

University College of the North

Minutes of the Learning Council

Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2025
Time: 8:30 am -12:00 pm

The Pas Boardroom 132
Thompson Boardroom 409
Zoom: 699.627.8649



PRESENT		REGRETS		GUESTS/RESOURCES	
K. Barr	Dr. A. Kamal	Dr. G. Stott		T. Pidskalny - Tri-Council Executive Officer /President's Office Manager	
D. Beardy	D. Lauvstad	C. Wyatt-Anderson		A. Tomlin - CSC Chair, Kenanow Instructor	
M. Belmore	G. Melko	A. Pulayanparambil Thankachan		T. Manych - AVP of Transformation	
C. Bignell	Dr. R. Neckoway			M. Rad-Spice - Director of Programming & Operations, IIR	
H. Bryant	Dr. A. Oredogbe			H. d'Entremont - Consultant, UCN Academic Governance Review	
N. Constant	Dr. S. Peter				
J. Grant	M. Petricone	Non-Voting / Ex-Officio			
Dr. A. Hossain	P. Scheveck	L. Loewen			
Dr. K. Hyde	D. Smeltzer				
Dr. T. Islam	H. Smith				
NON-VOTING / EX-OFFICIO		ABSENT			
J. Fitzpatrick	C. Woodson	E. Jebb	T. Weenusk		
S. Nemeth	H. Warnar		E. Paradis		
D. Smith	N. Zukic				

1.0 UCN Traditional Territory Acknowledgement.

2.0 Opening Prayer
Opening Prayer was offered by Dr. Keith Hyde.

3.0 Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 8:41 a.m. by Chair, Dr. Selvin Peter.

4.0 Chairperson's Remarks
The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and welcomed Harley d'Entremont. H. d'Entremont is leading an Academic Governance Review at UCN, and as part of that review, will be attending the three Council meetings this week. Nermin Zukic was welcomed to his first meeting of Learning Council.

5.0 Adoption of Agenda
It was duly moved and seconded by K. Hyde / N. Constant
THAT the agenda for April 22, 2025, be accepted as presented.
This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED

LC-04/22/25-5.0
Adoption of Agenda

6.0 Acceptance of Minutes
February 18, 2025 – Meeting Minutes
It was duly moved and seconded by G. Melko / N. Constant
THAT the minutes of February 18, 2025, be accepted as presented.
This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED

LC-04/22/25-6.0
Acceptance of Minutes
February 18, 2025

7.0 Presentations
7.1 Digital Equity Strategy, Augmented Reality, and Artificial Intelligence
Tara Manych shared a presentation focusing on the following:
- Embracing AI at UCN
- Dimensions of AI Integration

- Augmented Reality (AR) & AR Implementation Plan
- Digital Equity Vision & Creating Sustainable Digital Equity

8.0 Business Arising

8.1 President's Report

D. Lauvstad provided a verbal report which included:

- A visit to Flin Flon last week which included a visit to the new dorms in Flin Flon. Government of Manitoba announced a \$1 million dollars to four First Nations to purchase training for the mining sector.
- MALS will be hosting their conference in Thompson in May.
- Later in the week will be part of a tour of Area 55 in Thompson. Mine beginner program is being held there, with opportunity for Auto Technician, Heavy Duty Mechanic, as well as other opportunities.
- The Northern Arts Workshop will take place in Thompson in May.
- Budget and funding updates.
- Update on UCN visit to Oxford House.

Discussion ensued.

8.1.1 VP Strategic Growth Activity Report

Dr. Dan Smith provided updates to the written report which included:

- UM has asked to delay the move of the Northern Social Work program to the Thompson Campus until summer 2027.
- Summit Meeting of First Nations Leaders in May 2025 has been delayed.
- Academic Plan has been through consultations, including consultations with the Council of Elders, and will come to Learning Council in June.
- UCN's Academic Governance Review is underway.

8.1.2 VP Indigenous Initiatives and Reconciliation Activity Report

Dr. Ramona Neckoway referenced updates and key items in the report.

8.1.3 VP Academic & Research Activity Report

Helga Bryant provided updates to the written report which included:

- UCN and Norway House have signed a contract to provide the HCA Program in September.
- Additional student supports that are underway, include, IUS will provide funding for a 10-month term instructor tutor for the BA/BN Intent and the BN students; UCN has put in a proposal to government for two such positions; UCN has put two positions in the budget to assist students with mental health supports; funds from Academic will be transferred to Jackie Fitzpatrick's area to hire a dedicated mental health professional.
- Have received funding for the HCA Program to increase seats from 30 to 130 per year.
- Received PCP Funding for Thompson (16 seats) for this fall.
- Received funding for Power Engineering.
- Student Advisory Council Update. The SACs have been operating without corporate legal status since 2018. They were functioning as two SACs, however, by their laws of incorporation, there is only one SAC. They have not filed audited financial statements since 2018. UCN is assisting with working through the process and have been seeking legal advice throughout the process. Once UCN SAC has been revived, it can be renamed to The Pas SAC, and then in parallel, Thompson SAC. Elections

will then be held in September. They will need to hire their own bookkeeper and conduct their own audits. There will be a connection with UCN through the VPARs Office.

Discussion ensued.

9.0 **New Business**

9.1 **Request for New Program: Bachelor of Indigenous Languages Degree**

Dr. Ramona Neckoway provided an overview of the request for a New Program: Bachelor of Indigenous Languages.

Dr. Neckoway, Dr. Rad-Spice, and Dr. Smith introduced a conversation regarding the academic organization. D. Neckoway advised that a program advisory committee will be established.

It was duly moved and seconded by A. Oredogbe / K. Barr

THAT the Learning Council approve the Request for New Program: Bachelor of Indigenous Languages Degree. This does not include approval on a new academic unit.

This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED

LC-04/22/25-9.1.
Request for New
Program: Bachelor of
Indigenous Languages
Degree

9.2 **Request for Program Change: Kenanow Bachelor of Education**

Antony Tomlin, Kenanow Instructor and Chair of the Curriculum and Standards Committee provided an overview of the request.

It was duly moved and seconded by K. Barr / M. Petricone

THAT the Learning Council approve the Request for Program Change: Kenanow Bachelor of Education, as presented.

This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED

LC-04/22/25-9.2
Request for Program
Change: Kenanow
Bachelor of Education

9.3 **Request for New Program: Bachelor of Science Degree**

Dr. Selvin Peter provided an overview of the request.

Michelle Petricone, Vice-Chair, called the question.

It was duly moved and seconded by K. Hyde / M. Belmore

THAT the Learning Council approve the Request for New Program: Bachelor of Science Degree, as presented.

This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED

LC-04/22/25-9.3
Request for New
Program: Bachelor of
Science Degree

9.4 **Learning Council Composition Discussion: Manager Academic Development**

Tabled until the June 2025 Learning Council Meeting.

9.5 **REAL Committee Appointment**

On February 18, 2025, Learning Council approved the revisions to the REAL Committee TOR, which included changing the membership to include the ex-officio position of AVP Academic Quality and Excellence.

It was duly moved and seconded by A. Hossain / K. Hyde

THAT the Learning Council ratify the appointment of Ann Barbour-Stevenson as an ex-officio member to the Research Education and Learning Committee.

This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED

LC-04/22/25-9.5
REAL Committee
Appointment

9.6 Learning Council Appointment

On February 18, 2025, Learning Council approved the revisions to Policy LC-01-01 Rules of Governance, Article 2, Item 2.01 a) v., changing membership from AVP Mihcet Meskanawah Teaching and Learning to AVP Academic Quality and Excellence.

It was duly moved and seconded by P. Scheveck / N. Constant

THAT the Learning Council ratify the appointment of Ann Barbour-Stevenson as an ex-officio voting member to the Learning Council.

This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED

LC-04/22/25-9.6
Learning Council
Appointment

9.7 Policy LC-01-05 Curriculum & Standards Committee Terms of Reference

The Curriculum and Standards Committee met on March 4/25 and approved revisions to their Terms of Reference: replacing the Manager of Academic Development with the AVP Academic Quality and Excellence.

It was duly moved and seconded by H. Bryant / A. Hossain

THAT the Learning Council approve the revision to the Curriculum & Standards Committee Terms of Reference, as presented.

This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED

LC-04/22/25-9.7
Policy LC-01-05
Curriculum & Standards
Committee Terms of
Reference

It was duly moved and seconded by M. Petricone / K. Barr

THAT the Learning Council ratify the appointment of Ann Barbour-Stevenson as an ex-officio voting member to the Curriculum & Standards Committee.

This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED

LC-04/22/25-9.7
Ratify Appointment to
Curriculum & Standards
Committee

9.8 Policy LC-01-06 LC Executive Committee Terms of Reference

The Learning Council Executive met on April 9, 2025, and approved the revisions to Policy LC-01-06 LC Executive Committee Terms of Reference, as outlined in the track changes.

It was duly moved and seconded by G. Melko / K. Hyde

THAT the Learning Council approve the revisions to Policy LC-01-06 LC Executive Committee Terms of Reference, as presented.

This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED

LC-04/22/25-9.8
Policy LC-01-06 LC
Executive Committee
Terms of Reference

9.9 Policy LC-01-10 Nominations/Elections Policies and Procedures

The Learning Council Executive met on April 9, 2025, and approved the revisions to Policy LC-01-10 Nominations/Elections Policies and Procedures, as outlined in the track changes.

It was duly moved and seconded by M. Belmore / P. Scheveck

THAT the Learning Council approve the revisions to Policy LC-01-10 Nominations/Elections Policies and Procedures, as presented.

This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED

LC-04/22/25-9.9
Policy LC-01-10
Nominations/ Elections
Policies and Procedures

10.0 Learning Council Committee Reports

- 10.1 Executive Committee Report** - Received for Information
- 10.2 Academic Appeals Committee Report** - Received for Information
- 10.3 Academic Planning Committee Report** - Received for Information
- 10.4 Awards Committee Report** - Received for Information
- 10.5 Curriculum & Standards Committee Report** - Received for Information
- 10.6 Equity Committee Report** - No Report Received
- 10.7 Library Committee Report** - Received for Information

10.8 Research Education & Learning Committee Report - Received for Information

11.0 Tri-Council Reports

11.1 Council of Elders - Elder Tommy Weenusk
No report received.

11.2 Governing Council - Connie Wyatt-Anderson
A verbal report was received for information.

11.3 Student Report

11.3.1 Dwight Beardy, Thompson Campus
D. Beardy provided regrets as had to depart the meeting prior to Item 11.0.

11.3.2 Ambili Pulayanparambil Thankachan, The Pas Campus
No report received.

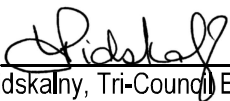
11.3.3 Vacancy, Regional Centre
No report.

12.0 Roundtable
Received for information.

13.0 Adjournment/Closing Prayer
Closing Prayer was offered by M. Belmore.
Meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m. by P. Scheveck.
Next Learning Council Meeting: June 17, 2025.

Motion to Adjourn

14.0 Information and Correspondence
Received for Information.



T. Pidskalny, Tri-Council Executive Officer



Dr. S. Peter, Learning Council Chair

June 17, 2025

Dated

June 17, 2025

Dated