



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

MEETING: Monday, April 14, 2025
TIME: 5:00 pm
LOCATION: Paul 216, Lansdowne Campus
ONLINE: Teams

BOARD MEMBERS:

Tanya Clarmont, Chair
Bijan Ahmadi
Monty Bryant, Past Chair
Jeremy Burgess
Joanne Cumberland
Sean Leyland
Lindsay Kearns
Brenda McBain
Prince Solanki
Mike Stubbing
Lane Trotter, President
Al van Akker

ADMINISTRATION:

John D'Agnolo, Exec. Dir., Human Resources
Deborah Huelscher, VP Administration & CFO
Jen Stone, Exec. Dir., Strategy, Planning & Transformation
Richard Stride, Acting Provost & VP Education & Innovation

REGRETS: Shane Hartman, Ruth Mojeed Ramirez, Rodney Porter, Exec. Dir., Communications & Marketing

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT: Naomi Poeschek

The meeting was opened with the Acknowledgement of the Territory.

I CALL TO ORDER

Tanya Clarmont, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

II APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as distributed.

III BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

1. Chair's Report

Tanya Clarmont, Chair, noted that all regular Board meetings are open to the public and welcomed the guests on Teams. Tanya and Lane Trotter met several times for planning and updates.

The March 25 edition of CamNews featured a "Camosun Story" on Natasha Parrish, Education Developer for Indigenization with the Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL). The article highlights Natasha's work in supporting Indigenization, Anti-Racism and Decolonization learning opportunities and initiatives at the College.

On March 27, the Indigenous Education and Community Connections (IECC) Spring Awards ceremony was held, recognizing 49 student award recipients. Jeremy Burgess brought greetings on behalf of the Board of Governors. Jeremy noted the sense of humor, community, learning and growth that was evident at the event. He was honored to attend to celebrate the students and their achievements.

2. President's Report

Lane Trotter, President, acknowledged colleagues and guests joining the meeting online and in the Wilna Thomas building. Lane reported that on April 11 he attended a session with College and Institutes Canada (CICan) leadership and other BC CICan members to give input into defining the CICan of the future. Also on April 11, he attended the Co-Op Awards Ceremony at the Interurban campus.

Richard Stride, Acting Provost & VP Education and Innovation shared that four students, currently enrolled in Camosun's HR Management program, took first place at the 2025 HRC West Competition. Other competing schools included the University of Alberta and Vancouver Island University. The HR faculty member who coached the students was in attendance to support them.

3. Foundation

Joanne Cumberland, Foundation Liaison, noted that the Foundation Board hasn't met since the last Board of Governors meeting.

4. Education Council

Bijan Ahmadi, Education Council Chair, noted the minutes from the February 19, 2025, meeting were included in the agenda package. Bijan went over the highlights of the March 19, 2025, meeting, which included passing updates to curriculum in Computer Science/Mechanical Engineering within Trades & Technology, as well as reviewing an adjustment to the Student Misconduct Policy. The framework for adding an Indigenous voice and voting member to EdCo was discussed and will go forward for approval at the May meeting. Additional discussion was had regarding the recording of EdCo Teams meetings – changes are needed to EdCo's standards to develop more structure around this issue.

Bijan responded to the question of how the Indigenous representative would be selected, noting that Eyē? Sqā'lewen would form a selection committee to select the appropriate person. The selected nominee would go forward to Education Council for formal ratification.

5. Pacific Institute for Sport Education (PISE)

Jeremy Burgess, PISE Board of Directors, noted that the PISE Board hasn't met since the last Board of Governors meeting.

IV BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Executive Committee

i) Report from the March 31, 2025, meeting

Tanya Clarmont, Chair, Executive Committee, noted that the committee met on March 31. We received a financial update from Deborah Huelscher, VP Administration & CFO, in preparation for the April 7 Finance Committee meeting and budget review. We received an update from John D'Agnolo, Executive Director, Human Resources, regarding the CCFA's notice to commence bargaining, received on March 6, 2025.

We discussed a request from the CCSS regarding the proposed changes to the Board of Governor's Operating Policy. The Executive Committee has requested that Administration complete additional work on the policy framework and bring it back to the April Executive Committee meeting.

We discussed a process for the return of in-person attendance for members of the public at Board meetings. The committee's recommendation is the next item on the agenda. We approved the agendas for today's meetings.

a. Recommendation on public attendance at Board meetings

Tanya summarized the process that was shared in the Board agenda package. Suggestions from Board members included consideration of holding a Board meeting in a larger venue, such as Wilna Thomas, once a year, as well as posting the Board meeting Teams link on the Camosun website rather than the public having to go through the EA for the link.

Tanya responded to a question regarding the use of a lottery system only, noting that the most accessible way for the public was through random selection; not wanting to say that one person is more deserving over another person.

Mike Stubbing suggested this process be added to the Executive Committee calendar for review at the end of the year.

After the discussion, there was consensus with the process recommended by the Board Executive for in-person attendance at the May 5, 2025, meeting.

2. Finance Committee

- i) The minutes from the January 27, 2025, meeting were included in the agenda package.
- ii) Mike Stubbing, Chair, Finance Committee gave a report on the April 7, 2025, Finance Committee meeting.

a. Budget 2025/2026

Mike noted that the primary objective of today's report is to vote on the budget for the fiscal year April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026. Prior to today's vote, the whole Board had the opportunity to ask questions and get clarifications at the April 7 meeting.

Mike reminded Board members of their responsibilities set out as law in the College and Institute Act, specifically citing sections 19(1)(b), 19(5)(a), 31(1.1) and 33.

Mike summarized the 2024-2025 budget, acknowledging budget reviews through the first three quarters of the year still showed the budget in a surplus position. An

extremely quick shift from surplus to deficit occurred in the fourth quarter. A dramatic decrease in international registration occurred in Fall 2024 as further changes were legislated. The 2025-2026 budget is the year for us to adjust to operate on a reduced budget going forward. It is important for the Board to free up time for the College Executive Team to enact the needed cost reduction strategies in order to maintain the College's reduced revenue. Any delay along the way affects the deficit.

Mike thanked Deborah and her team for their work in producing a reasonable budget reflective of our new reality. They did an exceptional job.

Board members presented questions about the budget and the processes involved in cost reduction strategies. Main areas of focus were on reduced course offerings and student supports; effects on students' ability to graduate; dependence on international student tuition and how to address it; where the college is at with the workforce adjustment process; and asking for increased communication with students.

Monty Bryant commended the College Executive Team, noting they are a small group who have worked collaboratively to minimize the effect to students.

MOTION

THAT THE CAMOSUN COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS APPROVE THE COLLEGE'S BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025/26 WITH TOTAL REVENUE OF \$171,955,297 AND TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF \$171,955,297 RESULTING IN A BALANCED BUDGET.

CARRIED

V APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the February 3 and March 3, 2025, meetings were approved with minor edits to the February 3 minutes.

VI NEW BUSINESS

VII ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm.

Tanya Clarmont, Chair

Date

Naomi Poeschek, Executive Assistant