

MINUTES

For the Executive Committee Meeting of the British Columbia Federation of Students
Monday, December 01, 2025 • Videoconference

4:35 the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Herrera Lira. Attendance was as follows:

Executive Members Present

Chairperson.....	Debi Herrera Lira
Director at Large.....	Jess Lamb
Director at Large.....	Prince Solanki
Indigenous Caucus Chairperson.....	Samantha Jo
Representative–Local 01 Members.....	Anabelle Lee
Representative–Local 02 Members.....	Jaspreet Kaur
Representative–Local 04 Members.....	Calder Azak
Representative–Local 06 Members.....	Chloe Archuleta
Representative–Local 10 Members.....	Medhavi Mahesh
Representative–Local 12 Members.....	Olivia Lai
Representative–Local 13 Members.....	Maggie Velisek
Representative–Local 16 Members.....	Jag Toor Singh
Representative–Local 17 Members.....	Terence Baluyut
Representative–Local 20 Members.....	Vishnukumar Sharma
Secretary-Treasurer.....	Cole Reinbold

Executive Members Absent

Director at Large.....	Holiness Ozumba
Director at Large.....	Manan Singh
Representative–Local 05 Members.....	Crystal Yamak
Representative–Local 14 Members.....	Harpinder Singh
Representative–Local 15 Members.....	Gurjeet Singh
Representative–Local 21 Members.....	Karen Khatana

Staff Present

Director-Membership Development.....	Michael Gauld
Director-Operations.....	Phoebe Lo Patigdas
Local Staff–Local 01.....	Brianne Berchowitz
Local Staff–Local 02.....	Jaspreet Kaur
Local Staff–Local 04.....	Navi Brar
Local Staff–Local 06.....	Andrew Dalton
Local Staff–Local 12.....	Rachel Fortin
Local Staff–Local 15.....	Carissa Wilson
Local Staff–Local 16.....	Brynn Joyce
Local Staff–Local 21.....	Thach Thao Nguyen
Organiser.....	Jill Adams
Organiser-Services.....	Esmé Kovacs
Researcher.....	Arielle Reid

Guests

Observer–Local 14.....	Vikas Kumar Rathi
Observer–Local 21.....	Michelle Reyes

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

Chairperson Herrera Lira acknowledged that the meeting is being chaired on the traditional unceded territories of the Qayqayt First Nation. They asked that participants think about and acknowledge the Nation on whose territory they work and live.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2025/12:01

MOTION

Archuleta/Baluyut

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COMPOSITION**a. Receipt of Resignations of Members**

Chairperson Herrera Lira reported that the Executive Committee is not in receipt of any resignations.

b. Acceptance of New Executive Committee Members

Chairperson Herrera Lira reported that the Executive Committee is in receipt of three appointment letters.

2025/12:02 MOTION

Azak/Toor Singh

Be it resolved that Diksha Salwan be appointed as the Local 2 Members' Representative

CARRIED

2025/12:03 MOTION

Lai/Azak

Be it resolved that Vikas Kumar Rathi be appointed as the Local 14 Members' Representative

CARRIED

2025/12:04 MOTION

Velisek/Mahesh

Be it resolved that Michelle Reyes be appointed as the Local 21 Members' Representative

CARRIED

3. PREPARATION FOR THE AGM**a. Review of Motions**

Whereas graduate members of Local 12 ran a referendum, with the support of Local 12, to cease membership with Local 12 and join the society Graduate Students' Association at the Okanagan Campus (GSA) in October 2025; and

Whereas 434 members voted in favour of the referendum question and 23 voted against the question, which makes the referendum successful; and

Whereas the GSA now represents all graduate members of the UBC Okanagan campus, and effective January 1, 2026, the GSA will assume the role of representing and providing services to graduate members; and

Whereas membership of the BC Federation of Students is independent of students' membership to a member local students' union, therefore a change in local union membership does not affect membership to the Federation; and

Whereas members of the GSA continue to be members of the BC Federation of Students; and
Whereas the GSA will be the democratically elected organisation representing graduate members of the Federation at the UBC Okanagan campus; and

Whereas each member local students' unions has a representative on the Federation's Executive Committee to ensure equal representation; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw V, Section 5.2 be amended to include "Representative-Local 23 Members" as part of the composition of the Executive Committee; and

Be it further resolved that Standing Resolution 11 be amended to add "23 Graduate Students' Association at the Okanagan Campus" to the list of member local union numbers.

4:44PM Holiness Ozumba joined the meeting.

2025/12:05 MOTION

Velisek/Ozumba

Be it resolved that Executive Committee refer motion N01 to the Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

b. Search Committee**2025/12:06 MOTION**

Fifi/Azak

Be it resolved that this year's Search Committee nominations be extended to Local staff.

CARRIED

No nominations were received.

4. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**a. What We Heard Report Released**

A funding review was conducted by the Ministry in 2022, in which member locals, Federation, and other stakeholders participated in the consultation process. No reporting was publicly released following the review despite the sector-wide advocacy for its release. However, the *What We Heard Report* was included in a Freedom of Information (FOI) request regarding the funding review. The Executive Committee will be provided a briefing on the *What We Heard Report* and discuss the next steps for the Federation.

2025/12:07 MOTION

Lee/Toor Singh

Be it resolved the agenda be amended to add Other Business.

CARRIED

5:23 Baluyut and Velisek left the meeting.

5:31 Baluyut joined the meeting.

b. Recent Announcement of a Review of Sector Sustainability

The Ministry announced on November 25, 2025, that it is to conduct a review of sector sustainability. Along with the announcement, the terms of reference for *Modernizing the Public Post-Secondary Education Sector in British Columbia: A Review of Sector Sustainability* were published.

The Executive Committee will review the summary of the terms of reference and discuss the threats to the post-secondary students in BC. The Executive Committee will also discuss the opportunities for the Federation and member locals.

5:54 Lee left the meeting.

5. OTHER BUSINESS**2025/12:08 MOTION**

Toor Singh/Archuleta

Be it resolved that Michel Turcotte and Medhavi Mahesh be appointed to the Search Committee.

CARRIED**6. ADJOURNMENT****2025/12:09 MOTION**

Ozumba/Azak

Be it resolved that the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

6:03 the meeting adjourned

* Denotes in-camera