



**Board of Governors  
Public Meeting Minutes  
March 22, 2018  
Matrix Hotel, Edmonton**

**Board Members:** Ms. Natalia Reiman, Chair  
Mr. Blaine Badiuk  
Ms. Nan Bartlett  
Mr. Gordon Pellerin  
Ms. Chantal Fontaine  
Mr. Don Gnatiuk, President and CEO

Ms. Jane Manning  
Ms. Mary Ann Eckstrom  
Ms. Laurie Nock  
Mr. Scott Roessler  
Ms. Eunice Friesen  
Mr. Lorne Radbourne  
Ms. Pattie Pavlov

**Guests:** Dr. Kazem Maskkournia

**AGENDA ITEM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**2.1. Adoption of March 22, 2018 Agenda**

The Board Chair called for revisions to the March 22, 2018 agenda. The agenda was approved by general consent.

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**3.1. Adoption of January 25, 2018 Minutes**

The Board Chair called for errors and omissions in the January 25, 2018 Minutes. The Minutes of January 25, 2018 were approved by general consent.

**4. GOVERNANCE PROCESS ITEMS**

**4.1. Compliance and Continuity Committee Composition**

N. Bartlett, Chair of the Compliance and Continuity Committee (CCC), presented to the Board a request for appointment of Lorne Radbourne to the CCC for a two-year term ending March 2020.

**MOVED** by Jane Manning, **SECONDED** by Mary Ann Eckstrom, that the Board of Governors approves the appointment of Lorne Radbourne to the Compliance and Continuity Committee for a term effective immediately, and ending March 2020.

**CARRIED**

**5767/2018**

**Abstained: L. Radbourne**

#### 4.2. GPRC Mandate and Degree Granting Status Resolution

On Thursday, February 22, 2018, Advanced Education Minister Marlin Schmidt addressed GPRC students, faculty, staff, and community in front of the GPRC Students' Association Office, and with great pride announced that Grande Prairie Regional College has approval to grant its own degrees and embark upon the journey to becoming a university.

"Our government is proud to strengthen GPRC's role in enhancing the energy of northwestern Alberta by making this change. It means future students can complete their education and work close to home instead of being forced to leave to pursue their dreams"

- Marlin Schmidt, Minister of Advanced Education

This announcement was the realization of a more than 50-year dream of residents throughout the region. Residents began requesting a degree-granting institution in 1956 when the Grande Prairie School District Board of Trustees sent the Minister of Education a letter stating the need for a post-secondary education institution in the region. The closest university was 450 kilometres away. When GPRC opened in 1966, its first President, Dr. Henry Anderson, acknowledged that becoming a college was just the first step towards becoming a degree-granting institution.

It is a great honour to be a member of the GPRC Board of Governors at this time, and to be stewards of GPRC and the delivery of post-secondary education in northwestern Alberta.

The Grande Prairie region has consistently advocated for university status, holding the Board of Governors accountable and ensuring that the pursuit of degree granting status remained a primary and clearly stated goal.

**MOTION:** *Scott Roessler*

**SECONDED** *Blaine Badiuk*

That the Board of Governors respectfully acknowledges and accepts the February 22, 2018 designation by the Minister of Alberta Advanced Education for Grande Prairie Regional College to grant degrees towards pursuing university status.

**CARRIED**  
**5768/2018**

4.3. Reaffirmation of the President and CEO Responsibility

The Board of Governors further discussed the implications of the announcement regarding university status and acknowledged its confidence and support of President Don Gnatiuk to lead the institution in this endeavour.

**MOTION:** Eunice Friesen

**SECONDED** Nan Bartlett

Commensurate with the Ends of the Grande Prairie Regional College Board of Governors, and operating within the Policy Governance™ Framework, the Board of Governors reaffirms the authority of President Don Gnatiuk to lead GPRC towards achieving university status.

**CARRIED**

**Abstained: D. Gnatiuk**

**5769/2018**

**5. CEO REPORT**

The Board of Governors has received the President's Report on Enterprise Risk Management, people, property, and the environment, in the Committee of the Whole.

**6. SELF-EVALUATION OF GOVERNANCE PROCESS AT THIS MEETING**

Board members completed the evaluation forms for the March 22, 2018 meeting for review at the April 26, 2018 meeting.

**7. ROUNDTABLE**

Board members shared announcements and information regarding recent activities.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

*SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE*

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Natalia Reiman, Chair  
GPRC Board of Governors

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Maureen Clarke  
Secretary