

ATTENDING

- Mayor Wendy Donovan
- Councillor Jodi MacKay
- Shelley Fleckenstein, Board of Governors, Acadia
- Ian Murray, Chief External Relations Officer, Acadia
- Sadie McAlear, President, Acadia Student Union
- Alicia Johnson, ASU, Interim General Manager
- George Lohnes, Community Member
- Chief Administrative Officer, Erin Beaudin
- Recording Secretary, Laura Morrison

ABSENT WITH REGRETS

- Sam Taylor, ASU, Vice-President of Events
- Jeff Hennessy, President and Vice-Chancellor Acadia
- Darrell Youden, Interim Vice-President, Finance and Administration and CFO

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Mayor Donovan, called the meeting to order at 10am.

Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED. CARRIED
2. Approval of Minutes	MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 5, 2023, BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED
3. Public Input/Question Period	No one for public input.
4. Presentations: i. Red Spruce Counselling Centre project,	 Dr. Tanya Surrette, Dr. Kelly Brenton & Dr. Birdie Bezanson presented on the new mental health centre based in Acadia - Red Spruce Counselling Centre. Discussion Exploring community partners. Red Door only partner site so far. Valley Regional Hospital partnership potential.



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	 Part of Coordinator's role - look at appropriateness of support as it relates to suicide risk, round the clock supervision if required, supports from local mental health and emergency services. Further discussions with ASU. Presentation to WBDC group.
ii. Wolfville Housing Needs, Director of Planning, Devin Lake	 Presentation on application for funding from the Housing Accelerator Fund.
	Discussion
	 Student experience. Concern students being taken advantage of with rising rents and leases not being renewed. Homelessness increase is a concern. Couch surfing. Infrastructure is a concern - traffic congested already. Where will
	 extra parking be? Joint Regional Transportation Authority working group looking at business as usual scenarios. Larger regional issue. Change expectations on transport.
	• Turner Drake did take proposed increase of student enrolment into consideration over next five years.
	 Expected to be around 500 of an increase. Developers have approvals but may not be able to proceed due to rising costs and challenges with labour.
	Can incentivize people to build with the Accelerator Fund.
5. Old Business	
a. 2023-2024 Town & Gown Workplan –	 Setting up workgroups happened organically. Currently interviewing for international student.
Results to Date	Looking at joint Accessibility meeting with Acadia.
	Events Acadia – music event and curling trials.
	Looking at better partnerships including business community.
	 Improve events calendar at Acadia. Council into budget process – pickleball discussion at last meeting,
	uncertainty around Acadia's plan. Looking at putting together
	temporary stop gap solution.
	• Regional Rec Facility – goal to have report to the Councils before
	Spring.
	Acadia pool challenges. Community Safety Feasibility work is well underway.
	 Community Safety Feasibility work is well underway. Moving forward with MPSA contract - meeting today.
	- Ivioving forward with for the contract - fileeting today.



Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions
	 Working very well with RCMP over last 6 months. More responsive to our needs than in the past. Positive synergy with Acadia, Town and RCMP. Regular weekly meetings with RCMP, Student Services, Compliance continue to review previous weekends and coming weeks' events. Efforts from Mayor, Compliance, and Acadia to meet with students to look at community issues like garbage, noisy parties are having an impact. Meetings with new students from Acadia is all helping. Information sharing between parties is important and helping. Lots of opportunities to continue to work together. George wanted to ensure there was distinction between not wanting troublesome behaviours versus the students who are welcome. Work done by Dr. Schneider is important. Dr Schneider interviewed different stakeholders including public health. Recommendations will reflect those conversations. Alcohol Working Group - President Hennessy mentioned a gathering of University presidents to deal with issues - this may be opportunity to re-start this work. The Town adopted policy, university hasn't participated since summer of 2021 and hope that becomes part of workplan for 2024/25. Would like clarification of what role of the presidents would be. Remembrance Day - lan clarified the Legion and Acadia work together. Acadia works to make the campus ceremony fully accessible and inclusive for all, looking at physical barriers, offering American Sign Language, trying to ensure the event is fully inclusive.
6. New Business	
a. 2024-2025 Town & Gown Workplan – Initial Process Discussion	 Members to provide guidance in January as to what they would like to focus on as priority and how it can be initiated, understanding some things will take time and won't be completed in one year. Goal is to have a plan in place to ensure we can be more intentional and resource the priorities identified. Community Safety Pilot may change to Community Wellness. Food insecurity for students – soups and sides well attended - 80% were students. Food cupboard is flourishing at Acadia. Building is a challenge around accessibility. Look at foundational support in increasing food security on campus. How to make it sustainable. List will be circulated before January meeting – members to come prepared to talk about priorities.



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7. Round Table	 Mayor, CAO & Councillor MacKay visited collaborative practices with a view to exploring ways to extend Wolfville's health care practices. Motion to Council to look at exploring those options. Some vacancies in ASU positions. All Council positions full. Great to have student engagement coming out of pandemic. Working on Strategic Plan for ASU. Mayor Donovan looking for interest from Mayors and their counterparts in university towns to ask if interest in coming to Wolfville to have conversations around common issues and possible solutions, including what help is available from Federal and Provincial governments for greater funding. Ontario Town and Gown Committee president is eager to come to Wolfville if we did have a gathering. Concern around meetings taking place at Acadia due to lack of quality technology for those attending virtually. Confirmed next meeting will be in Council Chambers with Acadia taking over hosting this meeting from April.
8. Next Meeting	January 22, 2024
9. Adjournment of Meeting	IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE TOWN AND GOWN COMMITTEE ADJOURN at 11:58AM CARRIED

Approved at the January 22, 2024 Town & Gown Committee Meeting As recorded by Laura Morrison, EA/Town Clerk, Office of the CAO.