



**UFV Alumni Association
Annual General Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, Sept 26, 2019

6:45 – 7:30pm

RM B121

33844 King Road, Abbotsford, BC V2S 7M8

Present: Nav Bains, Chair; Ali Siemens, Vice-Chair; Wayne Ortner, Associate Vice-Chair; Kelly Blakeborough, Director-At-Large; Joe Johnson, Director-At-Large; Auriel Niven, Director-At-Large; Kevin Renso, Director-At-Large; Nik Venema, Chair Emeritus; Ashley Ward-Hall, Director-At-Large; Derek Ward-Hall, Director-At-Large; Whitney Fordham, Manager of Alumni Relations; Leona Oakman, Coordinator of Alumni Relations (recording); Parmjit Bains, Honorary Doctorate recipient; Maxine Bouthot; Derek Froese; Gurvir Gill; Justin P Goodrich, Chair, UFV Board of Governors; Melissa Naman; John Pankratz; Betty Poettcker, VP External; Derrick Uittenbosch; Fateh Virk; Tal Wieczorek

Regrets: Jess Delves, Director-At-Large; Joel Feenstra, Director-At-Large; Seamus Heffernan, Director-At-Large; Emily Henry, Director-At-Large

Guests: Satwinder Bains, Director, South Asian Studies Institute; Daljit Bains; Simran Bains; Eric Davis, Former Provost and VP Academic; Anita Nielsen, Executive Director, Advancement and Alumni Relations; Al Wiseman, UFV Secretary

1. Call to Order (Nav Bains, Chair)

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by Mr. Nav Bains, Chair.

Mr. Bains recognized and acknowledged the traditional unceded Stó:lō territory upon which this meeting is taking place.

2. Approval of Agenda (Nav Bains, Chair)

Motion: To approve the September 26th 2019 Annual General Meeting agenda

**NIK VENEMA / ALI SIEMENS
CARRIED**

3. Approval of Minutes from the 2018 AGM (Nav Bains, Chair)

Motion: To approve the minutes for the September 26th 2018 Annual General Meeting, as presented.

**ASHLEY WARD-HALL / AURIEL NIVEN
CARRIED**

4. Auditor Waiver (Ali Siemens, Vice Chair)

Siemens put forward the motion to waive the option to appoint an auditor for the 2018/2019 Financial Statements, as the Association does not require an auditor to be appointed according to its bylaws.

Motion: To waive the option to audit the 2018/2019 Financial Statements

**ALI SIEMENS / NIK VENEMA
CARRIED**

5. Financial Statements 2018/2019 (Whitney Fordham, Manager of Alumni Relations)

Fordham presented the financial statements from the AGM meeting package.

Motion: To approve the 2018/2019 financial statements as presented.

**NAV BAINS /ASHLEY WARD-HALL
CARRIED**

6. Report from the Alumni Relations Office (Whitney Fordham, Manager of Alumni Relations)

Fordham reported that the office continued to offer many benefits and affinity programs to alumni all while raising funds for the Alumni Association, including discounts with Amazon.ca, discounted rates at the Sandman Hotel, Gaspard's caps and tassels, Leader Frames, Convocation flowers & T-Shirts, as well as the TD Insurance and BMO Mastercard programs. UFV Alumni Relations also launched a new discount program with Studio B Yoga in Chilliwack.

UFV Alumni Relations continued activities with Artona group photography to offer graduation photos to UFV grads as well as composite photos to the School of Business, Criminal Justice program, the Faculty of Science, and the Faculty of Health Sciences. Alumni Relations continues to manage a growing database of over 41,000 alumni records, with almost 28,000 mailing addresses, over 31,000 phone numbers and nearly

23,000 email addresses. Each year approximately 2,000 new alumni records are imported into the database.

In June 2018, Alumni Relations launched a campaign to reconnect with alumni that UFV has lost touch with. The Reconnect campaign was the first campaign of its sort since 2013, and UFV was able to connect with over 350 alumni to get their updated contact information within the campaign period, which is over 5 times the success rate of the previous campaign. At the same time, the office moved from a paper-based contact information update form to an online version. Since the campaign ended, UFV has continued to see information updates come through on a consistent basis.

Alumni have been communicated with through the Alumni eNewsletter 10 times this past year. The Alumni Association presence on Facebook and Twitter has been steadily growing, and an Instagram account was launched in 2018.

The office orchestrated and participated in over 29 alumni related events in various capacities on behalf of the Association, listed in the Annual Board Report. This is the most events ever recorded in one year.

In September 2018, the 4th Annual UFV Alumni Open golf tournament was held, which raised \$50,963 for the Alumni Changing Lives Leadership and Bursary endowments. There were 100 golfers who participated in 2018.

In November, the Alumni office teamed up with the Advancement office on their Town & Gown Fundraising dinner, where the 2018 Distinguished and Young Distinguished Alumni awards were presented to Liz Harris and Andrew Alexander. These outstanding individuals are highlighted in the Annual Report, with full stories on the Alumni website.

Also in November, UFV welcomed Anita Nielsen as the new Executive Director of Advancement and Alumni Relations. Two departments, Alumni Relations and Advancement, were merged to become one department. Leona Oakman and Maggi Davis have filled in for the Alumni Coordinator role over the past year.

Fordham thanked the office staff, the alumni board of directors and the membership for allowing the office to support the meaningful work of the Alumni Association.

Motion: To accept the report presented by Whitney Fordham from the Alumni Relations Office.

**DEREK WARD-HALL / ASHLEY WARD-HALL
CARRIED**

7. Report from the Chair (Nav Bains, Chair)

Mr. Bains reported that the board is at the half-way point in its strategic plan, containing the new Vision, Mission, Value Statements as well as five strategic pillars, which guide the deliverables for the Alumni Association's committee work. Within the Collaboration and Outreach pillar, focus has been on building relationships with stakeholders through university and community, proving the value in partnering with UFVAA.

The Association has been working to increase its visibility in supporting events, and this year sponsored several events outside of UFV, with the Raspberry magazine fundraiser being a highlight, as an all alumni-led event, supporting alumni in the communities they serve.

Within the Giving and Philanthropy pillar, the Association proudly hosted its fifth annual golf tournament in September 2019, raising over \$60k for the Alumni Changing Lives Bursary Endowment. Mr. Bains noted that the UFV Alumni Open has collectively raised over \$150k for both endowments, and achieved its goal of raising \$150k towards the leadership endowment award within first year of setting this objective.

Within the Community and Diversity and Building Affinity pillars, the Association successfully partnered with UFV Indigenous Affairs and UFV Indigenous Student Centre on several key initiatives, as well as with SASI, UFV India and UFV International. Mr. Bains expressed his gratitude for these partnerships as they continue to grow.

November saw the annual Town and Gown gala, with Liz Harris and Andrew Alexander being named Distinguished and Young Distinguished Alumni, each being recognized for their influential work. Mr. Bains praised the work of the Outreach committee which reviews all nominations, and praised the program as being instrumental to alumni engagement, by showing alumni that their journey is not over.

8. Bylaw Review and Changes (Ali Siemens, Vice-Chair)

Motion: Be it resolved that bylaw 26, clause (a) be stricken, and that clauses (b) and (c) be re-lettered to reflect this change

**ALI SIEMENS / AURIEL NIVEN
CARRIED**

9. Call for Nominations (Nav Bains, Chair)

The Governance Committee has put forward the following names for election to the office of Associate Vice-Chair, for a two-year term:

- Auriel Niven

- Derek Froese

Motion: to nominate the candidates listed above for the office of Associate Vice -Chair for a two-year term.

**WAYNE ORTNER / DEREK WARD-HALL
CARRIED**

It is declared that they are elected by acclamation.

The Governance Committee has put forward the following names for election to the office of Director-at-Large, for a two-year term:

- Emily Henry
- Jess Delves
- Derek Ward-Hall
- Kelly Blakeborough
- Jen Martel
- Derrick Uittenbosch
- Vessal Jaber

Motion: to nominate the candidates listed above for the office of Director-at-Large for a two-year term.

**WAYNE ORTNER / AURIEL NIVEN
CARRIED**

It is declared that they are elected by acclamation.

Motion: to nominate Ms. Ali Siemens for a 2 year term for the office of Chair and declare that she is elected by acclamation.

10. New Business (Ali Siemens, Chair)

Town & Gown will be held on November 13th, 2019, where the 2019 Distinguished Alumni Awards will be presented.

All attendees are invited to attend the reception following the AGM.

11. Questions from the floor

None

12. Adjournment (Ali Siemens, Chair)

Motion: To adjourn the September 26, 2019 Annual General Meeting of the UFV Alumni Association at 7:30PM

**NIK VENEMA / ASHLEY WARD-HALL
CARRIED**

Minutes approved:

Chair: *Derek Inose* Date: September 23, 2020