

Saitsa Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 1st, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
Microsoft Teams



Present:

Tim Holowachuk	Board of Directors Chair	Voting Member
Dawson Thomas	Board of Directors Vice Chair	Voting Member
Fatima Bilal	Director	Voting Member
Arek Gellatly	Director	Voting Member
Maclean Jarvis	Director	Voting Member
Tola Jimoh	Director	Voting Member
Jenifer Nguyen	Director	Voting Member
Krystal Nguyen	Director	Voting Member
Scott Pleavin	Director	Voting Member
Kelly Jeed Sawadan	Director	Voting Member
Ryan Morstad	Saitsa President	Voting Member
Liam Hunter	Vice President External	Voting Member
Jasmin Bhatti	Vice President Academic	Voting Member
Jessi Leippi	Vice President Student Life	Voting Member
Joy Bowen-Eyre	Neutral Facilitator	Non-Voting
Marc Stromme	Saitsa Executive Director	Non-Voting
Rachel Paris	Saitsa Manager, Governance & Advocacy	Non-Voting
Rio Valencerina	Saitsa Coordinator, Governance	Non-Voting
Angela Walgren	Saitsa Coordinator, Administration	Non-Voting

Regrets:

Akinjide Akinwale	Director	Voting Member
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Guests:

Marc Thususka	Director, Business & Development Saitsa	Non-Voting
Craig Walsh	Manager, Events & Programming	Non-Voting
Owen Ralph	Campus Trust	Non-Voting
Paul Tucker	Campus Trust	Non-Voting

	Agenda Item	Accountability	Time
1.0	Call to Order <i>T. Holowachuk called the meeting to order at 6:02p.m.</i>	T. Holowachuk	2 Min
2.0	Acknowledgement of Traditional Indigenous Territories L. Hunter gave the Acknowledgement of Traditional Indigenous Territories.	L. Hunter	2 Min
3.0	Address of the Chair T. Holowachuk gave a statement regarding the January 25 th , 2021 Special Meeting of the Board. He addressed how the governance restructuring process has required a significant commitment from Directors and acknowledged the efforts put in by all.	T. Holowachuk	10 Min

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4.0 Conflict of Interest Check T. Holowachuk 2 Min

T. Holowachuk reminded the Board of the definition of Conflict of Interest, and to declare any real or perceived conflict of interest. A Conflict of Interest is a situation in which a Member has a Private Interest which conflicts or competes with or could conflict or compete with the interests of Saitsa.

5.0 Approval of Agenda T. Holowachuk 2 Min

Amendments:

- To strike items 6.2 and 6.3 from the agenda due to these sets of meeting minutes not being ready for review.

Motion:

To approve the agenda as amended.

A. Gellatly/J. Nguyen
Motion carries

The motion was approved by general consent.

6.0 Adoption of Minutes T. Holowachuk 2 Min
6.1 Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors from January 11th, 2021

Amendments:

- To correct the language of the President report to state that R. Morstad was the excited party.
- For item 9.3 SAAB to delete the word 'starvation' from the paragraph.
- For item 9.5 to state the honorarium is being compared to the wage Saitsa pays part-time employees.

Motion:

To approve the January 11th Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors meeting minutes as amended.

F. Bilal/L. Hunter
Motion carries

This motion was approved by general consent.

S. Pleavin joined the meeting at 6:32p.m.

7.0 Saitsa Health and Dental Fees Presentation O. Ralph 75 Min

P. Tucker and O. Ralph presented the Annual Review of Claims Utilization from the academic year of 2019/2020 (September 2019-August 2020). They gave an executive summary of what benefits Saitsa members used this past year. The report summarizes the claims experience for the healthcare benefits under the Saitsa benefit plan.

The Board asked who students can talk to regarding which medications are covered vs. which ones are not. O. Ralph indicated that students can either call a Campus Trust representative or go online to the studentbenefits.ca link and type in the drug code to see if it's covered or not.

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Next O. Ralph and P. Tucker went over the Analysis of Dental Coverage. After that the group reviewed the Trust Contribution overview, which is used to help determine what the plan's rates should be moving forward. The overview also demonstrated how COVID-19 measures have impacted claims rates.

R. Morstad stated that he, M. Stromme, P. Tucker, and O. Ralph met frequently over the last two months to develop recommendations for the Saitsa Board of Directors regarding the Saitsa Health and Dental fee. During this time period, R. Morstad spoke to the SAIT clinic as well regarding the impact of the most recent fee changes on students. It was mentioned that the rate was raised last academic year to cover Gardasil; only Alberta residents have that vaccine covered.

Motion:

To set the Saitsa Health Fee at \$122.00 for the academic year of 2021-2022

L. Hunter/K. Sawadan
11 – 2 – 0
Motion carries

Motion:

To set the Saitsa Dental Fee at \$130.00 for the academic year of 2021-2022

R. Morstad/L. Hunter
14 – 0 – 0
Motion carries

8.0 Recess T. Holowachuk 10 Min

The Board recessed at 7:46p.m.

T. Holowachuk called the meeting back to order at 7:55p.m.

9.0 Saitsa 100th Budget M. Thususka 20 Min

M. Thususka (Director, Business and Development) and C. Walsh (Manager, Events and Programming) joined the meeting at 7:51p.m.

M. Thususka and C. Walsh presented on the Saitsa 100th celebration.

The Saitsa 100th Steering Committee consists of Natasha Lundrigan (Senior Manager, Student Experience), Husson Zaman (Manager, Marketing and Communications), R. Morstad, C. Walsh, and M. Thususka.

Saitsa is turning 100 years old in September 2022 and is looking to host a centennial celebration from January 2022 to September 2022.

M. Thususka went through the Saitsa 100th budget with the Board. M. Thususka discussed the different events, programming, etc. that will focus on celebrating the centennial; there are a variety of grants available for historical celebrations that are being pursued. In addition, M. Thususka explained where opportunities for sponsorships will exist.

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Motion:

To approve the Saitsa Centennial events proposed budget as presented.

K. Sawadan/F. Bilal

14 – 0 – 0

Motion carries

10.0 Individual Reports (maximum of 2 minutes each)

10.1 President

R. Morstad

2 Min

Report as submitted.

R. Morstad reported that Saitsa will be disseminating information to students regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, and that some of those correspondences will be looking to gauge the student opinion on COVID-19 vaccinations.

R. Morstad was asked if he knows when the Fall Reading Week will be in effect. R. Morstad responded stating that project is still in the collaboration and research phase.

10.2 VP Academic

J. Bhatti

2 Min

Report as submitted.

J. Bhatti reminded the Board that the callout for Culture Week has been sent out; this is for students to submit what they would like to see from Culture Week. She urges the Board if they have any ideas for what they would like to see for Culture Week to please fill out that form.

J. Bhatti will be in attendance of the Deans' Council this week.

J. Bhatti was asked about her discussion regarding replacing the pride crosswalk. The Pride committee is considering a few options and that the EC have indicated their preference.

J. Bhatti was asked about her meeting with B. Donaldson and the discussion about the difficulty some international students have with attending class due to time difference from where they may be located. J. Bhatti advocated to B. Donaldson for instructors to record and post their classes; J. Bhatti will continue to advocate for this.

T. Holowachuk sits on the Academic Standards of Online Learning Committee and indicated that he will bring this concern to that group as well as recording classes/lectures helps to accommodate all students, not just international students.

10.3 VP External

L. Hunter

2 Min

Report as submitted.

L. Hunter was asked what the *Close the Gap* campaign is and explained that it is a national advocacy campaign for CASA, closing systemic gaps for vulnerable communities. L. Hunter joined the *Close the Gap* campaign committee as an observer. L. Hunter is also working on a *Get Out the Vote* campaign in anticipation of upcoming elections.

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L. Hunter was asked about the Asterisk podcast – have they thought of a succession plan for hosts of the podcast due to the eventual transition of the Saitsa Executive. L. Hunter indicated that they have been working on a strategy to address this concern.

10.4 VP Student Life **J. Leippi** **2 Min**
Report as submitted.

J. Leippi indicated that her 'garden goal' has experienced a roadblock as SAIT's Sustainability Committee indicated that the Jackson Memorial Garden is scheduled to be rebuilt on campus as the construction on the John Ware building required the original garden to be dismantled. J. Leippi anticipates that having two gardens approved in one year is unlikely and requested support from the Board for next steps.

Action Item: J. Leippi to provide the Board more information on her garden goal and the Jackson Memorial garden at the next regular meeting of the Board.

J. Leippi was asked to clarify what support SAIT's EDI committee is looking for input on regarding the events the committee may support; J. Leippi indicated that the committee has the capacity to support five events and they are wondering what events would benefit most from the support of the committee.

11.0 Committee Reports (maximum of 5 minutes each)

11.1 Finance Committee **R. Morstad** **5 Min**

R. Morstad reported that the Finance Committee met last week, and M. Jarvis chaired the meeting. The committee went over the Investment Policy Statement (IPS) and the committee recommends bringing the IPS forward to the Board. The committee reviewed the November financial statements with M. Stromme.

11.2 Governance Committee **T. Holowachuk** **5 Min**

T. Holowachuk stated committee has not met. The Governance and Advocacy compensation policy is in progress; the committee will go through it and then provide it to the Board.

T. Holowachuk was asked what the deadline was; the deadline is set at February 22nd.

T. Holowachuk was asked if F. Bilal can be a guest at the compensation policy meeting; T. Holowachuk noted this request.

11.3 Nominations Committee **D. Thomas** **5 Min**

D. Thomas reported no new updates from the Nominations committee.

12.0 Business Items

No business items.

13.0 Information/Discussion

13.1 Upcoming Saitsa Events **A. Walgren** **5 Min**

A. Walgren reviewed upcoming Saitsa events for the month of February. A. Walgren highlighted the Saitsa Annual General Meeting, which is taking place Tuesday, February 23rd at 4:00p.m.

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13.2 ED Report **M. Stromme** **10 Min**
Report as submitted.

13.3 In-Camera **5 Min**
Motion:

To move in-camera without staff, with M. Stromme and J. Bowen-Eyre.

L. Hunter/K. Sawadan
Motion carries

The motion was approved by general consent to move in-camera at 9:12p.m.

M. Stromme excused himself from the meeting at 9:22p.m.

Motion:
To move ex-camera.

L. Hunter/T. Jimoh
Motion carries

The motion was approved by general consent to move ex-camera at 9:30p.m.

14.0 Questions/Adjournment **T. Holowachuk** **2 Min**

Motion:
To adjourn the meeting.

F. Bilal/J. Nguyen
Motion carries

The motion was approved by general consent to adjourn the meeting at 9:31p.m.