



# MINUTES Board of Governors Public Meeting

March 26, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.  
Room 5025, Broadway Campus &  
MS Teams

## ATTENDANCE

### Board Members

Mahin Rashid (Chair, Board/HRC)  
Jeffrey Yu (Vice Chair/Chair, FAC)  
Chi Lo REGRETS  
Christie Sparklingeyes  
Dilraj Sandhu  
Harleen Kaur  
Jennifer Cummins  
Joey Hartman  
Libby Davies  
Michele Guerin  
Paul Yeung REGRETS  
Seung Oh

### Senior Team & 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
Surinder Aulakh	ED, Safety, Security & Risk Management
Charnelle McClure	ED, Marketing & Communications
Deborah Lucas	EA, Board of Governors
Moira Gookstetter	ED, VCC Foundation

### Guests

Ajay Patel	President & CEO	Frank Cosco	President, VCCFA
Natasha Mandryk	Chair, Education Council/GC	Deanne Bates	Chief Shop Steward, CUPE Local 4627
		Melissa Chirino	Organizer - Advocacy and Governance, SUVCC

**We acknowledge that Vancouver Community College (VCC) is located on the traditional and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples who have been stewards of this land from time immemorial.**

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. with regrets from C. Lo and P. Yeung.  
H. Kaur presented the land acknowledgement.

### Chair and President’s Opening Remarks:

M. Rashid acknowledged recent Eid celebrations and shared a personal anecdote about her daughter's visit to VCC. She emphasized the joy and community spirit such events bring.

Congratulations were extended to the team behind the recent Flourish event, which was noted as a major success with a record breaking \$239,000 raised.

M. Rashid shared updates on ongoing advocacy with government representatives, particularly MP Jenny Kwan, who has raised concerns with the Minister of Immigration regarding funding decisions and their impact on institutional sustainability.

She also reported on a recent call with board chairs from other BC colleges and institutes, noting widespread sector challenges, including funding cuts, faculty and program reductions, and leadership transitions.

. Patel echoed concerns over the financial impact of recent federal decisions affect, communicate openly and transparently with the college community. Mitigation strategies continue to be implemented, however, the President emphasized that although the institution is relatively stable, it must take ownership of its future and not rely on financial support by the government. Long-term financial sustainability remains a key focus.

M. Rashid and A. Patel both acknowledged the emotional impact these financial adjustments are having on the community, particularly the ending of VCC's LINC program —stressing the importance of compassion and clear communication, and validating the feelings of anger, frustration, and sadness.

## 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA & CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION:** THAT the VCC Board of Governors approve the Mar 26, 2025, public meeting agenda; and approve/acknowledge receipt of the following items on the consent agenda:

- 2.1 Minutes: Feb 5, 2025, Public Meeting
- 2.2 Course Deactivations
- 2.3 Board Correspondence & Activity
- 2.4 News and Events
- 2.5 VCCFA Report

**Moved, Seconded & CARRIED**

## 3. ACTION TRACKER – ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM FEB 5, 2025

No actions.

## 4. CONSTITUENCY REPORTS

### 4.1 CUPE Local 4627

No report.

### 4.2 Student Union of Vancouver Community College (SUVCC) – Presented by M. Chirino, SUVCC Organizer - Advocacy and Governance

M. Chirino provided an update on the SUVCC's recent activities. SUVCC attended the BC Federation of Students Executive Committee meeting from Mar 14–16. The committee expressed collective concern about how institutional deficits are impacting students, particularly in terms of campus services. The Board inquired about the current and potential impacts of financial adjustments on student services at VCC. In response, it was noted that VCC has experienced minimal impact to date, and their hope is that future decisions will continue to prioritize student needs and access to essential supports and services.

### 4.3 Vancouver Community College Faculty Association (VCCFA) – Presented by F. Cosco, President

F. Cosco expressed concerns about the absence of a cohesive nationwide strategy on immigration and education, emphasizing the need to re-engage in meaningful discussion about the purpose of higher education and its accessibility for all. Reference was made to a former VCC budget policy (2004) that emphasized broad consultation and balanced reductions, with concerns that current cuts are disproportionately impacting instructional areas. A. Patel responded by outlining the annual budget process, emphasizing that reductions are tied to enrolment and program needs.

M. Rashid acknowledged the concerns raised and thanked the faculty and student representatives for their candor and contributions.

## 5. EDUCATION COUNCIL (EDCO) REPORT – Presented by N. Mandryk, EdCo Chair

### 5.1 Chair's Report

N. Mandryk reported that three new program concept papers were presented to Education Council for information - Virtual Environment and Simulation Design Diploma, and Wind Turbine Maintenance Technician - Digital Communication, Social Media, and Multimedia (Post-Degree Diploma) – This program moved quickly from concept to full program proposal and was included on the meeting agenda for approval.

Additionally, course deactivations were reviewed and included in the consent agenda for the meeting. It was suggested that the Board consider moving routine items such as course deactivations and the EdCo Chair Report to the consent agenda to streamline future meetings.

### 5.2 Enrolment Plan 2025-26

The 2025-26 Enrolment Plan forecasts a 24% overall enrolment decline, including a 37% drop in international student registrations and an 11–12% decline in domestic enrolment compared to the previous year. Efforts are underway to support domestic recruitment, including entrance scholarships, targeted marketing, and coordinated outreach across the Registrar's Office, Marketing & Communications, and the VCC Foundation.

A challenge in the data infrastructure was noted—specifically, a gap in tracking student progression between inquiry and registration, limiting the college's ability to identify where potential students are lost in the pipeline. Anecdotal concerns were raised regarding community perceptions, including misinformation about program closures (e.g., School of Business), which may be affecting student decisions. The administration also noted semester conversions that may distort enrolment figures during implementation.

Broader reflections included the possibility that the college's programming does not align with evolving learner demands, particularly the increasing interest in short-term, skill-based education and micro-credentials.

#### **MOTION:**

THAT, on the advice of Education Council, the Board of Governors approve, in the form presented at this meeting, the 2025–2026 Enrolment Plan.

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED**

### 5.3 Program Discontinuance: Acute Care for Health Care Assistants Short Certificate

The Acute Care for Health Care Assistants Short Certificate program was originally created in response to a hiring requirement by the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCHA), which mandated that Health Care Assistants (HCAs) complete the certificate before working in acute care settings. However, VCHA has since removed this requirement and replaced it with a one-month, full-time orientation program that allows them to onboard HCAs more efficiently.

Following this policy change, the department engaged in consultation with external practice partners over the past year. Feedback confirmed that the program is no longer relevant and as a result, and EdCo approved the department's recommendation for its permanent discontinuance, without a two-year suspension period, as outlined in VCC policy 414 Suspension and/or Discontinuance of Programs.

#### **MOTION:**

THAT, on the advice of Education Council, the Board of Governors discontinue the Acute Care for Health Care Assistants Short Certificate program, effective May 1, 2025.

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED**

#### 5.4 Program Discontinuance: Health Care Assistant Certificate (EAL Cohort)

As with Item 5.3, EdCo recommended discontinuing the Health Care Assistant Certificate program without first entering a two-year suspension period. Enrolment has steadily declined from 2019 to 2024, indicating the program is no longer viable. Students have shown a preference for accessing English as an Additional Language (EAL) support through alternative, tuition-free pathways. In response to the Board's questions regarding risk, it was explained that bypassing the two-year suspension period could potentially affect students who have deferred their studies and wish to return within the allowable program completion timeframe. For the programs outlined in Items 5.3 and 5.4, there are no students currently enrolled. It was also confirmed that any reinstatement of a discontinued program would follow the regular governance process required for new program approvals, which may take up to two years to complete.

**MOTION:**

THAT, on the advice of Education Council, the Board of Governors discontinue the Health Care Assistant Certificate (EAL Cohort) program, effective May 1, 2025.

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED**

#### 5.5 Program Change: Bachelor of Hospitality Management.

In November 2024, the Board approved renaming the Bachelor of Hospitality Management to Bachelor of Hospitality and Food Service Systems Management. However, Education Council (EdCo) now recommends reverting to the original name, as the inclusion of "Food Service Systems Management" would require a full external review—an outcome that is not intended.

**MOTION:**

THAT, on the advice of Education Council, the Board of Governors approve changing the name of the Bachelor of Hospitality and Food Service Systems Management back to Bachelor of Hospitality Management.

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED**

#### 5.6 New: 3 Associate Degree Specializations within the Associate of Science and Associate of Arts Degree: Associate of Arts in Psychology, Associate of Science in Data Science, and Associate of Science in Environmental Science

The proposal involves changing the credential from a generic "Associate of Science" or "Associate of Arts" to one that references a specific specialization. This change would be reflected on the student's transcript and aligned with the appropriate Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) code. The addition of these specializations does not impact transferability.

**MOTION:**

THAT, on the advice of Education Council, the Board of Governors approve the following specializations within the existing Associate of Science and Associate of Arts Degree credentials:

Associate of Arts (Psychology) Degree	Associate of Science (Environmental Science) Degree
Associate of Science (Data Science) Degree	Associate of Science (Computer Science) Degree

And the creation of 10 courses:

BIOL 2105	MATH 2710	PSYC 2110
EVSC 2010	PHIL 1100	SOCI 2250
MATH 2230	PHIL 2100	
MATH 2705	PSYC 2100	

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED**

## 5.7 New Program & 5 Courses: Digital Learning for Innovative Teaching Short Certificate

The new Short Certificate – Digital Learning for Innovative Teaching was developed by the School of Instructor Education (SIE), which delivers VCC’s Provincial Instructor Diploma Program across the province. The development of this certificate was funded by the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills to support the advancement of digital teaching and learning skills among instructors.

### **MOTION:**

THAT, on the advice of Education Council, the Board of Governors approve the new Digital Learning for Innovative Teaching Short Certificate credential program implementation and creation of 5 courses:

DLIT 3010	DLIT 3040
DLIT 3020	DLIT 3050
DLIT 3030	

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED**

## 5.8 Revised Program & 32 Courses: Paralegal Diploma

Following a program review in 2023, VCC’s Paralegal Diploma has undergone significant revisions, including the creation of 32 associated new courses. The program has been reduced in overall credit load and updated to better reflect current legal sector requirements, particularly those related to regulatory competencies.

### **MOTION:**

THAT, on the advice of Education Council, the Board of Governors approve the implementation of the significantly revised Paralegal Diploma program; and

THAT the Board of Governors approve the creation of 32 new courses to be offered as part of the significantly revised Paralegal Diploma program.

LEGL 1601	LEGL 1611	LEGL 2621	LEGL 1641	LEGL 1653	LEGL 1700
LEGL 1602	LEGL 1612	LEGL 2622	LEGL 1642	LEGL 1654	LEGL 2700
LEGL 1603	LEGL 2611	LEGL 1631	LEGL 2641	LEGL 2651	
LEGL 1604	LEGL 2612	LEGL 1632	LEGL 2642	LEGL 2652	
LEGL 1605	LEGL 1621	LEGL 2631	LEGL 1651	LEGL 2653	
LEGL 1606	LEGL 1622	LEGL 2632	LEGL 1652	LEGL 2654	

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED**

## 5.9 New Program: Digital Communication, Social Media and Multimedia Post-Degree Diploma

The new Post-Degree Diploma in Digital Communication, Social Media and Multimedia is designed for students with a bachelor’s degree. The program prepares graduates for careers in content creation, social media management, and digital marketing. It differs from the existing Graphic Design Diploma by focusing more on multimedia, marketing, and management. The bachelor’s degree admission requirement will be reassessed after the first cohort. The department plans to explore Prior Learning Assessment Recognition (PLAR) for some courses.

### **MOTION:**

THAT, on the advice of Education Council, the Board of Governors approve the new Digital Communication, Social Media and Multimedia Post-Degree Diploma credential implementation, and creation of 12 courses:

DCOM 1100	DCOM 1200	DCOM 1215	DCOM 2120
DCOM 1105	DCOM 1205	DCOM 2105	DCOM 2200
DCOM 1110	DCOM 1210	DCOM 2110	DCOM 2205

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED**

## 6. FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE (FAC) REPORT - Presented by J. Yu, FAC Chair

### 6.1 Chair's Report

The Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) met on Mar 17, 2025. In accordance with a prior resolution of the Board, the FAC approved a 1% transfer of funds to support international student initiatives. These initiatives include entrance awards, scholarships for academic excellence, outbound educational experiences, and other related support services.

Additionally, the FAC approved the award of contract for consultant services related to the Broadway Campus Development Plan. VCC intends to engage consultants to support the development of a policy statement and the rezoning application. This phase of the project is critical to ensuring the Broadway Campus development aligns with municipal planning objectives and community needs.

### 6.2 2023/24 Forecast to Budget

The 2024/25 January forecast (9 months actual + 3 months forecast) is projecting a small surplus at end of fiscal year. With two months remaining in the fiscal year, it was noted that the college is currently projecting a small surplus. This forecast remains tentative due to ongoing uncertainty in the post-secondary sector.

### 6.3 2025/26 Operating Budget

The VCC operating budget for the fiscal year 2025/26 was approved by FAC for recommendation to the Board. The budget was developed based on a range of assumptions made by management.

The VCC operating budget for the 2025/26 fiscal year has been approved by the Finance and Audit Committee for recommendation to the Board. The budget was developed based on a series of assumptions.

To address ongoing financial pressures, the college is implementing difficult but necessary measures to align spending with actual and projected enrolment. A key component of this approach includes faculty staffing reductions in select program. These reductions are driven by a significant decline in student enrolment and are based on current data and instructional requirements.

The college is following the provisions of the Collective Agreement throughout this process and continues to work with the Faculty Association to identify and pursue mitigation efforts.

There was a question raised about the process, especially amid uncertainties in international enrolment. Management emphasized that decisions were data-driven and not speculative. While the college can expand programs if increased enrolment warrants this, Collective Agreement requirements make rapid changes challenging.

A \$250,000 contingency reserve has been included in the budget to manage future uncertainties. While modest, it reflects the balance between financial prudence and meeting budget targets.

Domestic enrolment is showing signs of recovery in some programs, with projections based on realistic trends.

No cuts are planned to student services. The college remains committed to maintaining student support and ongoing communication with the Students' Union regarding any future changes.

The Finance and Audit Committee reviewed the first draft in January and approved the final budget of \$171.4M on Mar 12, 2025, with the understanding that careful monitoring will be essential to effectively manage the current constrained financial situation moving forward.

#### **MOTION:**

THAT, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve the 2025/26 Operating Budget, as presented at the March 26, 2025 meeting.

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED (1 Opposed: J. Cummins)**

## 6.4 2025/26 Capital Budget

As part of VCC's annual budget cycle, the development of a capital plan is a key component, supported through the college's internal capital funding. Departments submit capital requests, which are reviewed and prioritized based on institutional needs.

For the 2025/26 fiscal year, VCC is proposing a \$3M allocation to support facilities improvements, library enhancements, furniture and equipment upgrades, classroom expansion, and IT initiatives. In response to a question from the Board, Management confirmed that these funds are restricted solely for internal capital expenditures.

### **MOTION:**

THAT, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve the \$3.0 million 2025/26 Capital Budget, as presented at the March 26, 2025 meeting.

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED**

## 6.5 TUITION: Paralegal Diploma

As outlined under item 5.8, the significantly revised Paralegal Diploma program has been designed to ensure both academic relevance and financial sustainability. FAC approved the proposed tuition which reflects these goals while considering the value of the credential, which can lead to higher earning potential for graduates.

It was noted that many students enrolling in the program are already employed in legal settings and are seeking to upskill. During the discussion, the Board suggested that data on employer-sponsored tuition could be a useful consideration in future tuition-setting decisions.

### **MOTION:**

THAT, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve tuition for the Paralegal Diploma, effective September 2025:

\$15,781 (domestic)

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED**

## 6.6 TUITION: New Digital Learning for Innovative Teaching Short Certificate

As outlined in Item 5.7, the new Digital Learning and Innovative Teaching Short Certificate is designed to train sector professionals in digital literacy and is expected to be absorbed into the existing Provincial Instructor Diploma Program (PIDP) in the future.

For recommendation to the Board, FAC approved tuition rates that support the program's financial viability and alignment with provincial needs.

### **MOTION:**

THAT, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve tuition for the new Digital Learning for Innovative Teaching Short Certificate, effective September 2025:

Domestic: \$286.83 per credit

International: \$631.65 per credit

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED**

## 6.7 TUITION: New: 13 University Transfer courses within associate degree specializations: Associate of Arts in Psychology, Associate of Science in Data Science, and Associate of Science in Environmental Science

Three new associate degree specializations were outlined in Item 5.6. FAC approved tuition rates for 13 new courses within these specializations, to be launched September 2025. These courses were chosen for their strong transferability to major universities such as SFU and UBC. The new specializations include

what may be the province’s first Associate of Science in Data Science, addressing a growing demand in an emerging field.

**MOTION:**

THAT, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, for the new courses in the Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degree programs, the Board of Governors approve tuition, effective September 1, 2025:

\$205.30 per credit for domestic students, and \$716.99 per credit for international students, for courses:

EVSC 2010	MATH 2710	PSYC 2100
MATH 2230	SOCI 2250	PSYC 2110
MATH 2705	PHIL 2100	PHIL 1100

and;

\$246.47 per credit for domestic students, and \$799.81 per credit for international students, for courses:

BIOL 2105	BIOL 2216
BIOL 2204	BIOL 2106

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED**

## 6.8 Tuition: New program: Digital Communication, Social Media & Multimedia Post-Degree Diploma

The new Post-Degree Diploma in Digital Communication, Social Media, and Multimedia was outlined in Item 5.9. For recommendation to the Board, FAC approved tuition rates that support the program’s financial viability and reflect the high demand for skills in this growing field.

**MOTION:**

That, on the recommendation the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve the tuition for the new Digital Communication, Social Media and Multimedia Post-Degree Diploma, effective August 1, 2025:

\$11,473 domestic  
\$28,680 international

**Moved, Seconded and CARRIED**

## 7. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (GC) REPORT - Presented by N. Mandryk, GC Chair

### 7.1 Chair’s Report

The Governance Committee met on Mar 17, 2025. The 2025 Board Evaluation process and timeline were confirmed, with the survey to be conducted in April, followed by a report by the GC to the Board on May 28. The committee completed its annual review of Bylaws G.1.0 (Board Conduct) and G.3.0 (Board Honoraria); no changes were identified, and Mar 17, 2025, was recorded as the formal review date for both. The Board will reaffirm the Oath of Office at this meeting.

A plan was established to review the G.2.0 Board Governance Bylaw and the committee’s Terms of Reference, which will commence at the next meeting on May 8. The committee will also recommend that the Human Resources and Finance & Audit Committees review their Terms of Reference.

### 7.2 G.1.0 Board Conduct – Annual Oath of Office Affirmation

M. Rashid led the annual Oath of Office affirmation, after which the Board members signed the Oath.

## 8. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE (HRC) REPORT - Presented by M. Rashid, HRC Chair

In collaboration with the President, the Human Resources Committee has established the President’s 2025 Performance Objectives. They include ongoing integration of values like equity, diversity, inclusion (EDI), and Indigenization into the college’s strategic innovation plan. Key objectives: financial

sustainability (including deficit mitigation strategies), progress of the campus plan, addressing cybersecurity risks, and expanding public relations and outreach initiatives to increase the college's visibility, brand, and impact, all of which are central to his leadership responsibilities and essential for board oversight.

## 9. INDIGENIZATION AT VCC

Indigenous Board Member Christie Sparklingeyes shared reflections from the International Women's Day event held on March 6, 2025, hosted by DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society in partnership with Minerva BC.

Speaking to a diverse audience of emerging leaders and professionals, Christie highlighted her journey as an Indigenous woman in leadership, emphasizing the importance of representation, empowerment, and resilience. She spoke about her early career experiences, leadership roles, and governance training that helped shape her voice and confidence.

She also raised concerns about the impact of funding cuts on marginalized communities, urging the Board to consider these effects through an equity lens. Quoting her own words, "Tell me how to do something, then watch me do my best work," she underscored the value of support and trust.

Board members expressed gratitude for Christie's insights and the perspective her lived experience brings to their work.

## 10. VCC FOUNDATION – Presented by J. Yu, Board Representative, VCC Foundation Board of Directors

Sincere thanks were extended to all who helped make the Mar 5, 2025 Flourish gala a resounding success. A record-breaking \$239,000 was raised to equip a classroom in the new Centre for Clean Energy & Automotive Innovation (CCEAI) building, including a \$50,000 pledge from Heritage Office Furniture and Steelcase. The nearly sold out event featured 13 chef stations, 9 beverage stations, and 11 VCC program activations. Special thanks to MC Fred Lee for creating an engaging atmosphere. Two videos highlighting the event and CCEAI Fund a Need campaign were shown.

Outstanding Alumni Awards -Nominations are now closed. The selection panel will meet shortly, and recipients will be honoured at a celebration on Jun 26, 2025, at the Broadway campus.

Student Awards - The Spring awards celebration will be held on Jun 6, 2025, with both morning and afternoon sessions. This year includes 46 new awards funded by the Barrett Family Foundation, supporting six program areas as part of their pledge to VCC's CCEAI, marking the largest number of awards from a single foundation in VCC's history.

## 11. NEW BUSINESS

### 11.1 Strategic Innovation Plan Update

A. Patel provided an update on VCC's Strategic Innovation Plan, which continues to guide institutional efforts around financial sustainability, shared values, reconciliation, and innovation. Designed to be adaptive, the plan balances long-term vision with responsiveness to changing needs. At the core of the plan is a commitment to "real learning for real change"—a guiding principle that reflects VCC's dedication to meaningful education, inclusion, and community transformation.

**Reconciliation & Identity** - Continued integration of Indigenous values through the longhouse logo, now visible in public-facing materials and across campus. The longhouse symbol—representing warmth, learning, and transformation—has helped foster a shared sense of purpose. The ground blessing ceremony for the new CCEAI building marked a culturally respectful shift from traditional groundbreaking and was cited as a significant step in reconciliation.

**Academic Innovation** - 14 new micro-credentials launched in areas such as gaming, animation, Indigenous business, and marketing technology. Global partnerships expanded, including exchanges with institutions

in Brunei, Japan, Mexico, China, and Kenya. All curriculum is reviewed through a JEDI (justice, equity, diversity, inclusion) lens, ensuring values alignment across programming.

**Sustainability & Facilities** - Annual 5% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions reported, supported by physical upgrades and smart systems. Major capital projects include a \$36.9M culinary kitchen focused on sustainability, wellness, and inclusion. Accessibility upgrades include height-adjustable desks, strobe warning systems, and other inclusive design features.

**Operational Excellence** - Completion of ERP Phase II and implementation of automated expense processing and fraud detection tools. System transition to Linux to improve cybersecurity. Online time entry systems launched for all employees. Compliance maintained with the Board-approved risk management policy.

**Leadership & Culture** - Launch of an internal Leadership Development Program connecting employees with senior mentors and cross-department projects. Focus on building an inclusive, mobile workforce and supporting staff career progression. The College received its third Accessible Employers Award in recognition of inclusive workplace practices.

**Community Engagement & Partnerships** - Active partnerships include Bernie's Meals on Wheels vehicle repair, ECCE assistant training for newcomer women, National Employment Program with the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association, ICBC vehicle donation refurbished by students for the Pacific Association of First Nations Women, collaboration with UBC and BC Disability Services to support students with autism and other learning challenges.

**Foundation & Student Services** - The Foundation continues to lead impactful fundraising and student support initiatives, e.g., Flourish gala and Fund a Need campaign, distribution of laptops through the loan laptop service, increasing digital equity for students, funding of psychological educational assessments for students with learning needs, removing financial barriers to further support.

**Looking Ahead** - Work continues on a comprehensive Indigenization Framework, an updated campus plan, and a new capital campaign to support growth. Strategic documents are being used to engage community leaders, government officials, and stakeholders, reinforcing the College's commitment to real learning for real change.

**Indigenous Engagement** - Ongoing consultation with the Indigenous Advisory Council, including education leaders from all host nations and experts in Indigenous education, continues to inform VCC's direction and ensure accountability.

## 12. NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT

M. Rashid thanked everyone for their participation.

The next regular public board meeting is scheduled for May 28, 2025. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

**MINUTES APPROVED: May 28, 2025**