

AGM REPORT – CUPE BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPRESENTATIVE

2021.3.22

I think it is safe to say this has been an unusual year for the college and therefore, the Board. We had our first meeting of the fiscal to approve the 2020/21 budget, right after Covid hit and the world shut down. We knew the budget was going to be inaccurate with so many unknowns but it had to be approved to meet provincial requirements.

In March and April 2020, we met weekly to talk about some fast moving decisions; the move to remote learning, budget updates, safety protocol updates, student support updates, so many updates. As things became the new normal, we were able to go back to our monthly meetings, held virtually.

Eventually the budget settled with a year end deficit which, fortunately, was not as bad as it could have been. The biggest missed targets were international student enrolment and auxiliary income (bookstore, parking) but to counter those, we also had savings with less people on campus.

Other than that, it was business as usual. Approving new programs and policies. Monthly presentations on college initiatives and projects.

Of course, the big news at the end of this year was Sherri Bell's announcement that she will be retiring as President at the end on 2021. As the staff representative on the Board, I was asked to be on the selection committee. So, that will be next year's project!

With the meetings being held virtually, it is nice to see so many employees and students attending as guests. I encourage everyone to continue to attend as visitors, even when we go back to on campus meetings.

Joanne Cumberland
Staff Representative, Camosun College Board of Governors.