

## Summary of the December 5, 2025 Board of Governors Meeting

From: Jason Lisi, Board Secretary

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**Members:** *Rajni Agarwal; Robert Arnone; Dr. Claudine Cousins; David Elliott; Sunil Kumar; Tim Lade; Robert Lamb; Dr. Jason Lisi - Secretary (non voting); Dr. Nancy Luckai; Pauline Mickelson; Michael Nitz; Michel Piche; Dr. Leigh Potvin; Dr. Gillian Siddall; Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay; Mark Smith (Vice-Chair); Brent Sylvester; Simran Talpade; Cathy Tuckwell (Chair); Maria Vasanelli; Dr. Rose Zacharias*

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The Board of Governors convened a regular meeting on December 5, 2025, at the Thunder Bay Campus. The agenda, supporting materials, and approved minutes from open Board sessions are accessible online at [www.Lakeheadu.ca](http://www.Lakeheadu.ca).

### OPEN MEETING

**Spotlight Presentation:** Claude E. Garton Herbarium Highlights and Community Impact (Kristi Dysievick)

The Board received a presentation that focused on the Herbarium, which houses a scientific collection of over 115,000 plant specimens, functioning as a key resource and botanical record, primarily for Northwest Ontario. Its operations are concentrated on three pillars: Preservation, Research, and Education and Outreach. The herbarium's strategic priorities for the coming years include: expanding Community and Indigenous Partnerships, advancing Digitization and Data Sharing, developing comprehensive Funding and Sustainability Plans, and growing Public Programming.

The following items of business were dealt with during the open meeting:

#### Executive Committee

- Report of the November 13, 2025 meeting

#### Audit and Risk Committee

- Report of the November 13, 2025 meeting
- Policy Review: Use of University Computers:
  - *WHEREAS the Administration has determined the policy has become outdated; and WHEREAS relevant elements are covered in the new Acceptable Use Policy; MOVED that the Board of Governors rescind the Use of University Computers policy. CARRIED*

### **External Relations Committee**

- Report of the November 12, 2025 meeting

### **Finance and Operations Committee**

- Report of the November 13, 2025 meeting
- Annual Integrated Planning and Budget Development Process

### **Governance and Nominating Committee**

- Report of the November 12, 2025 meeting
- Notice of Expiring Terms - In accordance with the Board Bylaws (Article 3.4a), once a year, the Board is advised in writing by the Secretary of the names of those Governors whose terms expire during the current year:
  - Cathy Tuckwell (External)
  - Mark Smith (External)
  - Sunil Kumar (External)
  - Dr. Claudine Cousins (External)
  - Michael Nitz (External)
  - Brent Sylvester (LGIC)
  - David Elliott (LGIC)
  - Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay (Student)
  - Simran Talpade (Student)
- Proposal to Dissolve the Board Learning and Liaison Committee (BLLC):
  - *MOVED that the Board of Governors approve the dissolution of the Board Learning and Liaison Committee, in principle, pending confirmation of acceptable distribution of the committee's work and documentation obligations, and the reassignment of its members.*  
*CARRIED*
- Board Learning and Liaison Committee Member Reassignment:
  - *MOVED that the Board of Governors approve the following members of the BLLC be reassigned to the following Board Standing Committees, commencing December 5, 2025:*
    - *Claudinde Cousins - BGNC*
    - *Nancy Luckai - BERC*
    - *Rose Zacharias - BERC*
    - *Simran Talpade - BERC*
    - *Bryanna Scott-Kay - BERC*
    - *Michel Piche - BARC*  
*CARRIED*

### **President's Report on Appointments**

Pursuant to the authority delegated to the President and Vice-Chancellor by the Board of Governors, the following appointments are being reported, for information:

Interim Dean, Faculty of Engineering:

- Dr. David Barnett was appointed Interim Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, effective January 1, 2026.

#### External Adjunct Professor:

- Dr. Christopher Brogly was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Computer Science for the term effective July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2029.
- Dr. Bhawani Shankar Chowdhry was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering for the term effective September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2029.
- Dr. Amin Amiri Delouei was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Mechanical & Mechatronics Engineering for the term effective October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2029.
- Dr. Mahzabeen Emu was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Computer Science for the term effective July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2029.
- Dr. Jianzhao Li was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology for the term effective July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2029.
- Dr. Fahad Riaz was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Health Sciences for the term effective July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2029.
- Dr. Brian Ross was appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Education for the term effective September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2029.
- Dr. Isabelle Lemée was appointed as an Internal Adjunct Professor in the Department of Anthropology for the term effective July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2029.

#### Lakehead University Research Ethics Board (REB):

- Dr. Anthony Murkar, Department of Psychology, was appointed to the REB for the period commencing October 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028.

#### Other Business, Reports and Informational Items Received

- Chair's Report
  - December 2025 President's Report
  - November 3, 2025 Senate Report
  - Wellness Strategy Annual Update
  - Board Orientation and Handbook
    - *MOVED to review and revise the Board Handbook and Board Orientation Program.*
- CARRIED*

#### In Camera Business to be Reported in the Open Meeting

- Gichi Kendaasiwin Site Plan Approval:  
The Board of Governors approved the building site plan (the pedestrian bridge area) for the new Gichi Kendaasiwin building on the Thunder Bay Campus.
- Approval of the new Advancement Investment Model (AIM) and Advancement Investment Model Policy:  
The Board approved the new Advancement Investment Model and Policy for implementation on January 1, 2026.

## **IN CAMERA SESSION**

An in camera session was held to discuss items of personnel, legal, or real estate nature, and other sensitive or confidential matters. The following items of business were dealt with during the in camera session:

### **Executive Committee**

- In Camera Report of the November 13, 2025 meeting

### **Audit and Risk**

- In Camera Report of the November 13, 2025 meeting

### **External Relations**

- In Camera Report of the November 12, 2025 meeting
- Advancement Investment Model (AIM):
  - *MOVED that the Board of Governors approve the proposed Advancement Investment Model for implementation, commencing January 1, 2026. CARRIED*
- Advancement Investment Model Policy:
  - *MOVED that the Board of Governors approve the proposed Advancement Investment Model policy, effective January 1, 2026. CARRIED*

### **Finance and Operations Committee**

- In Camera Report of the November 13, 2025 meeting
- Gichi Kendaasiwin Site Plan Approval:
  - *MOVED that the Board of Governors approve the proposed Site 4 Plan for Gichi Kendaasiwin. CARRIED*

### **Governance and Nominating**

- In Camera Report of the November 12, 2025 meeting

### **Other Reports, Updates, and Informational Items Received**

- President's In Camera Report

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Governors is February 6, 2026 from 9:30am to 1:30pm (ET), Thunder Bay Campus.