

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**Minutes of the Meeting of April 26, 2024  
9:00 a.m., Executive Learning Centre, FA-386  
or via Zoom**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<p><b><u>Voting Members Present</u></b>            Barbeau, Jay            Barry, Aaron            Bouchard, Roxanne            Cameron, Vern, <b>Chair</b>            Guay, André            Harquail, David            Kurkimaki, Laura            Manitowabi, Tammy            Olufowobi, Similoluwa            Ramakko, Brian            Wells, Lynn, President and Vice-Chancellor (ex-officio)</p> <p><b><u>Non-Voting Members Present</u></b>            Brockerhoff-Macdonald, Bettina, LUAPSA Representative            Fenske, Tom, LUSU Representative            Gorham, Robyn LUFA Representative            Sbaa, Nawfal, AEF Representative            Vincent, Danielle, University Secretary</p> <p><b><u>Others in attendance (Resources &amp; Presenters)</u></b>            Boyer, Céleste, General Counsel            Brouwer, Brenda, Interim Provost &amp; VP, Academic            Carpenter-Wright, Shelley, Associate Vice-President, Human Resources and Organizational Development            Courtemanche, Zachary, Guest Presenter            Demianiuk, Benjamin, Director, Business Development            Eger, Tammy, Vice-President, Research            Fontaine, Pierre, Director, Maintenance &amp; Operations            Johnson, Jennifer, Guest Presenter            Lackey, Anthony, Risk Specialist            Lavallée, Normand, AVP, Financial Services            Leclerc, Renée, Executive Administrative Assistant, University Secretariat            Lehtimaki, Shauna, Director, Institutional Planning            MacLeod, Tracy, Chief Advancement Officer            Morsch, Katie, Guest Presenter            Myers, Naomi, Manager, Risk &amp; Insurance            Racine-Bouchard, Lily, Guest Presenter            Roy, Luc, Associate Vice-President, Information Technology            Tremblay-Croxall, Louise, Director of Planning &amp; Budgeting            Verrilli, Nadia, Guest Presenter</p>	<p><b><u>Voting Members Absent</u></b>            Eshkawkogan, Kevin            Recollet, Angela            Tavafi, Mehdi</p> <p><b><u>Non-Voting Members Absent</u></b>            Bassett, Shannon, Senate Representative            Colin, Fabrice, LUFA Representative            Motamedi, Monica, CUPE Representative            Scott, Dan, Senate Representative</p>

## **CLOSED SESSION**

The Chair, Mr. Vernon Cameron called the meeting to order at 9:04 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 Wahnapiatae 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.

## **CLOSED INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS**

### **1. Adoption of the Closed Agenda**

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, noted that closed session agenda item #7, *Naming Rights Approval*, would be struck from this meeting noting additional consultation is required prior to the item being considered by the Board of Governors. There were no objections.

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

That the Agenda be approved as amended.

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 noted she has received a warm welcome since joining Laurentian University and highlighted that there is optimism on campus about changes to come, including transformation work which will focus on achieving the goals identified in the newly launched Strategic Plan. Dr. Well also noted the sale of the former official residence of the university President is nearing completion, and she also made a point of congratulating Dr. Tammy Eger, Vice-President, Research, on her recent Angela Hildyard Leadership Recognition Award.

### **4. Finance and Properties Committee Items:**

#### **4.1 For Info: Real Estate Update**

The Vice-Chair of the Finance & Property Committee, Mr. Brian Ramakko, invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine noted that the University continues to meet regularly with representatives from both the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) and Infrastructure Ontario (IO) to work through the sale of seven (7) specific properties currently owned by Laurentian University to the Ontario government.

Following Ms. Lafontaine's update, a discussion took place surrounding the timing of the sales and options to expedite the process were discussed.

#### **4.2: For approval: GDI Contract Extension**

The Vice-Chair of the Finance & Property Committee, Mr. Brian Ramakko, invited the Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine explained that the university is seeking the Boards approval of a one (1) year extension to the current GDI contract while a new request for (RFP) process takes place to secure a new multi-year contract. Noting no questions or comments, the resolution was considered as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Governors approve a one-year extension of the current cleaning contract with GDI Inc. from June 2-24 to June 2025, as recommended by the Finance and Property Committee, and as presented at its meeting of April 26, 2024.

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

Carried unanimously.

#### **4.3: For approval: Endowment Transfer**

*\*Due to Mr. David Harquail's declared conflict of interest with respect to this item, he was excused from the meeting prior to this item being presented.*

The Vice-Chair of the Finance & Property Committee, Mr. Brian Ramakko invited Chief Advancement Officer, Ms. Tracy MacLeod, to speak to this item. Ms. MacLeod presented the potential benefits of this transfer, as well as the potential associated risks highlighting the potential for significant positive impact on the university, and the School of Earth Sciences.

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

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Governors approve the moving of funds in the amounts noted in Appendix B. Table 2, annually, from the Harquail School of Earth Sciences endowment to fund the initiatives listed in Appendix B, Table 2, as recommended by the Finance and Property Committee, and as presented at its meeting of April 26, 2024.

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

Carried unanimously.

*\*Mr. David Harquail rejoined the meeting.*

## **5. Human Resources Committee Items**

### **5.1 For Info: LUSU Mandate**

The Chair of the Human Resources Committee, Mr. Aaron Barry, invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine to present this item. Ms. Lafontaine provided Governors with an update regarding the approval of the Laurentian University Staff Union (LUSU) bargaining mandate. Ms. Lafontaine also detailed steps taken since that approval and outlined the next steps in the bargaining process.

### **5.2 For Info: Recruitment Update**

The Chair of the Human Resources Committee, Mr. Aaron Barry, invited Interim Provost, and Vice-President, Academic, Dr. Brenda Brouwer to speak to this item. Dr. Brouwer provided a summary of current numbers of applications and confirmations, noting cautious optimism for positive enrollment this coming fall. Dr. Brouwer also discussed the allocation of International Student permits to Laurentian University, noting positive results.

## **6. Audit and Risk Committee Items**

### **6.1 For Info: Cyber Incident 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.

### **6.2 For Info: Update - Auditor General Report**

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to this item. Ms. Lafontaine noted that the University had been notified that staff from the Auditor General's Office would return to Laurentian University on a date yet to be determined, as part of a usual practice of review following the filing of special reports.

## **7. Naming Rights Approval**

*\*This item was struck from this meeting agenda.*

## **8. Other Business**

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

## **9. Adjournment of the Closed Session**

Having exhausted the agenda, the closed session of the meeting of the Board of Governors was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

The Chair, Mr. Vernon Cameron called the meeting to order at 10:03 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 Wahnapiatae 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: Model Parliament**

The Chair, Mr. Cameron, invited Dr. Jennifer Johnson, Dean, Faculty of Arts, to introduce Dr. Nadia Verrelli, Associate Professor, Law and Justice, School of Liberal Arts and Katie Morsch, President of the Laurentian University Law and Justice Association (LAWLU) and Bachelor of Arts (Major: Law and Justice - Expected June 2024) student to present to the Board of Governors the accomplishments of Laurentian University students at the January, 2024 model parliament event.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **1. Adoption of Agenda**

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

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. Unanimous Consent Agenda:**

The Chair, Mr. Cameron asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented in the material package, notably:

3.1. Adoption of Minutes: Regular meeting held February 16, 2024 and special closed meetings held January 16, 2024, February 23, 2024, March 8, 2024 and March 15, 2024.

*\*The Chair, Mr. Cameron, noted a minor correction to minutes from the January 16, 2024 regular meeting of the Board of Governors*

3.2. Summary of Information Reports by Board Standing Committees:

- 3.2 A Audit and Risk Committee Report
- 3.2 B Finance and Property Committee Report
- 3.2 C Governance Committee Report
- 3.2 D Human Resources Committee Report

No questions, comments or discussions occurred; therefore, the motion was considered as presented.

MOTION: Moved by Roxanne Bouchard and seconded by David Harquail.

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

Carried unanimously.

### **4. President's Report**

The Chair, Mr. Cameron invited President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Lynn Wells, to present her report. Dr. Wells highlighted that there are a number of exciting things taking place at Laurentian, including the newly launched Strategic Plan, the implementation phase of the transformation plan, and the positive progress on recruitment for the role of Provost and Vice-President, Academic.

### **5. Finance and Property Committee Items:**

The Vice-Chair of the Finance and Property Committee, Mr. Brian Ramakko, invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to speak to each of the following items.

#### **5.1 For Approval: 2024-25 Compulsory Student Incidental & Student Association Fees**

Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine noted that Laurentian University collects compulsory fees from students to support student services, such as Athletics, Recreation and Mental Health. In addition to the funds collected for Laurentian initiatives, each student association charges for activities provided such as Health and Dental Plans, UPass, and Food Banks. With no questions or comments raised, the resolution was considered as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Finance and Property Committee recommend that the Board of Governors approve Laurentian University's Compulsory Incidental Fees for 2024-25, and the Students' General Association (SGA), Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones (AEF) and Graduate Students Association (GSA) compulsory student fees as presented at its meeting of April 26, 2024.

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

Carried unanimously.

### **5.2 For Approval: 2024-25 Student Administrative Fees**

Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, explained university students in Ontario are charged a combination of tuition fees (set in accordance with the Provincial Tuition Framework), ancillary fees and compulsory fees which follow the Provincial Ancillary Fee Classification Framework. In addition, Laurentian University specifically has a number of administrative fees, which are outside the Provincial Framework, and are approved annually by the Board of Governors and these fees are based upon services provided to students by the University. Finally, Ms. Lafontaine noted that the fees, as presented, will take effect for the 2024-2025 Fall/Winter academic term. With no questions or comments raised, the resolution was considered as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Governors approve Laurentian's 2024-25 Student Administrative Fees, as recommended by the Finance and Property Committee, and as presented at its meeting of April 26, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Aaron Barry and seconded by Jay Barbeau.

Carried unanimously.

### **5.3 For Approval: 2024-25 Tuition Fees**

Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, presented the material as included in the meeting documentation and highlighted the proposed tuition fee increases for domestic in-province, domestic out-of-province and international students, all of which upon approval, would

take effect for the Fall/Winter 2024-2025 academic term. With no questions or comments raised, the resolution was considered as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Governors approve the proposed 2024-25 Domestic In-Province, Domestic out-of-province and International tuition fee rates, for both undergraduate and graduate programs, as recommended by the Finance and Property Committee, and as presented at its meeting of April 26, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Roxanne Bouchard and seconded by David Harquail.

Carried unanimously.

#### **5.4 For Approval: Deferred Maintenance and Facility Renewal Plan Report**

Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, presented the information as provided in the meeting material and noted that Appendix 1 (Item 5.4A) provides a status update of the projects approved for the 2023-2024 year, Appendix 2 (Item 5.4B) provides the list of projects budgeted for the 2024-2025 year with the various funding sources identified, for which the Committees approval is being sought, and Appendix 3 (Item 5.4C) is a list of multi-year capital projects funded through various grants.

Following Ms. Lafontaine's remarks, a discussion took place surrounding the Jenő Tihanyi pool facility. It was noted that due to the lack of operating funds available to fund the repairs, there was no known timeline for reopening the facility. However, given the importance of the pool to the community and the University, options for community partnerships were being explored with the goal of identifying alternate sources of funding. With no additional questions or comments, the resolution was considered as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2024-25 Deferred Maintenance projects, as recommended by the Finance and Property Committee, and presented at its meeting of April 26, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Aaron Barry and seconded by Andre Guay.

Carried unanimously.

#### **5.5 For Approval: 2024-25 Transformation Implementation Budget**

Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, provided a verbal presentation of the meeting material and highlighted that a preliminary costing and resourcing analysis had been conducted and discussed factors which could impact the costs over the next four (4) to five (5) years.

Ms. Lafontaine noted that approval at this meeting is being sought for the costs associated with implementation for the 2024-2025 year only.

Following Ms. Lafontaine's remarks, a non-voting member asked for assurances that transformation-related expenses would be closely monitored. Ms. Lafontaine committed to closely monitoring the transformation budget, and outlined the steps which would be taken to honour that commitment, including monthly monitoring of expenses. The Vice-Chair of the Board Finance and Property Committee further noted that the Committee would be monitoring the transformation budget closely. With no additional questions raised, the resolution was considered as presented.



BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Governors approve Laurentian University's Operational Transformation Implementation Program budget for 2024-2025, as recommended by the Finance and Property Committee, and as presented at its meeting of April 26, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Roxanne Bouchard and seconded by Tammy Manitowabi.

Carried unanimously.

### **5.6 For Approval: 2024-25 Laurentian University Budget**

Vice-Chair of the Board Finance and Property Committee, Mr. Brian Ramakko, introduced this item and noted that following a Special Meeting of the Committee, this item is being recommended to the Board for approval. Mr. Ramakko then invited Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Sylvie Lafontaine, to present this item. Ms. Lafontaine provided a detailed verbal presentation of the meeting material and highlighted that both a Consolidated budget and an Operating budget for 2024-2025 were presented. Ms. Lafontaine noted that the presented budgets aimed to address immediate capacity challenges while supporting the strategic priorities and implementation of the operational Transformation Plan for the university.

Following Ms. Lafontaine's remarks, a discussion took place regarding details of the staffing budget, and lack of association to a particular employee group. It was noted that the expenses listed were related to the position description and further discussions would take place with regards to their distribution within the employee groups. Additionally, questions were raised and discussions ensued regarding the consultations that formed part of the budget process this year, as well as the projected number of full-time equivalent faculty and non-faculty positions over the coming years. At the conclusion of that discussion, the following resolution was considered:

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Governors approve the 2024-25 Budget, as recommended by the Finance and Property Committee, and as presented at its meeting of April 26, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Jay Barbeau and seconded by Andre Guay.

Carried unanimously.

## **6. Human Resources Committee Items**

### **6.1 For Approval: Procedures for Annual Performance and Compensation Review for Senior Administration**

*\*President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Lynn Wells, declared a conflict of interest and recused herself from voting on this item.*

The Chair, Mr. Cameron invited the Chair of the Human Resources Committee, Mr. Aaron Barry, to present this item. Following Ms. Barry's introduction of the item, he invited the University Secretary, Ms. Danielle Vincent, to speak to this item. Ms. Vincent noted that periodic review of the performance of the President and Vice-Chancellor's ("President") by the Board is an essential component of the Board's responsibility. She added that these reviews provide an opportunity for constructive discussions about the University's performance and ways in which it might be improved with the goal of encouraging a robust governance framework.

Ms. Vincent explained that the procedures as presented propose a mechanism by which evaluations and recommendations for compensation adjustments with respect to the President and Vice-Presidents are to be considered by the Board. With no questions or comments being raised, the resolution was considered as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED,

Compensation Review for Senior Administration, as recommended by the Human Resources Committee, and as presented at its meeting of April 26, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Roxanne Bouchard and seconded by David Harquail.

Carried. One abstention due to conflict of interest (Lynn Wells).

## **7. Governance Committee Items**

### **7.1 For Approval: Board Performance Evaluation Framework**

The Chair of the Governance Committee, Ms. Laura Kurkimaki invited the University Secretary, Ms. Danielle Vincent, to speak to this item. Ms. Vincent explained that the proposed framework seeks to establish a process for the Board to review its governance practices. Ms. Vincent noted that what is being presented is an evaluation of the Board as a whole, but following implementation and subsequent evaluation of its success, there will be an opportunity to expand its application to assess the performance of each Board Committee.

Following Ms. Vincent's remarks, a discussion took place regarding the status of the request to add seats on the Board of Governors for representatives of the labour groups, which would allow for participation in the evaluation process. It was noted that there were recurring discussions on the topic

with representatives from the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU), but that a final decision had not yet been reached. With no additional questions or comments being raised, the resolution was considered as presented.

BE IT RESOLVED,

THAT the Board of Governors approve the Board Performance Evaluation Framework, as recommended by the Governance Committee, and as presented at its meeting of April 26, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Aaron Barry and seconded by Tammy Manitowabi.

Carried unanimously.

## **OTHER ITEMS**

### **8. Chair's Items**

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

### **9. Other Business**

The Chair, Mr. Cameron confirmed there were no new business items to discuss or address.

President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Lynn Wells, took the opportunity to recognize the tremendous efforts of Laurentian University staff throughout the recent cyber incident, and specifically highlighted the work of the Information Technology department, in going above and beyond to navigate the situation. Board Chair, Mr. Cameron, echoed Dr. Wells' statement.

*\*The Open Session of the Board of Governors meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.*

## **IN CAMERA**

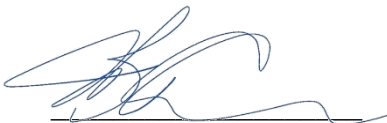
### **10. In Camera Discussion**

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

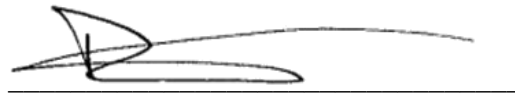
## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **11. Adjournment**

Having exhausted the items on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.



Vernon Cameron, Chair



Danielle Vincent, University Secretary