

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
GOVERNANCE, NOMINATIONS & HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE (GNHR)

**Minutes of the Public Session of the February 3, 2026 Meeting
via Videoconference
2:00 p.m. - 2:22 p.m.**

Governors Present:

Gaurav Singh, Chair
Frank Carnevale, Vice-Chair
Mitch Frazer

Lorraine Gray
Neeraj Grotra

Steven Murphy
Dwight Thompson

Regrets:

Laura Elliott

Staff and Guests:

Kirstie Ayotte
Jamie Bruno
Nicola Crow

Sandra Grouette
(Secretary)
Krista Hester

Lori Livingston
Jennifer MacInnis
Sarah Thrush

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

The Chair called the Public Session of the Governance, Nominations & Human Resources Committee (GNHR) Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and L. Gray provided their personal land acknowledgement.

2. Agenda

Upon a motion duly made by D. Thompson and seconded by L. Gray, the Agenda was approved as presented, including approving and receiving the Consent Agenda and its contents.

3. Conflict of Interest Declaration

None declared.

4. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first GNHR meeting of 2026. He welcomed Sandra Grouette, who joined Ontario Tech in January as Assistant University Secretary following Kirstie Ayotte starting her new role as Assistant to the President. He advised that F. Carnevale will chair today's Non-Public Session as the Chair had to depart.

The Chair shared that February is Black History Month and this year's theme celebrates "30 years of Black History Month: Honouring Black Brilliance Across Generations". As Canadians

recognize this month and the 30th Anniversary, the Chair noted it presents an opportunity to learn, a time to reflect and to reaffirm commitments in this month and beyond.

5. President's Remarks

The President welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2026. The President reported that there are many great things happening across the University, beginning with positive undergraduate application numbers. He shared that applications have increased by 5.3% year over year, more than double the provincial average, marking the fifth consecutive year that the University has been the per-capita choice in the province. The President gave kudos to the work of the Registrar and Assistant Vice-President International, and teams across the Institution – faculty, staff, and students, whose efforts in brand building and marketing continue to contribute to this success. He highlighted that this growth reflects the University's strong reputation, program quality, agility, and continued emphasis on career-ready, future-focused education.

The President also reported on the recent successful University delegation visit to Southeast Asia that focussed on nuclear-energy skills development as both the Philippines and Indonesia are expanding nuclear capacity and require significant upskilling, reskilling, and academic programming. He highlighted the pre-existing partnerships in the Philippines, while work in Indonesia is recent and under development. Albeit there are geo-political differences between the two countries, the President emphasized the positive engagement with senior leaders which will help create opportunities for immediate training delivery, long-term curriculum licensing, train-the-trainer models, and broader brand presence in these youthful, rapidly growing regions. The President highlighted the strategic importance of establishing a global presence in such regions, which also included initiatives underway in Africa.

The President celebrated the groundbreaking of the University's first independently operated student residences, which are scheduled to open in September 2027 and will provide accommodation to 2,000 students. He noted this represents a significant milestone in the University's identity and growth strategy.

Finally, the President noted the upcoming February break and the associated increase in academic activity and stress as midterms approach, as well as varsity sports nearing the end of regular seasons and preparing for playoffs. He referred to these developments collectively as the early signs of spring and concluded by emphasizing the positive trajectory in the University's recruitment and international engagement.

6. Nominations

6.1 2026 Elections: Key Dates and Process* (M)

N. Crow reported on the 2026 Election Process, noting that the Board of Governors and Academic Council elections run concurrently. She advised that there are two open positions for election: the student and one teaching staff position. N. Crow shared that the current incumbents can run for re-election should they choose to run again and meet eligibility requirements.

Upon a motion duly made by L. Gray and seconded by F. Carnevale, the Governance, Nominations & Human Resources Committee hereby approves the proposed dates and process for the 2026 Board of Governor elections, as presented.

7. Governance

7.1 2025-2026 Board/Committee Practices Assessment* (D)

N. Crow gave an update on the annual Board/Committee Practices Assessment, noting that the Assessment will remain unchanged from past years to allow for consistent comparative data collection. She advised of plans to distribute the Assessment earlier to help with more timely development of the 2026-2027 workplans, with results being presented at GNHR's May meeting. N. Crow also noted that the findings will help Board development and education opportunities.

8. Consent Agenda* (M)

The Chair confirmed that the contents of the Consent Agenda were approved and received under Agenda Item #2.

8.1 Public Session Minutes of the October 30, 2025 Meeting* (M)

9. Adjournment (M)

There being no other business, and upon a motion duly made by F. Carnevale the Public Session of the GNHR Committee Meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

Sandra Grouette, Assistant University Secretary