



University
of Victoria

Board and Board Committee Meetings Monday February 2 and Tuesday February 3, 2026

Open Session
Tuesday February 3, 2026
Senate and Board Chambers, Jamie Cassels Centre

SUMMARY RECORD

Present: Brian Cant (Chair), Samantha Allan, Marion Buller, Erin Campbell, Christina Clarke, Roshan Danesh, Marne Jensen, Erinn Pinkerton, Paul Ramsey, Jyoti Stephens, Robina Thomas, Ivan Watson, Carrie Andersen (Secretary)

By Invitation: Elizabeth Croft, Chris Horbachewski, Lisa Kalynchuk, Kristi Simpson

Regrets: Param Bhatti, Val Napoleon

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 11:34 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: (B. Cant/I. Watson)

THAT the agenda of the open session of the regular meeting of February 3, 2026 be approved.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Summary Record of the Meeting held November 25, 2025

MOTION: (B. Cant/P. Ramsey)

THAT the summary record of the open session of the regular meeting held November 25, 2025 be approved.

CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Summary Record

There was none.

4. Chair's Remarks

Brian Cant, Chair welcomed the Board members and provided a territorial acknowledgement. He noted these are the first meetings of the new year and spoke about setting resolutions.

B. Cant welcomed the visitors in the gallery and informed them that there would not be opportunity for visitors to speak at the Open Session.

5. Correspondence

a. Canadian Association of University Teachers

B. Cant acknowledged the correspondence received in the form of a petition and noted that the correspondence addresses collective bargaining. B. Cant thanked those who signed the petition.

b. PEA, UVic Chapter, UVic Faculty Association, CUPE 4163, CUPE 951, CUPE 917, UVSS, GSS, Society for Students with a Disability (SSD)

B. Cant acknowledged the correspondence and petition received from several associations related to Students with a Disability (SSD). He stated that inclusion and accessibility are core values to this institution with shared responsibilities. He noted that a Centre for Accommodated Assessments is being established and that the Board of Governors will support the work with oversight. B. Cant said that a more fulsome update would be provided to Board at the March meetings.

6. Acting President's Report

Robina Thomas, Acting President and Vice-Chancellor stated it was nice to see so many people attending the Open Session. She introduced herself and where she comes from. She provided her territorial acknowledgment.

R. Thomas reported on implications of changes to the province's drug decriminalization policy for the university.

She reported on the appointment of Dr. Angela Jaime as Vice-President Indigenous.

R. Thomas informed the members that the United Way Plasma Car Race would be taking place on February 12, 2026 on campus. It is the signature event for this fundraiser with faculty, staff and students participating.

R. Thomas reported that Stephanie Willerth has been elected as a Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada (EIC) for exceptional contributions to engineering in Canada.

She reported on performance of Vikes teams.

R. Thomas reported that in November 2025, R. Thomas and other UVic leaders attended the International Traditional Indigenous Knowledges Institute conference in Australia and New Zealand.

There were no questions for R. Thomas.

7. External Relations Report

BOG-Feb03/26-30

Chris Horbachewski, Vice-President External Relations indicated he had nothing to add to the circulated report.

There were no questions for C. Horbachewski.

CONSENT

8. Operations and Facilities Committee (Paul Ramsey)

a. New and Revised Awards

BOG-Feb03/26-11

MOTION:

THAT the Board of Governors approve new and revised undergraduate and graduate awards set out in the attached document and listed below:

- *Axelrad Avenir Award* (New)*
- *Empresa Properties Vikes Cross Country & Track Award* (Revised)*
- *'Stand Out from the Crowd' Prize in Physics & Astronomy* (Revised)*
- *ÁTOL,ÁNW: A Season of Just and Fair Treatment Scholarship * (Revised)*
- *Bruce & Connie More Choral Music Award* (Revised)*
- *Craig Harms Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre Award* (New)*
- *Dr. Marion Porath Award in Education* (Revised)*
- *Evan and Kay Blake Scholarship (New)*
- *Helen Lansdowne Award* (New)*
- *Henry, Annie and Harry Cathcart Award* (Revised)*
- *Martin Bonham & Lloyd Howard Travel to Italy Award* (Revised)*
- *Jessie H. Mantle Fellowship in Nursing Endowment* (Revised)*
- *Judy Payne Memorial Award (Revised)*
- *Martha Carlsen Entrance Award* (New)*
- *Robin and Jane Hall Business Award* (New)*
- *Samit & Reshma Sharma Scholarship in Mental Health and Addiction* (Revised)*
- *Sheila Ryan and Eileen Ryan Award in Child and Youth Care* (Revised)*
- *Vic Scott Award in Voice Accompaniment* (Revised)*
- *Warren Magnusson Graduate Scholarship in Political Theory* (New)*
- *Yvonne Allen Cancer Research Scholarship* (Revised)*
- *Black Student Leadership Entrance Award (Revised)*
- *Arbutus Law Group Award (New)*
- *CFUW Victoria Margaret Lowe Memorial Scholarship* (Revised)*
- *Doreen Sutherland UG Award for Permanent Residents, Protected Persons & Refugee Women in HEIS* (Revised)*
- *Eleanor Mitchell Allen Award in Nursing* (Revised)*
- *Excellence in Math Scholarship*(Revised)*

- *Jim Ounsworth Undergraduate Award for Indigenous Part-time Students (Revised)*
- *Qukin Scholarship – Joyce Green and James Johnson * (Revised)*
- *Nazareno Dominelli and Maria Giuseppa Tassone Award* (New)*
- *Phyllis Margaret Wilson Scholarship* (New)*
- *Ronald C. Corbeil Award for Merit in Program Evaluation* (Revised)*
- *Royal Canadian Legion Award (New)*
- *The Ann Scarfe Award in Biology Field School* (New)*
- *Youson Vikes Soccer Annual Award (New)*
- *Harold Serson Scholarship for Women in Engineering (New)*

** Administered by the University of Victoria Foundation*

b. Proposal to establish a non-credit Certificate in Gerontology

BOG-Feb03/26-12

MOTION:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposal to establish a non-credit Certificate in Gerontology, as described in the document “Certificate in Gerontology”, and that this approval be withdrawn should the program not be offered within five years of the granting of approval.

c. Proposal to establish a non-credit Certificate in Trade and Construction Management

BOG-Feb03/26-16

MOTION:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposal to establish a non-credit certificate in Trade and Construction Management, as described in the document “Certificate in Trade and Construction Management”, and that this approval be withdrawn should the program not be offered within five years of the granting of approval.

d. Proposal to establish a Minor, General and Major in Media Studies (MDIA)

BOG-Feb03/26-32

MOTION:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposal to establish a Minor, General, and Major in Media Studies (MDIA), as described in the document “Minor, General, and Major in Media Studies (MDIA), and that this approval be withdrawn should the program not be offered within five years of the granting of approval.

e. Proposal to establish a Master of Community Planning Program BOG-Feb03/26-33

MOTION:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposal to establish a Master of Community Planning program, as described in the document "Master of Community Planning", and that this approval be withdrawn should the program not be offered within five years of the granting of approval.

f. Proposal to discontinue the Bachelor of Science programs in Biochemistry and Microbiology BOG-Feb03/26-15

MOTION:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposal to discontinue the Bachelor of Science programs in Biochemistry and Microbiology, as described in the document "Discontinuation of the BSc Programs in Biochemistry and Microbiology".

g. Proposal to establish a Bachelor of Science degree in Molecular Life Sciences BOG-Feb03/26-14

MOTION:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposal to establish a Bachelor of Science degree in Molecular Life Sciences, as described in the Document "Bachelor of Science degree in Molecular Life Sciences", and that this approval be withdrawn should the program not be offered within five years of the granting of approval.

h. Proposal to change the name of the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology to the School of Molecular Life Sciences BOG-Feb03/26-13

MOTION:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposal to change the name of the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology to the School of Molecular Life Sciences, as described in the document "School of Molecular Life Sciences".

i. Status Report on Capital Projects BOG-Feb03/26-08a

Pro Forma Motion: (B. Cant/M. Buller)

THAT the above items be approved by the Board of Governors by consent.

CARRIED

REGULAR

9. Finance Committee (Jyoti Stephens)

a. University of Victoria Staff Pension Plan – New Responsible Investment Policy and Annual Policy Reviews

BOG-Feb03/26-06

J. Stephens stated that the Finance Committee met and reviewed the three policies. The new Responsible Investment Policy is aligned with similar policies. There are minor clarifications and changes in the Governance Policy and the Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures. Kristi Simpson, Vice-President Finance and Operations noted that climaterisk modelling was used to test the updates.

MOTION: (J. Stephens/P. Ramsey)

THAT the Board of Governors approve and adopt the Staff Pension Plan Responsible Investment Policy attached hereto, effective February 3, 2026.

THAT the Board of Governors approve and adopt the changes shown in the redlined version of the Staff Pension Plan Governance Policy attached hereto, effective February 3, 2026.

THAT the Board of Governors approve and adopt the changes shown in the redlined version of the Staff Pension Plan Statement of Investment Policy and Procedures attached hereto, effective February 3, 2026.

CARRIED

10. Operations and Facilities Committee (Paul Ramsey)

a. Policy for the Establishment, Review and Closure of Research Centres (RH8300)

BOG-Feb03/26-34

P. Ramsey stated that the policy has been updated. The policy was approved by Senate in January. He noted the highlighted changes.

Lisa Kalynchuk, Vice-President Research and Innovation recognized the excellent work by Fraser Hof, Associate Vice-President Research.

MOTION: (P. Ramsey/M. Jensen)

THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposed revisions to the policy for the Establishment, Review, and Closure of Research Centres (RH8300).

CARRIED

11. Other Business

I. Watson expressed his gratitude for the people in the gallery. In light of the good news from the Provost's office on the Centre for Accommodated Assessments, it is important to work collaboratively with the campus community in the spirit of collegial governance. He thanked the those in the gallery and noted this will be discussed in March.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Original signed by Brian Cant, Board Chair and Carrie Andersen, University Secretary.