



October
2013

President's Report to Senate



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY





OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Lakehead's Branding Initiative: Phase 2

During Phase Two we will be identifying priorities to implement the brand from 2013-2015, in addition to developing an online Brand Portal that will enable us to share the Brand guidelines and templates with the University community; thereby allowing staff and faculty to order stationery and business cards.

External Relations' plan is to share information about Phase Two brand implementation with the faculty and staff at the Townhall meeting planned for November.



RFP for Lakehead's Food Services

The contract for food services at both the Thunder Bay & Orillia campuses is set to expire on April 30, 2014. A comprehensive Request for Proposal for food services at both campuses is currently in development and will be issued in the near future. A cross-functional committee will be struck to assist with review, evaluation and implementation.

Student Health & Counseling Centre Update

Promotion of the provincial *Good2Talk* post-secondary helpline is underway. More efforts will be planned as promotional items are received. The Centre facilitated the submission of a Lakehead University Cooperation Agreement with the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's City of Thunder Bay Integrated District Network Health Link.

W.A.LKing and Student Wellness

Walk Around LaKehead is a joint initiative with Human Resources that launched in September that includes a weekly campus walk and a number of educational sessions to promote mental health, physical wellness and campus engagement. Another initiative, "life APPS", involves short wellness sessions for students that share information, present skills and self-care strategies, and raise resource awareness on topics such as stress and relationships. Two physicians have been recruited for the Centre for the upcoming year.



ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING, LEARNING, AND RESEARCH

Lakehead Research Rated #1 in Ontario

Lakehead University is Ontario's number one university for undergraduate research according to this year's annual ranking of Canada's Top 50 Research Universities, as reported by ReSearch Infosource. Lakehead was second in the province in the same category, last year. We are also second in the country in our category.

[Click here for Research Infosource announcement...](#)

[Click here for Lakehead University's media release...](#)

safeTALK Training for Faculty & Staff

Through the work of the Lakehead Orillia Health and Wellness Assistant, Orillia Student Affairs has hosted *safeTALK* training workshops for faculty and staff. This workshop teaches people about the warning signs someone may show that indicates risk of suicide. The workshop emphasizes the importance of recognizing the signs, communicating with the person at risk, and getting help or resources for the person at risk. To date, 25 faculty and staff have been trained. The Wellness Centre is planning to offer this training to the general student body over the course of the fall for the first time.



EXTEND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

Paterson Foundation's \$1 Million Gift to Faculty of Law

On September 17, Lakehead University graciously accepted a \$1 million gift from the Paterson Foundation. The donation is intended to help further ongoing renovations to the Port Arthur Collegiate Institute and the University's new Faculty of Law.

In recognition of this most generous gift, the Faculty of Law's main auditorium has been named The John N. Paterson Faculty of Law Auditorium.

[Click here for media release...](#)



From left: Paterson Foundation President, Don Paterson; Faculty of Law's Founding Dean, Prof. Lee Stuesser; myself; Board of Governors Chair, Cameron Clark.

PACED Northwest Created to Help Lakehead Foster Economic Development in Northwest

On September 18, I announced the creation of the President's Advisory Council on Economic Development (PACED) for Northwestern Ontario. The council will meet regularly, and is comprised of regional industry and business leaders. I will serve as Chair. PACED's purpose is to advise me on how Lakehead University can fulfill an even more integral role in the economic development of Northwestern Ontario. Council members will help me determine where this University can best contribute to our region and how to measure that success.

A PACED for Central Ontario will be established in Simcoe County, in the coming months, to guide Lakehead University's economic development activities in that region of the province, as well.



[Click here for media release and list of PACED members...](#)



Lobby Days at Queen's Park

On September 30 and October 1, Lakehead University officials — including myself, Deb Comuzzi (Vice-President, External Relations), Richard Longtin (Director of Government Relations), and Cameron Clark (Chair, Board of Governors) — met with key provincial ministers, critics, and party leaders during our annual visit to Queen's Park. The trip's purpose is to share our University's priorities and concerns with Party Leaders, Ministers and MPPs." Our focus, this year, was to highlight the Gichi Kendaasiwin building.

[Click here for media release...](#)

Athletics Wall of Fame

October 5th's Wall of Fame induction ceremony marked the 11th such occasion since its inception in 1996, and currently operates on a 2-year cycle, in concert with our annual Homecoming events. This year's event also recognized that 48 of our athletes were also All-Canadians.

[Click here for preview media release \(June 2013\)...](#)

Faculty of Law Hosts Open House

Faculty of Law and External Relations staff hosted an Open House, October 6, so the community could see our newly renovated Faculty of Law. Over 200 people attended, including members of the general public, as well we many alumni and former staff of the former Port Arthur Collegiate Institute. The reviews were outstanding. This community is very pleased that Lakehead has renovated the building and maintained as many of its original attributes, including the original blackboards.

Lakehead Experts *In Conversation* with Community

Lakehead's new *In Conversation* speaker series, held at the Thunder Bay Public Library from October until April, features talks hosted by experts from our University who will discuss depression, the history of the residential school program, the beauty of bugs, classical guitar, and the fashion and femininity of flappers from the 1920s. These free outreach events are open to the public.

[Click here for media release...](#)



ENHANCE SUPPORT OF FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS, & INUIT STUDIES

Gichi Kendaasiwin Update

Architectural drawings for the Gichi Kendaasiwin building have been presented to the Ogimaawin Governance Council.

Presentations to Senate and the Board of Governors are now being prepared.



Artist's rendering of Gichi Kendaasiwin Building

EXPAND OUR INTERNATIONAL REACH

New Partnerships with India

I recently travelled to Delhi, India to initiate Lakehead's strategy in India. The trip included meetings with six high school presidents (all of whom had previously been to our Thunder Bay campus), a college, two universities, the Canadian high commission, and the Association of Indian Universities. The university meetings were focused on developing joint programs, joint research opportunities, and the sharing of knowledge.

India is projected to overtake China as the single largest source of students for overseas study in the coming decade.



Reaching Out and Up to Sweden and Finland

I traveled to Sweden and Finland to meet with current and potential partner universities and Canadian Embassies. The purpose of the trip was to visit top institutions and strengthen opportunities for Lakehead students to go to Finland and Sweden as exchange students, and to try and establish joint graduate scholarships for Finnish and Swedish students coming to Lakehead.

During the trip, I had the opportunity to visit and meet with representatives from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Dalarna University, Umeå University, and the University of Helsinki.

Additional meetings with Canada's Ambassador to Sweden and other delegates identified opportunities for Lakehead students to participate in the Canada–Sweden Youth Exchange work visa program, and highlighted opportunities to connect our mining initiatives with Finnish and Canadian mining companies working in the North of Finland.

