



Downtown
Kitchener
Business
Improvement
Area

January 28, 2026
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
260 King St. W., #300
Kitchener, Ontario

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - MEETING MINUTES

Present: Linda Jutzi, Darryl Moore, Councillor Debbie Chapman, Jessica Toomer, Jordan Dolson, Michael Rederer, Sarah Pearson, Councillor Stephanie Stretch, Aura Hertzog, Phong Tran, Martha Wallace, and Laird Robertson,
Regrets: Cara Watson, Julie Phillips, Mayor Berry Vrbanovic, and Sgt. Ryan Leslie.
Recorder: Stefanie Golling

The meeting began with Darryl Moore as Chair at 8:34 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS

Moved by Laird Robertson, seconded by Jessica Toomer

"That the Board approves the January 28, 2026, agenda with amendments."

Carried Unanimously

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Sarah Pearson, seconded by Jordan Dolson

"That the Board approves the October 20, 2025, minutes."

Carried Unanimously

Moved by Councillor Debbie Chapman, seconded by Phong Tran

"That the Board approves the November 26, 2025, minutes."

Carried Unanimously

CITY OF KITCHENER UPDATES

Aura Hertzog provided updates on behalf of Downtown Economic Development, highlighting: the new Downtown Development Assistant, Amed, the ongoing website migration on City of Kitchener websites, and the collaborative efforts with the DTK BIA team on the DTK Welcome Package.

DTK BIA EVENTS

Arnold Yescas and Lori Muller joined the meeting.

Linda Jutzi shared that the Events team was tasked with creating new programming ideas for the cold months of January and February.

Mr. Yescas and Ms. Muller shared that Sunday Grind was developed to provide consistent programming within the café scene. With a very successful start, the program has been well-received by both business owners and attendees.

Additionally, the team, alongside Good Co, has been collaborating on Sunset Sessions indoors at the Conrad Centre, offering the same pop-up-style entertainment this winter season. New for this season is a preregistration requirement and rotating DTK restaurants offering food and beverage purchases at each event. As part of the event design, the team has ordered a neon sign in a sunset colour.

CHAMPIONS FOR CHARITY

Linda Jutzi shared an overview of the 2026 Champions for Charity event and the participation of staff member Arnold Yescas. Mr. Yescas would like to be branded on behalf of the DTK BIA and find creative ways to promote our businesses.

Directors discussed: alignment with strategic priorities, as well as marketing and community engagement opportunities. Ms. Jutzi shared that decisions need to be made before the February Board of Directors meeting since marketing for the event is underway.

Action item: The Marketing Committee to meet and review options and make a recommendation before the February Board of Directors meeting.

WASTE MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

An information session was hosted at City Hall for businesses to learn more about the Regional Waste Management Program. Linda Jutzi and Aura Hertzog shared an overview of the process and adjustments being made following the session.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Laird Robertson, seconded by Sarah Pearson
"That the meeting adjourns."

Carried Unanimously