

**Minutes of the Fourth
SARDP 2024-2025 Council Meeting**
September 9th, 2024
Council Chambers @ 5:30pm

Attendance:

Monique Auring – Councillor	Jacq Patterson – Vice President External
Skarlette Bittorf – Councillor	Devyn Shannon – President
Brianne Campbell – Vice President Academic	Eli Wolters – Councillor
Samuel Johannson – Councillor	Elizabeth Sweiger – Executive Director
Emmanuel Mustapha – Councillor	Anne-Marie Watson – Chairperson
Yiri Olueh-Matimi – Councillor	Marian Young – Secretary
Esther Owolagba – Councillor	

4.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm

4.1 Approval of Agenda

24-25-28-C

Johansson, Shannon

Motion to Approve the Agenda as amended.

- Add item 4.3 Council Interviews and renumber accordingly
- Add item 4.8.1 Councillor Resignation

CARRIED

4.2 Land Acknowledgment – Councillor Owolagba

4.3 Council Interviews

Council interviewed two candidates for Council and three Candidates for Academic Council. The vote for Council Members will take place on September 16th.

24-25-29-C

Wolter, Auring

Motion to elect Samuel Johannson to the 2024 – 2025 Academic Council Student Caucus.

CARRIED

24-25-30-C

Owolagba, Mustapha

Motion to appoint Azriel Handa to the 2024 – 2025 Academic Council Student Caucus

CARRIED

24-25-31-C

Patterson, Olueh-Matimi

Motion to appoint Skarlette Bittorf to the 2024 – 2025 Academic Council Student Caucus

CARRIED

4.4 Approval of Meeting Minutes

- 4.4.1 Approval of 2024-2025 Council Meeting Minutes #3

24-25-32-C
Johannson, Owolagba
Motion to Approve the 3rd minutes of the 2024-2025 Council
CARRIED

4.4.2 Approval of 2024-2025 Executive Council Meeting Minutes #12-15

24-25-33-C
Johannson, Mustapha
Motion to approve the 12th through 15th meeting minutes of the 2024 – 2025 Executive Council Meetings
CARRIED

4.5 New Business

4.5.1 Executive Work Plans

24-25-34-C
Johannson, Auring
Motion to approve the 2024 - 2025 Executive Council Workplans as presented
CARRIED

4.6 Old Business

4.6.1 Dual Credit Fee Waiver Proposal

24-25-35-C
Johannson, Mustapha
Motion to waive the Students' Association Membership fee for Dual Credit Students at RDP.
DEFEATED Unanimously

4.7 Executive Council, Council Committee and Other Reports

4.7.1 Executive Council Reports

- President – D. Shannon
- Vice President Academic – B. Campbell
- Vice President External – J. Patterson
- Executive Director – E. Sweiger
 - o Working on setting up accounting software with Marie Evangelista, SA Operation's Director, which is an organizational priority.

Committee Reports

- GRC
- EDII Committee

Council requests that events mentioned in reports are highlighted with the date, time, and location, particularly if Council is invited.

24-25-36-C

Auring, Johannson

Motion to approve the Executive Council and Committee Reports as presented.

CARRIED

4.8 In-Camera Session

24-25-37-C

Mustapha, Campbell

Motion to go into In-Camera at 7:50pm

CARRIED

24-25-38-C

Mustapha, Owolagba

Motion to come out of In-Camera at 7:56pm

CARRIED

4.9 Information

4.9.1 Councillor Resignation

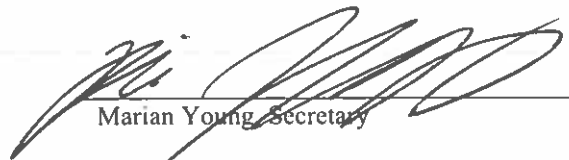
Adjournment

24-25-39-C

Auring, Johannson

Motion to Adjourn at 7:57

CARRIED


Devyn Shannon, President
Elizabeth Sweiger, Executive Director
Anne Marie Watson, Chairperson
Marian Young, Secretary



EXECUTIVE REPORT

President's Office

August 21st

ASEC Indigenous Committee

Began discussion of indigenous related advocacy document for ASEC, discussed needed indigenization goals, came to the recommendations of increased indigenous outside space, calls to reconciliation re-affirmation and reinforced the need for all schools to meet with their indigenous services on campus to begin understanding the needs of indigenous students from their own perspective.

Faculty and Staff Appreciation

The Execs and the SA team hosted an event to welcome back and show appreciation to staff and faculty. The event was well attended, if less so than previous years, and allowed us to communicate with and form network connections with many of the staff and faculty.

August 22nd

Ownership Linkage Committee

The Board of Governors met to decide on the specifics of approaching RDPs ownership, narrowing down focus questions to better communicate with industry leaders, educational institutions, government and private sector as to what value RDP has for them, as well as probing questions to determine what we can do to better guarantee our graduates positions in the field they've studied here.

August 26th

Final Draft of Exec Work Plans

Worked with Secretary Young to flesh out and finish off our exec work plans for the year, of which includes a new land acknowledgement (with placard), increased work integrated learning opportunities at the Sheldon Kennedy Center of Excellence as well as creating a Mandatory Non Instructional Fees agreement between the Association and the Polytechnic.

August 27th

Board of Governors Orientation

Participated in the BoG orientation of Bill Petrosenko, new internal member of the Board. Also took the chance to express the growing concerns of Student Financial Aid to President Stuart Cullum and Megan Griffith, Government Relations Manager.



EXECUTIVE REPORT

President's Office

TRC Week Committee

Worked out the final steps of planning for TRC Week. I was invited to be a guest speaker, to tell the story of the Beothuk, as well as some of their stories and myths. Planning is mostly complete except for some funding issues, RDP marketing should be announcing plans shortly.

August 28th

Meeting with Lloyd Desjarlais

VPA Brienne and I met with Lloyd to discuss the ongoing initiatives the SA wishes to pursue, which VPA Brienne will cover in her report. We also discussed the importance of indigenous voices in the ASEC Indigenous Student document, and came to some conclusions regarding the asks we should be making this year, including land learnings, review of the treaties to adhere to guidelines (some treaties state a free education for indigenous students) as well as increase awareness of spaces available to students on campus.

Awards of Excellence

Attended the awards of excellence, an event that seeks to celebrate and encourage faculty and staff for innovation, excellence and leadership in and out of the classroom. Connected with several of the winning faculty, mostly networked.

August 29th

Headversity

Was invited by Cristal Glass-Painchaude, head of people and culture, to attend a seminar on headversity, an organization which deals with mental health crisis in the workplace and other environments. There was much discussion as to the benefits of properly trained staff and leadership when it comes to mental health, and they will be delivering a test program for us to try out in the near future. They are also the organizers and producers of the upcoming respect in the workplace module that will be available and highly recommended to students.

August 30th

Athletics and Student Life

Met with the newly formed athletics and student life team, which was formed over the summer. VPA Brienne will report.



EXECUTIVE REPORT

President's Office

GRC First Meeting

Please see meeting minutes.

August 30th & September 3rd

New Student Orientation

Rehearsed, sound checked and gave a speech at the new student orientation which provided an overview of the services we offer, as well as an open invitation to sign up for the various positions still open on student and academic council.



EXECUTIVE REPORT

Vice President Academic's Office

August 21st, 2024-September 3rd, 2024

Faculty & Staff Appreciation (August 21st)

The Association held its annual appreciation event for faculty and staff on campus in the Far Side Bar & Grill. This was a lovely opportunity to welcome people from various departments in the institution, and to thank them for the work they do. My personal favourite part of this event was greeting and talking with a number of people who are new to their roles here, and welcoming them to the Polytechnic community.

Meeting with Indigenous Initiatives (August 28th)

Attendance: Lloyd Desjarlais (Dean, Indigenous Initiatives), Kimberly Potts (Operations Coordinator, Indigenous Initiatives), Justice Soosay (Indigenous Student Success Coordinator, Indigenous Initiatives), SARDP President Shannon

This was largely an introductory meeting between our teams, and an opportunity to discuss some initiatives that are being worked on. One thing we are working on is the development of a Cree language course, and the Indigenous Initiatives team informed us of a few people we may be able to connect with to potentially collaborate with. They also provided us with the name of a group in the external community that regularly consults with Elders in what they do, the Urban Aboriginal Voices Society, who we may look into contacting.

We were also informed that there will likely be a committee for planning Metis week on campus.

Awards of Excellence (August 28th)

President Shannon and I both attended the Awards of Excellence celebration, honoring the hard work and dedication of staff and faculty across our campus. This was a wonderful opportunity to hear about the work that is done. At this event we were also able to network with other attendees across various departments.

Athletics & Student Life Meeting (August 29th)

Attendance: Trina Carroll (Student Life Coordinator, Division of Student Success), Cameron Holoboff (Recreation Attendant, Division of Student Success), SARDP President Shannon

An introductory meeting between our teams, and an opportunity to discuss the ways in which we may be able to work together to best support the students on our campus. Largely, we all wanted to ensure that events are not overlapping, and that students are



EXECUTIVE REPORT

Vice President Academic's Office

aware that there are staff on campus working to make student life and recreation more pronounced. We provided them with a copy of the Association's Advocacy Goals document, and we will be looking at having regular/semi-regular meetings, looping in some of the staff at the Association.

Athletics Orientation (August 29th)

The Athletics teams at the institution took part in an 'Amazing Race' formatted orientation. On behalf of the Association, I was able to welcome students and inform them of several of the services and supports that we offer. With assistance from Marian and Jessica, we smoothly facilitated this in The Loft, and provided some SARDP swag.

Academic Council Orientation (August 30th)

Attendance: Trish Nuyten (Dean of Enrolment Management and Registrar & AC Resource), Susan Briggs (Academic Records Coordinator & AC Admin Support)

The three of us met to discuss the progress of the orientation for Academic Council. Trish has working largely on a PowerPoint with key information for members and was seeking feedback on the draft thus far. There is a Blackboard course which Susan and I will hopefully be able to access soon to view the layout and provide further feedback. So far, along with the PowerPoint, there will be a review quiz. Another thing to note is that we are looking at getting Academic Council onto the Red Deer Polytechnic website, with the hope that this will be in place for October.

Other Meetings/Events:

- Work Plan Adjustments & Advocacy Review (August 26th)
- Governance Review Committee (August 29th) – Please see President Shannon's committee report
- EDII Committee (August 29th) – Please see committee report



EXECUTIVE REPORT

Vice President External's Office

Away August 28th-30th

August 21st-current:

Alberta Student Executive Council

The VP External met with Jill who is the finance coordinator at the student connect center to discuss late processing times of Alberta Student Aid. More work and research on solutions continue to be explored. We also reached out to ASEC and are working on an advocacy document for next year.

August 22nd: Perspectives

The VP External had a meeting with Krista Robson to discuss the marketing and layout the student portion of the event. We secured the Margret Parson's Theatre; however, we have 15 minutes for setup which is a tight timeline. We also discussed the marketing strategy of creating a PowerPoint to share with instructors. Then the VP External will also be making time to visit classrooms to help promote the event.

Upcoming:

September 4-6th - Welcome week

September 5th - Palate: ticket sales discussion

September 6th - Meeting with the Government



EXECUTIVE REPORT

Executive Director's Office

- Now that Council has approved the 2024-2025 budget, we have engaged a consultant to help us navigate the transition from our current Accounting software to a different platform. This is a major project that is occupying much of my time and that of our Operations Director. We are hoping to have the new system up and operational by the end of September.
- The SA Managers and HR Coordinator have been setting up interviews and going through the hiring process for our 2024-2025 part time positions.
- The SA Staff are looking forward to welcoming our students back to campus next week. The Member Engagement Team has been busy organizing events for New Student Orientation and Welcome Week.
- Asking that Council take some time to volunteer for the Welcome BBQ on September 5th; just show up if you have a few minutes; we would appreciate any amount of time you can donate.
- If you would like to help out with other welcome events, please email our Member Engagement Manager at same@rdpolytech.ca
- I am looking forward to resuming our in-person meetings in September and meeting some Council members for the first time.