

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Governance, Nominations and Human Resources Committee (GNHR)

Minutes of the Public Session of the Meeting of February 1, 2024
2:00 p.m. to 2:20 p.m. Videoconference

Attendees: Maria Saros (Chair), Laura Elliott, Mitch Frazer, Steven Murphy, Dwight Thompson, Emily Whetung

Regrets: Gaurav Singh

Staff: Kirstie Ayotte, Disha Gupta, Barb Hamilton, Krista Hester, Lori Livingston, Brad MacIsaac, Ruth Nyaamine, Beth Partlow, Sarah Thrush, Lauren Turner

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and read aloud the land acknowledgement.

2. Agenda

Upon a motion duly made by L. Elliott and seconded by S. Murphy, the Agenda, including the contents of the consent agenda, was approved as presented.

3. Conflict of Interest Declaration

There was none.

4. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first GNHR meeting of 2024. She welcomed the new Committee members as well as Kirstie Ayotte, the new Assistant University Secretary. She drew the Committee's attention to the proposed calendar of meeting dates in the consent agenda.

5. President's Remarks

The President wished everyone a happy new year along with happy Black History Month and shared that several things are going to take place this month. He noted a number of good news updates pertaining to Ontario Tech including the jump in applications over the last three years and thanked the various internal stakeholders for their efforts. He also noted that the University ranked as the most research intensive small university in Canada and that brand momentum is continuing. He

then advised the Committee that the provincial government's response on the Blue-Ribbon Panel is anticipated this month.

The President then provided an update on the federal government's announcement last week that placed a cap on international students. He expressed concern about the harm that this causes to Canada's reputation amongst international students. He advised that the provincial and federal governments are meeting and the University's government relations have been actively engaging with, and monitoring this issue. He advised that this development underscores the importance of the University's differentiated growth strategy and noted that the University is already attentive and responsive to labour market needs. The Committee expressed support for the President and the leadership team and commended efforts to position the University well for the future. In response to a question, the President agreed that the connection between the cut and freeze of tuition and grants and the increase in reliance on international students is understood by the government.

6. Nominations – Elections 2024 – Review of Process and Key Dates

The University Secretary presented the Committee with the proposed dates of the 2024 Board of Governors election and provided an overview of the process.

Upon a motion duly made by L. Elliott and seconded by E. Whetung, the Governance, Nominations and Human Resources Committee approved the proposed election process for 2024, as presented.

7. Consent Agenda

7.1 Minutes of the Public Session of the Meeting of October 27, 2023

7.2 Board of Governors Dates – 2024/2025; 2025/2026

7.3 Annual Policy Review Update: Policy Against Violence in the Workplace

Upon a motion duly made by L. Elliott and seconded by S. Murphy, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

8. Adjournment

There being no other business, upon a motion duly made by L. Elliott, the public session adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Lauren Turner, University Secretary