

Open Press Inaugural Advisory Board Meeting

Summary Notes

November 10, 2025, 10:00 to 11:00 AM, Microsoft Teams

Attendees

- Dani Collins, Publishing Manager, Open Press - Dcollins@tru.ca
- Marie Bartlett, Instructional Designer at Open Learning, Co-chair at Open Press - mbartlett@tru.ca
- Wei Yan, Faculty, Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching- wyan@tru.ca
- Jesse Ritcey, Program Manager, Kamloops Natural Scuba – jesse@naturekamloops.ca
- Christine Miller, Faculty, University and Employment Preparation - Cmiller@tru.ca
- Brenda Smith, Open Education Librarian – brsmith@tru.ca
- Jamie Drozda, Coordinator of Educational Technologies, Open Learning - Jdrozda@tru.ca
- Chris Cooley, TRUSU representative

We reached quorum (50% of active membership), as there were 8 representatives present at this meeting.

Recording

The meeting was recorded for board members unable to attend – available upon request at:

[Recap: 🗨️ OP Advisory Board Meeting – Agenda & Updates Monday, November 10 | Meeting | Microsoft Teams](#)

Welcome and Land Acknowledgment:

- The meeting began with a land acknowledgment by Marie Bartlett, recognizing the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc territory.
- Dani Collins welcomed Janelle and Chris, new TRUSU representatives, and opened the meeting agenda for approval.

Agenda and Meeting Minutes Approval

The agenda for the November 10 meeting was reviewed, along with the approval of minutes from the February 5th meeting.

- **Motion:** Agenda approved by **Brenda** and **Christine**.
- **Minutes Approval:** July 2025 minutes approved by **Jamie** and **Michelle**.

Updates on TRU Open Press Projects

- [Open Press Projects \(List Format\) – TRU Open Press](#)
- Dani Collins provided updates on the status of ongoing projects:
- **Overall Progress:** 71% of 80 total projects completed; 6 in editing/production; 8% still in content development.
- **Project Breakdown:**
 - 57 completed projects.
 - 12 projects adjudicated for 2025–2026.
 - 16 non-adjudicated projects supported (e.g., Plumbing, Open Learning courses, Honors College).
 - 7 projects on hold (non-adjudicated or awaiting response).
- **Plumbing Apprenticeship:**
 - *Level 2* released October 2025; used province-wide.
 - *Level 1* in development.
- **Future Earth Student Journal:**
 - Two issues published (including a special issue).
 - ISSN and DOI now active; discoverable via TRU Library.
- **Student Engagement:**
 - 77+ paid students since inception; 13 RAs this year.
 - Over 154 students involved in Open Press and OER projects overall.
 - Roles include RAs, reviewers, actors, content creators.

Student Involvement

Co-op Student Contributions:

- 7 co-op students hired from December 2024 – March 2025.
- 2 students focused on copyediting & impact stories.
- 5 students in production roles (E-Learning Support Technicians).
- 3 students received extended contracts.

Research Assistants (RAs):

- 2023-2024: 10 undergrad & grad students.
- 2024-2025: 9 undergrad & grad students.
- 2024-2026: 13 undergrad & grad students

Promotion & Awareness

Highlights:

- 9 project developer interviews completed this term; shared on website with stories and summaries. Two examples of project interviews shown during meeting:
 - <https://openpress.trubox.ca/2024/04/26/simulated-client-records/> (developers Devon and Pinder for Simulated Client Charts)

- <https://openpress.trubox.ca/2025/02/14/great-thinkers/> (student RA developers for Great Thinkers)
- 34 projects now listed on OER Commons, with plans to add to BCcampus (when submission portal is reopened) and eCampusOntario.
- Awareness tabling events held in September and October 2025.
- [October newsletter](#) released
- TRU Open Press Instagram launched by Divya, featuring project highlights and QR links.



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- Ongoing website and TRUSpace integration for improved discoverability (Brenda and Dani).

Impact and Data Collection

Highlights:

- Ongoing collaboration with IPE, TRU Library, and Open Learning to track OER adoption.
- Metrics include student reach, faculty adoption, engagement, and cost savings.
- Web analytics through WP Statistics show significant increases in international access, especially after OER Commons uploads.
- Example impact metrics shared (e.g., student savings, course reach).

Awards and Recognition

- TRU projects received five shortlist nominations and three OE Global Awards (2025) from 196 international submissions.
- Recognition has increased TRU's visibility as a leader in open education.

Operations and Staffing Updates

- Open Press confirmed to conclude March 2026 (end of ISP funding).
- Remaining 20 projects prioritized for completion by end of 2025.
- Copy editor Kaitlyn has moved on to a new role; Dani filling interim editing duties.
- Potential short-term contract editor being explored via Open Learning (and externally).
- Discussion of hiring co-op or contract support for copy editing and promotion in early 2026.

Strategic Discussion: Post-2026 Planning

Prompt: "With Open Press concluding in March 2026, what strategies should we prioritize to sustain OER development at TRU?"

Discussion Highlights:

- **Christine Miller:** Commended leadership; expressed concern about workload and continuity.
- **Marie Bartlett:** Exploring short-term editor contracts and prioritizing key projects (e.g., Plumbing).
- **Brenda Smith:** Suggested documenting start-up processes to streamline future relaunches.
- **Marie & Dani:**
 - Emphasized institutional hiring delays and funding challenges.

- Suggested collaboration with Advancement Office and potential industry partnerships (e.g., BC Hydro, Fortis) for future funding.
 - Acknowledged potential future support through Open Learning or OEWG structures.
- **Consensus:** Preserve processes, documentation, and resources for an eventual revival of Open Press or similar OER initiatives.

Open Discussion & Next Steps

- **Action Items from October Meeting:**
 - Revised project submission form in progress.
- Proposal for an in-person student event at the Research Hub (Sukh).
- **OER archiving initiative** (Brenda & Dani) - TBD
- **Long-term post-2026 sustainability planning** (Brian & Marie) - TBD
- **Next TRU Open Press Advisory Board Meeting:** Scheduled for May/June 2025.

Action Items

Who	What	Status/Notes
Dani & Brenda	Continue OER archiving via TRUSpace	In progress
Marie, Brian, Liesel, Dave	Explore OER support model post-2026	Ongoing discussions
Dani	Prioritize project completion and prepare summary data reports	In progress
Marie	Investigate short-term editing support via Open Learning	Pending
Sukh	Coordinate potential student showcase at Research Hub (Future Earth)	Planning for February/March 2026

Next Meeting

Date: February 2026 (TBD via Doodle poll)

Agenda Items (tentative):

- Project completion progress
- Post-2026 sustainability planning
- OER archiving and discoverability
- Student showcase planning update

Closing Remarks

- Marie Bartlett thanked members for their continued dedication and collaboration.
- Dani Collins expressed optimism for sustaining the momentum of Open Press, noting that project documentation and best practices are being archived for future use.
- Meeting adjourned at 10:57 AM.

Terminology

- ISP=Integrated Strategic Planning (grant)
- Adjudicated (review/funding)/ non-adjudicated projects
- OER=Open Educational Resources
- RA=Research Assistant
- CELT=Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching

Projects: <https://openpress.trubox.ca/projects/>

Open Press website: <https://openpress.trubox.ca/>

Adjournment Time: 10:57 AM

Meeting Minutes Prepared by: Dani Collins