

Thursday, June 4, 2026
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
ECU Boardroom D2315 and *MS Teams

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members:	Saanvi Bhat, Student-elected Board Member Ashley Chung, Student-elected Board Member Brenda Crabtree, Board Member Alla Gadassik, Faculty-appointed Board Member Mimi Gellman, Faculty-appointed Board Member Trish Kelly, President + Vice-Chancellor Steve Kinsey, Board Member Mary Macaulay, Board Member* Lorcan O'Melinn, Acting Board Chair and Audit + Finance Committee Chair Harv Phandal-Dhanda, Board Member Eduardo Rodriguez, Employee-elected Board Member Natasha Tony, Board Member
Regrets:	Carleen Thomas, Chancellor Sung Van, Board Member
Employee Resources:	Mark Douglas, Interim Vice-President, Finance + Administration Natasha Himer, University Secretary and Executive Director, Governance Adrian Tees, Associate Vice-President, Human Resources Alexander Muir, Technical Support
Recorder:	Bessie Chow, Recording Secretary*

1. CALL TO ORDER AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

With quorum present, the Acting Board Chair, L. O'Melinn, called the meeting to order at 3:11 pm.

Board member N. Tony provided a territorial acknowledgment and shared personal reflections on reconciliation.

2. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Board members were invited to disclose any conflicts of interest related to the agenda items. No conflicts were disclosed.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

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

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves the items included under the Consent Agenda, as circulated.

3.1. Agenda

3.2. Minutes of the Board Open Session held on March 26, 2026

3.3. Report on Forced Labour and Child Labour

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Audit + Finance Committee, approves ECU's Annual Report on Forced Labour and Child Labour for the year ended March 31, 2026, as presented.

3.4. President + Vice Chancellor's Report

In response to a request, the Acting Chair agreed to allocate time for further discussion of a resolution carried at the March Board meeting.

4. BUSINESS

4.1. Acting Chair's Opening Remarks

The Acting Chair provided remarks on:

- Recognition of outgoing student-elected Board members, S. Bhat and A. Chung.
- Key agenda items, including an update on the 2025/26 Budget, approval of the audited financial statements and progress in implementing the Strategic Plan.

4.2. President's Remarks

The President + Vice-Chancellor, T. Kelly, provided remarks on:

- Appreciation for ECU staff, faculty and students for their work in organizing May events including the Grad Show and Convocation.
- Celebration of the 2026 Honorary Doctorate and Emily Carr Award recipients.
- An upcoming exhibition of student work related to ECU's 100th anniversary.
- Appointment of J. Tuner to the role of Dean of Culture and Community.
- The successful auction sale of E. J. Hughes' *Coastal Boats Near Sidney, BC*, the related new student endowment, and recognition of the Peter and Joanne Brown Foundation's support.

4.3. Budget Update: 2025/26 Actual Activity vs Approved Budget

The Interim Vice-President, Finance + Administration, M. Douglas, presented an audit overview, highlights from the audited financial statements and a comparison of 2025/26 actual activity against the approved budget.

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Discussion addressed the following matters:

- Clarification that the surplus reported for Great Northern Way primarily reflected unrealized gains arising from the restatement of trust asset values.
- The drivers of the favourable expenditure variance, including savings in salaries and benefits and general and administrative expenses.
- The reasonableness of savings incorporated into the 2026/27 Budget, recognizing that expenditures are more controllable than revenues.

4.4. Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2026

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

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Audit + Finance Committee, approves the audited financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2026, as presented.

4.5. Follow-up on March Board Resolution

A Board member raised the Board's March approval to suspend intake into the BFA of photography program. Concern was expressed on the adequacy of supporting documentation. It was clarified that the suspension of intake is not a program closure; this step provides an opportunity to review the program.

4.6. Strategic Plan Progress Report

T. Kelly provided a presentation on progress in implementing the Strategic Plan, noting that a full written report will be provided to the Board and posted publicly in the fall.

Discussion addressed topics including work underway by the Administration to implement and measure progress and opportunities arising from industry partnerships.

4.7. President's Closing Remarks

T. Kelly presented a highlight reel from the 2025/26 academic year, with a focus on student experience and the collaborative nature of practice-based education and the Centennial year events.

Comments reflected the emotional impact of the student highlights and Board members commented on the sense of progress, stability and momentum seen across the institution.

5. NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Governors was confirmed for September 24, 2026.

6. CONCLUSION

With no further business, the Open Session of the June 4, 2026 Board of Governors meeting concluded at 4:11 pm.