

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING #547**Public Session Highlights****Jan. 29, 2026**

The Board of Governors of Georgian College of Applied Arts and Technology held a board meeting on Thursday, Jan. 29, 2026, in-person at the Barrie Campus and online using Microsoft Teams.

Board education presentation

Suzie Addison-Toor, VP Student Success, Shannon Hynes, VP External Relations and Enrolment, and Sheila West, Interim VP Academic, presented on enabling plans that support the implementation of Georgian College's *Game-changing Innovation* strategy that launched in 2025: Academic Plan, Student Success Plan, and Strategic Enrolment Plan. These plans translate our high-level vision and strategic commitments into targeted initiatives and measurable objectives, aligning the college's operations with its common goals. Each plan has a distinct focus – academics, student experience, and enrolment – yet they function together as a synchronized system to advance the strategy. -*Changing Innovation*

Chair's remarks

The Chair provided an update on recent activities they participated in:

- Ontario Research Fund (ORF) announcement: The Hon. Nolan Quinn, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, visited Georgian on Jan. 21, 2026, to announce the college received \$1 million from the ORF to support the expansion of its Centre of Industrial Simulation and Prototyping, Ontario's first industry 5.0 sandbox designed to help manufacturers and technology companies test and adopt advanced technologies in a safe, controlled environment. The announcement was followed by a tour, which included engagement with students and faculty.
- The Chair, two governors and Georgian employees attended the Mayor of Barrie's annual luncheon where the mayor provided an update on the city's continued progress as well as an economic outlook.

President's remarks

The president provided a brief update on recent activities:

- Domestic enrolment continues to be strong while international continues to decline across the sector.
- Georgian's budget submission focuses on sustainable funding that will help colleges expand training, strengthen regional access and drive economic growth.
- The president attended a Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) delegation meeting with the Hon. Nolan Quinn, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, and Grey County delegates to discuss regional access to education and growth.

Consent agenda

Reports were presented to the board for review:

- Previous meeting minutes.
- Program advisory committee appointments.
- Enrolment update.
- Legislative Compliance Report.
- Health and Safety Report.
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Report.

Discussion items

Mental Health Policy Report

The college's *Student Mental Health and Well-Being Policy* was approved and publicly posted in January 2025. Georgian is fully compliant with the Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security's *Student Mental Health Directive (2024)*, issued under the *Strengthening Accountability and Student Supports Act*. In accordance with the directive, the first annual mental health report was submitted and made publicly available.

Anti-Racism and Anti-Hate Policy Report

As a requirement of the *Strengthening Accountability and Student Supports Act, 2024*, Georgian is required to submit the inaugural *Anti-Hate, Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination Report* to the Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security by Jan. 31, 2026. This report contains an overview of statistics related to complaints made under our *Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Policy* and our *Anti-Racism and Anti-Hate Policy*. The report also includes efforts made to proactively educate and raise awareness within our community about the importance of cultivating a culture rooted in respect, equity, inclusion, and social justice. This report will be posted publicly on the college's website and is being provided to the Board of Governors in advance.

Tuition and ancillary fees

Each year, the college undertakes a review of compulsory ancillary fees, program specific ancillary fees, and international tuition rates. Adjustments are proposed as necessary to ensure fees remain aligned with operational needs, program delivery requirements, and sector-wide trends. In accordance with the ministry's *Tuition and Ancillary Fees Binding Policy Directive and Operating Procedure (August 2024)*, all tuition and ancillary fees require approval by the Board of Governors.

For the 2026-27 academic year, the review recommends:

- 3% increase in international tuition fees.
- Adjustments to three compulsory ancillary fees, including Academic Support, Athletics and Recreation, and Student Records and Achievement fees.
- Program-specific fee changes across 23 programs, including new fees, increases, reductions, and removals.

These adjustments support the college's financial sustainability, comply with policy, and maintain equitable access to services and quality program delivery.

Mission statement:

To inspire innovation, transform lives and connect communities through the power of education.