

**LANGARA COLLEGE ASSOCIATION OF RETIREES (LCAR)  
MEETING MINUTES**

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Thursday November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025

1:00pm – 2:00pm, via Zoom

Attendees:

Patricia Cia	Carol Chrisjohn	Alan Cooper	Kevin Craib
Martin Gerson	Gerda Krause	Bruce Kennedy	Dave Lidstone
Roy Sinn	Brian McGibney (regrets)		

**1. Any additions to the agenda**

- No additions.

**2. Approval of the agenda**

- Approved.

**3. Approval of the minutes from October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and Board approval of draft minutes of the AGM from November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

- Approved.

**4. Business**

**4.1. Roles of Executive and Executive Assistant duties**

- Chair – Patricia Cia agreed to be nominated for one more year. Approved.
- Vice Chair – Alan Cooper resigned his role as Vice Chair, Gerda Krause agreed to be nominated as Vice Chair. Approved.
- Board recommended encouraging Deborah Blacklock to take on a larger role within the newsletter team, inviting her to present at future LCAR Board meetings.
- Executive Assistant duties – LCAR was advised that the Caitlin Van Kesteren is no longer with the College and that her role as EA, People & Culture would not be filled.
- Discussion ensued regarding College supports including budget, services, and the importance that LCAR remain connected to and top of mind at Langara.
  - a. Budget and role of budget officer is vital. Would someone from Foundation be more relevant to do some of this stuff?
  - b. Really important for LCAR to have a connection. Whatever connection we have that can continue. Communicating with P&C and asking for some help.
  - c. Patricia to reach out to VP P&C and let her know we are still here.
  - d. List of roles and budget needs were done earlier in 2025. Patricia to review and share with LCAR board for feedback before reconnecting with P&C.
  - e. **Of immediate note:** change of director names must be reported to BC Societies/Registries – within 30 days of holding our AGM. Need to include fee (\$50) to file information. Typically done by Langara ExecAssist.
  - f. **Relationship with the Langara Foundation has been good** – They have been supportive including sponsoring a couple of joint workshops on Estate Planning

along with providing of event space and catering for those and our mini-gala events.

- g. **Fees for website** – An issue arose last year during transition of Exec Assistant. It was suggested that in the future that money goes directly to LCAR (lump sum) and we control what we do with it (i.e. LCAR credit card). This is more feasible now that LCAR has its own bank account.

#### **4.2. Finances – Martin**

- There has been no financial activity in the bank account since the AGM financials which showed balance of \$101.13.

#### **Bursary Update - Patricia**

- R038 fund balance is \$13,940, an increase of \$2440 with many donations in Oct & Nov.
- \$1600 remains in the bursary fund with \$800 to be dispersed in 2026 and in 2027.

#### **4.3. Proposal for extending eligibility to selected retirees (Patricia, Roy)**

- LCAR encourages people who are interested in maintaining a relationship with Langara and who want to engage with LCAR. We will try and accommodate those who are interested in joining LCAR. Benefits such as CS discounts no longer apply.
- Create agenda standing item of list of names to come to the board to ensure there is the Langara link as a standing item
  - New retirees
  - Non retirees seeking membership
- For recruiting efforts or encouraging colleagues, direct them to website.
- Roy will review membership registration forms to ensure messaging reflects what we are now saying.
- LCAR shared the following message with CUPE and LFA for distribution to their memberships. Patricia will share with LCAA.

LCAR was established to support both retirees and those planning for retirement (a.k.a. “pretirees”) through workshops and social gatherings. We invite everyone that has worked at Langara College, for any time and in all capacities, to join our organization. We hope that you can help promote LCAR and encourage CUPE members to keep us in mind when they are planning for retirement or leaving the College.

LCAR struggles to invite members. Once an employee retires or otherwise leaves the College, it is often impossible to connect with them—they lose their College email address and their contact information is kept private. Therefore, we try to catch them before they leave the College. We hope you can help us do that.

LCAR offers social gatherings and many workshops that can benefit both Langara College employees and retirees such as retirement planning, post-employment healthcare insurance choices, and many other workshops about health and wellness—all free and there are no membership fees.

You can get more information from the LCAR website at <https://lcar.ca>. If you have any questions, please contact [info@lcar.ca](mailto:info@lcar.ca).

#### **4.3.1. LCAR Membership Requests**

- Mike Schmid – IT (Sys Admin Infrastructure), retiree member, 2025
- Michael Sanderson – Continuing Studies, non-retiree member

#### **4.4. LCAR Fundraising Social, Mini-Gala, and AGM debrief - All**

- Everyone did a wonderful job. Thanks to Bruce and Carol for their production skills as well as coming early and staying late to set up lighting and sound.
- Thanks to Kevin (The Trundlers) and Dave (Just Duets) for the entertainment!
- Dr. Paula Burns' presentation prior to the AGM was informative amid challenging times.
- Thank you to the college for sponsoring catering. The selection of raw vegetables, fruit slices and dessert pieces were well received. In the future, provide a later end of event time as Chartwell's staff removed supplies right at proposed time even though our event ran a bit late.
- Thank you to those who attended. We had 22 attendees. It would have been nice to have more people show up but some had scheduling conflicts, health issues, and the bad weather stopped some.

#### **4.5. Workshops and Events (Roy)**

- Roy will be connecting with The Foundation to arrange another estate planning workshop. These events are open to employees and often provide a good venue to promote LCAR.
- Health & Wellness Institute workshops - proposed survey of topics pending
- Working on Retirement Benefits workshops - Alan, Roy, Dave hoping to run workshop in mid-January. They have a framework and will be meeting again to finalize details.
- Informal socials - Dublin Crossing Pub or another venue that is as easily accessible. Next event potentially early December or January.

#### **4.6. LCAR Website and Forum – Roy, Alan**

- Website content and infrastructure are stable. Some updates are due but wanted to wait until after event registration closed.
- Free email forwarding service expires as of December 1<sup>st</sup>. For our frequency and numbers, the cost is about a \$7 per month subscription. Roy will carry that for a few months but not sustainable going forward. The required a credit card to set up the service. Right now, it is on his personal card but for longevity, it should be on a Langara or LCAR credit card.
- Roy has removed Caitlin's website access and has given Carol and Gerda Board privileges.

- Consider what to do retirees101@langara.ca email. P&C Executive Assistant had access to it but who is monitoring it now? Typically, it was used for people who wanted to make connection with other retirees but hasn't been used that way. As well, some vendors used it to send invoices and emails relevant to LCAR.
  - Patricia to follow up with Langara.
- Bulletin, an informal timelier message to LCAR members will go out shortly. Currently have SOS fundraising, CPPR package, and reminder about availability of minutes.

#### **4.7. Newsletter team update– Dave, Martin, Patricia**

- V4N1 – Published as “Fall” – nice article from Mario Moniz de Sa and his photos were great.
- V4N2 – CURAC Affinity partnerships have drafted a boilerplate newsletter article to describe their benefits for next issue; Felicia Klingenberg article on memoir.
- Interest expressed in College challenges and future direction – Patricia to follow up with Dr. Burns re: thank you for attending the AGM and can she or Stewart McGillvray provide a written article for our newsletter for all our members.

#### **4.8. Liaison with College Pension Plan Retirees (CPPR) update – Alan**

- Had AGM two weeks ago where the keynote was a consultant who helps them plan benefits. Discussion about adjustments made on basis of the recent survey. Most benefits identified are not necessarily what pension should be. Package of information that came out from that discussion.

#### **4.9. Liaison with COSCO update – Kevin**

- Next meeting Nov 14th and planning to attend
- COSCO created a summary of the *Human Rights and Ageing: Strategies for an Equitable Future* conference and have now posted it and some of the presentations online at <https://coscobc.org/conference/>

#### **4.10. Liaison with CURAC update – Dave**

- The 2026 CURAC Conference, *Making Connections*, will be held in British Columbia. The SFU Retirees Association is the lead for the conference being held May 21-22, 2026
- Program being finalized and includes panel on retiree association newsletters. As well *Just Duets* invited to perform
- CURAC is trying to promote affinity partnerships and benefits.
- Request that we reword what is on LCAR website to include additional information. Dave will let Roy know recommended changes or additions
- RTO-ERO (Retired Teachers’ Organization) is not restricted to Ontario or Teachers and so changing name to *Entent Education Canada* to better represent who they are. They have a webinar on Dec 3rd.- what's new for 2026, their Entent group insurance.
- Lots of webinars on senior issues - National conversation on senior's rights.

**Next Meeting:** December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 1:00pm via Zoom.