



Provincial Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

January 31, 2026

9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Vancouver Airport Marriott Hotel
7571 Westminster Hwy, Richmond, BC

Attendees:

Provincial Advisory Committee Members:

Adeel Zafar, Chair, *Simon Fraser*
Alex Evanshen, Vice Chair, *North Shore/Sunshine Coast*
Alexandria Stuart, *Central Island*
Tami Pedersen, *Thompson Cariboo*
Jennifer Hartley, *South Island*
Esther King, *Upper Fraser*

Monica Kriese, *North Okanagan/Shuswap*
Vicki Wang, *Vancouver/Richmond*
Sharrie Dahl, *Surrey/Delta/White Rock*
Raymond Puno, *Acting Vancouver/Richmond*
Leanne Froese, *South Central Okanagan*
Ben Postmus, *acting Kootenay*

CLBC Board:

Amber Rainshadow, *PAC Liaison*
Angus Monaghan, *PAC Liaison*
Corey Walker, *PAC Liaison*

CLBC Staff:

Ross Chilton, *Chief Executive Officer*
Genevieve Bucher, *Vice President, Governance and Communications*
Cris Leykauf, *Director, Communications and Community Engagement*
Catriona Johnson, *Director, Governance and Policy*
Jessica Humphrey, *Manager, Community Engagement*
Brita Hall, *Provincial Community Engagement Lead*

Guest

Kim Stacey, Board member

Regrets

Joann Popesco, *North Region Community Council*

CLBC Service Centre Staff:

Mark Saliago, *Service Centre Analyst*
Maan Patel, *Service Centre Analyst*

Minutes prepared by:

Alana Gee, *Executive Assistant*

1. Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

Adeel Zafar provided an acknowledgement of Indigenous traditional territories at 9:02 a.m.

2. Welcome

Adeel Zafar welcomed the group and gave opening remarks.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the January 31, 2026 meeting was reviewed without any changes.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 18, 2025 meeting were reviewed and approved without any changes.

Motion

Monica Kriese, duly SECONDED by Tami Pedersen moved to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2025 meeting. *CARRIED*

3. PAC Member Introductions and Roundtable

Most Community Councils are actively working on recruitment. Here are some highlights of current efforts:

North Shore Sunshine Coast:

- Alex Evanshen’s term has concluded. He will continue to stay engaged with the work in the region and will be attending an upcoming housing panel.

Surrey, Delta, White Rock:

- The Council Chair, who has served in the role for the past eight years in this region, has stepped down.
- A hockey event was successfully held in December.

North Region:

- Preparing for the February 25th strategic planning session (hybrid, with most Council members attending in person in Dawson Creek); additional in-person sessions to follow.
- Continuing work on recruitment.
- Ongoing discussions about an Amazing Race for Inclusion in partnership with Quesnel’s self-advocacy group.

Thompson Cariboo:

- Council members presented at the Housing Central Conference.
- Council continues work on key housing initiatives.

- Exploring opportunities to present in Williams Lake.
- Welcomed one new council member.
- Two strategic sessions planned: one daytime, one evening.

Upper Fraser:

- Gaining some new members.
- Strategic engagement sessions planned: online on Feb 24 and in person on March 24;
- Recent dances were successful.
- Council continues to seek a president.

Kootenay:

- Lending library project completed.
- Planning underway for a future cookbook initiative.
- Strategic planning sessions scheduled in Castlegar and Cranbrook.

South Central Okanagan:

- Update provided on efforts to increase Community Council membership; outreach activities are underway.
- Planning for a spring/summer Community Council open house is in progress.

South Island:

- A strategic plan session was held this week with CLBC Board Chair Shane Simpson attended.
- Two new council members.
- A place where I belong event will be held on February 25th.

Central Island

- Engagement strategic session planned for March.
- Recruiting community council members right now.
- Next event is planned for Valentine's Day, people can join remotely.

North Okanagan Shuswap:

- Set dates for planning together training March 11 & 12 in Vernon.
- Spring fling dance March 11th inviting self advocates in the region.
- Council did a presentation to CLBC staff at the Vernon office.
- Planning two strategic engagement sessions.
- Recruiting members to the council has been a struggle.

Vancouver Richmond:

- A lot of change happening right now, people reaching the end of their terms.

- A strategic engagement feedback session planned, one in person and one hybrid.

Simon Fraser:

- A fall dance was held in November, the Mayor of Burnaby attended. The next dance is planned for May. Looking at adopting a plan of two dances per year.
- A few transitions in council membership. Two members have their terms up.

4. CLBC Board report

Board Liaisons Corey Walker, Amber Rainshadow, and Angus Monaghan shared updates:

- Council members are invited to the next Open Board meeting which is being held February 26, 2026.
- Joely Viveiros completed her second term as a Board member and liaison to the Indigenous Advisory Committee.
- The Minister appointed Rav Goodison as a new Board member.
- The Board heard from Minister Malcolmson at their November Board meeting who spoke about the importance of self advocacy voices. She highlighted PAC member Leanne's Starbucks story.
- The Board heard a panel presentation on parenting with a disability sharing lived experience.

Action:

Council members are encouraged to attend Open Board Meetings. If you'd like to join the upcoming meeting on February 26, please email Padminee.Chundusing@gov.bc.ca to register.

5. PAC member/Board discussion

PAC members brought forward issues of concern coming from their Councils. Topics of concern included:

- Concerns about limited access to mental health supports and broader health-system navigation challenges for neurodiverse individuals.
- The need for more housing options that are both financially accessible and inclusive for people with diverse needs.
- Concerns around aging adults with disabilities and their caregivers, particularly in rural communities where services are limited.
- Transportation availability, cost, and accessibility
- The growing gap between general cost-of-living increases and the fixed Persons with Disabilities (PWD) assistance amount.
- The need for better clarity and support regarding dual diagnosis and how the Developmental Disability Mental Health Teams (DDMHT) can assist.

- Ross shared that he recently met with the Minister of Health and the Deputy Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction to discuss ways CLBC and Health/Mental Health systems can work more effectively together. He will bring PAC further updates as they become available.

6. CLBC 2nd Year Accessibility Report

Year 2 Accessibility Plan Progress Report in easy read is now available on the CLBC website.

7. CLBC Updates

- New plain-language infographics outlining “what to expect when requesting support from CLBC” are being printed for use across provincial offices.
- Forty-five individuals receiving CLBC supports have received new rental supplements; CLBC is awaiting confirmation on whether more supplements will be available.
- A new 10-person housing development for people with complex needs has opened in Prince George, in partnership with BC Housing, Northern Health, and CLBC.
- WOW Award nominations will open mid February

Action: Community Councils are encouraged to nominate individuals or organizations demonstrating exceptional efforts to advance inclusion or accessibility in their community.

8. Home Sharing Update

Jerry Stanger, Director of Special Projects (Home Share Review), presented an update on current initiatives to strengthen the Home Sharing Program.

- PAC members provided feedback on the recommended actions included in the draft Home Share Workplan.
- The Home Share Workplan is expected to be released in Spring 2026.

9. PAC Self Evaluation Survey Responses

The survey results indicate that the PAC is performing well in meeting its established goals. However, opportunities for improvement were identified.

Action: Council members will discuss strategies to enhance connection and communication between their respective Councils and the PAC.

10. Draft Community Council Terms of Reference and membership agreement

PAC reviewed the updated draft Community Council Terms of Reference and Membership Agreement, including the “working in good faith” section outlining conflicts of interest and when members may need to step down. The Terms of Reference

will be renamed “How We Work Together.” The revised document will go to the Board for approval in May.

Action: Councils to review the draft “How We Work Together” document and Council Membership Agreement and submit final feedback to CLBC.Connect@gov.bc.ca

11. PAC Chair and Vice Chair Votes

The PAC Committee nominated Jennifer Hartley for Chair and Alexanderia Stuart for Vice Chair.

12. Adjournment

The Chair thanked all attendees for their participation and thoughtful contributions throughout the meeting. The PAC Committee also extended sincere appreciation to Adeel Zafar (Chair) and Alex Evanshen (Vice Chair) for their dedication and contributions over the past two years. It was additionally noted that this meeting marked the final PAC meeting for Tami Pedersen and Monica Kriese, and their service and involvement were warmly acknowledged.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM. The next PAC meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2026.