



**Faculty Council
Minutes**

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

4:30 pm

Attendees: Zaina Albalawi, Lindsay Alcock, Mohammad Almutawa, Stacey Alexander, Tracey Bridger, Patricia Cousins, Peter Daley, Ann Dorward, Norah Duggan, Anthony Duchesne, David Elcock, Heather Flynn, Scott Harris, Lori Hayward, Elizabeth Hillman, Andrew Hunt, Kathleen Hodgkinson, John Kabakisa, Chris Kaposy, Edward Kendall, Gillian Kolla, Yulia Kudryakova, Kara Laing, Susan MacDonald, Dolores McKeen, Mary Jane Smith, Lana Soper, Bruce Sussex, Tev Stachniak, Amanda Tzenov

Regrets: Danielle O’Keefe, Pam Snow, Kristen Romme

Topic	Details	Action Item and Person Responsible
Welcome and Introduction	- Dr. McKeen welcomed everyone to the meeting both in person and virtually.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Agenda • Conflict of Interest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. McKeen asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. - Agenda was approved by those in attendance at the meeting. - COI - none noted; agenda approved. 	
Review and approval of prior minutes of June 17, 2025	- Dr. Edward Kendall moved approval of the June 17, 2025 minutes; seconded by Dr. Susan MacDonald. Minutes were approved.	
OPED Accreditation and Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Kara Laing provided a presentation on the CACME Accreditation Visit: Office of Professional and Educational Development. The presentation was well received. - Highlights of the presentation included OPED’s vision and governance structure, services and strategic plan, and goals of the CACME accreditation. The onsite accreditation is happening on November 24 and 25, 2025. Invitations will be circulated this week. 	Ms. Osmond to circulate the OPED Accreditation Update presentation.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was noted that they will need to show for example how they can generate revenue, demonstrate a commitment to quality and continuous improvement, create new knowledge through research and scholarship and how they respond to the community needs. - Dr. McKeen thanked Dr. Laing and the OPED team for all their hard work. 	
<p>Notice of Motion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calendar Changes for 2026-27 calendar - New Courses and Course Changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Dorward presented the proposed changes for the following items – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Calendar Changes for 2026-27 calendar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master of Public Health (attachments with annotated and clean copies) • Master of Science (Medicine), Diploma in Medicine (attachments with annotated and clean copies) • Master of Health Ethics (attachments with annotated and clean copies) 2. New Courses and Course Changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MED 6731 <i>Public Health Nutrition</i> (attachment) Title change, Rationale • MED 6287 <i>Indigenous Health</i> (attachment) Special topics to Regular course conversion Credit restriction with former MED 6136 • MED 6291 <i>Health Policy for Applied Health Services Research</i> (attachment) New regular course, Rationale & Syllabus Credit restriction with MED 6288 <i>Policy and Decision Making</i> - Highlighted the changes reflected within the documents for both the calendar changes and the new courses and course changes. - Will be brought forward to the October 20, 2025 Faculty Council for discussion and voting. 	
Dean's Updates	<p>Dr. McKeen reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcomed everyone back to the start of the new academic year. <p><u>Memorial</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Janet Morrison has been appointed as Memorial's President and Vice-Chancellor. Dr. Morrison started on August 11, 2025. There will be a 	

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	<p>special convocation session in October to invest both Dr. Morrison as President and Dr. Jennifer Lokash as Provost and Vice-President (Academic).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Morrison will be attending the October 21, 2025 Faculty Council. - Dr. Stuart Carney has been appointed as Dean, Faculty of Medicine beginning January 2026. Dr. McKeen noted that she has been extended until December 31, 2025. - Ms. Trudy Pound-Curtis is currently the Vice-President Finance and Administration. Ms. Pound-Curtis is known quite well for her work both here and away. Looking at a new more relevant budget model and how to implement here. The current incremental budget model does not meet the needs of the University. Memorial is trying to move forward with improvements utilizing technology in an attempt to help streamline internal processes. - On July 25, 2025, budget cuts were implemented. Continuing to feel some of the impacts through bumping of unionized employees in the academic units and support units. Both the Harris Centre and Office of Public Engagement had their budgets cut, and travel has been reduced. - The searches for new Vice Presidents of the Grenfell Campus and the Marine Institute have been suspended. - Dr. Delores Mullings is hosting an Annual Community Table Talk on September 23, 2025 to present information related to the EDI-AR strategic plan as well as highlight any barriers. MUN senior leadership have been invited to attend and FoM faculty and staff are encouraged to attend. <p><u>Medicine</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Congratulations on the commencement of the new LIC in Clarenville. Thank you to Dr. Sarah Small and team for their hard work in setting up the LIC. Have welcomed two (2) learners to the program. Currently looking at the promotion of the LIC. - PEI Regional Campus – classes have now started. Thank you to Drs. Taryn Hearn, Peter MacPherson, Danielle O’Keefe and Alison Haynes for all their hard 	

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	<p>work to get things up and running and ready for our PEI learners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The BMS Symposium was held on July 2-4, 2025. There was excellent attendance from all levels of trainees, staff and faculty. - The Search Committee for the Associate Dean, Graduate Studies is finalizing the job ad for this search. Dr. Dorward has been extended until October 31, 2025. - The interview day for Dr. John Thoms for the Assistant Dean, Clinical Research position is currently being scheduled. <p><u>Leadership</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There will be a leadership workshop entitled “<i>The Shame Competent Leader: Guiding Workplace Culture Toward Organizational Empathy and Resilience</i>” on October 3, 2025. <p><u>NLHS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attending the NLHS board meeting scheduled for September 24 and 25, 2025. - Planning a DME site tour of clinics and teaching facilities on the west coast for this fall. - Working through the development of the new Health Sciences Campus and the planned shorter term reorganization of services including acute care bed and reorganization of internal medicine and movement of surgery from St. Clares to the HSC. Have heard some conversation around lack of consultation with stakeholders and physicians. <p><u>Government</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preceptor Symposium to be held on September 25 and 26, 2025 in St. John’s. - Five (5) briefing notes were submitted to government for the following - LIC, increased housing, travel, and preceptors’ meeting and infrastructure. All proposals were approved and will start to be implemented. A sixth briefing note for an enhanced preceptor model is being finalized. <p><u>FoM Research</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The new NL Health Research Fund has launched its inaugural call for applications. There are seven (7) 	

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	<p>innovation grants and five (5) fellowships that will be funded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incredibly proud that they have received 61 registrations for the innovation grants. - Call was circulated for Canada Research Chairs proposals on July 16, 2025, these are themed proposal and the faculty has received eleven submissions. - The results from the CIHR Spring Project Grant competition were announced and the FoM was successful with 1 of 6 applications. Dr. Gillian Kolla will received \$1.4M over five years to perform research on harm reduction in relation to safe injection sites. 	
PEI Regional Campus Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. McKeen provided an update within the Dean's Update on the PEI Regional Campus on behalf of Dr. Taryn Hearn and Dr. Peter MacPherson. 	
Academic Search Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. McKeen reported on behalf of Ms. Tracey Pittman that there will be a search for both the Clinical Chair of Lab Medicine and the Associate Dean, LWS. - Dr. Russell Dawe has been appointed as the new Assistant Dean, Social Accountability. 	
Any Other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None. 	
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The next meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2025, 4:30 pm. 	