

LANGARA COLLEGE RETIREE SOCIAL
AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

September 21, 2023

T-Gallery, 1400 - 1600

ATTENDEES

Board of Directors:	Diane Bradley (chair)
Patricia Cia (vice-chair)	Martin Gerson
Bruce Kennedy	Dave Lidstone
Brian McGibney (regrets)	Roy Sinn (regrets)

Dr. Paula Burns, Langara President & CEO

Michael Koke, Vice-President, Administration and Finance; Chief Financial Officer

Yusuf Varachia, Vice-President, External Relations & Community Development

Simone Le Blanc, Director, College Advancement & Executive Director, Langara College Foundation

Karina Reid, Development Officer, Langara College Foundation

29 Langara Retirees in attendance

Welcome Remarks

- Dave Lidstone, Emceed the event
- welcomed retirees and introduced Langara executive in attendance
- introduced the Langara President & CEO Dr. Paula Burns.

Dr. Paula Burns' speech

- Welcomed all the retirees back to Langara
- acknowledged her first year was spent getting to know the people and the strengths of the institution which include the importance of teaching & learning, student success, and all who work at Langara.
- announced the Inclusion & Belonging Survey was launched today to gather feedback from our diverse workforce and learn about our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) journey
- noted that Workday Student project has begun and over 200 employees participated in an Open House

Simone Le Blanc speech

- Introduced herself and her journey to Langara
- Thanked retirees for their past and ongoing support for Langara Foundation
- Summarized recent Foundation initiatives
- Noted the new process of "developing a case for support" which will be an articulation of Langara's strengths, why donors should support the College and what programs could benefit from donor support

LCAR Annual General Meeting

1. Diane called the business meeting to order at 1425.
2. Approval of Agenda
 - With no additions, Agenda approved as circulated.
3. Approval of the September 22, 2022, AGM minutes
 - Minutes approved as circulated.
4. Business
 - 4.1 Chairs report noting LCAR's activities over the past year:

- In April 2023, LCAR organized a “Grand Gala” in Studio 58, raising over \$900 towards scholarships for Studio 58 students. This sum was generously matched by the Langara Foundation.
- Two informal summer get-togethers were held at the Langara Golf Course in July and August.
- The LCAR newsletter editorial team, led by Dave Lidstone, published Winter and Summer issues of *And By the Way, Retirees*. The newsletter is posted to lcar.ca and distributed via email. Printed copies of the Summer 2023 issue were distributed at this event. The editorial team encourages and welcomes your stories and any other contributions to future newsletters. Send them to newsletter@lcar.ca.
- Our webmaster, Roy Sinn, updated and reorganized our website (lcar.ca) and our email distribution services.
- We created an “In Memoriam” page to celebrate the lives of former colleagues and welcome your contributions about people you remember. Send your stories to memorials@lcar.ca.
- The workshops offered by LCAR in conjunction with Cosco did not take place this year, but we hope to provide some workshops in the coming year.
- Retirees Chris Arnold-Forster, Patricia Cia, Laura Cullen, Kathryn Shaw, and Gordon Trick were awarded emeritus/emerita status in 2023. Congratulations to all.

4.2 Chair thanked all those who have helped LCAR thrive and make our social events and other activities possible:

- Langara College for allocating us our financial operating budget
- our president, Paula Burns for ongoing encouragement and for inviting us to address retirees at the President’s Retiree Luncheon
- department of People and Culture for providing us with many hours of administrative help
- the Langara Foundation and their new team for all their support including door prizes and table décor, and
- Chartwells for their catering.

Thank you to all my fellow board members for their many hours of service.

4.3 Ratification of Board Membership

According to our “Policies and Procedures” which are located on the LCAR website we can have up to 10 board directors.

Currently the following directors are in continuing positions until 2024:

- Diane Bradley (chair)
- Patricia Cia (vice-chair)
- Brian McGibney

The following people have agreed to have their names stand for re-election to another two-year period:

- Martin Gerson
- Bruce Kennedy
- Dave Lidstone
- Roy Sinn

Alan Cooper has put his name forward to join the board.

Two board members are leaving the LCAR board after years of service. Diane thanked them for their contributions and dedication in helping make LCAR a success.

- Gail Bremer
- Susan Weber

The floor was opened for further nominations, not hearing any further, call for a motion to elect the 5 candidates (Martin, Bruce, Dave, Roy, and Alan) for a term of office 2023 – 2025.

- Motion approved unanimously.

We have two positions still open. These can be filled later. If you are interested, please contact Diane at dianembca@telus.net

The position of chair and vice chair will be decided by the board of directors at the first meeting following the AGM.

5. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned by Diane at 1445.

Following the meeting, attendees enjoyed the social.

Story Time

Cathy Sosnowsky had performed the first installment at the Grand Gala. Today she read the extended version of *Varvara's Tears, My Ukranian Invasion*. In her work, Cathy reflected on her experience of hosting an older couple in her home, of learning languages, cultural differences, and shared emotions.

Cynthia Flood teased her story in the latest edition of the LCAR newsletter and today read the full version of *School Play*. Cynthia recounts a teenager girl's key life experience.

The Langara College Foundation provided each attendee with a 2023/2024 calendar. The twelve cards profiled Nataliya Bilgen's architectural photography and included an engraved wooden stand.

As well, the following five lucky retirees won the door prizes of umbrella, scarf, and/or picnic blanket generously donated by the Foundation:

- Brian Pendelton, Gerry Scofield, Marjory Lang, Roger Holdstock, and Veryl Tipliski.