



Okanagan College Board of Governors Regular Open Session

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

Meeting held via Zoom

Approved September 23, 2025

IN ATTENDANCE

Board Members

- Dale Safinuk, Board Chair
- Andrea Alexander, Vice Chair
- Neil Fassina, President & ex-officio
- Cindy Battersby
- Dustyn Baulkham
- Gurjit Chand
- JoAnn Fowler
- Kevin Fukushima
- Jillian Garrett
- Sheri Hamilton
- Roger Wheeler
- Carollynn Schafer
- Amanda Louie
- Allan Louis

Regrets

- Emmarith Balili
- Ben Harris

Administration

- Curtis Morcom, CFO and Vice President, Corporate Services
- Samantha Lenci, Provost & Vice President Academic
- Gill Henderson, Associate Vice President, People Services
- Jenn Goodwin, Associate Vice President, College Relations
- Joanna Campbell, Manager, Executive Office
- Kristen Wiebe, Governance and Privacy Coordinator
- Helen Jackman, Executive Director, Okanagan College Foundation

ACTION

1. CALL TO ORDER

Quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 9:32a.m.
It was respectfully acknowledged that the meeting was held on the unceded traditional lands of the Indigenous people who have inhabited and used the lands since time immemorial.

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting and offered regrets from B. Harris and E. Balili. Members provided introductions.

1.1. Inspire Moment

The President gave an Inspire Moment.

Three new Board Members took their oath of office:
Carollynn Schafer, Allan Louis, Amanda Louie

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT

No conflicts were declared.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approves the June 17, 2025 Open Session meeting agenda and thereby approves the consent agenda.”

C. Battersby
 CARRIED

3.1. Consent Agenda

3.1.1. Open Session Minutes - May 21, 2025

3.1.2. Mandate Letter

Motion:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approves the 2025 Mandate Letter.”

4. REPORTS

4.1. Chair Report

4.2. Finance Audit and Risk Report

The Chair provided a combined Chair and Committee report, noting attendance at OC Cultivates on May 28, and June convocation ceremonies. The Chair thanked members who attended ceremonies and S. Hamilton and C. Battersby for providing an address on behalf of the Board.

The Chair indicated that the Board renewed the President’s contract earlier in the Spring and thanked the President for his continued leadership.

The Chair shared that they met with two new members last week for orientation and welcomed them to the Board. The Chair also noted their attendance at the OC Foundation AGM and Board meeting on on June 12, as well as at a meeting with the President of the OC Faculty Association on the presentation included on the agenda as item #6.1.

The Finance, Audit, and Risk and Executive Committees met on June 10, and reviewed and approved the first quarter forecast, and the audited financial statements for 2024/25. The Committee also received an update from RBC PH&N on the College’s investment portfolio.

4.2.1. Okanagan College Audited Financial Statements 2024/25

The CFO and Vice President Corporate Services thanked the auditors and Financial Services team for their work during the audit. An overview of the audited financial statements and notes affecting the statements was given.

Motion:

***“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve the Okanagan College financial statements for fiscal year ending March 31, 2025 as recommended by the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee.*”**

S. Hamilton
CARRIED

4.3. Board Bylaws

The Chair noted that the bylaws were circulated by email on May 26. The President provided an overview of the governance review conducted in May and June and highlighted changes to:

- Clarifying language around presentations and delegations
- Recording procedures for voting – abstentions will now include names and reasons in the minutes.
- Clarifying language was also added to the Resolution by Written Procedure to outline the moving and seconding member as the first and second member casting a vote.

A member asked for clarification on how members are excused from a meeting and it was noted that a member may be excused through the Chair.

Motion

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve the revised Bylaws Relating Generally to the Conduct of the Affairs of Okanagan College as recommended by the Governance Committee.”

A. Alexander
CARRIED

4.4. Education Council

4.4.1. New Programs

The Education Council Chair presented the new program, noting it is an introductory program with no admission requirements that is designed for community and homeowners for the installation of solar panels. A member noted the curriculum was adopted from Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC).

Motion

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve the new program: Solar Photovoltaic Systems Introduction and Installation Microcredential as recommended by Education Council.”

D. Baulkham
CARRIED

The Education Council Chair highlighted the are entry requirements for the program noting that participants are required to be a Red Seal electrician. The intention of the program is upskilling and both Microcredentials presented today

qualify for the BC Future Skills Grant. It was also noted that the courses must be taken sequentially as each course is a prerequisite for the previous course.

Motion

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve the new program: Solar Photovoltaic Systems for Professionals Microcredential as recommended by Education Council.”

C. Battersby
CARRIED

4.4.2. Program Revisions

The Education Council Chair noted that the co-op placement requirement was removed to make the program more competitive. Admission requirements have been updated as for similar business programs and post-secondary standards.

Minimum qualifications to instruct within the program were also updated. A member asked these qualifications and the EdCo Chair noted the department determines the topic area that is related and normally require a Masters degree or higher.

Motion

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve the revised Tourism Management Diploma as recommended by Education Council and as presented.”

S. Hamilton
CARRIED

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1. Okanagan College Capital Plan

The CFO & Vice President Corporate Services noted that the College Capital Plan project has taken place over 8-10 months and thanked Leadership and the campus communities for participating. It was noted this is a requirement of the ministry and was last completed in 2018. Many projects within the 2018 Plan were completed.

The College Capital Plan needed to be reviewed and refreshed to align with the Inspire Plan. Each year the Five-Year Capital Plan is submitted to the Ministry as well and is informed by the College Capital Plan.

The Plan includes accessibility audits at each campus, wayfinding, and maps as well as student-focused study spaces with access to technology.

Over the next several years the College could anticipate decline in capital spending, with funding allocated towards smaller projects.

The CFO and Vice President Corporate Services highlighted that the Plan is a living document that is usually refreshed every five years; however, the next review is dependent on the success of projects contained within the current Plan, and achievements within the Inspire Strategic Plan. It was clarified that, given the

breadth of the plan it will evolve and the Campus Planning Committee will be engaged as appropriate.

A member asked how accessibility will be achieved and it was noted the College is prioritizing projects from the accessibility audit over the next several years.

A member asked about Indigenous inclusion in the Plan. It was noted that Indigenous ways of knowing are included and that the Indigenous OC Plan will be aligned with this.

A member inquired about capital funding and it was noted that funding allocated to capital must be used for that purpose. The College Capital Plan informs OC Foundation planning as well.

A member asked if the report is shared with local Councils and it was noted this is included as part of a roadshow. The President's 2025/26 outreach goals includes scheduling visits with Chiefs and Councils and municipalities.

Motion:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve the Okanagan College Capital Plan 2025 as presented."

*D Baulkham
CARRIED*

6. OTHER BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM CONSENT AGENDA

6.1. Okanagan College Faculty Association Presentation

The Chair outlined context for the presentation.

The Okanagan College Faculty Association (OCFA) President gave a presentation, noting their appreciation for the opportunity. It was suggested that morale is low and in decline and that the card messages are a reflection of responsibilities of the Board. It was highlighted that the overall message is about more than an enrolment crisis but indicative of a loss of trust and leadership. The OCFA President noted a commitment to students and communities and noted that transparency is important to the OC Community.

A member inquired as to what transparency looks like and the OCFA President offered that faculty would like to gain an understanding of the financial situation and contribute to decisions. The Chair highlighted that faculty have an opportunity to provide input at Education Council.

The Chair noted respect for the faculty at the institution and that noted that this appreciation is shared by executive leadership at the College. It was noted that the employee survey feedback is an opportunity to build on the relationships between leadership and faculty. The Chair further offered that the President has this included that in goals for this year and noted that the Board supports this continued improvement.

The Chair expressed appreciation for the messages from the OCFA.

It was noted that every decision of the board is student-centred, and suggested that this is a shared commitment with the OCFA. It was acknowledged that faculty are important to student success and delivering programming.

The Chair noted that the Board will continue to hold leadership accountable for ensuring the College is successful, and thanked the President, OCFA for the presentation.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45a.m.

CARRIED