

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING #548**Public Session Highlights****March 26, 2026**

The Board of Governors of Georgian College of Applied Arts and Technology held a board meeting on Thursday, March 26, 2026, in-person at the Barrie Campus and online using Microsoft Teams.

Board education presentation: well-being and care

Suzie Addison-Toor, Vice President, Student Success, and Megan Fenton, Executive Director, Student Success, presented on Georgian's commitment to provide well-being supports that foster student academic and personal success including access to curriculum, enhancement of mental health literacy, cultivation of positive perspective, and the development of individual resilience.

Chair's remarks

The Chair provided an update on recent activities they attended:

- Barrie Women in Business Awards lunch: Georgian's own Nicole Norris won in the visionary category.
- Bridge installation: as part of the expansion of the Centre for Skilled Trades, community partners and employees came together to witness the 100-foot structure lifted into place.
- Great night at Hockey Night with Georgian: sold-out alumni event with the Barrie Colts.

President's remarks

The president provided a brief update on recent activities:

- Colleges Ontario Federal Day on the Hill: an annual advocacy event where leaders from Ontario's public colleges meet with federal officials in Ottawa to highlight the role of colleges in strengthening Canada's workforce and economy.
- Provincial Budget: released on March 26, 2026.
- The President highlighted some significant events attended and hosted since the last meeting.

Consent agenda

Reports were presented to the board for review:

- Previous meeting minutes.
- Program advisory committee appointments.
- Enrolment update.
- Emergency risk management report.
- Election committee minutes.

Election committee report

David Johnson, Vice President, Finance and Corporate Services, and Election Committee Chair, advised that the committee met to discuss the upcoming faculty representative election. The committee approved the election workplan, which results in the following elections:

- Faculty governor election will run from April 2, 2026, to May 16, 2026.
- Student governor election will run from March 16, 2026, to April 15, 2026.

Discussion items

Foundational threads

Suzie Addison-Toor, Vice President, Student Success, and Alim Remtulla, Vice President, People and Culture, provided an overview of Georgian's foundational threads – institution-wide commitments designed to embed the strategic plan into everyday decision-making, leadership, and operations, ensuring the strategy is actively lived across the college.

The three foundational threads include:

- equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging,
- Indigenization, and
- changemaking.

Annual business plan final report

Each year, the Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security requires colleges to prepare a business plan consistent with the vision and directions established in the college's strategic plan and reflective of the commitments outlined in their *Strategic Mandate Agreement*.

Colleges are required to submit their business plan to the ministry using a prescribed format, which identifies the major actions the college will take during the year and the operational outcomes it expects to achieve. Colleges are also able to include a description of any significant factors outside the control of the college that are likely to affect the achievement of its outcomes.

The Board of Governors approved the *2026-27 Business Plan*.

New program ancillary fees

The college annually reviews tuition and ancillary fees to align with operational needs and provincial policies. Per ministry directives, all fees must be approved by the Board of Governors. Proposed changes to program-specific ancillary fees are checked for compliance with ministry policy and approved by the Georgian College Students' Association, ensuring transparency and student consultation.

The board approved college-wide and program ancillary fees for 2026-27 in January of 2026. Five additional program-specific fee proposals are being brought forward for approval.

The Board of Governors approved the new program ancillary fees.

Domestic tuition

Each year the college reviews tuition and ancillary fees to ensure alignment with operational requirements, program delivery needs, and provincial policy direction. For the 2026-27 academic year, the college recommended a 2% increase in domestic tuition.

In accordance with the ministry's *Tuition and Ancillary Fees Binding Policy Directive and Operating Procedure*, all tuition and ancillary fees require approval by the Board of Governors. The board approved the domestic tuition increase.

Mission statement:

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