



MINUTES OF MEETING: **BOARD OF GOVERNORS' NO. 577**
DATE OF MEETING: JANUARY 14, 2026
TIME: 9:00 A.M.
LOCATION: SHUNIAH BOARD ROOM / MS TEAMS
CHAIR: KIM VARES

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Jessica Alves
Omer Belisle
Miranda Bevilacqua
Adam Brown
Ed Collins
Garnet Czinkota
Matt Dupuis
Grace Filice
Eveline O'Flaherty
Leah Prentice
Michelle Salo
Kimberly Smith
Tracie Smith
Shane Strickland
Kim Vares

REGRETS

Dave Paxton

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair acknowledged that we are in the territory of the Anishinaabe peoples of northwestern Ontario. We work and live on the lands of Fort William First Nation who are signatory to the Robinson-Superior Treaty of 1850. We also recognize the Métis communities and Inuit peoples in the area.

As part of the colonial history of Canada, non-Indigenous peoples have derived benefit from what the Royal Commission on Truth and Reconciliation defines as the “cultural genocide” of Indigenous peoples in this country.

We embrace our role and responsibilities in a national reconciliation process and acknowledge that we are accountable for this tragic history. We at Confederation College pledge to address injustices against Indigenous peoples and to honour our relationships with Indigenous peoples in our community.

MEMBERS OF THE STAFF

Michelle Salo, President
Peter Myllymaa, Vice President – Finance and Administration and Treasurer of the Board
Aaron Skillen, Vice President - Academic
Barbara Greer, Executive Assistant to the President and Secretary to the Board of Governors

GUESTS

Kai Fucile - Ladouceur, SUCCI President
Anna Chief, Director – Indigenous Initiatives
Darcy McWhirter, Director – Student Success
Ryan Sigurdson, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Advisor
Don Duclos, Vice President – Student Services

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

2.1 Consent Agenda

- 2.1.1 Program Advisory Committee Appointments
- 2.1.2 Negahneewin Council Meeting – June 4, 2025
- 2.1.3 2025/2026 Board Planning Agenda Cycle
- 2.1.4 Monthly Board Meeting Evaluations – November 12, 2025
- 2.1.5 Report No. 6 – 2026 - Leadership Update
- 2.1.6 Report No. 7 – 2026 – Finance Update
- 2.1.7 Report No. 8 – 2026 – Academic Update
- 2.1.8 Report No. 9 – 2026 – Organizational Effectiveness Update
- 2.1.9 Report No. 10 – 2026 – Indigenous Leadership, Partnerships and Strategies Update

MOVED BY: Tracie Smith
SECONDED BY: Evie O’Flaherty

THAT the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business and the consent agenda of the Board of Governors’ Meeting No. 576, to be held on January 14, 2026, be approved.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATIONS OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of potential conflict of interest.

4. PRESENTATIONS / EDUCATION

4.1 Internal Stakeholder Engagement Student Association Student Engagement

Kai Fucile - Ladouceur, SUCCI President was in attendance to respond to questions, relative to their pre-recorded presentation.

4.2 Overview of Student Success, Negahneewin Student Services, EDI/Student Appeals and the results of recent Student Surveys

The following presentation is related to the Board Report No. 2-2026 - EL-4 – Treatment of Students, Employees, Volunteers, Clients, and Visitors, listed as Item 7.1 and Compliance with Strengthening Accountability and Student Supports Act (2024), list as Item 7-2, in the agenda.

Anna Chief, Director – Indigenous Initiatives, Darcy McWhirter, Director – Student Success, and Ryan Sigurdson, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Advisor were in attendance to respond to questions relative to their pre-recorded video.

4. PRESENTATIONS / EDUCATION (Continued)

4.3 Strategic Enrollment Management

Don Duclos, Vice President – Student Services was in attendance to respond to questions regarding his pre-recorded presentation.

5. CHAIR’S REMARKS

REMINDER – Partners’ Evening is on Thursday, March 26 in Ryan Hall. Board Members tickets are complimentary. If any board member wishes to attend, please contact Barb and she will make arrangements.

6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of the following the Board of Governors’ Meeting No. 576 held on November 12, 2025, for approval.

MOVED BY: Leah Prentice
SECONDED BY: Grace Filice

THAT the Minutes of the Board of Governors’ Meeting No. 576, held on November 12, 2025, be approved.

CARRIED

6.1 Business Arising

There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

7. ITEMS FOR DECISION

7.1 EL4 - Treatment of Students, Employees, Volunteers, Clients, and Visitors

Report No. 2-2026 containing a motion relative to the above noted, was distributed with the agenda.

MOVED BY: Shane Strickland
SECONDED BY: Matt Dupuis

THAT Board Report No. 2-2026 relative to EL-4 – Treatment of Students, Employees, Volunteers, Clients, and Visitors, presented to the Board of Governors on January 14, 2026, be approved.

CARRIED

7. ITEMS FOR DECISION (Continued)

7.2 New Student Mental Health Ministry Requirements

Report No. 14 – 2026 relative to receiving information confirming compliance with the *Strengthening Accountability and Student Supports Act (2024)*, the Minister’s Student Mental Health Directive (2024), and the requirements of the Mental Health Action Plan (MHAP) Transfer Payment Agreement, was distributed with the agenda.

MOVED BY: Miranda Bevilacqua
SECONDED BY: Kim Smith

THAT with respect to Board Report No. 14-2026, presented to the Board of Governors on January 14, 2026, relative to compliance with the *Strengthening Accountability and Student Supports Act (2024)*, the Minister’s Student Mental Health Directive (2024), and the requirements of the Mental Health Action Plan (MHAP) Transfer Payment, be approved.

CARRIED

7.3 EL5 – Financial Matters

Report No. 4-2026 containing a motion, and including the following attachment relative to the above noted, was distributed with the agenda.

MOVED BY: Tracie Smith
SECONDED BY: Omer Belisle

THAT Report No. 4-2026 relative to EL5 – Financial Matters, presented to the Board of Governors on January 14, 2026, be approved;

AND THAT the Investment Performance Report be approved.

CARRIED

7.4 2025-26 Mid-year Forecast

Report No. 5-2026 relative to providing the Board of Governors with an updated forecast for fiscal 2025-26 to reflect actual year-to-date results and updated assumptions for review and approval prior to submission to the MCU, and including the following attachments were distributed with the agenda:

- Attachment 1: Mid-year 2025-26 Forecast Statement of Financial Position at September 2025
- Attachment 2: Mid-year 2025-26 Forecast Statement of Operations Position at September 2025
- Attachment 3: Mid-year 2025-26 Enrolment Projections by Term

7. ITEMS FOR DECISION (Continued)

7.4 2025-26 Mid-year Forecast (Continued)

MOVED BY: Jessica Alves
SECONDED BY: Adam Brown

THAT with respect to Report No. 05-2026 relative to the 2025-26 Mid-year Forecast, we recommend that the forecast be approved and submitted to the Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security (MCURES);

AND THAT the Investment Performance Report be approved.

CARRIED

7.5 Policy Review – January 2026

Report No. 1-2026, containing a motion, relative to the above noted and attaching a copy of the following were distributed with the agenda:

- Attachment 1: EL-1 – General Executive Constraint
- Attachment 2: EL-2 – Emergency Executive Succession

MOVED BY: Shane Strickland
SECONDED BY: Omer Belisle

THAT with respect to Report No. 1 – 2026 relative to Policy Review – January 2026, we recommend that the following policies be reconfirmed as presented:

- EL-1 – General Executive Constraint
- EL-2 – Emergency Executive Succession

CARRIED

7.6 Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan (IRAP) Update

A memorandum from Kim Vares, Chair – Board of Governors, containing a motion, relative to the Board of Governors statement on the Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan (IRAP) was distributed with the agenda.

A copy of the Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan (IRAP), for information.

MOVED BY: Shane Strickland
SECONDED BY: Miranda Bevilacqua

THAT we approve the statement from the Confederation College Board of Governors, relative to supporting the Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan (IRAP).

CARRIED

A letter dated November 12, 2025 addressed to Michelle Salo, President from the Honourable Nolan Quinn – Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security congratulating Confederation College on the launch of the Plan, for information.

7. ITEMS FOR DECISION (Continued)

7.7 Change of Meeting Date – March 2026

Memorandum from Barbara Greer, Secretary to the Board, dated November 25, 2025, containing a motion relative to the above noted was distributed with the agenda.

MOVED BY: Kim Smith
SECONDED BY: Ed Collins

THAT we recommend that the Board of Governors' Meeting scheduled to be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, be rescheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2026.

CARRIED

7.8 Reduction in the Number of Scheduled Board Meetings

Report No. 11 – 2026 relative to approving the reduction of scheduled Board of Governors meetings held from seven to five, from September to June of the academic year, was distributed with the agenda.

MOVED BY: Matt Dupuis
SECONDED BY: Grace Filice

THAT with respect to Board Report No. 11 – 2026 – Reduction in the Number of Scheduled Board Meetings, we recommend that the number of Board Meetings be reduced from seven to five;

AND THAT the 2026 – 2027 Board's Agenda Cycle be approved.

CARRIED

7.9 Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) At Board Of Governors Meetings (Open And Closed Sessions) Policy

Report No. 12 – 2026 relative to approving the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) at Board of Governors Meetings (Open and In Camera) Session Policy, which outlines the acceptable usage of AI technologies at Board of Governors' Board and Committee meetings, was distributed with the agenda.

A copy of the draft Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) at Board of Governors Meetings (Open and In Camera) Session Policy, was distributed with the agenda.

MOVED BY: Jessica Alves
SECONDED BY: Kim Smith

THAT with respect to Report No. 12 – 2026, we recommend that the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) at Board of Governors Meetings (Open and In Camera) Session Policy, be approved.

CARRIED

7. ITEMS FOR DECISION (Continued)

7.10 Collaborative Veterinary Technician Program Proposal

Memorandum from Barbara Greer, Secretary to the Board of Governors, dated January 12, 2026, containing a motion, relative to the above noted was distributed by email on January 12, 2026.

MOVED BY: Shane Strickland
SECONDED BY: Jessica Alves

THAT with respect to the memorandum presented at the January 14, 2026 Board of Governors' meeting, attaching the Collaborative Veterinary Technician Program Proposal, we approve the Collaborative Veterinary Technician Program project, pending the receipt of provincial and/or federal funding.

CARRIED

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

8.1 Review of Strategic Plan (Kaa-aanokaatekin) – Year 6

A copy of the following, for information, was distributed with the agenda:

- Bi-Monthly Initiative Update Report

8.2 Results of Electronic Motion – 2026/2027 Tuition and Ancillary Fees

Memorandum from Barbara Greer, Secretary to the Board of Governors, dated December 4, 2025, relative to the above noted, was distributed with the agenda.

Matt Dupuis left the meeting at 10:08 a.m.

The board took a 10 minute break and returned to the meeting room at 10:20 a.m.

9. IN CAMERA

MOVED BY: Evie O'Flaherty
SECONDED BY: Leah Prentice

THAT the Board of Governors move into an In Camera meeting to receive information relative to security of the property of the organization.

CARRIED

The Board of Governors moved into an In Camera meeting at 10:23 a.m.

The Board of Governors resumed open session at 10:37 a.m.

9. IN CAMERA

9.1 Rise and Report

EL1a – General Executive Constraint – Whistleblower

Board Report 3-2026 relative to the above noted was presented at the Board of Governors (In Camera) meeting earlier in the day.

At that time, the Board was advised that the motion as contained in the report would be presented to the Board of Governors in open session for consideration.

MOVED BY: Tracie Smith
SECONDED BY: Grace Filice

THAT Board Report No. 3-2026 relative to EL-1a - General Executive Constraint – Whistle Blowing Policy, presented to the Board of Governors (In Camera) on January 14, 2026, be approved.

CARRIED

Spring Program Intake Suspensions

Report No. 13 – 2026, relative to the above noted was distributed to external governors only as part of the Board of Governors (In Camera) agenda.

The motion as contained in the report will be presented to the Board of Governors in open session for consideration.

MOVED BY: Omer Belisle
SECONDED BY: Evie O’Flaherty

THAT with respect to Report No. 13-2026 we recommend that Administration proceed with the recommendations, as contained in this report.

CARRIED

Due to conflict of interest the internal governors did not discuss or vote on the above noted motion.

10. NEXT MEETING

The Board of Governors’ meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Shuniah Board Room / MS Teams.

11. EVALUATION AND ADJOURNMENT

11.1 Questions

Adam Brown led the evaluation for the January meeting.

An electronic evaluation will be sent to all Governors via email from Institutional Research at Confederation College.

11.2 Assignment of Evaluation Leader – March 26, 2026

Miranda Bevilacqua has been assigned as Evaluation Lead for the March Board of Governors' Meeting.

11.3 Adjournment

MOVED BY: Miranda Belivlacqua

SECONDED BY: Grace Filice

THAT the Board of Governors' Meeting No. 577 held on January 14, 2026, be adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

CARRIED



Chair's Signature



Secretary's Signature