

*University of Victoria Graduate Students' Society*

**Executive Board**  
(HYBRID) MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 5, 2026

Zoom Link: <https://uvic.zoom.us/j/2244264481>

**EXECUTIVE INVITED:**

Rosemary WEBB, Chair;  
Maggie LAWTON, Director of Finance;  
Sarah ROBERTS, Director of Internal/University Relations;  
vacant, Director of External Relations;  
vacant, Director of Student Life;  
Kyla TURNER, Executive Director (non-voting);  
**GUESTS:** Neil Barney, Operations and Services Manager

**STANDING ITEMS PART 1**

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**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 10:01am by WEBB.

**B. TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Territorial acknowledgement offered by TURNER. They gave thanks for their time in Lheidli T'enneh territory and discussed the relationship with the land when you deeply understand the seasonality of a place.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Motion: to approve the agenda as presented.*

*M/S: ROBERTS/LAWTON*

*CARRIED*

**NEW BUSINESS**

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**1. LETTER TO GOVERNMENT APPROVAL RE: PSI FUNDING REVIEW**

Lead: WEBB

Link: [Post Secondary Funding Review.docx](#)

For: Discussion

WEBB has given two CBC interviews about the PSI funding review, one on the island and one in Vancouver jointly with BCIT. Once these are published online, we will link them on our new PSI review website specifically. WEBB to meet with other student societies to discuss messaging during the consultation session. LAWTON has heard from Camosun, who are ABCS members who will be following ABCS lead. The Martlet's online article about this issue also mentions our work on this issue.

**TASK: WEBB to send the Post Secondary Funding Review letter to Don Avison, leader of the sector sustainability review.**

## 2. SPRING 2026 FEE REFERENDUM

Lead: LAWTON

Reference: Spring 2026 Fee Referendum Questions, Bylaw 4.4

For: Decision

The referendum question was reviewed by GRC on November 25. All the impacted campus services were given between November 26 and December 10 to provide feedback. Finance Committee finalized the questions on December 12. The board is asked to ratify the attached questions, per Bylaw 4.4.

“Bylaw 4.4

- a. Referenda shall be initiated by:
  - i. a resolution of the Executive Board; or
  - ii. a resolution passed by two-thirds (2/3) of Grad Council; or
  - iii. a petition signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the full members of the Society.
- b. Referenda questions shall be phrased by the Executive Board. However, where a referendum is initiated by petition, the phrasing shall not alter the original intent of the petition.
  - i. Where a referendum question creates or revises a membership fee, the text of the referendum question shall include whether or not the fee shall increase by the Consumer Price Index annually.
  - ii. Where a referendum on GSS fees would necessitate alterations of bylaw 14.3 Membership Fees, the revised bylaw text shall be presented in the referendum.
- c. Where the referendum is initiated by the Executive Board, the Graduate Representative Council will be notified within 48 hours of the Executive Board Meeting.”

*Motion: to approve the referendum questions relating to the University 101, Student Advocate, WUSC, UVSS Constituency Groups, and GSS Food and Beverage fees as presented.*

*M/S: ROBERTS/LAWTON*

*CARRIED/FAILED*

**TASK: TURNER to notify GRC of the referendum questions approved by the board within 48 hours of the board meeting.**

**TASK: TURNER to send draft referendum questions and election dates to the University Secretary Office for the creation of a SimplyVoting ballot.**

## 3. CAMPAIGN GUIDELINES, RULES AND PLANNING

Lead: WEBB/TURNER

Reference: DRAFT Election Campaign Package 2026.docx

DRAFT Referendum Campaign Package 2026.docx

For: Discussion

If you were to be given these documents as a potential board candidate OR referendum campaigner, would you understand what you were and were not permitted to do and how to register?

## 4. CHECK IN ON BOARD SCHEDULING FOR SPRING TERM

Lead: WEBB

For: Discussion

Anyone need any modifications to the board meeting schedule?

## STANDING ITEMS PART 2

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### D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Motion: to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2025 Executive Board Meeting as presented.*

*M/S: ROBERTS/LAWTON*

*CARRIED*

### E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Lead: TURNER

**Note:** To ensure motion log is updated, ensure completed items are reported in the minutes.

**Items assigned to board members that Kyla thinks are complete or abandoned will be listed below and highlighted in yellow.** If there's an item you were assigned below highlighted in yellow, please confirm if the task was completed, revoked, or abandoned!

#### Tasks Completed/Decisions fully acted upon:

TASK: ROBERTS and NOUREEN to prepare guiding questions for GSAW reflections at December 16 GRC

Jan 5 - TASK: WEBB to send the Post Secondary Funding Review letter to Don Avison, leader of the sector sustainability review.

### F. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

*No committee appointments made.*

### G. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

*No correspondence received.*

### H. AGENDA PLANNING, OR MEETING DEBRIEF

Reference: [Meeting Debrief Template](#)

1. Meeting debrief: December 16 GRC
  - i. Comments about the judging process at EGRS (better announcements and more distribution and training for the judges) – suggestion to eliminate judging and go to a draw for prizes. Ask for supervisor contact email and send a mass email to all supervisors asking them to attend with the agenda attached.
  - ii. Worksafe re: overheating in Petch. Board reported their Operational Relations meeting and Sophie is continuing to work on this.
  - iii. PSI funding review: we have linked out our website for this issue.
2. Meeting agenda planning: First thoughts on January GRC agenda? It is due Jan 20.
3. Meeting agenda planning: January 22 Exec to Exec
  - i. PSI review – how their consultation went
  - ii. Seeking interim board members

### I. LOBBYING REPORTS

Reports due at the first meeting of every month.

J. ANNUAL PLAN CHECK-IN:

## CLOSING ITEMS

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### EXECUTIVE INFORMAL DISCUSSION/UPDATES/QUESTIONS

All board members discussed what projects could be dropped for the duration of the current board term due to two resignations:

Chair: WEBB BPC will no longer pursue a Constitution review this year.

Director of Finance: LAWTON

Director of Internal/University Relations: ROBERTS A&C will no longer work on the CAL VOE campaign.

Director of External Relations: vacant

Director of Student Life: vacant

Executive Director: TURNER's tasks for her first week back include: 1. Finish the budget, 2. Notify GRC and USec re: fee referendum, 3. Send Semyon interim election scripts, 4. Revise access to board emails, 5. Meet with Rosemary re: campaign package

### NOTICE OF MOTIONS, AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING

Budget consultation – January 19

Budget vote (send to SAGM) – February 16

Approve SAGM agenda, previous minutes, any bylaw amendments – March 2

### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT DATES

**\*\*Task Reminder:** Please be sure your meetings and events are up to date on OUTLOOK CALENDAR\*\*

Next Executive Meetings: January 19, 2026

Next GRC Meeting: January 27, 2025

SAGM: March 24, 2026

Office, Staff Scheduling:

### ADJOURNMENT

*Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 11:35.*

*M/S: LAWTON/ROBERTS*

*CARRIED*

X

Rosemary WEBB  
GSS Chair 2025-26

X

Kyla Turner  
GSS Executive Director