

NEWS AND VIEWS

 EventsAGM

Thanks again to everyone who attended BVCFA's 2026 AGM!

We have recorded the AGM and have it up in the [members' area of the website](#) for anyone who couldn't attend.

Election Results

"THANK YOU" to all the candidates in the 2026 elections, and all those who voted. Here are the election results:

- VP Communications & Engagement - Dara Taylor
- VP Operations & Labour - Kristy Calles, acclaimed.
- VP Negotiations - Reetu Mall, acclaimed
- Board of Governors - David Piechnik, acclaimed
- Academic Council Faculty Representatives - Christy Hemmingway, Heather Martin, Celine Provost and Shihab Bin Sultan. - all acclaimed
- Vacancies - 1 Academic Council & 1 alternate Academic Council

BVCFA Executive Updates**Presidents Message - Matt Kriz**

This year was not like the previous one. It's not exactly a return to business as usual but perhaps more an introduction to the new normal. Last year faculty and the college as a whole were faced with tremendous upheaval. This year it's more of a tenuous calm. We still face a number of uncertainties, but we also seem to have a basic direction: we will grow, and grow by a lot; new programs will be done in CBE format; health and health-related programs will be prioritized, including a degree in nursing; outcomes-based courses (still the vast majority of our programming) will receive minimal support from learning design; and AI will do stuff and we'll use it to do stuff and students will use it to do stuff and it will all be great, really, don't worry about it..

How you feel about any of the above surely depends on a number of factors, but one common element is that they are college priorities, set by the strategic plan and the executive. What I would like us to think about, as I mentioned in my speech at our AGM, is our priorities as faculty. What do we want the future to look like? More importantly, and a more difficult question, what needs to be done to enact some of those priorities? For me, personally, what I would like to see Bow Valley College be a leader in is a move away from academic labour being precarious labour. I would like to see us take concrete action to hire the amount of people, full-time, that we actually need to run our programs, rather than relying on underpaid casual employment with no promise of stability. This would be something that would make us stand out and it would be something that would make me proud to work here. How do we make that happen? I don't know yet, but having a goal and thinking, realistically, about what's needed to achieve it is a place to start. I would like all of us to think a little more about our goals and priorities in this way and start thinking about what we can achieve together.

Beyond that, whether you're teaching or working through it or taking some time off, I hope everyone is able to enjoy the summer season and the seemingly endless daylight. It's hard to be gloomy when the sun is shining for 16 hours a day.



Our Website:



<https://bvcfa.com>

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Looking Ahead: Building Stronger Connections Across Our Membership

As we approach the upcoming vote on the proposed dues increase, we encourage all members to stay informed and participate in the process. A strong and engaged membership is essential to ensuring our association can continue to effectively advocate for faculty interests.

Looking ahead to the fall, the BVCFA Executive will be launching an initiative to strengthen connections with members across all schools and departments. Our goal is to increase unity, representation, and member engagement so that we can better understand the needs and priorities of faculty and build collective power within our association.

This initiative will include intentional conversations with each school and department that is home to BVCFA members. We are also seeking an informal faculty leader or contact person from each area who can help facilitate communication and engagement with colleagues.

By working together and strengthening our connections across the institution, we can ensure that every member's voice is heard and that our association is well-positioned to advocate effectively on behalf of all faculty. More information will be shared in the coming months. We look forward to connecting with you.

Reminder to Vote

At the BVCFA 2026 Annual General Meeting, the membership approved a motion regarding a potential dues adjustment.

Voting on the proposed BVCFA dues adjustment remains open until June 19. Individual voting links were distributed via Survey Monkey on June 15.

As outlined in the proposal previously shared with members, the motion proposes:

- An increase in dues for Continuous, Temporary, Secondment, and Project classification faculty from 1.0% to 1.3% of gross salary; and
- No change to dues for Casual faculty, which would remain at 1.0%. The reason for this is that based on stipulations within the Collective Agreement, we have limited support regarding labour relations and grievance related services that we can offer casual faculty.

The proposed adjustment is intended to help ensure the long-term sustainability of the Association and maintain our ability to effectively represent members. Key considerations include:

- BVCFA has not increased dues in its history.
- Dues remain among the lowest of faculty associations in Alberta.
- Inflation and operating costs continue to rise.
- Legal, grievance, arbitration, and consulting costs have increased.
- Faculty numbers have declined due to program closures, reducing overall dues revenue.
- Additional financial capacity would allow the Association to explore future strategic options and strengthen the Association's ability to respond to members' needs.

The Executive encourages all members to review the proposal materials and participate in the vote. Your vote will help determine how the Association is positioned to support and advocate for members in the years ahead. Voting Period: June 15–19

Voting Information: via SurveyMonkey email collection

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this important decision.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Final Report from Vice President Negotiations, Phil Flegel



I have come to the end of my last term as Vice President Negotiations at the end of June and will turn the reigns over to Reetu Mall who will begin in the Fall. Please welcome Reetu and give her the support and kindness as you have shown to me. She will do a terrific job, and we are left in great hands.

We have accomplished much in the past six years. We have settled two contracts, bargained for control of our schedules through the Professional Responsibility Article, obtained the largest pay increase in BVCFA history for full-time faculty, and restructured and modernized the Chair modifier related to placement on the grid.

However, there is still much to work on and fight for: fair and equitable compensation for Casuals; creation of Sessional category (like everywhere else in PSE in Alberta) with transparent and fair wages based on published grid; and a fair, transparent, and equitable workload for full-time faculty. None of these advancements will be easy to obtain and we must continue to advocate and fight for them.

I would like to thank all the members of the FA executive that I have served with for six years for your volunteerism, your dedication, and hard work. Specifically, I would like to thank Lindsay Fairbrother, BVCFA Office manager; Penny Marcotte, Past President; Kristy Calles, VP of Operations; and Matt Kriz, President—your commitment to the Faculty Association, your professionalism, and your friendship is unparalleled and I thank you deeply.

In closing, as Matt Kriz indicated in his President's Report at the last AGM, we are facing VERY difficult headwinds as an Association: the political climate of the Province, rapid advancement of AI, and changing nature of academic programming at the College—just to name a few. Now, more than ever, it is important for you to get involved and help the FA defend your rights. You do this by signing up for a committee, dropping by during FA office hours, coming to social events, and being present and voting during GM/AGM and ratification votes.

The more involved faculty are in our organization, the stronger voice we have to defend and advance our rights.

Many thanks and I look forward to seeing you at upcoming FA events.

ENJOY THE SUMMER

Cheers!



Ingredients

- 1.5 oz Malibu Pink
- 3 oz Lemonade
- Garnish Lemon Wheel

Malibu Pink
Lemonade

Instructions

- Fill a highball glass with ice cubes
- Pour in the Malibu Pink and lemonade
- Garnish with a lemon wheel and enjoy!