

**Wolfville Acadia Town and Gown Committee Meeting**

KCIC Boardroom, Acadia University Wednesday, May 18, 2022

## ATTENDING

- Mayor Wendy Donovan
- Councillor Mike Butler
- President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Peter Ricketts
- Vice-President, Finance and Administration and CFO Chris Callbeck
- Acadia Student Union President, Sadie McAlear
- Community Member Jo-Anne Kobelt
- Chief Administrative Officer, Erin Beaudin
- Special Projects Coordinator, Barbara Shaw
- Board of Governors, Acadia Shelley Fleckenstein
- Exec Director to the President, Communications and Government Relations, Ian Murray
- Recording Secretary, Barb Baker

## ABSENT WITH REGRETS

## CALL TO ORDER

C. Callbeck called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. P. Ricketts welcomed everyone back to campus.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED:  
CARRIED

**2. Approval of the Minutes**

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 22, 2021, BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

- Spelling corrections for the names of Shelley Fleckenstein and Peter Ricketts

CARRIED

**3. MOU Review Process**

E. Beaudin provided a presentation on the MOU which is formally reviewed every four years to ensure goals and principles are current and relevant. The sections for review include Purpose, Key Principles, Shared Goals, Communications, Economic Development, Facilities and Infrastructure, Academic Opportunities, Strategic Planning, Community Harmony, Implementation, Town and Gown role and composition, and the Length of the Agreement

E. Beaudin proposed the preparation of a "Report Card" on the current MOU, highlighting areas of success and areas requiring attention. Then conduct a stakeholder engagement to confirm

priorities. In the fall a workshop will be held with Town and Gown to review the Report Card and the Stakeholder Engagements findings and to provide feedback and direction on all sections of the MOU. A draft MOU will be prepared for the end of October and presented to the Town and Gown Committee at the meeting in November 2022.

Both Acadia and Wolfville have confirmed Strategic Plans since the MOU was established and areas of alignment between the two should be incorporated. Acadia is hoping to grow enrollment by 500 students in the coming years and the impact of that increase needs to be considered.

When conducting stakeholder engagement activities, it is important to be aware of similar reviews happening in the community such as the police review in Wolfville and to avoid oversaturating the same groups. It is difficult to get feedback from the broader student body at this time of year, but it would be helpful to hear from students who remain in the area in rental units over the summer.

E. Beaudin asked for suggestions for participants in the Stakeholder Engagement. President Ricketts suggested adding indigenous voices to the list and S. Fleckenstein suggested adding landlords, who may not be residents themselves. C. Callbeck thought of adding Acadia employees, including faculty and professional staff. S. McAlear commented on the disparity among student groups, those who live on and off-campus.

The MOU was established to provide continuity through leadership changeovers to ensure the principles of the relationship are maintained. It is not intended to be an operational document with a list of actionable items. The members of Town and Gown help to remove barriers to help move things along, but the action happens through other groups than this one.

#### 4. Roundtable

W. Donovan noted that Council has approved a video camera surveillance pilot to go live in June.

S. McAlear noted the Maritime Student Congress is being hosted on campus for 40-50 participants from June 17 – 19, 2022.

C. Callbeck announced the hire of a new Director of Business Development and a new task force focused on non-traditional revenue generation opportunities. Also, the CFL is bringing professional football to campus with a game on July 16, 2022.

P. Ricketts mentioned the Provincial Housing Strategy and the potential impact on student housing.

E. Beaudin will be attending an international town and gown conference in South Carolina in July 2022

5. Next Meeting: November 2022 (Hosted by Acadia University)

6. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:39 am.

