



**Meeting Notes**

**Ad-hoc Committee to Consider the Inclusion of the Ode to Newfoundland at Memorial’s Convocation Ceremonies**

A meeting of the Ad-hoc Committee to consider the inclusion of the Ode to Newfoundland at Memorial’s convocation ceremonies was held on **Friday, February 2, 2024 at 11:00 am NDT** via Teams.

**Committee members:**

Arif Abu (Internationalization Office); Edwin Bezzina (senator) Makaela Blake (student); Mackenzie Broders (student); Kelly Butler (Indigenous Affairs); Cyr Couturier (senator); Delores Mullings (Vice-Provost EDI-AR); Craig Purchase (senator); Lisa Russell (lead, convocation); Adaeze Stella Charles (student); Kati Szego (senator); Valeri Pilgrim (Indigenous Student Resource Centre); Michael Woods (senator); Shayam Yadav (student).

**Convener:** Lee Ann McKivior [non-voting]

**Recording secretary:** Karen Follett [non-voting]

**Present:** Arif Abu, Edwin Bezzina, Kelly Butler, Adaeze Stella Charles, Cyr Couturier, Karen Follett, Lee Ann McKivior, Delores Mullings, Craig Purchase, Lisa Russell, Kati Szego, Michael Woods.

1.0	<b><u>Approval of Agenda.</u></b>	
<p>Member requested discussion of skills development (anti-racism, recognizing bias, etc.).  <i>Action:</i> Members to consider skills development or training; Dr. McKivior and Karen to seek training possibilities for the committee</p> <p>Motion to accept the agenda as presented for this meeting, with addition of carry-forward item of discussing racism and bias.</p> <p>Move: Kati Szego; Second: Edwin Bezzina; No objection. <span style="float: right;">Motion Passed</span></p>		
2.0	<b><u>Approval of Minutes</u></b>	
	2.1 Minutes from January 19, 2024	
	2.2 Minutes from January 25, 2024	
<p>Member raised issue with Jan. 25, under item 4 re: lyrics of the Ode.  Suggested change: strike line from minutes  No objection; item will be struck from final record.</p>		

Motion to accept minutes.

Move: Michael Woods; Second: Cyr Couturier; No objection.

Motion passed

Dr. McKivior provided an update about creating a site under Senate's page. The goal is to have that site in place prior to the next Senate meeting.

Member requested the Senate agenda include a hyperlink to the new ad-hoc committee site for ease of access for senators.

Discussion of what will be posted online. Consensus is to post approved agendas and minutes.

3.0		<b><u>Terms of Reference</u></b>	
	3.1	Update on Request to Senate Committee on Elections Committees and ByLaws (SCECB) to amend Terms	

Dr. McKivior provided an update on submitting the request to SCECB; any approved changes will then be sent to Senate for final approval.

4.0		<b><u>Work Plan</u></b>	
	4.1	Consultation	

Discussion of previously-mentioned skills development for committee members. Consensus is to engage in some training prior to completing the Work plan.

Members suggestions for potential training providers: Rohene Bouajram (rohene.bouajram@ubc.ca); Danai Belanger (dbelanger@mta.ca); Dr. Paul Banahene Adjei (Memorial's AVP-IR); another member suggested Dr. Adjei be consulted instead of providing training.

Discussion of consultation considerations.

Key items incl. consulting with all stakeholder groups; seeking and listening to those who are often unheard or underrepresented (incl. Indigenous Peoples, students); ensuring comfortable environment; recognizing some anxieties and tensions during discussions.

Discussion of consultation options or methods.

Key items incl.

- Consider ways to connect and communicate with Indigenous groups.
- Design engagement with openness, comfort and inclusion in mind.
- Consider creating an online space (maybe use Qualtrics) to collect submissions.
- Concerns with surveys; consensus is that surveys are not adequate tool for this work
- Consider non-traditional engagement (e.g. artistic expression, videos, voice recordings).
- Consider smaller focus group or meetings rather than have larger meetings or town-hall meetings; could divide work up amongst the committee members; continuity could be provided in using the same note-taker/recorder for all engagements.
- Funding; Dr. McKivior confirmed there is no budget for this committee. Member suggested the Cross-Campus Initiatives Fund as possibility for securing engagement funding;

**Action:** Dr. McKivior and Karen will look into the Fund and inquire about possibilities for funding for

committee work.			
5.0		<b><u>Any Other Business.</u></b>	
No other business – meeting adjourned at 12:03 pm			