GVAT Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes

Thurs

greater victoria ACTING TOGETHER

Sept 3, 2026

This was a HYBRID meeting:

In-person @ 103/5 Gorge Rd East (Buzz Christine from the gate)

Zoom link below.

Meeting Time: 10:00 - 11:30am.
Date: **September 3, 2026**

Zoom Link: https://bc-anglican-ca.zoom.us/j/85789393913

Minutes Recorder: Jen K (secretary)

Vibes Watcher: Jaigris H
Copy of Role of GVAT Vibes Watcher: 2023-03-30.docx

Attendees: Christine Conkin, Elaine Perry, Jaigris Hodson, Tricia Sanders, Izzy Adachi, Jen Kostuchuk

Regrets: Flossie B

Action Items from AGM & July 28, 2026 meetings:

- Discuss how to recruit more GVAT members (i.e. younger people, labour, etc.)
- Fundraising strategy
- Consider where we should focus our energy this year (revisit GVAT committees, objectives, and priorities)
- Strategy team
- GVAT credit card
- Find people for the following roles:
    - Treasurer
    - IAFC reps

AGENDA

	Item	Lead
10:00	**Welcome** Christine welcomes Elaine, Jaigris and Jen in person, with Tricia and Izzy on Zoom!	Christine

	Item	Lead
	Territory Acknowledgement COEDI: IRLC: Territory Acknowledgement Instructions Handout: 2023/2024 COEDI:2022.Pronunciation of Local Words in Indigenous Languages Elaine did the territory acknowledgment, and Christine shared a brief history of Halkett (a burial ground) on the Gorge waterway	Elaine P
10:05	**Check-in:** In this season of transition (and as the leaves fall), what are you letting go of?	Christine
10:15	Motion: **Approve Minutes and Reports** • June 10 Board Meeting Minutes • July 28 Board Meeting Minutes • Status Report: Organizer (Izzy) • Status Report: Treasurer • Status Report: IR:Report to Board • Status Report: COEDI:Report to Board Approved: Jaigris / All	Christine
10:20	**Motion to establish Board Executive Roles:** Chair – Jaigris Hodson Vice Chair – Christine Conkin Secretary – Jen Kostuchuk Treasurer – Christine Conkin Approved: Jen / Elaine	
10:25	**Organizer's Insights and current priorities** - Izzy is back from vacation – busy time because of the municipal election - She is prioritizing booking relational meetings, two trainings this fall, and building community capacity	Izzy
10:35	**Livable CRD Membership** - We discussed the Livable CRD membership. Reminder GVAT can be politically engaged but non-partisan.	
	GVAT "in the (alternative) news": https://crdwatch.ca/ - We discussed if/how to respond (we are advised not to)	
10:45	**BC Elections**: third party sponsor application - Izzy needs contact information of someone on the board to serve as secondary principal official for our third party election registration	
	Establish Strategy Team - GVAT used to have a strat hub, but it has not been functioning for over a year	

	Item	Lead
	- We agree we should have a smaller, representative strategy team that makes proposals and guides the delegates assembly - The goal of the Strategy Team is to move away from the "we should" to an "I will" - Jen offered to co-chair the re-launched Strategy Team. Elaine and Jaigris are interested in being part of this group as well - The Strategy Team will be responsible for discussing where we put our efforts, what we prioritize, and who we collaborate with - Izzy and Jen will contact Stephen about potentially chairing this team - Other people to keep on our radar who would contribute well to the strategy team: Allison, Michelle, Sam, Shona, Lyndon	
10:55	**IRLC:** Receive Pawa's Final Report - We reviewed the final report and opened up space for questions and comments - Tricia provided an IRLC update and shared that they intend to disseminate Pawa's report to one member organization this month (e.g. sharing insights into practices on trauma-informed care, territory acknowledgments, etc.)	
11:00	Review of Board committees: IRLC & COEDI - We raised important questions about the IRLC such as: who does the group ultimately benefit? What is the intended purpose and value of the committee? Does the group's internal learning translate into meaningful action or impact? Will IRLC consider becoming an action team? - Tricia will take the nature of these questions back to the IRLC for discussion	
10:	**IAFC: AGM - Fri. Sept 18, 1:00pm** Supervision of affiliate staff Board membership: Stephen willing to stay on; need Board member - We still need a board member to join the IAFC alongside Stephen	
	GVAT Annual Picnic: Sun, Sept 6, 5:00pm - The picnic is this Sunday at Beaver Lake Picnic Shelter, potluck style! - Jaigris and Jen send regrets – labour day weekend plans	
11:00	**Date and Roles for next meeting:** Territory Acknowledgement: Jaigris	

	Item	Lead
	Vibes Watcher: Jen Minutes Taker: Jen	
11:05	**Motion to Adjourn Meeting** A few next steps: - Update website board member page with bios, roles, and photos - Find volunteers for the two trainings this fall - Izzy and Jen will meet with Stephen for the re-launch of the Strategy Team Jaigris / All **Next meetings:** October 1st and November 5th	

For Reference (many of these accessible only to members of board@gvat.ca):

- 2025 Annual Board Calendar
- 2026 Board Calendar
- Board Contact Information [update after AGM]
- GVAT Board Manual
- Board Skills Inventory Dec. 2023
- Policies and Procedures reference folder
- Risk Management Resources; Recommendations from Risk Management Working Group
- Summary of Results of GVAT's First Annual Culture Survey
- Ten Key Decisions at GVAT and who is involved in making them