



<b>SUBJECT</b>	INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE - AMENDMENT		
<b>REPORT TO</b>	INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE		
<b>MEETING DATE</b>	NOVEMBER 26, 2019		
<b>MATTER TYPE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOARD DISCUSSION NOT REQUIRED	<input type="checkbox"/> BOARD DISCUSSION REQUIRED	
<b>ACTION REQUESTED</b>	No decision requested: for information		
<b>REPORT DATE</b>	November 5, 2019		
<b>EXECUTIVE PROPONENT</b>	Hubert Lai, Q.C., University Counsel		
<b>PRESENTED BY</b>	Hubert Lai, Q.C., University Counsel		
<b>SUPPORTED BY</b>	Karen Choi, Legal Counsel Lorena Vlad, Legal Counsel		

**PRIOR SUBMISSIONS** No prior submissions.

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *University Act* vests the management, administration and control of the property, revenue, business and affairs of the university in the Board of Governors. It is empowered to establish committees it considers necessary to carry out the Board's functions, and to confer on those committees the power and authority to act for the Board.

The Board has delegated authority to the Governance Committee to approve terms of reference for each of the standing committees, including the Indigenous Engagement Committee. The Board has recently reviewed responsibilities where delegated authority is shared among two or more of its standing committees and determined that the practice of holding joint committee meetings will be discontinued. The Committee Chairs have reviewed the list of joint responsibilities and agreed upon a reallocation of each responsibility to one Board committee. The Indigenous Engagement Committee did not have any jointly delegated responsibilities and thus no changes have been made to reallocate its previously delegated authority.

It is anticipated that at its meeting on November 22, 2019, the Governance Committee will approve revised terms of reference for the Indigenous Engagement Committee with the following amendments:

1. revised language to clarify the delegation of authority from the Board to its committees (This language was presented by the Board Secretary to the Governance Committee at its June 2019 meeting and to the Indigenous Engagement Committee at its September meeting but has not yet been formally approved.);
2. additional items to be included on list of delegated authority for some Board committees (These items were presented by the Board Secretary to the Indigenous Engagement Committee at its September 2019 meeting but have not yet been formally approved.); and
3. updates to all cross-references to Board policies to reflect the recently approved naming and numbering system for Board policies.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

1. Amended Indigenous Engagement Committee Terms of Reference

## PURPOSE

Universities across Canada educate more than a million students each year and Indigenous students continue to be under-represented in higher education. In addition, Indigenous perspectives and world views are not adequately reflected in the curricula of most academic disciplines. UBC is working to correct these deficits, and since the establishment of the Aboriginal Strategic Plan in 2009, the University has worked to develop a more extensive and comprehensive approach. This approach will now be extended under the 2018 Indigenous Strategic Plan, which is a central part of *Shaping UBC's Next Century*, the encompassing UBC strategic plan.

The UBC Board of Governors has a crucial role in ensuring that the University pursues the goals set forward in the Indigenous Strategic Plan and in that adequate resources are directed towards its fulfilment.

Another aspect of the Board's role is overseeing the University's alignment with the Government of British Columbia's adoption and implementation of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) and the *Calls to Action* of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC).

The UBC Board of Governors established the Indigenous Engagement Committee with these purposes in mind.

The Committee's mandate is to monitor the progress of all initiatives identified in the Indigenous Strategic Plan, including but not restricted to those identified in *Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples*, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, and the *Calls to Action* of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

## OBJECTIVES

The Indigenous Engagement Committee has the primary responsibility of monitoring Indigenous strategies and initiatives at the University, to ensure that progress is being made, and to recommend any necessary direction of resources.

There will be four primary areas of focus:

1. Ensuring compliance with any statutory responsibilities while at the same time promoting greater awareness and recognition of Indigenous peoples within Canada, with the goal to develop more functional and productive relationships between Indigenous peoples and the broader community;

2. Identifying and securing funding to support Indigenous faculty, Indigenous learners and institutional initiatives, including support for curricular development, independent Indigenous-faculty-led research, collaborative research of value to Indigenous peoples and communities, and related projects that may lead to more functional and productive relationships;
3. Developing a more detailed understanding of Indigenous strategies developed at the University, the programs and initiatives that currently exist and are being established, and the unmet needs of Indigenous faculty, Indigenous students and Indigenous communities that the University might address; and,
4. Evaluating and providing annual progress reports on the Indigenous Strategic Plan and other indicators of University progress in its handling of Indigenous affairs, and holding the University and its administration accountable for progress made towards realizing its commitments in these areas.

## **MEMBERSHIP & PROCEDURES**

Membership of the Committee shall consist of seven (7) members, excluding the *ex officio* members:

- Five (5) UBC Governors, selected by the Chair of the Board of Governors, one of whom will serve as the Committee Chair and one of whom will serve as the Committee Vice-Chair
- One (1) member of the President’s Aboriginal Advisory Committee (Vancouver)
- One (1) member of the Okanagan Aboriginal Advisory Council
- The Chair of the Board of Governors and the President as *ex officio* voting members

The Chair of the Board of Governors appoints Committee members with the assistance of the President, based on qualifications and interest, and to avoid potential conflicts of interest.

Appointments are made, and reviewed, at each instance of changes in Board membership.

The Committee Chair is selected by the Board Chair, in consultation with the Board Vice-Chair and the Chair of the Governance Committee.

The Committee Chair is responsible for the better conduct of meetings, including agendas, information processes, and oversight of reporting and action items.

The Committee Vice-Chair is selected by the Board Chair, in consultation with the Board Vice-Chair and the Chair of the Governance Committee.

The Committee Vice-Chair assumes the responsibilities of the Committee Chair in the absence of the Committee Chair, and may also be assigned additional tasks at the discretion of the Committee Chair.

The Committee will receive additional and reasonable support for the assembly, assessment and reporting of information.

The Committee may delegate, or be directed by the Board of Governors to oversee, work tasks and action items to subcommittees, the University Administration, or independent third-parties, subject to Board approval.

## MEETINGS & QUORUM

The Indigenous Engagement Committee shall meet at the call of the Committee Chair as required.

Attendance by 35% of Indigenous Engagement Committee members (including the *ex officio* members) is required to establish quorum.

## ACCOUNTABILITY

The Indigenous Engagement Committee is created by and is responsible to the Board of Governors of The University of British Columbia.

Minutes of Indigenous Engagement Committee meetings are approved at the next Committee meeting or by means of electronic approval and are distributed as soon as practicable. Minutes of closed sessions are distributed only to Governors and others authorized to attend such closed sessions and are confidential unless resolved otherwise by the Committee Chair.

A record of all agenda items considered and any resolutions passed during *in camera* meetings of the Indigenous Engagement Committee are approved as soon as practicable by the Committee Chair, are distributed only to those individuals who are authorized to attend such *in camera* sessions, and are confidential.

The Chair of the Indigenous Engagement Committee reports on discussion and any action taken at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Governors.

**In addition to the above, procedures and practices of the Indigenous Engagement Committee are governed by ~~Policy 93 (Open, Closed and In Camera Meetings of the Board of Governors)~~ [Meetings Policy \( GA8\)](#) and associated Committee Meeting Rules and Practices.**

## DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The Indigenous Engagement Committee will receive for information and approval reports related to system-wide UBC Indigenous/Aboriginal priorities and strategies.

The Board of Governors has delegated to the Indigenous Engagement Committee authority to ~~receive~~ [transact the following business on its behalf:](#)

[Receive for information](#) the following reports ~~on behalf of the Board of Governors:~~

- Aboriginal Strategy for Okanagan Campus
- Indigenous [Academic Presentations](#)
- [Indigenous Faculty, Student and Staff Support Programs and Initiatives – Outcomes](#)
- [Indigenous Programs at UBC – evaluating and monitoring progress re programs related to TRC Calls to Action](#)

- [Indigenous](#) Strategic Plan - Implementation Updates

- ~~Overview of~~ Current/Ongoing Indigenous/Aboriginal Initiatives and ~~Programs~~[The Programs](#)

[The](#) Indigenous Engagement Committee may choose to present individual items to the full Board of Governors for information or approval, including items for which authority to receive or approve has been delegated.

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