

**THE GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE  
OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

**April 10, 2024  
230 Richmond St. E. &  
VIA MS TEAMS  
5:30 P.M.**

<b>Present:</b>	Bruce Choy, Chair Omo Akintan (online) Jon Callegher Bhavna Duggal Rob Gilmour (online)	Andrea Elliott Milan Mulraine Gervan Fearon Roger Grochmal (online)	Peter Koutsokeris Akrivi Papadaki Nancy Prenevost Arjun Jasuja
<b>Guests:</b>	Paul Armstrong Giselle Basanta Susan Bowrah Michelle McCollum	Eileen De Courcy Jennifer Grant Michael Herrera	Leslie Quinlan Cindy Gouveia Janene Christiansen
<b>Guests via Teams:</b>	Jason Innis	Sumi Shan	
<b>Regrets:</b>	Saeideh Fard		
<b>Secretary of the Board:</b>	Emily Bain		
<b>Minutes:</b>	Patrick Lo		

## **1.0 Welcome & Chair's Reports**

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The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and highlighted the following.

- The GBC Open House is coming up on Saturday, April 13 from 10 am – 3 pm.
- A special virtual Board meeting is scheduled for May 8 at 5 pm to approve the 2024-25 budget.
- A friendly reminder that our June meeting will start at 4 pm to accommodate the Board's attendance at the 2024 Honorary Recipients' Dinner after the meeting.
- Convocation will take place June 10-14. Details will be posted on BoardEffect along with a schedule of ceremonies and an opportunity to sign up to attend.
- Resignation of student governor – Ansh Jain resigned from the Board on March 10, 2024;

The Board thanked him for his contributions.

- The student representative for 2024-25, Sanya Vatish, was acclaimed and will be joining the Board as of September 1, 2024.
- Elections for two internal governors were held last week. The Secretary of the Board, who also holds the role of Chief Returning Officer, has reported the results.
  - Jon Callegher has been re-elected to serve a second term as the faculty representative.
  - Support Staff elected Jimi Rockley as their representative joining September 1, 2024
- The Ministry of Colleges and Universities has issued new requirements regarding the disclosure of Conflicts of Interest by governors and an attestation by the Chair. The Board is required to report this information to the province by April 26, 2024. Earlier today governors should have received the form and are asked to kindly return completed declaration as soon as possible so GBC can comply with the provincial deadline.

The Chair thanked Andrea Elliott for her dedication and commitment to the Board and GBC over the past six years. Andrea has been an active member of the Board, serving as Chair of ASA, and P&T, as well, she has also been a member of the Governance and Executive Committees. Her contributions have been invaluable, especially during a time of transition and disruption for the College

A land territory acknowledgement was then provided.

No conflicts of interest were declared. No issue arising.

## **2.0 Approval of the Agenda, Consent Agenda and Past Minutes**

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### **MOTION BGPUB-2024-05-01**

**THAT the Board of Governors approve the agenda for the public meeting held on April 10, 2024.**

**Moved: P. Koutsokeris      Seconded: A. Jasuja      CARRIED**

### **MOTION BGPUB-2024-05-02**

**THAT the Board of Governors approve the Consent Agenda for the meeting held on April 10, 2024, which includes the following items:**

#### **1. Approval of the minutes for the public meeting held February 7, 2024**

**THAT the Board of Governors approves the minutes of the public meeting on February 7, 2024.**

#### **2. Approval of the following programs on the recommendation of ASA:**

**THAT the Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommend to the Board of Governors approval of the new programs proposals as presented.**

- **Honours Bachelor of Occupational Health**
- **Smart Building Certificate**
- **Bachelor of Engineering (Sustainable Engineering)**
- **Master's in Construction Management**
- **Bachelor of Engineering (Urban Engineering)**

**Moved: A. Papadaki    Seconded: M. Mulraine    CARRIED**

### **3.0 President's Report**

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President Fearon highlighted elements of the President's Report, including a brief introduction of the upcoming Value Refresh and the IRCC and provincial allocation update.

Discussion took place around publicity for the college, with specific recognition of the college's communication team tracking of social media activity related to GBC's global partnership with the Toronto Raptors, the recent initiatives underway regarding students and providing additional educational learning opportunities and alumni speaker series. The Government Relations Annual Report was also acknowledged by the governors for the profile the related activities bring to the college.

### **4.0 Standing Committees**

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#### **Academic and Student Affairs Committee (ASA)**

The Chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Roger Grochmal, provided an update on the March 13 & April 5, 2024, meetings, including the appreciation for the Board Chair attending the previous 2 consecutive ASA meetings, and the recap of the five new program proposals: Honours Bachelor of Occupational Health, Smart Building Certificate, Bachelor of Engineering (Sustainable Engineering), Master's in Construction Management, and Bachelor of Engineering (Urban Engineering).

#### **Finance and Property Committee (F&P)**

The Chair of the Board of Governors, Bruce Choy, on behalf of the Finance and Property Committee (F&P), Saeideh Fard, gave some highlights on the March 27, 2024, meeting related to the results for the investments for the quarter ending December 31, 2023. The market portfolio had a 7.20% return (\*10.8% for the year, 4.1% since inception), and the College's aim to end the year with a surplus of \$11.4M surplus – mainly due to the net cost savings initiated as a response to the IRCC announcements, offset by accelerated spending in 23/24 to reduce the pressure on next year's budget.

### **5.0 Approval of F&P recommendation regarding the 2024-25 Day Care Centre Fees**

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Dr. Eileen DeCourcy (VP – Academic) provided a summary of funding sources along with recommendations to seek the endorsement of the 2024-25 ECE Lab School Child Care Fees.

- In 2022, George Brown College signed onto the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) funding agreement (Federal/Provincial Agreement) the goal of which is to reduce parent fees for childcare to \$10.00/day by 2026. The agreement required fees to be frozen.
- As per the CWELCC; full-fee childcare costs for families for 2024-2025 are reduced by 52.75% therefore families pay 47.25 % of the childcare fee.
- The remaining 52.75% of the fee per family is funded by the CWELCC funding. Toronto Childcare Services administers these funds on behalf of the Province.
- The college proposes that there be a 1% increase in the base childcare fees for the School Age programs in the upcoming year which will keep us in line with market pricing, and no increase in the base childcare fees for the age groups: Infant through to and including Kindergarten in the upcoming year as per the Ministry of Education guidelines.

**MOTION BGPUB-2024-05-03**

**THAT the Board of Governors approves the 2024-25 ECE Lab School Child Care Fees as presented on the recommendation of the Finance and Property Committee.**

**Moved: M. Mulraine**

**Seconded: B. Duggal**

**CARRIED**

**6.0 Approval of GNC recommendation regarding revised Whistleblower Policy**

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The Chair of Governance and Nomination Committee, Nancy Prenevost, introduced the revised whistleblower policy and highlighted a summary of revisions, including the process for case managing whistleblower complaints being clarified and aligned with Board responsibilities, the rewritten protections, and updated language, along with the next steps following the approval on the following.

- The process of transmitting whistleblower complaints from Confidence Line to GBC will be finalized.
- The college website will be updated to include the revised policy and information on whistleblowing in general and the procedure for reporting.
- A communications plan to inform the college community of the revised policy and procedure will be developed and executed.

Discussion took place around the rephrasing of the wording “the college's best interests” in the policy. No amendments were made to the policy.

**MOTION BGPUB-2024-05-04**

**THAT the Board of Governors, upon the recommendation of the Governance and Nomination Committee, approves the revised Whistleblower Policy, as presented.**

**Moved: B. Choy      Seconded: A. Jasuja      CARRIED**

## **7.0 Values Refresh**

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Susan Bowrah (VP – People and Culture) and Jason Innis (Values Refresh Working Group Chair, and faculty member) circulated a briefing note providing an update on the GBC Values Refresh Project.

- The GBC Values have been updated through an intentional process co-led by representatives from Faculty, Support and Administration with the intent of ensuring all employees, and in particular equity-deserving groups, have their words represented in the articulated statements.
- The project is currently in the validation phase, with the new values set to be launched in the coming months. A communication plan will be developed in partnership with a Change Management vendor to ensure all employees are aware of the changes and understand how to embody the new values in their daily work.
- The refreshed values will be incorporated into Vision 2040, which will come to the Board for approval at a future meeting.

A discussion arose regarding the values and how the measurement takes place for decision-making, the complexity versus simplification about the language of values, the value of the acronym in connection to the level of memorizing and meaningfulness, consolidation concerning the values, and consideration of moving the motion forward.

### **MOTION BGPUB-2024-05-05**

**THAT the Board of Governors receive the Values Refresh presentation.**

**Moved: A. Elliott      Seconded: J. Callegher      CARRIED**

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**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to the private session at 6:50 pm.**