The University of Alberta governs itself with a bicameral governance structure (literally, it is governance in two chambers):

Board of Governors and General Faculties Council

- Although the Board is the senior of the two, the Board and GFC share and balance power within the University

The University Governance Unit, under the direction of the University Secretary, provides support for all areas of the Board and GFC
Where Does GFC’s Authority Come From?

**Province of Alberta** enacts

**LEGISLATION:** *Post-Secondary Learning Act* of 2003 (PSLA) that establishes

**AUTONOMOUS ENTITY:** *University of Alberta*, with an **ACADEMIC GOVERNING BODY:** *General Faculties Council* (subject to the Board)
Collegial Governance

System of governance that depends heavily upon the participation of colleagues to establish and realize a shared purpose.

Provides an opportunity for citizens to participate in decision-making, and it is the hallmark of academic decision-making.
GFC Principles for Delegation of Authority

GFC Principles for Standing Committee Composition

GFC Roles and Responsibilities of Members

GFC Meeting Procedural Rules

Report of the GFC Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Governance including Delegated Authority - April 2017

Report of the GFC Executive Transition Committee - Implementation of ad hoc Committee recommendations - April 2019
Resources for Members

GFC Guidebook

Member Zone

• Committee Terms of Reference
• Past Agendas and Minutes
• Upcoming Materials

Governance Team
GFC Executive Committee

Mandate: To prepare the GFC agenda and act on behalf of GFC as defined in the committee terms of reference. Provide governance rules and procedures oversight.

Some Previous Agenda Items:
- Faculty Councils Composition and Quorum
- Chair and Dean Selection Committee Composition
- Ad hoc Transition Committee
- Academic Schedule
- Parchments
- Board/GFC/Senate Summit
- Reports: General Appeals, Student Conduct, Student Appeals

GFC Executive Committee Terms of Reference
Meeting Agenda:

• Action Items, Consent Agenda
• Discussion Items
• Early Consultation Items
• Information Items
• Question Period
What do we do if a fire alarm goes off during the meeting?
Questions?