

Board of Directors Regular Meeting

June 5, 2023, 5:00 p.m., Begin Tower 22nd Floor Boardroom

Present:

Aaron Ramos	President	Voting Member
Mansoor Ali	Vice President	Voting Member
Gurnoor Brar	Director	Voting Member
Auginne Bunado	Director	Voting Member
Marina Butenko	Director	Voting Member
Bella Espiritu	Director	Voting Member
Jatin Joshi	Director	Voting Member
Ryan Ng	Director	Voting Member
Benjamin Nwachukwu	Director	Voting Member
Marc Stromme	Saitsa Executive Director	Non-Voting
Rachel Paris	Director, Student Services	Non-Voting
Erin Mobberley	Administrative Coordinator, Governance & Advocacy	Non-Voting
Christina Matisons	Board Advisor	Non-Voting

Regrets:

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Agenda Item

1.0 Call to Order:

A Ramos called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

2.0 Acknowledgement of Traditional Indigenous Territories:

A. Ramos recited the Land Acknowledgement.

3.0 Conflict of Interest Check:

A Ramos performed a conflict of interest check. A conflict of interest is defined as any situation where a Director may have a real or perceived interest in the business of the board.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda:

C. Matisons requested for the previous month's self-evaluation review to be moved from 17.1 to 6.2

Motion:

Motion to amend the Agenda.



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M. Butenko/A. Bunado
6-0-2
Motion Carries

Motion:

Motion to approve the Agenda as amended.

M. Butenko/A. Bunado
6-0-2
Motion Carries

5.0 Adoption of Minutes:

5.1 Regular Meeting of the Board from May 1st, 2023.

B Espiritu/A. Bunado
6-0-2

The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

6.0 Presentations

6.1 Student Support and Community Conduct Coordinator – Introduction and role overview

R. Paris introduced Dakota Rickman, the new Student Support & Community Conduct Coordinator (SSCCC), to the Board. Giving a summary of the position and how it will benefit the students when it comes to supporting students in academic and non-academic misconduct and the differences between the role and SAIT's Office of the Ombudsperson. It is anticipated that this role will support the Ends of Students being able to navigate their post-secondary experience successfully.

D. Rickman presented his background to the board and believes that with this unique role and as a new person to the Office of Governance & Advocacy hopes, he can develop the role going forward and have a better opportunity for student engagement on academic misconduct issues and issues related to self-care for students.

6.2 Self-Evaluation from the previous month

Self-evaluations are an opportunity for the Board to review their meeting practices and conduct and determine areas for improvement or areas for acknowledgment of good practice.

C. Matisons advised that three pillars focused on would be the following:

- Strategic focus
- Service Mindset
- Working together



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C. Matisons raised awareness of the need for a documented process when nominating President and Vice President, so Directors are better prepared.

The Board agreed that staff should develop a form/template for President and Vice President nominees to complete prior to the internal election process to ensure the Board is presented with a platform in advance to complement the campaign speech. Staff will discuss and develop a form in consultation with the current President and Vice President prior to the 2024 internal election processes.

Action Item: R. Paris to prepare internal election support forms/templates, etc.

7.0 Items for Decision:

7.1 Ends

No business was conducted at the meeting.

7.2 Executive Limitations

No business was conducted at the meeting.

7.3 Governance Process

7.3.1 Academic Allowance

Motion:

WHEREAS Board of Directors Policy GP-8 entitles Directors who meet eligibility requirements to an academic allowance that shall not exceed the amount of tuition paid for the respective semester; and

WHEREAS The Directors indicated below have submitted documentation demonstrating that they have passed their courses and validating the total amount of tuition paid for the Winter 2023 semester;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approves the academic allowances for the following Directors:

- Aaron Ramos - \$2,097
- Paul John Martinez - \$2,500
- Jayden Baldonado \$1,000
- Karanpreet Singh Gill \$1,000
- Ha Phuong Anh Nguyen - \$1,000

M. Butenko/M. Ali
6-0-2
Motion Carries



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7.4 Board-Executive Director Delegation

No business was conducted at the meeting.

8.0 Policy Items for Decisions

8.1 Ends

No business was conducted at the meeting.

8.2 Executive Limitations

No business was conducted at the meeting.

8.3 Governance Processes

No business was conducted at the meeting.

8.4 Board Executive Director

No business was conducted at the meeting.

9.0 Required Approvals

9.1 2023-2024 Operational Budget

Motion:

WHEREAS Section 13.3 of the Saitsa Bylaws states that the Saitsa Board of Directors must approve the annual budget of the organization; and

WHEREAS Board of Directors Policy EL-10 states that the Saitsa Board of Directors must approve all changes to membership fees;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approves the Saitsa membership fee structure for the 2023-2024 fiscal year as follows:

General Operations: 53% (\$154.80)

Capital Assets: 6% (\$17.20)

Restricted Building: 41% (120.00)

WHEREAS Section 13.3 of the Saitsa Bylaws states that the Saitsa Board of Directors must approve the annual budget of the organization; and

M. Butenko/M. Ali
7-0-1
Motion Carries



WHEREAS On May 24, 2023, the Board of Directors conducted a direct inspection of the proposed budget as per section BCEOR-4 of the Board of Directors policy and determined it possesses a reasonable interpretation of policy EL-3;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approves the 2023-2024 fiscal year operational budget as Presented (Amended).

B. Espiritu/ A. Bunado
7-0-1
Motion Carries

The board recessed for a short break from 6:17- 6:21 pm.

10.0 Ownership Linkages

C. Matisons provided a run-through of how to submit linkages via the newly created link document and explained how it would benefit the Board at the year's end. Ownership Linkages and their tracking are beneficial for the Board to track to ensure the student's voice is captured and considered when the Board advocates on the member's behalf.

11.0 Board Education

11.1 Student issue support

B. Espiritu brought a student issue to the board's attention which has caused issues for the Muslim Students' Association (MSA) club. An apparent cause of the issue is due to limited space allocated by SAIT in the meditation/prayer room; the space is not sufficient to host Jummah prayers on Fridays, and advocacy efforts thus far by both the MSA and Interfaith & Student Engagement departments have been unsuccessful

R. Paris advised B. Espiritu to forward any information to herself and D. Rickman to be able to support the Muslim Students' Association (MSA) club through these issues to work together with SAIT to find a solution and propose possible avenues for advocacy.



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12.0 Monitoring Board Performance

12.1 Director Reports

C. Matisons advised that data reports via the attachment should be up to date from the previous month prior to the Board of Directors meeting. Board performance monitoring supports the Board in ensuring good governance practices.

13.0 Information for the Board

13.1 Saitsa – Events of the Month

E. Mobberley informed the Board of the upcoming Board of Directors Photoshoot Friday, 23rd of June and The Chinook Lodge Naming Ceremony Wednesday, 21st of June

14.0 Self-Evaluation

R. Ng joined the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

15.0 In-Camera Session

Motion:

To move In-Camera without staff at 7:03 p.m.

At 7:10 p.m., M. Butenko and M. Ail were excused. M. Ali left to prior commitments.

At 7:45 p.m., M. Butenko was invited back in.

At 8:00 p.m., staff were invited back in.

A. Bunado/ M. Ali
8-0-0
Motion Carries

Motion:

To move ex-camera at 8:13 p.m.

B. Espiritu/ B. Nwachukwu
8-0-0
Motion Carries



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Directors**

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16.0 Questions/Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.