

Present: Tony Dhaliwal, Chair; Bradley Menard, Vice-Chair & IDEA Officer; Tricia Taylor, Associate Vice-Chair; Aman Khinda, Alumni Representative on Senate; Alex Parkinson; Harman Rathore; John Pankratz, Chair, UFV Board of Governors (Guest); Jayden Hovey, President, UFV Student Union Society (Guest); Whitney Fordham, Director, Alumni Engagement & Executive Director, UFVAA (Staff); Bryan Candy, Manager, Alumni Engagement (Staff); Maggi Davis, Alumni Engagement Coordinator (Recording Staff)

Regrets: Michelle Vandepol

1. Call to order & introductions (Tony Dhaliwal, Chair)

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Land acknowledgement (Whitney Fordham, Executive Director)

3. Meeting minutes (Tony Dhaliwal, Chair)

MOTION: To approve the minutes for the May 29, 2024, board meeting, as presented.

**B. MENARD/H. RATHORE
CARRIED**

4. Business arising from the minutes (Tony Dhaliwal, Chair)

No business was brought forward.

5. Greetings from UFV Board of Governors (John Pankratz, Chair, UFV Board of Governors)

John Pankratz, Chair of the UFV Board of Governors, extended warm greetings on behalf of the Board. In his remarks, Pankratz emphasized the valued relationship and successful collaboration between the UFV Board of Governors and the UFV Alumni Association. He highlighted several areas of mutual interest and cooperation, including significant events and strategic initiatives, underscoring the importance of alumni as partners in supporting UFV's mission.

The symbiotic partnership between the UFV Board of Governors and the UFV Alumni Association was celebrated, showcasing areas of collaboration such as chancellor installation, presidential search, and board appointments.

The appointment of Kim McLandress to the Board, recommended by the Alumni Association, was acknowledged.

Pankratz mentioned the upcoming UFV 50th-year Community Celebration and other key events like the UFV night at Abbotsford Canucks.

Updates on UFV infrastructure projects were provided, including the progress of the new student housing project, the opening of the Mission campus, and advancements in the dining hall construction.

The alumni representative for the presidential search committee, Tony Dhaliwal, was thanked for his service, and the presidential search process was briefly outlined, including the formation of the search committee and the development of the candidate profile.

6. Greetings from UFV Student Union Society (Jayden Hovey, SUS President)

Jayden Hovey, President of the UFV Student Union Society (SUS), delivered greetings and provided updates on the organization's recent initiatives and advocacy efforts.

The successful Kickback event was reported to have attracted between 2500-3000 students.

A new food initiative was launched, offering free warm breakfasts bi-weekly in Evered Hall for students from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM on Tuesdays. The SUS foodbank has seen a substantial increase in distribution from 70 hampers in 2022 to 410 in 2023. Plans to reinstate the breakfast program with regular offerings were mentioned, as well as the activation of the Fairgrounds kitchen.

SUS has implemented new shuttle scanners to enhance the UPass program and align it with Transit BC. Advocacy for the inclusion of the Fraser Valley Express, route 66, in the UPass program was highlighted due to the significant cost of \$5 per trip. Updates to the UPass eligibility with options for summer students to opt-in or opt-out, as well as better integration with the UMO service, were discussed.

SUS is leading a "Get out the Vote" campaign in preparation for the upcoming provincial election, which includes setting up polling stations.

SUS's commitment to advocating for Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) initiatives to help reduce the financial burden of textbook costs for students was emphasized.

Bradley Menard expressed the board's interest in supporting SUS advocacy efforts, since Advocacy is a strategic pillar of the UFVAA.

7. Thank you to outgoing Director (Tony Dhaliwal, Chair)

Since last meeting, Jessica Levesque has resigned as Director from the board. The Chair expressed gratitude on behalf of the board for her service and her enthusiastic, positive attitude.

8. Chair report / Executive Committee report (Tony Dhaliwal, Chair)

Tony Dhaliwal acknowledged the contributions of the committees, board, and Alumni Engagement team.

Dhaliwal shared an update on board succession, along with plans to seek board nominations emphasizing diversity of backgrounds and skill. Aiming for 2-3 new members.

ACTION: Directors to bring names forward by October 2.

Michelle Vandepol agreed to serve as the alumni representative on UFV's honorary doctorate committee.

MOTION: to appoint Michelle Vandepol as the alumni board representative for UFV's 2025 honorary doctorate selection committee.

**T. TAYLOR/H. RATHORE
CARRIED**

Advocacy training has been scheduled in October to enhance understanding and efforts.

A new committee at UFV has commenced the search for a new President.

The Executive Committee approved a \$1000 sponsorship for the TEDxAbbotsford event, taking place at UFV on November 15.

MOTION: to approve the Executive Committee report, as presented.

**A. PARKINSON/B. MENARD
CARRIED**

9. Governance Committee report (information) (Bradley Menard, Vice-Chair & Chair, Governance Committee)

Bradley Menard updated the board on four terms of reference documents that have been reviewed and approved by the Governance Committee:

- UFVAATOR1 - Executive Committee
- UFVAATOR2 - Governance Committee
- UFVAATOR3 - Awards (Special) Committee
- UFVAATOR5 - Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) Officer

MOTION: to approve the establishment of the Awards Special Committee, effective Sept 25 2024 for a three-year period, to Sept 24 2027.

**B. MENARD/T. DHALIWAL
CARRIED**

10. Governance Committee Report (approval) (Bradley Menard, Vice-Chair & Chair, Governance Committee)

Bradley Menard brought two new policies and one revised policy forward to the Board for discussion and approval: UFVAA23 - UFVAA Executive Director Limitations and Responsibilities (new), UFVAA13 - Records Management (revised), and UFVAA24 - Reserve Fund (new).

MOTION: to approve policy UFVAA23, as discussed.

**B. MENARD/T. TAYLOR
CARRIED**

MOTION: to approve revised policy UFVAA13, as discussed.

**B. MENARD/A. PARKINSON
CARRIED**

MOTION: to approve policy UFVAA24, as discussed.

**B. MENARD/T. DHALIWAL
CARRIED**

11. Alumni Rep on Senate Report (Aman Khinda, Director, Senate Rep)

UFV Senate met on September 20th, discussing key issues such as the formation of an AI task force in January to explore AI usage at UFV and the creation of related policies and procedures. The Student Misconduct Policy is also under review concerning AI usage. Furthermore, changes in international student registrations have shown positive outcomes, and there's an ongoing effort to increase housing availability.

Bradley Menard has proposed a broader role for the alumni representative on Senate, suggesting their participation in any committee, beyond the traditionally allotted ones.

12. Executive Director Report (Whitney Fordham, Executive Director)

Whitney Fordham, Executive Director, provided a full written report in the meeting package, and additionally shared the several highlights.

A meaningful alumni panel was held in August, in collaboration with the La:lem te Baker team. Fordham acknowledged the work of Maggi Davis, who coordinated and moderated the discussion. St'elt'elawtexw Community Report launches went well, featuring Tricia Taylor and Tony Dhaliwal speaking on behalf of the Alumni Association. The new alumni welcome series went out to 2024 graduates, and was deemed a success.

Updates on the UFV 50th anniversary celebrations were provided. The UFV 50 Program Fund has completed two intakes, supporting several alumni-focused events. An inaugural alumni weekend is scheduled for April 4-5, 2025. A campaign to celebrate 50 Remarkable Alumni is underway, with 24 stories shared thus far, and a nomination form now live, accruing 30 nominations to date. The special edition, UFV 50 alumni wine label features "anywhere in the Valley" line art, designed to be intentionally inclusive.

13. Upcoming events & community engagement opportunities (Whitney Fordham, Executive Director)

14. Other Business (All)

Alex Parkinson introduced the idea of integration between UFVAA and the Abbotsford Downtown Business Association.

Bradley Menard addressed the conversation at the AGM pertaining to the spelling of the word Stó:lō in the Bylaws. The newly adopted Bylaws will continue to utilize the spelling that aligns with that used by the Xwexwilmexwawt office, and across the institution.

15. Adjournment

MOTION: to adjourn the September 25, 2024 meeting of the UFVAA Board of Directors.

**A. PARKISON/T. TAYLOR
CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Minutes approved:

Chair: _____ Date: _____