



NORTHERN ALBERTA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

**Monday, October 20, 2025
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
via Microsoft Teams**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Peter Leclaire (Chair)	Clayton Davis	Jen Crothers	Patti Hergott
Tamara Peyton	Terry Schlitter	Matt Lindberg	Shauna MacDonald
Jamie Nimcan	Gilles Prefontaine	Max Varela Arevalo	Ann Hrabok
Irene Kirby-Frith	Krysta Westlund	Lilly Houcher	Danielle Libunao
Robin Murillo	Teaira Current	Wyatt Waters	Jeetika Mishra
Ishana Hettiarachchige			

REGRETS:

RESOURCE:

Lynda Robertson

GUESTS:

Mike McCready

1. OPENING

1.1. Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda

Peter Leclaire welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Observers were reminded to keep microphones muted and cameras off.

No additions to the agenda.

Moved by Jen Crothers that the agenda be approved as presented.

Seconded, Carried

No conflict of interest declared.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.1. Approval of the Minutes of Academic Council for the meeting held September 15, 2025.

2.2. Photographic Technology Termination.

2.3. Bachelor of Technology in Construction Management Termination.

Moved by Patti Hergott that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented.

Seconded, Carried

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1. Paused Admission and Suspension and Termination Policy

Work is in progress and will be brought forward to a future meeting.

3.2. Program Suspension Proposals

Program suspension proposals from the last meeting are listed from 5.4 to 5.13 below.

3.3. Paused Programs Verbal Update

Peter Leclaire confirmed no newly identified program pauses to announce.

4. ACADEMIC UPDATE

The Academic Update provided an overview of current work and new initiatives throughout the Academic Portfolio.

5. ADMINISTRATION

5.1. Artificial Intelligence Diploma New Program Proposal

Mike McCready presented the proposal for a new Artificial Intelligence Diploma program, participated in discussion and answered thorough, thoughtful questions before going to a vote.

Moved by Tamara Peyton that the Artificial Intelligence Diploma New Program Proposal be recommended for approval by the Board of Governors.

Seconded, Carried

5.2. Proposal to strike an ad hoc subcommittee of Academic Council

Shauna MacDonald brought forward the proposal to strike an ad hoc subcommittee of Academic Council. As discussion began, Shauna requested additional language in the motion to include a thorough description of the expectations of the proposed subcommittee.

Committee members participated in robust conversation and perspectives both for and opposed to the committee in which included due diligence, time commitment, trust, integrity of the data provided by all parties, AE requirements and consideration of continuing this committee going forward. The Chair assured council that time would be given to address concerns associated with each proposal.

Moved by Shauna MacDonald that Academic Council strike an ad hoc subcommittee to thoroughly review each program brought forward for suspension and provide recommendations to the full Academic Council at upcoming meetings.

The committee shall be composed of six members—two representatives from each constituency (management, faculty, and students)—appointed or elected by their respective constituencies.

The committee shall:

- ***Meet outside of regular Academic Council meetings;***
- ***Have access to all relevant information, including materials from management, NASA, NAITSA, and other sources it deems necessary;***
- ***Has a chair appointed by Academic Council in order to allow each of the six members to have voting rights***
- ***Report directly to Academic Council, presenting written recommendations for each paused program; and***
- ***Ensure that the written recommendations are circulated to all Academic Council members at least one week before any vote on program suspensions.***

Seconded

6 in favor, 13 opposed, motion defeated

5.3. Program Suspension Presentation

As requested from the previous meeting, Council members received a copy of the presentation providing the data used to inform decisions for each of the suspension proposals in order to inform members decisions on voting.

5.4. Millwork and Carpentry Certificate Program Suspension

Matt Lindberg asked Council members if they wanted to hear the presentation again to which it was decided to go directly to a vote. After the motion to suspend was defeated, members discussed the Millwork and Carpentry Certificate Program Suspension proposal. Matt answered questions brought forward from Council members, speaking to some of the key points from the in-depth overview of the program and the challenges faced, including the results of student and industry engagement, financial sustainability, labour market outlook and student success.

Moved by Matt Lindberg that the suspension proposal for Millwork and Carpentry Certificate Program be recommended for approval by the Board of Governors.

***Seconded,
6 in favor 10 opposed 3 abstain
Motion defeated***

The remainder of the agenda was deferred due to the lack of time.

5.5. Leadership in Healthcare Post-Diploma Certificate Program Suspension

Moved by xxx that the suspension proposal for Leadership in Healthcare Post-Diploma Certificate Program be recommended for approval by the Board of Governors.

Bring Forward

5.6. Wireless Systems Engineering Technology Diploma Program Suspension

Moved by xxx that the suspension proposal for Wireless Systems Engineering Technology Diploma Program be recommended for approval by the Board of Governors.

Bring Forward

5.7. Computer Engineering Technology Diploma Program Suspension

Moved by xxx that the suspension proposal for Computer Engineering Technology Diploma Program be recommended for approval by the Board of Governors.

Bring Forward

5.8. Network Engineering Technology Diploma Program Suspension

Moved by xxx that the suspension proposal for Network Engineering Technology Diploma Program be recommended for approval by the Board of Governors.

Bring Forward

5.9. Computer Network Administrator Certificate Program Suspension

Moved by xxx that the suspension proposal for Computer Network Administrator Certificate Program be recommended for approval by the Board of Governors.

Bring Forward

5.10. Bachelor of Applied Information Systems Technology Applied Degree Program Suspension

Moved by xxx that the suspension proposal for Bachelor of Applied Information Systems Technology Applied Degree Program be recommended for approval by the Board of Governors.

Bring Forward

5.11. Graphic Communications Certificate Program Suspension

Moved by xxx that the suspension proposal for Graphic Communications Certificate Program be recommended for approval by the Board of Governors.

Bring Forward

5.12. Cybersecurity Immersive Industry Education Post-Diploma Certificate Program Suspension

Moved by xxx that the suspension proposal for Cybersecurity Immersive Industry Education (IIE) Post-Diploma Certificate Program be recommended for approval by the Board of Governors.

Bring Forward

5.13. Captioning and Court Reporting Diploma Program Suspension

Moved by xxx that the suspension proposal for Captioning and Court Reporting Diploma Program be recommended for approval by the Board of Governors.

Bring Forward

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. NEXT MEETING

Monday, November 17, 2025, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

8. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Shauna MacDonald that the meeting be adjourned at 3:54 pm.

Seconded, Carried