



## BOARD OF GOVERNORS' 129<sup>th</sup> REGULAR MEETING

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Minutes of the Public Session of the Meeting of October 5, 2023  
12:15 p.m. to 1:05 p.m., Hybrid

### GOVERNORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Laura Elliott, Board Chair  
Maria Saros, Vice-Chair and Chair of Governance, Nominations & Human Resources  
Mitch Frazer, Chancellor  
Steven Murphy, President  
Carla Carmichael, Chair of Audit & Finance Committee  
Eric Agius  
Ahmad Barari  
Frank Carnevale  
Kathy Hao  
Dale MacMillan  
Matthew Mackenzie  
Lisa McBride  
Hannah Scott  
Gaurav Singh  
Kim Slade  
Dwight Thompson  
Roger Thompson, Vice-Chair of Audit & Finance Committee  
Michael Watterworth  
Emily Whetung

### REGRETS:

Michael Rencheck  
Lynne Zucker, Vice-Chair and Chair of Strategy & Planning Committee

### BOARD SECRETARY:

Lauren Turner, *University Secretary*

### STAFF:

James Barnett, *Vice-President, Advancement*  
Jamie Bruno, *Vice-President, People and Transformation*  
Sara Gottlieb, *General Counsel*  
Barb Hamilton, *Legal Executive Assistant*  
Krista Hester, *Chief of Staff*  
Les Jacobs, *Vice-President, Research & Innovation*  
Lori Livingston, *Provost & Vice-President, Academic*

Brad MacIsaac, *Vice-President, Administration*  
Kimberley McCartney, *Assistant University Secretary*  
Sarah Thrush, *Associate Vice-President, Planning and Strategic Analysis*

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the public session to order at 12:15 p.m. and read aloud the land acknowledgement.

**2. Agenda**

*Upon a motion duly made by C. Carmichael and seconded by M. Mackenzie, the Agenda was approved as presented.*

**3. Conflict of Interest Declaration**

None.

**4. Chair's Remarks**

The Chair welcomed governors, staff, and guests to the first Board meeting of the 2023/2024 academic year. She welcomed the new governors to the Board and invited a round table of introductions.

**5. President's Report**

The President provided updates on a number of events at the University including 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, the upcoming first fall Convocation, a successful Chancellor's Challenge, the naming of the Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education, and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation speakers. He shared that Ontario Tech has led the province in application growth for a third straight year, crediting a number of factors including the growth of the University's brand recognition. He then provided an overview of the provincial financial context for higher education, noting the ongoing freeze of provincial grants and the 10% tuition cut in 2019 and continued freeze thereafter. He remarked on increasing international student enrolment, reiterating that international students must be added to the University community ethically and not as a pragmatic means of balancing a budget. He provided an update on the Blue-Ribbon Panel, but did not express optimism that its work or report would result in a material change to the funding of post-secondary institutions. The President then described the drive for differentiated growth at Ontario Tech, citing expansion in professional masters degrees and increasing cooperative education offerings as examples. The Board of Governors expressed support for the direction the President described and credited the President and the senior leadership team on being proactive in their approach to the ongoing crisis of higher education funding.

## **6. Academic Council**

C. Carmichael presented the Academic Council report, noting that this will be her final time doing so. She highlighted two key items from the June Academic Council meeting: (i) the approval of new members for 2023/2024; and (ii) the approval of a new research centre.

### **6.1 New Research Centre**

L. Jacobs presented the motion for a new research centre, the Aerodynamic and Climatic Adaptation Research (AeroClimar) Centre. He advised the Board of Governors that AeroClimar is a part of a multi-year effort to shift the focus of the Automotive Centre of Excellence (ACE) from a commercial testing centre to a core research facility. He cited Project Arrow as a successful example of research being conducted at ACE. In response to a question, L. Jacobs confirmed that if successful, AeroClimar could transform from a research centre into a research institute with a broader reach and mandate. He noted that the University created its first institute in 2021 and added that institutes and research centres are pan-University and do not sit within any one Faculty.

*Upon a motion duly made by D. MacMillan and seconded by E. Agius, pursuant to the recommendation of Academic Council, the Board of Governors hereby approves the establishment of the Aerodynamic and Climatic Adaptation Research (AeroClimar) Centre.*

## **7. Consent Agenda:**

*Upon a motion duly made by C. Carmichael and M. Mackenzie, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented.*

### **7.1 Minutes of the Public Session of Board of Governors – June 28, 2023**

## **8. Adjournment**

*Upon a motion duly made by D. MacMillan, the public session adjourned at 1:05 p.m.*

Lauren Turner, University Secretary