

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

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

**April 15, 2026  
In-Person and VIA MS TEAMS  
3:30 P.M.**

<b>Present:</b>	Roger Grochmal, Chair Jon Callegher Bhavna Duggal Saeideh Fard	Gervan Fearon Julia Hanigsberg Ibrahim Hatia	Andy Jasuja Lachlan MacQuarrie Millan Mulraine	Jimi Rockley Ryan Sargent Regan Stewart
<b>Regrets:</b>	Patrice Barnes	Rob Gilmour	Karen Pastakia	
<b>Guests:</b>	Steve Camacho Janene Christiansen Kelly Ann Fenney Jennifer Grant	Michael Herrera Krista Holmes Laura Jamer Hassun Malik	Mona Modaresi Andrew Smee Nerys Rau	Margrit Talpalaru Leslie Quinlan Ian Wigglesworth
<b>Board Secretariat:</b>	Elaine Lam, Board Secretary	Julia Hendrik Bowers, Board Administrator		
<b>Minutes:</b>	Julia Hendrik Bowers			

**1.0 Approval of the Agenda and Consent Agenda (including Past Minutes)**

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The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided a Land Acknowledgment. The governors reviewed the private agenda and Consent Agenda. The Chair called for conflicts of interest.

R. Grochmal, J. Hanigsberg and B. Duggal declared conflicts of interest on Item 2: Standing Committee Updates – Governance and Nomination Committee.

**MOTION BG-PUB-2026-04-01**

**THAT** the Board of Governors approves the agenda for the public meeting held on April 15, 2026;  
and

**THAT** the Board of Governors approves the Consent Agenda for the meeting held April 15, 2026, which includes the following items:

**For Approval:**

- 1.3 Board of Governors Meeting Public Minutes (DRAFT) – February 11, 2026
- 1.4a Briefing Note - Degree Breadth Requirements Policy
- 1.4b Degree Breadth Requirements Policy
- 1.5 Audit Waiver for HGBC 25 Dockside GP

**For Information**

- 1.6a Briefing note on Library Learning Commons Policy revisions
- 1.6b Substantial revisions to the Library Learning Commons Policy
- 1.7a Briefing note on Admissions Policy revisions
- 1.7b Substantial revisions to the Admissions Policy

**Moved:** M. Mulraine

**Seconded:** S. Fard

**CARRIED**

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## **2.0 Reports by Standing Committees**

### **Governance and Nomination Committee**

The Chair of the Governance and Nomination Committee, Saeideh Fard, provided an update to the Board on new appointments, including the recent LGIC appointment of Cheryl Stone, Chief Strategy Officer for Nieuport Aviation, to the Board, and Anne Jane Adu-Bobie as the new Student Representative to the Board, beginning on September 1, 2026. In addition, the Governance and Nomination Committee has nominated Julia Hanigsberg to serve as Vice Chair of the Committee.

The Committee Chair moved into an update on Expressions of Interest for Board Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Chairs. Roger Grochmal and Julia Hanigsberg declared conflicts of interest around this item and excused themselves from the room.

The Governance and Nomination Committee is recommending the adoption of a two-year term for Board Chairs, while continuing to provide the opportunity for an annual nomination and appointment process. In addition, a two-year expected term may be extended to an additional two years. Two nominations are moving forward today for the 2026-27 Board Chair and Vice Chair. The nominations for Standing Committee Chairs will be presented at the June Board meeting.

### **MOTION BG-PUB-2026-04-02**

*\*The following motions were approved as an omnibus. Note that Roger Grochmal and Julia Hanigsberg abstained from this vote by leaving the room.*

**THAT** the Board of Governors adopts a two-year term for Board Chairs with an option to extend for up to an additional two years. Aligned with By Law 1, the Board of Governors will nominate the Board Chair annually.

**THAT** the Board of Governors appoints Roger Grochmal as Board Chair for 2026-27.

**THAT** the Board of Governors appoints Julia Hanigsberg as Board Vice Chair for 2026-27.

**Moved:** A. Jasuja

**Seconded:** M. Mulraine

**Abstentions:** R. Grochmal; J. Hanigsberg

**CARRIED**

Bhavna Duggal excused herself from the meeting declaring a conflict of interest on the next item.

The Committee Chair provided an update on the current composition of the Board and the importance of financial competency as part of the skills matrix in the current climate. She named those recommended by the Committee to begin new terms beginning September 1, 2026.

**MOTION BG-PUB-2026-04-03**

*\*The following motions were approved as an omnibus. Note that Bhavna Duggal abstained from this vote.*

**THAT** the Board of Governors Appoints Bhavna Duggal for a three-year term commencing September 1, 2026.

**THAT** the Board of Governors appoints Inna Kravitz for a three-year term commencing September 1, 2026.

**Moved:** J. Rockley

**Seconded:** M. Mulraine

**Abstention:** B. Duggal

**CARRIED**

The Governance and Nomination Committee continues to evaluate the role and succession planning for Community Members. An update will be provided to the Board at a future meeting. The Chair thanked all Governors for their participation in professional development sessions on March 11 and April 7 and highlighted the importance of prioritizing the sessions that have been scheduled as part of the upcoming Board year. The Chair also noted that the Board Effectiveness survey and the Self-Evaluation Survey relating to the Skills Matrix would be distributed to Governors following this meeting. She emphasized the importance of participating in both surveys to monitor board operations and effectiveness.

**Finance and Property Committee**

The Chair of the Finance and Property Committee, Bhavna Duggal, provided an update on the last meeting and an explanation of the motions coming before the Board relating to student tuition fees, compulsory ancillary fees, and lab school child care fees.

**MOTION BG-PUB-04-04**

*\*The following motions were approved as an omnibus.*

**THAT** the Board of Governors approves the 2026-2027 Student Tuition Fees as presented.

**THAT** the Board of Governors approves the 2026-2027 Compulsory Ancillary Fees (Material Fees) as presented.

**THAT** the Board of Governors approves the 2026-2027 Compulsory Ancillary Fees (Institutional) as presented.

**THAT** the Board of Governors approves the 2026-2027 Compulsory Ancillary Fees (levied by the Student Association) as presented.

**THAT** the Board of Governors approves the 2026-27 ECE Lab School Child Care Fees as presented.

**Moved:** J. Rockley

**Seconded:** J. Hanigsberg

**CARRIED**

### **Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

The Chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Julia Hanigsberg, provided an overview of the policies that were approved at the last meeting found as part of the consent agenda. She also noted that there has been a new standing item, the Provost's Update, which provided highlights of the Academic Plan consultations, the MOU between the University of Toronto and George Brown Polytechnic signed in March, and student award ceremonies to take place in April and May. She outlined the enrolment update that had been provided to the Committee, the quality assurance review that the institution is currently undergoing and emphasized the energy and enthusiasm in the update from the Teaching and Learning Exchange that had been presented by Heidi Marsh, Associate Vice President, Teaching and Learning.

### **People and Technology Committee**

The Chair of the People and Technology Committee, Millan Mulraine, provided highlights of the last meeting including extensive updates on AI learning and initiatives that have been taking place, noting that George Brown is moving ahead in this field in a thoughtful and forward-thinking way. In addition, he provided context around the importance of employee voices and shared some of the Employee Engagement Survey results. He applauded management for moving forward with the survey and shared that the results were much better than anticipated.

## **3.0 President's Update**

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President Gervan Fearon began by acknowledging the strength of the People and Culture team and highlighted the importance of continued employee engagement and outreach. He also noted some of the challenges to post-secondary institutions, particularly in Ontario, and the media coverage that these have drawn in recent days. He shared some of the highlights around the Academic Plan and other achievements around the institution, and asked Janene Christiansen, Registrar and Associate Vice President, Strategic Enrolment, to provide a brief update to the Board on upcoming Convocation ceremonies in early June.

## **4.0 Strategic Plan Update**

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President Gervan Fearon shared highlights around the development of Strategy 2030, including key areas that have been identified. He noted that Margrit Talpalaru, Director of Polytechnic Transformation, would be critical in leading this initiative moving forward and that strategy discussions and focus groups have been underway across the institution. Chair Roger Grochmal shared that there is discussion of a Strategy Planning retreat for the Board of Governors prior to the first official meeting of the 2026-27 Board Year.

## 5.0 Adjournment

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There being no further business, Chair Roger Grochmal adjourned the public meeting.

### **MOTION BG-PUB-2026-04-02**

**THAT** the February April 15, 2026, public meeting of the George Brown Polytechnic Board of Governors is hereby adjourned.

**Moved:** I. Hatia

**Seconded:** J. Hanigsberg

**CARRIED**

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**The public meeting ended at 4:22 p.m.**