

Executive Summary

Highlights from the Wednesday, November 23, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting

Jessica Urzua, Chair
Lauren Abela, Vice Chair
Ercole Perrone, CEO

- The Board of Directors heard from Anna Naud, IGNITE’s governance lawyer, who reviewed the proposed By-Law Amendments to adhere to recent changes to the Ontario Non-Profit Corporations Act and address the recommendation to include International Graduate School (IGS) representation on the Board. The Board reached a consensus to allocate one representative for the IGS campus, increasing the Board composition to 10 as of 2024 - 2025. The Board has unanimously approved the By-Law Amendments. The next step is for the By-Law Amendments to be approved by the membership at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in March 2023.

“The Board has decided to amend IGNITE By-Laws on the advice of the Governance Review Committee. IGS will soon have its own designated representative.”

- Neha Singh

- IGNITE’s Director of Finance and Administration, Tara DeFrancesco, presented the results from the budget consultation survey as a means of financial transparency and to gather student insight on the direction of the 2023-24 operating budget. The survey results reflect the views and opinions of a total of 1,903 students from October 17 – 30, 2022.

The following question was asked: As a student, what is important to you? The results from the correspondents are presented in Diagram 1:

Diagram 1

Item	Overall Rank
Financial Security	1
Career Development / Progression (ex. skills, work integrated learning opportunities)	2
Supporting students' mental well-being	3

The following question was asked: What items do you feel it is most important for IGNITE to prioritize its spending on? The results from the correspondents are presented in Diagram 2:

Diagram 2
Item

	Overall Rank
Supporting students' mental well-being	1
Financial Security	2
Career Development / Progression (ex. skills, work integrated learning opportunities)	3

In addition, T. DeFrancesco asked the Board to consider two financial amendments to IGNITE’s current operating budget of \$45,000 and \$35,000, respectfully. The IGNITE Board of Directors has approved the reallocated of \$45,000 to ‘financial relief programs’ to be administered to students in the form of bursaries. Also, the Board approved the reallocation of \$35,000 to be used for student initiatives as bursaries or exam relief programs which would include providing students with free parking or meals during exam periods.

"The Board is happy to approve a one-time top-up to IGNITE bursaries and put money back into the pockets of our students. We continue to monitor our budget to ensure our services are reflective of student needs, including financial security, mental well-being and career development."

- Lauren Abela

- Gina Antonacci, Senior VP Academic at Humber College presented the Academic Plan and Digital Campus Plan. The highlights from her presentation are as follows:
 - The Academic Plan sets out the priorities and goals related to teaching and learning.
 - The Digital Campus Plan focuses on the technology that enhances teaching and learning and allows us to be more agile, connected, impactful and sustainable.
 - The guiding principles ground the academic division and shape behaviours in the design and delivery of the Academic Plan. They are at the core of the academic division’s actions, driving culture and decision-making. Acting in alignment with the guiding principles is foundational to supporting high-quality and innovative learning experiences.

"Humber Colleges’ new academic plan is an innovation on the delivery and development of education for current and future students."

- Jessica Urzua

- College Student Alliance (CSA) Report was presented by Azi Jamali-Afousi. CSA representatives met with Minister Jill Dunlop to speak about the challenges students are experiencing and how to collaborate to find possible solutions. The four main items discussed were food and housing security, mental health and international student needs.

"As the IGNITE Advocacy Representative and part of the College Student Alliance, we have advocated for student issues and concerns (food and housing security, mental health and support for international students). We have presented the students' challenges and proposed possible solutions to the provincial government. We will continue to advocate for students' welfare."

- Aksnoor Singh Kamboj