

**Meeting of Senate
January 9, 2026****MINUTES**

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Victoria was held on January 9, 2026 at 3:33 p.m. in the Senate and Board Chambers, Jamie Cassels Centre and via Zoom.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as circulated.

2. MINUTES**a. October 3, 2025**

A Senator noted that, in their opinion, the minutes from the October and November meetings did not accurately reflect the statements made at these meetings. As a result, they were not comfortable approving the records. Another member of Senate was in agreement.

Motion: (M. Laidlaw/A. Prest)

That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate held on October 3, 2025 be approved and that the approved minutes be circulated in the usual way.

**CARRIED
2 opposed
1 abstained**

b. November 7, 2025

A Senator asked that the results of each set of meeting minutes be recorded in the minutes.

Motion: (R. Hancock/B. Smith)

That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate held on November 7, 2025 be approved and that the approved minutes be circulated in the usual way.

**CARRIED
2 opposed
5 abstained**

c. December 5, 2025

Motion: (R. Hicks/A. Lepp)

That the minutes of the open session of the meeting of the Senate held on December 5, 2025 be approved and that the approved minutes be circulated in the usual way.

CARRIED
2 opposed
6 abstained

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A member of Senate thanked the Office of the University Secretary (USEC) for scheduling a meeting with Learning and Teaching Innovation and the Centre for Accessible Learning but noted that there were student Senators who still had additional questions. The member of Senate asked if USEC would commit to another meeting before the next Senate meeting.

Ada Saab, Associate University Secretary, advised Senate that the Senate Committee on Learning was currently working on a proposal related to Universal Extended Time, and would bring forward this topic, and the broader issue of Universal Design for Learning, for discussion at a future Senate meeting. She confirmed no further meeting specific to student Senators would be scheduled before the next Senate meeting.

The Senator continued to express their wish to discuss issues surrounding Universal Design for Learning and raised points regarding goals in the Indigenous Strategic Plan as they related to academic accommodations. The Senator was advised that the issue was not an item on the January Senate agenda.

4. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

a. President's Report

Qwul'siy'yah'maht Robina Thomas began her report by saying she hoped the first few days of 2026 have been good and thanked everyone involved in responding to the recent water damage affecting the upper floors of the library.

R. Thomas announced that there will be an upcoming appointment process within the Office of the Vice-President Research and Innovation, in accordance with the University's appointment procedures for Academic Associate Vice-Presidents. As set out in Policy GV0350, the University Secretary will be convening an appointment committee for which a call for committee members will be issued with meetings beginning in March.

R. Thomas reported that Stephanie Willerth, Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, had been elected as a Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada for her exceptional contributions to engineering in Canada. She said Dr. Willerth would be inducted as a 2026 Fellow in April.

Referring to a recent gift to the university, R. Thomas said that the Joyce Family Foundation had expanded its long-standing support for UVic students. She said its recent \$1.5-million contribution, which builds on a \$500,000 gift in 2016, brings the total endowed award to \$2 million, and multiple undergraduate students will receive up to \$8,000 per year, renewable for the duration of their program.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

6. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES

a. Senate Committee on Admission, Re-registration and Transfer Appeals

i. 2024/2025 Annual Report

Erin Kelly, Chair of the Senate Committee on Admission, Re-registration and Transfer Appeals, introduced the report, noting the number of cases heard over the course of the year. E. Kelly announced, new this year, additional information included in the report which referred to a breakdown of the committee's appeals. She thanked the Office of the Registrar and Enrolment Management for providing this additional data. There were no questions.

b. Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance

i. 2024/2025 Annual Report

A. Saab introduced the annual report.

A member of Senate asked how one would propose items for Senate's consideration. A. Saab explained that any member of Senate can submit a proposal which the Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance would review. She noted that the Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance does not prevent any item from coming to Senate if there is jurisdiction for the academic governing body. The committee will, at times, recommend a proposal to a Senate standing committee in order for the issue to be fully examined.

ii. Upcoming Senate committee vacancies

A. Saab introduced the listing of upcoming vacancies on Senate Committees, noting that the list may indicate a vacancy where a current committee member may be eligible for reappointment. There were no questions.

c. Senate Committee on Awards

i. New and Revised Awards

Maureen Ryan, Chair of the Senate Committee on Awards, introduced the listing of new and revised awards.

A member of Senate commented on the continued inconsistency regarding the way students are described within the terms of each award. The Senator asked if there was any policy for donors around more standardized language. M. Ryan responded that the committee continues to be in the process of reviewing this issue.

A Senator commented on the Royal Canadian Legion Award, noting there may need to be additional clarity regarding who is considered a veteran. Lori Hunter, Director of Student Awards and Financial Aid, said clarity was sent to Advancement Services to ensure the terms of the award was clear.

Finally, a Senator noted there were revisions to three awards related to the Peter B. Gustavson School of Business where the program was undergoing a change which would not take effect until 2027. The Senator was concerned that the revisions for 2026 would make some students ineligible. After a brief discussion, it was agreed to remove the three awards from approval and if changes were needed to be made before the February opening of the awards portal, an electronic vote would be sent to Senators in advance of the meeting of the Board of Governors.

Motion: (M. Ryan/P. Loock)

That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, as amended the new and revised awards set out in the attached document:

- 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)
- Quikin 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*

CARRIED

d. Senate Committee on Planning

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

Elizabeth Adjin-Tettey, Associate Vice-President Academic Programs, introduced the proposal.

A member of Senate asked if Camosun College was consulted in the development of this certificate. Miranda Angus Director of Business, Science & Technology, Division of Continuing Studies, responded that the program was not in competition with Camosun however, the college had been consulted.

A Senator asked if there were plans for a 2+2 agreement with Camosun. E. Adjin-Tettey reminded Senators that the proposal was a non-credit certificate and that there were no plans in this way.

Motion: (T. Hopper/A. Weaver)

That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, the proposal to establish a non-credit Certificate in Trade and Construction, as described in the document "Certificate in Trade and Construction", and that this approval be withdrawn should the program not be offered within five years of the granting of approval.

CARRIED

ii. Proposal to establish a Master of Community Planning program

E. Adjin-Tettey introduced the proposal. There were no questions.

Motion: (F. Kodar/L. Harder)

That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, the proposal to establish a Master of Community Planning program, as described in the

attached document, and that this approval be withdrawn should the program not be offered within five years of the granting of approval.

CARRIED

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

E. Adjin-Tetty introduced the proposal. There were no questions.

Motion: (A. Lepp/F. Kodar)

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

CARRIED

7. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM FACULTIES

There was none.

8. PROPOSALS AND REPORTS FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT ACADEMIC AND PROVOST

There was none.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Policy for the Establishment, Review, and Closure of Research Centres (RH8300): Updates, revisions, and companion motion to extend Senate-approved status

Fraser Hof, Associate Vice-President Research, introduced the proposal and provided highlights of the revisions. A Senator thanked F. Hof for the clarity of the proposal. There were no questions.

Motion: (R. Hancock/M. Ryan)

That Senate approve, and recommend to the Board of Governors that it also approve, the revisions to the policy Establishment, Review, and Closure of Research Centres (RH8300).

CARRIED

Motion: (M. Laidlaw/A. Lepp)

That each Centre that currently enjoys non-conditional Senate-approved status have its current approval period extended by two years to align with the change from five-year to seven-year review cycles. This blanket extension will take effect only if and when the

Senate and Board of Governors has also approved the draft Policy RH8300.

CARRIED

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

January 9, 2026 Senate Meeting				
Name	In Attendance	Regrets		Position
Adjin-Tetty, Elizabeth	X		Associate Vice-President Academic Programs	By Invitation
Aggarwal, Aarav			Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Alatorre, Carmen	X		Faculty of Fine Arts	Elected by the Faculty
Andersen, Carrie	X		University Secretary	Secretary of Senate
Bengtson, Jonathan	X		University Librarian	Ex officio
Bradley, Colin	X		A/Dean, Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science	Ex officio
Brown, Graham	X		Acting Dean, Peter B. Gustavson School of Business	Ex officio
Buller, Marion	X		Chancellor	Ex officio
Campbell, Erin	X		Faculty of Fine Arts	Elected by the Faculty Members
Caruncho, Hector			Acting Head, Division of Medical Sciences	Additional Member
Caryk, Michael	X		Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Cohen Cheetham			Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Clarke, Jo-Anne	X		Dean, Division of Continuing Studies	Ex officio
Colby, Jason			Faculty of Humanities	Elected by the Faculty Members
Con, Adam	X		Faculty of Fine Arts	Elected by the Faculty Members
Constantinescu, Daniela	X		Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science	Elected by the Faculty
Croft, Elizabeth	X		Vice-President Academic and Provost	Ex officio
Diether, Kelly	X		Convocation Senator	Elected by the Convocation
Donovan, Kate	X		Convocation Senator	Elected by the Convocation
Dudley, Dennine	X		Faculty of Fine Arts	Elected by the Faculty
Dunsdon, Jim	X		Associate Vice-President Student Affairs	By Invitation
Eagle, Chris		X	Faculty of Science	Elected by the Faculty Members
Farnham, Martin			Faculty of Graduate Studies	Elected by the Faculty
Filipovich, Daniil	X		Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Gair, Jane			Faculty of Health	Elected by the Faculty
Goodman, Emily			Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Hallgrimsdottir, Helga	X		Deputy Provost	By invitation
Hancock, Rob	X		Faculty of Social Sciences	Elected by the Faculty Members
Harder, Lois	X		Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences	Ex officio
Hicks, Robin	X		Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies	Ex officio
Hopper, Tammy	X		Dean, Faculty of Health	Ex officio
Hopper, Tim	X		Faculty of Health	Elected by the Faculty Members
Hudson, Logan	X		Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Humphreys, Sara	X		Faculty of Humanities	Elected by the Faculty Members
Ipiroti, Vita		X	Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Irvine, Valerie	X		Faculty of Education	Elected by the Faculty
Kalynchuk, Lisa	X		Vice-President Research and Innovation	Ex officio
Kehoe, Inba		X	Librarian, McPherson Library	Elected by Professional Librarians
Kennedy, Cole	X		Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Kodar, Freya	X		Dean, Faculty of Law	Ex officio
Kong, May	X		Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Krueger, Charlie			Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Kuklev, Artem	X		Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Laidlaw, Mark	X		Faculty of Science	Elected by the Faculty
Lepp, Annalee	X		Dean, Faculty of Humanities	Ex officio
Lindgren, Allana			Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts	Ex officio
Loock, Peter	X		Dean, Faculty of Science	Ex officio
Loomer, Geoff		X	Faculty of Law	Elected by the Faculty
Macleod, Colin	X		Faculty of Humanities	Elected by the Faculty
Maher, Evan	X		Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Mallidou, Anastasia	X		Faculty of Health	Elected by the Faculty Members
Marks, Lynne	X		Faculty of Humanities	Elected by the Faculty
Martin, Travis	X		Faculty of Science	Elected by the Faculty
McGinnis, Martha	X		Faculty of Graduate Studies	Elected by the Faculty
McNiven, Mackenzie			Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Milford, Todd	X		Acting Dean, Faculty of Education	Ex officio
Nair, Sudhir			Peter B. Gustavson School of Business	Elected by the Faculty
Newcombe, Andrew	X		Faculty of Law	Elected by the Faculty
Nowell, April			Faculty of Social Sciences	Elected by the Faculty
Prest, Anita	X		Faculty of Education	Elected by the Faculty
Rose-Redwood, CindyAnn	X		Faculty of Social Sciences	Elected by the Faculty
Ryan, Maureen	X		Faculty of Health	Elected by the Faculty Members
Saab, Ada	X		Associate University Secretary	By Invitation
Sharpe, Deborah			Student Senator	Elected from the Studies Societies
Smith, Brock	X		Peter B. Gustavson School of Business	Elected by the Faculty
Swayne, Leigh Anne	X		Faculty of Health	Elected by the Faculty
Taylor, Wendy	X		Registrar	By Invitation
Thomas, Robina	X		Acting President and Vice-Chancellor	Ex officio
Thompson, Eva			Student Senator	Elected from the Student Societies
Walshaw, Jill	X		Faculty of Humanities	Elected by the Faculty Members
Wang, Alivia	X		Convocation Senator	Elected by the Convocation
Weaver, Andrew	X		Faculty of Science	Elected by the Faculty Members
Weber, Jens	X		Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science	Elected by the Faculty
Wyatt, Victoria	X		Convocation Senator	Elected by the Convocation
Zhou, Lina			Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science	Elected by the Faculty Members

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS - University Act: Section 35 (2) (a-f)

Chancellor: Marion Buller (31/12/27)

Acting President and Vice-Chancellor:

Qwul'sih'yah'maht, Robina Thomas, Chair

Vice-President Academic and Provost: Elizabeth Croft

Vice-President Research and Innovation: Lisa Kalynchuk

Acting Dean of Peter B. Gustavson School of Business:

Graham Brown

Acting Dean of Education: Todd Milford

Acting Dean of Engineering: Colin Bradley

Dean of Continuing Studies: Jo-Anne Clarke

Dean of Fine Arts: Allana Lindgren

Dean of Graduate Studies: Robin Hicks

Dean Faculty of Health: Tammy Hopper

Dean of Humanities: Annalee Lepp (Vice-Chair)

Dean of Law: Freya Kodar

Dean of Science: Peter Look

Dean of Social Sciences: Lois Harder

University Librarian: Jonathan Bengtson

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE FACULTIES - Section 35 (2) (g)

BUSI: Sudhir Nair (30/6/28)

Brock Smith (30/6/27)

EDUC: Valerie Irvine (30/6/28)

Anita Prest (30/6/26)

ENGR: Daniela Constantinescu (30/6/26)

Jens Weber (30/6/28)

FINE: Carmen Alatorre (30/6/28)

Dennine Dudley (30/6/27)

GRAD: Martin Farnham (30/6/28)

Martha McGinnis (30/6/26)

HLTH: Jane Gair (30/6/28)

Leigh Anne Swayne (30/6/28)

HUMS: Lynne Marks (30/6/27)

Colin Macleod (30/6/28)

LAW: Geoff Loomer (30/6/28)

Andrew Newcombe (30/6/26)

SCIE: Mark Laidlaw (30/6/26)

Travis Martin (30/6/26)

SOSC: April Nowell (30/6/27)

CindyAnn Rose-Redwood (30/6/26)

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE FACULTY MEMBERS

- Sections 35 (2) (g)

Erin Campbell (30/6/26)

Jason Colby (30/6/27)

Adam Con (30/6/26)

Chris Eagle (30/6/26)

Rob Hancock (30/6/27)

Tim Hopper (30/6/28)

Sara Humphreys (30/6/26)

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE FACULTY MEMBERS

(continued)

Anastasia Mallidou (30/6/26)

Maureen Ryan (30/6/27)

Jill Walshaw (30/6/28)

Andrew Weaver (30/6/27)

Lina Zhou (30/6/26)

MEMBERS ELECTED FROM THE STUDENT SOCIETIES -

Section 35 (2) (h)

Aarav Aggarwal (30/6/26)

Michael Caryk "

Cohen Cheetham "

Daniil Filipovich "

Emily Goodman "

Logan Hudson "

Vita Ipiroti "

Cole Kennedy "

May Kong "

Charlie Krueger "

Artem Kuklev "

Evan Maher "

Mackenzie McNiven "

Deborah Sharpe "

Eva Thompson "

Vacancy "

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE CONVOCATION

- Section 35 (2) (i)

Kelly Diether (30/6/27)

Kate Donovan (30/6/27)

Alivia Wang (30/6/27)

Victoria Wyatt (30/6/27)

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS - Section 35 (2) (k)

Acting Head, Division of Medical Sciences:

Hector Caruncho (30/04/26)

Acting Dean of HSD: TBD (01/05/26)

Member elected by the Professional Librarians:

Inba Kehoe (30/06/27)

Continuing Sessional: Vacancy (30/06/26)

SECRETARY OF SENATE - Section 64 (2)

University Secretary: Carrie Andersen

BY INVITATION - Seated with specified speaking rights

Deputy Provost: Helga Hallgrímsdóttir

Assoc. VP Student Affairs: Jim Dunsdon

Assoc. VP Academic Programs: Elizabeth Adjin-Tetty

Registrar: Wendy Taylor

Associate University Secretary: Ada Saab