

LANGARA COLLEGE ASSOCIATION OF RETIREES (LCAR) MEETING MINUTES

Thursday January 15th, 2026

1:00pm – 2:00pm, via Zoom

Attendees:

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

1. Approval of the agenda

- Approved with additions.

2. Approval of the minutes from December 11th, 2025

- Approved with minor amendment 4.2 note “registered and approved”.

3. Business

3.1. Finances – Martin

- Current balance in VanCity account is \$96.13.

Bursary Update - Patricia

- R038 fund balance is \$15,810, an increase of \$160 since December 10th.
- \$1600 remains in the bursary fund with \$800 to be dispersed in 2026 and in 2027.
- Board member noted that a close friend offered to donate to the LCAR fund in as a Christmas present. An excellent idea!

3.2. LCAR Membership Requests

Registered as Langara retiree

- No new requests

Registered as non-retiree

- No new requests

- Through November and December LCAR sent invitations to join to the LFA, CUPE, and LCAA requesting that they distribute this message to their members.
- Not having a mechanism for automatically inviting retirees or having their non-work emails is an ongoing issue.

3.3. LCAR and Langara

- In conversation with Gerda, Yusuf Varachia, VP External and Community Relations, expressed an interest in attending an LCAR meeting to learn more about how LCAR and

Langara can better work together to support students, especially or in spite of financial issues.

- When LCAR was first established there were discussions around mentoring students. Many students at Langara may be the first of their family to attend post-secondary.
- We had already been discussing the importance of making stronger connections with the College, of encouraging communication and learning what is happening at the college and how we can learn about, attend, or participate in events and contribute to Langara's (and student) success.
- Dave noted that he is still tutoring students with most of the referrals coming from Accessibility Services and the Math Department.
- Action: Invite Yusuf to attend the next LCAR Meeting or set up a separate meeting at his convenience. Focus of either would be a conversation asking how Langara would see LCAR get involved and also touch on the supports LCAR may need to stay sustainable.

Actions Updates

- COSCO membership renewal annual fee of \$100 Supplier Invoice Request approved.
- LCAR annual report and new director contacts posted to BC Registry Societies Online. Filing fee of \$40.00 paid via personal credit card and reimbursed via Workday.
- EmailSender renewed for the year and paid on a personal credit card. Roy will submit receipts for reimbursement from Langara.
- Consider what to do retirees101@langara.ca email. It was originally set up as a communication tool before LCAR had own website and email. Formerly People, Culture, and Inclusion Executive Assistant had monitored the email and forwarded communications to info@lcar.ca once that email address was created.
 - Patricia to follow up with Langara to determine if any activity in inbox (requests to join, invoices, other requests)
 - can we (Patricia) have access to the email, or
 - can emails be auto directed to info@lcar.ca, or
 - autoreply asking sender to contact info@lcar.ca, and subsequently
 - delete the email
 - Roy will scan website and remove reference

3.4. Workshops and Events

- Workshops & Social Events.
 - No casual socials scheduled. Karina Reid (Foundation) contacted us re: *Estate Planning* workshop in the Spring. Last time about a third were current employees, so good way to promote LCAR. Financial Advisor available. Roy will follow up and confirm.

- Alan, Dave, and Roy developing a *Workshop for Extended Benefits*. They have created case studies to help break down topics. Hoping to do the workshop in early March. Terminology, considerations for making the decision.
- Roy to write summary and to advise Patricia of what he needs from Langara for the event which is preferably in person with a segue into social at Golf Course.
- *Stay on the Road* – Senior Health and Wellness program – coming up in February.
- Grand Gala (April 2026)
- Dave will follow up with Production Manager and Studio 58 team to start on programming.
- Kevin, Dave, Carol, and Bruce to discuss who might Emcee this year's Grand Gala.

3.5. LCAR Website and Forum

- Dave sent wording for CURAC amendments to Roy. Depending on the changes, Roy may consider amending the website to create separate pages for CURAC etc. in order to share resources from our affiliates.
- MailerSend services renewed for the next year. Roy will ask for alternate method of payment such as direct payment from Langara. In the meantime, he is also exploring Canadian options.
 - LCAR supports that initiative of using Canadian vendors. At the moment the challenge is finding one that meets non-profit budget and smaller scale.
- Roy reviewed the membership registration forms to ensure messaging reflects what we are now saying.... and noted that all okay. He can answer any ad hoc questions.
- We noticed that not-retirees are not putting down a department or area – Roy will be moving that section of the form higher so now all registrants can enter a department if they wish.
- Bulletin distribution continues to reflect content and timeliness of message. There is no set schedule which is fine and depends also on newsletter availability. The next one out when workshop dates finalized

3.6. Newsletter team update

- V4N2 – Articles in the works including CURAC Affinity partnerships, Felicia Klingenberg article on memoir, Langara Environment initiatives, and more.
- Newsletter team meeting on January 16th.

4. Liaison Updates

4.1. College Pension Plan Retirees (CPPR) – Alan

- No updates.

4.2. COSCO – Kevin

- At the December meeting COSCO reported that lobbying for Translink to bring HandyDart program in-house was not successful. Translink met in December and decided not to bring it in-house. They extended contract to third party (Transdev) for another three years. HandyDart hours will be extended well into the night now.
- Guest speaker was Dave Porteous (WE Consulting & Benefits) who spoke on drug prices, BlueCross program, pensions in general. In ten years one in four people will be over the age of 80. Next meeting Jan 16th.

4.3. CURAC – Dave

- Completed article on affinity programs for LCAR Newsletter.
- No new information.

Next Meeting: February 12th, 2026, at 2:30pm via Zoom.