

February 5, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.  
Room 5025, Broadway Campus

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board Members**

Mahin Rashid (Chair, Board/HRC)  
Jeffrey Yu (Vice Chair/Chair, FAC)  
Carol Ye  
Chi Lo  
Christie Sparklingeyes  
Colin Zuo  
Francesco Barillaro  
Malou Morales  
Michele Guerin (Regrets)  
Dr. Paul Yeung  
Simon Cheng  
Dr. Steve Cardwell  
Synthia Kloot  
Tanmay Chugh

**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  
Jessie Williams Dean, Indigenous Initiatives  
Amanda Wiseman EC, President’s Office  
Lucia Zabrieszach EC, VPA’s Office

**Ex-Officio**

Ajay Patel President & CEO  
Louise Dannhauer Chair, Education Council/GC

**Guests**

John Demeulemeester VCCFA  
Deanne Bates Chief Shop Steward, CUPE Local 4627  
Brynn Joyce Executive Director, SUVCC

**We acknowledge that Vancouver Community College (VCC) is located on the traditional and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (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 5:50 p.m.

The Chair noted recent Board and Senior Team engagement, including a January Board retreat and meetings of Board Chairs with the Minister of Post-Secondary Education. Key themes included the Minister’s understanding of sector challenges, anticipated timing and content of the post-secondary review, governance considerations, and a commitment to quarterly meetings with Board Chairs. The Chair also summarized a subsequent meeting with Don Avison focused on the purpose and value of colleges, system sustainability, collaboration, online learning and AI, tuition limits, and improved supports for under-represented learners.

The President thanked Board members for attending student awards and convocation events and highlighted the Minister’s December campus visit and recent student achievements. He provided a financial and operational update, noting approved deficit budgets for the current and upcoming fiscal year, subject to Treasury approval, continued impacts of IRCC policy changes, and anticipated revenue declines of approximately \$53 million over two fiscal years (2025/26 and 2026/27). The President outlined mitigation efforts, including expense recalibration, workforce adjustments, a reorganization from four schools to three

by August, and realignment of student services. Appreciation was expressed to the college community for maintaining enrolment stability and external confidence during a period of transition, with an emphasis on care and compassion for affected colleagues.

## **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA & CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** THAT the VCC Board of Governors approve the February 5, 2026, public meeting agenda, including items on the consent agenda, with the addition of New Business items related to a Board Retreat update, and the post-secondary review

**2.1** Minutes: November 26, 2025 Public Meeting

**2.2** Board Correspondence & Activity

**2.3** News and Events

**2.4** Education Council Chair's Report

**2.5** Course Deactivations

**2.6** Concept Paper: Plumber Foundation Certificate

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

## **3. INDIGENIZATION AT VCC**

### **Indigenous Matriarchal Teachings**

Jessie Williams reflected on Indigenous matriarchal teachings shared at the Board retreat by Dr. Gwendolyn Point and Tanya O'Neill. Key themes included Indigenous worldview as guidance on being a good human; leadership grounded in accountability, interdependence, and responsibility to those present and future generations; and governance as shared responsibility rather than positional authority. The importance of relationship, respect, balance, and staying connected through difficult conversations was emphasized. Board members were reminded that diverse lived experiences and teachings strengthen collective governance.

## **4. CONSTITUENCY REPORTS**

### **4.1 CUPE Local 4627**

CUPE 4627 reported that CUPE BC had a productive meeting with Don Avison, which included the post-secondary funding formula and the importance of the sector in supporting future skills development. Concerns were raised regarding workforce impacts during the current period of financial restraint.

CUPE 4627 noted the union awarded ten \$1,000 bursaries to post-secondary institutions to support CUPE members and their dependents pursuing education. Board members acknowledged the report and expressed appreciation for CUPE's support of students and members through the bursary program.

### **4.2 Student Union of Vancouver Community College (SUVCC)**

The Student Union reported on the hiring of a new advocacy and governance organizer. Updates included a recent student rally highlighting education funding pressures, engagement with the post-secondary sustainability review, and discussions regarding the value and costs of VCC's unique programs. Capacity concerns related to the loss of the Ombudsperson role were noted.

### **4.3 Vancouver Community College Faculty Association (VCCFA)**

VCCFA reported significant workforce impacts resulting from financial pressures, including advance notices to regular or permanent faculty and significantly higher number when term and casual instructors are included. Concerns were raised regarding the scale of reductions, the need for compassion in implementation, and sector-wide funding inequities. The President responded by outlining guiding principles focused on financial sustainability, maintaining institutional integrity, and proportional decision-making, noting ongoing advocacy for funding model reform.

## 5. PROGRAMS, TUITION & FEES

### 5.1 NEW: Automotive Electronics Repair Certificate Program

**MOTION:** THAT, on the advice of Education Council, the Board of Governors approve the new Automotive Electronics Repair Certificate credential, creation of associated courses, and program implementation.

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

#### 5.1.1 Tuition: Automotive Electronics Repair Certificate Program

**MOTION:** THAT, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve tuition for the Automotive Electronics Repair Certificate, effective September 2026.

Domestic: \$11,453.27 (\$381.78 per credit)

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

### 5.2 NEW: Automotive Parts, Service Advising & Collision Estimating Certificate Program

**MOTION:** THAT, on the advice of Education Council, the Board of Governors approve the new Automotive Parts, Service Advising & Collision Estimating Certificate credential, creating of associated courses, and program implementation.

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

#### 5.2.1 Tuition: Automotive Parts, Service Advising & Collision Estimating Certificate Program

**MOTION:** THAT, on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Governors approve tuition for the Automotive Parts, Service Advising & Collision Estimating Certificate, effective September 2026.

Domestic: \$9,926.17 (\$381.78 per credit)

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

### 5.3 DISCONTINUED: Pre-Health Science Certificate

Education Council advised that the program, established in 2017, has never been offered and has had no enrolled students. Both the School of Arts & Sciences and the School of Health Sciences supported discontinuance.

**MOTION:** THAT, on the advice of Education Council, the Board of Governors approve the discontinuance of the Pre-Health Sciences Certificate, effective May 1, 2026.

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

## 6. FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE (FAC) REPORT

### 6.1 2025/26 Forecast to Budget

The Committee reported on the January forecast, noting continued operating deficits driven primarily by salary and benefit costs and declining international enrolment. Domestic tuition revenues were noted as modestly above budget. Board members discussed the cost structure of specialized programs, the importance of bursaries and scholarships, and the need to balance enrolment growth with service capacity. Appreciation was expressed for collaborative efforts across the institution.

## 7. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (GC) REPORT

No items were brought forward.

## 8. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT

## **8.1 Chair's Report**

The Board received an update noting the appointment of a new Committee Chair, Synthia Klood and upcoming Committee work.

## **9. VCC FOUNDATION UPDATE**

The Foundation reported successful fundraising initiatives, including Giving Tuesday results exceeding \$102,000, upcoming events such as Flourish, alumni awards, and community partnerships. Board members were encouraged to participate in Foundation events.

## **10. NEW BUSINESS**

### **Board Retreat Update**

Discussion of retreat themes addressing changes in the post-secondary environment, strategic adaptation, and proactive governance. Key takeaways emphasized intentionality, boldness, and preparedness for the public release of the post-secondary review.

### **Post-Secondary Review Submission**

The President summarized VCC's submission to the review, highlighting practical solutions including campus redevelopment and land value capture, program and delivery innovation, shared curriculum infrastructure, expanded dual credit pathways, and disability funding beyond K-12.

## **11. NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular public board meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.