

Board of Governors June 28, 2024

## **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

# Minutes of the Meeting of June 28, 2024 9:00 a.m., Executive Learning Centre, FA-386

or via Zoom

Present	Absent
Voting Members Present	Voting Members Absent
Barbeau, Jay	Barry, Aaron
Barltrop, James	Eshkawkogan, Kevin
Bouchard, Roxanne	Guay, André
Cameron, Vern, Chair	Manitowabi, Tammy
Harquail, David	Recollet, Angela
Kurkimaki, Laura	3
Ramakko, Brian	
Tavafi, Mehdi	
Wells, Lynn, President and Vice-Chancellor (ex-officio)	
Non-Voting Members Present	Non-Voting Members Absent
Colin, Fabrice, LUFA Representative	Bassett, Shannon, Senate Representative
Gorham, Robyn LUFA Representative	Fenske, Tom, LUSU Representative
McGibbon, Joseph, LUAPSA Representative	Scott, Dan, Senate Representative
Sbaa, Nawfal, AEF Representative	
Vincent, Danielle, University Secretary	
Yazdani, Noushin, CUPE Representative	
Others in attendance (Resources & Presenters)	
Beaudry, Dominic, Associate Vice-President, Indigenous &	
Academic Programs	
Boyer, Céleste, General Counsel	
Brouwer, Brenda, Interim Provost & VP, Academic	
Croteau, Leeanne, Manager, Procurement & Contracts	
Eger, Tammy, Vice-President, Research	
Fontaine, Pierre, Director, Operations & Maintenance	
Hoy, Sandra, Chair, Research Ethics Board	
Lackey, Anthony, Risk Specialist	
Lavallée, Normand, Associate Vice-President, Financial	
Services	
Leclerc, Renée, Executive Administrative Assistant,	
University Secretariat	
Lehtimaki, Shauna, Director, Institutional Planning	
Myers, Naomi, Manager, Risk & Insurance	
Pellerin, Gabrielle, Legal Counsel	
Piquette, Nicole, Associate Vice-President, Financial	
Services	
Roy, Luc, Associate Vice-President, Information Technology	

## **CLOSED SESSION**

The Chair, Mr. Vernon Cameron called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and University Secretary, Ms. Danielle Vincent, confirmed quorum. Mr. Cameron began the meeting by acknowledging the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and that Laurentian University is on the traditional lands of the Atikameksheng Anishnawbek and that the City of Greater Sudbury, also includes the traditional lands of the Wahnapitae First Nation. We extend our deepest respect to Indigenous peoples - as a sign of our continued relationship we will support Laurentian University's Truth and Reconciliation Task Force Recommendations. Miigwech.

Mr. Cameron noted that this is a closed session and any material or discussions are to remain confidential.

Mr. Cameron welcomed the newly appointed Board Governor, Mr. James Barltrop, and also acknowledged that this was the final meeting to be attended by Dr. Brenda Brouwer in the capacity of Interim Provost and Vice-President, Academic for Laurentian University. Mr. Cameron and the Board thanked Dr. Brouwer for her contributions to Laurentian University over the tenure of her interim appointment.

## **CLOSED INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS**

### 1. Adoption of the Closed Agenda

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, noted that documentation for agenda item #6.2, For Approval: Laurentian University Administrative and Professional Staff Compensation Adjustment, was not circulated to Voting Governors within the timeframe stipulated by the General Bylaws of the Board of Governors; therefore, Mr. Cameron afforded the opportunity for Governors to object to this item being discussed and heard at this meeting. With no objections raised, item #6.2 remained on the agenda for this meeting and no additional issues were raised with respect to the meeting agenda.

MOTION: Moved by Brian Ramakko and seconded by Roxanne Bouchard.

That the Agenda be approved as presented.

Carried unanimously.

## 2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited members to declare any conflicts of interest. It was noted for the record that Board member Mr. David Harquail, has previously disclosed a potential conflict he may have from time to time regarding discussions concerning the treatment of the University's endowment fund and/or deferred donor contributions. No additional conflicts of interest were declared.

## 3. President's Items (Oral Update)

The Chair, Mr. Cameron invited President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Lynn Wells, to speak to this item. Dr. Wells welcomed Mr. James Barltrop to the Board of Governors, and touched on the many engagements and successes she has experienced since the commencement of her term, including the recent National Building Reconciliation Forum hosted by Laurentian University which was described as a tremendous success. Dr.

Wells also highlighted a number of key topics and areas that will be her focus over the coming months as the university ramps up for the upcoming academic year.

## 4. Finance and Properties Committee Items

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited the Vice-Chair of the Finance and Property Committee, Mr. Brian Ramakko, to introduce each of the following items.

## 4.1 For Information: Real Estate Update

Mr. Ramakko invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine advised that she and her team continue to meet with Infrastructure Ontario (IO) and Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) representatives on a bi-weekly basis regarding the sale of the first property.

Following Ms. Lafontaine's remarks, a discussion took place regarding the pace of the negotiations in light of the upcoming deadline. To allow for closer monitoring, it was agreed that members of the Board of Governors would receive a weekly update from the Vice-President, Finance and Administration's office, commencing the following week.

## 4.2: For Information: Status of Relationship with Federated Universities

Mr. Ramakko invited the General Counsel, Ms. Céleste Boyer to speak to this item. Ms. Boyer introduced the topic and invited Legal Counsel, Ms. Gabrielle Pellerin, to present the topic to the Board. Ms. Pellerin presented the information provided in the meeting material which highlighted the evolution of the relationship between Laurentian University and the formerly Federated Universities. It was noted that efforts were underway to update some of the agreements, and that the Board of Governors would be presented with an update regarding those efforts at its Fall 2024 meeting.

## 4.3: For approval: Renewal of University Benefits Provider

Mr. Ramakko invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine noted that ratification of the contract renewal with the university's benefits provider is being sought, following authorization of a one-year (1) renewal, in order to allow the university time to assess the value received by the current provider and if pursuing a request for proposals is in order.

With no questions being raised, the following resolution was considered as presented.

## BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Governors ratify the contract renewal with Manulife Financial for Long Term Disability, Health and Dental Benefits, as recommended by the Finance and Property Committee, and as presented at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Brian Ramakko and seconded by James Barltrop.

## 5. Audit and Risk Committee Items

## 5.1 For Information: Cyber Incident and Cyber Security Update

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine provided an update on areas where work is ongoing following the cyber incident.

### 5.2 For Information: Enterprise Risk Management Report

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine highlighted that over the past eighteen (18) months, a policy and framework have been put in place to enable the organization and its leaders to better identify risks, with the goal being to better mitigate and address risks as they are identified or arise. Ms. Lafontaine noted that work is ongoing on this topic with the goal being to have a more prioritized list of institutional risks presented to the Board Audit and Risk Committee, and subsequently Board of Governors over the next few months.

### 5.3 For Information: Auditor General of Ontario Update

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine highlighted that a team from the Auditor General's (AG) office was welcomed on campus May 22 and 23, 2024 as part of a standard follow-up audit which is to occur at years two (2) and five (5) following the release of special reports. Ms. Lafontaine reported that the AG team's visit seemed positive and findings from their recent visit would be included in the AG's Fall report.

Following Ms. Lafontaine's remarks, a discussion took place regarding Senate engagement in regards to the recommendations. Dr. Brouwer advised that it was anticipated that Senate engagement would begin with the Academic Planning Committee's (ACAPLAN) work to develop an Academic Plan for the University, which was underway. It was agreed that further details, including anticipated timelines, be prepared and presented to the Board of Governors in Fall 2025.

\*Note: at the conclusion of this item, Governor Mehdi Tavafi exited the room.

#### 5.4 For Approval: Appointment of Laurentian University Research Ethics Board Interim Chair

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited Vice-President, Research, Dr. Tammy Eger, to speak to this item. Dr. Eger explained that the current Research Ethics Board (REB) Chair, Dr. Sandra Hoy, who was appointed

for a three (3) year term is going on a one (1) year sabbatical commencing July 1, 2024; therefore, during Dr. Hoy's sabbatical, the REB requires an interim Chair. Following REB membership solicitation to fill this temporary vacancy, the candidate in question submitted their candidacy for consideration. This candidate was subsequently recommended for appointment by the REB at their recent meeting and is therefore being presented to this Committee for consideration.

With no comments or questions raised, the resolution was considered as presented.

## BE IT RESOLVED,

THAT the Board of Governors approve the appointment of Dr. Susan Boyko as Interim Chair of the Laurentian University Research Ethics Board (LU REB), as recommended by the LU REB at its meeting of April 5, 2024, as recommended by the Audit and Risk Committee and as presented at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

Moved by Jay Barbeau and seconded by Brian Ramakko.

Carried unanimously.

### 5.5 For Approval: Laurentian University Research Ethics Board Member Appointment

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited Vice-President, Research, Dr. Tammy Eger, to speak to this item. Dr. Eger noted that this item is being brought to this Committee, and subsequently to the Board of Governors, in order to consider and approve Research Ethics Board (REB) member appointments, when vacancies exist. As such, noting the REB identified a gap in members with indigenous knowledge, it identified a strong candidate to fill this gap.

With no comments or questions raised, the resolution was considered as presented.

### BE IT RESOLVED,

THAT the Board of Governors approve the appointment of Bobbie-Rose O'Donnell as a member of the Laurentian University Research Ethics Board (LU REB), as recommended by the LU REB at its meeting of February 2, 2024, as recommended by the Audit and Risk Committee, and as presented at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

Moved by Roxanne Bouchard and seconded by David Harquail.

Carried unanimously.

#### 6. Human Resources Committee Items

#### 6.1 For Information: Collective Bargaining Update

The Vice-Chair of the Human Resources Committee, Ms Laura Kurkmaki, invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine to present this item. Ms. Lafontaine provided an update regarding steps taken to prepare for and engage in negotiations thus far. Ms. Lafontaine also noted that a Conciliation Officer, had been appointed by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training

and Skills Development to assist the collective bargaining process. Ms. Lafontaine noted that meetings had been scheduled throughout the summer, and it appeared that both sides were committed to reaching a mutually beneficial agreement. As a result of a question raised, members were updated on the expected date of strike action if bargaining were not successful.

## 6.2 For Approval: Laurentian University Administrative and Professional Staff Compensation Adjustment

\*Prior to presenting this item, noting conflicts of interest for staff members, including the University Secretary, as part of the LUAPS or Senior Leaders groups, it was recommended that an Acting University Secretary be appointed to allow that these individuals recuse themselves for the presentation and consideration of this agenda item.

As such, the following resolution was considered:

**BE IT RESOLVED** 

THAT the Board of Governors appoint Dr. Lynn Wells as Acting University Secretary for the consideration of Closed Session agenda item #6.2, at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

Moved by Jay Barbeau and seconded by David Harquail.

Carried with two (2) abstentions (L. Wells and R. Bouchard due to conflicts of interest).

The Vice-Chair of the Human Resources Committee, Ms Laura Kurkmaki, invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine to present this item. The following resolution was then considered:

BE IT RESOLVED,

THAT the Board of Governors approve a one (1) year compensation adjustment of one percent (1%) for the LUAPS and Senior Leader groups, effective July 1, 2024, as recommended by the Human Resources Committee and as presented at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

Moved by James Barltrop and seconded by Jay Barbeau.

Carried with two (2) abstentions (L. Wells and R. Bouchard, due to conflicts of interest).

\*Recused staff members, including the University Secretary, returned to the meeting.

#### 7. Other Business

There were no other business items raised for discussion or consideration.

#### 8. Adjournment of the Closed Session

Having exhausted the agenda, the closed session of the meeting of the Board of Governors was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

### PUBLIC SESSION

\*Note: Governor Mehdi Tavafi returned for the Open session

The Chair, Mr. Vernon Cameron called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m. and University Secretary, Ms. Danielle Vincent, confirmed quorum. Mr. Cameron began the meeting by acknowledging the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and that Laurentian University is on the traditional lands of the Atikameksheng Anishnawbek and that the City of Greater Sudbury, also includes the traditional lands of the Wahnapitae First Nation. We extend our deepest respect to Indigenous peoples - as a sign of our continued relationship we will support Laurentian University's Truth and Reconciliation Task Force Recommendations. Miigwech.

Mr. Cameron also noted that this meeting was an open public session that was being live streamed.

### **INFORMATION SESSION**

### A. Learning Session: SPAD - The Next 50

The University Secretary, Ms. Danielle Vincent, introduced Dr. Anthony Church, Director & Associate Professor, School of Sports Administration (SPAD) with the Faculty of Management, who was invited and graciously accepted to present to the Board of Governors the work being undertaken by the SPAD program from its inception to present, and where it sees itself into the future.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

### 1. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Jay Barbeau and seconded by Roxanne Bouchard.

That the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried unanimously.

## 2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited members to declare any conflicts of interest. It was noted for the record that Board member Mr. David Harquail, has previously disclosed a potential conflict he may have from time to time regarding discussions concerning the treatment of the University's endowment fund and/or deferred donor contributions. Additionally, Board member Mr. Jean-Pierre (Jay) Barbeau declared a conflict of interest pertaining to agenda item #10.1. There were no additional conflicts of interest declared.

#### 3. Unanimous Consent Agenda:

The Chair, Mr. Cameron asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented in the material package; however, a question was raised by non-voting Governor, Dr. Fabrice Colin, with respect to Item 3.1 F, *Draft minutes from the Special Closed Board of Governors meeting of May 3, 2024.* As such, Mr. Cameron noted that this item would be removed from approval as part of the Consent Agenda, and would be considered separately.

The Chair then asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented in the materials subject to the removal of the item noted, more particularly:

3.1. *Adoption* - Minutes: Regular meeting held April 26, 2024, Special Closed Meetings held March 1, 2024, March 28, 2024, and May 16, 2024, as well as electronic

votes dated April 8, 2024, April 19, 2024 and May 28, 2024.

- 3.2. Received for information Summary of Information Reports by Board Standing Committees:
  - 3.2 A Audit and Risk Committee Report
    - i. Campus Security Annual Report
  - 3.2 B Finance and Property Committee Report
  - 3.2 C Governance Committee Report
  - 3.2 D Human Resources Committee Report
  - 3.2 E Joint Committee on Bilingualism Report i. Francophonie at Laurentian University
- 3.3. Adoption Work Plans:
  - 3.3 A 2024-2025 Work Plan Audit and Risk Committee

BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2024-2025 Audit and Risk Committee Work Plan, as recommended by the Audit and Risk Committee and as presented at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

3.3 B 2024-2025 Work Plan - Finance and Property Committee

BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2024-2025 Finance and Property Committee Work Plan, as recommended by the Finance and Property Committee and as presented at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

3.3 C 2024-2025 Work Plan - Joint Committee on Bilingualism Committee

BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2024-2025 Joint Committee on Bilingualism Work Plan as presented at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Brian Ramakko and seconded by James Barltrop.

THAT the items listed in the Consent Agenda be approved as presented.

## 3.1 F For Approval: Approval of the minutes of the Special Closed Board of Governors meeting of May 3, 2024

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited non-voting Governor, Dr. Fabrice Colin, to speak to the item removed from the consent agenda. Dr. Colin noted that the minutes in question pertain to a meeting where the Board of Governors approved a series of nominations for honorary degrees from a list of candidates approved by the Senate. Dr. Colin noted concern that the Senate had not received an update and asked whether a report from that Board meeting would be provided to members of the Senate.

Following Dr. Colin's comments, President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Lynn Wells, acknowledged Dr. Colin's request, noted the confidentiality issues involved and advised that further discussions would take place regarding an appropriate mechanism to address the request.

The Chair, Mr. Cameron noted that Dr. Colin's comments did not raise issues concerning the accuracy of the minutes presented for approval; therefore, asked that a motion to adopt these minutes excluded from the Consent Agenda be considered.

MOTION: Moved by Jay Barbeau and seconded by Brian Ramakko.

THAT the minutes of the special closed meeting of May 3, 2024 be adopted as presented.

Carried unanimously.

## 4. President's Report

The Chair, Mr. Cameron invited President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Lynn Wells, to present her report. Dr. Wells touched on key highlights from her written report provided in the meeting materia. In particular, Dr. Wells noted that she is looking forward to the coming academic year as there are many positive changes on the horizon, including the commencement of various full-time senior academic leaders. Additionally, Dr. Wells recognized Mr. Dominic Beaudry, Associate Vice-President, Academic and Indigenous Programs for his outstanding efforts in organizing the recent National Building Reconciliation Forum which was a tremendous success.

## 5. Transformation Plan Update

The Chair, Mr. Cameron invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine highlighted that the organizational structure for the Transformation Implementation Office (TIO) was recently finalized which is an important step to ensure a clear understanding of the structure

that will be in place to manage the transformation implementation activities. Additionally, Ms. Lafontaine noted that on the personnel front, the TIO will be staffed by a full-time Lead Transformation Officer and term roles that will work together to achieve the various transformation plan objectives. Lastly, Ms. Lafontaine highlighted that transformation will be a multi-year initiative focusing on achieving business excellence in various areas across the institution, while also maintaining a climate of continuous improvement with respect to policies and processes with the ultimate goal of ensuring a positive student, staff and faculty experience.

Following Ms. Lafontaine's remarks, Dr. Lynn Wells, President and Vice-Chancellor, noted that recently Ms. Lafontaine was invited to speak at a Canadian Association of University Business Officers (CAUBO) conference and of particular interest from attendees was the transformation work the institution is undertaking, which Dr. Wells noted Laurentian University can use this to its advantage in setting the standard of what a transformed university looks like.

## 6. Financial Update

The Chair, Mr. Cameron invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine referred Board members to the presentation provided in the meeting material which highlights cash balances for the period of January, 2021 to April 30, 2024 and both cash flow and investment returns.

### 7. Finance and Property Committee Items

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited the Vice-Chair of the Finance and Property Committee, Mr. Brian Ramakko, to introduce each of the following items.

### 7.1 For Approval: Pension Annual Governance Report

Mr. Ramakko invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine highlighted that the purpose of the Pension Annual Governance Report is to provide an update on the pension plan and to review the requirements, and ensure compliance, with the Laurentian Pension Responsibility Chart. Ms. Lafontaine also noted concerns had been raised with respect to the scheduling of meetings of both the Pension Committee and Joint Pension Committee. Ms. Lafontaine assured Board members that changes in the scheduling process were being implemented to ensure better committee member availability. Mr. Ramakko confirmed the Committee had no concerns about the accuracy of the report and would ensure the concerns raised were addressed.

With no further questions or comments, the resolution was considered as presented.

#### **BE IT RESOLVED**

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Pension Annual Governance Report, as of December 31, 2023, as recommended by the Finance and Property Committee, and as presented at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Roxanne Bouchard and seconded by Laura Kurkimaki.

### 7.2 For Approval: Policy on Purchasing

Mr. Ramakko invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine explained that the existing Policy on Purchasing is being updated to ensure it incorporates certain elements of new legislation as well as revised definitions, roles and responsibilities that more accurately reflect the institution. Ms. Lafontaine also highlighted that the proposed changes had been determined following extensive consultations with peers within the Ontario and Canadian university network.

With no comments or questions raised, the resolution was considered as presented.

#### BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Governors approve the revisions to the Policy on Purchasing and the Laurentian University Supplier Code of Conduct, as recommended by the Finance and Property Committee, and as presented at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Jay Barbeau and seconded by Brian Ramakko.

Carried unanimously.

#### 8. Audit and Risk Committee Items

#### 8.1 For Approval: Update to Laurentian University Research Ethics Board Terms of Reference

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, who is also Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, invited Vice-President, Research, Dr. Tammy Eger, to speak to this item. Dr. Eger highlighted that the REB convened a Committee to look at all policies and procedures of the REB to determine if changes were needed and changes to the ToR were identified, mainly with respect to language, noting no substantive process changes were recommended.

The Committee chair noted that the Audit and Risk Committee had recommended one minor change and was recommending the revised terms of reference for approval as presented to the Board. The resolution was then considered as presented.

#### BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Governors approve the updated Terms of Reference, as approved by the Laurentian University Research Ethics Board on April 5, 2024 and as recommended by the Audit and Risk Committee, as presented at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Roxanne Bouchard and seconded by Laura Kurkimaki.

### 8.2 For Information: Auditor General of Ontario Update

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, who is also Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine explained that in May 2024, a team from the Auditor General of Ontario's (AG) office returned to the Laurentian University campus to perform a post-special report review, which is part of the normal process following the release of all special reports. Ms. Lafontaine noted that the AG team's visit was for the purpose of assessing the University's progress in the implementation of the recommendations made in its November 2022 special report. Additionally, Ms. Lafontaine noted that a written report on the AG team's recent visit will be included in the AGs September report. The Chair then commended the University's leadership team on its management of the review process.

## 9. Human Resources Committee Items

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited the Vice-Chair of the Human Resources Committee, Ms. Laura Kurkimaki,, to introduce each of the following items.

## 9.1 For Information: 2024-25 Performance Goals for President & Vice-Chancellor

Ms. Kurkimaki highlighted that at the May 2024 meeting of the Board Human Resources Committee, Dr. Lynn Wells, President and Vice-Chancellor, presented proposed goals which focused on various areas linked to the strategic plan and which provided performance metrics for goal achievement in the coming year. Ms. Kurkimaki highlighted the Committee's appreciation of the inclusion of metrics in the proposal and advised that following fulsome discussions at the Committee-level regarding the proposed goals, the Committee was unanimous in supporting the goals as presented by Dr. Wells.

In a further discussion, it was confirmed that the Board would be provided with updates on progress towards the goals at each of its regular meetings.

## 9.2 For Information: 2023 Occupational Health & Safety Annual Report

Ms. Kurkimaki invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine provided a high-level overview of the report which noted that over the past few weeks, all senior leaders at the institution have undergone incident command training, and this type of training will continue to be delivered to ensure that health and safety remain top of mind. Additionally, Ms. Lafontaine thanked members of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee and noted the tremendous work they are accomplishing to ensure Laurentian University offers a safe environment.

#### 9.3 For Approval: Associate Vice-President of Strategic Initiatives

Ms. Kurkimaki introduced this item and invited the President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Lynn Wells, to present this item. Dr. Wells explained that a gap had been identified in supporting the Office of the President and Senior Administrators with respect to managing various strategic initiatives underway, in particular the implementation of the Strategic Plan. Dr. Wells further noted that these initiatives were critical and current workloads among senior leadership did not allow for the necessary level of coordination to ensure their success. Dr. Wells described the proposed organizational structure

surrounding the position. Lastly, Dr. Wells noted that no additional funding was required for this position noting there are sufficient existing funds within the Office of the President and Vice-Chancellors budget for 2024-2025.

Ms. Kurkimaki expressed the Human Resources Committee's support for the new role. In additional discussion, a non-voting member commented on the importance of being mindful of increasing administrative expenses, but noted appreciation that these costs had been considered in the proposal. It was confirmed the University's administration was mindful of the issue and had incorporated this consideration in making the decision to bring this proposal forward.

With no further comments, the following resolution was considered as presented.

### BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Governors approve the creation of the position of Associate Vice-President of Special Initiatives, as recommended by the Human Resources Committee, and as presented at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Jay Barbeau and seconded by Roxanne Bouchard.

Carried unanimously.

9.4 For Information: Recruitment Updates
A: Students
B: Faculty
C: Senior Academic Administrators

Ms. Kurkimaki invited Interim Provost and Vice-President, Academic, Dr. Brenda Brouwer, as well as Vice-President, Research, Dr. Tammy Eger, to speak to this item. Dr. Brouwer highlighted that seven (7) new tenure track positions have been filled with start dates being either July 1st or August 1st, 2024, the new Associate Vice-President, Students commenced work on June 17th with many exciting changes being implemented to centralize student services in an effort to increase and improve access, and the institution is in the final stages of filling the roles of Dean, Faculty of Education and Health, and Dean, Graduate Studies and International.

A discussion then took place during which it was confirmed that the University had experienced significant success in being able to attract new faculty.

#### 10. Governance Committee Items

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited the Chair of the Governance Committee, Ms. Laura Kurkimaki, to introduce each of the following items.

#### 10.1 For Approval: Appointment of Board Vice-Chair for 2024-2025

\*Noting a declared conflict of interest with the following agenda item, Committee member Mr. Jay Barbeau was excused from the meeting.

Ms. Kurkimaki introduced this item noting Mr. Barbeau's contributions to the Board over the course of his current appointment. The University Secretary, Ms. Danielle Vincent, further explained the process by which the nomination was made, noting that fellow Governors had supported Mr. Barbeau's nomination.

With no questions being raised, the resolution was considered as presented.

### BE IT RESOLVED,

THAT the Board of Governors elect Jean-Pierre (Jay) Barbeau as Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors for a term beginning July 1, 2024 and ending at the close of June 30, 2025, as recommended by the Governance Committee, and as presented at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Brian Ramakko and seconded by Laura Kurkimaki.

Carried with one (1) abstention (J. Barbeau - due to conflict of interest).

### **10.2 For Approval: Standing Committee Appointments**

Ms. Kurkimaki introduced this item and invited the University Secretary, Ms. Danielle Vincent, to speak to this item in further detail. Ms. Vincent noted the Board was tasked with considering and approving appointments to standing committees for the 2024-2025 year and explained the process which was utilized to determine the standing committee appointments, as presented. Additionally, Ms. Vincent noted while there remains some vacancies, efforts will continue over the summer to fill those vacancies.

A discussion then took place regarding the process by which the Committee and Board considered the appointments and the considerations leading to the proposal. The following resolution was then considered as presented.

## BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Board of Governors approve the appointments to the respective standing committees of the Board and other committees requiring Board appointees as listed in Item 10.2 A for terms commencing immediately upon approval and ending at the close of the 2025 annual meeting, as recommended by the Governance Committee, and as presented at its meeting of June 28, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Brian Ramakko and seconded by Roxanne Bouchard.

Carried unanimously.

#### 11. Report from the Laurentian University Native Education Council

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited the Associate Vice-President, Academic and Indigenous Programs, Mr. Dominic Beaudry to speak to this item. Mr. Beaudry highlighted the work and various contributions of the LUNEC over the period of January to March, 2024, as detailed in the meeting material.

Following Mr. Beaudry's remarks, the Chair, Mr. Cameron, commended Mr. Beaudry for the tremendous efforts that went into planning and hosting the National Building Reconciliation Forum.

## **OTHER ITEMS**

### 12. Chair's Items

The Chair, Mr. Cameron noted there were no Chairs items to present.

### 13. Other Business

The Chair, Mr. Cameron confirmed there were no new business items to discuss or address. Mr. Cameron made an invitation to all Governors to bring forward any recommendation they may have.

\*The Open Session of the Board of Governors meeting was adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

### IN CAMERA

### 14. In Camera Discussion

The Board of Governors then proceeded with their In Camera Discussion without the Executive Team.

### ADJOURNMENT

#### 15. Adjournment

Having exhausted the items on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 1:29 p.m.

Vernon Cameron, Chair

Danielle Vincent, University Secretary