



Special Meeting of the Board of Governors

September 25, 2025 – Minutes

The Board of Governors of Acadia University acknowledges that we are located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People.

A special meeting of the Board of Governors was held on Thursday, September 25, 2025, at 8:30 a.m., by virtual means using Microsoft Teams.

Governors present: Henry Demone (Chair), Bert Frizzell (First Vice-Chair), Dr. Jeff Hennessy (President and Vice-Chancellor), Dr. Andrew Davis, Bethany Moffatt, Charles Coll, Christine Luckasavitch, Dan Green, Gale Colpitts, Dr. Jeff Banks, Judith Tod, Karen Hutt, Mark Adam, Melinda Daye, Nastasya Kennedy, Paul Black, Robert McGregor, Ross Langley, Shelley Fleckenstein, Stan Thomas, Tim Formuziewich, Tove Biskop, and Tracey McGillivray

Management present: Ashlee Cunsolo, Scott Duguay, Nancy Handrigan, Marcel Faulkenham, and Sonya Pineo (University Secretary).

Regrets: Nancy McCain, Cameron MacKeen, Cathy Simpson, Shana Lespere, Pam Mood, Anna Robbins, and Erin Beaudin

1. Call to Order

The Board Chair, H. Demone, called the meeting to order, welcomed meeting participants, and provided a territorial acknowledgment.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

The Agenda was circulated via email and posted to Teams prior to today's meeting.

IT WAS MOVED by C. Coll / D. Green

THAT the Meeting Agenda be approved as distributed.

CARRIED.

3. Faculty Collective Agreement

The summary of changes was circulated last week via email.

J. Hennessy provided an update:

- The new collective agreement is a comprehensive rewrite that resolves many long-standing issues.
- The agreement was negotiated cooperatively with the Union and represents a positive result.
- The agreement reduces overall costs while also improving grid steps to enhance competitiveness.
- The agreement provides three years of labour stability.
- A flexible mandate from the Board empowered the bargaining team to negotiate effectively.
- Union ratification vote is underway and is expected to conclude today.
- Public reporting will follow after the Union's ratification is complete.
- Thanks were extended to the negotiating team members and the Union team

A conversation took place:

Appreciation was expressed to President Hennessy and the negotiating team for their effective approach and positive outcome.

A recommendation was made to establish a follow-up process to ensure the collective agreement changes are fully implemented in collaboration with the Union.

A comprehensive implementation plan is in place, including training for leaders, joint sessions with the Union, and ongoing meetings to support positive labour relations. The plan spans the next three years, with major changes phased in by July 1, 2026.

A question was raised about whether the rank-and-file faculty understand the accountability and promotion changes.

AUFA is addressing this through member communications and joint training.

IT WAS MOVED by J. Hennessy / R. McGregor

THAT the Board of Governors ratify the 17th Collective Agreement.

CARRIED With one abstention (J. Banks).

4. Student Centre Naming

The Student Centre Naming Brief was distributed via email.

The Chair noted that Chancellor McCain led an outstanding fundraiser for the new Student Centre, which is set to break ground in the coming weeks, and the naming of the facility is required.

N. Handrigan reported that in accordance with the naming policy, it is recommended that the Student Centre be named for Chancellor McCain's aunt, Eleanor McCain Johnson, a vibrant student from the Class of 1945, in recognition of the Chancellor and her family's significant contributions to the campaign. The Centre would be named for Eleanor's married name, Eleanor Johnson.

A question was raised about why the facility is being named the Student Centre rather than the Student Union Building.

The Student Centre reflects a more modern and inclusive term used at many universities, extending beyond the Student Union function.

A question was raised about whether the McCain name would be included in the proposed naming.

It was clarified that the recommended name is Eleanor Johnson Student Centre, in keeping with the family's wishes

It was suggested to offer to include the McCain name in recognition of the family's longstanding contributions.

It was agreed that the Board approve the naming in principle, with final wording subject to consultation with the family.

IT WAS MOVED by J. Hennessy / K. Hutt

THAT the Board of Governors approve the naming of the renewed SUB, the new Student Centre as the "Eleanor Johnson Student Centre", subject to final confirmation of the naming by the family.

CARRIED.

5. *Bethany Moffatt's reappointment as the Chair of FARC (Finance, Audit and Risk Committee).*

The Chair explained that B. Moffatt's term on the Board of Governors expired in March, and she has since been reappointed through the Order in Council process. Interim roles were filled by S. Lespere (Finance, Audit and Risk Chair) and C. Coll (Board Secretary). Thanks were expressed to both.

IT WAS MOVED by H. Demone / C. Luckasavitch

THAT the Board of Governors reappoint Bethany Moffatt as the Chair of FARC.

CARRIED With one abstention (B. Moffatt).

6. *Bethany Moffatt's reappointment as the Board Secretary*

IT WAS MOVED by H. Demone / C. Lucasavitch

THAT the Board of Governors reappoint Bethany Moffatt as the Board Secretary (table officer).

CARRIED With one abstention (B. Moffatt).

7. Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Adjournment

IT WAS MOVED by C. Coll

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED.

Henry Demone, Chair

Sonya Pineo, Recording Secretary