



Executive Committee Meeting

February 11, 2021

9:30 am - 10:30 am

Zoom Video/Audio Conference

Attendees: Mike Mahon, Bob Murray, Annette Trimbee, Paula Burns, Gerry Turcotte, Bill Werry

Regrets: David Ross

1. Agenda Review

- Add update to Shared Services

2. Alberta 2030 Meeting MDM

- The meeting Bill and Mike had with the Minister focused on concerns around governance and our willingness to work on implementation of system enhancements that were in the report that most people would support.
- Government is in rethinking mode and not as married to the California model and is now looking at more coordination/collaboration at the sector level. He talked about pushing the report to cabinet until the end of March and releasing the report in April, as well as change in legislative agenda with apprenticeship changes moving forward in the spring and post-secondary act changes not coming until the fall
- The Minister was very keen about working with COPPOA on the implementation side of things
- Bill has a meeting with Peter Leclaire next week to see how we can collaborate on some of these things
- The one thing still to be determined is what the sectors are/will be
- Bill reached out to Jesse to advise of action occurring with some elements of the system on the potential move to the California model. Following that call Jesse wanted to get the message out that they were moving away from that model. Mike's subsequent note to the members may build a little increased trust in the minister's office passing the message along to the members.

3. Action Plan next steps

- Bill has reached out to a few folks who have experienced the system in BC. There is an opportunity to use this as a building block to try to move the pathways of the system forward. The government is open to connecting to the other systems interprovincially and the system coming forward with some ways of managing this. There is an opportunity to have a presentation from the folks in BC to share how it works and also to leapfrog ahead

and potentially add some things where we have strengths in Alberta with PLAR and also to build in other things to the system that BC has like micro-credentials and WIL

- Need to have a conversation with the full presidents table with the outcomes we want to achieve and move this item forward from a system perspective
- **Transfer System**
 - Would like to make sure that the institution that started the students get credit through the funding system so that they don't look like they have a lot of non-completions
 - Whatever they are thinking about from a KPI perspective needs to be informed by these types of discussions. Danger that the ministry will employ definitions uninformed by the knowledge that exists in the system
 - Need to tread carefully until we see the final Alberta 2030 report. The language in this report is going to be important for us to have a good understanding of before we start running in a direction. Members may have very different versions of how this can be achieved or what some of the final outcomes are going to look like.
 - Next step is to create an outcomes framework from a delivery system perspective, and do it quickly. The fact that the government has come back to have a conversation is a step in the right direction. We were successful in making the Minister understand that you can't put something on the table that can't be delivered.
 - If the government is going ahead with the bargaining mandates, we want the Minister to take the heat on transfer and not COPPOA. Need to make sure we are moving at the speed of the political environment
 - Presidents don't want to get out ahead of Alberta 2030 before it is a reality. There is also a concern we don't get too far down the track without some sense of what is going on, even from a time wasted opportunity

Action: Bill to arrange for a presentation from BC on their system for the Presidents before taking further action.

4. GOA Budget 2021 Key Messages

- There is no money put aside to implement Alberta 2030. We need to figure out what the Minister's vision is. What are the expectations going to be without any money? What are their milestones and timelines? The members need to know that we have raised the concern and we are working with the Minister to figure out an implementation framework for Alberta 2030 that accounts for the fiscal reality
- Don't want to see COPPOA to be adding to the spin of work. What is the value add that COPPOA can provide to the members that is going to help support them and institutions as we move through the next few years?
- Need to try to confirm with the Ministry that the budget cuts may be larger, even if they allow us to confirm that there is a possibility, sending this out will let the members know that we are advocating on budget. Then we need to work through how this will align with Alberta 2030 to reinforce the value of COPPOA.

- Would like to get something out to the members about preparing for a Budget 2021 response. Bill can't respond or advocate without knowing what the impact is. Need a certain amount of information from the members to advocate for the members. Going forward any information gathering needs to go through the presidents instead of through provosts, etc.
- What is the most optimistic message we can give post budget day and how does that help our colleges and system?
- There are institutions in the system who want the top cover of COPPOA to answer some of the questions of their individual impacts. There are other members who don't care about aligning their message with their colleges and they want to own their space. Member expectations are not the same. Bill needs to have some information in order to have COPPOA answer questions
- Is there a COPPOA role in reacting to the provincial budget. What are the expectations of the members? Even if it is to express disappointment and that this will hinder our ability to do some of the potential transformational things that may be coming in Alberta 2030
- Individual boards and presidents can deal with things at the local level, as institutions have differing end of fiscal years
- Need to be clear about what it is we are planning to do - brief the COPPOA membership ahead of Budget 2021 and when it does come down, we need to release a statement of the impact

Action:

1. Bill to deliver the message to Jesse that we need to share our messaging with the members in advance and we will need to react to the budget, but we will share our messaging with the government so they are not surprised (call scheduled for February 16th)
2. Send something out to the membership so that they are aware of what we are hearing, making sure they are prepared (email sent Feb 11th)
3. Post budget statement release - brief statement shared and embargoed with the Ministry in advance of it going out and shared with the membership when it is ready to go (to be prepared in advance of the round table meeting)
4. Send out a call for information from the members on the high level budget impact on individual institutions to inform overall system impact information document that can be shared with members (to be sent following the round table call)

5. Member Relations Survey Update

- Two of the big things that have come forward are the interest in PD for presidents around issues and a request for COPPOA or the executive to be clear about what it is that COPPOA does for us and defining our mission better. Part of defining that will be action and move forward in an advocacy role
- Received 50% response on the survey
- Summarized at a very high level.
- Some of the key takeaways:

- One of the key things we should be looking at and received the most response on was WIL. Everyone wants to see how COPPOA positions itself as a leader in helping to coordinate this
- Lot of questions about how COPPOA's work expresses how our institutions support the Alberta economy. We could be clearer at messaging our value proposition. Institutions don't necessarily appreciate our financial value
- What work are we doing around inclusion and diversity? This is something we should be seen as leaders in focusing the conversation.
- Define COPPOA to our members and how we are a value add. Clarify our relationship to our leadership teams
- Stronger system advocacy and leadership in the COVID response
- Do a better job of explaining what we mean by duplication instead of having the government define it for us
- Have GOA agree to have presidents and chairs at meetings instead of dividing
- Who to invite to COPPOA meetings? How can we advocate through guests? The number one recommendation is Minister Schweitzer and then Minister Taeves, mayors roundtable and chambers of commerce
- Interest in PD for presidents
- Getting a report on these key items out to members would be helpful. One of the value propositions for COPPOA is to ask what members are looking for and then develop an action plan to support those member aspirations.

Action: Gerry will draft a report and send to the executive committee for feedback and then work with Bill to get it sent out to the membership

6. Presidents Roundtable- Agenda and Timing?

- Current meetings are held quarterly for about 5 hours. Next one is in March
- Is there an opportunity or need to bring presidents around the table for a 1 hour session on budget/budget response or Alberta 2030?
- Have a pre-budget meeting and an update on advocacy before Feb 25th to provide members with the messaging we have provided to the government and intend to provide after the budget announcement. Can also provide an organized review on what we have done on Alberta 2030

Action: Bill will get a 1 hour meeting set up before February 25th

7. Other

Shared Services

- Start to think about the AUMA model and do we think about doing some subsidiaries that can take care of some of the shared services within the system. There is no way we can continue to do this with Bill as the only staff member. There is an opportunity to run a different model - sidearm of all the business things that can be taken care of collectively in the province
- Need to understand where the province is going on these fronts first

- Need to be mindful of what is feasible and desirable

Membership Portal on Website

- Looking to set up a confidential portal for members only to access on our COPPOA website
- Hope to enhance communication
- Potential to have it ready by next week to start testing things out

Alberta Chamber of Commerce

- Would like to start a joint task force on talent. The taskforce would be co-chaired with someone from the Chamber of Commerce and someone from COPPOA. Have committed to get back to them this week with some guidance from our executive committee
- This is a good step forward and potentially benefits the entire membership. Will help address the issue that people think that we are not connected to business. Might also help address some of the concerns in the member survey
- Think about membership so that it has some level of cross section - type of institution, regions of the province, etc.

Action: Add to the agenda for the 1 hour presidents roundtable meeting to let folks know this is happening and to give people an opportunity to express interest. Share the draft concept document with the Executive committee.