

**Ojimaawin-Aboriginal Governance Council – Chairs Report**  
**April, 2016**

Board of Governors' Meetings:

- Report from the Board of Governors –January 29, 2016
  - o Moment of Silence for Mr. Wood; former student at Lakehead who tragically died in Larosh Saskatchewan.
  - o Chairs Report (Murray Walberg)
    - Enrollment concerns,
    - Welcome new board members, mentoring/training/awareness of the university structure suggested, orientation for Chairs, Board communications suggestions
  - o Support for policy of responsible investment (Environmental, Social, Governance Investment Criteria)
  - o 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Report – including history of Indigenous Students and Studies at Lakehead
- Report from the Board of Governors March 3, 2016
  - o Chairs Report (Murray Walberg): Retreat review; Trip to Malaysia and office in Kuala Lumpur for recruitment in South East Asia, discussions with local universities, Alumni events in Singapore, donor meeting,
  - o Presidents Report (Dr. Brian Stevenson): Job creation announcement with NOHF, supportive funding from them for 1.2 million research chair in chemical & fire resistance research; support from Ministers Gravelle and Mauro; re-engagement with Wasaya Airways to fly LU sports teams to visit First Nations to coach children up North (Reach Up); Laurention leaving Barrie, Lakehead and Georgian proceeding with outreach in that area; Ontario budget announcement – tuition free for low income families – beneficial for First Nations and 1<sup>st</sup> generation learners but don't know how the roll out will be; 3 billion commitment for Universities and Colleges for funding; plus federal funding will be coming as well; LU display of Aboriginal Art at Thunder Bay Airport – thanks to Colin Bruce.
- Declining Enrollment:
  - o It is an issue of demographics – less students impacts Lakehead's finances; need more students who bring in revenue; enrollment equals funding.
  - o One stop shop for recruitment; increasing student transfer from college to university
  - o Office of Aboriginal initiative has a recruitment person and part of the recruitment plan.
- Learning and Research Committee:
  - o Attended committee meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup> . I have heard a lot of interesting information on this committee which would benefit O-AGC. Presentations on the Health Services (including Mental Health ) and the Economic Development and Innovation Programs would be useful for O-AGC members to know.

Submitted by Paul Capon