



**Durham College of Applied Arts and Technology  
Board of Governors Regular Meeting  
Public Session Minutes**

**Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026  
Location: Oshawa Campus, DC Boardroom, A144**

**Members Present:**

Lisa Allen, Board Chair  
Megan Bent  
Jim Brown  
Alison Burgess  
Jeff Dorman  
Rhonda Jessup  
Ian Murray  
Jerry Ouellette  
Elaine Popp, President  
Peter Pryce, Board Vice Chair  
Kwende Thomas  
Dwight Townsend  
Nathan Wilson

**Regrets:**

Brandon Bird  
Melissa Bosomworth  
Kelly Doyle  
John Ecker

**Staff Present:**

Jean Choi, VP, Academic and Students  
Rick Hutchinson, VP, Strategic Infrastructure and Campus Safety  
Anthony Longo, Executive Director, Strategic Reporting and Government Relations  
Barbara MacCheyne, VP, Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer  
Thom MacDonald, AVP, Enrolment and International Education  
Melissa Pringle, Manager, Board Governance and Privacy  
Ariel Sully, AVP, Office of Advancement and Alumni Relations

## **1. Call to Order**

Board Vice Chair, Governor Pryce, chaired the meeting.

With quorum present, the Board Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Board Vice Chair introduced guests in attendance: Cristina Italia, Executive Dean, Faculty of Business and Information Technology; Celeste Coles, Manager, Student Awards and Financial Aid; Anna Felicio (student), and Sarah Adesuyi (student).

## **2. Land Acknowledgement**

Governor Allen offered the land acknowledgement.

## **3. Conflict of Interest Declarations**

The Board Vice Chair asked if there were any conflicts of interest to declare. None noted.

## **4. Presentations**

### **4.1 Program Spotlight: On-Campus Employment Program**

The Board received a presentation regarding the on-campus employment program and heard from two students who were personally impacted by it.

The Board questioned the presenters.

## **5. Consent Agenda**

Moved by Governor Wilson

Seconded by Governor Thomas

“That all items listed under the heading of consent agenda be adopted as recommended.” CARRIED

### **5.1 Approval of the Public Session Agenda – February 11, 2026**

That the public agenda for the February 11, 2026, meeting of the Board of Governors be approved as presented.

5.2 Approval of Public Minutes from the Board of Governors Meeting of December 10, 2025

That the public minutes from the December 10, 2025, meeting of the Board of Governors be approved as presented.

5.3 Report of the Governance Review Committee – January 12, 2026

That the January 12, 2026, report of the Governance Review Committee be received for information and the following resolutions be adopted:

1. That based on GOV-2026-01, the Board's Policy: Consent Agenda, be confirmed as written.

**6. Report of the Board Chair**

The Board Vice Chair highlighted the following matters:

- February is Black History Month, and attendees were encouraged to reflect on the contributions of Black communities.
- The Governance in Practice: Understanding the Role of Internal Governors session held on January 21, 2026, which featured Internal Governors Melissa Bosomworth, Kelly Doyle, and Nathan Wilson and was attended by approximately 25 employees. The event served as an effective engagement and recruitment opportunity ahead of the upcoming administrative staff governor election.
- Governor Ecker was acknowledged for his appointment to the Durham Regional Police Services Board.
- Governor Wilson was acknowledged for co-authoring the published study *"Durable Skills in the Age of AI: A Study of Student Perspectives at One Ontario College."*
- An update was provided on the DC Digest Profile project and Governors were encouraged to participate by connecting with Aliah Robinson, a work-study student in the Office of the President.

**7. Co-Populous Governors' Report**

There was no co-populous governors' report.

## **8. Decision Items**

### **8.1 New Program of Instruction: Bachelor of Business Administration**

The Board received a report from the Vice President, Academic and Students and the Executive Dean, Faculty of Business and Information Technology, presenting a new program of instruction for approval, Bachelor Business Administration.

The Board questioned the presenters regarding enrolment projections, tuition competitiveness, potential co-op opportunities, advanced standing requirements for diploma to degree pathways, and whether other programs would sunset once this new program is launched.

Moved by Governor Brown

Seconded by Governor Bent

“That based on Report BOG-2026-03, the proposed new Program of Instruction, Bachelor of Business Administration, be approved.” CARRIED

### **8.2 Major Program Change: Local College Certificate Program Title Change (Operations Management)**

The Board received a report from the Vice President, Academic and Students, regarding a proposed major program change, to change the title of the Operations Management program offered through Professional and Part Time Learning to Supply Chain Foundations to standardize the title with Ministry codes and to align with sector norms.

Moved by Governor Townsend

Seconded by Governor Wilson

“That based on Report BOG-2026-04, the program title for the Operations Management Local College Certificate offered through Professional and Part-time Learning be changed to Supply Chain Foundations.” CARRIED

## **9. Discussion Items**

### **9.1 Domestic and International Day 10 Enrolment Update- Winter 2026**

The Board received a report from the Associate Vice President, Enrolment and International Education, providing an update on Winter 2026 enrolment for both domestic and international students. Day 10 total enrolment for Winter 2026 was reported as 11,842 students. Of the total enrolment, 10,211 students were domestic and 1,631 were international.

The Board questioned the Associate Vice President, Enrolment and International Education, regarding several areas of interest, including the geographic origins of domestic students, whether the Registrar's Office is observing transfers from other programs into PGWP-eligible programs, the College's recruitment strategies, and the institution's value proposition for international students. The Board also inquired about how the College compares to peer institutions in terms of international enrolment, study permit approval rates by program, and the extent to which geopolitical factors are influencing Canadian post-secondary education.

## 9.2 Summary of Collaborative Efforts Between Durham College and Ontario Tech University

The Board received a report from the Vice President, Strategic Infrastructure and Campus Safety, presenting the annual update on areas of collaboration with Ontario Tech University.

The Board questioned the Vice President, Strategic Infrastructure and Campus Safety, regarding the cost-sharing agreement for the Campus Recreation and Wellness Centre and whether there were any strategic opportunities or challenges with the relationship between the institutions.

## 9.3 Second Update on the 2025-2026 Business Plan

The Board received a report from the President, presenting the second update on the 2025-2026 business plan. Of the 102 recorded actions, 53.9% are on track; 29.4% were complete; 5.9% were delayed; 6.9% were partially complete; and 3.9% were cancelled.

Governor Bent temporarily left the meeting.

The President highlighted key deliverables and provided a rationale for the projects that were cancelled.

Governor Bent re-entered the meeting.

## 10. Information Items

The following items were presented for information only:

### 10.1 Program Advisory Committee Semi-Annual Report – February 2026

The Board inquired about the status of membership on the skilled trades Program Advisory Committees. In response, the Vice President, Academic and Students explained that efforts were underway to recruit new members in order to refresh the committees and address upcoming term renewals.

10.2 Communicating the Costs of Educational Materials – Winter 2026

10.3 President's Update – February 2026

## **11. Upcoming Events**

The Chair drew attention to the following upcoming events:

- Launch of Administrative and Student Governor Elections – February 20, 2026
- Board of Governors Retreat – February 28, 2026, Oshawa Campus
- Board Evaluation and Committee Preference Survey to launch on March 30, 2026
- Nominations Open for the Election of Chair and Vice Chair of the Board – April 20, 2026

## **12. Move to In-Camera Session**

By-law No. 1 provides for the Board to move in-camera to discuss items confidential to the College.

Moved by Governor Dornan

Seconded by Governor Jessup

“That the Durham College Board of Governors move in camera after a 10-minute recess.” CARRIED

The Board recessed at 7:48 p.m. and reconvened in-camera at 8:00 p.m.

The Board rose from the in-camera session at 8:48 p.m.

During the in-camera session, the Board discussed recommendations from its standing committees, a proposal regarding the Board's committee structure and the College's financial position.

**13. Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting ended at 8:48 p.m.



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Lisa Allen  
Board Chair



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Melissa Pringle  
Board Secretary