

Regular Meeting of the Management Committee of UWSA Day Care

Minutes for February 12, 2026

In attendance:

Ioulia Berdnikova-Executive Director

Kim Bhathal Chair-Chair/parent

Natalie Van Rosmalen-treasure/parents

Vanessa Wiedman-member/parents

Andrei Hillonov-member/parents

Aleecia Doyle-member/parents/UWSA representative

Nadine Vroom-member/parents

Nathan Laser-member/parents

Robyn Liddle-member/parents

Chelsea Drane-member/parents

Yeojin Lee- UWSA staff

1- Start Meeting

1. Meeting called to order at 4:35PM by Chair – Kim B.

2- Agenda and Minutes Approval

1. February 12, 2026, Agenda motion accepted by Andrei H, Seconded by Aleecia D.
2. January 8th, 2026, Minutes approved by Aleecia D, Seconded by Andrei H

3- Reports

1. Daycare's Director report – please find attached.
2. Financial Update – Motion accepted by Andrei H. Seconded by Aleecia D.
In favor: Natalie V, Nathan L., and Chelsea D.

4- New Business

1. **Budget 2026-2027-** Ioulia B explained the budget structure follows ELCC requirements with a proposed surplus of \$336. Ioulia B asked to review revenue sources including parents fees, operating grants, and other revenue. Ioulia explained that fundraising was moved to zero as lunches were moved to separate category. For example, lunch fees and snack fees. Andrei H asked about missing line items regarding surplus and liabilities. Natalie V explained that the budget starts at zero each year as the surplus is a cash value, not part of the forward

budget. Natalie V. also asked whether joining the University of Winnipeg benefits plan would result in cost savings. Ioulia B. explained that the daycare maintains its own benefits plan, separate from the UWSA.

Ioulia B proposed allocating \$40,000 for staff health spending accounts. Ioulia B proposed \$1,000 per staff member for health spending accounts. Ioulia B requested committee input on whether part-time and retired staff should receive the full amount. Kim B. asked how many part-time staff members are currently employed. Ioulia B. confirmed there are three part-time staff members (M.B., Y.Y., and J.B.), as well as two retired staff members (F.A. and C.K.) who previously worked at the daycare for 20–30+ years.

Management committee all agreed to keep it simple with \$1,000 across the board for all staff members.

Ioulia B clarified that wellness funding for staff members will no longer cover expenses such as glasses. Eligible expenses must be related to mental or physical well-being. Examples include yoga classes, gym memberships, language classes (e.g., French), and similar activities that support overall wellness.

- 2. Cameras proposal**– Ioulia B presented a proposal to replace the daycare’s security cameras. Ioulia B explained that a parent’s car was stolen for the parking lot, but when they tried to check the camera footage, they discovered the camera was broken. Ioulia B presented a quote for \$66,843 to replace the cameras. Ted is negotiating with the University to cover some of the costs. Andrei H asked about the Pantel Zoom cameras on the list and their purpose. Ioulia B explained that cameras would be connected to the University security system. The management committee all approved spending up to \$66,843 Ioulia B. will propose adding a camera to the green space area to enhance security and supervision.

Daycare management committee structure- Ioulia B mentioned that the committee should be with people who can commit to 10 meetings per year. Kim B asked if there had been more discussion about the makeup of the management committee. Ioulia B explained she had approached Ted about it but didn’t get a clear answer. Ioulia B proposed moving the next AGM to October (after the audit) instead of April. Natalie V was voted in as a new member, replacing Joshua H

Ioulia discussed a proposal to have Catherine-Laura Dunnington from Developmental studies serve as an advisor to the daycare. Catherine would support staff with program development and activities. Catherine would be excused from teaching one course in 3 years to spend 3 hours a week at the daycare. University president had expressed approval of this idea. A meeting is scheduled with Catherine-Laura Dunnington, Ted Omega, and Ioulia B. to discuss about quality of care and programming for the children.

5- In Camera –

6- Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

1. Next Meeting March 19th, 2026 @4:30pm
2. Adjournment: 5:45PM

Ioulia's Notes February 2026

Enrollment

- As of February 3, we have 147 children. Utilization rate: 101.77%
- 64 spaces are allocated for the students. As of February 3, 2026 we have 66 children.
- 32 spaces are allocated for the faculty/staff at UofW. As of February 3, 2026 we have 38 children.
- 7 children are children of the UWSA's employees.

Staff update

- There are 40 staff on a payroll now. This number includes 2 ECEs on the long-term disability and 1 staff on the short-term disability.
- 3 staff are working part-time, they are U of W students.
- Proportion of trained staff is 90.38 %.
- Lan is expected to graduate in Spring 2026 and will receive an ECE II certificate.
- 3 ECEs are taking Developmental Studies courses. Pooja and Erin will graduate in a spring and will receive an ECE III qualification.
- Tatyana has been accepted into workplace program at MITT for September.
- Antu has applied to the MITT Workplace Program for September and is currently awaiting approval.
- Staff meeting was held on February 10 during which URIS training was provided.
- February 11 we had a police presentation for the staff.
- Eight University of Winnipeg students completed their practicum placements and will deliver presentations to staff in March.
- I participated at career fair at RRC Polytech on January 13, 2026.
- We currently have 5 Robertson college students completing their practicum in the center.
- Staff check – ins are almost completed.

Other items

- Panic buttons / emergency strobes project started January 25. The contractors have been performing evening / overnight work installing cable pathway and cabling.
- I am looking into replacing a cabinet in PS 5. The old one is beyond repair.
- Health inspector visited the center. Daycare passed the inspections. See attached report.

- Fire inspector visited the center and he found deficiencies with a sprinkler system that need to be addressed. After it will be fixed, I will set up a re-inspection appointment.
- We are waiting on the coordinator's visit to complete 2026-27 licencing process.

PS 1,2,3 news presented by Arlene T.

Welcome 2026.

Here is what PS123 has been up to in January. Upon our return, we eased into the new year; our rooms welcomed and celebrated the new year while reminiscing memories of 2025 (which was soooo long ago, lol).

We got right back into Music with Margo, Guitar with Gary, Yoga with Cathy and Musical movements with De. We attempted to make it to our Rec Plex time, however our Winnipeg Winter decided to come into full effect this month, too much wind and too high of a windchill to go for the short walk over. We will try again next month.

We continued our Toy Box activities on January 22 and focused on Numeracy. Children counted, sorted, matched and enjoyed special treats such as foot loops, animal crackers, and teddy grahams, all of which they used for their math activities.

We continue to share International and Indigenous Education with our children on a biweekly basis. Exposing them to different cultures, different countries, different foods/snacks and learnings.

PS123 engaged and participated in some indoor obstacle courses, full body physical activities to get some of the collected indoor energy due to weather conditions that kept us indoors for the majority of month.

PS 4,5,6 news presented by Julianna

Room 4- We had a great January. We did a lot of experimentation for science week including making slime and exploring ice and snow. We played a lot of numeracy games, such as exploring counting, pattern making, and addition. During the cold weather, we also spent lots of time doing indoor exercises, including Rec plex, Yoga, and obstacle courses. We are looking forward to February especially visits from our families for "I Love to Read" month.

Room 5- We spend some time doing experiments with different liquids (water, oil). The children used eye droppers to move liquid from one bowls to the next and watched the

reaction. The children were interested in dinosaurs, so we brought in some books, and some “dinosaur” (chicken) bones and talked about going on dinosaur dig. We learned some vocabulary. Le Paleologist, Tyrannosaurus Rex and other dinosaur names. We put some bones in the sand and added brushes for the children to explore. We did some Numeracy activities using food items. We counted then and sorted them.

Room 6- In January, we focused on imaginary trips around the world. We boarded a plane and stamped our passports. The children can have them as keepsakes. We visited Hawaii, Israel, Mexico, and Ukraine. It was wonderful learning about the different cultures.

As we finishes the month with Sprit week, we had a lot of fun! Thank you to the parents for their spirit too! We really had a great week. Of course, our favorite days were Birthday Day and the yummy cupcakes, and Pajama day and the many stories we read

Infants and Toddlers news presented by Yeojin L.

January kept us stuck inside a lot with tis cold weather, but we still had a lot of fun! we continued our winter and snow-themed activities throughout the month of January. Our babies have shown a strong interest in sensory play, so during the extremely cold days we brought snow indoors for a variety of snow sensory explorations such as painting, digging, and watching it melt on our fingers.

We also spent a week learning about Arctic animals and other things that live in the snow, giving the babies opportunities to explore new textures, sights, and sounds. Our weekly Indigenous education continued, supporting early awareness and respect for Indigenous culture.

We also saw the beauty of the northern lights and even built our own inukshuk from Ice!

To add even more fun, we enjoyed baking activities and making playdough together, encouraging sensory discovery and fine motor development.

We're excited to continue our journey of learning and growth this February. The month ahead will be filled with exciting events and celebrations.

Pre-school room presented by Yeojin L.

January was a wonderful and active month filled with fun, creativity, and meaningful learning. Even though we spent more time indoors, the children stayed curious, engaged, and excited to explore new experiences.

The children enjoyed music and movement with guitars and scarves, learned about arctic animals and the sounds they made, and had fun during Toy Box Day exploring fruity cereal. The children made popsicles, monster crackers, and bracelets while practicing sorting Indigenous Medicine Wheel colours using the cereal.

We also explored simple colour science experiments, practiced counting, learned letters and sorting skills, and stayed active with physical games like throwing balls at numbers and crawling under hula hoops and other games with balls.

Tanya introduced the children to the Ukrainian Hopak dance while wearing colorful Vinok Wreaths. The children had fun with simple movements while exploring and learning about Ukrainian culture.

Dramatic play was very popular this month. The children exercised their social skills while happily pretending to be dentists and construction workers as they played out what their creative imaginations dream up.

We're looking forward to a busy month ahead with lots of fun events, and we hope the weather gets better so we can enjoy playing outside.