

March 2016



President's Report to Board of Governors



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY



Office of the President

Ontario Investing in Job Creation at Lakehead University

On February 19, Ministers Michael Gravelle and Bill Mauro hosted a media conference at our Thunder Bay campus to announce over \$1.2M in Lakehead University.

With an investment of more than \$814,000 through the province's Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC), Lakehead is creating a five-year Industrial Research Chair position in Green Chemicals and Processes. This position will be supported by 16 new jobs. Research will focus on ways for the pulp and paper and mineral processing industries to reduce their environmental impacts.

Additionally, NOHFC has invested over \$473,000 to develop and build a new Fire Resistance Testing Laboratory, creating two new jobs. This world-class facility will have a large fire testing furnace allowing engineering students to study the fire resistance of various large-scale building components, such as beams, columns and floor assemblies.

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From left, Myself; Dr. Sam Salem, assistant professor in Civil Engineering; Dr. Andrew Dean, Vice-President, Research and Innovation; Dr. Pedram Fatehi, associate professor in Chemical Engineering; the Honourable Michael Gravelle; the Honourable Bill Mauro.



Lakehead University Athletics and Wasaya Airways recommit to Reach Up!

Lakehead University Athletics has renewed its partnership with Wasaya Airways to continue the *Reach Up!* program with First Nation communities in the North.

Reach Up! brings coaches and athletes from Lakehead's hockey, basketball, volleyball, wrestling, Nordic skiing, track and field, and cross country ski teams to Northern communities to hold sports clinics and provide mentorship to the local coaches and youth.

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Nurturing Scholarship

Bal Ram Adhikari Wins a National Graduate Student Award

Bal Ram Adhikari has won the 2016 Graduate Student Award in Honour of Douglas E. Ryan sponsored by the Analytical Chemistry Division (ACD) of the Chemical Institute of Canada. Bal Ram joined the Lakehead University Biotechnology Ph.D. program in Fall 2013 under the supervision of Dr. Aicheng Chen, Canada Research Chair in Materials & Environmental Chemistry, and Dr. Heidi Schraft.



The award is open to any graduate student enrolled in a Canadian University whose Ph.D. thesis research is in a field of Analytical Chemistry. Recipients are selected based on research contribution and the excellence of academic record. The award was established in 1996, and Bal Ram Adhikari is the only winner from a small institution to date.

As the winner of this prestigious award, Bal Ram will attend the 99th Canadian Chemistry Conference (CSC) to be held in Halifax and give a presentation on his Ph.D. research entitled *Nanomaterials-based electrochemical biosensors for medical and environmental applications*. Immediately following his presentation at the CSC, Bal Ram will receive a plaque and a cash award of \$750. A travel grant of \$500 will be made available by the ACD to offset the cost of attending this meeting and Bal Ram will also be reimbursed for his registration to the meeting.



2015 Distinguished Instructor Award

The recipient of the 2015 Award is **Dr. Scott Pound**, Associate Professor, Department of English. A ceremony was held on Monday, February 29 at which Dr. Pound gave an address entitled “On Wasting Time and Copying”.



Georgian College and Lakehead University announce plans for over 20 new degree programs

Lakehead University and Georgian College held a joint media conference on February 26, in Barrie, to announce that we will launch more than 20 new degree programs and transfer pathways at campuses in Barrie and Orillia over the next five years. Programs will include degrees offered individually by Lakehead and Georgian, as well as innovative integrated degrees offered jointly. These will give many students the opportunity to experience the best of both a college and university education, often earning a degree and diploma in just four years.

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Myself and Georgian College President and CEO Dr. MaryLynn West-Moynes at joint media conference in Barrie, Feb. 26, 2016.

Ontario's 2016 Budget includes money for post-secondary infrastructure and free tuition

On February 25, the province's Liberal government announced its 2016 Budget, which includes \$3 billion in capital grants over 10 years to postsecondary institutions to give students access to high-quality programs, and more than \$137 billion over the next 10 years in roads, bridges, public transit, hospitals and schools.

Under the government's proposed system — which includes creating an integrated, upfront grant called the Ontario Student Grant (OSG) starting in the 2017-18 school year — the average college and university tuition will be free for students with financial need from families with incomes of \$50,000 or less, while more than 50% of students from families with incomes of \$83,000 or less will receive non-repayable grants in excess of average tuition.

[Click here to read province's media release...](#)



Community Engagement



Lakehead University art on display in the Thunder Bay International Airport

Lakehead University is displaying paintings from the Chief Roy Michano Art Collection in the Thunder Bay International Airport.

Eight paintings are now visible throughout the airport, enhancing the space by educating and inspiring the public.

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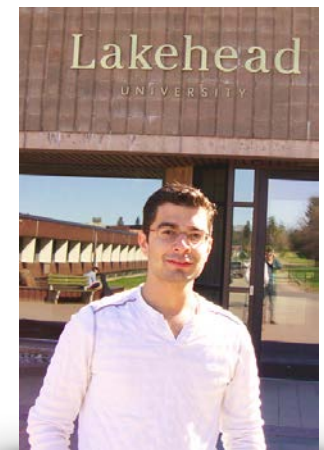
President and Chief Executive Officer of the Thunder Bay Airports Authority, Ed Schmidtke (left), and I unveil the Art Spot at the Thunder Bay Airport.

College Transfer Preview Day

Our Thunder Bay campus's College Transfer Preview Day for college students and graduates took place on February 19. Our Orillia campus's College Preview Day is on February 29. These special recruitment events offer detailed information about programs, how to apply, transfer credits, and program requirement, as well as opportunities to tour the campus and meet with faculty and current students.

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***Xerxes Unwala** of Toronto took advantage of transfer opportunities after he graduated from Seneca College. He enrolled in Lakehead's Bachelors of Engineering program, receiving credit for his college program. In just two years he earned his degree, graduating in May 2015.*





West Coast Events — Alumni Engagement and Donor Cultivation

Two West Coast Alumni Engagement events were recently held in Victoria and Vancouver. A small but dedicated group attended a lunch in Victoria, and over 70 alumni and friends attended an evening reception at the Pan Pacific in Vancouver. Frances Picherack brought greetings from the Board of Governors, Dr. Pete Hollings gave an update on CESME, and I highlighted our recent Report to the Community. In attendance was a graduate from Lakehead Technical Institute's 2nd graduating class (1951).

An organizing meeting for a Vancouver Alumni Chapter took place immediately following the reception and a second meeting is planned for February.

During my trip, I attended several meetings with Dr. Hollings to cultivate and steward donors for Lakehead's Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Mining and Exploration (CESME), as well as one meeting to solicit a gift for our award-winning steel bridge-building team.

March Break Open House

Lakehead is now concentrating all efforts on converting our admitted applicants to confirmed students.

To support these efforts, a March Break Open House will be held in Thunder Bay on March 14-18 and in Orillia on March 15-18. Students will have the opportunity to experience student life, learn more about our program offerings as well as experience what it is like to be a student for the day.



Learner-Centred Student Experience



Lakehead announces new summer program in Ecuador

Lakehead University's *Media and Environmental Justice Movements* course will be offered in Ecuador for the first time, this spring. Providing a fascinating opportunity to experience first-hand the biodiversity of the environment in Ecuador, students will learn from local experts how media is used to protect the environment.

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Lakehead University and Confederation College hold Therapeutic Recreation Summit

Students from Confederation College and Lakehead University participated in the Therapeutic Recreation Summit on Thursday, Feb. 11. Participants were from Lakehead's Outdoor Recreation, Parks and Tourism program and Confederation College's Recreation Therapy program.

The summit brought together students, professionals, employers and educators involved in Therapeutic Recreation within Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario, to exchange knowledge, discuss employment opportunities and share insights regarding the Therapeutic Recreation profession in Thunder Bay.

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Growth & Capacity Development

Enrolment Management Planning

Enrolment is the primary driver for funding the University's operations through grants and tuition and there must be a clear alignment between enrolment and resource generation and allocation. Recent external factors, including changes to government policy and funding, declining post-secondary age population demographics, the reliance on robust enrolment to fund institutional operations, and the increasing competitiveness for student demand, pose enrolment challenges and set a compelling context for Lakehead University to undertake a strategic approach to enrolment planning and management.

In the fall 2015, the first phase of the development of a "Made for Lakehead" enrolment management framework and plan was initiated. Snowdon and Associates Inc. conducted a series of interviews with Deans, administrative leaders, staff and students on both campuses, and reviewed internal documents and web sites. Several consistent themes emerged with respect to planning, information and communication. These themes highlighted the complexity of managing multiple programs, and the isolation of individuals and units working diligently without necessarily having a mutual understanding of priorities and appreciation of interdependencies.

Phase 1 culminated in the fundamental elements of a framework focused on five principles. The framework requires an institution-wide, data-driven, integrated approach to planning and managing all aspects of enrolment, including the establishment of specific enrolment goals and strategies, within the context of institutional priorities and capacity, government policy and funding, and student demand. The framework supports the University's Mission and aligns planning principles with the priorities and actions articulated in the Strategic and Academic plans.

An Enrolment Management Committee will be struck to review and affirm the framework, and to start the work necessary to oversee and guide the enrolment planning process.