



## CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

### UNIVERSITY / POST-SECONDARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 18, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

Via Video/Teleconference

### MINUTES

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Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. via video/teleconference.

The following Committee members called into the meeting:

Chair: Councilor J. Morse,  
Mayor R. Alty (ex-officio),  
Y. Adam,  
J. Clermont,  
D. Connelly (12:11 p.m.),  
S. Ellis,  
L. Giovanetto,  
E. Liske,  
R. Warburton, and  
K. Wrightson (12:06 p.m.)

The following members of Administration called into the meeting:

S. Bassi-Kellett,  
J. Farmer (12:14 p.m.),  
J. Mutford, and  
B. Poeschek.

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#### **Call to Order**

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

#### **Opening Statement**

2. The Chair read the Opening Statement.

#### **Future of UPAC**

3. The Chair provided background on the purpose of the Committee and its status.
4. Administration provided background on a review of the City of Yellowknife's (the "City") Agencies, Boards and Committees and recommendations presented to City Council, noting the recommendation that UPAC be dissolved as well as next steps by the City under its mandate including supporting a network of stakeholders and hosting an annual Community Roundtable on post-secondary education.



5. Committee expressed general agreement with the Consultant's recommendation and willingness to contribute to further discussions surrounding post-secondary education in Yellowknife as needed.
6. Committee discussed potential next steps including the need to focus on developing and demonstrating a resilient knowledge economy, as well as other opportunities detailed within the City's 2020-2024 Economic Development Strategy.
7. K. Wrightson provided background on a Memorandum of Understanding between Aurora College ("AC"), Dechinta Centre for Research and Learning ("Dechinta"), and Collège Nordique Francophone ("CNF").
8. L. Giovanetto left the meeting at 12:32 p.m.
9. Committee discussed the potential for a private, citizen-led initiative in support of establishing a polytechnic institute in Yellowknife and post-pandemic economic recovery. It was noted that the inclusion of Yellowknives Dene First Nation in future conversations is imperative.
10. Mayor R. Alty indicated her intent to provide Letters of Support for AC, Dechinta and CNF if requested, especially with respect to attracting international students. It was also noted that Fort Smith is looking to host a speaker series on post-secondary education in the North sometime in 2021, and Committee expressed general interest in participating.

**Adjournment**

11. The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Prepared: March 23, 2021/BP