



### **SAMRU's Mission**

We represent and serve students to help them succeed.

### **SAMRU's Vision**

Where every student can discover themselves, build meaningful relationships and make a difference in the world.

# **MINUTES**

## **Student Governing Board**

January 17, 2022

4:15PM – 7:15PM

Google Meets

### **Present:**

#### **Governors (voting)**

Andrea Barlaan

Avery McLellan

Christian Kindrachuk

Erin Hepburn

Michaela Butt

Nic Savage

Taylor Amy

Sophie Piche

Nancy Tran

Arooba Siqqidui  
Michelle Gladue (part)

**SAMRU Support (non-voting):**

Ashley Schreiner (Speaker)  
 Spirit River Striped Wolf (Representation Executive Council President)  
 Pat Cochrane (Governance Coach)  
 Brian Walters (Executive Director)  
 Megan Borg (Governance Manager, scribe)

**Land Recognition**

*'Before we begin, we recognize that we are fortunate to be situated on Treaty 7 lands, including the Niitsitapi (nit-SIT-ah-pee, or Blackfoot) Nations of the Siksika (SICK-sick-ah), Kainai (GUY-nuy) and Piikani (pih-GAH-nee); the Tsuu T'ina (TSOO-tunuh) Nation; the Nakoda (nuh-KO-dah) Nations of the Bearspaw, Chiniki (CHIN-ee-kee) and Wesley; and the Metis Nations. Through this land acknowledgement we honour the agreements between the ancestral peoples of this land and the first Euro-Canadian settlers; agreements that have been historically dishonoured. We are all treaty people.'*

Topic	Motions	Discussion
Approval of Agenda	Motion: To approve the agenda. Hepburn/Butt	

	Carried	
<b>Approval of Consent Agenda</b>	<b>Motion: To approve the consent agenda.</b> Hepburn/Kindrachuk Carried	
<b>Board Professional Development</b>	Governance Coach Cochrane gave a presentation on Governor's participation on the board and how they can be good board members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Board's require individuals to participate in order to be effective</li> <li>- It is important for Board members to consider how they contribute and evaluate how they can make a stronger contribution.</li> <li>- Some considerations for board members: Do you as an individual keep the focus on the members? Are you aware of the budget and are you keeping an eye on it? Are you focused and keeping the Board focused on the organization for the long-term? Are you helping to build and maintain a strong governance infrastructure? Are you supporting the staff in creating and maintaining a positive organizational culture? Do you hold the organization accountable to the community it serves? What are you doing to ensure the members are informed and up-to-date of the work of the organization?</li> <li>- Boards can become problems to themselves for various reasons: personalities, conflicts, positions, etc. It is important to recognize everyone is a human being. It is good to keep in mind that most people are there for the same reasons that you are; check your assumptions, reserve your judgement, sit back and listen empathetically, stay focused on content as opposed to behavior or style, do not take opinions or positions personally; every board member has value.</li> </ul> <p><i>Governor Gladue joined the meeting.</i></p>	
<b>Policy Review</b>		ED Walters gave an overview of the policy review project, noting that one major area of focus has been removing procedure from policy in order to ensure that the policies are at a governance level. ED Walters gave an overview of the Board's role in reviewing the policies and included some sample questions to consider when reviewing the policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the policy's PURPOSE clear? Does it capture the Board's intent? Is there anything missing from the PURPOSE?</li> <li>- Do the major headings sufficiently address all of the Board's perceived risk areas related to the policy topic?</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the policy written at a governance level (i.e. specific enough to provide clear direction but not prescriptive in its implementation)?</li> <li>- Is the language clear and easily understandable? Are any parts of the policy confusing, in content or wording?</li> <li>- Is anything missing?</li> </ul> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It was clarified that the procedures that have been removed from the policy will be kept in a separate document for the implementors of the policy.</li> </ul> <p>Policy Development Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ED Walters gave an overview of the policy development policy.</li> <li>- Discussion re: representation procedures review and approval process. Suggestion to broadly define review (for example, legal compliance, bylaw compliance, policy compliance, etc). REC would still be empowered to create their own policies, it just includes maintaining bylaw authorities of the ED by including them in review and approval of implementation procedures.</li> <li>- Discussion re: foundational agreements with MRU – these are things like the liquor agreement, information sharing agreement, etc.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> ED Walters will bring draft of changes to the next Board meeting for review prior to approval.</p> <p>Research Integrity and Ethics Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Question re: what kinds of research we would do. One good example is the student satisfaction and awareness survey.</li> </ul>
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	<p> <b>Motion: To approve the Media Access Policy.</b>  Amy/Hepburn  Carried </p> <p> <b>Motion: To approve the Strategic Planning Policy.</b>  Amy/Hepburn  Carried </p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Suggestion to add purpose of research in the policy; research being done to further the mission of the organization.</li> </ul> <p><i>Governor Gladue left the meeting.</i></p> <p>Media Access Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Giving authority to the team lead to coordinate media access requests (REC President) – clarification over who is the lead for coordination of assigning media requests.</li> <li>- The VPE has this under their job description, so this may require some revisions to that to ensure the description aligns with the policy.</li> <li>- It was suggested that REC could develop their own procedures around this for the specific details.</li> <li>- Suggested edit: “REC will coordinate media responses on student representational issues based on portfolio and expertise”.</li> </ul> <p>Strategic Planning Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 year strategic plan is a change from the last time.</li> </ul>
<b>Announcements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Next meetings: February 7 (Work Group/Committees) and February 14 (Board)</li> <li>● AGM February 9, 2022 (Zoom)</li> </ul>	