



EXCEPTIONAL. UNCONVENTIONAL.

Deputy Provost Academic Affairs

Lakehead University respectfully acknowledges its campuses are located on the traditional lands of Indigenous Peoples. Lakehead Thunder Bay is located on the traditional lands of the Fort William First Nation, Signatory to the Robinson Superior Treaty of 1850. Lakehead Orillia is located on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg. The Anishinaabeg include the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Pottawatomi nations, collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy. Lakehead University acknowledges the history that many nations hold in the areas around our campuses, and is committed to a relationship with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples based on the principles of mutual trust, respect, reciprocity, and collaboration in the spirit of reconciliation.

Lakehead University invites applications, nominations, and expressions of interest for the position of Deputy Provost Academic Affairs with the appointment to be effective July 1, 2026.

Location

Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada (with responsibilities across all locations in the cities of Thunder Bay, Orillia and Barrie). The Deputy Provost Academic Affairs will be expected to be based on the Thunder Bay campus.

About Lakehead University

Lakehead is a comprehensive, student-centred access University with a reputation for innovative programs and cutting-edge research located in Thunder Bay, Orillia and Barrie Ontario, Canada. In recent years, Lakehead University has been included in the top 100 of the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings. Maclean's has ranked Lakehead University the #1 primarily undergraduate university in the magazine's 2025 University Rankings, and Lakehead has been ranked at the top by Re\$earch Infosource, Canada's leading agency for ranking research and innovation at PSE institutions in Canada, over the past ten years.

Lakehead has just under 10,000 full-time equivalent students and more than 2,000 faculty and staff. With an emphasis on collaborative learning and independent critical thinking and a multidisciplinary teaching approach, Lakehead offers a variety of degree and diploma programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels through its nine Faculties, including Business Administration, Education, Engineering, Health and Behavioural Sciences, Natural Resources Management, Science and Environmental Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities, Graduate Studies, and Law.

Position Overview

Reporting directly to the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), the Deputy Provost Academic Affairs provides primary support to the Provost, ensures academic program quality that aligns with IQA standards and Senate approved policies. The Deputy Provost Academic Affairs fosters an environment of continuous improvement in teaching and learning and advances strategic academic priorities identified in EvoLUtion, such as GenAI in teaching and learning, academic integrity, expanding college transfer pathways and partnerships, and continuing education.

This role requires a collaborative leader with strong academic credentials, exceptional communication skills, and a demonstrated ability to lead complex initiatives in a multi-campus environment. This is not a remote position, and the candidate is expected to be based in Thunder Bay with travel to Orillia and Barrie as required.

The Deputy Provost Academic Affairs will play a central role in advancing Lakehead University's next academic plan by supporting the Provost in achieving the priorities of EvoLUtion. In collaboration with Deans, the Deputy Provost Academic Affairs will support new college pathways agreements, oversee the Teaching Commons, develop a continuing education framework, and actively engage in Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM) through continuous improvement of academic programs.

The Deputy Provost Academic Affairs will also provide key support for academic operations, serve as Acting Provost when required, and work closely with the Vice-Provost Student Affairs and Ombudsperson on matters related to academic integrity and student complaints. They will actively participate in major governance bodies, including Provost Council, Deans Council, Vice-Provost Council, and several Senate committees, such as Senate Teaching & Learning, Senate Organization, and Senate Budget, among others as required.

Key responsibilities for the Deputy Provost Academic Affairs will be:

1. The successful completion of the rigorous institutional audit required (2026-2027) by the Institutional Quality Assurance Council of Ontario, ensuring compliance with provincial standards and championing a culture of continuous improvement in academic programming.
2. Provide strategic leadership and institutional support for professional and discipline-specific accreditations by working with Deans, faculty, and external accrediting bodies to coordinate accreditation reviews, ensure ongoing compliance with standards, support continuous improvement initiatives, and integrate accreditation requirements into academic planning, assessment, and quality-assurance processes.
3. Oversee the annual compliance of program reviews as required by IQA Council by supporting academic units in conducting self-studies, developing action plans, and implementing recommendations from program reviews, as well as working with the University Librarian, Deans, and faculty to develop and assess student learning outcomes.
4. As Chair of the Senate Academic Committee – Quality Assurance (SAC-QA), the Deputy Provost Academic Affairs will liaise with the Quality Council, the Ministry of Colleges and Universities Research and Security (MCURS), and other stakeholders on program approvals, reviews, and audits. In partnership with the Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis, they will oversee the collection, analysis, and reporting of academic program vitality data.
5. Co-develop with the Provost and Principal of Orillia campus a continuing education strategy for revenue generation. The Deputy Provost Academic Affairs will also be responsible for implementation of the strategy to ensure community alignment and achievement of key performance indicators.
6. Support collaborative institutional leadership on the integration of GenAI into teaching, learning, and assessment, ensuring alignment with Lakehead's academic priorities and commitments to equity, accessibility, and academic integrity.
7. Support and evaluate pilot projects and emerging technologies that use AI to enhance student learning, advising, and academic support, ensuring that adoption complies with privacy, data security, and ethical standards.

8. Collaborate with the Vice-Provost Student Affairs, Ombudsperson, Registrar, Deans, and Senate committees to update policies and procedures related to academic integrity, assessment practices, and the transparent use of AI across academic programs.
9. Lead the development, negotiation, and renewal of college-to-university transfer strategy for bridging pathways and credit-transfer arrangements that support flexible and accessible learner mobility.
10. Work closely with the Registrar, Deans, and institutional partners to coordinate and expand high-quality pathways that advance enrollment goals, contribute to the achievement of SMA4 targets, and enhance access for diverse learners, including part-time, mature, Indigenous, and first-generation students.
11. Ensure efficient academic and administrative processes for transfer students by supporting clear credit-mapping, advising pathways, equivalency assessments, and collaborative curriculum planning with academic units.
12. Provide strategic oversight of the Teaching Commons, ensuring the unit effectively supports excellence in teaching and learning through curriculum development, pedagogical and assessment support, educational technology integration, professional development, provision and maintenance of myCourselink (Lakehead's LMS), and the advancement of inclusive and Indigenous approaches to teaching, aligned with institutional priorities and academic quality standards.

Qualifications & Experience

The successful candidate will hold an earned doctorate (or equivalent terminal degree) and possess a record of scholarly achievements commensurate with an appointment at the rank of Associate or Full Professor. They will bring demonstrated experience in senior academic administration, ideally within a multi-campus or similarly complex environment, along with proven leadership in strategic planning, academic program development, and quality assurance. The ideal candidate will also demonstrate a deep commitment to advancing equity, diversity, inclusion, and reconciliation within higher education.

Application Instructions

The Selection Committee, constituted in accordance with Lakehead University's *Appointment of Academic Administrators Policy*, will commence its review of candidates immediately and will continue its work until the position is filled. The Committee will establish the procedures for assessing applications and conducting interviews and will act in an advisory capacity to the Chair.

Applications should include a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and the names (not letters) of three (3) references (who will not be contacted without the consent of the candidate).

Lakehead University is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment and welcomes applications from all qualified individuals including women, racialized persons, Indigenous people, persons with disabilities, and other equity-seeking groups. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority. This is in accordance with Canadian immigration requirements.

Lakehead University has a goal to recruit and retain a diverse workforce as measured by increasing representation of underrepresented groups among applicants, candidates, and hires. Experience working with Indigenous or racialized communities, and/or members of other equity-deserving groups, is a strong asset. A lived experience or worked experience of any of these issues is preferred.

We appreciate your interest; Lakehead University is committed to supporting an accessible environment. Applicants requiring accommodation during the interview process should contact the Office of Human Resources at (807) 343-8010 ext. 8334 or human.resources@lakeheadu.ca to make appropriate arrangements.