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## BOARD OF GOVERNORS - REGULAR MEETING

**Minutes of Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 25, 2026**

**5:40 p.m. – 6:25 p.m.**

**KPU Langley**

**Present: Board of Governors**

Erin Barnes, Chair  
Dianne Doyle  
Furquan Gehlen  
Gabby Gill  
Kim McGill  
Lyndsay Passmore  
Amanda Smith-Weston  
June Park Stephanie Smith  
Diane Purvey, Acting President  
Valerie Warren  
Stephanie Smith, Vice Chair

**University G7 members**

Jenn Harrington, Interim Vice-President, Human Resources  
Diane Purvey, Provost and Acting President  
Asma Sayed, Vice-President, Equity & Inclusive Communities  
Peter Smailes, Vice-President, Finance and Administration  
Zena Mitchell, Vice-President, Students

**Presenters and Administrative Resources**

Carole Laplante, Associate Vice-President, Financial Services  
Jennifer Duprey, General Counsel  
Lori McElroy, Associate Vice-President, Planning and Accountability  
Keri Spindler, University Secretary

**Regrets:** Kim (Kwuntiltunaat) Baird, Chancellor

**Presentation: Institute for Sustainable Horticulture (ISH)**

Dr. Deborah Henderson, Chair of the Institute of Sustainable Horticulture (ISH), provided an overview of the Institute's history and its current activities.

**1. Call to Order and  
Introductory Remarks**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

The Chair acknowledged KPU's commitment to reconciliation and recognition that we live, work and study in a region that overlaps with the unceded traditional and ancestral First Nations territories of the Musqueam, Katzie, Semiahmoo, Tsawwassen, Qayqayt, and Kwikwetlem, and with the lands of the Kwantlen First Nation, which gifted its name to this university.

The Chair reminded guests of the Board’s policy on media and recordings during the meeting.

Valerie Warren was introduced as a newly elected Faculty member on the Board of Governors and completed her Oath of Office.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION #16-25/26**

**MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED THAT the Board of Governors approve the regular meeting agenda for March 25 2026.**

**3. Conflict of Interest**

No other Conflict of Interest was declared.

**4. Approval of Consent Agenda**

**MOTION #17-25/26**

**MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED the motion THAT the Board of Governors approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:**

**4.1. Minutes of the January 28, 2026 Regular Board of Governors Meeting**

**4.2 Program Suspension – Citation in Cloud Architecture and Security**

**4.3 Program and Course Discontinuations: Bachelor of Music in Musical Arts, Major in General Studies**

**4.4 Program Suspension – Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Technical Management and Services**

**5. Governance Committee Report**

**5.1. Committee Chair Report**

Erin Barnes, Committee Chair, informed that the Governance Committee met last week and discussed succession planning for the positions of Board Chair and Vice Chair. A policy update was received and a presentation on the Program and Course Discontinuations for the Bachelor of Music in Musical Arts, Major in General Studies was given by Gordon Cobb.

An update was also given on Board Members’ terms of office.

**Action item:** Invite Gordon Cobb to a Board meeting to discuss the future of the music program at KPU.

**6. Human Resources Committee Report**

**6.1. Committee Chair Report**

Stephanie Smith, Committee Chair, introduced herself and provided a territorial acknowledgment. Smith informed that

the Human Resources Committee met on March 19<sup>th</sup> and discussed indicators of success for the Pay Transparency Act Report.

## **7. Audit Committee Report**

### **7.1. Committee Chair Report**

Gabby Gill, Committee Chair, informed that the committee received an update on Audit Reports and Cybersecurity.

## **8. Finance Committee Report**

### **8.1. Committee Chair Report**

Gabby Gill, Committee Chair, informed that the committee met on March 17<sup>th</sup> and received updates on the budget and Major Maintenance and Rehabilitation Report from facilities.

### **8.2. Transfer to KPU Foundation**

Peter Smailes, Vice President, Finance and Administration, noted that the Faculty of Health had generated revenue through its Continuing and Professional Studies activities. Under KPU Policy FM9, the Faculty is allowed to retain funds for future use.

KPU is currently targeting a balanced budget, and will adjust the transfer within the approved range, as year-end is reached.

#### **MOTION #18-25/26**

**MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED THAT** the Board of Governors approve the following allocation of funds from the 2025/2026 fiscal year:

a) That up to \$2.9 million in net proceeds generated by Faculty of Health Professional Studies funds be transferred to the KPU Foundation to support the Foundation's efforts in securing matching grants and advancing KPU initiatives, as recommended by the Board Finance Committee

Valerie Warren abstained from the vote.

The Chair acknowledged that Peter Smailes is retiring at the end of May and thanked him for his service to KPU.

The Chair also acknowledged that Aimee Begalka is retiring from KPU and thanked her for her service to KPU.

## **9. President's Report**

### **9.1. Report to the Board**

Diane Purvey, Acting President, acknowledged that recent layoffs had taken place and that there is a substantial impact on the entire KPU Community. Dr. Purvey shared that layoffs are the human face of declining international student enrollments. Dr. Purvey thanked Human Resources, the Dean's Offices, Chairs, Faculties and Service areas for their support in this difficult process.

Dr. Purvey emphasized that KPU is committed to mitigating the layoffs as much as possible and several initiatives are in place, including the use of deferred funding for specific projects. The BCGEU is actively engaged in facilitating the process of layoffs with their members.

Dr. Purvey noted that the Auditor General has recently released a report on International Students in Canada. The report emphasized that the impact of the change in Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada policy had been deeper and faster than anticipated. Study permits were approved even lower than targets with a result of budget pressures, program and campus closures and system-wide impacts. Dr. Purvey shared that KPU's 5-year plan anticipates ongoing enrollment decline.

Dr. Purvey noted that the Avison Report, commissioned by the Minister, was given an extension until March 29<sup>th</sup>. The report is anticipated to be bold, with a focus on tuition, governance and shared services. There is currently no date for when the government will release the report and act on recommendations.

Gabby Gill asked if KPU has current information on international student application data from Borderpass. Management responded that they are currently working with Borderpass on their dashboards and data and can bring a report forward to a future meeting.

## **10. Provost's Report**

### **10.1. Report to the Board**

Diane Purvey, Provost and Vice President, Academic, shared that a Provost Presents event took place on March 6<sup>th</sup> with Liya Escalera from Harvard. The event started with an open forum and then broke into smaller groups to discuss asset-based approaches to Student Success. Dr. Purvey noted that KPU is already student-focused but that the presentation helped instill

a mindset focused on helping students and KPU developing a plan.

Dr. Purvey further shared that KPU currently has a partnership with School Districts to allow students in grades 11 and 12 to complete dual-credit: taking 2 Arts and 2 Science courses which provide a pathway directly into KPU's programs.

The Wake-Up Social Justice Music Festival, organized by Dr. Gordon Cobb, is taking place today. The event is in its 4<sup>th</sup> year and is the culmination of an interdisciplinary course – Music 2500. The course requires no previous music experience.

### **10.2 Listening Tour Q&A Report**

Dr. Purvey noted that the report is included in the package and that over 500 employees had participated.

### **10.3 Enrolment Improvement Initiatives at KPU**

Dr. Purvey shared that the enrolment improvement initiatives report had been shared with all employees.

Lyndsay Passmore asked if there is a broader strategy to slow enrollment decline that the Board can receive updates on. Management responded that the Board had identified metrics in relation to the strategic plan and that the 5-year enrolment plan with metrics will be brought forward to the next Board meeting.

## **11. Senate Reports**

Dr. Purvey noted that the Senate reports from the January and March meetings are included in the package.

January involved a significant number of curriculum meetings and changes. The March Senate meeting was short, with the highlight being the review of the Music program changes.

Gabby Gill asked for KPU's approach to assignments in response to AI use. Dr. Waddington, Associate Vice President, Teaching and Learning, shared that there is a working group in place that provides support to faculty and shares successful teaching practices. Workshops are put on for faculty regarding AI, standard language for syllabus is being developed along with numerous other initiatives.

**Action Item:** Bring forward a report on AI to a future Board Meeting.

**12. Any Other Business**

No other business was identified.

**13. Closing Remarks & Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 27, 2026