

NICOLA VALLEY INSTITUTE of TECHNOLOGY

Board of Governors

MINUTES

Meeting #2026/02 – April 9, 2026 4:07 PM

Zoom Meeting

DATE: _____

BOARD MEMBER'S SIGNATURE: _____

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CHAIR:

Lennard Joe

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Verna Billy-Minnabarriet

Darwin Hanna

Melissa Moses

Denise Williams

Sharon Bond

Crystal Henderson

Melanie Nelson

Shane Coutlee

Elaine Herbert

Jonathon Nolie

EX-OFFICIO:

John Chenoweth, President & CEO

Tom Willms, Education Council Chair

SENIOR MANAGERS:

Aruna Gore, AVP, Academic

Paul Grewal, CFO

ELDERS COUNCIL:

Amelia Washington

Casey Holmes

REGRETS:

Carla George

RECORDER: Pat Brown, Executive Assistant, President & Board and Elders Coordinator

Opening Prayer by Elder Amelia Washington at 4:07pm.

1. Adoption of Agenda

B26/24 It was moved and seconded that

the regular meeting agenda be adopted as presented. **Motion Carried.**

2. Board Information

B26/25 Announcements.

John provided a confidential report on BC Housing and those details are provided in the in-camera minutes.

3. Consent Agenda

B26/26 It was moved and seconded that

the Board approve the consent agenda as presented. ***Motion Carried.***

B26/27 Board minutes of February 3, 2026.

REGULAR AGENDA:

4. President's Report

B26/28 President's Report.

John shared updates on various initiatives including plans for storytelling video projects to highlight NVIT's work, new partnerships with UBC for NITEP & EdD & TRU for Med.

John proposed that the Board consider rescheduling the Tues. June 9th Board meeting to Thurs. June 11th. This would provide an opportunity for the Board to tour the new daycare & housing sites and the trades building and attend the graduation ceremonies on Fri June 12th.

The Elders are invited and encouraged to attend community graduation ceremonies again this year. A list of community grads will be shared with the Board when they become available so they can determine if they wish to attend.

5. Elders Council Report

B26/29 Elders Council Report.

Amelia reported that the Elders continue to support the students. It's a busy time with several students and staff visiting the Elders in their office. The Elders had another successful meeting and Goody Day fundraiser lunch. The proceeds of the fundraiser goes towards student bursaries. It was good to have Elder Mary Louie on campus to visit with and have breakfast with.

Casey reported that he was invited by Melissa Moses to attend a community connections meeting that brought several resources together. Casey is a storyteller and loves telling stories in the classrooms. That's where the knowledge & teaching come from, stories are doing the teaching and opens the mind up.

The Elders are planning a retreat to Whistler that may include a trip to UBC to visit the Museum of Anthropology & the Residential School History & Dialogue Centre.

For the second year, WestJet has donated 2 tickets anywhere in the world to the Elders Council for fundraising. Last year \$6300 was raised for student bursaries. Ticket sales will be launched in the fall.

6. Education Council Report

B26/30 A report on the Education Council.

Paul reviewed the Education Council minutes. Of special note is that the First Nations Governance Leadership micro-credential program guide was approved.

Sharon left the meeting at 5pm.

7. Audit & Risk Management Committee

B26/31 2026/27 Budget Presentation.

Paul presented the budget highlights that included a revenue increase of \$830,000 (3%), expense increase of \$900,000, \$400K decrease year-end funding from the Ministry and a deficit of \$500,000. The budget includes a 4% salary increase due to a new collective agreement, two new positions, and a 9% increase in benefits.

B26/32 It was moved and seconded that

the Board approve the 2026/27 Annual Budget. ***Motion Carried.***

B26/33 2026/27 Interim Operating Funding Letter.

B26/34 The March 2026 FTE is 0.4% lower than the prior year. 98.5% of the PSFS target was achieved.

B26/35 2026/27 Carryover Funding.

Paul provided an update on carryover funding of \$3.6 million spread over three years, including funding for program restructuring, Indigenous strategic initiatives, and campus improvements.

8. Board Retreat

B26/36 2026 Board Retreat.

The Board was asked to consider rescheduling the board retreat to October due to accommodation and scheduling issues.

9. Adjournment

B26/37 There was unanimous agreement to adjourn the regular meeting at 5:33pm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:

ARM/Board Meeting ~ Monday May 11th, 2026, 4:00pm, Zoom

Please submit expense claims and meeting dates attended to Pat.