



MINUTES OF MEETING: **BOARD OF GOVERNORS' NO. 578**
DATE OF MEETING: MARCH 26, 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
Eveline O'Flaherty
Dave Paxton
Michelle Salo
Kimberly Smith
Tracie Smith
Shane Strickland
Kim Vares

MEMBERS OF THE STAFF

Michelle Salo, President
Aaron Skillen, Vice President - Academic
Barbara Greer, Executive Assistant to the
President and Secretary to the Board of
Governors

GUESTS

Toni Biniaris, Senior Director – Financial Services

REGRETS

Garnet Czinkota
Matt Dupuis
Grace Filice
Leah Prentice

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Board 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.

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 – December 4, 2025
- 2.1.3 2025/2026 Board Planning Agenda Cycle
- 2.1.4 Monthly Board Meeting Evaluations – January 14, 2026
- 2.1.5 Report No. 17 – 2026 – Finance Update
- 2.1.6 Report No. 18 – 2026 – Academic Update
- 2.1.7 Report No. 19 – 2026 – Organizational Effectiveness Update
- 2.1.8 Report No. 20 – 2026 – Indigenous Leadership, Partnerships and Strategies Update

MOVED BY: Jessica Alves
SECONDED BY: Dave Paxton

THAT the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business and the consent agenda of the Board of Governors' Meeting No. 578, to be held on March 26, 2026, be approved.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATIONS OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no potential conflicts of interest.

4. PRESENTATIONS / EDUCATION

There were no presentations at this meeting.

5. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The following Chair's remarks were made:

- Board of Governors Retreat will begin at 12:00 Noon – starting with lunch – Agenda starts at 12:30 pm Reminder:
- Partners' Evening Tonight
- Committee Evaluation will be sent out on April 9 for two weeks.

6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of the following the Board of Governors' Meeting No. 577 held on January 14, 2026, for approval.

MOVED BY: Omer Belisle
SECONDED BY: Kim Smith

THAT the Minutes of the Board of Governors' Meeting No. 577, held on January 14, 2026, be approved.

CARRIED

6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS (Continued)

6.1 Business Arising

There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

7. ITEMS FOR DECISION

7.1 2026-2027 Operating Budget Presentation and Assumptions

Report No. 21-2026, relative to bringing forward a recommendation to the Board of Governors relative to the above noted.

A presentation will be given by Toni Biniaris, Senior Director – Financial Services. A copy of the presentation is enclosed for information.

MOVED BY: Ed Collins
SECONDED BY: Jessica Alves

THAT with respect to Report No. 21-2026, we recommend that we approve the 2026-2027 Budget presentation, with a budgeted deficit of \$5.3 million.

CARRIED

7.2 EL-7 – Programs of Instruction

Report No. 22-2026 containing a motion relative to the above noted.

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

THAT Report No. 22-2026 relative to EL-7 – Programs of Instruction be approved.

CARRIED

7.3 Policy Review – March 2026

Report No. 15-2026, containing a motion, relative to the above noted and attaching a copy of the following policies:

- Attachment 1: EL-1A – General Executive Constraint (Whistleblower)
- Attachment 2: EL5 – Financial Matters
- Attachment 3: BPR-2 – President’s Job Description
- Attachment 4: Revised EL4-Treatment of Students, Employees, Volunteers, Clients and Visitors

A copy of the EL-1a was distributed at the meeting, as it was inadvertently missed in the agenda.

7. ITEMS FOR DECISION (Continued)

7.3 Policy Review – March 2026 (Continued)

MOVED BY: Miranda Bevilacqua
SECONDED BY: Dave Paxton

THAT with respect to Report No. 15-2026, we recommend that the following policies be reconfirmed, as presented:

- EL-1A – General Executive Constraint (Whistleblower)
- EL5 – Financial Matters
- BPR-2 – President’s Job Description

AND THAT , we recommend that the revisions to the following policies be approved:

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

CARRIED

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

8.1 Leadership Update

Board Report No. 16-2026, providing a leadership update, was distributed with the agenda.

Michelle Salo, President provided a verbal update at the meeting, including:

- Aviation program
- Voluntary Retirement Program
- Government Relations
- Territory Protection
- Funding and Funding Announcements

Adam Brown joined the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

8.2 Endowment Portfolio Activities

Report No. 28-2026 relative to the above noted, was distributed with the agenda, for information.

8.3 Electronic Motion - 2026-2027 Program Suspensions

Memorandum from the Secretary to the Board of Governors, dated February 5, 2026, was distributed with the agenda, relative to the above noted.

8.4 Electronic Motion – Increase to the 2026-2027 Tuition Fees

Memorandum from the Secretary to the Board of Governors, dated March 4, 2026, relative to the above noted, was distributed with the agenda.

At 10:23 a.m., the Board took a 10 minute recess.

9. IN CAMERA

MOVED BY: Evie O'Flaherty
SECONDED BY: Jessica Alves

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 10:33 a.m.

The Board of Governors resumed open session at 11:38 a.m.

9.1 Rise and Repor

Honourary Diplomas

Report No. 27 – 2026, relative to the above noted was presented at the In Camera meeting earlier. At that time, the Board of Governors was advised that the motion as contained in the report will be presented in open session for consideration.

MOVED BY: Ed Collins
SECONDED BY: Jessica Alves

THAT with respect to Report No. 27-2026, we recommend that Elder Sarah Yellowhead be granted an Honourary Credential in Onajigawin Indigenous Services and Dr. Bruce Pynn be granted an Honourary Credential in Dental Hygiene at the June 5, 2026 Convocation, in recognition of their leadership, commitment, and service to Confederation College students

CARRIED

Board Appointments – 2026/2027

Report No. 29 – 2026 relative to the above noted was presented at the In Camera meeting earlier. At that time, the Board of Governors was advised that the motion as contained in the report will be presented in open session for consideration.

MOVED BY: Miranda Bevilacqua
SECONDED BY: Dave Paxton

THAT with respect to Report No. 29-2026 we recommend that:

- Aaron DelPino be appointed to fill the position on the Board, representing Thunder Bay, effective September 1, 2026, pending the outcome of a Police Record Search;

9. IN CAMERA (Continued)

Board Appointments – 2026/2027

AND THAT the Board of Governors recommend to the Public Appointment Secretariat that:

- Mr. Wade Durham be recommended for appointment to fill the Rainy River LGIC vacancy;
- Ms. Tracy Buckler and Ms. Sarah Ambroziak's names be forwarded for selection to fill the Thunder Bay LGIC vacancy; and
- Mr. Scott Macumber's name be forwarded to fill the Kenora/Red Lake LGIC vacancy.

CARRIED

Spring Program Intake Suspensions

Report No. 26 – 2026, relative to the above noted was presented at the In Camera meeting earlier. At that time, the Board of Governors was advised that the motion as contained in the report will be presented in open session for consideration.

MOVED BY: Omer Belisle
SECONDED BY: Ed Collins

THAT with respect to Report No. 26-2026 we recommend that Administration proceed with the recommendations, as contained in this report.

CARRIED

The internal governors declared a conflict and did not speak or vote on the above motion.

Strategic Partnership Update

Report No. 30-2026, relative to the above noted was presented at the In Camera meeting earlier. At that time, the Board was advised that a motion would be presented in open session for consideration.

MOVED BY: Evie O'Flaherty
SECONDED BY: Jessica Alves

THAT with respect to Report No. 30-2026 we recommend that Administration proceed with the recommendations, as contained in this report.

CARRIED

The internal governors declared a conflict and did not speak or vote on the above motion.

10. NEXT MEETING

The Board of Governors' meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Shuniah Board Room / MS Teams.

11. EVALUATION AND ADJOURNMENT

11.1 Questions

Miranda Bevilacqua led the Evaluation Lead for the March meeting. The Board of Governors' Meeting evaluation was provided in the agenda for information.

An electronic evaluation will be sent to all Governors via email from Institutional Research at Confederation College. Governors are given one week to complete.

11.2 Assignment of Evaluation Leader – May 13, 2026

Eveline O'Flaherty was assigned as Evaluation Lead for the May Board of Governors' Meeting.

11.3 Adjournment

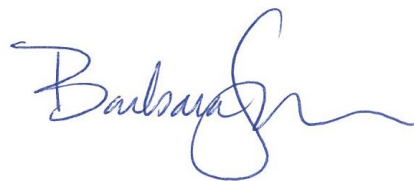
MOVED BY: Ed Collins
SECONDED BY: Omer Belist

THAT the Board of Governors' Meeting No. 578 held on March 26, 2026, be adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

CARRIED



Chair's Signature



Secretary's Signature