

Summary of the October 15, 2026 Board of Governors Meeting

From: Nikki Maronese, Acting Recording Secretary

Members: Sunil Kumar; Robert Lamb; Dr. Nancy Luckai; Dr. Gillian Siddall; Dr. Bryanna Scott-Kay; Mark Smith (Vice-Chair); Pauline Tait; Cathy Tuckwell (Chair); Maria Vasanelli; Dr. Rose Zacharias; Dr. Douglas Ivison, Jeff Lees, Alex Ballagh

The Board of Governors convened a regular meeting on October 15, 2026, at the Barrie Campus. The agenda, supporting materials, and approved minutes from open Board sessions are accessible online at www.Lakeheadu.ca.

OPEN MEETING

Spotlight Presentation: Stopping allergy attacks before they happen (Dr. Thiago E. Alves de Oliviero, Associate Professor, Computer Science)

The Board received a presentation highlighting his research in developing an AI-driven sensing network that can instantly and precisely detect, count, and classify pollen particles and determine their allergenic potential. While the project's initial focus is on allergy management, the network will provide a foundation to monitor a wide range of environmental health risks, including airborne pathogens and harmful pollutants.

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

Executive Committee

- Report of the September 10, 2026 meeting

Audit and Risk Committee

- Report of the September 10, 2026 meeting
- Appointment of Auditors
 - *MOVED to appoint MNP LLP as auditors of the University for the 2026-2027 fiscal year*
 - CARRIED*
- Sexual and Gender-based Violence Response
 - Sexual and Gender-based Violence Response Policy - For Information
 - SGBV Annual Report 2025-2026

- Policy Review: Capital Debt Policy
 - Current Policy
 - *MOVED that the Board of Governors approve the Capital Debt Policy, as reviewed, with no amendments recommended*
CARRIED
- Policy Review: Research Ethics Board Terms of Reference
 - Current Terms of Reference
 - Proposed Amendments (with markup)
 - *MOVED that the Board of Governors approve the proposed amendments to the Research Ethics Board Terms of Reference*
CARRIED
- Research Ethics Board Annual Report and Letters of Compliance
 - Annual Report and Letters of Compliance
 - *MOVED that the Board of Governors accept the Research Ethics Board Annual Report and Letters of Compliance.*
CARRIED
- Approval of the 2025-2026 Financial Statements of Lakehead University and the Independent Auditors' Report
 - *MOVED that the Board of Governors approve the 2025-2026 Financial Statements of Lakehead University and accept the Independent Auditor's Report, as circulated.*
CARRIED

External Relations Committee

- Report of the September 9, 2026 meeting
- Approval of \$750,000 fundraising goal for Barrie STEM Hub
 - *MOVED that the Board of Governors approve a fundraising goal of \$750,000 over one year to finance new equipment for the Barrie STEM Hub, as circulated*

Finance and Operations Committee

- Report of the September 10, 2026 meeting
- Policy Review: Health and Safety
 - *MOVED that the Board of Governors approve the proposed amendments to the Health and Safety policy.*
CARRIED
- Investment Resolution

WHEREAS Article 6, Paragraph 6.3 of the Board Bylaws indicated that the investments of the University shall be managed by such University Officers, Signing Officers, or agents of the University as shall be determined from time to time by resolution of the Board;

MOVED to recommend that the President and Vice-Chancellor, and the Vice-President, Administration and Finance, shall be authorized to manage the investments of the University and to purchase, transfer, exchange, sell or otherwise dispose of or turn to account or realize upon securities, in accordance with the policies established by the Board on the recommendations of the Board Finance and Operations Committee, such as the Statement of Investment Policies and Guidelines for Trust and Endowment Funds Policy, in accordance with the terms of reference of the Committee, and the laws and statutes of the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada, effective at the close of the Annual Meeting on October 15, 2026 until the close of the Annual Meeting in 2027. During the absence of:

- *either the President and Vice-Chancellor or the Vice-President, Administration and Finance, any one of the University's signing officers shall be authorized as the second signature; and*
- *both the President and Vice-Chancellor, and the Vice-President, Administration and Finance, any two of the signing officers shall be authorized to perform the aforementioned activities, effective at the close of the Annual Meeting on October 15, 2026 until the close of the Annual Meeting in 2027.*

CARRIED

Governance and Nominating Committee

- Report of the September 9, 2026 meeting
- Notice of Board Member Resignation - For Information
 - Dr. Leigh Potvin, Faculty Senator Member, resigned from the Board effective August 4, 2026
 - Simram Talpade, Student Member, resigned from the Board effective end of 2026 AGM
- Board of Governors Nominations Process
 - a. Summary of Appointments and Nominations Process Compliance Annual report
 - b. External Member Recommendation

MOVED to recommend that the Board elect Jeff Lees to serve as an External Member on the Board of Governors for a 3-year-term, commencing at the close of the Annual Meeting 2026 to the Annual Meeting 2029.

CARRIED

MOVED to recommend that the Board add Glen Marks to the Board Evergreen List.

CARRIED

- c. Student Member Recommendation
- MOVED to recommend that the Board elect Alex Ballagh to serve as the Student Member on the Board of Governors for a 2-year-term, commencing at the close of the Annual Meeting 2026 to the Annual Meeting 2028.*

CARRIED

- d. Faculty Senator Member Recommendation

MOVED to recommend that the Board elect Dr. Douglas Ivison to serve as a Faculty Senator Member of the Board of Governors for a 3-year-term, commencing at the close of the Annual Meeting 2026 to the Annual Meeting 2029.
CARRIED

2. BERC ToR Review

1. *MOVED to recommend that the Board of Governors approve the proposed amendments to the Board External Relations Committee Terms of Reference.*
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:

- Dr. Tanya Kaefer was appointed as Assistant Dean Research in the Faculty of Education for the term effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029.
- Dr. Ravi Gokani was appointed as Acting Director in the Department of Social Work for the term effective July 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026.
- Dr. Razvan Anisca was appointed as Acting Chair in the Department of Mathematical Sciences for the term effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.
- Dr. Michael Campbell was appointed as Chair in the Department of Chemistry for the term effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029.
- Dr. Joseph Carney was appointed as Acting Chair in the Department of Veterinary Science for the term effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.
- Dr. Carolos Christoffersen was re-appointed as Chair in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering for the term effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.
- Dr. Hubert de Guise was appointed as Acting Chair in the Department of Physics for the term effective July 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026.
- Dr. Meredith Lovell-Johnston was re-appointed as Chair in the Department of Graduate Studies and Research for the term effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029.
- Dr. Kathy Sanderson was appointed as Program Chair Years 3 & 4 in the Faculty of Business Administration for the term effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2028.
- Dr. Sreekumari Kurissery was appointed as Chair in the Department of Sustainability Sciences for the term effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029.
- Dr. Seung-Il Lee was appointed as Interim Chair of HBScEM (Honours Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management) for the term effective September 16, 2026 to September 15, 2027.
- Dr. Josephine Tan was appointed Acting Chair in the Department of Psychology for the term effective January 1, 2027 to June 30, 2027.
- Dr. Robert Petrunia was appointed as Acting Chair in the Department of Economics for the term effective January 1, 2027 to June 30, 2027.
- Dr. Jennifer Chisholm was appointed as Interim Chair for the Lakehead University Research Ethics Board (REB) for the term effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.
- Dr. Trevor Jones be appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2030.
- Dr. Patrick Levasseur be appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2030.

- Dr. Michael Paterson be appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2030.
- Dr. Kyle Murphy be appointed as an External Adjunct Professor in the Department of Physics effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2030.

Other Reports Informational Items Received

- 3rd Progress Report on Strategic Plan Year One
- President's June-October Report
- Ogimaawin Indigenous Education Council Report (of the October 6, 2026 meeting)
- Senate Report (of the September 28, 2026 meeting)

In Camera Business Reported in the Open Meeting

- No In Camera Business to report in the Open Meeting

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 September 10, 2026 meeting

Audit and Risk Committee

- In Camera Report of the September 10, 2026 meeting

External Relations Committee

- In Camera Report of the September 9, 2026 meeting

Finance and Operations Committee

- In Camera Report of the September 10, 2026 meeting

Governance and Nominating Committee

- In Camera Report of the September 9, 2026 meeting

Reports Received

- Chair's In Camera Report
- President's In Camera Report

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Governors is November 26, 2026 from 9:30am to 1:30pm (ET), Thunder Bay Campus.