

**Langara College Board of Governors
Meeting Minutes
Public Meeting
Thursday, May 22, 2025, 4:30 p.m.
Boardroom B141 and via Zoom**

Board Members:

Mary Lynn Baum, Board Chair
Paula Burns, President and CEO
Willa Choy
Krisha Dhaliwal
Mark Goldberg
Stephen Howard
Tess MacMillan, Chair, Education Council

Scott Murray
Rose Palozzi
Cole Rheaume (via Zoom)
Melissa Roberts
Claudia Salem (regrets)
Akashdeep Singh
Nick Smith

Employee Resources:

Michael Koke, Vice-President, Administration and Finance
 Pouyan Mahboubi, Provost and Vice-President, Academic
 Parveen Mann, Vice-President, People and Culture
 Yusuf Varachia, Vice-President, External Relations and Community Engagement
 Stewart McGillivray, Advisor, Strategic Priorities, President's Office

Constituent Groups:

Allan Bell, Representative, CUPE Local 15/VMECW
Pauline Greaves Aylward, President, Langara Faculty Association (LFA)
Rosi Woodley, Chair, Langara College Administrators Association (via Zoom)

Guests:

David Anderson, Dean, Faculty of Science
Anne Baxter, Director, Organizational Risk and Internal Control (via Zoom)
Darren Bernaerdt, Dean, Faculty of Arts
Adam Brayford, Director, Strategic Communications and Marketing
Ann Syme, Dean, Faculty of Nursing (via Zoom)
David Wright, Interim Dean, Faculty of Management

Visitors:

Gail Johnson, Staff Representative, CUPE Local 15
Members of the College community

Recorder:

Alice Hsu, Executive Assistant to the President

1. CALL TO ORDER, LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND WELCOME TO NEW BOARD MEMBER

There being a Quorum present, the Board Chair called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm. She welcomed all guests in attendance and conveyed regrets from those unable to attend.

The Board Chair acknowledged that Langara College is located on the traditional and unceded

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territory of the Musqueam people. She also acknowledged the Indigenous peoples of all the lands the online participants were calling in from remotely to the meeting. She acknowledged the importance of the lands that we each call home. We do this to reaffirm our commitment and responsibility to reconciliation, and to the importance of our relationships with First Nations and Indigenous peoples.

The Board Chair invited Board members to share their personal reflections on what the land acknowledgment means to them. Hearing no responses, the meeting proceeded, and the Board Chair encouraged members to share their reflections at future meetings.

The Board Chair welcomed the new student Board member, A. Safdari, and congratulated him on winning the by-election to fill the position vacated by former student-elected Board member, A.V. Corrales. Ali will serve for the remainder of the term, ending September 30, 2025.

Invited by the Board Chair, A. Safdari gave a self-introduction and expressed his excitement about joining the Board.

2. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with *Board By-Law 200: Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest*, Board Members were provided an opportunity to declare conflicts of interest for any agenda item that would relate to the ongoing business of the institution. With none disclosed, the meeting proceeded.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by S. Murray and seconded by K. Dhaliwal:

THAT, the Langara College Board approve the agenda, and approve and acknowledge the items and motions on the Consent Agenda:

- 3.1 Minutes of Meeting held March 20, 2025 – Approved
- 3.2 Notice of Election of Board Chair – Acknowledged
- 3.3 2025/26 Board Meeting Calendar – Acknowledged
- 3.4 Annual Board and Board Committee Agenda Items – Acknowledged
- 3.5 Confirmation of Remittances – Acknowledged

Carried Unanimously.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Board Chair referred to her written report attached to the agenda and highlighted the following:

- President Burns had the opportunity to speak at the Burnaby Board of Trade (BBOT) event: the State of the City Address with Mayor Mike Hurley held on May 12, 2025, where she spoke about the state of the College. It was a great opportunity to raise awareness about Langara. She thanked VP Varachia for arranging this opportunity.
- The Ministry's Board Appointment Coordinator advised that the College's Notice of Positions for upcoming Board vacancies received many applications. The Ministry should have no difficulty filling the vacancies, and we may expect new appointments by the end of July.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Burns noted that she had reported on some of the activities she participated in through several President's Updates sent to all employees since the last Board meeting, including many Creative Arts grad shows. In addition, she gave a verbal report on the following topics:

- **Strategic Framework:** A draft version was launched on May 20, 2025 for consultation via ThoughtExchange that is open to all employees and students, as well as through meetings with stakeholder groups including Langara Faculty Association (LFA), Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 15, Office of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI), Indigenous Education and Services (IES) team, Langara College Administrators Association (LCAA), and Langara Students' Union (LSU).
- **Streamlining credentials and creating guided pathways:** This is one of the strategic priorities under the Mission category that the College has been actively working on. One of today's agenda items will provide an update on this work.
- **Community Engagement:** She has been attending events hosted by various Boards of Trade, including the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade, the Burnaby Board of Trade, and the Surrey Board of Trade, which have provided her with opportunities to speak and engage with the broader community.
- **LangaraFest:** The LangaraFest 2025 open house held on April 3 was well attended, and many prospective students expressed interest in attending Langara. It was a job well done in support of domestic recruitment.
- **Enrolment update:** She provided an update on enrolment numbers for the summer semester and projections for fall enrolment. Additionally, she noted that the recruitment team has been putting greater effort into domestic recruitment, including discussing partnership ideas with school boards and offering scholarships.
- **Workday Student Information System (SIS):** A Workday Student Open House was held on May 6, 2025, and received positive feedback. The system is nearing the end of the design phase and is moving into the testing phase.
- **Budget Planning for Next Fiscal Year:** The College is currently operating in a deficit and aims to balance the budget next year. Achieving this will require significant effort, beginning with enrolment projections and then managing expenses accordingly.

Finally, President Burns acknowledged the work of all teams, particularly the People and Culture and academic areas for working together to understand what the decline in student enrolment means for faculty, staff, and administrators. Lots of work went into analyzing the data and course planning.

President Burns and members of the Executive Leadership Team answered questions from Board members regarding how speaking opportunities at the various Boards of Trade events support domestic enrolment, the demographics and trends of high school graduates, and the Workday SIS implementation timeline.

The Board Chair thanked everyone who was involved in marking the Langara Fest a fantastic event.

6. PROVOST PRESENTATION

Provost P. Mahboubi gave a presentation on the Centres Model, a core component of the 2025–2028 Strategic Framework currently under development. He reviewed the development and consultation process, explained what a centre is and how it differs from the current structure, provided a brief overview of the six planned centres (Centre for Applied & Foundational University Studies, Centre

for Health & Human Development, Centre for Innovation in Science, Technology, Engineering & Math, Centre for Social Transformation & Community Engagement, Centre for Business Innovation & Entrepreneurship, and Centre for the Creative & Applied Arts), and outlined the timeline for the next steps. Finally, he touched on the three cross-cutting themes for all the centres: community engagement, experiential learning, and applied research.

Discussions ensued, and Board members' questions were answered.

The Board Chair thanked P. Mahboubi for his presentation.

[P. G. Aylward exited the meeting at 5:31 p.m.]

7. PROGRAM CANCELLATION

7.1 Cancellation of the Certificate in Health Care Assistant

Before beginning the topic, Provost P. Mahboubi thanked all the Deans for attending today's meeting to assist in answering any questions the Board may have regarding the three program-related items on the agenda

He then referred to the briefing note attached to the agenda to provide background information and the reasoning for discontinuing the Certificate in Health Care Assistant program. This request was brought to the March 18, 2025 Education Council meeting and a motion to discontinue the program was passed at the meeting.

It was moved by S. Murray and seconded by S. Howard:

THAT, the Board approve the College to discontinue the Certificate in Health Care Assistant program, effective immediately.

Carried Unanimously.

8. PROGRAM SUSPENSION

8.1 Suspension of the Certificate in Journalism for Fall 2025

8.2 Credential Streamlining Initiatives

Provost Mahboubi referred to the briefing note and the Credential Review Framework attached to the agenda and noted that the request is for the Board to approve the suspension of intakes for 20 programs, including some associate degrees, diplomas, post-graduate diplomas, and certificates. Each suspension recommendation is supported by a Dean's memo explaining the rationale, aligned with the College's credential review framework. These suspensions support the College's strategic priority to streamline programs to ensure relevance, sustainability, and clarity for students. He also explained the financial impacts and risks associated with suspending these programs, noting that they are minimal.

In response to a question, T. MacMillan, in her role as Chair of the Education Council, provided a summary of the discussions held at the Education Council meeting and its advice to the Board for each program suspension, which was included in today's agenda package.

T. MacMillan noted that the suspension of the Certificate in Journalism was done before the Education Council established its process for providing advice to the Board on program suspensions. However, there was an acceptance that there is a desire of the journalism program to rework the certificate in order to better adapt the student needs.

Discussion ensued. T. MacMillan and Deans provided further information in response to Board members' questions.

It was moved by M. Goldberg and seconded by N. Smith:

THAT, the Board approve the College to suspend admissions to the Certificate in Journalism program, beginning with the Fall 2025 intake.

Carried Unanimously.

It was moved by M. Roberts and seconded by S. Howard:

THAT, the Board approve the College to suspend admissions to the following programs, each beginning with the intakes specified below:

- a. **Associate of Arts in Mathematics for Spring 2026**
- b. **Diploma in Early Childhood Education for Fall 2025**
- c. **Diploma in Gerontology for Fall 2025**
- d. **Diploma in Leisure Studies for Fall 2025**
- e. **Diploma in Applied Social Sciences and Humanities for Fall 2025**
- f. **Diploma in Arts and Sciences (Asian Studies) for Fall 2025**
- g. **Associate of Arts Degree (Aboriginal Studies),
Certificate: Arts and Science Aboriginal Studies Post Degree, and
Diploma of Arts and Science (Aboriginal Studies) since 2023**
- h. **Post-Degree Diplomas in Accounting, Business Administration,
and Marketing Management for Fall 2025**
- i. **Citation in Access Langara, Associate of Arts in Canadian Studies,
Associate of Arts in Classical Studies, Citation in Environmental Studies,
Associate of Arts in Family Studies, Citation in Latin American Studies,
Associate of Arts in Latin American Studies, Associate of Arts in Peace &
Conflict Studies, all for Fall 2025.**

Carried Unanimously.

9. EDUCATION COUNCIL REPORTS

9.1 Summary Report of Meeting held March 18, 2025

9.2 Summary Report of Meeting held April 22, 2025

T. MacMillan referred to the two Education Council Summary Reports included in today's agenda package and highlighted the new summer camp courses mentioned in the April 22, 2025 Education Council Summary Report. These summer camps aim to provide high school students with an opportunity to experience Langara, with the hope that they will choose to continue their studies here after graduating from high school.

It was moved by M. Roberts and seconded by K. Dhaliwal:

THAT, the Summary Reports of the Education Council meetings held March 18, 2025 and April 22, 2025, be received.

14. NEXT MEETING

14.1 Thursday, June 26, 2025

The next Board of Governors meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 26, 2025.

15. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by A. Singh and seconded by M. Goldberg:

THAT, the meeting be adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Carried Unanimously.

Mary Lynn Baum
Chair, Board of Governors

Paula Burns
President and CEO