

Report of the Senator on the Board of Governors

Senate Meeting #2-2016, February 22, 2016

Board of Governors Meeting #16-280 was held in the Senate Chambers on January 29, 2016. In his Chair's Report, Murray Walberg demonstrated his commitment to good governance by addressing suggestions garnered through an annual survey on governance and exit interviews with retiring board members. In response to a suggestion concerning more robust orientation and more professional development for Board members, all Board members were presented with a binder containing the University Act, Board of Governors Bylaws, Board Committee Terms of Reference, Board of Governors Operating Principles and Board of Governors Roles and Responsibilities.

In his President's Report, Dr. Brian Stevenson updated the Board on the site visit of Rob Thomas, P.Eng., Chief Technical Officer with Pinchin Ltd., an independent consultant engaged to report on the asbestos concern on campus. He also reported on Acting Chair and Adjunct Professor appointments for information only.

Reports from various Board committees were accepted by the Board, and several motions brought forward from Board committees were passed. The Lakehead University Employee Pension Plan was amended to include newly unionized staff members, and the Statement of Investment Policy and Procedure for the pension plan was amended to include a statement on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) investment criteria as required by recent amendments to the Pension Benefits Act. The Board approved proceeding to tender for the renovation of the CNFER building for the Centre for Advanced Studies in Engineering and Sciences (CASES). The Board had an in-camera meeting to discuss confidential matters.

On January 30 the Board held its annual retreat on campus. The theme for the retreat this year was diversity, and the agenda for the day included hearing from students directly about diversity issues on campus. Members of the Board also participated in the Kairos blanket exercise led by Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux. The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Status of Women, was the keynote speaker.

The next meeting of the Board of Governors is on March 3, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Louise Hill,

Senator on the Board of Governors for Lakehead University