



Meeting Book - April 28, 2026 Board of Governors OPEN Session Meeting

Open Session

1. Call to Order/Land Acknowledgement

Dave Smits

As we begin this meeting, I would like to acknowledge that we are in the territory of the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and that the land on which we gather is Nipissing First Nation Traditional Territory and the traditional territory of the Anishinabek. We respect and are grateful to be on these lands with all our relations.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Dave Smits

3. Use of Recording and/or Broadcasting Devices

Dave Smits

Only pre-approved methods of recording and/or broadcasting may be used. Disseminating any information during the meeting is prohibited.

4. Consent Agenda

Resolution

Dave Smits

That the items included "for adoption" on the April 28, 2026, consent agenda for the Open Session of the Board of Governors meeting be approved as circulated, while the items on the consent agenda "for information only" be received.

i. i) For Adoption

a. a) Minutes of Previous Board of Governors Meeting(s) - Open Session

2026-02-19 Open Session Minutes.pdf

ii. ii) For Information

a. a) Minutes from Meetings of the Board's Standing Committees

2026-03-23 - UGC OPEN Minutes.docx

2026-03-23 - AF PP Minutes.pdf

2026-03-23 CRF Minutes.docx

2026-04-20 - AudFin Minutes.docx

b. b) Reports from Other Committees/Bodies

26-04 - NUAAB Report to BoG.pdf

NUSU Board Of Governors Report (April).pdf

Nipissing University Mental Health and Well-Being Policy Implementation and Progress Report (2025) (1).pdf

5. Adoption of Regular Agenda

Resolution

Dave Smits

That the Board of Governors adopt the April 28, 2026, Open

Session regular agenda as circulated.

6. Chair's Remarks

Dave Smits

7. Chancellor's Remarks

Dr. Scott
Russell
(d.Litt)

8. President's Remarks

Dr. Kevin
Wamsley

9. Academic Plan/Operational Plan (APOP)

10. Vice-President's Remarks

i. Provost and Vice-President, Academic

Dr. Carole
Richardson

a. Nipissing University Research Ethics Board

The Board of Governors accepts the recommendation of the Provost to appointment Triana Ortiz to the Nipissing University Research Ethics Board for an initial three-year term effective July 1, 2026.

Resolution

ii. Vice-President, Finance & Administration

Renee
Hacquard

11. Board Committee Reports

i. University Governance Committee

John
D'Agostino

a. Reappointments

Resolution: That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the University Governance Committee to reappointment Janet Stockton to a second three-year term effective July 1, 2026.

Resolution

Resolution: That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the University Governance Committee to reappoint Ravil Veli to a second three-year term effective July 1, 2026.

b. Board Officers

Resolutions

Dave Smits

Board Chair:

That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the University Governance Committee to appoint John D'Agostino as Board Chair to a one year term beginning July 1, 2026.

Board Vice-Chair:

That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the University Governance Committee to appoint Janet Stockton as Board Vice-Chair to a one year term beginning July 1, 2026.

Board Vice-Chair Pro Tem:

That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the University Governance Committee to appoint Ravil Veli as Board Vice-Chair Pro Tem to a one year term beginning July 1, 2026.

ii. Audit & Finance & Plant and Property Committees

Janet
Stockton
Janet
Stockton

a. Tuition Rates

Resolution

Resolution: That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the Audit & Finance Committee to approve the 2026/27 Domestic tuition rates as presented.

Resolution: That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the Audit & Finance Committee to approve the 2026/27 Out-of-Province tuition rates as presented.

Resolution: That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the Audit & Finance Committee to approve the 2026/27 International tuition rates as presented.

2026-2027 Tuition Memo.docx

b. Ancillary Fees

Resolution

Resolution: That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the Audit & Finance Committee to approve the 2026/27 Nipissing University Ancillary Fees as presented.

Resolution: That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the Audit & Finance Committee to approve the 2026/27 Nipissing University Student Union Ancillary Fees as presented.

SIGNED NU Fees 2627 (1).pdf

SIGNED NUSU Fees 2627 (1).pdf

c. 2026/27 Draft Budget

Resolution

Renee
Hacquard

That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the Audit and Finance Committee to approve the 2026/27 Budget as presented.

Budget Package Board (1).pdf

d. Cost of Educational Materials Directive

Resolution

Carole
Richardson

That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the Audit and Finance Committee to approve the Cost of Education Materials Report as presented.

e. School of Planning

That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the Audit and Finance Committee to approve the creation of the School of Planning program with admissions to begin in 2027/28.

A&F Community Planning Program Proposal (2).docx

Resolution

Kevin
Wamsley

12. Board Representatives on Other Committees/Bodies

i. Nipissing University Student Union (NUSU)

a. NUSU Board Of Governors Report (April) (1).pdf

13. Question Period

14. Other Business

15. Next Meeting Dates/Adjournment

That the Open Session of the Board of Governors' regular meeting now adjourn.

Resolution

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

OPEN SESSION

February 19, 2026

The Open Session of the regular Board of Governors meeting was held on Thursday, February 19, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the President's Boardroom and via Zoom Remote Conferencing.

Members Present: John D'Agostino, Board Vice-Chair
Nicholas Botham
Patti Carr
Stacie Fiddler
Blaine Hatt
Judy Koziol
Denyse Lafrance Horning
Jaden Martin
Jessica McMillan
Frank Miscio
Doris Olmstead
Joe Sinicrope
Katrina Srigley
Tyson Stewart
Janet Stockton
Robin Tonna
Scott Russell
Ravil Veli
Kevin Wamsley
Abby Blaszczyk (University Secretary – non-voting)

Regrets: Dave Smits, Board Chair
Fran Couchie
Jamie Lowery
Laurel Muldoon

Invited Guests: Carole Richardson (PVPA - Interim)
Sarah Taylor
Graydon Raymer
Nathan Colborne
Barbi Law
Meghan Venasse

Official Observers: n/a

of Observers: 3

Recording Secretary: Christine Benoit, Executive Assistant, Office of the President

1. Call to Order/Land Acknowledgment

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. The Board Vice Chair offered a traditional land acknowledgement.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

The Board Vice Chair called for conflicts of interest concerning any of the agenda items; no such declarations were made.

3. Use of Recording and/or Broadcasting Devices

The Board Vice Chair reminded everyone that only pre-approved methods of recording and/or broadcasting devices may be used during the meeting. Disseminating any information during the meeting is prohibited.

4. Consent Agenda

The following items were included on the consent agenda:

- i. For Adoption
 - (a) Minutes of the December 4, 2025, Board of Governors Meeting (Open Session);
- ii. For Information Only
 - a) Minutes from Meetings of the Board's Standing Committees:
 1. University Governance Committee - Minutes from January 26, 2026;
 2. Audit & Finance/Plant and Property Committee – Minutes from January 26, 2026; and
 3. Community Relations/Fundraising Committee – Minutes from January 26, 2026.
 - b) Reports from Other Committees/Bodies
 1. Nipissing University Student Union (NUSU); and
 2. Anti-Racism/Anti-Hate Annual Report.

Resolution 2026-2.1-01: ***That the items included "for adoption" on the February 19, 2026, consent agenda for the Open Session of the Board of Governors meeting be approved as circulated, while the items included on the consent agenda "for information only" be received.***

*Moved by Ravil Veli; seconded by Judy Koziol.
Carried.*

5. Adoption of the Regular Agenda

Resolution 2026-2.1-02: ***That the Board of Governors adopt the February 19, 2026, Open Session regular agenda as circulated.***

*Moved by Blaine Hatt; seconded by Janet Stockton.
Carried.*

6. Vice Chair's Remarks

The Vice Chair advised that a call for nominations for the 2026-27 Board of Governors Officer positions has been circulated to Board members. The officer roles include Board Chair, Board Vice-Chair, and Board Vice-Chair Pro Tem, all of which are elected from among the non-constituent members of the Board. Nominations will be considered in a closed session meeting of the University Governance Committee in March.

The Vice Chair further advised that the April Board meeting, originally scheduled for April 30, has been rescheduled to Tuesday, April 28, at 5:30 p.m. Notice of the change will be circulated.

7. Chancellor's Remarks

Dr. Russell commented on the provincial government's recent increase in funding to post-secondary institutions, noting it as encouraging news for Nipissing University. He stated that the funding supports the University's goals of long-term sustainability and growth, while continuing to deliver high-quality education and expand capacity in high-demand programs. He further highlighted the importance of the government's recognition of northern institutions through dedicated funding to support regional growth and vitality.

The Chancellor also acknowledged that the permitted increase in tuition fees may place a greater financial burden on some students, with increased reliance on loans rather than grants. He emphasized the importance of maintaining affordability and accessibility for students in need.

Looking ahead, Dr. Russell noted his intention to attend campus in March to participate in a number of activities, including *Living Stories: A Moment with Rare Dementia*, convened by RDS Canada under the guidance of Dr. Mary Pat Sullivan. He also expressed his enthusiasm for attending the Dave Marshall Leadership Awards ceremony on March 12, recognizing outstanding student achievement and leadership.

8. President's Remarks

The President's remarks are appended to these minutes.

9. Academic and Operational Planning (APOP)

The Provost provided an overview of the Academic Plan and Operational Plan (APOP) update included in the Board materials, presenting high-level highlights and action items. It was noted that efforts are underway to provide more frequent updates, including enhanced reporting on the University website. Board members were encouraged to review the materials in detail and to advise if additional information or refinements to the reporting format would be helpful.

In response to a question regarding items listed as 'in progress,' clarification was provided that while such items can carry some degree of risk, administration has no current concerns regarding actions being at risk or falling behind schedule. Regular monitoring occurs through committees that meet with varying frequency, and overall progress was described as positive.

A question was raised regarding the Provost's Working Group on Indigenization, and it was indicated that the initiative was originally positioned under the Provost in the APOP; however, with the recent appointment of the Director of the Office of Indigenous Initiatives (OII), responsibility for this work will transition to the Director, with support from the Provost Office. This work is included in the Director's plan for the remainder of the year, and the item remains appropriately listed as 'in progress.'

10. Vice-Presidents' Remarks

The Provost and Vice-President, Academic (PVPA)

The Provost referred to the written report provided to the Board and highlighted several recent and upcoming academic and research-related activities. Attention was drawn to Research Month and the planned week of activities, and the success of the BEd Expo.

Dr. Richardson drew attention to information related to the Quality Assurance process, noting that executive summaries from recent cyclical program reviews are available to view on the University website. These summaries include the external reviewers' reports and recommendations, responses from the academic units, deans, and the Provost, and reflect substantial work by faculty and external reviewers. These reviews include Anthropology, Indigenous Studies, Liberal Arts, Liberal Science, the MSc in Kinesiology, Political Science, and Social Work. Board members were advised that these materials can be accessed via the Academic section of the Office of the Provost Website under Quality Assurance.

The Vice-President, Finance & Administration (VPFA)

No remarks.

12. Board Committee Reports

University Governance Committee

The Student Organization Policy, previously reviewed by the University Governance Committee, was developed jointly with the Nipissing University Student Union (NUSU). The policy clarifies relationships, responsibilities, and accountabilities among student organizations, NUSU, and the University, including both NUSU-affiliated groups and student organizations supported by academic departments. The Governance Committee had raised concerns about punitive language and those revisions were included in the policy presented at the meeting.

In response to a question regarding financial oversight and audit requirements, clarification was provided that student organizations associated with NUSU do not hold independent funds. All funds are held and administered by NUSU, with revenues and expenditures consolidated within NUSU's financial statements. As such, financial oversight and audit requirements are addressed through NUSU's existing financial controls, relieving student groups of separate audit obligations.

Following discussion, a resolution was made:

Resolution 2026-2.1-03: *That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the University Governance Committee to approve the Student Organization Policy as presented.*

Moved by Ravil Veli; seconded by Tyson Stewart.

Carried.

The Board also received the revised Student Sexual Violence Response Policy, as recommended by the Governance Committee. It was noted that revisions were intended to improve clarity, organization, and accessibility for students. The policy was shortened and reorganized, with the core policy separated from procedures, definitions, and roles, which are now contained in appendices.

The key procedural change outlined was the removal of the Sexual Violence Response Committee as the initial decision-maker, due to concerns related to privacy, training consistency, and student trust. Under the revised policy, initial investigations will be conducted by the AVP Students, or Human Resources, with the committee structure retained for the appeal process. The Governance Committee also recommended reordering the appendices to better align with student needs and ease of access.

In response to questions, it was confirmed that the revised policy remains fully compliant with provincial legislation, including Bill 166, and has been reviewed by legal counsel. Clarification was provided that police involvement is student-driven, and that students may choose to disclose information without initiating a formal investigation. The appendices distinguish between disclosure processes and formal reporting, with separate procedures depending on whether the respondent is a student or a faculty or staff member.

Mandatory reporting requirements were discussed, confirming that the policy includes a provision requiring the Board to receive and review an annual report on sexual violence, in accordance with legislative requirements.

A resolution was then presented:

Resolution 2026-2.1-04: *That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the University Governance Committee to approve the Sexual Violence Response Policy as presented.*

Moved by Scott Russell; seconded by Janet Stockton.

Carried.

13. Board Representatives on Other Committees/Bodies

Nipissing University Student Union

The VP Finance (NUSU) referred to the submitted report and highlighted key updates, including the recent student elections, and ongoing by-elections for the NUSU Board of Directors. An update was also provided on the student health plan, noting that the transition to new providers has been proceeding well and that options to increase coverage for the coming year are being explored.

Additional comments were offered regarding recent provincial funding announcements and the lifting of the tuition freeze. While acknowledging the University's increased operating fund, concern was expressed about the combined impact of tuition increases and changes to OSAP, particularly the shift from grants to loans. It was noted that these changes disproportionately affect students from lower-income backgrounds and could act as a deterrent to post-secondary participation.

In response to a question regarding OSAP oversight, clarification was provided that OSAP funding is assessed based on financial need and that tuition and residence funding is paid directly to the University where applicable. Remaining funds are distributed to students for living and educational expenses. Should students experience challenges with financial management, Student Developmental Services offers financial literacy and budgeting support.

Academic Senate

The Provost advised that a proposal to consolidate several academic programs had previously been reviewed and approved by Academic Senate. Matters related to academic programming are reviewed through Senate and then brought to Board for final approval, consistent with established governance processes, and as such, a resolution was made:

Resolution 2026-2.1-05: ***That the Board of Governors accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee to approve the consolidation of Anthropology, Religions and Cultures, Gender, Equality and Social Justice, and Sociology into a single Sociology Program.***

*Moved by Ravil Veli; seconded by Blaine Hatt.
Carried.*

14. Question Period

A discussion was held regarding Board member financial literacy requirements. It was noted that financial literacy expectations are set out in the proposed Terms of Reference for the Audit and Finance Committee and that participation in financial literacy training will be incorporated into Board orientation for new members. It was further noted that explanatory materials outlining key elements of financial statements are being prepared for posting on the University website.

Comments were made on the time commitment associated with Board service, emphasizing the importance of ensuring prospective members have a clear understanding of governance responsibilities, training expectations, and workload.

An additional question was raised regarding the availability of cybersecurity training modules for Board members. It was noted that such training is currently mandatory for university employees and tied to university email accounts. Administration would consult with the Technology Department and report back if it is possible to extend such training to Board members.

15. Other Business

There was no other business.

16. Next Meeting/Adjournment

The next Committee Day is March 23, 2026, and will include all standing committees.

The next Board meeting is April 28, 2026, and will be the Annual General Meeting.

Resolution 2026-2.1-06: ***That the Open Session of the Board of Governors' regular meeting now adjourn.***

*Moved by Judy Koziol; seconded by Janet Stockton.
Carried.*

Open session adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

President & Vice-Chancellor/Secretary of the Board

Board Chair



President's Report to the Board of Governors

February 2026

Board of Governors Report

Good afternoon, Board members. We are at the halfway point for the Winter term. Our students are on Reading Week. You will be receiving the reports of our Vice Presidents as usual this afternoon and the report from Audit and Finance. Renee is out of the country this week but we will do our best to answer your questions. The financial report for 2025-26, the year in progress is solid. We are still predicting a balanced budget. Please know that the government announcement from last week does not pertain to the 2025-26 budget. The situation has not changed for international enrolment but we have a stronger than expected domestic enrolment for the current year, so that is assisting us on the positive side of this year's budget, in addition to the government grants that we received which have serviced expansion in both Nursing and Education and an increase to our Northern Grant. Before I comment on the government announcement, I want to commend our small staff for its work on running the university and its regular cycles for students, staff, and faculty very smoothly. This in addition to the significant changes that we are working on in processes, policies, efficiencies, and the learning and working environments. Work which is related to the Strategic Plan is clearly evident, particularly through our operational and academic plan and associated changes, the governance reviews, the efficiencies reviews, the policy review, and continued attention to the Auditor General's recommendations and on top of that it is budget season, so we have heard and received the first round of budget submissions from all of our units for 2026-27. There are many levels of changes occurring at the university and am comfortable concluding that we are making progress in all areas – albeit slowly and methodically in some areas and much faster in others.

All in all, we are in a good position – a stable financial position and insisting upon careful and strategic spending and continuing to advocate for fair funding and investing in our programs, particularly high demand programs. We have spent years meeting with the Province and providing input to the distribution of funds and the weighting of funds and the inequities for Northern and smaller institutions. It is evident that they listened and that all of this work by our staff really meant something.

So what does last week's announcement mean for Nipissing University. As of today, I can characterize the funding generally and offer details on the types of changes that will be



President's Report to the Board of Governors

February 2026

happening. But, I cannot put a dollar figure on it because we have not been given the precise formulas or the specific allocations. We will not have the final information on that until the summer, according to the Province and we will probably not know the precise financial picture until the Fall term. Here's what we know to date: tuition may increase 2% per year for the next 3 years. Unless inflation falls below 2%. Out of province tuition may be increased by 5% for these next three years. Grants for programs will increase by weight, meaning that the dollars per student in certain programs will increase. Pertinent to us are Nursing, Education, Physical and Health Education, Social Work, Fine Arts, Math, and Science. There will also be a base funding increase for all students over the next two years. There will be increases in the Northern Grant and in the Indigenous Student Success Grant. The good news for us is that these funds are additional to our projections for next year, of course subject to our final budgetary decisions.



NIPISSING UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

OPEN SESSION

March 23, 2026

The Governance Committee met on Monday, March 23, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. in the President's Boardroom (F303) and via Zoom remote video conferencing.

Members present: Robin Tonna
Fran Couchie
Jessica McMillan
Laurel Muldoon
Jaden Martin
David Smits
Kevin Wamsley
Scott Russell
Renee Hacquard (VPFA – non-voting)
Carole Richardson (PVPA – non-voting)
Abby Blaszczyk (University Secretary – non-voting)
Nicholas Botham (Student Observer – non-voting)

Regrets: John D'Agostino, Committee Chair
Judy Koziol
Katrina Srigley

Recording Secretary: Christine Benoit (Office of the President)

1. Call to Order/Traditional Land Acknowledgement

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. The Board Chair provided a traditional land acknowledgement.

2. Call for Conflicts of Interest

The Board Chair called for any conflicts of interest; no such declarations were made.

3. Terms of Reference: Update

The Executive and Human Resources Committee and the Community Relations and Fundraising Committee Terms of Reference remain under review by their respective committees. These Terms of Reference will be considered by those committees and subsequently returned to the Governance

Committee, along with the full committee framework, for approval. The framework is expected to be brought forward to the Board for approval at its final meeting in June.

4. Annual Board Evaluation

The annual board evaluation was presented for information. It was noted that the survey tool was designed to be used over a three-year period to allow for comparative analysis, with two cycles completed and one remaining. Members were reminded that the same survey, with slight changes implemented over the last two years, will be used for the upcoming year and were encouraged to participate to support meaningful results. A decline in response rates in the previous year was noted, and discussion highlighted potential technological barriers to completion. It was agreed that reminders would be issued, participation encouraged, and the survey format reviewed to ensure accessibility. Following completion of the third year, the survey tool will be reassessed.

5. University Governance Selection Sub-Committee

The University Governance Selection Sub-Committee met with the University Secretary to review current Board Vacancies, including two Lieutenant Governor in Council (LGIC) positions currently vacant, with two upcoming. A meeting with provincial representatives is anticipated to discuss potential appointments and reappointments, given the number of vacancies. It was further noted that there is one non-LGIC Board vacancy for the upcoming year due to the completion of the Chair's term at the end of June. The Subcommittee is in the process of identifying and interviewing potential candidates, with interviews expected to take place in April. Efforts are ongoing to address all vacancies, recognizing the complexities associated with the provincial appointment process.

6. Other Business

There was no other business.

Motion: ***That the University Governance Committee move in camera.***

*Moved by Fran Couchie; seconded by Robin Tonna.
Carried.*

Recording Secretary

Chair of University Governance Committee

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

AUDIT & FINANCE and PLANT & PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING

OPEN SESSION

March 23, 2026

The Audit and Finance Committee met on Monday, March 23, at 10:30 a.m. in the President's Boardroom (F303) and via Zoom remote conferencing.

Members Present: Janet Stockton, Committee Chair
Patti Carr
Frank Miscio
Denyse Lafrance Horning
Jessica McMillan
Nicholas Botham
Kevin Wamsley
Dave Smits
Renee Hacquard (VP, Finance & Administration – non-voting)
Carole Richardson (Provost – non-voting)
Abby Blaszczyk (University Secretary – non-voting)
Jaden Martin (student observer, non-voting)

Regrets: John D'Agostino
Ravil Veli
Scott Russell

Guests: Tiffany Cecchetto, KPMG
Fran Couchie
David Drenth
Steven Tedesco

Recording Secretary: Christine Benoit (Office of the President)

1. Welcoming Remarks/Land Acknowledgement

The meeting was called to order at 10:33 a.m. and a traditional land acknowledgement was made.

2. Conflict of Interest

The Committee Chair called for any conflicts of interest; no such declarations were made.

3. Audit Planning

Tiffany Cecchetto, KPMG, provided a high-level summary on the audit planning process, speaking to the audit quality, risks, and areas of focus. The audit process is expected to be completed in July 2026, and KPMG will report back to the Audit & Finance Committee in September.

Required inquiries of the Committee were undertaken, including discussion of fraud risk oversight, whistleblower activity, related party transactions, and significant or unusual transactions, with no concerns identified. It was noted that the VPFA and KPMG will continue discussions on formalizing related processes and will report back to the Committee as appropriate.

KPMG also provided an overview on emerging audit practices, including the responsible use of artificial intelligence within the audit process, emphasizing internal controls, data security, regulatory considerations, and the use of AI tools to enhance audit quality rather than replace professional judgement.

4. 2026/27 Budget Update

There is ongoing work to finalize the University's budget, with current efforts focused on validating the completeness and accuracy of the budget figures. Given the recent provincial funding announcements, the University is assessing which elements can be reliably incorporated into the budget at this stage. To support this work, the Director of Institutional Planning and Analysis provided a high-level overview of the Ministry's funding formula review and potential implications for Nipissing University.

The Committee was advised of several key funding changes, including the streamlining of multiple transfer payment agreements (TPA) into consolidated operating grants, recalibration of the Small Northern and Rural Grant, and adjustments to base funding through standardized Weighted Grant Units (WGU) values across the sector. Tuition policy changes permitting limited increases over the next several years were also noted. In addition, the Ministry's intention to fund up to 40,000 new seats in priority areas was outlined, with potential opportunities identified for Nipissing University, including teacher and Indigenous education, environmental science, community planning, and kinesiology.

Further discussion addressed the recalibration of corridor funding to reflect more recent enrolment data, which is expected to result in an increased corridor midpoint for Nipissing beginning in 2026-27. It was emphasized that the funding impacts are complex, as some enrolment has historically been funded outside the corridor, and as such, final financial effects cannot yet be confirmed. The Committee also received an overview of program weight changes, particularly for education, health, and nursing programs, noting that while weights have increased, certain funding streams are being consolidated rather than expanded, and the changes should not be interpreted as a windfall.

Members raised questions regarding funding predictability, the creation of sub-corridors for specific program areas, potential impacts on comprehensive programming and Indigenous education, and the timing of further clarification from the Ministry. It was noted that discussions with the Ministry

are ongoing and that additional detail is expected later in the summer. A draft budget package will be brought forward to the Audit & Finance Committee in April, with multi-year projections included and subject to refinement as funding details are confirmed.

5. Year to Date Financial Update

The Vice-President, Finance and Administration provided an update on the University's financial position as of February 28, noting that the projections remain preliminary as year-end accruals and refinements are still underway. Revenue projections for the operating fund remain consistent with earlier expectations.

On the expense side, projections continue to be refined as the University approaches year-end. It was noted that several planned tenure-track hires did not materialize, resulting in salary savings, with some hiring considerations deferred to future years to avoid budget volatility. Overall, the operating and ancillary funds remain in a stable position.

With respect to the ancillary fund, it was reported that additional roofing projects were approved following a tender process, due to the University's current financial capacity. As a result, additional expenses have been included in the current year projections, subject to year-end accrual considerations. As of February 28, the University reported an overall position of \$18.3 million and is projecting a year-end result of approximately \$5.8 million, reflecting higher expenses than revenues through to April 30.

6. School of Planning Proposal

The President provided an update on the proposed undergraduate Community Planning program, noting that the initiative originated approximately two years ago in response to demonstrated student demand and a significant provincial shortage of accredited planning seats. Following extensive development work, the program proposal was approved through internal quality assurance processes, received provincial approval in October, and was subsequently approved in principle by Senate. The program, if recommended by Audit and Finance today, will be brought forward to the Board of Governors for approval, with admissions proposed to begin in the 2027–28 academic year.

It was reported that the four-year, on-campus program will lead to professional certification as a planner anywhere in Canada, with a distinctive focus on northern, rural, and Indigenous community planning. Planned intake is approximately 60 students per year, ramping to a steady-state enrollment of approximately 240 students. The financial model presented is conservative and tuition-based, with the program structured to break even on instructional costs while relying on provincial operating grants to support institutional services and infrastructure.

The program is expected to be financially sustainable once funded under the provincial Weighted Grant Unit framework and is anticipated to align with the Ministry’s priority areas for new funded seats, though confirmation is still pending.

Members discussed risks related to start-up funding, space requirements, and long-term operational support, noting that the proposed budget reflects a worst-case scenario that excludes potential future funding. The President and VPFA confirmed that the University retains the ability to pause or reassess the program should sufficient government support not materialize, and that reserves are available to manage transitional risk if required. Strong demand for graduates and broad support from regional, provincial, and federal stakeholders were noted.

Following discussion, a motion was presented:

Motion: *That the Audit & Finance Committee recommend the Board of Governors approve the creation of the School of Planning Program with admissions to begin in 2027/28.*

*Moved by David Smits; seconded by Frank Miscio.
Carried.*

7. Plant and Property – Capital and Construction Update

David Drenth, Director of Facilities, provided a Capital & Construction update and the presentation is appended to these minutes. The Director reported no items of concern for the committee regarding ongoing projects.

8. Other Business

There was no further business.

The meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Committee Chair

NIPISSING

U N I V E R S I T Y



Plant & Property

March 2026

Project Update Summary



Front Entrance Renovation

- Contractor: Venasse Building Group
- Project Cost: \$510,000
- Funding Sources: FRP
- On budget
- Status : 95% complete - 1 outstanding change order

Project Update Summary

Front Entrance Renovation

- Work commencing with installation of supporting signage infrastructure
- Scheduling to be confirmed with signage supplier - materials on order
- Targeting completion prior to Convocation



Project Update Summary



Outdoor Classroom Update

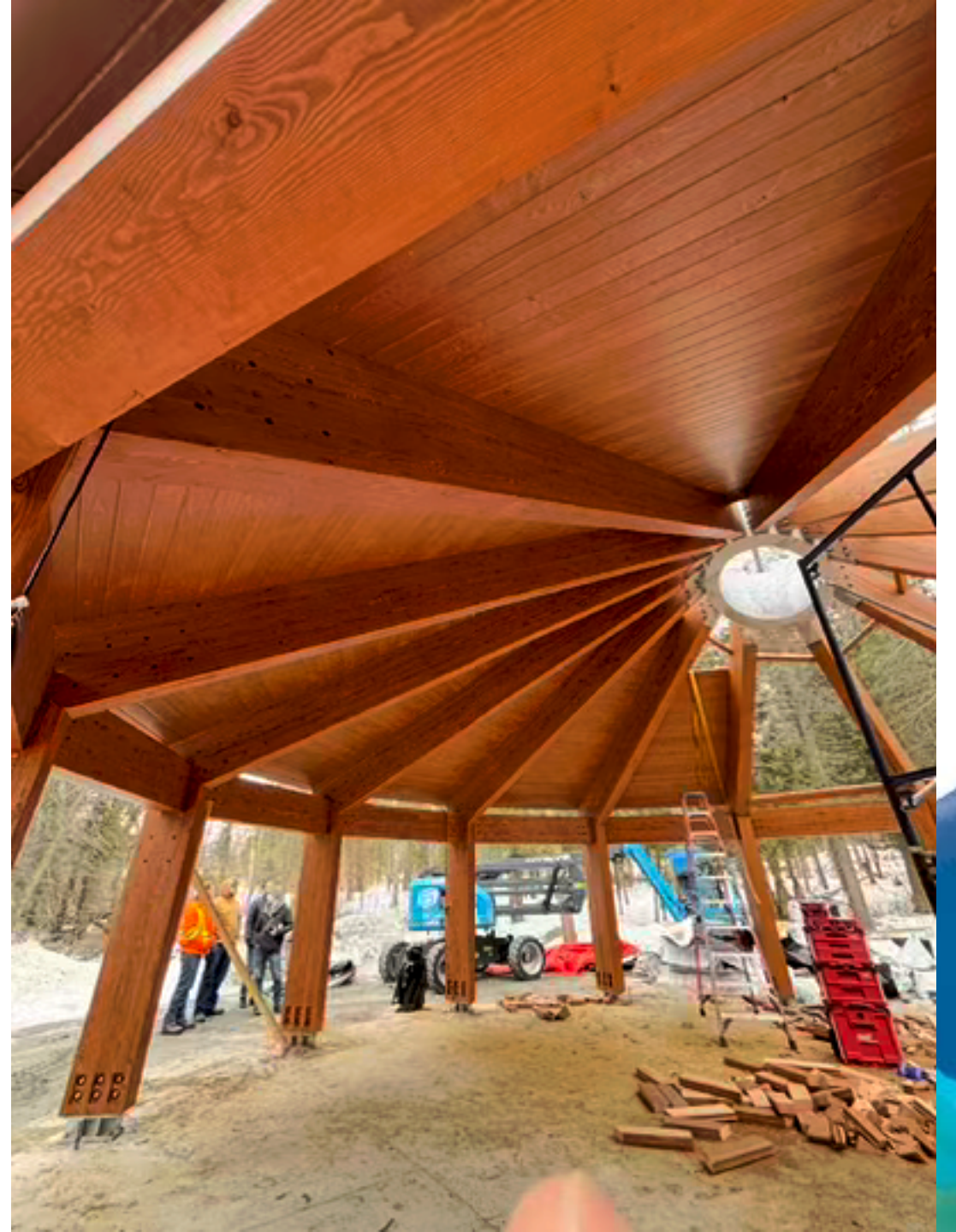
- Architect: Mitchell Jensen Architects
- Contractor: Venasse Building Group
- Project Cost: \$1,000,000
- Funding Sources: Donation/Grant

Project Update Summary

Outdoor Classroom

- Roof decking near completion, sheeting and shingles directly after
- Interior components moving to site for installation
- Corten wall panels on-site in 2 weeks for installation
- Cameras, cabling, and WAP in next week
- Completion Friday, March 27th for final inspection

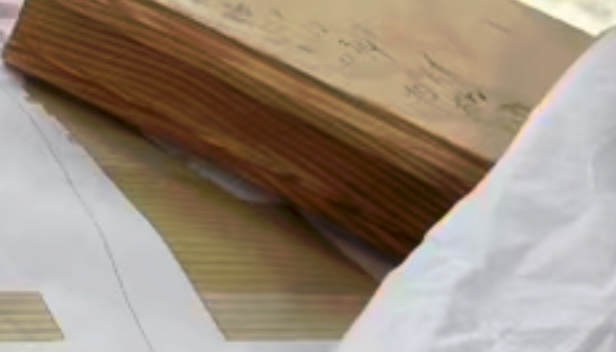
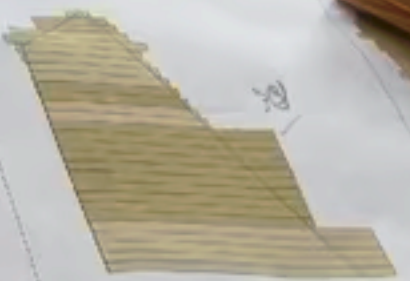








REQUIRE (MINIMUM):



AREA D
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19 mm @ 24" O.C.

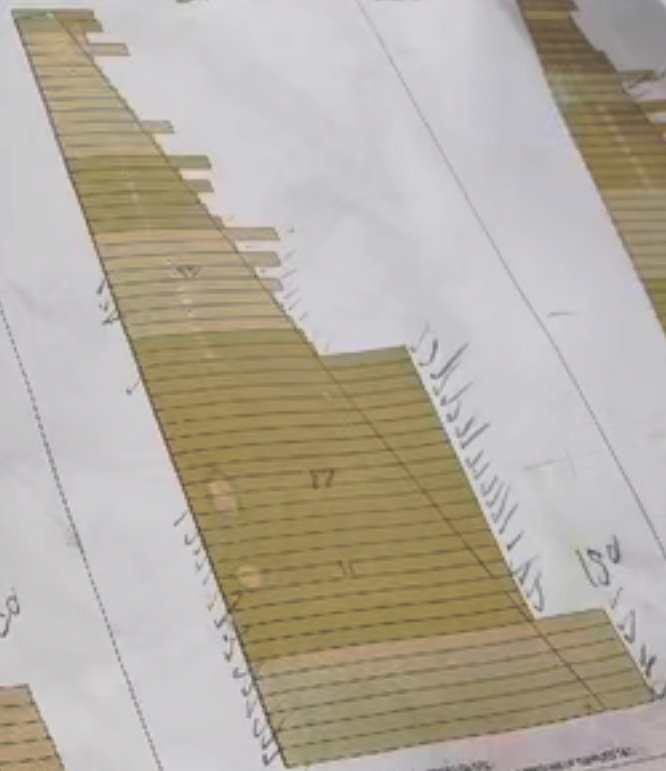
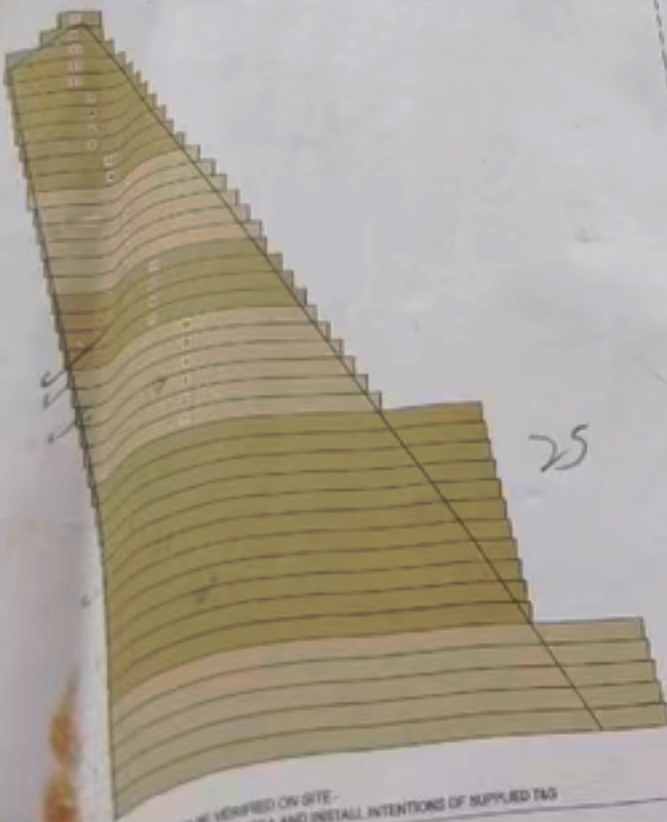
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AREA F
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19 mm @ 24" O.C.

AREA G
SCALE 1/2" = 1'



ALL DIMENSIONS TO BE VERIFIED ON SITE.
CONFORM TO GENERAL IDEA AND INSTALL INTENTIONS OF SUPPLIED TAG

ALL TAGS REFER TO THE DRAWING ON SITE.
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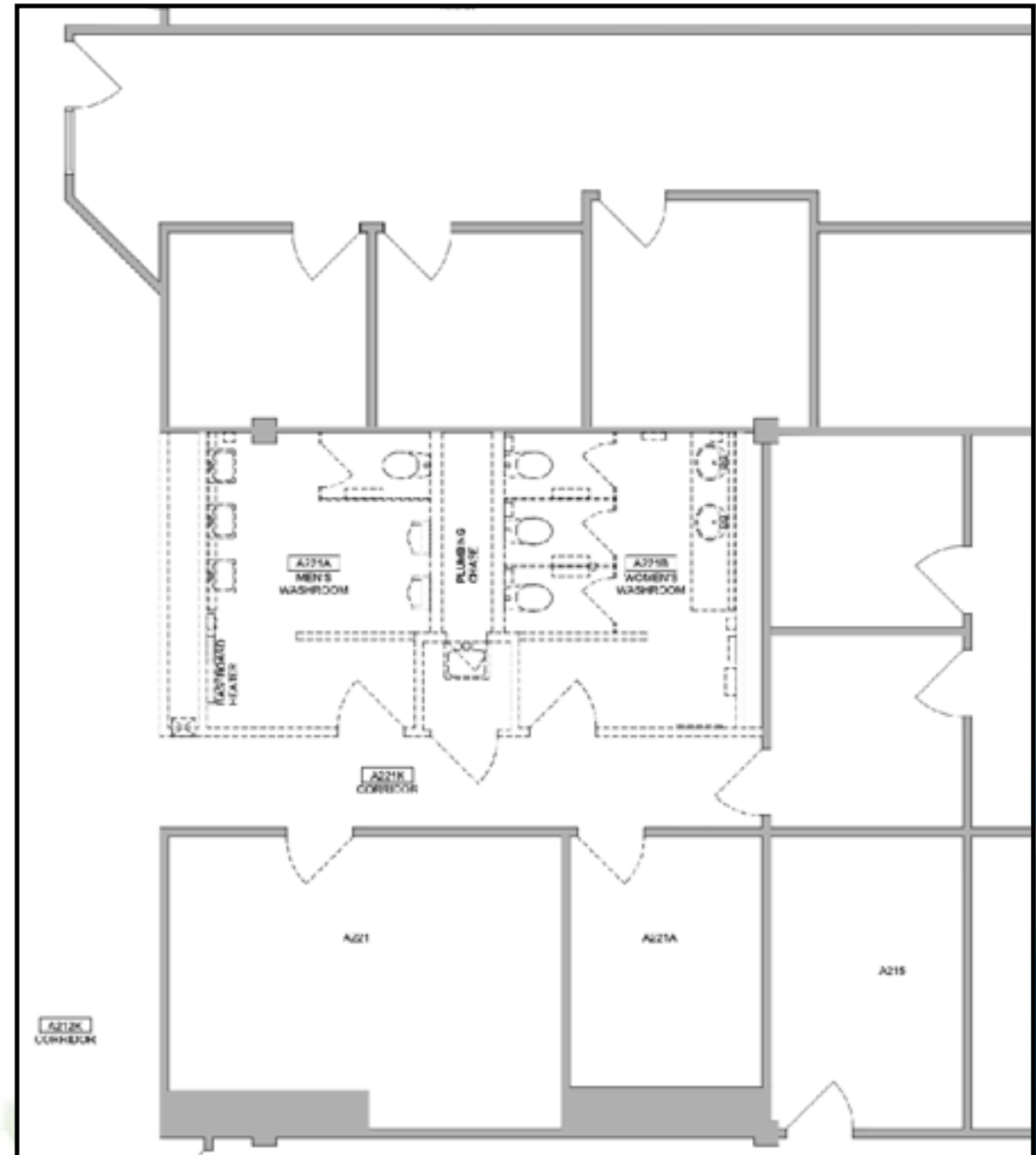
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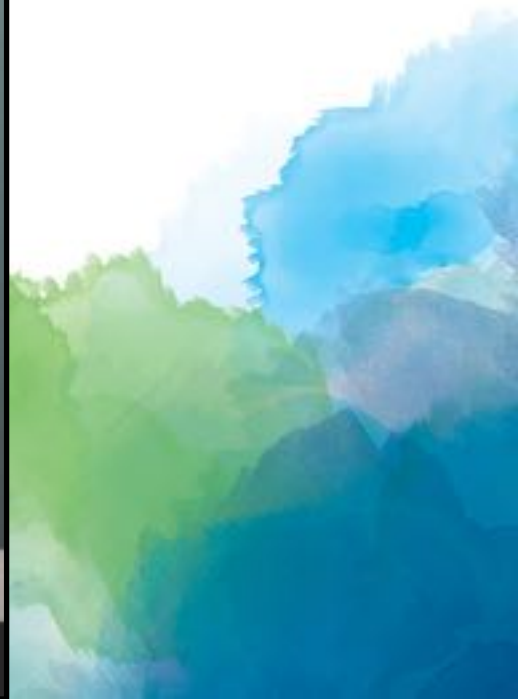


Project Update Summary

F218 Washrooms

- RFP awarded to Venasse Building Group at a value of \$475,000
- Scheduled for April start
- Plan for adjacent offices accommodation reviewed with department heads







Typical Private Washrooms



WASHROOMS



HVAC Replacements/Upgrades



Building HVAC Review & Upgrades

Project Description:

- Direct result of systems audit
- Repair or replace identified concerns
- Re-calibrate all components for improved efficiency and performance

Project Status Update

- Contractor: Bernard Rochefort LTD
- Project Cost: \$528,000
- Funding Sources: FRP
- Status : Ongoing & on budget

Project Update Summary

Canadore Projects

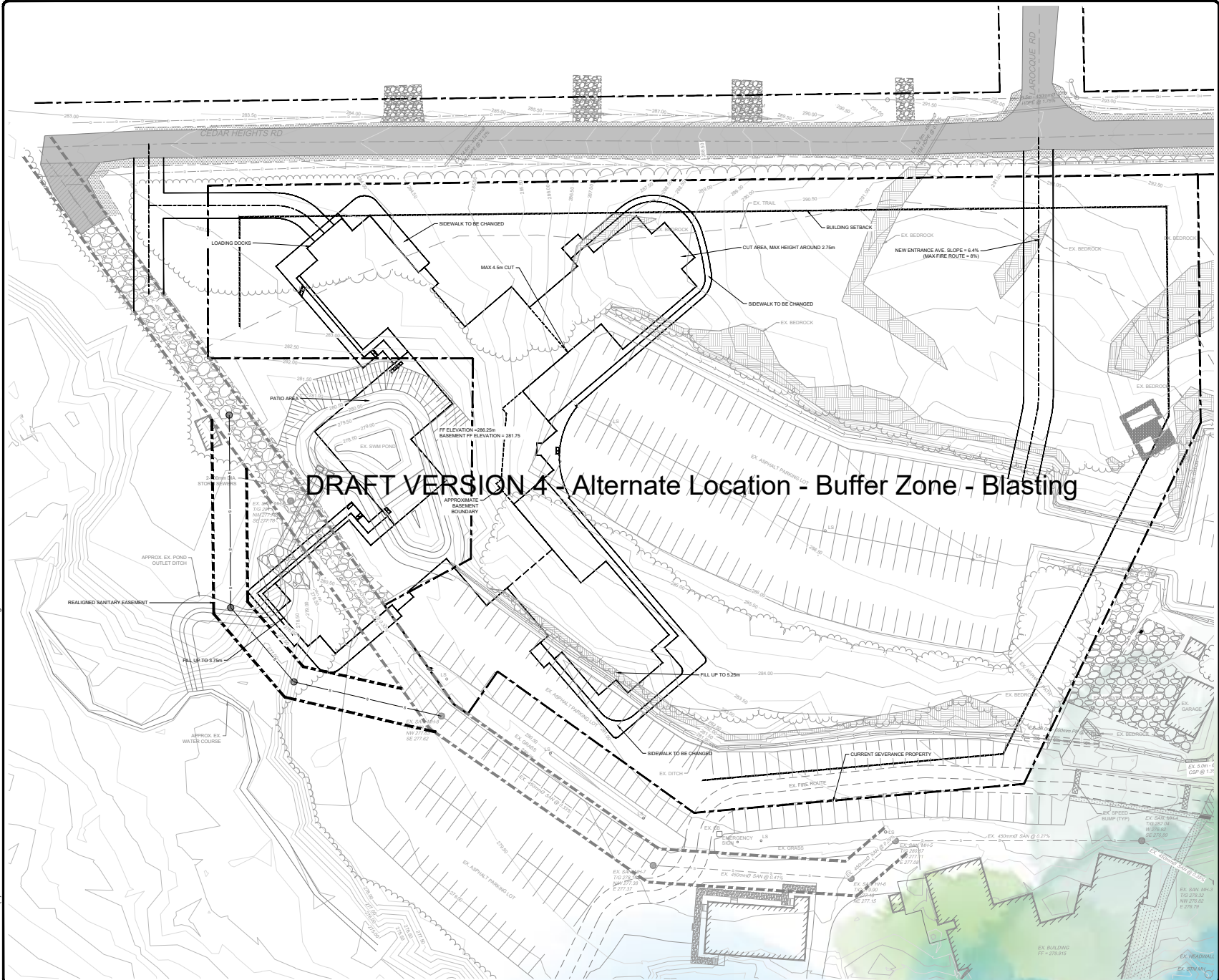
- Village Phase 2 - Long Term Care Centre

LTC Update

- Awaiting agreement sign off with Ministry to begin construction



FILE: E:\NTB\NTB-23012863-00\60 Execution\65 Drawings\Civil\NTB-23012863 CIVIL
DRAWING No. C101 (2)



Disclaimer: exp Services Inc. This drawing is being supplied as a matter of courtesy and is in no way to be taken as an appointment to, associated with or as placement of copies of the officially signed and sealed documents. The data is provided "as is" without a warranty of any kind either expressed or implied. This drawing does not include a professional engineer's stamp on the drawing, and only prior copies of drawing with signed stamps are to be considered as true and final as issued by our office. Thank you.

LEGEND

- EXISTING EXPOSED BEDROCK
- EXISTING BUILDING EDGES
- EXISTING GRAVEL AREAS
- EXISTING STORM PIPE
- EXISTING STORM CULVERT
- EXISTING SANITARY PIPE
- EXISTING DITCH
- EXISTING BUSH LINE
- EXISTING LIGHT STANDARD
- EXISTING SANITARY MANHOLE

NO.	REVISIONS	Date	By	App
4	BUILDING SHIFTED TO WEST SIDE OF THE SITE AND EX. PARKING LOT #8 USED FOR PARKING.	JULY 14, 2025	CM	CM
3	PARKING LOT RECONFIGURED.	APRIL 3, 2025	AR	LB
2	SITE ACCESS LOCATION CHANGED TO THE NORTH OF THE BUILDING AND PARKING LOT RECONFIGURED.	OCT 4, 2024	CM	CM
1	BUILDING ON PARKING LOT #8 WITH PARKING TO THE NORTH AND SITE ACCESS FROM THE NORTH WEST.	SEPT 27, 2024	CM	CM

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- INDUSTRIAL • INFRASTRUCTURE • SUSTAINABILITY •

Owner/Client:

Location:
 CANADORE COLLEGE LONG TERM CARE FACILITY
 NORTH BAY, ONTARIO

Title:
 THE VILLAGES LONG TERM CARE FACILITY CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN

Designed By: CM	Drawn By: CM	Checked By: CM
Scale: 1:400	Date: SEPT. 27, 2024	Drawing No: C101
Project No: NTB - 23012863		

The background is a soft, abstract watercolor wash. It features a mix of light and dark blue, teal, and green tones, with some darker, almost blackish-blue areas. The colors are blended together, creating a textured, painterly effect. The overall composition is centered around the word "End".

End

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

COMMUNITY RELATIONS and FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING

OPEN SESSION

March 23, 2026

The Community Relations and Fundraising Committees met on March 23, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. in the President's Boardroom (F303) and via Zoom remote conferencing.

Members Present: Stacie Fiddler, Committee Co-Chair
Fran Couchie
Blaine Hatt
Tyson Stewart
Denyse Lafrance Horning
Doris Olmstead
Dave Smits
Laurel Muldoon
Kevin Wamsley
Renee Hacquard (VPFA – non-voting)
Carole Richardson (Provost & Vice-President, Academic – non-voting)
Abby Blaszczyk (University Secretary – non-voting)

Regrets: Ravil Veli
Joe Sinicrope
Scott Russell

Guests: Maggie Horsfield
Steven Smits
Meghan Venasse

Recording Secretary: Christine Benoit (Office of the President)

1. Welcome/Traditional Land Acknowledgement

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. and a traditional land acknowledgement was offered.

2. Conflict of Interest

The Committee Chair called for any conflicts of interest; no such conflicts were declared.

3. Advancement Update

The Manager of Advancement and Alumni provided a high-level update, noting that a written report had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was reported that the annual gala is scheduled for June 11, 2026, with further details regarding ticket sales and programming to follow. Board members will be invited

to support the event through assistance with ticket sales, sponsorship outreach, and silent auction contributions, with a supporting package to be shared.

An update was provided on fundraising initiatives, including the internal staff and faculty 50/50 draw, which is generating funds for the Nipissing Fund alongside end-of-year giving. It was noted that discussions are underway to determine the most effective and transparent use of unrestricted funds, with an emphasis on donor impact reporting. Plans were also shared to expand the 50/50 initiative to Athletics in the fall, introducing an external-facing draw open to the public.

Progress on the multi-year philanthropy plan was outlined, with participant engagement ongoing. Initial alignment meetings have taken place, and additional institutional leaders have been engaged to inform priority setting. The next phase will involve drafting the plan and convening feedback discussions, with a draft anticipated for review in September and committee input to be incorporated.

The Advancement dashboard was reviewed, noting positive year-to-date trends in donor retention and monthly giving. Future priorities include formalizing paid digital advertising strategies in collaboration with Marketing and Communications, enhancing donor segmentation and stewardship through improved data use, expanding personalized alumni engagement, and developing more robust recognition and impact reporting for monthly donors.

4. Annual Gala – Fundraising Goals

An update was provided on planning for the upcoming gala, noting that a small working group continues to meet regularly to guide event development. The gala is being positioned as both a community engagement opportunity and a fundraising event, with an emphasis on maintaining trust and encouraging sustained community participation. Fundraising targets are intended to be achievable and broadly consistent with prior years, reflecting feedback from attendees and sponsors.

It was reported that the planning group is targeting the identification of a presenting sponsor and a minimum of five sponsors, alongside a ticket sales goal of approximately 275 attendees. Historic attendance and fundraising results were reviewed, and it was noted that overall fundraising outcomes in prior years have ranged in the mid-\$20,000 range. Net proceeds of the event will be directed toward student awards and scholarships.

Discussion also addressed programming considerations, including balancing institutional storytelling and thought leadership with enhanced entertainment value. Plans under development include a combination of featured speakers, live entertainment, and opportunities to highlight the University's impact. The Advancement team confirmed that a more detailed financial breakdown, including revenues, expenses, and net proceeds, will be brought forward to the Committee as planning progresses.

The Committee also discussed coordination of sponsorship activity across the institution to avoid duplication of outreach. It was noted that Advancement is working collaboratively with Athletics, Research, Campus Sales and Services, and other units to formalize prospect management, clarify relationship ownership, and ensure a coordinated and strategic approach to donor and sponsor engagement.

5. Terms of Reference - Discussion

Revisions to the Terms of Reference were reviewed following offline consultation. Changes include adding the Chief of Nipissing First Nation (or designate) and maintaining the NUICE representative to the Committee, clarifying language recognizing First Nations as inherent rights holders, and emphasizing reciprocal, treaty-based relationships through ethical financial stewardship. Reference to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action was also incorporated into the ‘Role’ section. The revised Terms of Reference will be advanced through Governance for Board approval in June.

6. Other Business

The Government and Foundations Relations Officer provided an update on the University’s recent community engagement and partnership activities. Highlights included new and ongoing partnerships supporting youth development, health awareness, equity and inclusion, athletics, robotics, and Special Olympics programming, as well as hosting and providing in-kind support for multiple community events and consultations. The University continues to serve as a venue for regional, provincial, and federal engagement activities and to participate actively in local civic, cultural, and economic development initiatives.

It was noted that discussions are underway with community partners and the City of North Bay regarding potential future initiatives, including public programming, speaker series, and exploratory sustainability projects. Members also discussed the need for more coordinated and visible Indigenous relationship-building, clarifying that responsibility for reconciliation and Indigenous engagement is shared across the institution, with collaboration involving the Office of Indigenous Initiatives. A more comprehensive written report on community and Indigenous engagement will be brought forward at a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Committee Chair

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

AUDIT & FINANCE and PLANT & PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING

OPEN SESSION

April 20, 2026

The Audit and Finance and Plant and Property Committee met on Monday, April 20, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. in the President's Boardroom (F303) and via Zoom remote conferencing.

Members Present: Janet Stockton, Committee Chair
John D'Agostino
Patti Carr
Frank Miscio
Denyse Lafrance Horning
Jessica McMillan
Nicholas Botham
Kevin Wamsley
Scott Russell
Dave Smits
Renee Hacquard (VP, Finance & Administration – non-voting)
Carole Richardson (Provost – non-voting)
Abby Blaszczyk (University Secretary – non-voting)
Jaden Martin (student observer, non-voting)

Regrets: Ravil Veli

Guests: Stephen Tedesco
Maggie Horsfield
Sarah Taylor
Karen Charles

Recording Secretary: Abby Blaszczyk (University Secretary)

1. Welcoming Remarks/Land Acknowledgement

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and a traditional land acknowledgement was made.

2. Conflict of Interest

The Committee Chair called for any conflicts of interest; no such declarations were made.

3. Tuition Rates

A tuition memo was included as part of the 2026-27 budget materials and the VPFA reviewed the proposed tuition rates, noting that the Province’s tuition framework announced in February 2026 permits a 2% increase to domestic tuition, with additional targeted increases previously approved as part of the 2023/24 Tuition Anomalies process.

For Ontario-resident students, a 7.5% increase was proposed for Business programs as approved by the Ministry by way of the Tuition Anomalies process and a 2% increase for all other programs. For Out-of-Province students, a 7.5% increase was proposed for Business programs and a 5% increase for all other programs. A 2% increase was proposed for International tuition across all undergraduate, graduate, and education programs.

In response to questions, it was noted that the higher increase for Business programs reflects previously approved tuition anomalies adjustments which allow the University to gradually align tuition rates for certain programs with the provincial average. Both Business and Computer Science programs had historically been below the provincial average; Computer Science has now completed the anomaly process, while Business has one remaining year to do so.

Committee members asked whether the Business tuition increases could present recruitment concerns. Administration advised that no negative impact has been observed to date, noting that Business enrolment increased in the previous year and that tuition for the program remains below the provincial average. Administration confirmed that enrolment trends and recruitment impacts will continue to be monitored.

Motion: ***That the Audit & Finance Committee recommend to the Board of Governors that the 2026/27 Domestic tuition rates be approved as presented.***

*Moved by Dave Smits; seconded by Jessica McMillan.
Carried.*

Motion: ***That the Audit & Finance Committee recommend to the Board of Governors that the 2026/27 Out-of-Province tuition rates be approved as presented.***

*Moved by Dave Smits; seconded by John D’Agostino.
Carried.*

Motion: ***That the Audit & Finance Committee recommend to the Board of Governors that the 2026/27 International tuition rates be approved as presented.***

*Moved by Dave Smits; seconded by Frank Miscio.
Carried.*

4. Ancillary Fees Report

The Committee reviewed the 2026–2027 ancillary fees report and noted that most fees remain unchanged, with several targeted adjustments proposed. The AVP, Students outlined proposed increases to selected fees to support expanded athletics programming, continuation of student intervention services following the expiry of grant funding, expanded sexual violence prevention programming, and programming and operations of the newly established Access and Belonging Office.

The Committee was advised that the Esports fee would be eliminated due to insufficient infrastructure, with remaining funds redirected to student-led esports initiatives through existing funding mechanisms. Two new non-essential fees were proposed to support implementation of student financial aid software and to offset convocation administration costs. Additional adjustments included increases to the bus pass, NUSU health plan, and Canadian Federation of Students fees. All other fees remain unchanged, with overall changes within legislated thresholds and an average increase of approximately \$85 annually for a typical student, depending on course load and opt-outs.

Members discussed the distinction between essential and non-essential fees, student opt-out provisions, student representation in fee governance, and the cumulative impact on affordability. Questions were raised regarding the bus pass fee, including contractual considerations, usage, equity impacts, and opportunities to enhance service value.

Following discussion, two motions were made:

Motion: ***That the Audit & Finance Committee recommend to the Board of Governors that the 2026/27 Nipissing University Ancillary Fees be approved as presented.***

*Moved by Dave Smits; seconded by Frank Miscio.
Carried.*

Motion: ***That the Audit & Finance Committee recommend to the Board of Governors that the 2026/27 Nipissing University Student Union Ancillary Fees be approved as presented.***

*Moved by Frank Miscio; seconded by Dave Smits.
Carried.*

5. 2026/27 Draft Budget

The President provided opening remarks and contextualized the 2026–2027 budget, beginning with an overview of projected 2025–2026 results. While the approved 2025–2026 budget anticipated a modest surplus, subsequent announcements of increases in government funding are now expected to yield a projected surplus of approximately \$5.8 million to be transferred to reserves. He noted that this

represents the University's fifth consecutive year of positive financial results, strengthening the foundation for future planning.

Turning to the 2026–2027 budget, the President acknowledged the continued maturation of the University's integrated budgeting and planning processes and thanked budget units, the Budget Committee, and the Vice-President, Finance and Administration (VPFA) and Finance team for their work. He concluded by noting that the proposed budget is strategic, conservative, and grounded in a strengthened financial position.

The VPFA provided updated 2025–2026 projections, noting a \$6.4 million favourable variance in the Operating Fund driven by additional grant revenue. The Ancillary Fund is projecting a \$600,000 unfavourable variance due to increased in-year repairs and maintenance, resulting in a projected consolidated surplus of approximately \$5.8 million.

The VPFA reviewed the proposed operating fund for 2026–2027 in detail. Overall revenues are budgeted \$6.9 million higher than the 2025–2026 projections, primarily due to increases in the Northern Grant, the Indigenous Student Success Fund, base funding, and nursing grants. Grant revenues include \$2.0 million in sustainability top-up funding, with 2026–2027 confirmed as the final year for these top-up funds. Domestic tuition revenue reflects approximately 475 additional Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) and permitted tuition increases, while international tuition revenue reflects a net reduction of 29 FTE and a 2% tuition increase.

The VPFA advised that expenses are budgeted \$11.9 million higher than 2025–2026 projections, largely attributable to salaries and benefits. The VPFA reviewed the proposed new academic and non-academic positions, highlighting the fact that academic searches typically occur in the fall for a July 1 start the following fiscal year.

The budget includes over \$700,000 in new initiatives, primarily supporting system upgrades, digitization initiatives arising from the Efficiencies and Accountability Review, and IT infrastructure enhancements, including preparatory work for replacement of the research administration system. The budget also incorporates centrally held contingencies and allowances to address in-year risks and priorities, including enrolment uncertainty in Teacher Education, tariff-related cost pressures, grant variances, and emerging academic and strategic initiatives. Remaining non-staff expense increases are approximately 2%, consistent with projected inflation.

Prior to reviewing the Ancillary Budget in detail, the VPFA highlighted progress achieved in ancillary operations aligned with APOP Action Item #63, including improved margin analysis, pricing, cost recovery, and reinvestment practices. The ancillary budget reflects improved performance across all areas, supported by enhanced cost allocation, improved portfolio alignment, increased residence revenues, growth in corporate events, and improved performance in Extended Learning and youth and athletics programming. Overall ancillary revenues are budgeted \$256,000 higher than current-year projections.

The Capital Budget for 2026–2027 was reviewed, with approximately \$4.7 million in planned projects funded through the operating budget, Facilities Renewal funding, external donations, and the Training, Equipment and Renewal fund.

The VPFA presented the consolidated budget, noting a projected surplus of \$1,720,025 and reviewed the multi-year forecasts, which reflect potential deficits in the absence of additional government funding.

The Committee was advised that the University remains in the Ministry’s “Low Action” plan based on confirmed 2024–2025 results, with improvements expected in 2025–2026 ratios. Under the current assumptions, the University is projected to remain in “Low Action” until 2027–2028 should an in-year deficit occur. The VPFA also reviewed spendable net assets and cash flow, highlighting a projected \$22 million in spendable net assets for 2025–2026.

The VPFA concluded by thanking budget holders for aligning requests with strategic priorities and APOP, noting that while not all requests could be approved, select in-year expenditures may proceed as reviews advance, supported by strengthened reserves and budget contingencies.

Throughout the presentation, members asked questions regarding the timing and use of operating variances, the financial impacts of recent Teacher Education changes, and enrolment assumptions in the multi-year forecast. Staff advised that impacts continue to be assessed, mitigation planning is underway, and assumptions reflect a conservative planning approach.

Following discussion, a motion was put forward:

Motion: ***That the Audit & Finance Committee recommend to the Board of Governors that the 2026/27 Budget be approved as presented.***

*Moved by Frank Miscio; seconded by Patti Carr.
Carried.*

6. Cost of Educational Materials Directive

The Committee received a report on compliance with the Ministry’s Cost of Educational Materials directive, which requires institutions to report on the availability and transparency of textbook and course material costs for students. It was noted that while full compliance is the Ministry’s stated objective, the directive permits institutions to demonstrate progress toward 100% compliance, and additional guidance on reporting timelines is expected. Members discussed current response rates, noting challenges related to awareness and engagement, particularly among part-time instructors. Further follow-up with Deans and the Faculty Association will be undertaken to address outstanding gaps and support improved compliance.

Following discussion, the Committee approved recommending the report to the Board of Governors for approval.

Motion: ***That the Audit & Finance Committee recommend the Board of Governors 2026/27 approved the Cost of Educational Materials Report as presented.***

*Moved by Jessica McMillan; seconded by Frank Miscio.
Carried.*

7. Other Business

There was no further business.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Committee Chair



Nipissing University Alumni Advisory Board report to the Board of Governors April 2026

Best of Luck, Lakers!

NUAAB wishes all Lakers good luck on exams and a happy end to the winter semester.

NUAAB Annual Retreat

NUAAB's annual retreat is scheduled for Saturday, May 9th. We're excited to come together to review the past year's activities and prepare for what's next. Students, faculty, and staff who would like to share feedback on our engagement initiatives are invited to email their thoughts to alumni@nipissingu.ca.

NU Perks Platform

Attention Nipissing Alumni – over 850 Lakers are already enjoying the benefits of the NU Perks App! This platform is your one-stop shop for exclusive perks, the latest University news, event updates, and contests.

Join the community today at nuperks.ca!

North Bay and District Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament

Nipissing Alumni is proud to be the title sponsor for the annual North Bay and District Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament coming up on Thursday, July 9th. This tournament is a wonderful opportunity for NUAAB and the alumni team to engage with local businesses to promote what is happening at the University, and to engage with Nipissing Alumni in the community!

Save the Date – Homecoming 2026

We are happy to announce that our annual Homecoming weekend will be taking place from September 18-19th, 2026! Please hold the dates to join us on campus to celebrate the Laker community and stay tuned to find out what events we have programmed throughout the weekend.

NUSU Board Of Governors Report: April 2026

End of Academic Year

As we approach the end of the academic year, many of NUSU's regular events and programming are beginning to wrap up. It has been a busy and engaging year, and we are proud of the opportunities and support provided to students throughout both semesters.

Exam Period Support – Night Owls

During the exam period, NUSU has continued to support students through our Night Owls initiative, providing food and resources to assist students during late-night study sessions. This program remains a well-received support as students prepare for their final exams.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

NUSU will be hosting our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on April 13. All students are encouraged to attend, engage, and learn more about NUSU's operations, initiatives, and future direction.

Student's Exams

NUSU would like to wish all students the best of luck as they complete their exams. We hope students have had a successful academic year and look forward to a well-deserved summer break.

Transition to New Executive Team

With the conclusion of the academic year, NUSU will be transitioning into a new term. The incoming Executive team for the 2026–2027 academic year will officially begin their roles. The new Executive team is as follows:

- **Vice-President Campus Relations:** Logan Lloyd
- **Vice-President Governance & Services:** Nicholas Botham
- **Vice-President Communications & Awareness:** Jaden Martin
- **Vice-President Student Life:** Owen Remillard

We look forward to the work ahead and continuing to support students in the upcoming academic year.

Nipissing University Mental Health and Well-Being Policy Implementation and Progress Report

January 2025 - December 2025

Background

Nipissing University recognizes the importance of mental health as a critical dimension of holistic student well-being and endeavours to support all students to thrive. These internal institutional values, along with the direction of the *Strengthening Accountability and Student Supports Act (2024)*, required the development of a formal mental health policy.

Nipissing University’s *Student Mental Health & Well-Being Policy* was established in January 2025. This annual report represents our commitment to the ongoing implementation of mental health supports for students.

Reporting Period

This report shares information on the implementation of the Student Mental Health & Well-Being Policy for the 2025 calendar year. In future cycles, the reporting period will be aligned to an academic year.

Outreach and Prevention Initiatives

General Outreach Programing



NUlistens is a campus wide outreach and prevention program focused on promoting student’s mental and emotional well-being. This umbrella brand for all Mental Health outreach and prevention programming was developed with the support of the Mental Health Commission of Canada.

NUlistens works directly with students through outreach programming and educational campaigns. These events and campaigns are designed to build awareness of mental health concerns, support student resilience, develop skills, and increase knowledge about support services available.

Mental Health Programing for Student Athletes



REAL TALK is an initiative developed by Nipissing University’s MHW in partnership with Lakers athletics. Our Goal is to better integrate mental health and wellness initiatives into the lives of athletes by creating relationships between athletes and mental health support professionals.

Each Nipissing Lakers Varsity team will have a designated athlete as the REAL TALK point person for their team. This point person will be connected to MHW for training and support, they act as a resource person for their teams and encourage teammates who are struggling to connect with available supports. Through

this program, all Lakers athletes receive the safeTALK suicide prevention and awareness training , and all head coaches receive Mental Health First Aid Training.

Several student outreach events were held, including collaborations with men’s and women’s Hockey and Basketball teams.

Programming for Male-Identified Students



MENTal Strength is a specialty mental health awareness campaign developed to challenge myths about male mental well-being, to increase awareness and discussion of men’s mental health, reduce stigma, and support men to have real conversations about how their emotional well-being and seek support with mental health services.

Student Supports Provided



All mental health interventions are provided for students through the Mental Health & Wellbeing (MHW) team, through the Student Development and Services Division. MHW offers multiple *Pathways to Care* so students can receive support that is personalized to students' needs, preferences, and ability to engage. In 2025, the following array of services were available to students:

Self Help:

MHW maintains an Online Library for resources and helplines that students can access independently through the university website. Self-help tools can be useful to students who have mild concerns and would like a high level of autonomy. Self-help tools may be recommended alone or in conjunction with therapy appointments.

Drop-In Therapy:

Same-day appointments were available every weekday for students to use as needed. These appointments allow the MHW to be responsive to emerging student needs, addressing concerns in a timely way, and reassuring students that help will be available if needed.

Counsellor Assisted E-Support:

A flexible option for students to work independently on their mental health concerns through various in-house modules that combine education, reflection, and practice. E-Support is ideal for students wanting to do asynchronous and self-directed therapeutic learning with some additional, virtual or telephone, coaching support. Topics available include grief, perfectionism, loneliness, and building resilience.

Peer Support:

Peer Support is a peer led service where students can connect with students that have their own lived experience with mental health concerns. Peer Support builds authentic relationships, provides encouragement, fosters hope, and supports students with their own personal journey towards wellness

and recovery. The Peer Support Drop-in is a welcoming and non-judgemental space where meaningful connections develop between students.

Brief Individual Therapy:

Offers short-term, individual psychotherapy appointments. This service is designed to provide students with tools and strategies to support them in achieving their counselling goal. Students requesting long term therapy are supported in connecting with external services.

Group Therapy:

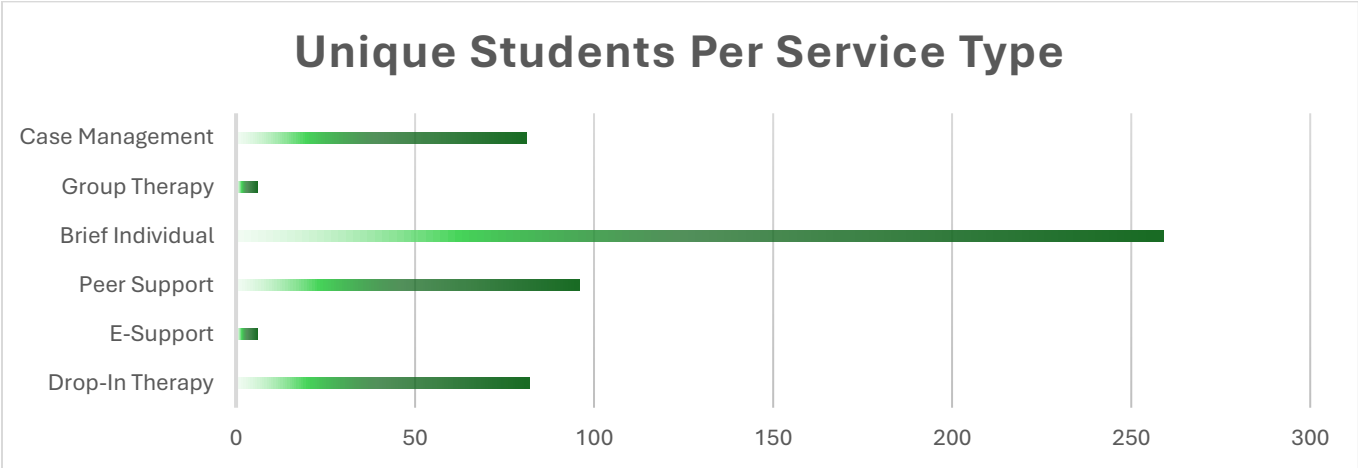
Psychotherapy treatment groups are designed to be practical, informative, and supportive. They allow students the opportunity to learn new skills and strategies that can be implemented in their day to day lives. In 2025, the MHW offered an Anxiety Group.

Case Management:

Case Management Support is provided by the Student Intervention Specialist (the SIS) for students with complex mental health concerns or situational crises. The role of the SIS is to provide a supportive, non-judgmental, goal-oriented relationship with the student to collaboratively develop a plan while focusing on the student’s goals and individualized needs.

Temporarily Suspended Service Offerings:

Dibaadan provides students with specialized outreach, prevention, and intervention from a holistic Indigenous wellness perspective. This service was unavailable for the entire duration of 2025, as we worked to fill the Dibaadan Wellness Coordinator staffing vacancy.



Community Partnerships and Referrals

MHW works with students and community service providers to ensure that students have the appropriate supports to meet their needs. At times this this means supporting service navigation and referrals to external resources. The MHW team maintains up to date knowledge on community service providers, engages regularly with their intake teams, and maintains a list of other specialized private services to best support students in accessing off campus care when needed.

Education and Training Programming

Open Training Opportunities

Nipissing University offers a variety of formal training opportunities to students, staff, and community members regarding mental health. These trainings build participant competencies around mental health concerns. The following workshops were available in 2025:

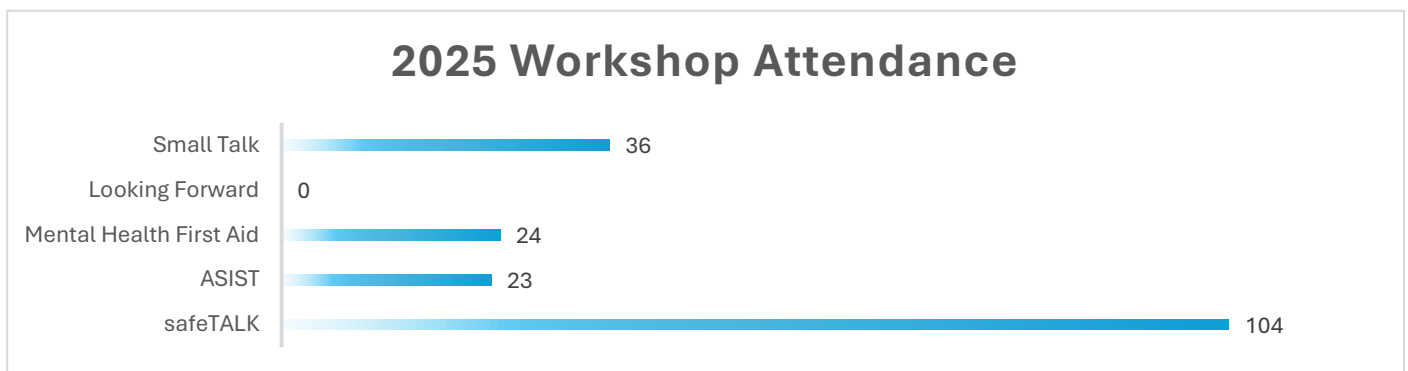
safeTALK: This course was created by an organization called LivingWorks Inc. to teach participants to recognize persons who have thoughts of suicide and refer them to people who are trained to do a Suicide Intervention.

Small Talk: Small Talk is an interactive half-day workshop which examines warning signs in a child and explores intervention strategies through stories and case studies. This workshop is a Centre for Suicide Prevention Course for those working with children under the age of 12 and who may have thoughts of suicide, with a focus on childhood development.

Looking Forward: Looking Forward is an interactive half-day workshop created for individuals working with youth aged 12 to 24. This workshop, a Centre for Suicide Prevention Course it discusses strategies to encompass the developmental, cognitive, and emotional differences found within this age group.

Mental Health First Aid – Adults Who Interact with Youth: This workshop, an Opening Minds course, was developed to train people to provide initial support to youth who may be developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. Topics include Mental Health problems and Stigma, Substance related disorders, Mood disorders, Anxiety, Trauma related disorders, eating disorders and Psychotic disorders.

ASIST - Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training: This course is a two-day interactive workshop on suicide first aid also created by LivingWorks Inc. ASIST teaches participants to recognize when someone may have thoughts of suicide and work with them to create a plan that will support their immediate safety.



Faculty & Staff Training

NUlistens also works with faculty and staff to foster a supportive campus culture through educational programming and providing access to vetted resources, including the supporting student’s folder. Faculty and staff who have participated in a training session may display

a NUIstens logo in their workspace to indicate to students that they are trained to provide supportive, non-judgmental responses and referrals.

Activities of the Campus Student Mental Health Committee

The Campus Student Mental Health Committee (CSMHC) is a standing institutional committee to promote mental health and well-being for Nipissing University students. This committee includes representation from Nipissing students, faculty, administration and support areas. This committee is working to ensure Nipissing University adopts best practices for post-secondary mental health.

In 2025, the CSMHC had the following two areas of focus:

APOP Action #29: Mental Health Framework Recommendation

The CSMHC provided a response to Nipissing University's Academic and Operational Plan Action #29, which was to identify, evaluate, and recommend a mental health framework that meets the needs of Nipissing University. After evaluating the needs of Nipissing University, reviewing the post-secondary landscape, and evaluating multiple frameworks, the CSMHC submitted a report to the Provost, Vice President Academic with the recommendation to create a custom framework for our campus community.

Canadian Campus Wellbeing Survey (CCWS)

The CSMHC mobilized to respond to the Ministry's recent requirement for all publicly funded post-secondary institutions to complete the Canadian Campus Wellbeing Survey (CCWS) in Winter 2026. The CCWS is a national survey developed by the University of British Columbia to assess student health and wellbeing across Canadian post-secondary institutions. Results from the survey help guide evidence-informed decisions, strengthen health-promoting initiatives, and ensure we are responding to the realities students face. The committee worked alongside the project team to ensure all preparation steps, including research ethics approval, were completed to ensure Ministry timelines would be met in 2026.

Special Projects

Enhanced Student Care Network Project

Nipissing University, in partnership with Canadore College, successfully secured funding for the *Enhanced Student Care Network Project* for 2024-2026. This project is creating an integrated care experience for students through the objectives below:

1. **Seamless Care for High-Risk Students:** High-risk students often access emergency mental health care through the North Bay Regional Health Centre Crisis Intervention or Emergency Department Teams. These students require intensive support to return to wellness and avoid future hospitalization. This project has provided a dedicated intensive case manager for all students accessing emergency mental health care. The intensive case manager liaises with hospital staff to develop care plans for high-risk students, connects students to resources on their campus, and provides ongoing support to students following their release from hospital. These specialized support services were provided for the entire 2025 year.

2. **Launch Post Secondary Addiction Response:** In 2025, the project provided a series of addiction themed events for students to destigmatize addiction challenges and promote early intervention. These included events such as harm reduction information booths and a mocktail mingle event, among others. An Addictions Needs Assessment was also completed with students at both Canadore College and Nipissing University. This data was analyzed and allowed the team to better understand student needs. This work will continue in 2026 with the goal of launching a customized harm reduction campaign.
3. **Enhanced Peer Support Outreach:** Nipissing University's Peer support program has provided support and mentorship to Canadore College as a model and resource for independent development of a Canadore peer support program. Coordinated outreach programming has been led by the peer supporters throughout 2025.

Report prepared by:

Sarah Cantin
Director, Student Wellness
Nipissing University

2026/27 Domestic, Out-of-Province & International Tuition Rate Proposal

In 2019/20 the Ministry cut tuition by 10% and then froze domestic tuition rates through to 2026/27.

In February 2026 the Ministry announced a renewed Tuition Fee Framework that will take effect in September 2026 for the 2026/27 academic year and beyond. Under this framework, institutions may apply a modest tuition increase of up to 2% annually for three years.

Further to this, the existing 5% domestic out of province tuition increase cap continues to apply, as does our ability to adjust Business tuition rates to the sector average as part of the multi-year tuition anomalies exercise. International student tuition remains unregulated by the Ministry.

The table below outlines the proposed 2026/27 tuition rates in accordance with the renewed Tuition Fee Framework Implementation Guidelines.

Proposed Tuition Rates for 2026/27							
	Ontario Residents		Canadian Citizens/PR not residing in Ontario		International Students		
	25/26 Rates (30cr)	Proposed 26/27 Rates (30cr)	25/26 Out of Province Rate (30cr/Full Time)	Proposed 2026/27 Out of Province Rate (30cr/Full Time)	25/26 International Rate (30cr/Program Fee)	Proposed 26/27 International Rate (30cr/Program Fee)	
Undergraduate Studies							
Business and Computer Science (<i>students admitted prior to 2023/24</i>)	\$7,275.70	\$7,421.21	\$8,843.68	\$9,285.86	\$28,000.00	\$28,560.00	
Nursing - Standalone (<i>students admitted prior to 2023/24</i>)	\$6,118.00	\$6,240.36	\$7,436.47	\$7,808.29	\$28,000.00	\$28,560.00	
All other programs (<i>students admitted prior to 2023/24</i>)	\$5,781.00	\$5,896.62	\$7,026.90	\$7,378.24	\$28,000.00	\$28,560.00	
Business (<i>students admitted in or after 2023/24</i>)	\$9,038.58	\$9,716.48	\$9,054.24	\$9,733.31	\$28,000.00	\$28,560.00	
Computer Science (<i>students admitted in or after 2023/24</i>)	\$9,038.58	\$9,219.35	\$9,054.24	\$9,506.95	\$28,000.00	\$28,560.00	
Nursing - Standalone (<i>students admitted in or after 2023/24</i>)	\$6,118.00	\$6,240.36	\$7,436.47	\$7,808.29	\$28,000.00	\$28,560.00	
Nursing - RPN - BScN (<i>students admitted in or after 2023/24</i>)	\$5,781.00	\$5,896.62	\$7,026.90	\$7,378.24	\$28,000.00	\$28,560.00	
All other programs (<i>students admitted in or after 2023/24</i>)	\$6,018.00	\$6,138.36	\$7,026.90	\$7,378.24	\$28,000.00	\$28,560.00	
Graduate Studies							
Masters (All Programs)	\$8,506.08	\$8,676.20	\$10,339.19	\$10,856.15	\$28,000.00	\$28,560.00	
PhD in Education	\$7,896.15	\$8,054.07	\$9,597.82	\$10,077.71	\$28,000.00	\$28,560.00	
Bachelor of Education							
Year 1/2 Consecutive & Year 5/6 Concurrent	\$6,620.94	\$6,753.36	\$8,047.80	\$8,450.19	\$28,000.00	\$28,560.00	
Indigenous Education							
TILSL, ITEP & ICADP	\$4,414.00	\$4,502.28	\$4,414.00	\$4,634.70	\$18,666.67	\$19,040.00	

To summarize, these are the effective changes proposed for 2026/27:

1. Ontario Residents

- 7.5% increase for students enrolled in Business
- 2% increase for all other Undergraduate, Graduate and Education programs

2. Out of province students (but still Canadian Citizens or Permanent Residents)

- 7.5% increase for students enrolled in Business
- 5% increase for all other Undergraduate, Graduate and Education programs

3. International Students

- 2% increase for all Undergraduate, Graduate and Education programs

**Compulsory Ancillary Fees Committee
Nipissing University Ancillary Fees**

At the February 10th, 2026 meeting of Nipissing University's Compulsory Ancillary Fees Committee, the following Nipissing University Ancillary Fees for 2026/27 were approved for formal recommendation to the Board of Governors of Nipissing University.

Undergraduate and Part-Time Graduate Students per 3 credit course

Non - Essential Fees

Equity and Inclusion Fee	\$0.23
Student Development Fund	\$0.20
Financial Aid Services Fee	\$3.00
Convocation Fee	\$2.17

Essential Fees

Student buildings

Athletic Centre Maintenance	\$5.51
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Athletics and Recreation

Athletic Fee	\$22.60
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Health and Counselling

Health Services	\$2.88
Student Intervention Support	\$3.10
Mental Health & Wellbeing Support	\$9.24

Student ID cards

Student ID Card	\$0.90
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Academic Support

Student Learning and Transition Support	\$5.60
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Career Services

Career Resources and Services	\$1.80
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Student Achievement and Records

Record of Student Development	\$1.92
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Campus Safety

Sexual Violence Support & Education	\$2.63
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Campus Programming and Initiatives

Student Initiatives Fund	\$0.58
World University Service of Canada	\$0.35

Student Transit Passes * NORTH BAY ONLY

Bus Pass	\$248.50
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Full-Time Graduate Students per term

Non - Essential Fees

Equity and Inclusion Fee	\$0.77
Student Development Fund	\$0.67
Financial Aid Services Fee	\$10.00
Convocation Fee	\$7.23

Essential Fees

Student buildings

Athletics Centre Maintenance \$18.36

Athletics and Recreation

Athletic Fee \$75.26

Health and Counselling

Health Services \$9.59

Student Intervention Support \$10.32

Mental Health & Wellbeing Support \$30.77

Student ID cards

Student ID Card \$3.00

Academic Support

Student Learning and Transition Support \$18.65

Career Services

Career Resources and Services \$6.00

Student Achievement and Records

Record of Student Development \$6.39

Campus Safety

Sexual Violence Support & Education \$8.76

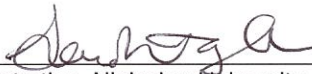


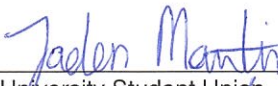

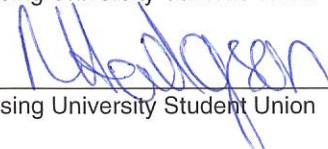
Campus Programming and Initiatives

Student Initiatives Fund \$1.93

World University Service of Canada \$1.17

We, the Committee Members of Nipissing University's Compulsory Ancillary Fees Committee as named in the University's Compulsory Ancillary Fees Protocol Agreement, have participated in the review process and support the formal recommendation of the Compulsory Ancillary Fees Committee for the Nipissing University Ancillary Fees for 2026/27 as described above.

Representative

Name	Signature	Supported (Y/N)	Date
Sarah Taylor Representative, Administration, Nipissing University		Y	Feb 20/26
Karen Charles Representative, Administration, Nipissing University		Y	Feb 20/26
Leslie Aitchison Representative, Administration, Nipissing University		Y	Feb 20/26
Jaden Martin Representative, Nipissing University Student Union		Y	Feb 12/26
Nicholas Botham Representative, Nipissing University Student Union		Y	Feb 12/26
Rebecca Hodgson Representative, Nipissing University Student Union		Y	Feb 12/26

**Compulsory Ancillary Fees Committee
Nipissing University Student Union Ancillary Fees**

At the February 10th, 2026 meeting of Nipissing University's Compulsory Ancillary Fees Committee, the following Nipissing University Student Union Ancillary Fees for 2026/2027 were approved for formal recommendation to the Board of Governors of Nipissing University.

Undergraduate and Part-Time Graduate Students per 3 credit course

Non-Essential Fees

NUSU Student Groups Support Fee	\$1.94
NUSU Recreational Activities Fee	\$0.55
NUSU Emergency Food Bank Fee	\$0.80
NUSU Academic Support Fee	\$0.99

Essential Fees

Student buildings

NUSU Student Centre Fee	\$37.80
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Campus Programming and Initiatives

NUSU Membership Fee	\$1.36
NUSU Orientation Fee	\$0.97
NUSU Society Support Fee	\$0.57
NUSU Canadian Federation of Students	\$2.10
NUSU Operations Support Fee	\$6.17
NUSU World University Service of Canada	\$0.35
NUSU Government Advocacy Fee	\$0.63
NUSU Awareness Campaigns & Initiatives Fee	\$1.95
NUSU Programming and Services Fee	\$6.77

Health and Dental Plan (charged one-time in Fall / Winter term)

NUSU Student Health & Wellness Plan	\$380.00
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Full-Time Graduate Students per term

Non - Essential Fees

NUSU Student Groups Support Fee	\$6.46
NUSU Recreational Activities Fee	\$1.83
NUSU Emergency Food Bank Fee	\$2.66
NUSU Academic Support Fee	\$3.30

Essential Fees

Student buildings

NUSU Student Centre Fee	\$125.87
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Campus Programming and Initiatives

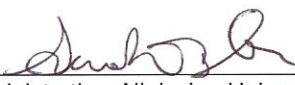



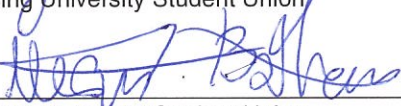
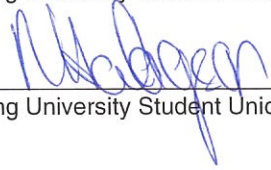
NUSU Membership Fee	\$4.53
NUSU Orientation Fee	\$3.23
NUSU Society Support Fee	\$1.90
NUSU Canadian Federation of Students	\$10.54
NUSU Operations Support Fee	\$20.55
NUSU World University Service of Canada	\$1.17
NUSU Government Advocacy Fee	\$2.10
NUSU Awareness Campaigns & Initiatives Fee	\$6.49
NUSU Programming and Services Fee	\$22.54

Health and Dental Plan (charged one-time in Fall / Winter term)

NUSU Student Health & Wellness Plan	\$380.00
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We, the Committee Members of Nipissing University's Compulsory Ancillary Fees Committee as named in the University's Compulsory Ancillary Fees Protocol Agreement, have participated in the review process and support the formal recommendation of the Compulsory Ancillary Fees Committee for the Nipissing University Student Union Ancillary Fees for 2026/27 as described above.

Representative

Name	Signature	Supported (Y/N)	Date
Sarah Taylor Representative, Administration, Nipissing University		<u>Y</u>	<u>Feb 20/26</u>
Karen Charles Representative, Administration, Nipissing University		<u>Y</u>	<u>Feb 20/26</u>
Leslie Aitchison Representative, Administration, Nipissing University		<u>Y</u>	<u>Feb 20/26</u>
Jaden Martin Representative, Nipissing University Student Union		<u>Y</u>	<u>Feb 12/26</u>
Nicholas Botham Representative, Nipissing University Student Union		<u>Y</u>	<u>Feb 12/26</u>
Rebecca Hodgson Representative, Nipissing University Student Union		<u>Y</u>	<u>Feb 12/26</u>



Provincial Directive – Cost of Textbooks and Other Learning Materials

On May 16, 2024, Bill 166, the Strengthening Accountability and Student Supports Act, 2024, was passed, amending the Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities Act (MTCU

Act), requiring publicly assisted colleges and universities to:

- Have a student mental health policy that describes the programs, policies, services and supports available at the college or university in respect of student mental health;
- Have policies and rules that describe how the institution will address and combat racism and hate at the institution, including but not limited to anti-Indigenous racism, anti-Black racism, antisemitism and Islamophobia; and
- Publicly disclose costs associated with attending the institution.

On December 20, 2024, the directive was revised to clarify the objectives, specifically to:

- Ensure students and their families can find information on educational costs with ease; and
- Improve consistency across the sector in publishing educational costs and leverage best practices.

Educational costs include ancillary fees, the costs of textbooks and other learning materials.

Each publicly assisted college and university shall ensure that students are informed of the costs of all textbooks and other learning materials that are mandatory and optional in the course syllabus for each course. At a minimum, the following information must be provided in the syllabus:

- The information is readily available and accessible by the first week of the course.
- The method for communicating the information is consistent for all courses offered at the institution.
- Each textbook or other learning material should be individually costed. In the event that the cost for the current year is not available at the time the syllabus is prepared, the most recent cost should be included with a note indicating that it may change; and



Annual Report to Nipissing University's Board Audit and Finance Committee

- Whether there are any restrictions that would prevent a student from using a second-hand copy of the textbook or other learning material. Alternatively, instead of using the syllabus, an institution may communicate the above noted information to students by another method, such as a website.

This requirement is effective for all courses beginning in or after January 2025 and will remain in effect until this directive is revoked or replaced.

Process at Nipissing University

In 2024-25, the Directive was shared with the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee and the former Provost & Vice-President, Academic met with the Dean of Education and Professional Studies, Dean of Arts & Science and the Director of Teaching and Learning to establish a process.

Since the directive came into place, the Deans' Offices have been communicating with faculty and instructors and have been collecting and review the syllabi in order to report on compliance.

The University will continue to evolve its process in order to be ensure greater compliance with the directive and, more especially, with respect to the requirement to provide a complete syllabus to students. Note: failure on the part of a FASBU member to provide a complete syllabus to the Dean and students "no later than two weeks after the first scheduled class" breaches the Rights and Responsibilities Article of the Collective Agreement (18.2.j). Prior to the beginning of each term Faculty and instructors are sent an email that include reference to the Collective Agreement and the requirement for the Textbook and Learning Resources communicated costs.

Compliance Report

Faculty of Arts and Science

In the Faculty of Arts & Science (A&S), Instructors for 90% (538/595) of 2025-26 courses submitted a course syllabus that explicitly provided information to students of the course on required program resources, required course resources, and recommended resources.

Based on this information:



Annual Report to Nipissing University's Board Audit and Finance Committee

- 68% (35/60) of Fall/Winter (Full Year) Courses
- 90% (259/288) of Fall 2025 Courses
- 98% (244/247) Winter 2026 Courses

The Faculty of Arts and Science is on track to full compliance for the 2026-27 Fall/Winter term.

Faculty of Applied & Professional Studies

There was a total of 856 courses in the Faculty of Education & Professional Studies (EPS) in the 2025-26 Academic Year. Course syllabi were submitted by instructors for 640 of the 856 sections (75%). Of the 640 syllabi received, 100% of this included information in the syllabus regarding the costs of education materials.

Reaching 100% communication requires all instructors to submit course syllabi as required under the Collective Agreement with faculty. The Dean's office regularly requests and reminds instructors; approximately 25% do not respond each year.

Reaching 100% will require further attention and intervention by the Dean with specific instructors who are not compliant with legislative and contractual obligations. This requires added work to meet the Provincial directive.





Audit & Finance and Plant & Property Committees

Bachelor of Community Planning Proposal

Recommendation: That the Audit and Finance Committee recommend the Board of Governors approve the Nipissing University Community Planning Program.

Strategic Rationale

The proposal responds to documented regional needs, including:

- Small and unincorporated communities
- Resource-based and cyclical economies
- Unique environmental systems and geographic scale
- Multicultural and multilingual populations
- Integration of Indigenous perspectives and reconciliation-focused planning practice

There are no existing planning programs in northern Ontario, positioning Nipissing University to fill a clear geographic and professional gap.

Program Design Highlights

- Professionally accredited, four-year degree with foundational coursework in Years 1–2 and four thematic concentrations:
 - o Climate and Environmental Change
 - o Evidence-based Planning
 - o Planning in Relationship with Indigenous Communities
 - o Planning Healthy Communities
 - Strong emphasis on experiential and work-integrated learning, including studio-based courses, outdoor labs, a fourth-year capstone, and an optional internship.
 - Curriculum addressing land use, infrastructure, sustainability, technology, and legislative and regulatory frameworks.
-

Institutional Fit and Readiness

The proposal builds on Nipissing University's:

- Established interdisciplinary teaching and research culture



Audit & Finance and Plant & Property Committees

- Existing academic programs that complement planning
- Strong community-embedded identity and northern focus

Development has been informed by extensive consultation, including faculty, professional planners, municipalities, non-profits, industry partners, and Indigenous governance bodies, as well as post-external review feedback.

Financial Implications (High-Level)

The presentation identifies the following resource categories relevant to financial planning:

- Faculty resources, including professionally accredited planners, with opportunities for cross-appointments with existing programs
- Instructional and program support, including sessional instructors, teaching assistants, program management, and work-integrated learning coordination
- Physical resources, including dedicated planning studio space

Fiscal year	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031
# students	-	60	114	165	216
Tuition fees	\$0	\$504,480	\$958,512	\$1,389,842	\$1,817,314
Faculty and other instructional hires (including program and course development)	(\$135,000)	(\$1,158,421)	(\$1,162,508)	(\$1,294,516)	(\$1,538,685)
Other operational expenses	(\$81,500)	(\$109,054)	(\$162,245)	(\$192,604)	(\$246,620)
Net	(\$216,500)	(\$762,935)	(\$366,127)	(\$97,113)	\$32,225

***The figures presented represent high-level estimates used during initial program planning. Actual tuition revenues and expenses are subject to change based on tuition framework announcements and will be finalized through annual budgeting processes.*

Key Risks and Mitigations

- Early enrolment variability: Phased hiring; targeted marketing investment
- Accreditation timing: Early leadership recruitment; dedicated QA resources
- Cost escalation: Fixed-term contracts; staged commitments; Ministry financial support



Audit & Finance and Plant & Property Committees

- Facilities and space dependencies: Interim arrangements aligned with capital planning

Overall risk is considered manageable and appropriate for a professional program start-up.



NUSU Board Of Governors Report: April 2026

End of Academic Year

As we approach the end of the academic year, many of NUSU's regular events and programming are beginning to wrap up. It has been a busy and engaging year, and we are proud of the opportunities and support provided to students throughout both semesters.

Exam Period Support – Night Owls

During the exam period, NUSU has continued to support students through our Night Owls initiative, providing food and resources to assist students during late-night study sessions. This program remains a well-received support as students prepare for their final exams.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

NUSU will be hosting our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on April 13. All students are encouraged to attend, engage, and learn more about NUSU's operations, initiatives, and future direction.

Student's Exams

NUSU would like to wish all students the best of luck as they complete their exams. We hope students have had a successful academic year and look forward to a well-deserved summer break.

Transition to New Executive Team

With the conclusion of the academic year, NUSU will be transitioning into a new term. The incoming Executive team for the 2026–2027 academic year will officially begin their roles. The new Executive team is as follows:

- **Vice-President Campus Relations:** Logan Lloyd
- **Vice-President Governance & Services:** Nicholas Botham
- **Vice-President Communications & Awareness:** Jaden Martin
- **Vice-President Student Life:** Owen Remillard

We look forward to the work ahead and continuing to support students in the upcoming academic year.