BOARD OF GOVERNORS - REGULAR MEETING

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Wednesday, May 27, 2026
5:22 p.m. – 6:40 p.m.
Virtual

Present:

Board of Governors
Erin Barnes, Chair
Dianne Doyle
Furquan Gehlen
Gabby Gill
Kim McGill
Amanda Smith-Weston
Diane Purvey, President and Vice Chancellor, pro tem
Valerie Warren
Lyndsay Passmore
Raman Singh

University G7 members
Jenn Harrington, Interim Vice-President, Human Resources
Asma Sayed, Vice-President, Equity & Inclusive Communities
Peter Smailes, Vice-President, Finance and Administration
Zena Mitchell, Vice-President, Students
David Burns, Provost and Vice President, Academic pro tem

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
Brent Elliot, Associate Vice President Campus and Community Planning

Regrets:
Stephanie Smith, Vice Chair
June Park
Kim (Kwuntiltunaat) Baird, Chancellor

Presentation: Entertainment Arts (Ed Ko)
Ed Ko, Associate Dean for the Faculty of Arts, shared a power point presentation on KPU's Entertainment Arts program, highlighting industry partnerships, program Alumni and partnerships within KPU.

Ko responded to a question regarding how industry layoffs and consolidations have affected KPU's programs. He noted that while there have been closures, there are also new projects and investments taking place, including Netflix opening a new studio. He also noted that many studios had been holding off on new projects as they waited to see how AI affects the industry. They have found that it impacts certain functions, but due to copyright, can generally not be used for production.
Ko noted that the program has close to 150 students. It began heavily weighted to international students, but domestic numbers are increasing.

1. Call to Order and Introductory Remarks	The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:22 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 Kwantlen First Nation, which gifted its name to this university and the Musqueam, Katzie, Semiahmoo, Tsawwassen, Qayqayt, and Kwikwetlem.
2. Approval of Agenda	**<u>MOTION #19-25/26</u>** **MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED THAT the Board of Governors approve the regular meeting agenda for May 27, 2026.**
3. Conflict of Interest	No other Conflict of Interest was declared.
4. Approval of Consent Agenda	Lyndsay Passmore asked to confirm if the changes to the President's role in committees was only to increase the Board's independence. Keri Spindler, University Secretary, noted that the changes are to bring KPU's policies and operations in line with the *University Act* and best practices. **<u>MOTION #20-25/26</u>** **MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED the motion THAT the Board of Governors approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:** **4.1. Minutes of the March 25, 2026 Regular Board of Governors Meeting** **4.2 Board Governance Manual Changes**
5. Governance Committee Report	***5.1.* Committee Chair Report** Erin Barnes, Chair, noted that Dianne Doyle had chaired the Governance committee meeting in her absence. Dianne Doyle, Committee Vice Chair, informed that the Governance Committee met last week and that most items are on the agenda. She noted that Lyndsay Passmore has moved from the Finance Committee to the Governance Committee and that new members Raman Singh and Valerie Warren have both joined the Finance Committee. ***5.2.* 5.2 Policy and Procedure BP4 Campus Planning Amendment** Dianne Doyle confirmed that a fulsome conversation and presentation took place at the committee meeting.

Valerie Warren asked for clarification on the composition of the Capital Planning Committee, noting that it had previously included the AVPA but now only notes that the Chair will appoint members.

Brent Elliot, Associate Vice President Campus and Community Planning, clarified that the Capital Planning Committee has existed at KPU for years but was not represented in the old version of the Policy. The intention is not to change the committee's membership, which does include the AVPA, but will clarify the language in the policy.

Gabby Gill noted the importance of keeping policies up to date and doing routine reviews. David Burns, Provost and Vice President Academic pro tem noted that polices are tracked for review and administrators are notified when they are due. Reviews, even when no changes are made, are tracked internally.

MOTION #21-25/26
MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED THAT the Board of Governors approve the Amendment of Policy and Procedure BP4 Campus and Capital Planning, effective September 1, 2026 as recommended by the Board Governance Committee

6. Update on Chancellor Search

Erin Barnes, Board Chair, informed that the Alumni Board has started the search for Chancellor in line with the *University Act*. She noted that Kim McGill is serving as the Board's representative on the committee.
Nominations are now open.

Board members were encouraged to consider nominating or recommending candidates for Chancellor.

7. Human Resources Committee Report

***7.1.* Committee Chair Report**

Erin Barnes, on behalf of the Committee Chair, noted that the meeting was cancelled.

Barnes further noted that Townhalls for employees and students and consultation meetings with both unions and senior leadership on the President Candidate Profile have taken place, led by search firm Leaders International.
The Kick-off meeting for the search advisory committee had been postponed but has been rescheduled to next week.

Keri Spindler confirmed that the process and timelines for the presidential search are in line with KPU Policy.

8. Audit Committee Report

8.1. Committee Chair Report

Gabby Gill, Committee Chair, informed that the committee met on May 12th and received the cybersecurity update. He also shared that Reza Khakbaznejad, Chief Information Officer, has departed from KPU.

8.2. Draft Consolidated Financial Statements for Year Ended March 31, 2026

Peter Smailes, Vice President Finance and Administration, provided an overview of KPU's financial context over the past year, including the impact from changes in immigration policy. He noted that KPU achieved a balanced financial outcome, although there is more work to do in future years. Smailes thanked Carole and the finance team for their work and quick turnaround on the year-end audit.

Carole Laplante, Associate Vice President, Finance shared a power point presentation that provided an overview of the statements.

Diane Purvey, President and Vice Chancellor pro tem, shared her 6 priorities for FY27 and Beyond:

1. Balanced and transparent approach
2. Focused spending targets
3. Safety and security of students and employees
4. KPU engagement
5. Investing in a sustainable future
6. Transformational funding priorities

Lyndsay Passmore asked for clarification on how KPU's domestic operating grant drives decisions around domestic recruitment and developmental programs.
Lori McElroy, Associate Vice President, Planning and Accountability, confirmed that the goal is to fill existing seats with domestic students, not create new seats. She noted that new programs are the exception as their tuition can be set at a sustainable rate.

Diane Purvey, President and Vice Chancellor, pro tem, confirmed that KPU is actively recruiting in local schools, communities and through partnerships with organizations and industry. New domestic student enrollment is up for the Summer semester.

Zena Michell, Vice President Students, added that domestic recruitment strategies continue to adapt, increasing dual credit partnerships and working on a digital recruitment strategy.

The Board noted the need for metrics and benchmarks related to recruitment strategies to evaluate their effectiveness.

MOTION #22-25/26

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED THAT the Board of Governors approve the draft Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2026, as recommended by the Board Audit Committee.

9. Finance Committee Report

***9.1.* Committee Chair Report**

Gabby Gill, Committee Chair, informed that the committee met last week and received an update on the transfer of funds to the Foundation at year-end.

***9.2.* FY2027 Budget Submission to the Ministry**

Carole Laplante noted that the Ministry requests KPU to submit the budget with an explanation document. The reader friendly budget document is public facing and provides a good overview.

10. President's Report

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

Diane Purvey, President pro tem, noted that her report was included in the package. KPU Day and the first employee awards night, Science Rendezvous and Community Day were all key events that recently took place.

Purvey added that she is embarking on a short-term strategic plan that will go through 2028. Tomorrow, KPU will launch Thought Exchange for employees to share and comment on each other's ideas. There will be other opportunities for input into the strategic plan in the future.

Purvey shared that the government has the Avison review report and has stated that they release some recommendations in the Fall.
Purvey noted that while new domestic students are up for the Summer, continuing domestic student numbers are down leading to an overall net decline for domestic.

11. Provost's Report

***11.1.* Report to the Board**

David Burns, Provost and Vice President Academic pro tem, highlighted that KPU is seeing great effort to better differentiate itself in the market and be more responsive in our programming. He shared the Faculty of Trades and Technology as an example, noting that they are bringing their offerings more in line with undergraduate programming so students can ladder into other KPU programs more easily.

12. Senate Reports

Diane Purvey noted that the Senate reports are included in the Package. She added that both Senate meetings included a significant number of program changes to improve relevance and clarity for students.
Purvey also shared that the current Vice Chair of Senate, Catherine Schwichtenberg, was acclaimed as Vice Chair for another 1-year term.

13. University Secretary Report

13.1. **Notice of Board Chair and Vice Chair Election**

Keri Spindler informed the Board that the election for Board Chair and Vice Chair will take place at the next meeting in June. Appointed members are eligible. Any members interested in putting their name or another member's name forward, are encouraged to connect with the Board Chair or Board Office.

13.2. **Board and Committee Meeting Schedule for 2026/2027**

The schedule of meetings was shared for information.

14. Any Other Business

No other business was identified.

15. Closing Remarks & Adjournment

The Chair thanked members for their questions and discussion. She added a comment of appreciation to Carole and the finance team for their effort at year-end.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 24, 2026 at KPU Richmond