

Higher Education Quality Council

BOARD MEETING MINUTES By CONFERENCE CALL

March 11, 2014
2:05 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Present

Council Members:

Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Chair
Cindy Hazell
Michael Hill
Mark Stabile
Richard Dicerni

Guest:

Deborah Newman

President and Secretary to the Board:

Harvey P. Weingarten

Staff supporting the Council:

Diana Macri, Chief Administrative Officer
Martin Hicks, Executive Director, Data & Statistics
Ellen Permato, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary

1. Call to order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. and established that a quorum of Council members was present.

2. Meeting Agenda was approved by all members.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Correction: Item 4.1 Chair's Update. 4th paragraph:

Cindy Hazell announced that she had informed the Chair of her accepting a contract as a consultant for the planned, Ontario Online not-for-profit corporation.

1. That the Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of December 6, 2013

Moved by Cindy Hazell; seconded by Mark Stabile

Passed unanimously.

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4.1 Chair's update

HEQCO's preliminary budget for 2014-15 is not being presented to the Board as planned because there is still no word from the Ministry about HEQCO's budget allocation. It will be presented to the Audit Committee in May and submitted to the Board for approval at its June 6th meeting.

The Research Plan 2014-15, approved by the Board at its meeting of Feb. 4, 2014, was submitted to the Minister (with a copy to the Deputy Minister) on Feb. 5, 2014.

The appointment of a new Board member is still in process.

An article on the Globe and Mail of March 11, 2014, written by Margaret Wente, focused on HEQCO's research entitled *Teaching Loads and Research Outputs of Ontario University Faculty: Implications for Productivity and Differentiation*.

4.2 President's update

H. Weingarten reported that the members have been, and will continue to be, apprised of HEQCO's activities. A whole slate of Request for Proposals (RFPs) will be released in April and May. These RFPs are related to projects outlined in the 2014-15 Research Plan.

In consultation with the Ministry, HEQCO has commissioned a firm to conduct a design thinking-based planning exercise involving GTA postsecondary institutions to evaluate the benefits of regional planning of postsecondary education.

MTCU has successfully implemented the Ontario Education Number (OEN). HEQCO has suggested to the Minister a model being used in other provinces which resulted in regular reporting that has proved useful to both government and institutions. This model involves a role for HEQCO working with the Ministry and the Ontario Council for Articulation and Transfer.

The Chair complemented the staff for forming an apprenticeship advisory panel and for informing the Board of the significant impacts of HEQCO's work.

4.3 Update from the Ministry

The highlights of her update covered:

- Francophone Board member recruitment: appointment process is moving ahead
- Federal Budget
- Strategic Mandate Agreements
- Ontario Online
- Ontario Education Number
- Major Capacity Expansion
- Credential Options

Members' questions focused on the Strategic Mandate Agreement, the productivity report, and business continuity in the event that the Government's budget is not passed.

The Chair thanked the Deputy for her update and for spending time with the Board.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.