

Minutes  
British Columbia Council on Admissions and Transfers ( BCCAT)  
BC History Articulation Committee (BCHAC) Meeting  
University of British Columbia – Vancouver  
Monday, May 5, 2025

**Present:** Tina Block (Thompson Rivers University), Ryan Blaak (North Island College), Lee Blanding (Columbia College), Niall Christie (Langara College, Chair), Dale Montgomery (Langara College), Shao-kang Chu (Okanagan College), Rob-Roy Douglas (Northern Lights College), Bruce Shelvey (Trinity Western University), Michael Ledger-Lomas (Corpus Christi College), Sebastian Huebel (Alexander College), Maddie Knickerbocker (Kwantlen Polytechnic University), Sayed Taha (University of Canada West), Takaia Larsen (Selkirk College), Dana Wessell Lightfoot (University of Northern British Columbia), Cedric Bolz (Douglas College), Barbara Messamore (University of the Fraser Valley), Chris Morier (Camosun College), Julien Vernet (University of British Columbia - Okanagan), Leslie Paris (University of British Columbia - Vancouver), Bidisha Ray (Simon Fraser University), Katharine Rollwagen (Vancouver Island University, Secretary), Kristin Semmens (University of Victoria), Elle Ting (BCCAT), Eliza McClenagan (Coquitlam College), Kenny Tang (LaSalle College)

**Regrets:** Lindsay Hutchison (BC Social Studies Teachers Rep), Liam O'Flaherty (Fraser International College), Marcel Dirk (College of the Rockies)

The meeting was called to order at 9 am.

**1. Welcome**

Leslie Paris welcomed the group and acknowledged the traditional territories on which UBC campuses stand. Housekeeping announcements.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Northern Lights. Seconded by Douglas.

Approved unanimously.

**3. Adoption of previous minutes**

Moved by NIC. Seconded by Northern Lights College.

Approved unanimously.

#### **4. Institutional Reports**

##### **VIU:**

- A lot of administrative change and uncertainty this year
- Provost announced retirement in January, President resigned in early April
- Institution still facing a deficit, and layoffs justified by financial exigency
- Enrollment in history dipped slightly in the 2024-25 year, but remained within an expected range
- Cheryl Warsh is retiring in July 2025 and, due to the hiring freeze, we will not be replacing her position at present
- Due to the retirement, the transfer of the Chair to Acting Dean, and several parental leaves, we will be posting two temporary positions – one in Canadian history (6 courses) and one in World history (4 courses)
- The acting Chair for the 2025-26 year will be John Hinde
- Changes to the Minor – lowering the UL requirements from 18 credits to 12 (total of 24 credits for a History minor)

##### **TRU:**

- Increase in history enrollments on campus and through open learning
- On campus: 535 to 690 in total
- 5 permanent faculty members, one on sabbatical last year
- Sessionals difficult to get, when faculty have release it is difficult to back fill, that continues to be a challenge
- Working on integrating open learning with on-campus programming, priority of the Provost, but still in process
- Senior administration changes – new President coming from USask, former Dean at TRU; Provost has stepped down
- Budget concerns: effectively in a hiring freeze; vacant positions are unlikely to be replaced unless they are mission critical

##### **UFV:**

- Barbara's last Articulation meeting, she is retiring in August – Adrianna Bakos will resume the Chair role
- Replacement hiring has happened; Sebastien Huebel will be replacing Barbara as a regular faculty member
- Jeff Spurling has been replaced with Kate Godfrey (Latin American specialists)
- President is retiring, to be replaced with the Provost
- Increasingly difficult to find sessional workers, but Chris Hyland renewed his LTC
- Online courses strongly enrolled; a good mix of faculty prefer both modes

- New courses: genocide; lower level course for non-specialists, Secrets of World War Two

#### NIC:

- Humanities joining Social Sciences
- 1.5 FTE in History (which included 0.25 in Liberal Studies), being reduced to 1 FTE overall
- 1.5 FTE in History and 0.25 in Liberal Studies, being reduced to 1 FTE
- Liberal Studies is not being offered next year and its future is unclear
- Cuts in Global Studies, Anthropology has been cut despite good numbers, cuts to English, Geography not being offered
- Shifting away from interdisciplinary programs generally, which is disappointing
- Enrolment increased last year
- Focus on labour market outcomes a challenge
- Challenging time since January, trying to make better connections to local high schools
- Fewer courses will be offered next year

#### Selkirk College:

- Institution lost 18 FTE, 30 people affected by reductions
- In History, Duff Sutherland retiring this year
- 0.8 FTE in history – online section not offered anymore, since it can be taken elsewhere
- 15 year strategic plan put out by admin, no operational plans attached to it
- Framed around applied learning grounded in a sense of place and space
- Little space for liberal arts in that plan, which is concerning
- History enrolments are steady

#### KPU:

- 69 layoffs across the institution, concentrated in business
- History not directly affected, but looming uncertainty
- KPUFA pursuing mediation
- Tracey Kinney retired this past year, no room for a rehire – 6 FTE, 2 PT
- Eryk Martin leaving chair role, Maddie Knickerbocker stepped in
- Two new classes: European Witchcraft, Queer Histories of North America
- Considering an online minor in History
- Eight fewer sections offered, but enrolment in other classes strong – 90% fill rate

#### UBC-V:

- A quiet year – no hiring or retirements
- Head remains Bonnie
- 4600 students enrolled in courses, which represents a small rise over the past two years – teaching more students
- Fewer history majors, though - 283 Majors, a decrease from 356 the previous year; 23 Honours students
- 26 MA students, of whom 11 were new students; 7 finished
- 21 overall in the Doctoral program of whom 2 were new and 2 finished
- 3 PhD student admitted, 8 MA students
- 2 faculty on leave this year (fewer than usual)
- Hosted Shifting Tides this year
- Concerned about history enrollments, continuing to think about offering more lower-level online summer classes
- Raising enrolment caps on all classes, seeing where enrolment lands before assigning TAs to a course

#### Columbia College:

- 3 instructors: 2 tenured and 1 regularized
- 7.5 courses per year/4 contact hours per week
- Maintained enrolment in history courses
- Post-confederation Canada – project on commemoration in Vancouver, with goal to create a database of these sites
- Final phase of revisions to HIST211 and 212 (European history) to use OER textbooks
- Created a loan library of texts that can be used in assignments – hard copies of books that our library doesn't have

#### Camosun:

- Good news and bad news – down about 1000 Intl students for next year
- Major organizational changes in the college
- College of Arts and Science is gone – Humanities in College of Arts and Access, with new Deans, new support staff
- A cautious optimism that things will be okay
- Layoffs – full and partial – in languages
- AI issues, mental health challenges, continue in the classroom

- New residence will be constructed, completed in the fall of 2027 – approved by the provincial government
  - o Take the edge off the housing crunch for students in Victoria
- Added a history class to spring/summer session, after having been cut several years ago - Intro to History course will be taught
- Domestic enrolment is up slightly
- 50/50 online and in-person offerings
- History students were plugged in last term – young people are inspiring and teaching is fun 😊

#### UNBC:

- 5 full-time faculty after 2 retirements last year – both were replaced
  - o Also 2 regular sessionals, teaching entirely online
- Long-overdue review this past year
- Report was positive – working on developing action plan
- Part will be a curriculum review
- Enrolments across courses are healthy overall
  - o But numbers in two first-year courses are dropping
  - o It is a required course for majors, joint-majors and minors
  - o Related to loss of students had previously taken them as Humanities electives, but now taking online second-year courses that don't have electives
- Small changes to degree program – added 200-level methodology course required for majors and minors
- Grad: 6 MA in stream, 2 more joining this coming fall
- Committed to offering at least one online asynchronous course per semester
  - o Very popular in every term (including spring and summer)
- Search to replace our Dean of Indigenous Studies, SS, and Humanities
- Provost search upcoming – interim provost at the moment
- Budget cuts – all departments will have to cut 25% from operating
- Dana Wessell Lightfoot will continue as Chair for another 3 years

#### TWU:

- Administrative changes – new President, looking for a Provost
- Dean (Interim) is now permanent, is supportive of History, is a good advocate
- 3 full time, all moving towards retirement and working towards succession planning
- Will be able to replace, probably

- 3-4 FTEs needed to run the program
- Full-time sessional instructor is retiring, working to retain his sections (Global History)
- Sidney Harker – sessional
- Major program review completed – an opportunity to examine the program and curriculum, more thematic focus in the program, committed to Indigenization
  - o Required course in Indigenous-Canadian relations, for all HIST students
- Embedded within the degree program – historical and archival ways of knowing in the graduate outcomes
- Suffering with Majors, students are not choosing history as a career path
  - o Bringing in things like Legal Studies, Gender Studies, more thematic studies
- Union is newer and has brought stability – a process to determine and decide on course cancellations, less arbitrary
- History stream in the Interdisciplinary MA program is doing well

#### Athabasca:

- Located in Alberta, distance education institution
- Rolling registration, online asynchronous program
- 50% of UG students are visiting from other institutions, most are mature or returning to school
- 6 FTE teaching in the program
- Enrolments peaked during COVID, but have been steady for the last 2 years
- Program students are becoming more important to the institutions
- Program is being reviewed
- WIL as a directive from the Alberta Government
- Indigenization is a priority in Canadian history offerings
- AI is changing assignments and assessments

#### SFU:

- Chaired by Janice Makn (interim), Sarah Walshaw (continuing Teaching Faculty) will begin next year
- No full-time sessional instructors, but one full-time LTC and 4 sessionals who taught 6 courses last year
- One new FT tenure-track
  - o HIST138 – Centuries of Genocide
- William Keough retired
- John Bird Assistant Professor in Indigenous History (research track)
- 4 faculty on medical or study leave

- Clarify that the spreadsheet number of student marker numbers reflects 24-25 full time faculty who had marking support – leaves out part time faculty and sessionals

#### Fraser International College

- Impact of federal government changes making Canada a less desirable destination
  - o Going to Germany, Singapore, Indonesia
- Transfer students required to reapply for VISAs but the timelines were long; some students opted to return home instead of waiting
- FIC and SFU created several streams to tie them over until the VISAs came through
  - o Added a new course for spring 2025 HIST 130: Global History
- Total registrations have dropped slightly to 354 (a small decrease)

#### UVic

- Enrolments are up and many courses have wait lists
- End of a cycle of the new curriculum that started 4-5 years ago
- Biggest change was two mandatory courses: 100 and 200
  - o Structure to the program that students find comforting – less choice more than more choice
  - o Community increased – moving through program together
- Given ability to hire a new person in African Diaspora, posted on July 1
- Drawback: mismatch between numbers in classes and TA support – caps are rising but fewer TAs available
  - o Grad programs not as robust – fewer applications, fewer TAs, less willingness to TA
- Means rethinking assignments
- New chair – Jason Colby replaced by Martin Bunton
- Kristin Semmens Undergraduate Coordinator will end at the end of 2025

#### UBC-O

- Fairly stable – enrolments comparable to last year for Majors and Honours
- No new hirings, no searches, no retirements or cuts
- HIST230: Proof (introducing students to research methods and Honours at an earlier stage)

#### Coquitlam College

- Updates for history courses, rearticulated HIST203 and 204, offering HIST224 and 225 instead – 19 and 20<sup>th</sup> century Europe
- HIST201 – Indigenous Canadian History
- Patrick Best is moving out of instructor and taking a curriculum development role
- Facing some concerns about declining enrolment, haven't noticed it in History too much

#### Alexander College:

- A year of flux – AI remains a problem, continued uncertainty around IE
- Compared to 2023-24, 2024-25 had some impressive increases in enrolment
- 2600 enrolments, numerous additional sections – 65% increase
  - o Hired 4 additional faculty to teach these section
- Declining overall enrolment at the college
- In History, summer 875, fall 865, spring 740
- Three sessionals will likely not have ongoing work because of this decline
- 4 in-person courses offered for each 1 online course
- Transition to in-person assessments to avoid AI
  - o In-person, in class essay writing
  - o All online classes have mandatory in-person exams
- Demographics: South Asia, Africa, Latin America, Philippines
- TRC committee – history faculty are active
  - o HIST200 and 106 – Indigenous history courses (Canada and world) are well subscribed
- New President and VP at the College
- 2+2 transfer agreement between Alexander College and UFV

#### Corpus Christi College:

- Not a lot of change – Jessica Hemming left college
- No permanent teaching staff – a 0.5 posting was put on hold due to uncertainty
- Small number of courses at the 200 level, taught by sessional instructor
- Enrollments: 38 for fall, 68 for winter

#### UCW:

- Two campuses, classes are restricted to 30 students, offering 17 sections of history of the History of Early Canada
- Two tenure-track assistant professors, 6 sessional instructors



- Facing pressure because of International Students Visa Cap by the Federal Government
- Developing new courses – Political History of Canada (pre and post Confed); World History since 1900
- No layoffs to permanent faculty so far
- Trying to engage with local high school students to attract domestic students into the private sector university – considering ways to reduce domestic tuition
- Fulbright has included UCW for students' scholarship
- New leadership, Dr. Nam Lee as Chair & Dr. Sandra Song as Dean, put a special focus on developing new programs and courses in humanities and social science. Faculty members are vigorously working on it.

#### Okanagan College:

- A good year for enrolments – over 1000 students last year
- 69% were international students, so there is concern about declining enrolment
- Courses have been cut from 36 to 13 in History – deemed elective and non-essential
- 5 full-time faculty reduced to 2 (Chris Clarkson, Shao-kang Chu) – 3 layoffs
- Hoping to rebuild, but not sure

#### Northern Lights College:

- Strong enrolments – more courses and more faculty
- 1.5 FTE
- Could have regularized a sessional this past January, but College has decided to consolidate programing and eliminate non-required courses
- Closed the archeology program – BC History course was a requirement in this program, so it has been cut
- 7 sections to 2
- May change if enrolments pick up
- Now have a recruitment office for the first time
- Seeing domestic enrolments pick up – 20% per term
- New Chair of Humanities and Social Sciences started out with great plans for a new Liberal Arts degree last fall, but has retreated from this
- Review process completed a few weeks ago, and was passed
- Academic integrity offences decreasing steeply – due to a shift in the demographics (more diverse) but also a shift in assessments to in-person, oral evaluations

#### Lasalle College:

- 88 students enrolled in spring 2025; 321 students over the past year
- Offer two courses: 101 and 102 (Global surveys) that also integrate Indigenous perspectives on colonization
- Offered in-person and synchronous online
- Student population diverse
- Moving to a new campus this summer (2025), hoping new campus will facilitate new partnership
- Developing a graduate credential in Sustainable Design
- Efforts to integrate Sustainable Development Goals into all courses
- Significant increase in Bachelor of Graphic Design applications from international students, alongside decrease in Associative Arts applications

#### Douglas College:

- Numbers have been increasing steadily with 88-90% fill rates in HIST courses
- No job losses – 8 regular FTEs
- Revolving door in terms of leaves – Robin Wylie seconded to FPSE; Denis Kim (parental), returning in 2025, another on research leave returning
- Filling leaves: admin has been trigger-happy in cancelling sections early if they don't fill, and it's unnerving
- Contract coverage: Dr Ray Zhang covering Wylie
- Two contract faculty for the past winter: Jennifer Chudder, Nicole Yakashiro
- HIST3370: ??
- HIST3365: Epidemics in Global History (35 student capacity)
- UL courses can no longer be offered at 25 – must be offered at full capacity
- New campus space – residency and student centre to open in Fall 2027

#### College of the Rockies:

- History courses will no longer be offered
- Low enrolment and decline in international students
  - o Even though the college does not attract many
  - o Marcel Dirk laid off and shared his remarks over email through the Chair

#### Langara:

- Incoming coordinator Dale
- International student reliance has come home to roost
- Sessionals have been cut; layoffs of permanent faculty have started
- Faculty association notes 200 fewer fee-paying members difference since last year

- History, Latin and Political Science
  - o Lost both sessionals spring 2025
  - o 3 FTEs assigned administrative duties in Spring
  - o Dean cut sections before enrolment finished opening up
  - o Spring 2026 will see further cuts, but avoiding actual layoffs in the short term because of leaves in the department
- College moving ahead to transform it into Centres of Excellence
  - o To generate external funding and enrolments
  - o Provost is spearheading this, using ChatGPT to devise his plans
- Niall Christie stepping down as chair, replaced by Terri Evans from Political Science

## **5. Follow up from Institutional reports:**

### Reluctance of graduate students to TA (UVic)

- That it is too much work, despite the wage being competitive
- Don't want to misrepresent graduate students without more data
- Some students anecdotally don't think it's where they should be spending their time
- UBC-V has heard the same thing – no one in HIST wanted it; TA coordinator reports that it is more difficult because people sometimes have other sources of financial support
  - o Not prioritizing teaching experience
- UofT has also been facing this issue, according to UNBC – they are hiring people who have already graduated
- At UBC-V, people have floated having undergraduate students
- TRU has hired senior undergraduates as TAs, but gives priority to MA students in the interdisciplinary MA program in Human Rights and Social Justice

### Hiring sessionals

- KPU experiencing reluctance to backfill, admin asking to wait to see if a section fills before allowing hiring to proceed
  - o But then, by the time the course was full enough to hire, local sessional work was unavailable
- Langara: that wouldn't work because of WorkDay system enabled HR to download hiring process to department chairs – lengthens the process
  - o They have paused the implementation of new courses at Langara until a new student information system is in place, so there will be a backlog of courses to be implemented (2027)
- Douglas: hiring based on Tableau – what about courses that fill late? Can't be based solely on stats at a particular moment

- Regular faculty get moved around
- UFV: students don't like the "TBA"

\*\* Elle mentioned a BCCAT fund for special projects – which could be used for thinking about how to best promote history to undergraduates \*\* People can reach out to the Chair to learn more about this

### Rural Colleges

- NIC: when rural colleges aren't teaching the Humanities, those are students who are going to the bigger institutions
  - Mandate is 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year pathways to BA programs
- Meant to provide access to local populations, connect to community, flexibility for students in those areas
- Selkirk: erosion of exposing students to liberal arts affects affordability for rural residents
  - They won't move, due to cost of doing so

### Online courses

- UCW – online offerings for students in the process of transitioning to campus, getting VISAs
- SFU – student demand for them, but faculty hate putting them together, they see it as an inferior space for student learning, but being pushed by admin, so sessionals are more likely to be offered these courses, they are being exploited to carry the load of online courses
- VIU – policies that limit percentage of the program taught online each year
- UNBC – stable group of sessionals that teach online, and chair can (and does) oversee the courses to meet the standards
- Selkirk – are people being encouraged to offer hi-flex?
- NIC – talked about piloting it, but the technical requirements were costly, and questions from faculty about the load (teaching two classes at once)
- TRU – “flex learning” is a move towards merging program
- UFV – “hybrid” has many different definitions
- NLC – a high number of video conference classes, moving more to synchronous online courses, with strong domestic enrolments
- CC – opportunity for committee members to work together, along the lines of the Digital Learning conferences – to share best practices
  - A department moodle page or shared resource about best practices for online learning

- UFV – teaching and learning centres might be pushing practices that haven't been successful at the high school level

**ACTION ITEM: Chair suggests setting up a Google group document about shared practices**

- NIC suggests a PD opportunity connected to Articulation
- CorpusC – two issues colliding: offering online courses, but also concerned about AI

**Academic Integrity and Academic Preparedness**

- Langara – moving increasingly towards in-person midterms and finals, checking student IDs, and putting enough weight into the in-person assessments
- Langara – in-person writing assessment (5%) that is a get-to-know you assignment in class, that serves as a writing sample
- NLC – computers used for automated exams, but informed that anomalous logins were found, and it turned out that 40-50 students across the province to get people in other places to login remotely (not in history, but at NLC) – if you are using internet linked computers for exams, this is possible and coming
- NIC – team-based learning means most of the work is done in class, and asked for work that tests a few things, and then intervening early to let students know and support them, making clear assignment instructions
- LaSalle – teaching academic writing, breaking down an assignment into small tasks completed in class, including presentations in class
- UFV – in first year we can be dealing with students who are not in a state of readiness for success, so they turn to AI because they don't know what to do
  - o Can use a baseline assignment, like reading a brief piece (1 page) in class, and write about it – ungraded placement exercise, Pass/Fail that indicates whether they are ready for the course
- Douglas – the positive side of this: for institutions with their own libraries, requiring students to use physical books from our library, and it does a lot for our library – people are asking
- UNBC – Dana chaired a committee to create a course that is designed to bridge (critical writing, reading, and thinking skills) for her faculty, and to connect them to courses on campus
  - o Not yet a requirement for students in the faculty, but its collaboratively taught (by a lead and 6 instructors), and interdisciplinary (thematic) and will be offered this fall, with fourth-year students as mentors leading tutorials
- UVic – so many of us are doing so much more of this in our classrooms, and AI is being used in the high schools – so not just lack of preparedness, they are using it early on and their teachers are using it
  - o Stronger students asking how they can avoid the question “is this AI?”

- Date stamp your drafts, use paper to take notes
- CorpusC – steering back to in-class assessment, but what about time constraints and the effect of that on ESL students
- VIU – the university is adopting Studiosity, an online tutoring program, to provide AI generated feedback on their writing – we don't have all the answers yet
- UCW – AI doesn't support deeper historical conversations and research

## **6. Online link to BCCAT Joint Articulation Meeting November 2024**

The Chair reminded the committee that they can access all sessions from the meeting last November on the BCCAT Youtube Channel.

## **7. Spring Update from BCCAT – Elle Ting (Research and Projects Officer)**

Acknowledgement of Red Dress Day today (15<sup>th</sup> annual)

Articulation resources

- Every committee has a website
- Reminder that institutions are given resources to allow committee members to attend meetings and events
  - Page 19 in the articulation committee guide notes that institutions are expected to fund the meetings
- Project funding is undersubscribed, and she can help with the application process to access project funding

Hot Topics

- International enrolment
- Student affordability
- Tariffs
- Student use of generative AI tools
- Uncertainty in the sector

Technology

- ONCAT adopting BC-TCS, so we will be on the same platform
  - Easier transfer between BC and ON
  - BC receives numerous students from ON
- Micro credentials

- Working TRU's credit bank to expand TCS to house micro credential pathways
- TCS modernization is underway
  - Feedback on what works and what doesn't work – be in touch with BCCAT

#### Research ready now

- Canadian Language Benchmarks
- BC Transfer Students Profile and Performance Report (2018-2023)
- Exploring use of letters of permission (LOP) in the BCTS
  - Agreement between two institutions to allow students at one to receive credit for a course they intend to do at another institution

#### Research ready soon (June 2025)

- Determining Equivalency for Courses Completed at Institutions Outside BC
  - To better share practices for this process – what do people do and what is effective?

JAM 2025 – in person at the Paradox Hotel in Vancouver, November 6 (online) & 7 (in person with an online option)

- Register right away if you'd like to attend – registration starts in early September
- Switching to Phedloop platform for the conference

#### Questions:

Are there guidelines for articulating IB courses? Not currently. This was a BCCAT topic in the past, but mainly focused on dual-credit courses at the secondary level.

Are there examples of project proposals we could look at? Elle will see if there's a more recent one, but they are all so different that she doesn't want to suggest it would be prescriptive. Projects should be broadly applicable to institutions across the province, not just one institution. Should be a one-year project.

### **8. Institutional/departmental strategies to address reduced enrolments**

- UFV – how much of enrolment is in our hands? Factors that drive enrolment are not things that we are doing or not doing.
- SFU – experiencing a huge deficit cloud – both the institution and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences
  - Vague pressure from above about increasing enrolment
  - No guidance, data, or clarity about what will happen if the enrolment doesn't look good in their eyes

- Unless there is a Historian in the Dean's office, they don't understand the work the history faculty do
  - Overenroll courses to ensure courses don't look as bad when attrition happens
- UBC-V – developing appealing thematic courses to attract more students
- KPU – pulling away from political or state boundary classes is working for KPU, such as history on film (shell course), also witchcraft, piracy, queer histories
- UNBC – medieval courses very popular, topical and also national surveys that think more about who they are hiring in position
- UFV – being responsive to popular culture moments, but it does have a short shelf life, which shows that so much is driven by external factors
- UVic – what attracts students is great teaching, so its important to have sessions about teaching – brainstorming around teaching for faculty. Sharing ideas to connect with students, getting people jazzed about teaching
- VIU – activities: engaging with students and promoting individual courses
- NIC – how to better tether our courses to other existing programs or diplomas
  - Strong idea from admin that they can only get so many students from high schools
  - They disagree – want to connect more directly with high schools, build relationships
  - Courses not tied to programs get cut, so new courses should be tied to existing programs
- TRU – undergraduate conference for PHP students, a good retention exercise
  - Streamlining degrees, easier pathways, reducing credits – across TRU arts program
- UNBC – Dana runs a “student for a day” program, local high school students come up for the day – lecture, tutorial, tour, lunch, afternoon is filled with 4 different faculty activities – grades 8 and 9, 8-11, just 11
  - When recruitment asks, I always say yes – have a couple of lectures ready
  - Working directly with school boards
- Langara – we are being told that the institution loses money on every domestic student we teach – minimum 10 international students to make classes viable financially
- Selkirk – elephant in the room is the long-term underfunding by province, that international recruitment has been propping up the whole system
- NLC – chronic underfunding, which leads to unethical practices – NLC was so low on domestic that the province threatened to cut the operating grant to the college, which forced the admin to shift focus towards domestic enrolment, and has resulted in some program changes and potentially some new courses
- Langara – is your institution marketing history program?



- Douglas – trying to raise the profile of the department, so had an info fair table, history movie night, research day (previously only open to science students at Douglas)
- UFV – as a department history has done well in creating a profile, Association of History Students very active, successful event – History Tea – for first year history students, MAGS – majors, awards, and graduates – event in the spring, History Honours conference
- NLC – making history a requirement for science programs – making it a writing course

## **9. BC Studies Conference**

Leslie shared information from Paige Raibmon and Lara Ishiguro, this year's conference organizers

- o Please contact them with questions about the conference, if you are considering hosting
- o Held the first weekend in May, prior to articulation, every two years (past few conferences: 2015 – KPU; 2017 – VIU; 2019 – TRU; 2021 – UFV; 2025 – UBC-V)
- o There is a fund that comes with organizing, money that is left over from past conferences, so organizers are not starting from scratch
- o UBC raised extra sponsorship money, which allowed them to offer extra food
- o This year was also an anomaly with 270 presenters on the program
- Paige wasn't sure how to account for this year's enthusiasm – was this the post-COVID bump? First in person conference since 2019.
- Some discussion that hosting it in the northern part of the province would be a supportive move given the cutting of history at CMC

## **10. Letter to College of the Rockies re: decision**

Northern Lights College moved to draft a letter of protest to College of the Rockies about the cancelling of History offerings.

ACTION ITEM: Chair to draft a letter and circulate it on the Google list-serv.

## **11. Election of both the Chair and Secretary**

Secretary: Rob-Roy Douglas, Northern Lights College

Chair: Niall Christie, Langara College

Date of next meeting: May 4<sup>th</sup> 2026

Location: SFU? Potentially. Leslie noted that costs are approximately \$700, with catering, in-house IT, and used department space, and department staff support.

ACTION ITEM: SFU will follow up with the Chair next week to confirm ability to host.

## **12. Motions of thanks**

The chair thanked Leslie for hosting us at UBC-V, and Katharine for being secretary.

Katharine thanked Niall for his role as chair.

Meeting adjourned at 2:46 pm.

Moved by Columbia College.

Seconded by UBC-V.