



**Meeting Notes**

A meeting of the Ad-hoc Committee to consider the inclusion of the Ode to Newfoundland at Memorial's convocation ceremonies was held on **Wednesday February 21, 2024** at **10:30am** NST via Teams.

**Committee members:**

Arif Abu (Internationalization Office); Edwin Bezzina (senator); 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 McKivor [non-voting]

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

**Present:** Arif Abu, Edwin Bezzina, Kelly Butler, Adaeze Stella Charles, Cyr Couturier, Karen Follett, Lee Ann McKivor, Delores Mullings, Valeri Pilgrim, Lisa Russell, Kati Szego

Michael Kielly, Mandy Penney (guests, Department of Human Resources)

**Regrets:** Craig Purchase

1.0	<p><b><u>Land Acknowledgement</u></b></p> <p>We acknowledge that the lands on which Memorial University's campuses are situated are in the traditional territories of diverse Indigenous groups, and we acknowledge with respect the diverse histories and cultures of the Beothuk, Mi'kmaq, Innu and Inuit of this province.</p>	
2.0	<p><b><u>Approval of Agenda</u></b></p> <p>Motion to accept the agenda as presented for this meeting. Move: Cyr Courtier; Second: Edwin Bezzina; No objection.</p>	Motion passed
3.0	<p><b><u>Training</u></b> (consensus is to switch places in agenda order w/Approval of Minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introductions: Michael Kielly and Mandy Penney, Department of Human Resources</li> <li>- Presentation slides to be provided to the committee after the meeting.</li> </ul> <p>Post-presentation discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Issues with email correspondence and member mentioned leaving most discussion to committee meetings rather than in email.</li> </ul>	

		- Today's training is on implicit bias; if additional topics or expertise is needed for the committee afterwards then that can be explored.	
4.0		<b><u>Approval of Minutes</u></b>	
	4.1	Minutes from February 2, 2024  Motion to accept minutes. Move: Kelly Butler; Second: Mackenzie Broders; No objection.	Motion passed
5.0		<b><u>Committee Updates</u></b>	
	5.1	Membership  A student representative has withdrawn from committee.  Discussion of how to proceed with the absence; options discussed incl. amending Terms of Reference to decrease amount of student representatives, seeking a new representative as previously done, seeking a new representative by other method(s) (e.g. Labrador Campus).  Member mentioned noticed lack of interest during initial search; another member mentioned lack of interest is also a concern worth exploring; several members mentioned desire to seek new representative and consensus is to seek a new representative through a broad search.  <i>Action:</i> Mackenzie Broders to connect with student groups to seek new representative and avail of offered assistance from members, if needed.	
	5.2	Meeting frequency  Question if the committee members are comfortable maintaining the weekly meeting schedule. Member mentioned comments heard outside this committee urging more frequent meetings. Consensus is to keep to weekly meetings.  Member questioned how committee members could provide information publically. Dr. McKivior confirmed the website page for this committee will be live soon. Consensus is members can refer to that if there are inquires.	
	5.3	Cross-Campus Initiatives Fund Update  Dr. McKivior gave an update that this committee's work is not in the purview of that funding opportunity.	
	5.4	Communications Update	

		Dr. McKivor gave an update that some requests for information about the committee and its work have been made. She provided a reminder that any member who would like to discuss an issue or have support can contact her or raise it in a meeting.	
6.0		<p><b><u>For Next Meeting</u></b>  Meeting time ran out so Dr. McKivor suggested the consultation discussion tabled for next meeting.</p> <p>Dr. McKivor put forward a motion:</p> <p>Motion: At next committee meeting, Kelly Butler will provide a session about Indigenous historical perspectives [session title TBD].  Move: Kati Szego; Second: Edwin Bezzina; No objection.</p>	Motion passed
7.0		<p><b><u>Other Business</u></b></p> <p>Member mentioned upcoming sessions by Dr. Adjei and training available from First Light.</p> <p><i>Action:</i> Dr. McKivor asked members to consider today's training and whether additional training is desired for the committee.</p> <p><b>Meeting adjourned 11:37am</b></p>	