SUO
Students' Union
UBC Okanagan

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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union UBC Okanagan, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students
Board of Directors Meeting, September 25, 2026 at 4 pm, UNC 105 Boardroom

Directors Present

President (meeting chair)	Olivia Lai
Vice President Finance and Administration	Shreya Patnaik
Vice-President Internal	Quinlin Osadczuk
Vice-President Campus Life	Guransh Sandhu
Vice-President External	Naden Qually
Director-at-Large	Oliver Hale
Director-at-Large	Tim Liao
Director-at-Large	Jenna Bierwirth
Director-at-Large	Laisa Pertet
Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative	Ali Wasti
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative	Liam Wallace
Faculty of Science Representative	Amanda Bolton
Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative	Neela Rader
Faculty of Applied Science Representative	Krishansh Dhawan
Faculty of Education Representative	Marci Brooks (zoom)
Faculty of Management Representative	Mansi Sharma

Directors Absent with Regrets

Directors Absent without Regrets

Board of Governors Representative (ex-officio)	Peter Idoko
Student Senate Caucus Representative (ex-officio)	Saami Hafeez

Staff Present

General Manager	Jason Evans
Operational Manager	Micheal Ouellet
Governance Coordinator	Lijie Qiu

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of the Okanagan Nation. We would like to recognize that learning happened in this place long before this institution was established. It is important to understand the privilege we hold to be living, working, and learning on Syilx territory.

ACCESSBILITY NEEDS CHECK

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP

Motion#26/09/25.01

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Moved by Rader; Seconded by Bolton.

Be it resolved that a discussion regarding Concert be added to the in-camera session.

Moved by Sandhu; Seconded by Wallace.
Amendment carried.

Be it resolved that a discussion regarding Townhall be added.

Moved by Pertet; Seconded by Liao.
Amendment carried.

Carried as amended.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Motion#26/09/25.02

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held September 11, 2026 be adopted.

Moved by Qually; Seconded by Osadczuk.
Carried.

4. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

4.1 Committee Meeting Minutes Approval

Motion#26/09/25.03

Be it resolved that the minutes of following meetings be adopted:

- Executive meeting held September 22nd;

- Finance Committee meeting held August 27th;

- Electoral Committee meeting held September 22nd ;

- Building Steering Committee meeting held August 18th and September 17th ;

- Sustainability Committee meeting held September 16th ;

- Policy Committee meeting held September 21st ;

- Oversight Committee meeting held September 23rd .

Moved by Pertet; Seconded by Wasti.

Liao noted that the policy committee discussed the UBC senate voting system but they did not confirm that UBC senate was using the ranked choice voting. Liao also asked if the budget discussed at the Finance committee meeting was open to the public. VP Finance confirmed that the budget was posted on their website. Liao asked who the chair of electoral committee was. Qiu replied that the General Manager was the chair.

Be it resolved that the words " UBC senate" be removed from the policy meeting minutes.
Moved by Liao; seconded by Osadczuk.
The policy meeting minutes were corrected.

Carried as corrected.

4.2 July and August Executive Reports Approval

Motion #26/09/25.04
Be it resolved that the July and August Executive Reports be approved.
Moved by Sandhu; Seconded by Bolton.
Carried.

4.3 Executive Performance Review Presentation

Wasti and Bolton presented executive reviews from the summer.

VP External:

1.Housing and Advocacy goal

- reevaluate the strategies of the UBC campus planning

- refocus on the provincial government advocacy for housing specially

2. Communication: In the Know of your SUO undergo promoted through social media

3. Food Security

- Community meals

- Push for donation to the pantry

4. Strengthen Resource Center

- increase facilitator honoraria

- work on safety space

5. Sponsorship: ongoing, challenging

Qually added that due to postpone of EXPO, some sponsors withdrew. They may reevaluate the goal of sponsorship.

VP Campus Life

1. programming

- Events such as carnival, beer garden etc. went successfully. The concert faced some complications.

2. Sponsorship: ongoing

3. Student Talents

- UBC Got Talents would happen later

4. Cultural and inclusive programming

-Had preliminary-stage conversations with some cultural clubs

Sandhu noted that due to the cancelation of the concert, student performers would be given opportunities to perform at the well events.

VP Finance

1. Non-deficit budget: achieved
2. Budget Oversight: ongoing monthly reviews
3. Budget Transparency : graphs were posted on their website
4. Financial Process on Rubric: mostly completed

Patnaik noted that it was important that every board member sticks to the budget limit.

VP Internal

1. Indigenous Rep : ongoing, and had research and consultation with some resources and indigenous community
2. Review policies: work on updates of some policies related to events
3. Townhall: need study and assistance
4. Club and Course union outreach: conversations underway

Osadczuk noted that he planned to have consistent townhall meetings to have

conversations with students.

President

1. Affordability for students on campus: collaborated with other student societies on campus to advocate affordability at the board of governors meeting
2. Food security: see the board of governors meeting presentation
3. Looking for Funding, sponsorship and opportunities due to funding cut in the post-secondary institution.
4. Accountability: worked with IT department to see possibility of increasing newsletter and email communication with student body.
5. Worked on board collaboration
6. Career services and support for students: see board of governors meeting presentation
7. Worked on collaboration with UBC admin on career development resources

5. REPORT ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

5.1 Senate

Liao noted that they had their first senate meeting and Dr. Cormack was elected as the vice chair. Academic freedom policy got tabled. Strategic plan for the UBC went well.

5.2 Board of Governors

Lai noted SUO presentation at the board of governors meeting was well received and generated positive feedback. Recording could be found on the board of governors website. The new recreation building was approved.

5.3 Other University Committees

Hale noted Disability Resource Center Student Advisory Board would have a collaboration event with Picnic on Oct. 25

Pertet updated some internal structure changes that UBC Housing had.

Lai noted that the Vice-President Student search committee's work was ongoing and that they hoped to identify a candidate by 2027. The first two meetings of UBC Alumni Council were scheduled for Oct 5 and Oct 16 to talk about alumni engagement and service.

Lai also noted that AVPS (Associated Vice-President Students) Office was looking for students serving on University AI Council and that she would connect interested Board members with the office.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 SAL Appointment

Motion #26/09/25.05

Be it resolved that Amber Matlock be appointed to the Campaigns Committee as a Student-at-Large.
Moved by Qually; Seconded by Sandhu.
Carried.

Motion #26/09/25.06

Be it resolved that Jiteesh Reddy be appointed to the Campaigns Committee as a Student-at-Large.
Moved by Sandhu; Seconded by Hale.
Carried.

6.2 By-Election Dates

Motion #26/09/25.07
Be it resolved that2026 SUO By- Election Schedule and All-Candidates Meeting date be approved as follows:

1. Nomination Period starts: 8:00 am PST, Thursday, October 1, 2026
   Nomination Period ends: 4:00 pm PST, Friday, October 16, 2026
2. All-Candidates Meeting: 5:00 pm PST, Friday, October 16, 2026
3. Campaigning Period starts: 8:00 am PST, Monday, October 19, 2026
   Campaigning Period ends: 11:59 pm PST, Tuesday, October 27, 2026
4. Voting Period starts: 8:00 am PST, Monday, October 26, 2026
   Voting Period ends:11:59 pm PST, Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Move by Rader; seconded by Pertet.
Carried.

Some Board members requested that the All-Candidates Meeting be conducted in a hybrid format, offering both in-person and Zoom participation. Lai would contact the CRO to discuss the possibility.
Lai also reminded that board of directors are not allowed to endorse any candidates.
Qiu reminded that the appointed board of directors must run the by-election if they wish to remain in the position.

6.3 Policy Changes

Motion # 26/09/25.08
Be it resolved that the Student Association Code of Conduct be approved as attached.
Move by Bierwirth; seconded by Pertet.

Rader raised concerns that Section 2.3.7 was too restrictive, only allowing student association social media accounts to promote campaigns or events organized by SUO-ratified student associations. Rader asked whether sharing posts from external organizations would be permitted.
Osadczuk replied that such content might be permitted if it was shared for awareness purposes.
Qiu noted that, based on her understanding of the policy, student associations were not permitted to endorse activities organized by external organizations.
Patnaik responded to Rader's specific example of sharing a government petition, noting that, as SUO is non-partisan, student associations should not share content that promotes a particular political position. She also noted that student association social media accounts were intended specifically for student association purposes rather than for promoting other organizations. It would be difficult for the Membership Outreach Coordinator and VP Internal to determine and monitor what content was appropriate, which was also a reason for restricting social media content under the policy.
Evans noted that the policy had been established following an incident in which a student association promoted an event organized by another party, after which several students became ill. This created a liability issue for SUO. Evans explained that the policy was intended to ensure that student associations supported student groups.
Patnaik also noted that, in the previous year, a student association had protested against an organization under SUO, which created additional issues.
Osadczuk asked whether the Code of Conduct could be amended to allow for greater flexibility in its implementation. It was confirmed that the Board could amend the Code of Conduct.
Bierwirth asked about the repercussions of not signing the Code of Conduct. Evans noted that this would affect the funding application process, although the policy provided a deadline for student associations to sign the Code of Conduct.

Rader also raised concerns about the use of the term "controversial discussions" in Section 2.4.8, noting that "controversial" was a broad and subjective term that could vary on a case-by-case basis. It was further noted by some directors that some clubs, such as political clubs, could more easily become involved in discussions that might be considered controversial.

Be it resolved that the words " controversial discussions" be removed from Section 2.4.8.
Moved by Wallace; seconded by Hale.
Amendment Failed.

Be it resolved that discussion on the Student Association Code of Conduct be tabled, with amendments to be made in section 2 following recommendation from the board.
Moved by Osadczuk; seconded by Bolton.
Carried. Motion was tabled and referred to Policy committee.

Motion # 26/09/25.09
Be it resolved that a new policy be added after [Regulation VIII:24], which reads:
25. Upon a Student Association's renewal, all executive and non-executive members in the council are required to sign and submit the Student Association Code of Conduct for their term within 20 days of the renewal deadline. If an executive or non-executive member in the council changes during the term, the newly selected council member must sign and submit the Student Association Code of Conduct before exercising the responsibilities of the role.
Move by Osadczuk; seconded by Pertet.

Be it resolved that the motion be tabled.
Move by Lai; seconded by Rader.
Carried.

Motion # 26/09/25.10
Be it resolved that [Regulation I:108] Media Fund Committee
108 The Committee members shall consist of the:
a. Vice-President Campus Life;
b. Vice-President Finance and Administration;
c. a member of the Board of Directors;
d. a member of the Phoenix and/or its successor; and
e. a member of an SUO sanctioned media outlet and/or its successor.
be amended by adding a new point "f. General Manager", so [Regulation I:108] then reads:
108 The Committee members shall consist of the:
a. Vice-President Campus Life;
b. Vice-President Finance and Administration;
c. a member of the Board of Directors;
d. a member of the Phoenix and/or its successor;
e. a member of an SUO sanctioned media outlet and/or its successor; and
f. General Manager (non-voting advisory).
Move by Sandhu; seconded by Qually.
Carried.

6.4 Club ratification

Motion #26/09/25.11
Be it resolved that the Student Concert Band at UBCO be ratified.
Move by Sandhu; seconded by Bolton.
Aims and Purposes: The Okanagan Student Concert Band aims to create an inclusive, student-led concert band where students can continue developing their musical abilities, participate in structured ensemble performance, and foster teamwork and community building through music.

The association will provide opportunities for students of all academic backgrounds and any level of instrument experience to participate in rehearsals, concerts, and other musical events.
Goals and Distinction: The recreational music field has potential for expansion at UBCO. Our primary goal is to maintain a structured instrumental ensemble by welcoming students interested in performing music. We have the potential to hold a rich concert-band repertoire as we not only count with wind, brass, and percussion players, but violinists, pianists, and other instrumentalists.
Rather than duplicating existing broader music or recreational organizations, our goal is to complement and collaborate with other performing-arts groups. We have already begun building these connections through a post collaboration with the Theatre Club, discussions with the Karaoke Club, and potential collaboration with the UBC Vancouver Concert Band. Through these partnerships, we hope to contribute to UBCO's music community while creating opportunities for inter-campus collaboration

The discussion focused on the differences between the Concert Band and Music Club, as the Music Club planned to renew its status for the next term. SUO policy does not permit two clubs with similar goals and purposes.

Call the Question.
Moved by Wallace; seconded by Liao
Carried. The debate ended and the board voted on the motion.

Motion carried. The Student Concert Band got ratified.

Motion #26/09/25.12
Be it resolved that the Project Smile BC be ratified.
Move by Wallace; seconded by Bolton.
Project Smile BC aims to promote oral health awareness and support under-resourced communities through community outreach, preventive oral health education, donation initiatives, and volunteer opportunities. The club seeks to create an inclusive space where students from all academic backgrounds can become involved in meaningful service, develop leadership and teamwork skills, and participate in engaging events and collaborations that strengthen connections between students and the wider community.
Failed.
As there was already a Pre-Dental Club under SUO, the Directors questioned the need for another dental-related club. They recommended that, for awareness and career path advocacy, the student group collaborate with the existing Pre-Dental Club.

Motion #26/09/25.13
Be it resolved that Okanagan Aviation Association be ratified.
Move by Rader; seconded by Pertet.

OAA aims to create a community for aviation and aeronautics enthusiasts to collaborate and learn from each other and the industry including aviation companies, AMEs, Transport Canada, Air Traffic controllers, and the entire aviation ecosystem. We also hope to focus on mentoring people training for their pilots licenses, tackling challenging groundschool concepts, and looking at flying opportunities for members
Carried.

7. IN-CAMERA (LEGAL)

Motion #26/09/25.14
Be it resolved that the meeting be moved in-camera.
Move by Qually; seconded by Wallace.
Carried. [5:42 p.m.]

-FCCS Agreement Update
-Graduate Student MOU
-Concert

Motion #26/09/25.15
Be it resolved that the meeting be moved ex-camera.
Move by Qually; seconded by Rader.
Carried. [6:14 p.m.]

8. DISCUSSION/ INFORMATION

8.1 2026-2027 Board of Governors Presentation

Lai and Qually gave a brief overview of their presentation at the Board of Governors meeting, which advocated for food security, a student building for clubs, resource centers and study space, and work-study program.

8.2 Career Development Fee

Lai noted that the previous Board had voted against the Career Development Fee proposed by UBC and that the Board had been asked to consider the fee again this year. They believed students should not be required to pay an ancillary fee for services that should be provided by UBC. The academic and career development advising was already an existing campus service and should be offered by the University rather than funded through additional student fees.

Lai provided an overview of the academic and career advising department's current situation. The department had two additional staff members on contract until 2027. In 2026, the team received additional funding, which allowed it to expand and divide into two teams: one focused on direct student-facing support and the other on business development.

It was noted that without implementation of the Career Development Fee, the two-year post-graduation alumni career service would cease. The department was currently operating under a three-year pilot program. Following the three-year pilot, the University may propose and implement the fee again.

8.3 Faculty Consultation Fee

Lai updated the information from the university regarding some faculties' fee increase. Directors were welcome to share feedback via email.

8.4 Reflections and Improvements

Lai commended the board for their contributions and encouraged the board to communicate in a timely manner and check their emails regularly.

[Qually left at 6:33 p.m.]

8.5 Townhall

Pertet noted that the purpose of proposing the town hall was to facilitate open dialogue with students and create a space for them to express their concerns. She suggested holding the town hall before the AGM so that the Board could use the AGM as an opportunity to respond to and address students' concerns.

Given concerns about availability and attendance, Lai suggested holding the town hall after the AGM, noting that the AGM would provide an important opportunity for students to raise concerns, vote, and participate in the democratic process.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.