

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
OF VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE HELD ON
NOVEMBER 6, 2014 AT THE BROADWAY CAMPUS**

Committee Members: Eugene Hodgson (Chair), Ted McGurk, Jim Storie, Rick Stokes, Claire Marshall, Chloe Choi, Erin Klis, Tanis Sawkins, Jennifer Haggerty, Sumit Ahuja (in person), Pam Ryan (by phone)
Ex-Officio: Peter Nunoda, Susie Findlay
Staff Resources/Guests: Irene Young, Linda Sanderson, John Woudzia, Tiffany Kalanj, Chris Joyce, Karen Shortt, Angela Blake

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Mr. Hodgson. Ms. Blake acted as Secretary of the meeting. Mr. Hodgson declared the meeting to be properly called and constituted.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Hodgson asked if there were any proposed amendments to the agenda for the meeting. No amendments were suggested.

UPON MOTION duly made, seconded and carried unanimously, the following resolution was approved and adopted:

RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the November 6, 2014 public Board of Governors meeting is approved, in the form included in the meeting materials.

MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS

Mr. Hodgson referred to the draft minutes of the September 24, 2014 Board meeting that were provided with the meeting materials.

UPON MOTION duly made, seconded and carried unanimously, the following resolution was approved and adopted:

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the public Board of Governors meeting held on September 24, 2014 are approved.

CHAIR REMARKS

Mr. Hodgson welcomed Ms. Choi, Ms. Klis, Ms. Sawkins and Ms. Haggerty to the Board, and advised of the new appointments to the Board committees that had occurred earlier that evening at the in camera Board meeting. He then asked each of the new Board members to introduce themselves and provide summaries of their backgrounds, which they did.

PRESIDENT REMARKS

Dr. Nunoda welcomed the new Board members. He then provided an update on ESL discussions, noting that they have been occupying a great deal of his time. He continues to visit ESL classrooms, with the intention of speaking with all ESL students by December. He advised that the Board had determined to

postpone the vote on ESL suspension to the December Board meeting, as there are critical meetings taking place with the Province and the Faculty Association over the next few weeks.

Dr. Nunoda then described how the College continues to advance strategic enrolment management pathways, advising that Mr. Ken Steele, who is an expert in this area, will be working with the leadership team in this regard.

Mr. Hodgson thanked Dr. Nunoda for his work to date and his vigorous approach to his new role. He also noted that members of the Board have been engaging with the Province on sensitive issues related to VCC, including ESL, amalgamation rumors and the Core Review, noting that Board members have been strong advocates with respect to maintaining VCC's independence.

FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. McGurk provided an update on the trademark action, noting that the trial took place in October, with final arguments to follow later in November. Although it is unfortunate that the matter proceeded to court, it is believed that it is important to protect VCC's brand and it is hoped that results will be positive, although there can be no certainty in this regard.

Ms. Young then referred to the meeting materials with respect to the fee proposals for the University Transfer Engineering Certificate and the University Transfer Computing Science and Software Systems Certificate. She provided the Board with background on the rationale for the creation of the certificates and the opportunities they create for the College, as further summarized in the meeting materials. She noted that existing courses in the curricula are subject to the 2% fee increase limit but VCC can set fees for any new courses outside of that limit. However, such fees will be subject to the 2% increase limit in the future, so must be considered strategically now. She then described the various options considered by the leadership team for both domestic and international students, and their recommendations with respect to same, as further described in the meeting materials. Mr. McGurk noted that the Finance and Audit Committee had also discussed the fee options and although ideally it would be preferable to see all credits (for both existing and new courses) have the same fees, this is not an option given the provincially mandated fee increase limits for existing courses. As such, the FAC was in favour of recommending that the Board approve the fee options recommended by the leadership team. Ms. Young and Dr. Nunoda then responded to questions from the Board with respect to proposed cohort sizes for the new programs, tuition fees, the acceptance of domestic versus international students, GPA competitiveness, First Nations access opportunities, and other areas in which VCC might pursue transfer programs with other institutions.

UPON MOTION duly made, seconded and carried unanimously, the following resolution was approved and adopted:

RESOLVED THAT the execution and delivery by VCC of the Program Pathway Transfer Agreement between SFU and VCC with respect to the University Transfer Computing Science and Software Systems Certificate, and the performance by VCC of its obligations thereunder, be and are hereby authorized and approved.

UPON MOTIONS duly made, seconded and carried, with Ms. Haggerty opposing, the following resolutions were approved and adopted:

RESOLVED THAT the Board authorizes moving forward with Options 1 and 4, as set out in the meeting materials, with respect to the tuition fees for the University Transfer Computing Science and Software Systems Certificate.

RESOLVED THAT the Board authorizes moving forward with Options 1 and 4, as set out in the meeting materials, with respect to the tuition fees for the University Transfer Engineering Science Certificate.

EDUCATION COUNCIL REPORT

Ms. Findlay referred to the decision note included with the meeting materials with respect to the proposed University Transfer Engineering Certificate and the University Transfer Computing Science and Software Systems Certificate. She advised that EdCo has approved the curricula and believes there will be considerable collaboration and consultation between faculty at VCC and SFU with respect to the programs. Discussion ensued in this regard.

UPON MOTIONS duly made, seconded and carried unanimously, the following resolutions were approved and adopted:

RESOLVED THAT the implementation of the University Transfer Engineering Certificate be and is hereby authorized and approved.

RESOLVED THAT the implementation of the University Transfer Computing Science and Software Systems Certificate be and is hereby authorized and approved.

Ms. Findlay then provided an update on the EdCo governance revitalization project, making reference to the report included in the meeting materials. She summarized the background of the review process and the recommendations made by Watson Advisors Inc. a few years ago with respect to updates to EdCo's governance structure. She noted that EdCo believes it has largely addressed the majority of the Watson recommendations, other than with respect to certain activities that are ongoing, such as with respect to ad hoc committees formed for purposes including curriculum development and approval and program review, and with respect to the standing EdCo Appeals Committee, providing the Board with updates on the activities of such committees.

Ms. Findlay then responded to questions from the Board with respect to the governance project, succession planning and EdCo's formal evaluation process, noting that it was determined not to use a formal evaluation process given that, as members of EdCo are largely elected, there is little appetite for evaluating such individuals, as it could deter people from running for election in the future. Mr. Hodgson then thanked Ms. Findlay for EdCo's work during his tenure on the Board and their advice with respect to academic issues.

CONSTITUENCY GROUP UPDATES

SUVCC

Tiffany Kalanj presented on behalf of the Student Union. She welcomed new Board members and provided an update on recent activities of the Student Union. She noted that they were very happy that the vote on ESL suspension was postponed to December, stating that this sends a positive message to students that the Board is doing whatever possible to find solutions. She then discussed recent media coverage with respect to ESL and noted that students will continue to fight this month to save ESL

programming at the College. She also discussed the recent student debate at Emily Carr that was co-hosted by the Student Union, noting that this was a very popular event. She closed by advising that the Student Union will be hosting a memorial event on December 5 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Montreal Massacre on December 6, and will be extending an invitation to the Board for same.

CUPE

Chris Joyce advised that there was no update from CUPE.

VCCFA

Karen Shortt presented on behalf of the Faculty Association (FA). She began by welcoming the new members of the Board and thanking Janet Zlotnik for her years of service as a member of the Board, and then proceeded to provide an update on recent activities of the FA. She noted that a rally was held on the lawn of the Legislature on October 27, 2014 to protest the cuts to ESL, which was followed by VCC students touring the Legislature and sitting in the gallery during Question Period. She advised that the FA will continue to increase its efforts with respect to opposing the cuts to ESL programming. Ms. Shortt noted that she had recently had a meeting with Minister Virk to discuss the issue, but did not feel the meeting was satisfactory. She asked the Board to continue to strongly voice to the Province that more funding is needed, noting that the ESL layoffs at VCC will be the largest in post-secondary history in Canada. Ms. Shortt went on to congratulate the College on entering into the transfer agreements with SFU, but expressed concern with the class size of forty, noting that VCC's traditional class size is 20 to 25, and with the high cost of tuition. She then advised that the FA will award six scholarships to students at the VCC Fall Awards and concluded by thanking Mr. Hodgson and Dr. Nunoda for their ongoing efforts to bring ESL issues to the forefront with the Province.

Mr. Hodgson thanked the constituency representatives, noting that these are challenging times for all stakeholder groups at the College.

NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed the next meeting will be held on December 3, 2014 at 5:15 p.m.

TERMINATION

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 6:52 p.m.



Angela Blake
Secretary to the Board