
March 26, 2026

1:00 p.m.

MRU, EC 2010

PRESENT:

Chris Lee – Chair-Public Member

Rob Schaefer – Vice-Chair -Public Member

Cyndi Cave – Non-Academic Staff Member

Christian Cook – Academic Staff Member

Laura Daniels - Public Member

Denise Hughes – Public Member

Brenden Hunter – Public Member

Dexter Nelson – Public Member

Dustin Paisley – Alumni Member

Stefan Radeta – Alumni Member

Dr. Tim Rahilly – President and Vice-Chancellor

Dr. Kari Roberts – Academic Staff Member

Arlene Strom - Chancellor

Anita Surujbally – Student Member

Reynold Tetzlaff – Public Member

RESOURCES:

Kathy Homer, Assistant University Secretary-Board, Recording Secretary

Michael Lam, Vice-President, Finance and Administration

Chad London, Provost and Vice President, Academic

Amy Nixon, General Counsel and University Secretary

Melanie Rogers, Vice-President, University Advancement

Phil Warsaba, Vice-President, Students

REGRETS:

Tala Abu Hayyaneh – Student Member

Sheba Singh – Public Member

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

C. Lee, Chair of the Board of Governors, called the Open Session to order at 1:00 p.m., confirmed quorum, and S. Radeta commenced with a land acknowledgement.

1.1. Conflict of Interest Declaration

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

ACTION ITEMS

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved and seconded:

THAT the agenda be approved, as distributed.

CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1. Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on December 11, 2025.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the minutes of the Open Session of the Board of Governors' meeting held December 11, 2025, be approved as distributed.

CARRIED.

3.2. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the past set of minutes.

4. BUDGET PLAN: 2026-2027 TO 2028-2029

The Board of Governors considered the 2026-2027 through 2028-2029 budget plans that were presented for approval. The budget assumptions, capital allocation, and unconsolidated and consolidated statements were provided.

R. Schaefer, Finance and Property Committee Chair, reported that the plan reflects a balanced budget over the next three years, including a \$7M contingency for sustainability. The following two years are presented for information and indicate increasing cost pressures, which management is actively addressing. The capital budget is similar to the current year, with approximately half allocated to the G-Wing to address deferred maintenance and priority needs.

The Board Chair noted there was good discussion on both restricted and unrestricted reserves and commended Management for its strong financial stewardship. He also highlighted the annual Board Budget Briefing session as a best practice.

T. Rahilly thanked and acknowledged the budget team.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2026/27 consolidated budget as presented, and receive the financial projections for 2027/28 and 2028/29 for information.

CARRIED.

REPORTS

5. REPORTS

5.1. Board Chair

C. Lee, Board Chair, provided a written report and highlighted at the meeting the activities he has undertaken since December 2025. He noted a meeting with the Minister where the Minister shared his office has a focus on Artificial Intelligence (AI).

5.2. Chancellor

A. Strom provided a written report highlighting her campus and community engagements. She noted that AI and data centres are also a key provincial priority that she is hearing about. The Community Engagement Working Group continues to meet, with one more meeting planned before reporting back to the Board. She enjoyed participating in International Women's Day, noting strong engagement and a positive atmosphere.

5.3. President and Vice-Chancellor

T. Rahilly provided a written report highlighting updates from across the campus as they relate to the University Strategic Plan goals. He noted that the Chancellor delivered a well-received keynote at International Women's Day. He also shared that members of the ELT supported him as he travelled to Halifax for the men's hockey team, who competed in the national championships. Positive media coverage was noted regarding the Logistics Hub, as well as publicity around the partnership with Royal Roads University and related campus activities.

5.4. General Faculties Council

The General Faculties Council report for the past two meetings (January and February) was received for information. T. Rahilly highlighted the January 16 meeting discussion on free expression, noting it was a fulsome conversation that provided valuable input used to enhance the President's Statement on Free Expression and Caring for our Community. It was also noted that GFC has recommended to the Board revised tenure and promotion criteria for the Faculty of Health, Community and Education, as well as the creation of a new school within the Faculty of Science and Technology.

COMMITTEE MATTERS**6. AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE****6.1. Committee Report**

A report outlining the items considered by the Committee at the March 26, 2026 meeting was included for information. L. Daniels, Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, highlighted an update on the external audit, noting that MRU is six days from year end and that the audit is progressing well. The Committee also discussed the Enterprise Risk Management Report and received an update from the Internal Auditor. All compliance reports were reviewed and were well presented.

7. FINANCE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE**7.1. Committee Report**

A report outlining the items considered by the Committee at the March 26, 2026 meeting was included for information. R. Schaefer, Chair of the Finance and Property Committee, reported that the meeting focused primarily on the budget and Q3 results, with a projected surplus. The quarter was strong, including a \$15M surplus driven by realized investment income. Cost pressures are being managed, and capital spending is under \$9M. The G-Wing project is under budget, with surplus funds to be reallocated. He concluded by noting the expectation that any surplus will be transferred to restricted reserves.

8. GOVERNANCE AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE**8.1. Committee Report**

C. Lee, Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee, provided a written report summarizing the discussions from the February 23, 2026 meeting. He highlighted ongoing work to clarify how the Board will be informed in the event of an emergency and the role of GNC, noting that information would flow from the President, to the Board Chair, and then to GNC, who act on behalf of the Board as needed under the existing emergency operations policies. He also noted a discussion with the Minister about the skills matrix, and highlighted other topics including retreat planning, long-range planning, and strategic thinking.

CONSENT AGENDA

9. ITEMS REMOVED FOR DISCUSSION

There were no items removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the consent agenda items for the March 26, 2026, Open Session.

CARRIED.

10. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

10.1. Policy for Approval

10.1.1. Policy on University Policies and Procedures

THAT the Board of Governors approve major revisions to the Policy on University Policies and Procedures.

10.1.2. Privacy Policy

10.1.3. Access to Information Policy

THAT the Board of Governors approve the major revisions to the Privacy Policy and Access to Information Policy.

10.2. REVISED “Research and Scholarship Criteria, Evidence and Standards for Tenure and Promotion for the Faculty of Health, Community and Education at Mount Royal University”

THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposed revisions to the Research and Scholarship Criteria, Evidence and Standards for Tenure and Promotion for the Faculty of Health, Community and Education.

10.3. Proposal for a School of Computing Sciences and Mathematics

THAT the Board of Governors approve the establishment of the School of Computing Sciences and Mathematics, by restructuring the Department of Mathematics.

10.4. Parking and Traffic Bylaws Revisions

THAT the Board of Governors approve the revised Parking and Traffic Bylaws, effective July 1, 2026.

And

THAT the Board of Governors of Mount Royal University, in accordance with s. 18(3) of the PSLA, delegate specific authority to the Vice President, Finance and Administration the power, duty, and function to establish fees and fines respecting the parking of vehicles on University property as part of the annual budget cycle.

11. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The following items were received for information:

11.1. Financial Report: Third Quarter to December 31, 2025

11.2. Parking Fee and Fine Rates 2026-2027

OTHER BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business identified for the consideration of the Board.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Board of Governors meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.