



**AGENDA**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
November 13, 2024  
Welland Campus  
SA208

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Board Chair: Chris Fullerton  
Board Secretary: Bruin Pol  
Scribe: Heather Storey

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|---|------------------|
| <b>1. Call to order</b>                                       |                  |
| <b>2. Reconciliation Statement</b>                            | <b>7:01 p.m.</b> |
| <b>3. Attendance and Quorum Call</b>                          | <b>7:03 p.m.</b> |
| <b>4. Agenda &amp; Motions Approval</b>                       | <b>7:06 p.m.</b> |
| <b>5. Conflicts Declared</b>                                  | <b>7:08 p.m.</b> |
| <br>  |                  |
| <b>6. Board Decisions</b>                                     |                  |
| 6.1. Ratification of New Directors – Chris Fullerton          | 7:09 p.m.        |
| 6.2. Election Policy – Proposed Amendments – Heather Storey   | 7:10 p.m.        |
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| <b>7. Meetings of Last Meeting</b>                            |                  |
| 7.1. Board of Director Meeting Minutes – September 23, 2024   | 7:30 p.m.        |
| 7.2. Member’s Meeting Minutes – October 2, 2024               | 7:33 p.m.        |
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| <b>8. Ownership Linkage – Dipal Patel</b>                     | <b>7:36 p.m.</b> |
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| <b>9. Board Education: Internal &amp; External</b>            |                  |
| 9.1. President’s Report – Dipal Patel                         | 7:38 p.m.        |
| 9.2. Executive Director’s Report – Steve Kosh                 | 7:43 p.m.        |
| 9.3. Strategic Plan Monitoring Report – Steve Kosh            | 7:48 p.m.        |
| <br>  |                  |
| <b>10. Operational Monitoring: Risk Management</b>            |                  |
| 10.1. Succession Planning of President – Dipal Patel          | 7:58 p.m.        |
| 10.2. Financial Condition – Steve Kosh                        | 8:03 p.m.        |
| <br>  |                  |
| <b>11. Board Self-Evaluation</b>                              |                  |
| 11.1. Code of Conduct Policy – Dipal Patel                    | 8:33 p.m.        |
| 11.2. Global Board Management Delegation Policy – Dipal Patel | 8:38 p.m.        |
| <br>  |                  |
| <b>12. Meeting Evaluation</b>                                 | <b>8:43 p.m.</b> |
| <br>  |                  |
| <b>13. Adjournment</b>  | <b>8:45 p.m.</b> |
| <br>  |                  |
| <b>14. In Camera</b>  | <b>8:47 p.m.</b> |

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**Board of Directors Meeting**

November 13, 2024

Welland Campus

SA208

Present: Steve Kosh                      Dipal Patel                      Bruin Pol                      Caleb Simoneau  
                  Chris Fullerton                      Hish Clifford                      Mausam Gurung                      Shreya Shah  
                  Bipul Rai                      Jonathin Wallington                      Mercy Deborah Santhana Krishnan

Regrets: Krysa McReynolds-Huang

Absent: Sukhpreet Singh Gosal

Guests: Tom Price                      Nimisha Sumathi                      Lindsay Dockrill

Scribe: Heather Storey

Action Items

<p><b>SAC 5.1</b></p>	<p><b>Call to Order</b></p> <p>The meeting is called to order at 7:13 p.m.</p>	
<p><b>SAC 5.2</b></p>	<p><b>Reconciliation Statement</b></p> <p>Niagara College acknowledges that we are gathered on the shared traditional lands of the Anishinaabe (pronounced: ah-nish-naw-bay) and Haudenosaunee (pronounced: ho-deh-neh-show-nee). We offer our sincere gratitude to them as the stewards of this land, which is protected by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum agreement’s three principles: to take only what you need, leave enough for others, and always keep the dish clean. Today, many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities from across Turtle Island continue to live and work in this territory. Acknowledging the peoples whose territory we are on, and the agreements that guide their stewardship of the land, reminds us to reflect on and respect their unique relationship to this land. It also is an invitation for all of us to identify and engage in actions that respect and reinforce our commitments to Truth and Reconciliation and Indigenous Rights.</p>	
<p><b>SAC 5.3</b></p>	<p><b>Attendance and Quorum Call</b></p> <p>PRESENT</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bruin Pol</li> <li>2. Caleb Simoneau</li> <li>3. Chris Fullerton</li> <li>4. Hish Clifford</li> <li>5. Mercy Deborah Santhana Krishnan</li> <li>6. Mausam Gurung</li> <li>7. Shreya Shah</li> <li>8. Jonathin Wallington</li> <li>9. Bipul Rai</li> </ol> <p>REGRETS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Krysa McReynolds-Huang</li> </ol> <p>ABSENT:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sukhpreet Singh Gosal</li> </ol> <p>According to the NCSAC By-laws Article 6: Meetings of Directors</p> <p>6.4 “Quorum” – A Majority of the Directors constitutes a quorum at any meeting of the Board. For the purpose of determining quorum, a Director may be present in person, or by</p>	

	<p>teleconference and/or by other electronic means. A quorum must be maintained throughout the meeting.</p> <p>Majority = 50% +1 which is 7/11 Directors must be present.</p> <p>There were 9 Directors present, and therefore quorum was achieved.</p>	
<b>SAC 5.4</b>	<p><b>Agenda &amp; Motions Approval</b></p> <p><b>Motion made to approve the agenda for the November 13, 2024 Board of Directors meeting as submitted.</b></p> <p>Motion by: Mercy Deborah Santhana Krishnan Seconded by: Shreya Shah</p> <p>All in Favour, Motion Approved.</p> <p><b>Motion made to approve the prepared motions for the November 13, 2024 Board of Directors meeting as submitted.</b></p> <p>Motion by: Caleb Simoneau Seconded by: Jonathin Wallington</p> <p>All in Favour, Motion Approved.</p>	
<b>SAC 5.5</b>	<p><b>Conflicts Declared</b></p> <p>No conflicts were declared.</p>	
<b>SAC 5.6</b>	<p><b>Board Decisions</b></p> <p>5.6.1 Ratification of New Directors – Chris Fullerton</p> <p><b>Motion to ratify Jonathin Wallington as the Director of Wine, Beer, &amp; Spirits for the 2024-2025 term.</b></p> <p>Motion by: Bruin Pol Seconded by: Hish Clifford</p> <p>All in Favour, Motion Approved.</p> <p><b>Motion to ratify Bipul Rai as the Director of Media for the 2024-2025 term.</b></p> <p>Motion by: Caleb Simoneau Seconded by: Mausam Gurung</p> <p>All in Favour, Motion Approved.</p> <p>5.6.2 Election Policy – Proposed Amendments – Heather Storey</p> <p>Heather explained that Tom Price and Nimisha Sumathi are returning for a second year to be the CRO and DRO for the NCSAC Elections. Last year, Tom and Nimisha submitted several recommendations in the hopes of streamlining the Elections process. Over the summer, Heather reviewed the recommendations and made amendments to the Elections Policy to reflect the proposed changes. Heather presented these amendments to the By-law and Policy Committee meeting on November 6 and received the committee’s support.</p> <p>Heather provided an overview of the major changes to the policy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Moving to strictly online submissions.</li> <li>2. Implementation of mandatory information sessions prior to elections.</li> </ol>	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Removing the Elections Tribunal and having all elections matters handled by the CRO and DRO.</li> <li>4. Requiring candidates to gather student endorsements (50 - Director; 100 - President) in order to be considered eligible to run in the elections. This is aimed to increase engagement and commitment from candidates.</li> <li>5. Violations section that speaks to the responsibilities of reporting, as well as implementing a Demerit Point System whereby all candidates start with 10 demerit points. Points will be deducted based on violations of election rules. Disqualification occurs if a candidate reaches zero points.</li> <li>6. There is now specific language regarding slates not being allowed.</li> <li>7. There will only be one designated poster wall, handled by NCSAC staff. Marketing team to create and hang generic election posters around campus to promote awareness and voting.</li> <li>8. The Vacancy/Hiring section has been removed, and will instead be its own policy, "Director Vacancy Policy", outside of the Election Policy.</li> </ol> <p><b>Motion to approve the amendments to the Election Policy as submitted.</b></p> <p>Motion by: Hish Clifford  Seconded by: Mercy Deborah Santhana Krishnan</p> <p>All in Favour, Motion Approved.</p>	
<p><b>SAC 5.7</b></p>	<p><b>Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes</b></p> <p><b>5.7.1 Motion to approve the Previous Meeting Minutes from the September 23, 2024 Board of Directors meeting as submitted.</b></p> <p>Motion by: Caleb Simoneau  Seconded by: Jonathin Wallington</p> <p>All in Favour, Motion Approved.</p> <p><b>5.7.2 Motion to approve the Previous Meeting Minutes from the October 2, 2024 Member's Meeting as submitted.</b></p> <p>Motion by: Jonathin Wallington  Seconded by: Bruin Pol</p> <p>All in Favour, Motion Approved.</p>	
<p><b>SAC 5.8</b></p>	<p><b>Ownership Linkage</b></p> <p>5.8.1. Ownership Linkage Report - Bruin Pol</p> <p>Bruin provided a summary of the findings from the pie charts in the Ownership Linkage Report - November:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Campus Attendance:</b> Among 386 respondents, 52% attend Welland Campus, while 48% attend NOTL Campus.</li> <li>2. <b>Transportation to Campus:</b> The primary mode of transportation to campus is via transit with a U-Pass (59%). This is followed by driving with a parking pass (26%), walking (11%), and a small percentage using alternative methods (2%).</li> <li>3. <b>Support for U-Pass Opt-Out:</b> When asked if they would support an option to opt out of the U-Pass if it meant a 20-30% increase in cost, 54% of respondents supported the opt-out option, while 46% were opposed.</li> </ol> <p>These responses provide insights into campus demographics, transportation preferences, and student opinions on potential changes to U-Pass options.</p>	

<p><b>SAC 5.9</b></p>	<p>Bruin stated that this question requires a lot more research and should perhaps be used in another ownership linkage cycle to gain more insights on whether this is something the students of NC want NCSAC to investigate when negotiating with Niagara Regional Transit.</p> <p><b>Board Education: Internal &amp; External</b></p> <p>5.9.1. President's Report - Dipal Patel</p> <p>The President's Report was sent to the Board at an earlier date for the Board to review.</p> <p>NCSAC President, Dipal, actively engaged with students at Niagara College's recent convocation ceremonies, participating in four events and honoring graduates. This commitment reflects NCSAC's strong relationship with the college.</p> <p>Dipal participated in a Mental Health Framework Planning session to enhance mental health services on campus. She also engaged with Guard.me data reporting to understand students' health insurance usage, contributing to improved health resources for students.</p> <p>Dipal joined the hiring panel for the Senior Director of Student Wellness, reflecting the college's emphasis on student perspectives in administrative decisions.</p> <p>Dipal served on several key committees, including the Welland Residence Steering Committee, the Student and Alumni Centre Expansion Committee, and the new Student Housing Strategy Committee, influencing long-term student initiatives.</p> <p>Through Ontario Student Voices (OSV), Dipal and NCSAC addressed concerns regarding international student work permit reforms and potential labor issues, advocating for student-focused decisions. She also participated in EDI training and will be attending advocacy weeks at Queen's Park and Parliament Hill.</p> <p>Dipal encourages directors to engage with students to maintain open lines of communication with NCSAC staff.</p> <p>5.9.2. Executive Director Report - Steve Kosh</p> <p>The Executive Director's Report was sent to the Board at an earlier date for the Board to review.</p> <p>With the possibility of a faculty strike, NCSAC, will act as a neutral source of clear information, emphasizing that negotiations do not directly impact students. Communications will be regularly updated on social media to keep students informed.</p> <p>NCSAC is in ongoing negotiations with Niagara Regional Transit for the U-Pass agreement, aimed for September 2025. Due to decreased enrollment, the U-Pass program may face service reductions to align with the lower expected revenue. Updates are anticipated by December.</p> <p>Recent federal government policies have reduced enrollment, impacting NCSAC's revenue from ancillary fees. NCSAC is working with the Registrar's office to set new fees for the 2025-2026 academic year. This will likely lead to an increase in ancillary fees, the first since 2019.</p> <p>NCSAC, in collaboration with the college, re-opened Wellness Lounges on November 4, funded by the college's Dream Big Fund. These lounges, open from 9 am to 6 pm, offer students a space to relax without academic pressures. The program will be evaluated after the winter semester to decide on its continuation.</p> <p>5.9.3 Strategic Plan Monitoring Report - Steve Kosh</p> <p>The Strategic Plan Monitoring Report was sent to the Board at an earlier date for the Board to review.</p>	
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	<p>Vision (our future hope for students!) <b><i>We; Represent, Support and Enhance Student Life</i></b> We realize that our society, as well as the world of post-secondary education is constantly changing. NCSAC strives to improve the lives of students, so they can achieve their dreams, goals, and aspirations. We embrace a sense of community that is central in all we do.</p> <p>Mission (our purpose and reason for being!) <i>Creating a supportive and inclusive environment through exceptional activities, relevant services, and ethical advocacy that meets the needs of our student community.</i> NCSAC is a community of leaders that are focused on the needs of students. We act as their voice and provide activities, services, and supports that reflect their needs. We aim to provide a student experience that is diverse and inclusive.</p> <p>Values (our identity, and what is important to us!) These core values represent what is important to NCSAC. These values help guide us in our daily decision-making and represent the way we act and what we expect from our partners. <b>We are Accountable.</b> We back up what we say with action and are open and transparent in how we make decisions. <b>We Represent.</b> We defend and stand up for the rights of our students and their interests. <b>We are Inclusive.</b> We embrace diversity, are accepting of others, and create a sense of family through collaboration. <b>We are Adaptable.</b> We demonstrate creativity and take initiative in responding to a changing environment.</p>	
<p>SAC 5.10</p>	<p><b>Operational Monitoring: Risk Management</b></p> <p>5.10.1 Succession Planning of President – Dipal Patel</p> <p>Dipal reviewed the Successional Planning of President Policy with the Board.</p> <p>5.10.2 Financial Condition – Steve Kosh</p> <p>Steve provided a presentation that outlined NCSAC’s trust accounts (held by with the college), chequing account, savings account, and investments and explained how the cash flows through each account.</p> <p>Steve explained that students pay ancillary fees to NC, from there NC holds several trust funds for NCSAC, including General Funds, Transit, and Health Plan.</p> <p>NCSAC then has a chequing account, savings account, and investments that is managed in-house.</p> <p>Steve explained that when NCSAC is required funds to pay bills, we request to transfer from one of the NC trust accounts to the chequing account.</p> <p>Steve then discussed ancillary fees with the Board. Steve reviewed the ancillary fees charged to students outside of tuition and provided an update regarding the fee history dating back to 2019-2020. The chart shows that many fees, such as those for academic support, student advising, and clubs, have remained at 2019 levels without adjustment for inflation. Historically, over-enrollment has compensated for rising costs, masking the need to increase these fees. However, with enrollment declining, future revenue from ancillary fees will decrease, and the speaker anticipates that fee increases will be necessary.</p> <p>To illustrate, the chart includes hypothetical fee adjustments based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) that show what the fees <i>should</i> be today if they had risen annually with inflation. For</p>	

	<p>example, the \$3 student advising fee from 2019 would now be around \$3.53 with CPI adjustments. Without the increase, funding for services like free events may be impacted.</p> <p>Steve explains that NC SAC's ancillary fees are much lower than those of other institutions, like Mohawk College, which charges \$214 per semester. Therefore, they plan to re-evaluate fees by analyzing current spending and necessary adjustments by January. This will provide the board with options, including maintaining the current fees, raising them to meet inflation (e.g., \$3.53), or adjusting based on actual costs (if higher). This preview aims to prepare the board for a likely fee increase in January, ensuring financial sustainability for student services and activities.</p>	
<b>SAC 5.11</b>	<p><b>Board Self-Evaluation</b></p> <p>5.11.1 Code of Conduct – Dipal Patel</p> <p>Dipal reviewed the Code of Conduct Policy with the Board.</p> <p>5.11.2 Global Board Management Delegation – Dipal Patel</p> <p>Dipal reviewed the Global Board Management Delegation Policy with the Board.</p>	
<b>SAC 5.12</b>	<p><b>Meeting Evaluation</b></p> <p>To ensure “good governance” each Director received a Meeting Evaluation Survey at the end of the meeting. It is important for the Directors to evaluate each Board of Directors meeting. Each Director received the Meeting Evaluation on their governance portal and were asked to complete it.</p>	
<b>SAC 5.13</b>	<p><b>Adjournment</b></p> <p><b>Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m.</b></p> <p>Motion by: Hish Clifford Seconded by: Bruin Pol</p> <p>All in Favour, Motion Approved.</p>	
<b>SAC 5.14</b>	<p><b>In Camera</b></p> <p><b>Motion to go In Camera.</b></p> <p>Motion by: Bruin Pol Seconded by: Hish Clifford</p> <p>All in Favour, Motion Approved.</p> <p><b>Motion to go Out of Camera.</b></p> <p>Motion by: Caleb Simoneau Seconded by: Jonathin Wallington</p> <p>All in Favour, Motion Approved.</p>	