

**Brandon University Board of Governors
(Open Session)**

Saturday, November 22, 2025

Louis Riel Room & Zoom

8:30 a.m.

Present: Christine Bovis-Crossen; Ravikiran Dwivedula; Sunday Frangi; Dean Hammond; Bryan Hill; Katheryne Lumgair; Molly MacPherson-Blair; Chukwuanugo Okudo; Quintin Pearce (Acting Chair); Emmanuelle Shakotko

Resources: Bernadette Ardelli; Barb Blind; Greg Gatien; Peter Hickey; Meghan Lamontagne (Recorder)

Regrets: Charles Adamu; Mary Jane McCallum; Joseph Pelletier; Kevan Sumner; Steven Soder; Michelle Williams-Joel

1. OPENING PRAYER & SMUDGE

2. CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

The meeting began with a land acknowledgement, recognizing that Brandon University has campuses on both Treaty 1 and Treaty 2 lands and is a gathering place for people from many backgrounds around the world. In this way, we carry on the Indigenous customs of our home in Brandon. It was further acknowledged that Brandon is on shared territory between the Dakota Oyate, the Anishinaabeg, and the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. Today, many other Indigenous people call Brandon their home, including the Inineu, Anisininewuk, Denesuline, and Inuit.

3. AGENDA & MINUTES

3.1 Approval of Agenda of November 22, 2025

Motion: Moved and seconded (D. Hammond/R. Dwivedula)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda of the November 22, 2025, Board of Governors meeting (Open Session) be approved.

A member highlighted that the Department of Business Administration was missing from the list of academic programs in the ORE Overview and Budget

Proposal (Item 5.1). This was acknowledged, and a correction will be made prior to submission.

**079 Nov25
CARRIED**

3.2 Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion: Moved and seconded (K. Lumgair/S. Frangi)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the consent agenda of the November 22, 2025, Board of Governors (Open Session) meeting be approved as follows:

3.2.1 Minutes of September 20, 2025 (Open Session)

3.2.2 Report from the Board Chair

3.2.3 Report from the Vice-President (Research & Graduate Studies)

3.2.4 Report from the Vice-President (Administration & Finance)

3.2.5 Report – Transactions of \$100,000 or More – June 1 to October 31, 2025

3.2.6 Senate Approved Board Motions – For Board Information

3.2.6.1 Final List of October Graduates

3.2.6.2 Professor Emeritus granted to Dr. Austin Gulliver

3.2.7 Reports from Representatives on Committees Reporting to the Board

3.2.7.1 BU Foundation

3.2.7.1 BU Retirement Plan Board of Trustees

**080 Nov25
CARRIED**

4. REPORTS

4.1 Report from the President – Dr. Christine Bovis-Cnossen

President Bovis-Cnossen provided an update on her ongoing Listening Tour across the institution and in the community. She noted significant recent donations to the university, including a major gift from the Chernoff family and provincial support for the Gulliver Astronomical Observatory. She also reported that the review of the Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower) Policy is nearing completion and confirmed that the search for the Dean of Music is underway in accordance with established policy and procedures.

5. NEW BUSINESS**5.1 Motion: 2026-27 Budget Estimates**

Motion: Moved and seconded (D. Hammond/C. Bovis-Crossen)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2026-2027 Budget Estimates.

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P. Hickey presented the 2026-2027 Budget Estimates, noting that materials were provided in advance in the agenda package. He highlighted consolidated revenues of approximately \$88M, expenses of approximately \$89.7M, and a projected deficit of approximately \$1.7M for 2026-2027, consistent with prior submissions to the province. The presentation outlined structural deficit pressures driven primarily by staffing costs, noted capital priorities, and summarized key risks and strategies to support financial sustainability. The Board-approved budget estimates submission deadline to government is November 24.

Following the budget estimates presentation, the Board engaged in discussion regarding the implications of submitting a deficit position and potential government response. The Board discussed strategies to address financial pressures, including capital priorities, student recruitment and retention, tuition considerations, and new revenue opportunities. Questions were raised regarding salary and benefit costs relative to sector norms, and comparative context was provided. The importance of long-term planning, financial sustainability, and continued communication with the Finance Committee and Treasurer was emphasized.

CARRIED

5.2 Motion: Allocation of Unrestricted Endowment Funds (Distribution Rate)

Motion: Moved and seconded (B. Hill/S. Frangi)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors approve the endowment earnings distribution rate of 4.6%, as recommended by the Brandon University Foundation.

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A motion sheet and background information were provided in advance in the agenda package. P. Hickey spoke to the motion, noting that the current allocation

is 4.1% for endowment purposes and 0.5% for administrative costs. He explained that, following discussion with the Foundation Board, the recommendation is to implement a gradual increase of 0.1%, bringing the allocation to 4.6% for this year. This approach balances the goal of distributing funds to support needs while maintaining long-term sustainability given market fluctuations.

CARRIED

C. Okudo joined the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

5.3 Motion: Borrowing Resolution

Motion: Moved and seconded (C. Okudo/B. Hill)

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A motion sheet and background information were provided in advance in the agenda package. P. Hickey spoke to the motion, noting that this annual borrowing resolution authorizes the university's operating line of credit with CIBC. He confirmed that the line has not been used and that the resolution is a formality to maintain access if needed.

CARRIED

6. MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION

Motion: Moved and seconded (S. Frangi/K. Lumgair)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting move to Closed Session.

CARRIED

7. RAISE MOTION(S) FROM CLOSED SESSION

There were no motions raised from Closed Session.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Moved and seconded (C. Okudo/E. Shakotko)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting adjourn at 12:00 p.m.

CARRIED

Chair, Board of Governors

Board Secretariat