



OASFAA Executive Meeting

April 18, 2024

MINUTES

Present: Shaun Anderson, Brenda Cromb, Mary Santoli, Tina Obediah, Lana Hardwick, Leslie Aitchison, Mary Beth Scott, Celeste Coles, Marian Doll, Anik Powell, Jessica Husted, Liz Way, Elaine Cottell,

Regrets: Liz Way, Elaine Cottell, Jeremy Potter

1. Business Arising

- **G2L Messaging (2022-02-24)** – OASFAA looking for improved messaging as the standard warnings confuse students and cause panic.
 - Standard warnings given when docs are pending – this shouldn't happen
 - Can we get a copy of the warning notices given?
 - Then, procedures can review -- **defer to Procedures Committee**
- **TRM: Increase of Minimum Amount to Student (2022-02-24)** – OASFAA requesting MCU increase threshold to above \$100 for refund direct to student. Would decrease volumes of refunds processed at high population schools
 - Do we have stats re: how many TRMs
 - Also, can we estimate what the cost is?
 - Don't have to send TRMs back unless there is an overpayment
 - Can it be raised to \$500? Can a survey take place within membership? -- **Shaun to follow-up; create survey**
- **Professional Judgement** - Add a clause in manual for Financial Aid Officers to be able to use their 'professional judgement'
 - 'professional judgement' is implied at each institution
 - MCU cannot add general statements like this in policies
 - **Remove from list**
- **Part-Time OSAP: Child Care Costs for Online Courses**– Not an allowable cost
 - Why is child care not included for part-time applications for online courses (but it is for in-person courses)?
 - Online isn't necessarily asynchronous; a lot are synchronous now. So, specific time slots require day care – **refer to MCU** – justification of policy & can it be reconsidered

2. Chair's Report

- **Opportunity to Meet with ESDC re: Canada Learning Bond** – Will be in downtown Toronto on May 7 – 9 and looking to meet to discuss how to support efforts to raise awareness.
 - Opportunity no longer available



- **Committee/Regional/Chair Reports** – Must be posted 30-days prior to Conference.
 - Reminder for year-end reports for AGM – 30 days prior to AGM; 1 week to be posted on website
 - Last year’s reports are still available on website
 - AGM notice states 3 months in advance for meeting; therefore, AGM will be July 18th
 - **Change to constitution – change to 1 month in advance**
- **Monthly Discussion with Krista & James** – Moving OASFAA Exec meetings to earlier in the month to better prepare a thoughtful agenda for joint meetings
 - OASFAA to schedule meetings for the 2nd Thursday of each month, effective to start in June
 - Need to move things forward with clear descriptions & actual ask

3. Past-Chair’s Report

- Working through changes to Constitution – to be discussed with Executive

4. Treasurer’s Report

- Working on member swaps, online payments were not working so that’s been fixed, member resigning from committee
- **Review CASFAA’s new membership model – do we want to implement something similar**

5. Committee Reports

- **Professional Development**
 - Conference Updates: AGM’s taken out of agendas, Break-out sessions being determined, Some minor budget changes

6. Policy Report

- **40-day document deadline** – meeting with Krista suggested FAOs would have discretion as what does and doesn’t fall into this deadline, outside of processing-type and review docs
 - Discretion to accept docs past deadline?
 - Maybe bring in Compliance (ie: if we accept past, are we going to be noted?)
 - Jeremy to follow-up for further discussion
- **Proof of Indigenous Status** – Policy committee is supportive of document requirement being tightened up. Recommendation for MCU to return to Indigenous stakeholders for consultation
 - Docs should be from an Indigenous organization; not necessarily an affidavit
 - Students get ‘free tuition’ in some cases so could be considered fraud if doc is accepted (ie: self-identification) – **defer to next meeting**



- **BSWD** – Is eligibility determined at point of COE or when FAO reviews application? **Will be referred to DIWG for review**

- Follow-up TBD

- **Procedures**

- Nothing to report

- **Communications**

- Map of regions now on our website & can click on their link

- **Systems**

- waiting for the Ministry to initiate dialogue on the proposed new upload process for study period reinstatements.
- continue to collect quality of life improvements -- latest new item is to request a report for students who have indicated that they will not be living with family during the study period, but who have their living allowance overridden through the distance calculation. The hope is that institutions may use this as a resource for follow up with students who may need to file a review (also wonder if students should be informed when this override kicks in)

7. External Liaison Report (CASFAA)

- Nothing to report

8. New Business

- **Addendum to Restriction Code Access** - The ask is to have an appendix listing all restriction codes (and restrictions without codes) with the following: **Refer to System Committee**
 - Code itself (number or other)
 - Description (words)
 - Impact (app eligibility)

9. Regional Reports -- No new info to report

- **Eastern Region:**
- **Central Region:**
- **Western Region:**
- **Northern Region:**