

## HIGHER EDUCATION QUALITY COUNCIL OF ONTARIO

### MINUTES BOARD MEETING June 15, 2017 12:05 pm – 1 pm

#### **Council Members present:**

Summerlee, Alastair, Chair  
Hill, Michael  
Mayer, Denis

#### **President and Secretary to the Board:**

Weingarten, Harvey P.

#### **Staff supporting the Council:**

Bloch-Nevitte, Susan, Executive Director, Communications  
Hicks, Martin, Executive Director, Data and Statistics  
Macri, Diana, Chief Administrative Officer  
Permato, Ellen, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary  
Ross, Matt, Research Communications Officer

#### **1. Call to order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm and established that a quorum of Council members was present.

He called their attention to an added agenda item: 6.2 Delegation of Authority Framework (Financial) - Amended June 15 2017

#### **2. Approval of meeting agenda**

Passed unanimously.

#### **3. Minutes of the meeting of February 23, 2017**

##### **Motion:**

1. That the Board approve the minutes of the Board meeting of February 23, 2017.

Moved by Michael Hill; seconded by Denis Mayer

Passed unanimously.

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#### **4.1 Chair's update**

The Chair noted that there is no further progress to report on Board appointments. He announced that he has been appointed as Interim President of Carleton University and, therefore, cannot continue as Board Chair of HEQCO. This will be his last meeting.

Item (6.2) added to the agenda is HEQCO's Delegation of Authority Framework (Financial). The amended version and a covering report were distributed to members

#### **4.2 President's update**

The President reported on staff movement at HEQCO: new hires and the imminent departure of Susan Bloch-Nevitte, Executive Director of Communications, and Greg

Moran, Director of Special Projects. He introduced Matt Ross, current Research Communications Officer, who will become Manager of Communications. He and Rosanna Tamburri, Research Editor, will carry on the Communications unit's workload.

The Measuring Academic Quality workshop organized by HEQCO in May was attended by 10 international experts. It was a dynamic and productive exchange of ideas on issues such as assessing teaching and learning, funding-based policy levers, learning experience quality, performance indicator systems, system performance and accountability. A podcast conversation between him and Hamish Coates, one of the participants, is available on HEQCO's weblog site, *It'sNotAcademic*.

The project on *Learning Outcomes* is going very well. Mohawk College and Queen's University have agreed to be the flagships for credentialing. The next in a series of reports on sustainability will be released soon.

Inclusion of HEQCO's 2025 goals in its Business Plan proves to be an effective way to disseminate its research work, helping to put the Council's work in context.

On a question about a follow-up of HEQCO's collaboration with New Brunswick's Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour, the President noted that there is little activity at present because the province is preparing for an election. However, with HEQCO's help, the province has initiated free tuition for low-income families.

A question was raised regarding the establishment of a francophone university in Ontario. The President noted that HEQCO is not involved in this initiative.

## 5.2 External audit report and financial statements (Appendix E) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017

Michael Hill reported that the Audit Committee met earlier with a representative from external auditors Collins Barrow, who presented the Audit Report and Financial Statements for FY ending March 31, 2017.

The CAO said that it was a very "clean" audit with no adjustments. There was some discussion of liabilities incurred resulting from staff severances. HEQCO follows practices recommended by internal Government Auditors.

Motion:

1. That the Board accept the external audit report and audited financial statements for fiscal year 2016-17 for inclusion in the 2016-17 Annual Report, and authorize that they be submitted to the Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development.

Moved by Michael Hill; seconded by Denis Mayer

Passed unanimously

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## 5.3 Fourth quarter financial report 2016-17

Motion:

1. That the Board approve the fourth quarter financial report 2016-17 for submission to the Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development.

Moved by Michael Hill; seconded by Denis Mayer

Passed unanimously

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**5.4 Budget Fiscal Year 2017-18**

Motion:

1. That the Board approve the budget for fiscal year 2017-18.

Moved by Michael Hill; seconded by Denis Mayer

Passed unanimously

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**6.1 Annual Report 2016-17**

Correction/observation:

1. On page 12, Leslie Church: change October 2017 to October 2016.
2. Include information on how HEQCO conducts open calls for proposals, partnerships and expressions of interest to participate in HEQCO's projects.

Motion:

1. That the Board approve the Annual Report 2016-17 as amended above, and authorize the Chair to submit the finalized report to the Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development on behalf of the Board no later than the end of July 2017.

Moved by Michael Hill; seconded by Denis Mayer

Passed unanimously

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**6.2 Amendment to the Delegation of Authority Framework (Financial)**

Motion:

1. That the Board approve the amended Delegation of Authority Framework (Financial).

Moved by Denis Mayer; seconded by Michael Hill

Passed unanimously

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**7. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2pm.