

## OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, May 27, 2025

4:30 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.

Room P303 Tenth Street Campus / Teams

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING

Amed Naqvi, Vice Chair	John Dutton
Christy Anderson	Ken Wyllie
Debbie Bird	Mary Austin
Bronwyn Krause	Maggie Matear, President
Darcy Falkenhagen, EdCo Chair	

### REGRETS:

Margaret Sutherland, Chair	Thompson Hickey
Kim Pham	Udayveer Miglani
Abina Thomas	

### LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Taya Whitehead, VP Education & Students  
Lareena Rilkoff, VP College Services  
Brier Albano, Associate VP Student Success  
Stacey Matthews, Executive Director of HR  
Dianne Biin, Director Indigenous Ed. & Engagement  
James Heth, Registrar  
Tammie Clarke, Dean  
Donna Drover, Dir. Facilities & Business Services  
Nick Howald, CIO

### OBSERVERS EXPECTED:

Pablo Pastor, SCFA

### TOPIC

1. MEETING OPENING
  - One of the Old Ones, Donna Wright, opened the meeting in a good way.
2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
  - The President provided the territorial acknowledgement.
3. ADDITIONS TO THE OPEN SESSION AGENDA OF MAY 27, 2025
  - There were no additions to the agenda.
4. ADOPTION OF THE OPEN SESSION AGENDA OF MAY 27, 2025

**Motion:** “To adopt the open session agenda of May 27, 2025 as circulated.”

*Carried*

5. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA OF MAY 27, 2025
  - a. Draft Open Session Minutes of March 25, 2025
  - b. Draft Finance & Audit Committee Minutes of May 15, 2025
  - c. Draft Governance Committee Minutes of May 12, 2025
  - d. Consolidated Financial Statements Ended March 31, 2025
  - e. Enrolment Dashboard – May 2025
  - f. EdCo Chair Report – May 2025
  - g. Draft Modern Slavery Report 2024
  - h. Learning Centre Motions April 10, 2025
  - i. Letter from Min. Kang to PSI Board Chairs
  - j. Motion to rescind the 2005 motion mandating the donation of board members' honorarium.
  - k. Grand Forks Campus lease

The following items were removed from the consent agenda for discussion:

- 5. b. Draft Finance & Audit Committee Minutes of May 15, 2025
- 5. c. Draft Governance Committee Minutes of May 12, 2025

- 5. j. Motion to rescind the 2005 motion mandating the donation of board members' honorarium.
- 5. k. Grand Forks Campus lease

**Motion:** “To adopt the consent agenda of May 27, 2025 as amended.”

*Carried*

6. DRAFT FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MAY 15, 2025 (removed from the consent agenda)
- The VP College Services provided a brief overview of the audited financial statements, which had been reviewed by the Finance & Audit Committee earlier in the month and were recommended for Board approval.

**Motion** “To approve the Audited Financial Statements ending March 31, 2025 as presented.”

*Carried*

7. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES AND BOARD MEMBERS’ HONORARIUM (removed from the consent agenda)
- The Committee Chair reviewed the minutes, noting the Fall Retreat dates of October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and the venue of the Castlegar Campus.

**Motion:** “To approve a 4:00 pm start time for regular board meetings beginning October 2025.”

*Carried*

**Motion:** “To rescind the 2005 motion encouraging board members to donate their honorarium to the College Foundation.”

*Carried*

8. GRAND FORKS CAMPUS LEASE (removed from the consent agenda)
- Moved to the closed session by request

#### 9. PRESENTATION

- Indigenous Services & Indigenous Plan Update.
- The Director of Indigenous Services and Engagement provided an update on the Indigenous Plan and how it may evolve, and the Indigenous Services Team and their work.
- The PPT slides are available for the Board members to review [here](#).

#### 10. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

- The President referenced her circulated report, noting:
  - At the convocation ceremonies this month, 225 students crossed the stage during the morning session, and 285 students participated in the afternoon session. An Elder brought the Eagle Staff as a symbol of strength and unity. Members of the Ktunaxa Council attended and engaged with the Director of Indigenous Education & Engagement to discuss reviewing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
  - College employees completed the organizational climate survey (OCS) in February and March of this year. The responses are currently being analyzed, with results expected in June. This is the second survey conducted in the past three years. Based on recent decisions, the results may be less favorable than those of the previous survey. This feedback will enable the college to implement changes before issues become entrenched.
  - ClCan's advocacy work with the federal government includes how colleges can support Canada's sustainable economy. Planting a seed for federal trades training funding. Trade seats currently cost colleges 30% more than funded.
  - The BC Association of Trades and Technical Administrators (BCATTA) conference was hosted this week in Nelson by the Dean and School Chair of Selkirk College's School of Industry and Trades. This event provided a valuable opportunity to gain insight into current developments and challenges faced by front-line administrators across the province.
  - BC Colleges continues to advocate for the province to more fully leverage the capabilities of colleges in achieving provincial goals.

11. DRAFT 2025/2026 BUDGET

- The VP of College Services reviewed the circulated 2025/2026 budget briefing note, highlighting the following points:
  - It was a very challenging year to present a balanced budget.
  - Expenses have been reduced by approximately 11%, with 10% of that reduction coming from salaries. Operating grants, pathways grants, and one-time grants remain strong.
  - The budget anticipates approximately 447 international student FTEs, down from 786 FTEs. This number is expected to decrease further in 2027, as most current international students are in their second year.
  - The college's financial statements were deconsolidated following the removal of Foundation accounts. The Foundation is now a separate entity with its own board of governors.
  - The Ministry will monitor the college closely. They have requested a deficit mitigation plan and regular cash flow analyses.
  - Planning for the 2027 budget will begin this summer.

**Motion:** "To approve the 2025/2026 balanced operating budget as presented."

*Carried*

12. DRAFT 2025/2026 BOARD BUDGET

**Motion:** "To approve the 2025/2026 Board budget as circulated."

*Carried*

13. INSTITUTIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT & PLAN

- The VP Education and Students reviewed the circulated briefing note, highlighting:
  - The due date for IAPRs for Ministry review is July 11, 2025. Final IAPRs with Board sign-off are due October 2025.
  - The finalized IAPR will come to the Board in their October open session agenda package.
  - The college will be presenting a new format for the IAPR report this year with further changes expected next year.

14. AUDITED FTE REPORT 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR

- International and domestic student numbers were higher than expected this year. As mentioned earlier in the meeting, a decrease in international enrolment is anticipated for 2025/26 and 2026/27.
- Over the past five years, growth and decline trends have resulted in approximately 1% net growth.
- Discussion took place regarding the provincial attestation letter process.

15. RESCIND EDUCATION COUNCIL INTERPRETATION TOOL

- The Registrar referenced the circulated briefing note. The EdCo Chair stated EdCo supports the recommendation.

**Motion:** "That the Interpretation Tool approved by the Board on March 22, 2016, as amended, is rescinded and all delegations effected by the Interpretation Tool are revoked."

*Carried*

BOARD CHAIR'S/VICE CHAIR'S REPORT

- In the Chair's absence, the Vice Chair took part in the Convocation Ceremonies this month.

MEMBERS' REPORT

- Participation in events over the month included:
  - A memorial celebration for a Sinixt Elder in Pia, Washington;
  - A Salmon ceremony in Castlegar
  - Visual identity refresh project team meeting

STUDENTS' REPORT

- No report was provided.

CLOSED SESSION

**Motion:** "To move into the closed session."

*Carried*