OKANAGAN SENATE
MINUTES OF 28 OCTOBER 2021
DRAFT

Attendance


Clerk: A. Breen, J. Iverson

Guest: R. Sadiq, R. Einarson, J. Madden, A. Riley, L. Bilodeau, K. Falkner

Call to Order

The Chair of Senate, Dr Santa J. Ono, called the meeting to order at 3:33 pm

Senate Membership

SENATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Registrar announced that two senators have been nominated for the vacancy on the Senate Nominating Committee: Stephen O’Leary and Rob Johnson. An election was held during the meeting to select a member until 31 August 2023 and thereafter until replaced.

The results of the election were confirmed at the end of the meeting; Rob Johnson was elected as a member of the Nominating Committee for the specified term.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Jan Cioe
Barb
Marcolin

} That the Minutes of the Meeting of 30 August and 23 September 2021 be approved as corrected.

Approved
Business Arising from the Minutes – Dr Santa J. Ono (information)

The President noted that the Learning and Research Committee will present its report on Honorary Degrees later in the meeting.

Remarks from the Chair and Related Questions – Dr Santa J. Ono (information)

The President opened his remarks by congratulating Provost and Vice-President Academic Ananya Mukherjee Reed on being named one of the Women’s Executive Network (WXN) top 100 most powerful women, noting that the University is grateful for her outstanding leadership.

Dr. Ono announced that almost two months into the Fall term, things are going very well with regard to COVID-19. As of October 19, over 95% of students, faculty and staff have declared their vaccination status. Of those who have declared, 96% have declared they are fully vaccinated and a further 2% are partially vaccinated and 1.21% have chosen not to disclose their status. Targeted messages were sent on September 27th, September 28th, October 4th and October 6th to those who had not completed their declaration, had not provided proof of vaccination or hadn’t registered for rapid testing.

Those who have declared they are not vaccinated or chose not to disclose their status, have received targeted messages to schedule their rapid testing appointments. A message was sent a week ago to those faculty and staff who had not uploaded proof of vaccination indicating that continued non-compliance will lead to progressive discipline.

A message was also sent to those students who had not completed their declaration or uploaded proof of vaccination, indicating that continued non-compliance will result in significant consequences. Those who have submitted incorrect or fraudulent documentation will be contacted directly with a letter of expectation. As part of this process, audits of proof of vaccination uploaded into the system will be done.

The COVID-19 Rapid Testing Program has been created to help keep the University community safe. The President urged everyone, if they have not completed the declaration and provided proof, or have not yet signed up for rapid testing – if required – that they do so as soon as possible.

Because UBC is doing so well with regard to COVID-19, Fall 2021 graduation ceremonies at the Vancouver campus will be held in person. The safety of all graduates, guests, and the UBC community is of utmost importance, and ceremonies will be planned according to Public Health Orders and guidelines. The hope is to learn from this experience and that the much larger May/June graduation ceremonies at Vancouver and the Okanagan will benefit from this November’s events.

The President next provided an update on the recent national forum on anti-Asian racism, hosted by UBC. The Forum, which involved 126 panelists and more than 2,100 participants from across Canada, was held in June amidst a surge in anti-Asian racism and violence.

The Forum report has now been released, and Dr Ono highlighted some of the main findings:

• The intersecting impacts of settler colonialism, systemic racism and white supremacy are found in all sectors of Canadian society.
• Current anti-racism activism is missing cross-sectional representation, leading to a simplified narrative and lack of culturally responsive solutions.
• There is a need for capacity building in order to take action and maintain long-term sustainable changes.
• There are possibilities to harness the energy and bold visions of students and young people to co-create a different future.

The results of a survey on racism aimed at Canadian youth were recently released. The survey, done by the Angus Reid Institute in partnership with UBC, showed that 58% of Canadian youth have seen their peers insulted, bullied or excluded at school based on their race or ethnicity. Another 14% said they’ve experienced it themselves, with visible minority children three times as likely, and Indigenous children twice as likely, as white children to say that they have faced personal abuse.

The results also showed how little students know about Canada’s history of racism. For example, 1 in 5 students have never heard of the Komagata Maru, 2 in 5 have never heard of the Chinese Head Tax, and 1 in 2 have never learned of the internment of Japanese Canadians.

The President stated that if Canadian youth are not learning the basic history of anti-Asian racism in Canada, and if their teachers are also not aware, they will not have the tools to respond to or deal with it. Students also will not see their teachers as capable of helping them: 1 in 5 students surveyed said they did not believe their teachers knew how to help, or their teachers would deny or ignore the existence of the racism.

Dr Ono noted that there is a critical need for structural solutions, and questioned whether there was a mismatch between the diversity of our students and our teachers, counsellors, and school principals? Are teachers and administrators equipped with the knowledge, training and resources to deal with racism in their schools?

The President stated that no child should ever have to experience bullying and exclusion because of their race or ethnicity, and racism and bias have no place in our community. Accordingly, UBC will be signing the Scarborough Charter on Anti-Black Racism and Black Inclusion in Canadian Higher Education next month. The Charter’s four principles of Black flourishing, inclusive excellence, mutuality, and accountability will guide UBC as we develop our own action plan to redress anti-Black racism.

Dr Ono acknowledged the support of the Black Caucus in endorsing the Charter, and thanked Ananya Mukherjee Reed, who worked as part of the national network of higher education institutions to formulate the Charter. Dr Ono concluded by saying that it is his hope that UBC can work to model a different kind of community – one where we embrace difference and work to build each other up while enacting values of dignity, mutual respect, and justice.

Finally, the President provided an update on that UBC’s delegation of eight to the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow this November. By attending as official observers, UBC delegates deepen their understanding of how global climate negotiations work, which will benefit their research and programs. The delegates will also share UBC’s exemplary work on the climate emergency with this global gathering and share their experiences with the wider UBC community when they return.
Dr Ono shared that he will also be participating indirectly in COP26, as he will be participating remotely in a Presidents’ panel at the Times Higher Education Climate Impact Forum next week. He concluded his remarks by saying that as one of the world’s leading universities on sustainability, UBC is responding to the unprecedented challenges of a changing planet.

Senator Garrard stated that he had been part of the Climate Emergency Task Force last summer and noted that the report had been received and acted upon at the Vancouver campus and questioned what actions had been taken at the Okanagan campus. Dr Ono responded that he will do everything he can to be supportive of initiatives at the Okanagan campus, and invited Drs Cormack and Mukherjee Reed to comment on plans for moving forward on addressing the climate emergency with either faculty hiring or supporting faculty/student research on campus.

Dr Mukherjee Reed stated that the steps taken at the Okanagan campus are slightly different than those in Vancouver. For example, the newly created Bachelor of Sustainability degree is one initiative, along with pending hiring on environmental racism. Also, the Climate Action Plan was recently presented to the Leadership Council and will be presented to the Senate later in the today’s meeting. Dr Cormack added that there are a range of activities and sustainability work happening at the Okanagan campus and that the next step will be to think about how these varied initiatives can be brought together in a cohesive way.

Dr Ono stated that the discussion at the Times Higher Education Global Summit earlier in the day considered steps campuses can take on climate emergency and sustainability initiatives. He noted that his own discretionary funds can be used to support strategic initiatives and invited senators to share their ideas and aspirations in addressing the climate emergency. In addition to the research projects underway at both campuses, three issues came up at the summit:

1. Social justice with respect to the climate emergency, recognizing that indigenous people and other individuals who are less privileged are actually more affected by the climate emergency through no fault of their own. The Indigenous Strategic Plan can help us to think about this intersection and what we can do as an institution to support indigenous peoples;
2. How can the concept of the campus as a living laboratory be scaled up, how can we make our campuses more sustainable and increase collaboration between UBC faculty and students with the communities in which we work and study? A recent documentary on CBC The National shows how faculty and students are interfacing with different neighborhoods and are encouraging members to take ownership of what they can actually do in their neighbourhood. This can be scaled up across all the neighbourhoods and communities in BC, thereby empowering people to feel that they are part of the solution;
3. The recognition that there are dozens of higher education institutions doing great work in sustainability and addressing the climate emergency and that much more can be done as a network rather than individually. There was general agreement at the Summit that if there is going to be a meaningful response by 2030, it must be a global approach and there must be a commitment at every level, including academia and governments.

Dr McNeil commented that it is encouraging to see the progress that has been made with respect to COVID-19 vaccinations rates and safety protocols on campus, noting that the vaccination rate is not yet at 100%. He expressed his concern for the safety of students in classrooms where instructors are refusing vaccination, and questioned whether progressive discipline may include removing
unvaccinated faculty members who fail to follow testing protocols from classrooms. Dr Ono responded that this may be an option under the institutional policies in place at UBC and that there have been several messages from the President to the UBC community outlining the requirements around proof of vaccination and regular testing. He noted that there are institutions globally that are terminating tenured faculty and expelling students who fail to comply with vaccination or testing requirements. Dr Ono stated that there will be more information forthcoming starting next week.

Remarks from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Related Questions – Dr Lesley Cormack

Dr Cormack thanked President Ono, noting that continued discussion of COVID-19 protocols is very important and that she was looking forward to the clarity the campus community will have following next week’s announcements.

Dr Cormack started by recognizing the loss of Dr Hugo De Burgos, Associate Professor of Teaching in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences’ Department of Community, Culture and Global Studies. Dr De Burgos arrived in Canada from El Salvador at the age of 18, settling in Edmonton and starting his studies at the Grant MacEwan Community College music program. He then went on to earn a Bachelor of Cultural Anthropology from McGill University in 1982 and then a Master’s degree in Medical Anthropology from the University of Toronto in 1994.

Dr De Burgos later returned to Edmonton to complete a doctorate in Medical Anthropology at the University of Alberta in 2006, which is where Dr Cormack first met him. He had a passion for social justice, a love for the arts, and found great inspiration in his fellow Hispanic scholars. He came to UBC Okanagan in 2008 as an Assistant Professor of Teaching and then promoted to Associate Professor. Dr De Burgos was an anthropologist, a filmmaker, a poet and musician, a historian, an activist and an author. He published three books and articles in numerous journals and publications on topics such as traditional hearing, water, indigenous medicine and ethnic identity. He earned many awards and accolades including the Eleanor Roosevelt Global Citizenship Award for inspiring university students to take part in their global community, a distinction given to fewer than 1% of anthropology professors in North America and in 2013, he was recognized as one of the 10 most influential Hispanics Canadians. Dr De Burgos’ passing is felt deeply on this campus and by all those who were touched by his life and career. Dr Cormack asked the assembly to observe a moment of silence for Dr Hugo De Burgos.

Dr Cormack’s comments then shifted to the return to campus, noting that she is very pleased with how well the campus has reopened, with only 28% of classes on line and a majority in person. She urged everyone who knows someone who is unvaccinated to do all they can to encourage and support them to get vaccinated. Dr Cormack stated that she is resolute about enforcing the University’s policies around declarations, documentation and rapid testing requirements. She noted that seasonal flu shots are now available and encouraged everyone to ensure that they receive the flu vaccination in addition to the COVID-19 vaccination.

Dr Cormack noted that there have recent conversations around what steps need to be taken to get to where the campus wants to go by 2040, including the programs we offer, the students, faculty and staff communities on campus, space and buildings etc. Also, what are the enablers that will allow the campus to achieve these goals? Dr Cormack stated that she has had some very exciting conversations with the
deans recently and hopes to carry these forward in the larger context, and that the UBC Downtown Kelowna project is moving forward, with lease approval by the Board expected shortly.

Remarks from the Provost and Related Questions – Dr Ananya Mukherjee-Reed (information)

Dr Mukherjee-Reed thanked everyone for their congratulations and kind words for the WXN recognition. On the return to campus, she noted that some courses are being offered as a hybrid of online/in-person before they fully shift to in-person instruction. Anecdotally, she has heard that students appreciate the care shown by instructors in accommodating individual circumstances and the technological upgrades in classrooms. There is a system-wide taskforce on COVID learning which will inform educational delivery pedagogy going forward, and will take into account the experiences shared by faculty and students.

Dr Mukherjee-Reed noted the issues related to Examination Hardships raised a few meetings ago have now been resolved and that scheduling for the next examination period will begin shortly.

With an update on informal learning spaces, she noted that there is a lot of work happening to renovate and upgrade informal learning spaces for undergraduate students, as well as developing more spaces for graduate students. This work is happening with the support of—and in consultation with—the Student Union. Dr Mukherjee-Reed thanked student leaders for all their contributions.

She then provided and update on the system-wide task force on student affordability, which she co-chairs with Provost Andrew Szeri and Vice-President Students, Ainsley Carry, noting that student senators were the first to bring to the Senate’s attention the issue of escalating costs of educational materials, online courses, etc. The task force includes a project specifically on the cost of educational materials. University Librarian Heather Berringer and Director of Continuing Education Dr Simon Bates have been working to develop recommendations that will be reviewed by the task force.

An update on the Anti-Racism Task Force was provided; it is now finalizing its report and holding consultation with different equity-deserving groups. The task force has developed more than 50 recommendations, 6-7 of which have already been forwarded for implementation.

There was a final comment on the Climate Action Plan and that Dr Phil Barker, Vice-Principal Research was planning the launch of Campus as a Living Laboratory project, which will integrate academic research and teaching with campus planning, infrastructure, operations and community development.

**ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

The Chair of the Senate Academic Policy Committee, Dr Jan Cioe, presented.

Jan Cioe  
Tamara Ebl  
}  That Senate approve the Graduate Council Parental Accommodation Policy.
In response to a question from Senator Hilton on whether the policy accommodates leaves for multiple birth differently, Senator Simpson noted that the issue of multiples is not specifically anticipated by policy and that the policy will be amended should this become an issue.

ADMISSIONS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Senate Admissions and Awards Committee, Senator Tamara Ebl, presented. The Chair noted that she was pleased to highlight that the Andrew Arida Memorial Award was included in the report.

Tamara Ebl
Barb Marcolin

\textit{That Senate approve the new awards as listed, that they be forwarded to the Board of Governors for approval, and that letters of thanks be sent to the donors.}

Approved

Tamara Ebl
Patricia Lasserre

\textit{That Senate approve changes to the Grade 12 Literacy Assessment requirement for admission for applicants following the BC/Yukon secondary school curriculum, effective for entry to the 2022 Winter Session and thereafter.}

Approved
1 abstention

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Senate Curriculum Committee, Dr Yves Lucet, presented.

Yves Lucet
Peter Arthur

\textit{That the revised certificate program, and new and revised courses, brought forward by the Faculties of Education and Health and Social Development be approved.}
Referring to page 51 of the docket, Dr Cioe asked why reference to ‘Dean of Education’ was being replaced by ‘Okanagan School of Education’ and why approval had shifted to the School from the Dean. Dr Lucet responded that approvals vary widely across the curriculum, some of which must be granted specifically by the head or dean, and some which can be granted by the program, hence the change to a more general term.

Dr Cioe also noted a number of minor errors and omissions, which will be forwarded to the clerk for correction.

LEARNING AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Senate Learning and Research Committee, Dr Sally Willis-Stewart, presented.

Sally Willis-Stuart
Tamara Ebl

That the Senate not approve honorary degrees for the 2021-2022 Academic Year.

Senator Willis-Stewart stated that the motion considered at the September Senate meeting was being put forward again, that honorary degrees not be approved for the 2021/2022 academic year. She noted that the circulated report clearly outlined the reasons for suspension of honorary degrees, primarily that the Committee’s focus will be on reviewing the process for granting honorary degrees.

Dr McNeil commented that if there is not a formal defined and transparent mechanism by which honorary degrees can be rescinded, then there should be a robust discussion on the vetting process prior to granting the honour. Dr McNeil spoke in favour of the motion and noted that developing a procedure to rescind honorary degrees is a tacit admission that the University may grant a degree to someone that in the fullness of time we realize we would rather not have done. Dr McNeil noted that not granting honorary degrees for next year will not delay the work that needs to be done with respect to developing criteria for granting and rescinding degrees. He noted that there was no connection between developing procedures for granting / rescinding degrees and a moratorium on granting degrees for the next academic year.

Dr Willis-Stewart responded, noting that the Committee had received no new nominations for the 2022/2023 academic year, which may be a result of the broader community’s concerns around the issues that have been raised with respect to rescinding honorary degrees from specific individuals. She stated that it was important to examine the University’s processes on granting honorary degrees, especially in light of the concerns that have been raised around past recipients. Dr McNeil responded that individuals should not be denied the opportunity to receive an honorary degree if nominated but appreciated the Committee’s recommendation for a moratorium for one year.

Dr Ebl clarified that while Committee may not have received new nominations for the 2022/23 academic year, there are still nominations that are active from previous years that might be considered by the Committee. She agreed with the Committee’s motion which shows that the
University is focusing on process and broader issues that are of concern to the community within and outside of the Okanagan campus. Dr Willis-Stewart confirmed that there are a few nominations from previous years that remain active.

Senator Herzberg indicated support for the motion, that pausing the current process will allow the Committee to have meaningful discussions on an important issue and address concerns with both the process for granting and rescinding of honorary degrees.

Senator Cioe asked for an update on discussions to date on this issue at the Vancouver campus, noting that this motion may have been passed by the Vancouver Senate. He noted that some of the sensitivities around this issue are also at play with the University’s Naming Policy, with respect to naming buildings, and that the current conversation highlights that the University may have honoured individuals who represent values that are not consistent with those we now hold as an institution.

Dr Willis-Steward confirmed that the Vancouver Senate had passed the motion and that the Vancouver Senate Tributes Committee has held a meeting and will be striking a cross-campus sub-committee to develop procedures for both the granting of and rescinding of honorary degrees. There will be updates provided regularly to the Learning and Research Committee and to the Senate as well. She noted that the regularly scheduled meeting to consider honorary degree recipients had been used to have a fuller discuss about how to develop more detailed processes.

In response to a comment by Senator Picault, Dr Willis-Stewart confirmed that the normal three-year eligibility for honorary degree nominees can be extended by one year to account for the moratorium on honorary degrees for next year.

Senator Reeves commented that there are two main issues under consideration; the principles and processes for granting honorary degrees and also for revoking honours that have already been conferred. The motion for approval only speaks to the first and questioned whether the Learning and Research Committee was planning on addressing this and if so, should there be reference to revocation in the motion as well? Dr Willis-Stewart responded that a well-articulated process for granting honorary degrees will also anticipate and account for scenarios and situations in which revocation might need to be considered.

Senator Ebl questioned whether there have been any calls for revocation of honorary degrees conferred at the Okanagan campus, and if not, whether it is premature to anticipate any requests for revocation and state that intention in the motion. Dr Willis-Steward confirmed that there were no pending requests for revocation of honorary degrees at the Okanagan campus.

Senator Hare spoke in favor of the motion, noting that this is an opportunity to examine the procedures that govern both the granting and revocation of honorary degrees and to more meaningfully consider these honours in terms of institutional culture and values. She stated that the pause on granting honorary degrees will also give UBC an opportunity to think about the responsibilities and expectations of recipients.
NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Senate Nominating Committee, Dr. Jannik Eikennar, presented.

Jannik Eikenaar
Jan Cioe

That Senate appoint Greg Garrard to the President’s Advisory Committee for the Extension of the Appointment of the Vice-President Research and Innovation.

President Ono noted his appreciation for Senator Garrard serving on the advisory committee.

REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR

Climate Action Plan 2030

Dr Cormack presented the Climate Action Plan 2020 for discussion, welcoming guest presenters Rob Einarson, John Madden, Leanne Bilodeau and Abigail Riley. In his opening comments, Rob Einarson stated ‘that UBC’s 2019 Climate Emergency Declaration recognized the severity, complexity, disproportionate impacts, and responsibilities for, the climate crisis. It committed UBC to develop a collective response that embeds climate justice throughout its activities and priorities. With endorsement in principle of the Climate Emergency Task Force Report and Recommendations, the UBC Board of Governors emphasized that climate action continues to be a top strategic priority for the University, providing direction for UBC staff to update plans to address the climate crisis with the urgency it requires.

Ben Johnson, Leanne Bilodeau, Krista Falkner and Abigail Riley then presented the Climate Action Plan (CAP) 2030. The Climate Emergency Declaration and subsequent Climate Emergency Community Engagement process reaffirmed UBC’s commitment to accelerate emissions reductions in alignment with the Paris Agreement of limiting global warming to 1.5°C. Reaching the 1.5°C Paris Target requires a global Green House Gas (GHG) reduction of 45% from 2010 to 2030 and reaching net zero around 2050. Three objectives for CAP 2030 are reflected in UBC’s Climate Emergency Declaration mandate:

1. Setting new targets that accelerate UBC’s path toward achieving the net zero emissions target prior to 2050;
2. Applying a climate justice lens to the policies and actions developed in CAP 2030.
3. Expanding CAP scope to include areas of influence extending beyond UBC’s operations, such as commuting, air travel, food systems, materials and waste.

CAP 2030 addresses and accelerates GHG reductions in operational emissions (buildings, energy supply and fleet) and extended emissions (commuting, food, business air travel, embodied carbon, waste and materials) that are considerably larger and are now being included to align with the intent of UBC’s Climate Emergency Declaration.

This Plan outlines an ambitious path of deep GHG-emission reductions for each campus, with bold actions including district energy decarbonization and building retrofits, while also providing opportunities for teaching, learning and research through Campus as a Living Lab initiatives that address the climate imperative. CAP 2030 will decarbonize the institution while considering the inequitable impacts of climate change and subsequent responses on marginalized communities, including an understanding that the ability to partake in sustainable actions can be constrained by a lack of privilege and inequality.

Building on two previous Climate Action Plans and significant GHG reductions already achieved, UBC Vancouver’s CAP 2030 sets a bold vision and accelerated pathway for a broader scope of emission reductions in response to UBC’s 2019 Declaration on the Climate Emergency:

*CAP 2030 will position UBC as a model of how universities can mobilize to address the climate emergency and Paris targets through bold, impactful actions to accelerate and deepen GHG reductions across operations, and expanded action to reduce extended emissions.*

UBC’s Climate Emergency Declaration recognizes the severity, complexity, disproportionate impacts of, and responsibilities for, the climate crisis. It commits UBC to develop a collective response that embeds climate justice throughout its activities and priorities. With this endorsement, the UBC Board of Governor’s emphasized that climate action continues to be a top strategic priority for the University. Specifically, the Declaration gives impetus for UBC to update plans to address the climate crisis with the urgency it requires.

This Plan sets targets that will accelerate and broaden UBC’s climate action with a 2030 GHG reduction target of 85% on operational emissions (2007 baseline year) and 45% on extended emissions (2010 baseline year), in addition to advancing UBC’s target for net-zero operational emissions to 2035—15 years ahead of the original 2050 target.

This Plan helps to advance many facets of UBC’s strategic plan goals by creating platforms for climate informed teaching, learning and research, and leverages multiple Campus as a Living Laboratory opportunities to maintain UBC’s reputation and leadership position in climate action and sustainability.

CAP 2030 addresses operational emissions (buildings, energy and fleet), which are within
existing CAP reduction targets, and extended emissions (commuting, food, business air travel, embodied carbon, waste and materials, and paper), which are considerably larger and are now being included to align with the intent of UBC’s Declaration on the Climate Emergency.

Without further commitment to accelerate action across all areas, UBC’s GHG emissions will continue to increase substantially, risking UBC’s reputation and the many associated benefits, and exposing the institution to considerable energy and carbon liabilities in the future.

The CAP 2030 is a UBC-wide effort across both the Vancouver and the Okanagan campuses, and will require leadership and resourcing from many units across both campuses. The breadth and scope of the Plan necessitates that it reaches every corner of the institution, requiring a distributed approach to implementation. A CAP Accountability Framework has been developed that outlines responsibilities for implementation of actions, monitoring progress, governance over decisions and processes.

The distributed leadership model integrates concurrent work into this Plan, enhances mobilized resources across campuses, and embeds ownership and accountability for delivering on this Plan across the organization. This approach builds the cross-organizational capacity required for systems change. UBC Campus and Community Planning will serve as a support and/or lead for several discrete actions, and support the monitoring and reporting on progress led by units over time, ensuring all units are held accountable and recognized for advancing their respective actions. The distributed leadership approach will continue through implementation to ensure successful execution of this Plan.

CAP 2030 represents a significant UBC-wide effort across both the Vancouver and Okanagan campuses. The CAP 2030 team engaged UBC’s Strategic Decision Support to advise on the development of a resourcing strategy. The implementation horizon is 10 years and will require sustained leadership, increased resourcing, and cross-campus engagement with the academy and collaboration from many units across both campuses. Partnership opportunities will be pursued with utilities, industry and government to leverage funding and investments in low carbon solutions. Financial mechanisms and price signals will continue to be identified that support behavioral change while helping to fund emission reductions.

In response to a question from Senator Garrard, Ms Bilodeau stated that there is a concerted effort to reduce air travel between campuses and an investment in developing policies that will support and encourage opportunities for alternatives to air travel. She stated there is work underway to improve the measurement and tracking of business travel for both campuses and that current figures taken from travel booking systems are likely an underestimation, given that many faculty will arrange their own travel and are then reimbursed.

Senator Ebl commented that the presenters should consider that business travelers may be driving instead of flying. She noted that some students take a taxi home at night as there is insufficient public transit at night or early in the morning, and improvements to transit will require community partnerships. Dr Cormack responded that expanding transit options to the campus must be a joint project with the City and that with respect to environmental impact and sustainability, the City is looking at electrification of its bus fleet. The University can also work
with the City to increase bus service to campus at night so students have a safe and reliable community options. Increasing the number of student residences on campus will also reduce the number of students who commute daily to and from the campus. Mr Einarson added that the City is planning to build a facility adjacent to the campus where buses will be modified to be electric. While proximity to the campus may not mean that more buses will come here, it is part of the overall plan to increase transit options to and from the campus.

Senator Cioe questioned how more faculty, staff, and students will be encouraged to shift to electric vehicles, what incentives or disincentives are being considered? Mr. Einarson responded that the strategy will be a combination of both, and will consider factors such as the availability and cost of parking on campus, increasing the number of charging stations on campus, etc. These decisions will require input from the community as community buy-in to these initiatives will be critical. Dr. Cioe added that there are also equity considerations such as impact on students if the cost of parking on campus is increased.

Ms Falkner added that a possible incentive would be to offer electrification options to encourage more people to purchase an electric vehicle as many people are not able to charge their vehicles at home so their primary access to a charging station will be on campus.

Senator Eikenaar thanked the presenters and stated that he is very appreciative of the emphasis on the importance of a transportation plan. He questioned whether initiatives such as the agreement to increase the amount of parking at Kelowna Airport for people coming to campus is consistent with the transportation plan. Also, the 10% subsidy for transportation passes is not likely sufficient to persuade people to switch from driving to taking transit.

On the first comment, Mr Einarson responded that the request to increase access to parking for travelers came from the airport. The busiest time for the airport is in the summer months, and this is normally a quieter time for the campus, so overflow from the airport could be accommodated on campus. Dr. Cormack clarified that this is not an agreement but has been reported as one; discussions are still in an early phase. She added that at a recent meeting of the Airport Authority, she encouraged them to really start thinking about how they can have a similar kind of Climate Action Plan; the airport is a destination where people come and leave their vehicles and there may be some creative ways to minimize the environmental impact.

Senator McNeil commented that when moving forward to develop these policies, we should try to strike a balance between incentives and penalties. It is important to remember that the intent of these policies is not to move people from single-occupancy vehicles to transit, but rather to move people out of fossil-fuel burning vehicles into clean-energy vehicles. He added that emphasis should be on encouraging people to change to electric vehicles, which is consistent with the recent announcement by the BC Government; the hope is that 30% of all new cars are going to be electric by 2030 and 100% by 2040.

In response to a question from Senator McNeil on the timeline for the electrification of the Kelowna transit fleet, Ms Falkner responded it will be anywhere between 2023 and 2025, once the facility adjacent to the campus is built, with hopes of full electrification by 2050.
Senator Picault commented that many students who have a lengthy break between classes will go home and then return to campus and this may be one reason that students choose to drive rather than take transit. Has there been any consideration of augmenting the services provided on campus that would incentivize students to remain for the day rather than making multiple trips to and from campus? Mr Einarson responded that this issue is being considered by Enrolment Services to review scheduling options that would mitigate this to some degree.

Senator Garrard thanked the presenters for producing such a well thought-out and ambitious program, and commented on the Climate Emergency Task Force that it would be good to have a teaching and research initiative that is commensurate with it. He noted that a decentralized approach to implementing the plan on the Vancouver campus, and a similar approach may work well for the Okanagan Campus as well.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm