



The University of British Columbia
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2024

10:58 AM to 12:10 PM

OKANAGAN CAMPUS

UNC200 University Centre, 3272 University Way

APPROVED: SEPTEMBER 25, 2024

Interim Chair Mr. Bill Sundhu
Vice-Chair Ms. Miranda Lam, K.C.
Members in Attendance President Benoit-Antoine Bacon
Ms. Eshana Bhangu
Ms. Isabella Bravo
Ms. Alison Brewin
Dr. Natalie Chan
Mr. Jessie Dusangh
Dr. Sandy Hilton
Mr. Kamil Kanji
Dr. Anna Kindler
Dr. Charles Menzies/ hagwil hayetsk
Ms. Anthonia Ogundele
Mr. Ali Pejman
Hon. Steven Point, Chancellor
Dr. Philipp Reichert
Mr. Leonard Schein
Mr. Matthew Tan
Mr. Byron Thom

Regrets Mr. Dallas Leung

Administration

Dr. Gage Averill
Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Vancouver
Dr. Ainsley Carry, Vice-President Students
Mr. Adam Charania, Vice-President Human Resources
Ms. Robin Ciceri, Vice-President External Relations
Dr. Dermot Kelleher, Vice-President Health
Mr. Frank Laezza, Vice-President Finance & Operations
Mr. Hubert Lai, K.C., University Counsel
Ms. Heather McCaw
Vice-President Development & Alumni Engagement
Dr. Gail Murphy, Vice-President Research & Innovation
Dr. Rehan Sadiq
Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Okanagan
Ms. Julie Wagemakers
Executive Director, President's Office

Board Secretary

Ms. Karen Hakkarainen

Interim Board Chair Bill Sundhu called the open session of the June 27, 2024 Board of Governors meeting to order at 10:58 a.m. He acknowledged that UBC Okanagan is situated on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation, and that UBC's Vancouver campus is situated on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Musqueam people.

1.1 Welcome and Song

The open session began with a welcome from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the Okanagan Campus, Lesley Cormack. The Okanagan Song was then sung by Amber Cardenas, a member of the Syilx Nation.

1.2 Opening Remarks

The Interim Board Chair thanked Ms. Cardenas for the song, and thanked all who were hosting the Board for their hospitality and warm welcome.

The Interim Chair congratulated Okanagan student Governor Isabella Bravo on her re-election to the Board for another year. He also welcomed Vancouver student Governor Kamil Kanji, who was attending his first Board meeting. Newly appointed alumni-nominee Board member Dallas Leung was also welcomed to the Board, although he was to attend the meeting and sent his regrets.

On behalf of the Board, the Interim Board Chair offered congratulations to all of those who graduated from UBC earlier in the spring. He wished the graduates all the best in carrying forward what they had learned at UBC, with trust that they would continue to inspire people, ideas and actions for a better world.

Interim Chair Sundhu acknowledged that June was Pride Month - an opportunity to celebrate with and honor those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and two-spirited and to continue advocating for inclusivity, dismantling prejudice, and creating a world where everyone can live authentically without fear of discrimination.

The Interim Chair noted that June was Indigenous History Month – a time dedicated to honoring the rich histories and diverse cultures of Indigenous peoples. He noted that while this occasion serves as a reminder to acknowledge past injustices, it is also an opportunity to amplify Indigenous voices, stories and achievements. He added that UBC acknowledges with gratitude its partnerships with the Indigenous communities upon whose traditional lands UBC resides.

The Interim Board Chair recognized the following faculty members of notable distinction, all of whom were from the Okanagan campus:

- In the **service category**, the Board recognized **Associate Professor laḵlaḵtk^w Jeanette Armstrong** of Indigenous Studies from the Irving K. Barber Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, for being named to the Order of Canada for her work in Canadian literature through her novels and poetry, and for her leadership in revitalizing the Syilx Okanagan Indigenous language. An author, an artist and an activist, laḵlaḵtk^w Dr. Armstrong was elected as a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 2021. She is also a Canada Research Chair in Okanagan Indigenous Knowledge and Philosophy.
- In the **research category**, the Board recognized **Associate Professor Sina Kheirkhah** from the School of Engineering in the Faculty of Science for receiving the Killam Research Fellowship in March 2024, which will enable him to pursue a one-year, full-time research project at ICARE at the renowned Center National De La Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) in Orléans, France. Dr. Kheirkhah’s research is helping to make aviation propulsion cleaner and safer.
- In the **teaching category**, the Board congratulated **Associate Professor Christine Schreyer** of Anthropology from the Irving K. Barber Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, recipient of the prestigious UBC Killam Teaching Prize, which recognizes exemplary role models who make significant impacts on the culture of teaching and learning and demonstrate a continued commitment to enriching student experiences in their classrooms. Dr. Schreyer has been honoured many times for her teaching and research over the years, including the 2017 Provost's Award for Teaching Excellence and Innovation and the 2021 Killam Faculty Research Fellowship.

The Interim Board Chair extended the Board’s warm wishes to Robin Ciceri, Vice-President External Relations, on her pending retirement and thanked her for her support over the course of her time at UBC.

The Interim Chair noted that the University would soon be bidding farewell to Stephen Point, whose term as Chancellor was coming to an end. On behalf of the Board, the Interim Chair thanked the Chancellor for the wisdom he had shared at the Board table and through many speaking engagements and ceremonies throughout his service.

The Interim Chair also noted that Governor Alison Brewin would be completing her term on the Board at the end of July. He thanked Governor Brewin for her dedication and service, previously as the Chair of the Governance Committee and more recently as the Chair of the People Community and International Committee.

The Interim Chair added that his own term on the Board would be concluding at the end of July. He shared that it had been a pleasure to serve the Board and the University, and thanked the Board for allowing him to serve as its Interim Chair. He also thanked the Board Secretariat for their support of the Board.

The Interim Board Chair invited President and Vice-Chancellor Benoit-Antoine Bacon to share his opening remarks.

President Bacon thanked Ms. Cardenas for the opening song, which was a meaningful way to acknowledge that the meeting was being held in the territory of the Syilx Okanagan. He noted the success of the Okanagan Campus over the past 20 years and thanked the Deputy-Vice Chancellor for her leadership.

President Bacon highlighted some of UBC's achievements over the past year, including the Board's approval in March 2024 of the University's 2024-2025 operating budget and noted that, despite unfavorable economic conditions, UBC is in a healthy financial position.

The President reported that UBC celebrated the largest graduating class in its history in Spring 2024 with 12,510 students graduating at both campuses' ceremonies. He noted that he was proud of each of these graduates, and that he looked forward to seeing the positive impact that they will have on the world.

President Bacon announced that UBC had attracted \$893 million in research funding over the past year, which was a record for the University and a tremendous accomplishment for UBC researchers. He also noted the recent announcement of an investment of \$140 million from the Federal Government toward the Canada Immuno-engineering and Biomanufacturing Hub.

He reported that UBC had concluded its most successful fundraising and alumni engagement year ever, raising \$354.6 million, of which \$33.5 million was for the affordability campaign for students.

The President noted that there had also been challenges over the past year, including violence unfolding in Israel and Palestine, and continuing conflict in Ukraine. The violence continues to evoke complex emotions around the world and, as part of a global movement, protest encampments had been established on both campuses in recent months in response to the war in Gaza. The University Administration had monitored the encampment since its inception to ensure everyone's safety, and continued to welcome discussions with protesters in an effort to find a peaceful resolution.

President Bacon noted that the cap on international student visas imposed by the Federal Government early in 2024 had provided additional challenges to UBC. With the help of the Province, UBC was on track to meet its projections for Fall 2024 enrollments.

President Bacon also thanked Chancellor Point for his service and his support, noting that he had been a transformative Chancellor for UBC. He also extended his thanks to Governor Brewin for her service, and to Robin Ciceri, Vice-President External Relations.

The President then thanked Governor Sundhu for his service on the Board over the previous six years, and for service as Interim Board Chair. To close his comments, the President thanked all the governors for their continuing contributions.

1.3 Approval of Agenda

The Board Secretary reviewed attendance and confirmed that quorum for the meeting was in place.

The Interim Chair asked if any Governor would like to make amendments to the Agenda. No requests were made.

The following resolution was moved, seconded, and **CARRIED**:

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves as circulated the Agenda for the open session of the June 27, 2024 meeting of the Board of Governors.

The Interim Chair asked if Governors had any actual, potential or apparent conflicts of interest to declare with any items on the open session agenda. None were raised.

1.4 Consent Agenda

The Interim Board Chair asked whether Governors noted any errors or omissions in the Minutes of the March 27, 2024 meeting of the Board, which were included on the consent agenda for approval. None were noted.

He noted that the consent agenda included the following items for approval:

- Student Society Fees as requested by the Alma Mater Society (AMS);
- UBC Consolidated Financial Statements as at March 31, 2024 as recommended by the Audit Committee;
- Delegation of Authority for Appointments of Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff and a new Public Interest Disclosure Policy (SC19) as recommended by the Employee Relations Committee;
- UBC Five-Year Capital Plan 2025-2026 to 2029-2030 as recommended by the Property Committee; and,
- Amendments to Administrative Vice-Presidents Policy (AP14) as recommended by the Executive Committee.

The following resolution was moved, seconded, and **CARRIED**:

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves the resolutions forwarded for approval under the Consent Agenda, as presented in the Appendix.

The Interim Chair noted that the Board had also received the following items under the consent agenda for information:

- Standing Committee Assignments as of May 30, 2024;
- a status report on action items tracked for the Board in the open sessions of its 2023 meetings;
- a piece of correspondence received from the AMS;
- a briefing on the report submitted as required by the Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act; and
- reports from the Chairs of the standing committees about their meetings held on June 10, 11 and 19: Employee Relations; Finance; Governance; Indigenous Engagement, Learning & Research; People, Community & International; Property; and, Executive Committee.

1.5 Okanagan Campus Update 2024

Responsible Executives: Lesley Cormack, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal, UBC Okanagan

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor provided an update from the Okanagan campus, including plans for developing a Centre for Climate Resilience Research that would include proposed facilities for resilient infrastructure, wildfire detection and mitigation, and human adaptation to climate change. The Administration noted that they were in consultation with Indigenous communities so that traditional knowledge could be incorporated into the work of the Centre, and in recognition that climate change is impacting First Nations people and their lands.

Governors noted their support for the initiative and the Interim Chair thanked the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for the presentation.

1.6 Climate Action Plan 2030 Implementation Updates: UBC Vancouver and UBC Okanagan

Responsible Executives: Robin Ciceri, Vice-President External Relations
Gage Averill, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Vancouver
Lesley Cormack, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal, UBC Okanagan
Frank Laezza, Vice-President Finance & Operations
Gail Murphy, Vice-President Research & Innovation
Rehan Sadiq, Provost and Vice-President Academic, UBC Okanagan

The Vice-President External Relations provided an update on the implementation of UBC's Climate Action Plan 2030 (CAP2030) for both campuses, including an overview of UBC's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions performance for 2023.

In discussion with the Board, it was noted that advances in immersive virtual conferences, improved public transit services and enhanced bicycle transportation routes all have the potential to positively impact CAP2030, and that unit-level climate action plans were in development to further reduce the University's GHG emissions.

The Interim Board Chair thanked the Administration for the presentation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2.1 Dissolution of the People, Community & International Committee and Update on Reassignment of Committee Mandate

Lead: Byron Thom, Chair, Governance Committee

Governance Committee Chair Byron Thom noted that the Committee, at its June 11 meeting, had considered the dissolution of the People, Community and International Committee (PCI) and the reassignment of its responsibilities to various other standing Board committees. The dissolution of PCI was recommended by the Subcommittee to Review the Board's Committee Structure.

The following resolution was moved, seconded, and **CARRIED** with Governor Menzies opposed:

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves the following, effective July 1, 2024:

- i.* **The reassignment of Board Policies from the People, Community & International Committee to other standing committees as set out in Appendix 2 to the briefing;**
- ii.* **The reassignment of reports that had previously been received by the People, Community & International Committee to other standing committees and the Board, as set out in Appendix 3 to the briefing;**
- iii.* **Amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Employee Relations Committee as set out in Appendix 4 to the briefing;**
- iv.* **Amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Executive Committee as set out in Appendix 5 to the briefing;**
- v.* **Amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Finance Committee as set out in Appendix 6 to the briefing;**
- vi.* **Amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Learning and Research Committee, as set out in Appendix 7 to the briefing;**
- vii.* **Amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Property Committee as set out in Appendix 8 to the briefing;**
and,
- viii.* **The dissolution of the People, Community and International Committee.**

There being no further business, the open session of the June 27, 2024 Board of Governors meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

None identified.

CONSENT AGENDA – FOR APPROVAL

The following items were approved under the appended Consent Agenda:

3.1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves as circulated the Minutes of the open session of the March 27, 2024 meeting of the Board of Governors.

3.2 Student Society Fees - Alma Mater Society Fees (UBC AMS)

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves the 2024-2025 Alma Mater Society fee changes for the AMS subsidiary constituencies, as set out in the briefing.

4.1 UBC Consolidated Financial Statements as at March 31, 2024

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves the audited UBC Financial Statements for the year ending March 31, 2024 as circulated.

5.1 Delegation of Authority for Appointments of Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves delegation of authority for appointments of teaching and non-teaching staff as set out in sections 2.1 through 2.3 of the Board Appointments Policy (AP3) for the period of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

5.2 New Policy: Public Interest Disclosure Policy (SC19)

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves:

- i.* the PIDA Policy (SC19) in the form set out in Appendix 1 attached to the briefing, effective on the earlier of: (1) such date as the Public Interest Disclosure Act applies to UBC; or (2) such date as may be determined by the Responsible Executive for the PIDA Policy (the “Effective Date”);
- ii.* assignment of oversight responsibility for the PIDA Policy to the Employee Relations Committee;
- iii.* consequential amendments to the Retaliation Policy in the form set out in Appendix 2 attached to the briefing, effective on the Effective Date; and,
- iv.* consequential amendments to the Investigations Policy in the form set out in Appendix 3 attached to the briefing, effective on the Effective Date.

6.1 UBC Five-Year Capital Plan 2025-2026 to 2029-2030

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves as circulated the UBC Five-Year Capital Plan 2025-2026 to 2029-2030 for submission to the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills.

7.1 Amendments to Administrative Vice-Presidents Policy (AP14)

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves the amendment of the Administrative VPs Policy (AP14) in the form set out in Appendix 1 to the briefing, effective July 2, 2024 (the “Effective Date”).

CONSENT AGENDA - For Information

The following items were received for information under the appended Consent Agenda:

- 8.1 Standing Committee Assignments**
- 8.2 Status Report | Action Items**
- 8.3 Correspondence**
- 8.4 Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act Reporting Requirement**
- 9.1 Memorandum from Committee Chair – Items Considered at the open session of the June 10, 2024 Employee Relations Committee Meeting**
- 10.1 Memorandum from Committee Chair – Items Considered at the open session of the June 10, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting**
- 11.1 Memorandum from Committee Chair – Items Considered at the open session of the June 11, 2024 Governance Committee Meeting**
- 12.1 Memorandum from Committee Chair – Items Considered at the open session of the June 10, 2024 Indigenous Engagement Committee Meeting**
- 13.1 Memorandum from Committee Chair – Items Considered at the open session of the June 10, 2024 Learning & Research Committee Meeting**
- 14.1 Memorandum from Committee Chair – Items Considered at the open session of the June 11, 2024 People, Community & International Committee Meeting**
- 15.1 Memorandum from Committee Chair – Items Considered at the open session of the June 11, 2024 Property Committee Meeting**
- 16.1 Memorandum from Committee Chair – Items Considered at the open session of the June 19, 2024 Executive Committee Meeting**