



## **Board of Regents**

### **MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND**

#### **BOARD OF REGENTS**

A Special meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Friday, 27 October 2000, in the Board Room of the University at 12:30 p.m.

#### **PRESENT:**

Mr. Edward Roberts, Chair

Dr. Axel Meisen, President and Vice-Chancellor

Dr. Evan Simpson, Vice President (Academic) and Pro Vice-Chancellor

Mr. Alick Andrews (by teleconference)

Ms. Gail Aylward

Mr. Peter Barnes

Mr. Hayward Blake

Mr. Robert Brown

Ms. Lisa Browne

Mr. Calvin Butt

Mr. Samuel Chaulk

Ms. Sharon Duggan

Ms. Dorothy George

Dr. Georgina Hedges

Mr. Ed Kelly

Ms. Nancy Kelly (by teleconference)

Dr. Brendan Lewis (by teleconference)

Mr. Brendan Paddick (by teleconference)

Mr. Larry Peckford (by teleconference)

Ms. Joan Pinsent (by teleconference)

Mr. Harvey Short

Ms. Kathryn Small

Ms. Lorelei Stanley

Ms. Susan Wood

Ms. Eleanor Bennett, Secretary

**APOLOGIES:** Mr. John Crosbie, Mr. Chris Decker, Mr. Fred Durant and Ms. Darlene Russell.

**PRESENT BY INVITATION:** Mr. Wayne Thistle, Vice-President (Administration and Finance) and Legal Counsel, Dr. Jack Strawbridge, Director of Faculty Relations and Mr. Peter Morris, Associate Director of University Relations.

### **1. WELCOME**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting especially given the short notice. He extended a warm welcome to the new Board members present who had been recently appointed and extended congratulations to those Regents who had been reappointed for a further term.

### **2. CUPE AGREEMENT**

The Chair advised that the Collective Agreement between the University and CUPE Local 1615 had concluded. He advised that a recommendation from the Labour Relations Committee in this regard will be presented to the Board at its 9 November 2000 meeting.

### **3. MUNFA NEGOTIATIONS**

The Chair provided background information regarding negotiations with MUNFA. He reported that on Tuesday, 24 October, MUNFA set a strike deadline for noon on Monday, 30 October. The Labour Relations Committee met on Wednesday, 25 October, to consider the implications and course of action to follow should MUNFA decide to strike. It was subsequently agreed at that meeting to convene a meeting of the full Board to discuss this matter.

The Board received a request from the university's bargaining team to expand the membership of the newly established Ad Hoc Committee on Pensions to include a representative from the faculty, but not necessarily a representative of MUNFA. The Members reviewed and discussed this matter after which the consensus was that the Board maintain its present position with respect to the terms of reference of the Committee. The Board agreed that a letter of intent, similar to the one included in the CUPE collective agreement, should be drafted to state that MUNFA will be provided with every opportunity to meet with and make submissions and any other representations to the newly established Ad Hoc Committee on Pensions.

The Board reviewed and discussed the options available to the University in the event of a strike by MUNFA at noon on Monday, 30 October. The Chair reported that the Labour Relations Committee, at its meeting on 25 October, recommended that the University maintain the current strategy and tactical position at the bargaining table.

The President reported on meetings held with Deans and Directors in the last several days to discuss the MUNFA strike deadline. He related the wide range of views expressed to the administration at those meetings.

The Board discussed the major consequences of a strike for the university, the hardship it would impose on its students and employees, and the timing of actions to take should a strike occur.

The President advised that three committees have been established to develop contingency plans to manage the university during a strike with responsibilities for policy, operations and communications. The Board discussed communicating matters to students, faculty and staff and to the public at large within the time frame remaining before the strike deadline.

#### **4. OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chair reminded members that the next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, 9 November 2000 at 2:30 p.m. He advised that there will be an orientation session from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Board day for the newly appointed members, in particular, but invited everyone to attend. He requested those who have not already done so to advise of their committee preferences as soon as possible.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.