



Okanagan College Board of Governors
Regular Open Session

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Room SA130, Salmon Arm Campus

Approved: December 9, 2025

IN ATTENDANCE

Board Members

- Dustyn Baulkham, Acting Chair
- Neil Fassina, President & ex-officio
- Cindy Battersby
- Gurjit Chand
- JoAnn Fowler
- Kevin Fukushima
- Jillian Garrett
- Sheri Hamilton
- Ben Harris
- Amanda Louie
- Allan Louis
- Carollynn Schafer
- Roger Wheeler

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

Regrets:

- Dale Safinuk, Board Chair
- Andrea Alexander, Vice Chair

ACTION

1. CALL TO ORDER AND CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Acting Chair welcomed members and shared regrets from D. Safinuk and A. Alexander.

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.

Quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 9:34a.m.

1.1. Inspire Moment

The President shared an Inspire Moment about CampOC.

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT

There were no conflicts declared.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approves the September 23, 2025 Open Session meeting agenda and thereby approves the consent agenda.”

C. Battersby
CARRIED

3.1. Consent Agenda

3.1.1. Open Session Minutes – June 17, 2025

3.1.2. Employee Discrimination, Bullying and Harassment Policy Review

3.1.3. Capital Campaign Report

3.1.4. Climate Change Accountability Report

3.1.5. Education Council Chair Report

3.1.6. Institutional Accountability Plan Report 2023/24

Recommended motion:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve the Institutional Accountability Plan and Report 2023/24.”

3.1.7. Board Meeting Schedule

Recommended motion:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve the 2026 & 2027 Board Meeting Schedules as recommended by the Executive Committee.”

3.1.8. Board Annual Workplan

Recommended motion:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve the 2026 Board Workplan as recommended by the Executive Committee.”

4. REPORTS

4.1. Chair Report

The Acting Chair provided a report noting the following:

- The Executive Committee met on Sept 16 and recommended that the Board approve the annual schedule and workplan.
- Over the summer, the Chair received an invitation to a general post-secondary meet-and-greet with BC Board Chairs and our new Minister.

4.2. Finance, Audit and Risk Review Committee Report

- The Acting Chair noted the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee met on Sept 16 and received the first quarter financial statements referenced under the President's report.

4.3. Governance Committee Report

- The Governance Committee which met on September 16.
- The Governance Committee reviewed and are recommending that the Board approve two revised policies as Agenda items 4.3.1 & 4.3.2:
 - The Naming Policy
 - The Board Appeals Policy

4.3.1. Naming Policy

H. Jackman presented the updates to the policy. The updated policy will include naming of non-tangible assets such as schools and programs.

Naming will consider values, not credentials or research projects to preserve academic freedom and keep naming rights free from commercial influence. Consultation will take place for Indigenous naming under the policy.

A member asked about philanthropic naming and it was noted that a school could be named.

Motion:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approves the revised Naming Policy as recommended by the Governance Committee."

B. Harris
CARRIED

4.3.2. Board Appeals Policy

The President presented the Board Appeals Policy noting that it applies to suspensions or terminations for cause, and that the President is the only one able to make these types of student suspensions. Employees that seek to appeal will normally go through the legal system for wrongful dismissal. For employees the union is normally their representative. A possible outcome of an appeal is reinstatement.

Motion:

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approves the revised Board Appeals Policy as recommended by the Governance Committee."

G. Chand
CARRIED

4.4. President's Report and Analysis

4.4.1. First Quarter Financial Statement

The President provided a report including the following highlights:

- Provincially, there is a new Minister for post-secondary, with the same Deputy Minister and Chief of Staff.
- Federally, the President recently met with Member of Parliament Jolie, and Parliamentary Secretary Fuhr's portfolio. Announcements are anticipated around the defense strategy, which could relate to aerospace education opportunities.
- The Union of BC Municipalities Conference is this week in Victoria and it is the last one prior to municipal elections.
- Risk trends have increased around international enrolment challenges with respect to policy, caps on international enrolment, and delays with IRCC approval rates. The College may realize the full impact next year after international students in two-year programs have completed their programs.
- Aircraft Maintenance is anticipated to be removed from the list of programs eligible for post-graduate work permits.
- International enrolment is down this year however better than planned. The College planned for a worst case scenario and will continue similar planning for next year. The domestic curve is trending in the right direction and there was an increase in headcount this year.

A member asked about enrolment impacts across campuses and it was noted Kelowna saw the biggest impact. It was noted that Trades programs across all campuses are thriving however limited by available space.

A member asked about economic development advocacy locally and it was noted that the College is creating awareness around allied health, aerospace, and food, wine, and tourism.

A member asked about reception around the updated Smoking Policy and it was noted that feedback received has been positive both pre-and-post implementation.

A member asked about the impact of closure of print services. Managing employee expectations was a risk that was mitigated through a locker system to pick up print orders and identifying preferred print vendors. There is increased access to print services on each campus through the use of external vendors rather than shipping print projects from Kelowna.

4.5. Education Council

4.5.1. Program Revisions

The Education Council Chair provided an overview of the program revisions to the Commercial Aviation Diploma and Commercial Helicopter Certificate,

highlighting the change from the previous format. Students may now take their flight training through any Transport Canada approved provider and complete their academic courses at OC.

Motions:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve program revisions to the Commercial Aviation Diploma as recommended by Education Council and as presented.”

C. Battersby
CARRIED

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Okanagan College Board of Governors approve program revisions to the Commercial Helicopter Pilot Certificate as recommended by Education Council and as presented.”

K. Fukushima
CARRIED

5. OTHER BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM CONSENT AGENDA

The President indicated that there is a significant profit margin on CampOC and suggested that additional space may allow for more programming.

The President noted in relation to first quarter (Q1) financial projections the College had anticipated a more significant deficit and we are on track to budget.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32a.m.

CARRIED