



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
6:00PM – THURSDAY JANUARY 29, 2026
PNE Hastings Room
PUBLIC PORTION MINUTES

We respectfully acknowledge that the PNE operates on the unceded traditional and ancestral territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil–Waututh peoples.

Chair Klassen called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

Present: Mike Klassen, Chair
Steve Jackson, Vice Chair
Raj Sihota, Director
Rachel Roy, Director
Colin Knight, Director
Ty Speer, Director
Armin Amrolia, Director
Josh White, Director

Stacy Shields, Acting CEO / Vice President, People & Culture
Karen Massicotte, Vice President, Sales and Marketing
Salome Valente, Executive Assistant / Corporate Secretary
Shauna Wilton, Vice President, Operations
Claire Wang, Vice President, Finance & Corporate Services
Shelley Frost, President & CEO (remote)

Regrets: Maury Kask, Director
Ming Tian, Vice President, Facilities, Maintenance & Capital Projects

There being a quorum present and due notice having been given; the meeting was declared to be constituted for the transaction of business.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED by Director Ty Speer
SECONDED Director Raj Sihota

Resolved that the agenda for the Public Portion meeting of the Board of Directors for Thursday January 29, 2026 is adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Director Colin Knight
SECONDED by Director Raj Sihota

Resolved that the minutes for the Public Portion meeting of the Board of Directors for October 23, 2025 are adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. STAFF REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2.1 PNE Cybersecurity Update

An update on the PNE's Cybersecurity was included in the Board of Directors meeting materials for review. Claire Wang delivered the presentation.

Board Questions and Discussion:

Director Raj Sihota inquired about the participants involved in the FIFA readiness multi-party tabletop exercises. Claire Wang advised that planning is currently underway with a consulting firm and is expected to involve subject-matter experts, legal counsel and others.

There were no speakers registered for this agenda item.

2.2 Community Engagement Update

An update on the PNE's community engagement was included in the Board of Directors meeting materials for review. Karen Massicotte delivered the presentation.

There were no speakers registered for this agenda item and no questions from the Board of Directors.

2.3 Freedom Mobile Arch Sound Mitigation Plan

The sound mitigation plan for the Freedom Mobile Arch was included in the Board of Directors meeting materials for review. Karen Massicotte delivered the presentation.

Director Raj Sihota commended staff for incorporating community feedback into operational planning, particularly with respect to the Amphitheatre. She noted the importance of maintaining ongoing dialogue with the neighbourhood and emphasized that effective mitigation of community impacts will be critical to the success of new projects.

There were 3 speakers registered to speak on this agenda item

Maria Mussenden, community member

Maria Mussenden, a long-term resident of 36 years, expressed concerns regarding increased noise, traffic, and parking impacts associated with expanded programming. She raised issues related to historical noise limit exceedances, governance and transparency (including timing of the PNE's 2024 Annual Report), and the adequacy of current sound mitigation strategies.

Additional concerns included:

- Potential impacts on wildlife, including reported high noise levels near sensitive habitats.
- Lack of a public process for the Centre Grounds sound mitigation plan.
- Limitations of vegetation-based mitigation, particularly reliance on Western Red Cedar.
- The need for permanent, high-quality sound monitoring systems and greater public transparency.
- Clarification regarding communication to the public and accuracy of reported community feedback.

Chair Mike Klassen thanked Maria Mussenden for her remarks.

Katherine Dunster, community member

Katherine Dunster, a landscape architect and plant ecologist, raised concerns regarding the effectiveness of Western Red Cedar as a sound mitigation strategy, noting long growth timelines, disease susceptibility, and climate-related challenges. She emphasized that vegetation buffers require significant width to achieve meaningful sound reduction.

She also suggested:

- Exploring alternative or supplemental sound mitigation approaches, including vegetative wall systems.
- Considering environmental conditions and long-term ecosystem impacts in design decisions.
- Expanding programming to include a broader range of performance types, including lower-volume events.

Chair Mike Klassen thanked Katherine Dunster for her comments

Melina Auerbach, community member

Melina Auerbach raised concerns regarding accessibility and public participation, noting the absence of a virtual attendance option and limited awareness of the meeting. She encouraged improved communication and outreach strategies.

She further highlighted:

- Challenges residents face in reporting and resolving noise complaints.
- Concerns regarding the methodology used to identify impacted areas.
- The lived experience of neighbourhood noise impacts, including effects on families and vulnerable residents.
- The need for more comprehensive testing and data collection related to Centre Grounds programming.

Chair Mike Klassen thanked Melina Auerbach for her insights and comments

Board Questions and Discussion:

Chair Mike Klassen requested clarification on the process for managing noise complaints.

Karen Massicotte advised that for outdoor events, a Community Relations representative and reception staff respond to phone and email inquiries, supported by a sound monitoring team positioned at multiple on-site locations. For indoor events, staff conduct monitoring across surrounding neighbourhood areas and coordinate with event management as required. She noted that the PNE measures sound both at the source and at points of reception, exceeding standard practice. For the Freedom Mobile Arch, updated protocols are being developed to ensure real-time monitoring and response, including assigning a dedicated cell phone number for each event.

Chair Mike Klassen inquired on additional information on the vegetation being used at the Amphitheatre along with structures such as the sound wall.

Karen Massicotte acknowledged that vegetation will not provide immediate mitigation benefits. She emphasized that primary mitigation measures include the roof and sound wall, both designed specifically for sound control, and noted opportunities to incorporate additional vegetation over time.

Chair Mike Klassen requested clarification on the process for Public Board meeting notifications.

Karen Massicotte advised that currently communication is through the PNE website, social media channels, and community newsletter. She noted that staff are exploring options to enhance direct communication with neighbourhood residents such as the creation of a neighbour database that is not about advertising but is about communication. However neighbours would have to opt in based on compliance and privacy requirements.

Chair Mike Klassen encouraged continued public communication and noted that correspondence received by the Board is directed to appropriate staff for response.

Chair Mike Klassen advised that the next Board meeting with a public session is scheduled for July 30, 2026.

3. NEXT BOARD MEETINGS

The next Public Board of Directors meeting is scheduled July 30, 2026.

4. NEW BUSINESS

None

5. ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS PORTION OF MEETING

MOVED by Director Rachel Roy
SECONDED by Director Ty Speer

Resolved that the Public Portion of the Board of Directors meeting be adjourned at 7:12pm

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY