



**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**June 30, 2020**  
**4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**  
**Video and Teleconference**

**M I N U T E S**

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Governors of Ryerson University (the “University”) held on Tuesday, June 30, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Present:** K. Bahnan, S. Bukhari, J. Cockwell, C. Ellis, M. Frazer (Chair), J. Fukakusa, J. Gonzales, R. Graham, M. Lachemi, R. Khonsari, M. Kolios, C. MacDonald, A. McKee, N. Mohamed, C. Paisley, D. Porter, S. Sinha, T. Staffieri (Vice-Chair)

**Board Secretariat:**

J. Shin Doi, General Counsel, Secretary of the Board of Governors and University Privacy Office  
H. Driscoll, Chief Enterprise Risk Management Officer and Director, Governance  
V. Luckiram, Governance Coordinator  
J. MacInnis, Associate General Counsel and Assistant Secretary of the Board of Governors

**Others in Attendance:**

M. Anthony, Director of Real Estate, Facilities Management and Development  
D. Brown, Vice-President, Administration and Operations  
G. Craney, Deputy Provost and Vice-Provost, University Planning  
F. Forbes, Chief of Staff & Executive Director, Communications  
R. Frankle, Assistant Vice-President of Development  
J. Grass, Assistant Vice-President, University Relations  
S. Liss, Vice-President, Research and Innovation  
G. Mallon, Interim Assistant Vice-President, Facilities Management and Development  
M. McEachrane Mikhail, Executive Director, Office of Provost and Vice-President, Academic  
J. McKee, Chief Financial Officer  
J. McMillen, Vice-Provost, Students  
I. Mishkel, Vice-President, University Advancement and Alumni Relations  
J. Neiman, Director, Pension & Benefits  
J. O'Donnell, Chief Human Resources Officer  
D. O'Neil Green, Vice-President, Equity and Community Inclusion  
A. Saloojee, Assistant Vice-President, International  
S. Zolfaghari, Interim-Provost and Vice-President, Academic

**1. IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION (Board Members Only)**

**2. IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION (Executive Group Invited)**

**END OF IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION**

**3. INTRODUCTION**

**3.1. Chair's Remarks**

M. Frazer thanked Board members for their work and expressed gratitude to J. Cockwell, J. Fukakusa, and N. Mohamed for their guidance and mentorship during their time together on the Board. M. Frazer commended M. Lachemi for the inspiring leadership and dedication to the University. M. Frazer recognized J. Shin Doi and the Board Secretariat team for their professionalism and expertise.

**3.2. Approval of the June 30, 2020 Agenda**

The agenda was approved as presented.

**4. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT**

M. Lachemi thanked Board members for their support and engagement throughout the pandemic and expressed his appreciation to departing Board members for their contributions through the year. M. Lachemi welcomed and congratulated the new Interim-Provost, S. Zolfaghari.

M. Lachemi reported that the University has decided not to bring the Special Constables program to campus after listening to the community's concerns. M. Lachemi advised that a working group will hold further consultations to discuss how the University can develop a safety and security model that works for the community. The working group will report back with their recommendations.

M. Lachemi reported that the University is releasing the Anti-Black Racism Campus Climate Review report on July 17, 2020. M. Lachemi advised that a Presidential Implementation Committee will address the report's recommendations.

M. Lachemi provided an update on Opportunities Working Group's work. M. Lachemi highlighted four priority projects: Ryerson to the Core Program, Moving to an Agile Workforce, Digital Strategy, and Chang School Online. The group will present an update to the Board in the Fall.

M. Lachemi advised that the University held virtual graduation for the class of 2020, with seven-thousand, seven-hundred and fifteen graduates. M. Lachemi and J. Fukakusa

hosted a virtual coffee hour, and alum and honorary doctorate recipient, E. McCormack, gave a virtual address. M. Lachemi thanked the organizing team and M. Ien for hosting the morning ceremony.

M. Lachemi shared a video on Ryerson's response to the pandemic prepared by our Marketing and Creative Services team.

**4.1. Tribute to Mitch Frazer, Chair, Board of Governors**

M. Lachemi informed Board members that M. Frazer is the next chancellor of Ontario Tech University. M. Lachemi thanked M. Frazer for his years of service and introduced a video tribute highlighting M. Frazer's time on the Board. M. Lachemi spoke to M. Frazer's leadership, support, and invaluable contributions to the Law School. M. Frazer thanked everyone for the tribute and the kind words.

**5. REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY**

**5.1. Nominations closed for Election of Chair / Nominations open for Election of Vice-Chair**

J. Shin Doi advised that nominations for the Chair of the Board of Governors opened at the Executive Committee meeting in May, due to a vacancy that will follow M. Frazer's departure. J. Shin Doi declared that nominations are closed and announced that the Board of Governors elected T. Staffieri as the Chair of the Board.

J. Shin Doi explained that with T. Staffieri as Chair, there is a vacancy for Vice-Chair. J. Shin Doi declared nominations open for the Vice-Chair pursuant to Board by-law article 12.7. J. Gonzales nominated J. Cockwell. S. Bukhari and A. McKee seconded the nominations. J. Shin Doi advised that nominations for Vice-Chair will close at the July Executive Committee meeting. The by-laws require up to three nominations in writing and written assent from the nominee before the election at the July 2020 Executive Committee meeting. J. Shin Doi informed Board members that J. Cockwell has kindly agreed to serve as Interim Vice-Chair pursuant to the by-laws, during this election period.

**5.2. Board of Governors Student Leadership Award and Medal**

J. Shin Doi announced that the Spring 2020 Board of Governors Student Leadership Award and Medal winner is A. Fricker, who has received a degree in social work. J. Shin Doi thanked the members of the Award Selections Committee.

**5.3. Annual Board Assessments**

J. Shin Doi reminded Board members to complete the annual Board assessment.

## **6. REPORT FROM THE INTERIM-PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT ACADEMIC**

S. Zolfaghari shared highlights of the University's academic activities before and during the pandemic. S. Zolfaghari spoke to the successful transition to online learning, the strength of enrolment, and future course offerings.

S. Zolfaghari expressed the University's solidarity with the Black community as current events worldwide highlight the systemic racism faced by the Black community. S. Zolfaghari reported that the University is celebrating black excellence and supporting black students through several initiatives, including the Faculty of Community Services anti-Black racism-focused action plan and the black graduation celebration, recognizing the achievements of black students.

S. Zolfaghari provided an update on Fall admissions, course offerings, and plans to support first-year students. S. Zolfaghari reported that the Scenario Planning Working Group's work and collaborations with the Chang school continue to inform future academic plans.

## **7. REPORT FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT, EQUITY AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION**

### **7.1. Equity and Community Inclusion at Ryerson**

D. O'Neil Green reported that Human Rights Services published its first annual report since 2011. The annual report is for the period 2016 to 2018 and is on the Human Rights Services website.

D. O'Neil Green advised that Human Rights Services developed a trauma-informed approach to human rights complaints. Human Rights Services partnered with Human Resources, the Student Conduct office, the Consent Comes First office, and the General Counsel's Office to develop this innovative approach. D. O'Neil Green provided an overview of the complaint resolution process and related case statistics.

D. O'Neil Green provided an update on the Anti-Black Racism Climate Review. D. O'Neil Green advised that the goals of the review were to understand the experiences of black students, faculty, and staff and the impact of their experiences. D. O'Neil Green reported that M. Lachemi has invited the community to an online event on July 17, 2020, to hear the report findings and recommendations. The event will be in honour of Nelson Mandela International Day.

## **8. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**8.1. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

M. Frazer advised that on May 26, 2020, the Executive Committee, acting on behalf of the Board of Governors, appointed S. Zolfaghari to Interim-Provost and Vice-President, Academic and reappointed J. Dallaire as Honourary Board Elder. The Executive Committee also approved signing authority for the Director, Treasury and Investing Services.

**8.2. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE EMPLOYEE RELATIONS AND PENSION COMMITTEE**

**8.2.1. Audited Fund Financial Statements of the Ryerson Retirement Pension Plan January 1, 2020 and Audit Findings for the year ending December 31, 2019**

M. Frazer reported that the Employee Relations and Pensions Committee recommends that the Board approve the audited financial statements for the Ryerson Retirement Pension Plan and audit findings for the year ending December 31, 2019. J. McKee was available to answer questions about the materials.

It was moved, seconded, and carried:

**BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:**

**THAT the Audited Financial Statements of the Ryerson Retirement Pension Plan (RRPP) as at December 31, 2019 be approved to be filed with regulatory authorities.**

**9. TERMINATION**