

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

4:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.

Staff Lounge, Castlegar Campus / Teams



Selkirk College

Where place meets purpose.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:		LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:
Amed Naqvi, Chair	Thompson Hickey, Vice Chair	Lareena Rilkoff, VP College Services
Debbie Bird	Mary Austin	Andrea Hall, Executive Director Finance / CFO
Satinder Kaur	Roly Russell	Taya Whitehead, VP Education & Students
Bronwyn Krause	Kim Pham	Brier Albano, AVP Student Success
Darcy Falkenhagen, EdCo Chair	Gurwinder Singh	Stacey Matthews, Executive Director HR
Maggie Matear, President		Tammie Clarke, Dean
REGRETS		Tiffany Snaubaert, Dean
Ken Wyllie	Diksha Salwan	Nick Howald, CIO
Christy Anderson		Allison Alder, Dean
		Tracy Punchard, Dean
		Marissa Carrasco, Director Student Engagement & Wellness
		Danny Beatty, Manager, International Education and Development
		OBSERVERS:
		Pablo Pastor, SCFA
		Andrew Jupp, PPWC
		GUESTS:
		Andrea Wilkey, Executive Director, Community Futures Central Kootenay
		Alison MacDonald, Community Economic Development Coordinator, Community Futures Central Kootenay

	TOPIC
1.	TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none">Provided by the AVP Student Success to open the meeting.
2.	ADDITIONS TO THE OPEN SESSION AGENDA OF JANUARY 27, 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none">There were no additions to the agenda.
3.	ADOPTION OF THE OPEN SESSION AGENDA OF JANUARY 27, 2026 Motion: "To adopt the open session agenda of January 27, 2026 as circulated." <i>Carried</i>
4.	ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA OF JANUARY 27, 2026 <ol style="list-style-type: none">Draft Open Session Minutes of November 25, 2025Draft Finance & Audit Committee minutes of Jan 19, 2026Draft Governance Committee minutes of Jan 19, 2026Enrolment Dashboard – January 2026EdCo Chair Report – January 2026Board Policies EL 10 - 140

	<p>g. Globe & Mail article for info only: <i>National discourse emerging on tuition fees</i></p> <p>h. Tuition and Fee Bylaw</p> <p>i. 2025-2026 Tuition Fee Report</p> <p>Items removed from the consent agenda:</p> <p>4.i 2025-2026 Tuition Fee Report</p> <p>4.f. Policy EL 60 Admissions</p> <p>Motion: "To adopt the consent agenda of January 27, 2026 as amended."</p>
	<i>Carried</i>
5.	<p>2025-2026 TUITION FEE REPORT (Removed from the consent agenda)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AVP Student Success provided an overview of the report and explained its role in operations.
6.	<p>REPEALED EL 60 ADMISSION POLICY (Removed from the consent agenda)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The President reminded the Board that in an earlier meeting, the Board rescinded a duplicative policy on Admissions in its Governance Processes policies. While the Board should approve the Admissions policy, it is actually an operational policy (8611), not a governance policy. As such, the Chair has signed the operational Admissions policy so that we align with the College and Institutes Act.
7.	<p>PRESENTATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Kootenay Rural Community Immigration Pilot: Andrea Wilkey and Alison MacDonald Board members can access the slides here. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Success Stories including Selkirk College graduates (2020 – 2024) New pilot launched in 2025 Management, Governance & Funding Increased demand, reduced capacity Priority Sectors & Jobs Pilot Uptake Use of Funds Next Steps: 2026 Discussion ensued.
8.	<p>PRESENTATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A History of Selkirk College: Bronwyn Krause Board members can access the slides here. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indigenous history The Doukhobors The idea The referendum The building The timeline Discussion ensued.
9.	<p>PRESIDENT'S REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The President referenced her circulated report, noting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC College Presidents made a group submission to the sectoral review currently underway, and Selkirk College has also drafted an individual submission. The college's submission will recommend lifting the tuition cap while protecting low-income learners; evaluating the reporting burden for rural and small institutions, and incentivizing curriculum sharing. The Executive Leadership Committee is prioritizing budget and risk management, long-term sustainability planning, and innovation, encouraging teams to advance work in these areas. The Committee continues to strengthen leadership communication and support staff to mitigate impacts on members. Participated as an interviewer in a mini-interview event hosted by the RPM program to help prepare students for future opportunities. The timed seven-minute interviews were highly successful, showcasing the inspiring ways faculty are preparing students for success.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Attended the first Castlegar Together Collaborative Meeting event hosted by the city. The event aimed to foster connection, share plans for 2026 and beyond, and explore opportunities for collaboration among community organizations.
10.	<p>QUARTERLY FORECAST REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Executive Director Finance/CFO reviewed the circulated report and commented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The third quarter report is for the period ending December 31st. ○ Domestic and international student tuition revenue is exceeding previous estimates. ○ Operating costs overall are trending lower than budgeted. ○ A surplus is projected for year-end, which will repay a portion of the accumulated deficit incurred over the past five to six years. ○ Goal is to end future budgets in a surplus position to continue to repay the accumulated deficit in full and build an accumulated surplus to protect the college if future downturns were to occur. • Discussion ensued
11.	<p>2026-2027 BUDGET PLANNING UPDATE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Executive Director Finance/CFO provided a verbal update, noting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Executive Leadership Committee is continuing to explore options to reduce the projected \$2-3M deficit. ○ Budget officers have submitted their draft budgets which are now being reviewed. ○ The Supervisors budget meeting is scheduled for mid-February.
12.	<p>APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE (Strategic Plan Dimension # 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Lab Assistant • The Dean of the School of Health & Human Services provided an overview of the circulated briefing material, adding that the request for the program came from the City of Trail and Interior Health initially. The President noted this as a positive endorsement from community partners. • Discussion ensued <p>Motion: "To approve, in principle, the proposed Certificate in Medical Lab Assistant program, as recommended by Education Council, pending the completion of the full program development and final approval process."</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Carried</i></p>
13.	<p>PROGRAM SUSPENSIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The VP Education & Students provided a verbal update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A revised interpretation clarifies that program suspensions are a Board responsibility. ○ Previously, suspensions were managed administratively with information shared to Education Council and the Board. ○ Going forward, all program suspensions will require Board approval. ○ The college will review related policies to ensure alignment with legislative requirements.
14.	<p>2025-2026 BOARD GOALS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed with no revisions <p>Motion: "To approve the 2025/2026 Board Goals as presented."</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Carried</i></p>
15.	<p>BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A verbal report was provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provincial board chairs met virtually with the Minister where the sectoral review was discussed. Next meeting expected in March
16.	<p>MEMBERS' REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members attended the CPA & Student Networking event on campus. • Regional business shared their desire to hire Selkirk graduates.

17.	STUDENTS' REPORT
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No report was provided.
18.	CLOSED SESSION
	Motion: "To move into the closed session." <i>Carried</i>