



# Vancouver Community College Board of Governors Public Meeting MINUTES

September 27, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

VCC Broadway Campus, Room 5025  
Zoom for guests & public

## ATTENDANCE

### Board Members

Joey Hartman (Chair, Board/HRC)  
Libby Davies (Vice Chair) REGRETS  
Jeffrey Yu (Chair, FAC)  
Mahin Rashid (Chair, Governance)  
Dr. Chi Lo  
Justine Gonzales  
Karen Brooke  
Nadia Belokopitov  
Paul Yeung  
Seung Oh REGRETS  
Shobha Rajagopalan  
Sue Hammell  
Yanni Wong REGRETS

### Staff Resources

David Wells	VP, Academic & Applied Research
Ian Humphreys	VP, Admin & International Development
Kate Dickerson	VP, People Services
Jane Shin	VP, Students & Community Development
Elmer Wansink	AVP, IT & CIO
Clayton Munro	AVP, Student & Enrolment Services
REGRETS	
Tannis Morgan	AVP, Academic Innovation
Jamie Choi	ED, Finance & CFO
Karen Wilson	ED, Marketing & Communications
Surinder Aulakh	ED, Safety, Security & Risk Management
Deborah Lucas	EA, Board of Governors
Patris Aghakian	ED, Institutional Research

### Ex-Officio

Ajay Patel President & CEO  
Natasha Mandryk Chair, Education Council

### Guests

Taryn Thomson	President, VCCFA
Chris Joyce	President, CUPE Local 4627
Stefan Nielsen	Organizer, Advocacy & Governance, SUVCC

**VCC recognizes and acknowledges the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh people, on whose traditional and unceded territories we live, learn and work.**

## 1. CALL TO ORDER, LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & OPENING REMARKS

- J. Hartman called the meeting to order at 5:44 p.m. D. Wells presented the land acknowledgement. J. Hartman presented opening remarks, including:
  - Acknowledging Orange Shirt Day and National Truth & Reconciliation Day on Sept 30. It’s a time to reaffirm our shared responsibility to create space for healing and education as we continue our journey towards decolonization and reconciliation.
  - Acknowledged the Premier’s announcement of funding for the new Centre for Clean Energy and Automotive Innovation. Congratulated A. Patel and Senior Team. Thanked everyone who attended the July 20th announcement. The Board are looking forward to receiving updates on its progress. As well as hearing about the VCC Foundation’s fundraising campaign.
  - Highlighted the upcoming election for positions on the Board and Education Council. Students, faculty and support staff are encouraged to join. Info is available via the Registrar’s Office.

- A. Patel’s remarks:
  - Thanked organizers and participants involved in on-campus events recognizing Orange Shirt Day and National Truth & Reconciliation Day. He acknowledged the unveiling of an art installation at the Broadway Campus created by Haida artist, Tamara Bell. It honours the survivors and the children who were lost to their families and communities due to the residential school system. He thanked the Squamish Nation community for conducting the Blanket Ceremony on Sept 19, welcoming new Deans, Jessie Williams and David Kirk to VCC.
  - Adding to J. Hartman’s comments about the Premier’s CCEAI funding announcement, he commented that this successful outcome is the result of invaluable consultation and engagement with the VCC community. It shows commitment to the Campus Plan and the Strategic Innovation Plan that it fits within.

## 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA & CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION:** THAT the Board of Governors approve the Sept 27, 2023, public meeting agenda and approve/acknowledge receipt of the following items on the consent agenda:

1. Minutes: Jun 28, 2023, Public Meeting
2. Board Correspondence & Activity
3. News & Events – Sept 2023 Report

**Moved, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)**

## 3. NEW BOARD MEMBER OATH OF OFFICE

- Newly appointed board member Dr. Chi Lo was introduced and sworn in. Dr. Lo is a lawyer. His initial term is for one (1) year, ending Jul 31, 2024.

## 4. ACTION TRACKER

- No actions.

## 5. CONSTITUENCY REPORTS

### 5.1. CUPE Local 4627

- A verbal report was received.

### 5.2. Student Union of Vancouver Community College (SUVCC)

- The SUVCC Advocacy & Governance Organizer, Stefan Nielsen presented a report to the Board. It informed the Board of the BC Federation of Student’s September launch of their “Rise Up” campaign. It combines other tuition advocacy campaigns to have one focus on progressive, stable funding, stopping tuition increases and reducing tuition.
- The results of a recent student survey indicate a common theme of cost-of-living affordability. Additional supports for international students are recommended, including expansion of VCC’s emergency food programs. Currently, access to food supplies is via the SUVCC, and Indigenous students also have access to supplies in the Gathering Space.

### 5.3. Vancouver Community College Faculty Association (VCCFA)

- The VCCFA, President, T. Thomson presented a report to the Board which included a request to freeze layoffs for one (1) year. This was received for information.

## 6. EDUCATION COUNCIL (EDCO) REPORT

### 6.1. Chair's Report (presented by N. Mandryk, EdCo Chair)

- Education Council (EdCo) are looking at new ways to develop the Academic Plan. It will be a plan where departments can see themselves reflected in it. As this is a transitional year, a recommendation will not be made to the Board.
- The Academic Governance Committee met in June and began formulating topics to be addressed, e.g., micro credentials, policy rating and review, impact of Artificial Intelligence.
- Elections for positions on EdCo and the Board are conducted in October. Recruitment efforts include virtual info sessions and an info booth at student Welcome Days.
- The Board enquired about Indigenous representation on EdCo. The College & Institute Act allows EdCo to create a seat, and consultation with VCC's Indigenous Education & Engagement department, and community engagement with host Nations on this topic would be of interest.

## 7. FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE (FAC)

### 7.1. Chair's Report

- Since the last report, the Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) have held two (2) special meetings and one (1) regular meeting.
- The Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) for year ending Mar 31, 2023, was recommended by FAC and approved by the Board for submission to the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education & Future Skills (PSFS).
- Five (5) procurement contract matters have been approved for the following services:
  - Architectural, urban planning and financing consulting services for the Broadway Campus Development Plan
  - Installation of water supply backflow devices at VCC's Broadway Campus
  - Consumables required by the Transportation Trades Programs
  - Outdoor Advertising Space
  - Digital Media Buyer and Associated Advertising
- The next FAC meeting is Nov 8, 2023.

### 7.2. 2023/24 Forecast to Budget

- It was reported that VCC is projecting a balanced budget. The trend of increased international tuition continues, but it also indicates increased domestic tuition in other program areas.
- The enrolment data is conservative, and the November report will provide more accurate data as the September enrolment will be finalized.

### 7.3. TUITION: 2% Increase (Domestic)

- For existing programs and services, the provincial government's Tuition Limit Policy places a 2% increase cap on domestic tuition and mandatory fees.
- To maintain financial stability and sustainability, FAC approved the annual 2% increase, effective Aug 1, 2024. The Board had no questions.

**MOTION:** THAT, on the recommendation the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve the implementation of a 2% increase in domestic tuition and mandatory fees, effective Aug 1, 2024.

**Moved, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)**

#### 7.4. TUITION: 3% Increase (International)

- For the same reasons as the domestic tuition increase proposal, FAC supports a 2% increase to international tuition and mandatory fees (Tuition Limit Policy does not apply) with an additional 1% to establish funding to support international students. Funding will be allocated for entrance awards, scholarships for academic excellence, and the potential funding of outbound educational experiences. VCC will continue to work with the SUVCC on these initiatives, and it will be annually evaluated.

**MOTION:** THAT, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve the implementation of a 3% increase in international tuition and mandatory fees, effective August 1, 2024.

**Moved, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)**

#### 7.5. TUITION: Hospitality Management Diploma (Domestic)

- As a result of a program review, the Hospitality Management Diploma has been considered substantially updated by the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education & Future Skills (PSFS) and new tuition has been established. A 10% increase was approved by PSFS, it was subsequently approved by the Finance and Audit Committee.

**MOTION:** WHEREAS, the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills has approved a 10% increase in domestic tuition for the Hospitality Management Diploma Program.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve domestic tuition of \$10,595 for the renewed Hospitality Management Diploma, effective Jan 1, 2024.

**Moved, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)**

### 8. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (GC)

#### 8.1. Chair's Report

- The Governance Committee (GC) met on Sept 14, 2023. Work continues progressing the recommendations from the annual Board Evaluation. This includes:
  - Adding 3 special topic meetings a year on subjects such as Indigenization & Decolonization, and Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.
  - Building connections with each other, VCC Foundation and community outside of regular meetings.
  - Updating policy with a lens of Indigenization, reconciliation and decolonization. Policy C.1.3 Granting of Credentials now includes the statement that “Graduates attending convocation are welcome to wear traditional or ancestral regalia or recognized objects of cultural significance.”

### 9. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE (HRC) REPORT

#### 9.1. Chair's Report

- The Human Resources Committee (HRC) met in August and conducted the president's Mid-Year Performance Objectives Review with satisfactory results. The HRC are developing the president's three (3) year “deep dive” review to be conducted in the new year.

## 10. 2023-23 INSTITUTIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN & REPORT

- P. Aghakian presented the Institutional Accountability Plan & Report (IAPR) (2022-23). The IAPR has been prepared in accordance with the Ministry Accountability Framework Standard Manual and Guidelines, and provides outlines of goals, objectives, and outcomes for 2022-23.
- The Ministry appreciated the update on VCC's Campus Plan, including the process for Indigenous consultation and inclusion. VCC has demonstrated it is a key player in BC's education landscape, particularly with its focus on equity, sustainability, and community engagement, specifically consultation with host Nation communities.
- The report presents and increased focus on student and employee mental well-being with the introduction of the Mental Health Framework and by providing resources, counselling, and workshops.

**MOTION:** THAT the Board of Governors approve the VCC Institutional Accountability Plan and Report – 2022-23 Reporting Cycle.

**Moved, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)**

## 11. INDIGENIZATION AT VCC

- N. Belokopitov, A. Patel and Dean, Indigenous Initiatives, Jessie Williams, spoke about the recent Blanket Ceremony, welcoming to Jessie and David Kirk, Dean, Curriculum and Pedagogy, to VCC. Specifically, the significance of oral history.
- A. Patel is proud of the work that VCC has done, and it continues to do in advancing reconciliation.

## 12. VCC FOUNDATION

- J. Yu (Board representative on the VCC Foundation Board (VCCF)) reported on the Sept 18, 2023, VCCF Annual General Meeting. It included:
  - Gearing up for fundraising campaign for the Centre for Clean Energy & Automotive Innovation.
  - Reviewing the Board's competency matrix with the lens of expanding the Board.
  - VCC Foundation Executive Director, Moira Gookstetter will attend the annual Board of Governors retreat to talk about collaborations and connections; how they support VCC and its capital campaign.
- On the topic of collaborations, for students enrolled or accepted into VCC's baking and pastry, and culinary programs, P. Yeung highlighted VCC's partnership with Mars Food's Ben's Original™ on the Seat at the Table™ Fund. It is a scholarship program that creates opportunities for students from under-represented and equity-deserving communities who aspire to build careers in the food industry.

## 13. NEW BUSINESS

- No new business.

## 14. NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT

- The next regular public board meeting is on Nov 22, 2023.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

## APPROVED NOV 22, 2023 PUBLIC MEETING



**Joey Hartman**  
**VCC Board Chair**