

**THE GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE
OF APPLIED ARTS AND
TECHNOLOGY**

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

**June 4, 2025
230 Richmond St. E. &
VIA MS TEAMS
4:00 P.M.**

Present:	Bruce Choy, Chair Omo Akintan Jon Callegher Bhavna Duggal Saeideh Fard	Saeideh Fard Gervan Fearon Rob Gilmour (online) Roger Grochmal Arjun Jasuja	Millan Mulraine (online) Nancy Prenevost Jimi Rockley Sanya Vatish
Guests:	Paul Armstrong Susan Bowrah Steve Comacho Janene Christiansen Eileen De Courcy Rudi Fischbacher	Cindy Gouveia Jennifer Grant Michael Herrera Krista Holmes Laura Jamer Elaine Lam	Dave Mazzone Michelle McCollum Mona Modaresi Leslie Quinlan Ian Wigglesworth
Guests via Teams:	Ian Austin		
Regrets:	Lachlan MacQuarrie		
Board Administrators:	Lisa Lam Julia Hendrik Bowers		
Minutes:	Julia Hendrik Bowers		

1.0 Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

The Chair began the meeting by welcoming everyone to the last meeting of the year, noting that the Board of Governors would be celebrating the close of the year and the College's Honorary Recipients at a dinner following the in-camera meeting. He then thanked the following governors for their service over their terms:

- Omo Akintan
- Akrivi Papadaki
- Nancy Prenevost
- Sanya Vatish

A land territory acknowledgement was then provided.

No conflicts of interest were declared.

2.0 Approval of the Agenda and Consent Agenda (including past minutes)

The governors reviewed the private agenda and Consent Agenda. No issues arose.

MOTION BGPUB-2025-06-01

THAT the Board of Governors approve the agenda for the public meeting held on June 4, 2025; and

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Consent Agenda for the meeting held June 4, 2025, which includes the following items:

For Approval:

2.2 Approval of ASA recommendation to approve 5 new programs:

1. Bachelor of Engineering – Software Engineering degree with majors in Cloud DevOps and Cybersecurity
2. Bachelor of Engineering – Information Systems Engineering degree with majors in Data Engineering and Intelligent Systems
3. Hearing Instrument Specialist – 2-year diploma
4. Pharmacy Technician diploma
5. Bachelor of Science degree with majors in Climate Restoration and Regeneration, Clean Technology, Nutrition Science, Applied Biochemistry, and One Health
6. Bachelor of Computer Science degree with majors in Machine Learning, Data Science, and Quantum Computing

2.3 Approval of ASA recommendation to approve 2 policies:

1. GBC Research Innovation Institutes Policy
2. GBC Intellectual Property Policy

2.3 Approval of ASA recommendation to receive and approve the PAC Status Report

2.4 Approval of 2024-25 GBC Annual Report

2.5 Approval of 2025-26 GBC Business Plan

2.6 Approval of Signing Authority

For Information:

- 2.8 Board of Governors Meeting – Public – Minutes (DRAFT) – April 24, 2025
- 2.9 Draft Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee Public Minutes of May 14, 2025
- 2.10 Draft Audit Committee Public Minutes of May 28, 2025
- 2.11 Draft Finance and Property Committee Public Minutes of May 28, 2025
- 2.12 Government Reporting Update

Moved: R. Grochmal

Seconded: N. Prenevost

CARRIED

3.0 Reports by Standing Committees

Governance and Nomination Committee (GNC)

The Chair of the Governance and Nomination Committee, Nancy Prenevost, provided an update from the last meeting. This included a review of the search and interview process for new governors for the year 2025-2026, and a recommendation for the appointment of Elaine Lam as Board Secretary. In addition, the Committee is recommending that the People and Technology Committee be resolved as a standing committee of the board.

MOTION BGPUB-2025-06-02

THAT the Board of Governors appoint Elaine Lam as Board Secretary upon the recommendation of the Governance and Nomination Committee.

Moved: B. Choy

Seconded: G. Fearon

CARRIED

MOTION BGPUB-2025-06-03

THAT upon the recommendation of the Governance and Nomination Committee, the Board of Governors resolves that the People and Technology Committee is now a standing committee of the Board of Governors.

Moved: S. Fard

Seconded: B. Duggal

CARRIED

MOTION GBPUB-2025-06-04

THAT upon the recommendation of the Governance and Nomination Committee, the Board of Governors approve the appointment of Julia Hanigsberg to the George Brown College Board of Governors for a three-year term effective September 1, 2025.

THAT upon the recommendation of the Governance and Nomination Committee, the Board of Governors approve the appointment of Regan Stewart to the George Brown College Board of Governors for a three-year term effective September 1, 2025.

THAT upon the recommendation of the Governance and Nomination Committee, the Board of Governors approve the re-appointment of Andy Jusuja to the George Brown College Board of Governors for a three-year term effective September 1, 2025.

THAT upon the recommendation of the Governance and Nomination Committee, the Board of Governors approve the appointment of Andrew Smee as a community member to the Finance & Property Committee for a two-year term effective September 1, 2025.

THAT upon the recommendation of the Governance and Nomination Committee, the Board of Governors re-appoint Bruce Choy as Board Chair for one year effective September 1 2025.

THAT upon the recommendation of the Governance and Nomination Committee, the Board of Governors approve the following committee membership for a one-year term commencing September 1 2025:

Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Jon Callegher
Roger Grochmal (Chair)
Julia Hanigsberg
Ibrahim Hatia (Student Governor)
Jimi Rockley

Finance and Property & Audit Committees

Jon Callegher
Bhavna Duggal (Chair)
Arjun (Andy) Jasuja
Lachlan MacQuarrie
Andrew Smee (Community Member)

Governance and Nomination Committee

Bruce Choy
Kevin Costante (past Chair of the Board)
Saeideh Fard (Chair)
Gervan Fearon
Julia Hanigsberg

People and Technology Committee

Millan Mulraine (Chair)
Regan Stewart
Rob Gilmour; and

THAT upon the recommendation of the Governance and Nomination Committee, the Board of Governors appoint the following governors to the Executive Committee for a one-year term commencing September 1, 2025:

Chair, Board of Governors: Bruce Choy
President, Gervan Fearon
Chair, Academic and Student Affairs Committee: Roger Grochmal
Chair, Finance and Property & Audit Committees: Bhavna Duggal
Chair, Governance and Nomination Committee: Saeideh Fard
Chair, People and Technology Committee: Millan Mulraine

Moved: S. Fard

Seconded: O. Akintan

CARRIED

MOTION BGPUB-2025-06-05

THAT upon the recommendation of the Governance and Nomination Committee, the Board of Governors approve the meeting schedule of the Board of Governors and its committees for 2025-2026, as presented.

Moved: S. Fard

Seconded: J. Callegher

CARRIED

Finance and Property Committee (F&P) and Audit Committee

The Chair of the Finance and Property Committee, Bhavna Duggal, gave an update on the F&P and Audit Committee meetings, including an overview of the financial statements to be approved by the Board. The Chair pointed out the extensive work that has been undertaken in the Efficiency and Accountability Review with the external auditors, and commended the College Executive team, the Finance team and the Management team for their efforts.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee (ASA)

The Chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Roger Grochmal, gave an overview of the items from the last meeting. He highlighted the Student Panel Discussion, where three students had shared their George Brown College experiences and provided insight into areas such as curriculum inclusivity, curriculum relevance and engagement, online learning, flexible assessment practices, the impact of extracurricular activities, access to student spaces and the value of a diverse student body. He discussed the approval of several academic policies and new program approvals, and concluded with a video presentation of the AI teaching tool Lightboard through a virtual reality demonstration.

4.0 President's Update

President Fearon thanked the members of the Board for their many contributions over the course of the year. He also thanked GBC colleagues on the Management team for their continued support and insight.

He shared several federal updates for information, including no change to IRCC guidelines, no short-term reversal in financial statements and a continued focus in maintaining a minimum of 50% of the Provincial Attestation Letter (PAL) Allocation. In addition, he noted that the Business Plan will be submitted by the end of June reflecting the budget approved by the Board. He highlighted current and upcoming events at the College, including the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences taking place during the first week of June which has animated the Waterfront with 7,000-8,000 people. He also reminded Governors of the upcoming Convocation and the excitement of students and their families as they prepare for this momentous occasion.

5.0 2024/25 Audited Financial Statements

Michael Herrera, Senior Vice President, Institutional Planning and Chief Financial Officer, provided an overview of the Audited Financial Statements for 2025-25, noting the areas of audit risk and reduction in revenue that had been outlined to the Audit Committee. He emphasized the collaboration between the external auditors, BDO, and College Management.

MOTION BGPUB-2025-06-06

THAT the Board of Governors approves the transfer of \$7.4M from internally restricted reserves to unrestricted reserves; and

THAT the Board of Governors approves the college reserves as at March 31, 2025, as follows:

General contingency \$18.0M
Capital projects \$7.7M
Transformational Initiatives \$8.5M
Total \$34.2M and

THAT the Board of Governors approves the draft Audited Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2025 and

THAT the Board of Governors approves the auditors' reappointment and 2025-2026 fees of \$89,300 (plus HST) and 2026-27 audit fees of \$92,850 (plus HST) as presented. on the recommendation of the Audit Committee.

Moved: B. Duggal

Seconded: J. Rockley

CARRIED

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to the private session at 4:51 p.m.