



Board of Governors Public Meeting MINUTES

February 7, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

VCC Broadway Campus, Room 5025
Zoom for guests & public

ATTENDANCE

Board Members

Joey Hartman (Chair, Board/HRC) REGRETS
Libby Davies ACTING CHAIR
Mahin Rashid (Vice Chair) REGRETS
Jeffrey Yu (Chair, FAC)
Chi Lo
Christie Sparklingeyes
Daniela Ocana
Jennifer Cummins
Nadia Belokopitov
Michele Guerin
Paul Yeung
Ridhi Bhatia
Seung Oh
Shobha Rajagopalan

Ex-Officio

Ajay Patel President & CEO
Natasha Mandry Chair, Education Council/GC

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
Tannis Morgan AVP, Academic Innovation
Jamie Choi ED, Finance & CFO
Karen Wilson ED, Marketing & Communications
Surinder Aulakh ED, Safety, Security & Risk Mgmt
Deborah Lucas EA, Board of Governors (recording secretary)

Guests

Taryn Thomson President, VCCFA
Deanne Bates Chief Shop Steward, 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

- Acting Chair, L. Davies, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. C. Lo presented the land acknowledgement. Chair's opening remarks:
 - Welcomed new board members C. Sparklingeyes and M. Guerin. Thanked outgoing member Sue Hammell.
 - Acknowledged N. Mandryk, who was re-elected Education Council Chair for 2024. She has also joined the Governance Committee in the role as Chair.
 - Acknowledged Vice Chair, M. Rashid who was absent from the meeting as she was receiving the Business in Vancouver 40 under 40 Award. As well, President, A. Patel for being named #10 in Vancouver Magazine's 2024 Power 50 list. He has also been appointed to the World Education Services (WES) Board of Trustees. WES is a non-profit social enterprise that supports the educational, economic, and social inclusion of immigrants, refugees, and international students.
- A. Patel:
 - Acknowledged VCC's Culinary Arts department and students for collaborating with non-profit organization Sheway to hold an event where delicious turkey dinners were served to the women they support in our community. Also, VCC's JJ's Restaurant was named one of OpenTable's Top 100 restaurants in Canada for 2023; a well-deserved accomplishment.

- Noted the importance of building connections, and the opportunity he had to meet the Honourable Yonah Martin, Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate of Canada and conduct a tour of the Broadway Campus.
- Acknowledged the stepping down of BC Post-Secondary Education & Future Skills Minister, Selina Robinson and the interim placement of Minister Brenda Bailey.
- Highlighted upcoming events including Lunar New Year celebrations on Feb 12, and VCC’s annual Flourish Gala on Feb 27 at the Broadway Campus.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA & CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: THAT the Board of Governors approve the Feb 7, 2024, public meeting agenda, and the Consent Agenda items:

- 2.1 Minutes: Nov 22, 2023, Public Meeting
- 2.2 Board Correspondence & Activity
- 2.3 News & Events – Jan 2024 Report
- 2.4 VCCFA Report

Moved, Seconded & CARRIED

3. NEW BOARD MEMBER OATH OF OFFICE

- Newly appointed board members C. Sparkling eyes and M. Guerin were welcomed and sworn in for an initial term of Dec 1, 2023, to Jul 31, 2025. Appointed members typically serve 6-year terms in total.

4. ACTION TRACKER

- No actions.

5. CONSTITUENCY REPORTS

5.1. CUPE Local 4627

- The Board received a report from D. Bates, Chief Shop Steward.
- Collective Bargaining with VCC continues.
- CUPE staff welcomed the recent VCC Town Hall which updated staff on the Campus Plan, as well, an update on the Government of Canada’s announcement to cap student permit applications for 2 years to stabilize new growth.

5.2. Student Union of Vancouver Community College (SUVCC)

- The Board received a report from S. Nielsen, SUVCC Advocacy & Governance Organizer. The Board will receive a copy of a letter being sent to government advocating for affordable tuition for all students, with specific requests.

5.3. Vancouver Community College Faculty Association (VCCFA)

- The Board received a report from T. Thomson, VCCFA, President.
- VCCFA provided notice to exit from the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators, as of Jun 1, 2024. Members will take a vote in March at the general meeting.

6. EDUCATION COUNCIL (EDCO) REPORT

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

- At the Education Council (EdCo) Planning Day on Dec 1, 2023, and approved at a subsequent meeting, members agreed to amend its composition by adding a one voting seat for an Indigenous educational administrator. As well, a next step will be to add a non-voting Indigenous representative in consultation with Indigenous Education & Community Engagement Department.

- On Dec 12, 2023, N. Mandryk was re-elected as EdCo Chair. Sarah Kay was re-elected as Vice Chair and continues Chairing the Education Policy Committee. Louise Dannhauer and Todd Rowlatt were re-elected to the executive. Todd continues as chair of Curriculum Committee and Education Quality Committee.

6.2. NEW PROGRAM: Cybersecurity Governance, Risk and Compliance Post-Degree Diploma

- The proposed new Cybersecurity Governance, Risk, and Compliance Post-Degree Diploma (PDD) program addresses the demand for cybersecurity professionals (estimated gap of over 25,000 in Canada and over 3.4 million worldwide). VCC's program uniquely focusses on skills in governance, risk, and compliance within the cybersecurity context, which are essential to the protection of sensitive data, intellectual property, and critical infrastructure. Incorporating industry certifications, as well as developing cybersecurity micro-credentials, are being explored.
- It is offered to both domestic and international students. A benefit is that international graduates will be eligible for a postgraduate work permit.

MOTION: THAT, on the advice of Education Council, the Board of Governors approve the new Cybersecurity Governance, Risk, and Compliance Post-Degree Diploma credential and program implementation.
Moved, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

6.3. Significantly Revised Program: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Essential Employment Skills Certificate (EESC) & New Program: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Employment Skills Advantage Short Certificate

- VCC's Deaf and Hard of Hearing Essential Employment Skills Certificate (EESC, formerly Job Readiness) has been significantly revised, and a new Deaf and Hard of Hearing Employment Skills Advantage Short Certificate (ESA) has been developed as a result of the program renewal,
- The 10-month EESC was revised with the intent to align with current work practices and WorkBC recommendations for employment training. The short certificate was designed for individuals seeking refresher training and for those already in the workforce.
- Education Council approved the proposal on Sept 12, 2023.

MOTION: THAT, on the advice of Education Council, the Board of Governors approve the new Deaf and Hard of Hearing Employment Skills Advantage Short Certificate credential and program implementation, and the implementation of the significantly revised Deaf and Hard of Hearing Essential Employment Skills Certificate program.
Moved, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

7. FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE (FAC)

7.1. Chair's Report – J. Yu

- The Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) met on Jan 24, 2024. They considered the matters on the board agenda, as well, reviewed first draft of 2024-25 operating budget and received the 2023-24 Audit Plan, presented by external auditors, KPMG. There were no significant changes to the prior year.
- The next FAC meeting is Mar 13, 2024,

7.2. 2023/24 Forecast to Budget (9 months actual + 3 months forecast).

- VCC is projecting a surplus of \$1.3M. This is a conservative projection. Surplus funds can only be used for capital projects and with government approval. When January enrolment is finalized, the forecast will be further revised.
- Revenue is forecasted to be \$173.8M. Domestic tuition revenue is down compared to original budget (excluding ABE/EAL), and international revenue is up by \$4.9M.
- The salary and benefit expenses are higher to accommodate increased enrolments and additional positions are projected in the forecast. The retro/pay increase as well as benefits expenses were incurred for the

VCCFA Collective Agreement ratification for the 2023/24 fiscal. The previous year (2022/23) amount was accrued and reversed out to offset the amount.

7.3. TUITION: Cybersecurity Governance, Risk and Compliance Post-Degree Diploma

- On Jan 24, 2024, FAC considered the tuition proposal for the new Continuing Studies (CS) Cybersecurity Governance, Risk and Compliance Post-Degree Diploma program. They considered the comparables, as well, the increasing demand for professionals in this field. The increase in hourly rate is approximately 70% for positions with cybersecurity skills making this program an attractive offering.
- FAC approved the proposed tuition. The international fee is on par with other CS IT programs, and both the domestic and international fees are competitive and sustainable.

MOTION: THAT, on the recommendation of Finance & Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve the following tuition for the new Cybersecurity Governance, Risk, and Compliance Post-Degree Diploma, effective Sept 1, 2024:

Domestic: \$20,045

International: \$32,753

Moved, Seconded & CARRIED (Abstain: J. Cummins)

7.4. TUITION: Renewed Deaf and Hard of Hearing Essential Employment Skills Certificate (formerly Deaf and Hard of Hearing Adult Job Readiness Certificate) and New Employment Skills Advantage Short Certificate

- On Jan 24, 2024, FAC considered tuition proposal for the renewed Deaf and Hard of Hearing Essential Employment Skills Certificate (EESC) (formerly Deaf and Hard of Hearing Adult Job Readiness Certificate) and the new Employment Skills Advantage Short Certificate (ESA). New and significantly revised programs are eligible for new tuition, however, as these programs are under the Ministry umbrella of Developmental Education, institutions are mandated to deliver programs under the tuition replacement funding model. This restricts tuition limits.
- FAC is aware that these restrictions result in the EESC program continuing to run at a deficit. With the addition of up to 4 seats for ESA Short Certificate and the addition of 4 credits for EESC, total revenue for the 10-month EESC program is increased, and the overall deficit is slightly reduced.
- For the significantly revised EESC, and the new ESA Short Certificate, the recommendation is to maintain the existing per credit fee. The tuition for the EESC program will increase to \$5,389.44, as the number of credits has increased from 38 credits to 42. As the new ESA Short Certificate is a 12-credit program, the recommended tuition is \$1,539.84.

MOTION: THAT, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve the following domestic tuition for the following programs, effective Sept 1, 2024:

Revised: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Essential Employment Skills Certificate: \$5,389.44

New: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Employment Skills Advantage Short Certificate: \$1,539.84

Moved, Seconded & CARRIED (Unanimously)

8. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (GC)

8.1. Chair's Report – N. Mandryk

- With new responsibilities as Vice Chair, M. Rashid has stepped down from the committee and outgoing Vice Chair, L. Davies has joined. In addition, the committee has elected N. Mandryk as Chair for the remainder of the term, ending Nov 2024.
- The next meeting is on Feb 21, 2024.

9. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE (HRC) REPORT

9.1. Chair's Report – L. Davies on behalf of J. Hartman

- The Human Resources Committee (HRC) received the President's 2023 Year-End Performance Objectives report and was satisfied with the outcomes. The HRC will work with the President on finalizing the 2024 Performance Objectives.
- The President's 3-year Performance Evaluation was conducted by an external consultant concurrently with the annual review. It was focused on the President's relationships and connections, and overall, the results were positive and informative. The HRC presented a summary report to the Board.

10. INDIGENIZATION AT VCC

- Jessie Williams, Dean, Indigenous Initiatives spoke about her journey so far at VCC as a new Dean, and the importance of story telling to build connections.
- N. Belokopitov shared her experience of receiving the much-appreciated support of board member J. Yu, who donated food and provided volunteers through his company, to support a local Indigenous community group event she was organizing.

11. VCC FOUNDATION

- J. Yu (Board representative on the VCC Foundation Board (VCCF)) presented a report to the Board, highlighting the upcoming events VCC Flourish Gala presented by RBC on Feb 27 and the Ground Blessing Ceremony in April for the new Centre for Clean Energy & Automotive Innovation. Also, nominations for the Outstanding Alumni Awards are being accepted. The awards ceremony is on May 9, 2024.
- The 2024 Giving Tuesday campaign was a huge success. Thanks to VCC's amazing donors, the Foundation was able to support students facing food insecurity challenges by distributing gift cards and food.

12. NEW BUSINESS

12.1. International Education Strategic Plan (IESP) 2024-29

- J. Gossen, Director, International Education presented the new VCC International Education Strategic Plan (IESP) 2024-29 for information.
- There has been collaboration with VCC's departments, such as the Centre for Teaching and Learning and the Indigenous Education & Community Engagement, to ensure the IESP goals align with VCC's Strategic Innovation Plan. A communication strategy is being developed.

13. NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT

- The next regular public board meeting is on Mar 27, 2024.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

Libby Davies
Acting Chair
VCC Board of Governors