their videos on "Youtube.com". The videos are being used as a low-cost marketing tool to connect to and recruit high school students. The videos will all be available on the Camosun website once the three winners are announced on November 6.

2. Advocacy

Robin Adair distributed a list of the major capital projects for 2008 – 2013. The list provides the project's cost, funding source, and the area responsible for carrying out the advocacy. The list includes the Health Building and Lansdowne retrofit, the next phase of PISE, the student residence at Interurban, and the Learning commons.

Susan Haddon is publishing a laminate card of Camosun quick facts to be used as a leave-behind for donors and politicians. The card will show high level numerical data, and information on College strengths. The College is developing a strategy to get both the federal and provincial governments on board to support the capital costs of a new Health Sciences Building.

VIII BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Finance Committee

Peter Lockie gave a verbal report on the November 3 Finance Committee meeting as Kyman Chan had to leave the meeting for one hour. The committee reviewed the Financial Management Report for the six months to September 30th. The budget is close to being on-track at this point but the balance of the year will be a challenge without the restoration of growth funding. The Ministry is expected to hand down a decision in January or February. The decision will determine the path to be taken for a balanced budget in the future.

2. President's Search Committee

Robin Adair noted the subject was moved to the In-Camera meeting immediately following the regular meeting.

3. Executive Committee

Robin Adair met Lynda Farmer and Susan Haddon to discuss the proposed Governor's Awards. They investigated current College practice. They looked into how the Board can add value and additional awards, and will bring suggestions to the next Board meeting.

Robin wrote the Minister requesting a review of the College and Institute Act to allow equal remuneration for all Board members. He sent a copy to Keith Todd, and will also send a copy of the reply. Peter Lloyd submitted the same request to the Minister in 2004 and was denied. Robin noted that his counterparts at other colleges were not interested in pursuing the issue.

Peter Baillie will represent Camosun College on the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence (PISE) Board of Directors for the next year, replacing David Johns. Robin will announce the name of one additional representative on the PISE Board at the next meeting.

IX BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

1. Chairman's Report

Robin Adair met Daryl Ainsley, President, Camosun College Faculty Association, to discuss how the Board can support and work cooperatively with them. The Board met with the University of Victoria Board on October 31. Baldev Pooni and Katy Mateer gave a presentation on current partnerships. There are 1500 shared UVic and Camosun students. On October 30 the Board met the Foundation Board to discuss their future direction, including fundraising for capital as well as bursaries.

2. President's Report

Liz Ashton noted that Camosun will be applying to BC Human Rights Tribunal for the extension of our limited priority seating for First Nations students. Approximately 5% of seats are reserved in Health and Human Services. The agreement runs out in February of 2009 so the College will request an extension if it is approved by Education Council. The initiative was approved by the Board.

World Animation Day in Victoria was held on October 25 at the Lansdowne Campus. The Visual Arts department organized it in partnership with the National Film Board. Larry Hannant, an instructor in the History Department, has been awarded the Pierre Berton Award for contribution to history for his work on the Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History website.

Camosun won a trades training contract with Corrections Canada. Participants will be able to attain a Level 1 certification. The program will be offered first at the Kent Institution at Agassiz and there is also interest at the William Head Institution. A Memorandum of Understanding with the Marine Institute of Newfoundland has been signed. Camosun will host the Ocean Innovation 2009 conference in Victoria.

The PISE Board is holding a strategic planning session on Dec. 5 and 6, 2008. The first two months have been highly successful and the facility is being well utilized.

3. Foundation

Linda Ross reported that Foundation's investments have been affected by about 10% by the economic downturn. The Foundation and Camosun joint Board meeting to discuss future directions was a success. As liaison between the Boards, Linda will communicate messages and information. The Foundation Board is holding a strategic planning retreat in January. Linda read a letter from student Shandy Bearman who received a Morrison Smeltzer Visual Arts award.

4. Education Council

The approved minutes from the September 29, 2008 meeting were included in the agenda package. Baldev Pooni and Christopher Gillespie reviewed the highlights from the meeting.

X ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.