

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
DOUGLAS COLLEGE BOARD
Open Session**

**March 20, 2008
New Westminster Campus Boardroom**

Open Meeting File No. 2008-03-20

Approved April 17, 2008

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: G. Bowbrick, B. Clarke, C. Gibson*, A. Kitching, A. MacGrotty, S. Meshwork (Ex-officio), M. Russell, A. Taylor (Chair), P. Wates, S. Witter (Ex-officio)
Regrets: C. Codrington, M. Hemmingsen, Y. Irani, N. Steinman
Observers: Constituency Group Leaders S. Briggs (DCFA), M. Steinbach (DSU)
Administration: B. Barber, M. Exmann, H. Postma, B. Jensen, J. Lindsay*, K. Maynes, C. Worsley

5. WELCOME TO NEW BOARD MEMBER**5.1 OATH OF OFFICE**

The Chair welcomed new Board member Alysia (Ally) MacGrotty, and administered the Oath of Office for Ms. MacGrotty, who conveyed her appreciation of the opportunity to serve.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2008

It was moved by Ann Kitching and seconded by Paul Wates:

07/2008

THAT the minutes be approved as distributed.

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes of February 21, 2008.

8. INFORMATION/COMMUNICATION**8.1.1 BCGEU**

Drena McCormack was not in attendance. Recalling Ms. McCormack's reference to this meeting as her final Board meeting as the BCGEU Constituency Group Leader, the Chair noted that the Board had appreciated Ms. McCormack's participation and wished her well in future endeavours.

8.1.2 DCFA

In the absence of a written report, the Chair asked Susan Briggs if she had anything to report; she did not. The Chair invited questions of Ms. Briggs, and there were none.

8.1.3 DSU

The Chair acknowledged Matthew Steinbach's report, and asked if he had anything to add. Mr. Steinbach extended congratulations to Alysia MacGrotty on her election as a student Board member, and advised that both he and Ms. MacGrotty were candidates in the DSU elections then underway.

The Chair invited questions of Mr. Steinbach, who was asked for an update on the recruitment of a financial staff person. A number of external candidates had applied for the position. Kudos were offered on both the quantity of students running for DSU election, and on the campaign posters. The Board was advised that the DSU held its Annual General Meeting on March 12, 2008, and that it anticipated being out of receivership by Summer 2008.

9. REPORTS**9.1 BOARD CHAIR**

Andrew Taylor expressed congratulations to the College's Men's Basketball team, which recently won its first ever Canadian championship.

9.3 PRESIDENT

9.3.1 President's Report – Further to her written submission, Susan Witter reported that the Ministry of Advanced Education's (AVED's) funding letter has consumed a great deal of attention and that a draft budget plan would be presented during the evening's In Camera session. The Ministry's recent funding announcements will, contrary to some media reports, affect all public BC post-secondary institutions.

The Chair invited questions of the President, and Susan Briggs requested permission to speak. That being granted, she said that the DCFA is pleased that President Witter is attempting to mitigate layoffs, and that they appreciate her heartfelt efforts.

10. BOARD COMMITTEES**10.1 Finance Committee**

10.1.1 Planned Activities and Financial/FTE Reporting – Paul Wates reported, in Neal Steinman's absence, that the committee had met earlier the same week and that Karen Maynes had apprised them of some of the implications of recent provincial budget letters. The committee looked forward to learning more. In terms of regular business, the Board budget is in good order. The committee will review its Terms of Reference at an upcoming meeting. Questions were invited; none were asked.

10.2 Human Resources Committee

10.2.1 Planned Activities – Committee Chair Cathie Gibson advised that the committee's recent meeting had been postponed to April 1, 2008.

10.3 Policy and By-Law Review Committee

10.3.1 Planned Activities – Ad hoc committee Chair Ann Kitching reported that this committee had met, appointed a Chair and developed its Terms of Reference. The committee's next meeting was scheduled for March 27, 2008.

11. NOTICE OF INTENT: PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENT 83-5(A20)

Karen Maynes noted that, in accordance with Board By-Law 83-8, Amendment of By-Laws, by-law amendments are typically presented at one Board meeting, with decision-making deferred to the subsequent month's meeting. She asked for people's input on timing of this discussion, given that the budget timetable has changed and budget planning will now extend to the May 2008 Board meeting. Responding to expressions of interest in reviewing the details at this point, she outlined the protocols and fees that may and may not be increased, as well as the rationale for increasing the College's application fee from \$25.00 to \$26.75. She invited and responded to questions, and will bring the matter back to the Board in April 2008 for its decision.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

The Chair noted significant media coverage of the one-day David Lam Campus closure, and expressed his appreciation to Susan Witter, the College administration and everyone involved in the communications regarding the closure, which were very well handled.

