BONSOR 55+ Society Board Meeting

October 9, 2026

MEETING HELD AT BONSOR 55+ CENTRE

In Attendance:

Ernie Kashima (President) Chair	Brenda Felker (Director)	Albert Lam (Director)
Margaret Li (Vice President)	Pat Couch (Director)	Karen Cresswell (Secretary)
Eugene Hamel (Treasurer)	Agnes Lee (Director)	Kelly Pickthall (Staff)

Regrets:

Eva Hung (Director) Elizabeth Revoczi (Director)

Guests:

Connie Kamboh

Quorum met with 8 Directors in attendance.

We recognize that we are on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the Hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ and Sḵwx̱wú7mesh speaking peoples, and to extend appreciation for the opportunity to hold a meeting on this shared territory.

The meeting was called to order by Ernie Kashima at 10:03 am.

1. I**ntroduction of Guests**

Connie Kamboh was introduced as a Society member potentially interested in becoming a Board member. Connie, recently retired, provided a brief background of her career and interests.

2. **Agenda**

The Agenda was reviewed
Several additional items were added under New Business.
Moved: Ernie
Seconded: Karen
CARRIED. The agenda was approved, with additional items.

3. **Minutes of October 9, 2026**

The minutes were reviewed.
Moved: Albert
Seconded: Agnes
CARRIED. The minutes were approved.

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes - September 11, 2026**

There are no Business Arising items

5. **Correspondence**

Ernie advised that Kelly submitted an application to the City for a Christmas Lunch grant on behalf of the 55+ Society. Ernie thanked Kelly for submitting the application. A copy of the letter will be kept on file.

We received a thank you card from Caroline Young, Coffee Bar Services, for flowers that were sent in appreciation of her dedication and volunteer work with the Society.

6. **President's Report - Ernie**

Ernie recently attended a meeting regarding the possible reinstatement of the Health Watch program that was in place several years ago, and then was discontinued during the COVID period. The meeting determined several factors that would prevent the program from being reinstated in its original format. Ernie encouraged City staff to consider developing health related information sessions that would benefit 55+ Seniors.

Ernie discussed the feasibility of combining existing policies, procedures, and bylaws currently in place for the four Burnaby Senior Centres. One set of governance requirements would ensure consistency and transparency across all four Centres. Ernie is working on a process to gather policies (etc.) from all Centres and run them through AI with the objective of creating one governance document that will meet the requirements of all Centres, and the BC Societies Act. This is a big project that will require consultation and cooperation amongst all Centres. Ernie will discuss this concept with Board representatives at the next Advisory Committee meeting.

7. **Treasurer's Report - Eugene**

Eugene reviewed the Treasurer's detailed report and the summary report included in the document package.

Moved: Eugene
Seconded: Ernie
THAT the Treasurer is authorized to transfer $60,000 from the Society savings account to the Society term deposit when it matures in mid-November.
CARRIED.

The $60,000 transfer will leave the Society with over $10,000 of accessible cash after paying outstanding payables and the return of 'directed donations' for Table Tennis and Badminton events. In addition, the dances continue to provide approximately $4,000 each month.

Moved: Eugene
Seconded: Karen
THAT the Treasurer's report and the summary report are accepted, as distributed,
CARRIED.

A discussion took place regarding monies currently accrued by the Society, and whether there is a limit to the amount a Society is permitted to accumulate. Our Society is saving money over a period of several years knowing that we will eventually need to purchase a new bus. Ernie requested all Board members to think of ways to constructively use some accumulated money, and to share those ideas with other Board members prior to our next Board meeting. A discussion took place regarding the purchase of an electronic money counter/sorter to assist the ladies who count money.

Moved: Ernie
Seconded: Brenda
THAT a good quality money counter/sorter (for coins) be purchased for Society use.
CARRIED.

8. **City Centre staff report**

a) Kelly is temporarily covering the Centre Supervisor position, replacing Chelsea who is on maternity leave. A permanent replacement for Chelsea's maternity leave has not yet been named.

b) Kelly is working with Jacllyn and Rav to update/revise the 'group fee and how to join' document.

c) The Society's Choir group has requested to perform at the Christmas Luncheon at Riverway on Nov. 30th. If approved, they have asked whether the bus could provide transport for Choir members to and from the venue. Following a discussion, it was decided that the Choir could provide a Carolling session as guests arrive at the venue for the Luncheon. The Choir performance would be complete prior to the start of the Luncheon.

The bus would be provided to take Choir members to the venue early to set up, and then return to Bonsor, ready to transport Luncheon guests to the venue. Once the Carolling session has ended, the bus will transport the Choir members back to Bonsor, and return to the venue, ready to transport guests back to Bonsor once the Luncheon has completed.

d) Big Boo Event (Oct. 23rd)- Kelly thanked Board members who have volunteered for the event, and advised that Caroline has provided Coffee Bar volunteers as well.

e) Fall Dinner Dance (Nov. 6th) - The event is currently open for registration. As of this morning there are 31 members registered.

f) An issue has been brought forward regarding participation at scheduled Badminton group playing sessions. The Board advises adherence to the Badminton policy regarding allowable playing times for all Badminton group members. The policy should be made clear to all members, and all members of the Badminton group are expected to respect the policy in place.

Important: All groups operating within the Society are not permitted to offer lessons or instruction for money. Members cannot be charged a fee for lessons or instruction from other group members or individuals hired by a group to perform instruction. This is a serious liability issue that could result in legal consequences for the Society. All groups must discontinue this practice immediately, and all reference to offering lessons or instruction must be permanently removed from group websites and/or promotional materials.

g) Kelly advised that they are working on a 'Choose to Move' program for Seniors. It will be a free program that provides education during the first hour of the class, and exercise for the second hour. A suggestion was made to consider a seminar on Scams, specifically for Seniors.

9. **New Business**

Bonsor Group Leader and Liaison document - Karen

Group leaders were recently consulted and have provided revisions specific to their groups. There are still some outstanding liaison assignments at this time. Albert advised that the Table Tennis group meets on the third Monday, every other month. The Board Liaison is asked to attend; however, Albert has a conflict during those meeting times. Albert requests that another Board member attend on his behalf. This item will be brought forward at the November Board meeting, Karen will electronically distribute the revised document to the group leaders.

Burnaby Resident Description - Karen

Karen reviewed the description that was presented at the last Board meeting. Concern about ambiguity in the wording was expressed. It was decided that the document will remain as a Draft document, and will not be distributed at this time.

City Website - Bonsor 55+ Centre - Karen

Burnaby seniors who are new to the community, or those who want to learn about the Bonsor Seniors Centre, may decide to conduct a web search to find out details. If the word 'Society' is not used in a web search, our website will not come up; instead the search will be directed to the City website page 'Bonsor 55+ Centre'. The City website provides a short and generic blurb about Bonsor 55+ Society, and it does not include a link to the Society website.

Moved: Karen
Seconded: Margaret
THAT the wording in the City website for Bonsor 55+ Society be rewritten to provide better representation of Society operations, and that a link to the Society website be included.
CARRIED.

Kelly advised that a discussion regarding the City website would need to be arranged with Allison. Ernie asked Karen to write a proposed blurb and send it to him.

Coffee Bar and Lounge Use - Ernie

The Board advises that the Coffee Bar hot water and napkins are to be made available to members free of charge.

A question was asked regarding the use of Coffee Bar coupons that has been implemented recently. Brenda will ask Caroline about the use of coupons for the Coffee Bar.

It has been reported that on one or more occasions, a large group of people have claimed use of four or five tables in the lounge, and have set up a luncheon buffet for their group on an additional table. The group has been loud and is excessively large, leaving little room for other members to access the Lounge during those times. Ernie asked Kelly to monitor the situation, and if it occurs again, he will speak to the group.

Dances - room temperature - Ernie

The Banquet room where dances are held have been unusually hot and stuffy over the past couple of weeks. Kelly indicated that with work underway to repair the roof, the HVAC system has been interrupted, and hopefully this will be rectified quickly. Ernie reminded Board members to be respectful of City staff who may make adjustments to building doors, etc. in an attempt to alleviate the heat. Any building adjustments made by City staff are not to be changed.

Karaoke - Request for Funds - Agnes
Moved: Agnes
Seconded: Margaret
THAT the Karaoke group be approved to allocate $500 for Christmas and Chinese New Year celebrations.
CARRIED.

Social Line Dance - Request for Funds - Margaret
Moved: Margaret
Seconded: Pat
THAT the two Social Line Dance groups (Wednesday and Friday) be approved to allocate $400 each (total of $800) for Christmas and Chinese New Year celebrations.
CARRIED.

10. **Dates to Remember - Karen**

Karen reviewed the document in the meeting package.

11. **Good and Welfare - Karen for Elizabeth**

Dave Mangat - Sympathy card, sent July 29th
Mary Horton - Get well card in hospital, sent July 29th
Robert Lockhart, Snooker GL - Get well card in hospital, sent July 30th
Caroline Young - Appreciation card, sent in September
Roz Chua, Dance GL - Sympathy card and flowers on the passing of her husband Ron Chua.

12. Adjournment

Moved: Albert
Meeting adjourned at 11:54 am.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Friday, November 13, 2026