

# MINUTES

CCSS Board of Directors meeting, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026  
Online, Multiple Locations

BALUYUT, Terence.....External Executive	VACANT..... Interurban Director
QUESADA, Daniella.....Interurban Executive	VACANT..... Interurban Director
PETERSON, Aleah .....Lansdowne Executive	VACANT..... Lansdowne Director
MADARIAGA, Benjamin.....Finance Executive	CHOU, Angela ..... Lansdowne Director
PIMENTEL, Athena.....SWA Director	LAM, Riley ..... Lansdowne Director
PERALTA, Hector.....International Director	FREDERICKSON, Jeremy ..... Lansdowne Director
TOOTH, Acacia.....Pride Director	VACANT..... Off Campus Director
VACANT .....Indigenous Director	HODSON, Liam ..... Education Council
DE GUZMAN, Hannah.....Sustainability Director	..... Education Council
HUYNH, Madison.....Women’s Director	TOOTH, Acacia ..... Education Council
PURNELL, Mia .....Interurban Director	PLOURDE, Tahlia ..... Board of Governors
VACANT .....Interurban Director	LEYLAND, Sean ..... Board of Governors

**Attending:** Daniella Quesada, Mia Purnell, Madison Huynh, Sean Leyland, Terence Baluyut, Angela Chou, Jeremy Frederickson, Athena Pimentel, Riley Lam, Hector Peralta, Hannah De Guzman

**Absent:** Tahlia Plourde, Liam Hodson

**Guests & Staff:** Michel Turcotte, Christine Desrochers, Michael Glover, Hannah Carr, Matthew Martin, Rob Thompson

## I Call to Order

- a) **Meeting called to order by Speaker of Council**  
**Angela** called the meeting to order 5:37 pm on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026
- b) **Recognition of Coast Salish Territory**  
**Angela** acknowledged the Coast Salish Territory on which the meeting is being held. Camosun College Student Society serves students on the traditional territories of Lekwungen and W̱SÁNEĆ speaking peoples, T’souke, Scia’new and Pacheedaht First Nations.

## II Ratification of Agenda/Approval of Previous Minutes

Approval of Late Regrets

**MOTION:** Lam/Baluyut

*To approve the late regrets of Acacia Tooth, Aleah Peterson, and Benjamin Madariaga*

**CARRIED**

Approval of Agenda

**MOTION:** Lam/Quesada

*BIRT the CCSS Board of Directors approve the agenda as amended*

- Remove Rose’s presentation
- Add Michel’s Executive Director’s Report
- Add Sean’s AGM questions under Question Period

**CARRIED**

Approval of Previous Minutes

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**MOTION:** Quesada/Baluyut

*BIRT the CCSS Board of Directors approve the minutes from March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

**CARRIED**

## III Presentations/Resignations/Guest Business/Announcements/etc.

- a) Presentation by **Rob Thompson** – Ombuds report:

**Rob** introduced the CCSS to the office of the Ombudsperson and presented the annual report. The CCSS and the college have supported the office since 1992, designating it the neutrally funded fairness office. It offers guidance for college policies, concerns, and complaints. If the student doesn't know how to sort it out themselves, they can visit **Rob**. He is impartial, informal, independent, and easy to access. He can help students with course marks and grades, course management, course materials, practicums, tuition, services or college functions, staff and student conflict, or unforeseen circumstances. **Rob** is easy to access via email, and there is an office at both campuses ([ombuds@camosun.ca](mailto:ombuds@camosun.ca)). You can also find his information online ([camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson](http://camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson)).

He shared the Office of the Ombudsperson Annual Report for September 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 – August 31<sup>st</sup> 2025. There were 178 visitor cases and consultations, with over 480 substantial meetings. This means 1.3% of the college came to the Ombudsperson this year. These case timelines range from two weeks to half a year. Over the last 5 years that the Ombuds has been recording data, there has been a consistent number of visitors, between 188 and 165 per year. The meeting numbers have also remained consistent.

The most important activity of the office is to help students resolve their current concerns. The second purpose is to face systemic issues. Due to those 5 years of record-keeping, **Rob** is now able to make better recommendations to the college. These include the college establishing a fair and transparent process for tuition appeals, which does not exist at the college, and a review of the Academic Integrity policy. The current policy is doing harm, since it is mainly being applied to international students.

He would love the CCSS to look over the report and feel free to contact him at any time if we have comments or would like to talk.

**Michel** asked if there has been any interest on the college's part to establish a refund policy, and **Rob** said yes. He's been working with the registrar, with whom he has a good relationship, and they have been discussing it for about 3 years. Tuitions appeals would be handled via committee, and would likely have a student included.

**Daniella** asked what the student board can do to help the Ombud's office. **Rob** said getting the word out is very important, since it is one of the services that the CCSS pays for. He said that the CCSS talks to so many students who have concerns and needs, and if there is ever a situation that we cannot resolve, we can always direct them to **Rob**. **Daniella** also asked what it looks like if people with an indigenous background or LGBTQ2A+ students need guidance within the system. Since **Rob** is the only person in his office, he said that he can only work within his own lived experience. He often connects students with indigenous advisors, even with their current low-resource state. He will also connect them with

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community services, like off-campus housing. Even though that isn't his role, he will always provide resources.

**Terence** said he enjoyed reading the annual report and asked if the college has an obligation to respond to **Rob's** recommendations. **Rob** said that they don't, but he would never make a recommendation without having discussed it with the college. They are all put to senior leadership before they are put forward. He hopes these public appeals will nudge the college along, and he can direct the college to it in future meetings, as can the CCSS. It's a way to leverage if the changes aren't made.

b) Presentation by **Hector Peralta** – Board Absence Appeal

**Hector** explained to the board that he has recently been overwhelmed by school and submitting his regrets for the last meeting slipped his mind. He would like to be reappointed to the board.

**MOTION:** Baluyut/Quesada

*BIRT the CCSS Board of Directors accepts a retroactive late regret of Hector Peralta and reappoints him to the Board.*

**CARRIED**

**Sean** asked for some clarification on the process of when board members receive warning emails. **Hannah Carr** explained that, in accordance with the bylaw, three absences without regrets will lead to expulsion; however, two or three emails are sent before this, depending on the situation. The first email is sent after the first absence, unless they speak with **Hannah** before that email can be sent. This is a check-in email along with a review of policy. The second email is sent following the second absence and warns the board member that a third absence will lead to expulsion. The third email is sent following the third absence and notifies the board member about their expulsion and lets them know what steps can be taken next.

## IV Financial Motions/Issues

a) **Motion to Approve Funding for Mailchimp Subscription for Nexus Newspaper**

*Terence removed himself from the meeting as a director at Large at the Nexus. He was not present for the following discussion.*

**Daniella** explained that, in conjunction with the Nexus, the CCSS is looking to start a newsletter that will include information and upcoming events. The registrar will be providing a list of email addresses belonging to Camosun students for this project. She said this is a way to build community, especially in anticipation of the housing project. This money will be for a 1-year pilot project, with a revaluation next year. **Daniella** said that the Nexus has recently received some large grants, including hiring an outreach individual who will be working 5-10 hours a week. **Daniella** is hoping that they can work with our social media people, and we can work together to show the breadth of activities happening on campus.

**Madison** asked if the pilot is successful, what the funding will look like going forward. **Daniella** said that it will be up to the next board of directors, but the Nexus will cover 30-40% of the cost. **Michel** added that the cost will likely increase slightly next year since we would be claiming a promotional price. The Nexus will also be giving us some outreach resources within that outreach individual they will be hiring.

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**Sean** asked why the Nexus would bear any of the cost if this is primarily our project. **Daniella** said that she thinks it's important that there is some financial commitment to keep people interested, especially in a tandem project between the Nexus and the CCSS. She thinks it is a fair split.

**Sean** asked who would be writing our sections. **Daniella** said that the outreach, social media, and Nexus liaison would all be contributing. Work studies and executives would also have the opportunity to contribute.

**Madison** asked if there would be an option to opt-out of the newsletter. Daniella said that there will be an opt-out option. **Matthew** mentioned that the biggest risk was getting banned from the service if too many people unsubscribe. He will need to make sure whoever is setting this up will go through him for proper authentication.

**Madison** asked how often the list of emails would be updated. **Michel** responded, stating that there are typically two mailing lists a year (fall/winter). A summer list would also be a possibility.

**MOTION:** Quesada/Purnell

*Whereas the Nexus student newspaper requires a reliable bulk email service to effectively communicate with up to 10,000 contacts;*

*And whereas the standard cost of the Mailchimp service is \$186.22 per month (plus applicable taxes), but a discounted rate of \$158.29 per month is currently being offered for the first 12 months (totaling approximately \$177.18 per month including PST and GST);*

*And whereas the total estimated cost for the first 12 months of service is \$2,126.16;*

*And whereas this plan includes detailed analytics and reporting tools that will help assess the success and reach of the Nexus trial;*

*And whereas Mailchimp is a widely used and trusted platform, recommended by the University of the Fraser Valley Student Society;*

*Be it resolved that the Camosun College Student Society (CCSS) Board of Directors approve funding in the amount of \$2,126.16 for a 12-month Mailchimp subscription to support the Nexus student newspaper.*

**CARRIED**

b) Budget 2025-26 – **Finance Committee**

**Attach:** Draft Budget 2026-27 – 11x17 – 1.Budget.pdf

**Attach:** Draft Budget 2026-27 - 8.5x11 - 2.Programs.pdf

**MOTION:** Daniella / Mia

*BIRT the CCSS Board of Directors approves the proposed 2026-27 budget (\$24,700 budgeted deficit: \$2,016,000 revenue, \$9,000 carry forward funds, \$2,049,700 expenses.)*

**CARRIED**

Matthew briefly walked the board through the CCSS budget (please see appended documents), as it has already been addressed in the finance committee.

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- c) CCSS Interim Financial Statements for April 1 - Dec 31, 2025.

**Attach:** CCSS Interim Financial Statements-Dec 31, 2026 Multi(Confidential).pdf

**Matthew** explained that this is an interim report, but there is a significant cash increase due to the timing. Health and Dental has a significant surplus, he explained the director's wages, and stated that the December numbers are difficult to compare due to the accounting program, since that is typically done at year-end rather than throughout the year. We do not yet have winter or fall enrollment numbers, but that will be clearer in April when we have year-end numbers. The expenses have remained consistent with the prior year, but there is some uncertainty from the college. He said there is not much to report; the net income is similar to next year and our fixed and financial assets are also consistent with last year. We have not spent all our money since last year, and confirm for students that it is consistent with last year. Once this is approved, he will need it signed by two directors before the AGM.

**MOTION:** Quesada / Purnell

*BIRT the CCSS Board of Directors approve the interim financial statement and approve their presentation at the CCSS AGM*

**CARRIED**

- d) \$16,254.54 – Nexus Publishing Society (Operations grant, 1<sup>st</sup> installment for 2026-27) – **Matthew**

**MOTION:** Peralta/Huynh

*BIRT the CCSS Board of Directors approve \$16,254.54 for the Nexus Publishing Society (Operations grant, 1<sup>st</sup> installment for 2026-27)*

**CARRIED**

- e) \$5,150 – 2026-27 WUSC Local Committee Contribution (Student Refugee Program) – **Matthew**

**MOTION:** Huynh/Purnell

*BIRT the CCSS Board of Directors approve \$5,150 for the 2026-27 WUSC Local Committee Contribution (Student Refugee Program)*

**CARRIED**

## V Committee Reports

- a) Organizational Design—**Daniella**- She is looking to host one more OD meeting in the near future, and asks for responses when invites are sent out. She thanked those who did respond to her invitation.
- b) Special Events— **Daniella**- The Bachelorette event was cancelled, but she thanked the staff who helped coordinate the event and its cancellation. The first wellness week pancake day was hosted on Monday, and she thanked Michael, Amy, and everyone else who helped feed over 200 students.
- c) Campaigns & Advocacy—**Terence**- The government of Canada announced that the Canadian Student Grants will be extended and this is a major win! It is unclear how long it will be extended, likely only for a year.
- d) Executive Committee— **Terence**- No report.

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- e) Finance Committee— **Benjamin**- No report.
- f) Electoral Committee—**Michel**- The election is ongoing and the first invitation to vote should go out tomorrow. There have been a few hiccups thus far, but most have been resolved. He requests that everyone vote.
- g) Personnel Committee—**Hannah** – No report.

## VI Member Reports

### VI Other Reports

- a) Executive Director's Report – **Michel** and **Terence** were at the Executive meeting last weekend in Richmond and **Michel** wanted to highlight that **Terence** was able to get an initiative passed through the provincial executive for a house cup event at Skills Development so that there will be some friendly competition between student unions in order to encourage people to network. If this is successful, then it will be applied to the BCFS in general. He's looking forward to seeing how it goes.

## VIII Unfinished Business

### VII Question Period

- a) **Sean** asked why the CCSS is not following the bylaws regarding posting the AGM and agenda 14 days before the event. **Michel** said that the promotion went out on the 16<sup>th</sup>. **Michael** added that the agenda was posted on our website. **Sean** asked if the Nexus had been informed and if we had posted a half-page ad. **Michel** said we hadn't.

## X New Business

- a) Final Handbook Cover selection – **Glover** thanked **Daniella** for running the contest and stated that there are four options available, two with student artwork and two with photos. **Daniella** and **Madison** both advocated for the student-made submission.

**MOTION:** Quesada/Peralta

*BIRT the CCSS Board of Directors approve the student-submitted handbook cover for the next agenda.*

**CARRIED**

## IX Adjournment

**MOTION:** Lam/Purnell

*Adjourned 6:40*

**CARRIED**