



The following Motions and Documents were considered by the GFC Committee on the Documentation of Indigeneity at its Thursday, November 17, 2022 meeting:

Agenda Title: **Special Case Consideration**

FAILED MOTION: THAT the Committee on the Documentation of Indigeneity approve, as a special case, use of a membership confirmation letter from the Indigenous Congress of Alberta Association as acceptable documentation of Indigeneity for the purpose of this student's eligibility for student admissions, awards and scholarships, specifically reserved for Indigenous students and applicants.

FINAL ITEM 5



**Committee on Documentation of Indigeneity
Action Item**

Agenda Title	Special Case Consideration - Use of confirmation letter for academic awards
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Motion

<p>THAT the Committee on the Documentation of Indigeneity approve, as a special case, use of a membership confirmation letter from the Indigenous Congress of Alberta Association as acceptable documentation of Indigeneity for the purpose of this student’s eligibility for student admissions, awards and scholarships, specifically reserved for Indigenous students and applicants.</p>

Item

Action Requested	<input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommendation
Proposed by	Office of the Registrar, Indigenous Recruitment
Presenter(s)	Manager, Indigenous Recruitment: Trevor Phillips

Details

Office of Administrative Responsibility	Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
The Purpose of the Proposal is	<p>To invite committee members to consider and, if appropriate, approve, as a special case, the use of a membership confirmation letter from the Indigenous Congress of Alberta Association as acceptable documentation of Indigeneity for the purpose of a student’s eligibility for student admissions, awards and scholarships, specifically reserved for Indigenous students and applicants.</p> <p>If committee members approve this special case, that approval would not have the effect of altering the formal list of First Nations, Métis and Inuit eligible documentation nor impact verification procedures moving forward.</p>
Executive Summary <i>(outline the specific item – and remember your audience)</i>	<p>In the 2021-22 admission cycle, an applicant submitted documentation from an ineligible Métis organization for the purpose of receiving an application for admission fee waiver during Free Application Days 2021.</p> <p>The submitted documentation was deemed ineligible by the RO as it was not from an organization listed on the eligible documentation list. Alternative Métis identity documentation was not submitted. The applicant was told they would not receive an application fee waiver without further documentation. The applicant paid the fee, submitted their application and was ultimately admitted to the Alberta School of Business. The applicant was permitted to continue to self-declare as Indigenous.</p> <p>However, the student has since contested the decision by the Registrar’s Office and has been granted a special consideration by the CDI to determine whether the alternative documentation, which she recently submitted, provides sufficient confirmation of Indigeneity which would allow the student to be eligible for Indigenous awards and scholarships.</p>



	<p>Specifically, the applicant submitted an “Individual Membership Confirmation Letter” from the Community Liaison of the Indigenous Congress of Alberta Association. The letter is addressed to the applicant, confirming that a recent application was approved, providing the applicant’s official membership number and advising that a membership card will be issued shortly.</p> <p>The Indigenous Congress of Alberta is a provincial affiliate of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) – one of the federally recognized Indigenous representative organizations – who represents the interests of Métis, status, non-status, and southern Inuit peoples living off-reserve.</p> <p>The applicant is a resident of Alberta and does not have membership with the Métis Nation of Alberta.</p> <p>The Office of the Registrar requests a decision on whether or not the applicant’s documentation should be accepted as eligible documentation of Indigeneity for the purpose of allowing this applicant access to University awards and scholarships which are specifically reserved for Indigenous students and applicants</p>
Supplementary Notes and context	

Engagement and Routing

Consultation and Stakeholder Participation	<p><u>Those who are actively participating:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● (Vice-Provost) Indigenous Programming and Research ● Acting Vice-Provost and University Registrar (or designate) (GFC Member) ● Delegate of the Dean, Faculty of Native Studies (or designate) (GFC Member) ● Assistant Dean, First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students (or Director of First Peoples’ House) ● Manager, Indigenous Recruitment
	<p><u>Those who have been consulted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● N/A
	<p><u>Those who have been informed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● RO – Records, Registration and Fees (October 2021) ● RO – Student Financial Support (September 2022)
Approval Route	CDI November 17, 2022

Strategic Alignment

Alignment with <i>For the Public Good</i>	Please note the Institutional Strategic Plan objective(s)/strategies the proposal supports.	
Alignment with Core Risk Area	Please note below the specific institutional risk(s) this proposal is addressing.	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrolment Management	<input type="checkbox"/> Relationship with Stakeholders



	<input type="checkbox"/> Faculty and Staff <input type="checkbox"/> Funding and Resource Management <input type="checkbox"/> IT Services, Software and Hardware <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership and Change <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Reputation <input type="checkbox"/> Research Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Student Success
Legislative Compliance and jurisdiction	<p>PSLA: Section 26(1)(m) and (n) confer authority on the GFC to, “make rules and regulations respecting academic awards” and “determine standards and policies respecting the admission of persons to the university as students”, respectively. Section 26(3) of the PSLA permits the GFC to “delegate any of its powers, duties and functions under [the PSLA]”.</p> <p>The GFC has delegated to the CDI the authority to determine standards and approve policy and calendar language respecting the documentation of Indigeneity required to determine eligibility for admissions, awards and financial support that are specifically reserved for Indigenous students and applicants. CDI Terms of Reference</p>	

Attachments

1. Attachment 1, Indigenous Congress of Alberta Association (ICAA): <https://www.indigenouscongress.com/>
2. Attachment 2, Congress of Aboriginal People (CAP): <https://abo-peoples.org/>

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