
Board Members Present: Chair Andrew Dang, Vice Chair Ezra Ceniti, Director Victoria Bothwell, Director Sam Bryant, Director Gurgavin Chadhoke, Director Francesco Del Guidice, Director Aidan McCarthy, Director Blake Phillips, Director Shane Symington, Director Brandon Vale

Staff Present: Director, Policy Research, & Advocacy Ian Muller; Executive Director Phil Champagne; President Pegah Jamalof; Director of Finance Chris Turner

Gallery Present: Mai Dang (Senate Candidate), John Reid (Senate Candidate), Nicholas Lafarciola (Senate Candidate), Karl Zhu (Senate Candidate)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order via Zoom on Wednesday November 24th, 2021. We acknowledge that the offices of the Wilfrid Laurier Students' Union are on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnawbe, and the Haudenosaunee people.

2. Regrets

A regret was received from Director May who has a work engagement.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Chair Dang called for a motion to adopt the agenda that includes the discussion updates regarding the January by-election policy and the Board of Governance mainly the minutes. Director Vale expressed his frustrations regarding timeliness of the agenda since it came well less than 24 hours under constitution and less than the 40 hours under the policy manual.

MOTION (Director Vale/Director Chadhoke): **To adopt the agenda as presented with inclusion of discussion on updates regarding the January Election policy and Board governance regarding the minutes. CARRIED (8-0-0).**

Approved: Director Bothwell, Director Bryant, Director Chadhoke, Director Del Guidice, Director Phillips, Director Symington, Director Vale, Vice Chair Ceniti

Note: Director McCarthy was absent for the vote.

4. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest to declare.

5. Senate By-Election:

The four candidates for the Senate role are Mai Dang, John Reid, Nicholas Lafarciola, Karl Zhu. The candidates are given five minutes to express their case on why they should be elected as the next Senate. The five-minute spiel was followed by questions for the Senate candidates from the Board of Directors. After the conclusion of this segment, the secret ballot was proceeded in breakout rooms with the Board of Directors. The scrutineers confirmed the integrity of the ballot

the secret ballot and it was announced that the winners of the Senate by-election are John Reid and Karl Zhu. There was a request for motion for the election of John Reid and Karl Zhu to fulfill the remainder of the term till June 2022 as the Senate. The elected candidates will be contacted, and the first Senate meeting of the term will be on December 2nd at 2:30 pm.

MOTION (Director Vale/ Vice Chair Ceniti): **To confirm the election of John Reid and Karl Zhu to fulfill the remainder of the term till June 2022 as Undergraduate Senators.**
CARRIED (9-0-0).

Approved: Director Bothwell, Director Bryant, Director Chadhoke, Director Del Guidice, Director McCarthy, Director Phillips, Director Symington, Director Vale, Vice Chair Ceniti

Note: Chair Dang left the meeting at 8:58 pm and returned to the meeting at 9:01 pm. Director McCarthy joined the meeting at 9:07 pm. Director Symington left the meeting at 9:18 pm and returned to the meeting at 9:20 pm.

6. Comments from the Chair of the Board & CGO

Chair Dang welcomed the new Board Secretary, Shreyas Alapatt and the new Chief Returning Officer, Karneet Chahal. Chair Dang provided an update on the live stream of the meetings. The discussion on this matter is not finalized, therefore Chair Dang ensured to focus on this topic in the month of December 2021 and provide an update by the end of the year. There were also updates provided regarding the issue of meetings being deleted after 90 days. Chair Dang is currently working with Director, Policy Research, & Advocacy Ian Muller and Executive Director Phil Champagne in creating a permeant drop box to upload all the meetings such that issue regarding deletion can be resolved. This will also provide an opportunity for all the Board members to easily access the meetings.

7. Comments from the President & CEO

The Board of Directors formally requested a quarterly report for the month of August and September to address the non-compliant issue present. President Jamalof ensured to follow up on the matter and provide an update to Chair Dang by the end of the week.

8. Comments from the Executive Director and COO

Executive Director and COO, Phil Champagne provided an update for "Wilf's Restaurant & Bar". for in-person pilot. It will be starting on December 6th and will be conducted during the lunch period. The capacity will be capped at 60 people and no more than 15 to 20 open menus at a time to ensure that they will be able to handle the capacity of people at any point of time. Executive Director Champagne announced that there will be full regular report presented at the next Board of Directors meeting on December 1st, 2021.

9. Board Hiring Committee Update

The current Board Hiring Committee consists of Chair Dang, Director Phillips, Director Chadhoke, Director Del Guidice, Director Vale and Director May. The committee's hiring process was explained by Chair Dang in the meeting. In the first stage of the process, the candidates were reviewed in blinded process where the personal information was excluded from the resume and cover letter. This was followed by the second stage where the personal information of the candidates was revealed, and interviews were conducted.

10. Comments from the CRO

The new CRO, Karneet Chahal and Chair Dang are going to meet with the Director of Marketing for the Operations team to discuss marketing campaign that is to be conducted before and during the election. Ideas were generated for video campaigns such as "Why Run" campaign which focuses on a quick Q&A session with past Presidents, Directors and Student Governors regarding their experience and benefits of the roles they performed. Another idea discussed was the "Why Vote" campaign focusing on the importance of voting and the direct effects on the student population. Finally, a "Myth Busting Roles" video campaign was mentioned as an idea where the current Directors, Student Governors perform a video discussing what their roles entail and common questions pertaining to their positions.

In addition, the tentative dates for the releasing of the application for the Deputy Retuning Officer role and the Election Volunteer role was discussed. The application for DRO is set to be released on November 26th which is then due by December 8th. The nomination packages will be released after further examination with the Board of Directors on the December 1st meeting. This releasing of the nomination packages will be followed with weekly information sessions as well. The application for the Election Volunteer position will be released on December 6th, followed by "all candidates" meeting on January 9th, 2022. The election policies will be sent out to the Board members for a deeper review before next meeting.

11. Board Governance Discussion

Due to the backlog of meeting minutes, Chair Dang proposed the idea to adopt the Senate/Board of Governance style of transcript minutes which would provide a general summary of the discussion, the motions, agenda items, all members who moved/opposed/sustained etc. The change in format of minutes will start from June 2021 with the exception of the in-camera sessions which will remain in the transcript format contingent to any further recommendation from the Board of Governance committee.

MOTION (Director Vale/ Director Del Guidice): **To change Board minutes to a new transcript format starting June 2021 with the exception of the in-camera sessions contingent on any further recommendation from the Board of Governance committee.**
CARRIED (8-0-0).

Approved: Director Bothwell, Director Bryant, Director Chadhoke, Director Del Guidice, Director Phillips, Director Symington, Director Vale, Vice Chair Ceniti

Note: Director McCarthy was absent for the vote

12. In-Camera Session

A motion was made to go into in-camera session.

MOTION (Director Vale/ Director Del Guidice): **To go in-camera for purpose of the review of the Chair of the Board without their presence in that section and will return subsequently for the performance review of the President and Board.** **CARRIED (9-0-0).**

Approved: Director Bothwell, Director Bryant, Director Chadhoke, Director Del Guidice, Director McCarthy, Director Phillips, Director Symington, Director Vale, Vice Chair Ceniti