

MINUTES

Present:

Michelle Aarons, York University
Christina Abraham, Toronto Metropolitan University (V)
Alison Adair, Western University (V)
Robin Attas, University of Manitoba
Sandra Badcock, Memorial University
Alison Brophey, University of Victoria
Christine Brooks-Cappadocia, York University (V)
Catherine Chandler-Crichlow, University of Toronto (V)
Nathan Cheney, Brock University (V)
Jo-Anne Clarke, University of Victoria (V)
Jessica Della-Latta, Queen's University
Julia Denholm, Simon Fraser University (V)
Jen Farrell, St. Francis Xavier University
Dimitra Fotopoulos, Mount Royal University (V)
Jen Gordon, Toronto Metropolitan University
Karen Hamilton, McMaster University (V)
Krystle Hussey, University of New Brunswick (V)
Ute Kothe, University of Manitoba (V)
Beth Jewett, Mount Allison University (V)

Hajime Kataoka, University of Victoria
Rod Lastra, University of Manitoba
Sheila LeBlanc, University of Calgary (V)
Suzanne LeBlanc, MacEwan University (V)
Kim Loeb, University of Winnipeg (V)
Carolyn MacLaren, University of the Fraser Valley (V)
Raf Mohammed, Red Deer Polytechnic
Greta Perris, Simon Fraser University
Jack Rice, Acadia University (V)
Cal Roberts, Royal Roads University (V)
Michael Salvatori, University of St. Michael's College (V)
Gabriela Santamaria, University of Calgary
Coral Sawchyn, CAUCE
Christie Schultz, University of Regina (V)
Dianne Tyers, University of Guelph (V)
Ewa Wasniewski, University of Calgary
Carola Weil, McGill University (V)
Dee Wolfe, CAUCE
Lindsay Woodside, Algoma University (V)

Regrets:

Amrit Ahluwalia, Western University
Evan Cortens, Mount Royal University
Elizabeth Eberts, CAUCE

Kari Kumar, University of Manitoba
Zoe McLeod, Royal Roads University
Lisa Rochman, MacEwan University

Rod Lastra, CAUCE 2025-26 president, opened the AGM by confirming quorum and with a Canadian land acknowledgment slide and the statement: “The University of Manitoba campuses are located on original lands of Anishinaabeg, Ininiwak, Anisininewuk, Dakota Oyate and Dene, and on the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of Reconciliation and collaboration.”

1.0 Approval of the Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda for the 2025 AGM as distributed.

Nathan Cheney/Michael Salvatori

In Favour 22 | Opposed 0 | Abstain 0

CARRIED.

2.0 Approval of the Minutes of the 2024 AGM

Motion: To approve the minutes of the 2024 AGM.

Christine Brooks-Cappadocia/Sheila LeBlanc
In Favour 21 | Opposed 0 | Abstain 0

CARRIED.

3.0 President's Report

Rod referred to his written report in the AGM package. Rod would like to thank the executive and everyone in the association for their hard work. He is looking forward to the upcoming year and the exciting goals that are planned.

4.0 Treasurer's Report

4.1 Audited Financial Statements for 2024-2025

Michelle referred to the written report, statements, and budgets in the AGM package. She gave a quick shout-out to Coral Sawchyn and Lyndon MacNeill, for their support in her role. The financial statement we ended positively, even though we were projecting a deficit. This is based on the Calgary conference ticket sales and sponsorship for 2024.

Motion: To approve the financial statements for 2024-2025.

Nathan Cheney/Christine Brooks-Cappadocia
In Favour 21 | Opposed 0 | Abstain 0

CARRIED.

4.2 Motion to approve the auditor for 2025-2026

Motion: To approve Hounjet/Tastad/Harpham Certified General Accountants as auditor for 2025-2026.

Alison Adair/Lindsay Woodside
In Favour 19 | Opposed 0 | Abstain 0

CARRIED.

4.3 CAUCE Budget 2025-2026

We are projecting a positive budget which includes the implementation of a 2% institutional membership increase. Also projecting a surplus from the 2025 conference of \$20,000. Also, a contingency fund of \$100,000 is still being held.

Motion: To approve the budget for 2025-2026 as presented in the annual report.

Catherine Chandler-Crichlow/Christie Schultz
In Favour 21 | Opposed 0 | Abstain 0

CARRIED.

5.0 Committee Reports

5.1 Membership

Rod Lastra, committee chair, referred to the written report in the meeting package. We had 48 institutional, 14 affiliate, and three professional members, and one corporate member.

5.2 Professional Development

Hajime Kataoka, member, referred to the written report in the meeting package. Hajime highlighted the changes that were coming in the PD committee with their scheduling. He also wanted to thank the members of CAUCE for their support.

5.3 Data Committee

Christie Schultz, liaison, referred to the written report. Christie thanked Evan and all the members of the committee for their organizing and commitment to the committee.

5.3 Research and Scholarship

Alison Brophay, co-chair, referred to the written report in the meeting package. Alison thanked all members for their support. Allison also relayed her thanks to Carola and Dee.

5.4 Conference Planning

Jo-Anne Clarke, chair, referred to the written report in the meeting package. A special thanks to Brock University, Nathan Cheney and his team, for hosting CAUCE 2025.

5.5 Communications

Alison Adair, committee member, referred to the written report in the meeting package. Wanted to share the increase in LinkedIn presence and the launch of the Executive Guide.

5.6 Excellence Awards

Karen Hamilton, co-chair, referred to the written report in the meeting package. She acknowledged the work in organizing the new award stream and thanked the members for their hard work organizing this year.

Rod expressed his gratitude to all committee members for their hard work and dedication!

Motion: To receive the 2024-2025 committee reports as presented in the annual report.

Christine Brooks-Cappadocia/Dimitra Fotopoulos

In Favour 21 | Opposed 0 | Abstain 0

CARRIED.

6.0 Nominations Committee Report

Rod Lastra, announced the slate of committee members for 2025-2026 as reported in the AGM report:

Jo-Anne Clarke, University of Victoria - President

Rod Lastra, University of Manitoba – Past-President

Michelle Aarons, York University – President-Elect

Temporarily Vacant - Secretary-Treasurer

Jack Rice, Acadia University - Eastern Regional Representative

Jen Gordon, Toronto Metropolitan University - Central Regional Representative

Evan Cortens, Mount Royal University - Western Regional Representative

The executive will address the vacancy of the secretary-treasurer after the AGM due to a last-minute issue. All other positions on this slate stand as presented. Rod wanted to thank everyone for offering their time and talents to the executive.

Motion: To accept the 2025-2026 slate of officers as presented in the annual report.

Julia Denholm/Sheila LeBlanc

In Favour 21 | Opposed 0 | Abstain 0

CARRIED.

Rod also noted that the executive committee has appointed a member-at-large: Amrit Ahluwalia, Western University.

7.0 Other Business

7.1 Remarks from the incoming President

Jo-Anne Clarke gave her remarks, “First, I want to offer a sincere thanks and heap load of gratitude to Rod Lastra who served as President of CAUCE from in 2023-24 and then returned to this role in January 2025. Rod, your depth of knowledge, is invaluable. Your commitment to CAUCE and the effort you have put in over the past year is unparalleled.

I am both humbled and energized to be stepping into the role of CAUCE President for the coming year. I am honoured to join you today from the beautiful lands of the Lekwungen (Songhees and Equimalt) peoples and WSANEC peoples on whose territories I have the privilege to live, learn and work here on southern Vancouver Island. Shameless plug... also where we are hosting the 2027 CAUCE conference. Dalhousie will host the 2026 conference so you can attend both years and travel our country from coast-to-coast.

As someone in a leadership role within a post-secondary institution, I often reflect on the power of education to lift individuals and communities. But we must also reckon with the ways in which, education has been used to oppress and harm Indigenous peoples here in Canada.

As your incoming president, I want to encourage and open more conversation about our responsibility— as educators and leaders in lifelong education – in advancing truth, reconciliation, Indigenous. Continuing education has a unique opportunity to be a bridge between institutions and communities, and I believe we have a critical role to play.

As you are all aware, there is a lot happening in our sector and, indeed, our world, right now— challenges, yes, but also incredible opportunities. It's complex. It can be exhausting. However, it is also invigorating and fun.

We have been talking about the coming skills revolution – well, it is here. Continuing Education puts theory to practise so let us take action.

Based on the discussions at our recent conference, in our Deans and Directors meetings, and among our Executive, one thing is clear: It is our time to boldly showcase the full power and potential of continuing education.

It has been a joy to work with CAUCE executive and various committees this past year. We've got several interesting projects underway that we can really sink into this year. – I want to highlight a few....

- Continue with data collection project – need data to demonstrate our impact and help tell our stories
- CAUCE organization – ensure its longevity as a well-supported association well into the future
- Strengthen connections with national associations

Develop and execute a comprehensive communication strategy, which includes a refresh of the CAUCE website.

We must be at the forefront of national conversations about upskilling, reskilling, and workforce development. We must make visible the impact of our work—not just in economic terms, but in how we foster community, support inclusion, and respond with agility to the needs of learners, employers, and society.

Our strength lies in both our diversity and our shared purpose. Let's lean into that. Let's continue to learn from each other, support each other, and advocate—together—for a more responsive,

I want to thank you for your support and for the incredible work; each of you is doing across the country. Finally, thank you to Coral, Dee and Elizabeth – our CAUCE Secretariat – who are the backbone of our national association. I look forward to working alongside all of you in the year ahead.”

8.0 Resolution

As we conclude the 2025 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Association for University Continuing Education, we reflect on the remarkable achievements of our members and their collective resolve to lead, adapt, and thrive amidst ongoing transformation.

Be it resolved that:

CAUCE reaffirms our collective commitment to advancing university continuing education across Canada. Together, we celebrate the momentum we have built, the spirit of collaboration that defines our work, and the vision that guides us toward a more inclusive, responsive, and sustainable future.

We pledge to continue strengthening our community, deepening our national voice, and supporting one another as we rise to meet the challenges and opportunities of change and complexity. Together, we will foster collaboration, champion inclusivity, and design transformative learning experiences that prepare learners to thrive in a world shaped by rapid technological, social, and workforce shifts.

With optimism, resilience, and unity, we look ahead—ready to roll up our sleeves, lead together, and inspire, innovate, and empower through lifelong learning.

- Jen Gordon

Rod expressed his thanks to everyone and reminded everyone that they represent the collective of the continuing education space. We are living in a difficult time for higher education, but these are the times we come together, do the work, and do the best we can.

Motion: To adjourn the 2025 annual meeting for the Canadian Association for University Continuing Education.

/Nathan Cheney

The meeting adjourned at 11:31 am ET.