

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

OPEN SESSION

November 12, 2020

The Open Session of the regular Board of Governors meeting was held on Thursday, November 12, 2020, at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom Remote Conferencing.

Members Present: Marianne Berube, Board Chair
Karen Barnes
Johanne Brousseau
Patti Carr
Paul Cook
Fran Couchie
Hilary Earl
Donna Forget
Ryan Hehn
Stuart Kidd
Judy Koziol
Denyse Lafrance Horning
Joanne Laplante
Ward Loveday
Hannah Mackie
Gillian McCann
Bobby Ray
Judy Smith
Dave Smits
Cheryl Sutton
Stephen Tedesco
Rick Vanderlee
Kathy Wilcox

Regrets: Mitchell Crown

Invited Guests: Arja Vainio-Mattila
Casey Phillips
Pat Maher
Jim McAuliffe
Pavlina Radia
John Nadeau
Debra lafrate
Renee Hacquard
Cristin Christopher
Cheryl Zimba
Christine Dowdall (University Secretary)

Observers: Mykayla King
Shannon MacCarthy
Lindsey Voisin
Michelle Banks

Recording Secretary: Abby Blaszczyk (Executive Assistant, President's Office)

1. Call to Order/Land Acknowledgment

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m. The Board Chair offered a traditional land acknowledgement.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

The Board 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 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 September 17, 2020, Board of Governors Meeting (Open Session);
- ii. For Information Only
 - (a) Minutes from open meetings of the Board's Standing Committees:
 1. University Governance Committee – Minutes from October 19, 2020;
 2. Audit & Finance Committee – Minutes from October 19, 2020;
 3. Community Relations Committee – Minutes from October 19, 2020;
 4. Fundraising Committee – Minutes from October 19, 2020; and
 5. Plant & Property Committee – Minutes from October 19, 2020.
 - (b) Reports from Other Committees/Bodies:
 1. Nipissing University Alumni Advisory Board (NUAAB); and
 2. Nipissing University Indigenous Council on Education (NUICE).

Resolution 2020-11-01: ***That the items included “for adoption” on the November 12, 2020, consent agenda of 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 Patti Carr; seconded by Stuart Kidd.
Carried.*

5. Adoption of the Regular Agenda

Resolution 2020-11-02: ***That the Board of Governors adopt the November 12, 2020, Open Session regular agenda as circulated.***

*Moved by Judy Smith; seconded by Joanne Laplante.
Carried.*

6. Chair's Remarks

The Chair acknowledged the earlier-than-usual start to the meeting that was precipitated in order to accommodate a special guest who will provide the Board with some governance training following the meeting. As a result, she explained that she will attempt to run the meeting as efficiently as possible while maintaining the opportunity to discuss important issues and recognize questions that may be raised as the meeting progresses.

The Chair congratulated Maggie Daniel, Executive Assistant – External Relationships & Strategic Initiatives, on receiving the Young Professional of the Year Award from the North Bay and District Chamber of Commerce. She acknowledged Maggie's commitment to the North Bay community, stating that Nipissing University is fortunate to have such dedicated, community-minded individuals as integral members of our staff.

Board members were reminded to save the date for the upcoming virtual holiday gathering on December 3, 2020.

7. Chancellor's Remarks

No report.

8. President's Remarks

The President (Interim) spoke to a number of recent meetings with representatives from the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU), including a recent campus visit and tour with the Deputy Minister, Shelley Tapp. Discussions with the Ministry regarding budget challenges, program approvals and the University's current fiscal situation are ongoing. To date, the University has received no additional funding beyond the initial COVID relief funds received in the spring.

The President (Interim) reported that she met with MPP Vic Fedeli on a number of occasions to provide updates on the Presidential transition as well as the University's role in the community's post-pandemic recovery.

A question was raised regarding the decision to have students return to campus while COVID-19 cases continue to rise in Ontario. The President (Interim) noted that while the Executive Team and the Operational Readiness Committee (ORC) understands and shares the concerns raised, it is important to note that an extensive amount of planning was completed in consultation with the Health Unit. The University will be able to quickly revert back to an online learning and/or working-from-home environment if Public Health believes it is no longer safe to have a physical presence on campus.

9. Vice-Presidents' Remarks

The Provost and Vice-President, Academic & Research (PVPAR) provided an enrolment update and noted that while the headcount and FTEs are lower than they were in 2019, they are on par with 2018 numbers. The Fall Open House was held virtually on November 7, 2020, and saw approximately half of the usual participant numbers.

The Provost spoke to the recent announcement regarding the mutual decision to dissolve the collaborative nursing program between Nipissing University and Canadore College by fall 2022. This decision comes as a direct result of the Ontario Government decision to allow colleges to offer stand-alone nursing degree programs. Both institutions can now work towards different approaches, and Nipissing looks forward to modernizing our Nursing program, planning a graduate program, providing accelerated learning opportunities, developing different micro credentials, etc. A committee has been struck in order to facilitate the dissolution process.

The PVPAR also discussed ongoing plans for the Spring/Summer term and the next academic year. A number of questions were raised and comments received regarding the collaborative nursing program. The PVPAR noted that she will be able to provide further information as the dissolution documents are completed by the committee.

In response to a question about international recruitment, the PVPAR spoke to the recent hire of an International Recruitment Manager. The University continues to await approval from the Federal Government in order to welcome international students to campus.

The Assistant Vice-President, Finance & Infrastructure (Interim) noted that while the projected revenue shortfall has not changed significantly, savings have been found to cover approximately half of the shortfall. Work is ongoing in an effort to return to the approved budget deficit of \$2.5 million. When asked where the savings were found, the Assistant Vice-President, Finance & Infrastructure (Interim) noted that the majority of savings were found in travel, supplies and part-time faculty contracts. More details will be provided at the next Audit & Finance Committee meeting.

The Assistant Vice-President, Students (AVPS) deferred to his written report that was included in the meeting materials, and he invited questions from the floor. No questions were put forward.

10. Board Committee Reports

- **University Governance Committee**

- **2019-20 Board Evaluation Survey**

The Chair of the Governance Committee provided a high-level summary of the responses to the 2019-20 Board evaluation survey. A question was raised concerning next steps with regard to the comments and suggestions that were received in the responses. The Board Chair explained that a number of the concerns have already been addressed. Some of these actions include posting Board meeting agendas and supporting documentation on the website in advance of meetings, the scheduling of this evening's governance-training session, etc.

- **Audit & Finance Committee**

The Committee Chair highlighted the enrolment update, year end projections, and the extensive review of cybersecurity at Nipissing University that was presented at the most recent committee meeting.

- **Community Relations**

The Committee Chair was pleased to welcome Johanne Brousseau as the Mayor's representative on the Board of Governors, and she thanked Kathy Wilcox for her willingness to serve as Committee Vice-Chair.

- **Fundraising Committee**

The Committee Chair reviewed a number of topics showcased in the minutes, including the decision to move the Alumni Awards to a virtual format and the success of the Student Emergency Fund. A Board member questioned whether the donated funds received to date were solicited or unsolicited donations. The Director of External Relations noted that it was a combination of both, with previous donors and alumni looking to make additional donations.

- **Plant & Property Committee**

The Committee Chair thanked Dave Smits for agreeing to serve as Committee Vice-Chair. She also referred to the capital and construction update that was included in the package materials. A question will be brought forward to the next Plant & Property Committee meeting regarding the Facilities Renewal Program and whether or not any of the funds will be allotted to environmental changes.

11. Board Representatives on Other Committees/Bodies

Nipissing University Student Union

The President of the Student Union spoke to the upcoming completion of the new Student Centre, with a potential occupancy date of November 30, 2020. She provided a number of other highlights, including the Student Union's support of the "Movember" campaign, which raises awareness for Men's Health, as well as the recent launch of a social media campaign to highlight local businesses.

Academic Senate

The Academic Senate last met on October 9, 2020. An election was held to elect one faculty senator to sit on the Joint Committee of the Board and Senate on Governance. As there were no nominations received, the election will be revisited at the next meeting.

12. Question Period

No questions.

13. Other Business

There was no other business.

14. Next Meeting/Adjournment

The next full Committee Day is scheduled for Monday, December 14, 2020.

The next meeting of the Board is Thursday, January 14, 2020.

Resolution 2020-11-03: ***That the Open Session of the Board of Governors' regular meeting now adjourn.***

*Moved by Patti Carr; seconded by Kathy Wilcox.
Carried.*

Open session adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

President & Vice-Chancellor (Interim)/
Secretary of the Board

Board Chair

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

November 12, 2020

OPEN SESSION

4:30 P.M. – Zoom Remote Conferencing

Zoom Connection for Virtual Attendance: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85286440452>
Passcode: 899518

1. Call to Order/Land Acknowledgement

*“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 the Nipissing First Nation Traditional Territory and the traditional territory of the Anishinabek.
We respect and are grateful to hold this meeting on these lands with all our relatives.”*

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

3. Use of Recording and/or Broadcasting Devices

“Only pre-approved methods of recording and/or broadcasting devices (such as today's Zoom connection) may be used. Disseminating any information during the meeting is prohibited.

4. Consent Agenda

i. For Adoption

(a) Minutes of the September 17, 2020, Board of Governors Meeting (Open Session);

ii. For Information Only

(a) Minutes from open meetings of the Board's Standing Committees:

1. University Governance Committee – Minutes from October 19, 2020;
2. Audit & Finance Committee – Minutes from October 19, 2020;
3. Community Relations Committee – Minutes from October 19, 2020;
4. Fundraising Committee – Minutes from October 19, 2020; and
5. Plant & Property Committee – Minutes from October 19, 2020.

(b) Reports from Other Committees/Bodies:

1. Nipissing University Alumni Advisory Board (NUAAB); and
2. Nipissing University Indigenous Council on Education (NUICE).

Resolution: *That the items included “for adoption” on the November 12, 2020, 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.*

5. Adoption of Regular Agenda

Resolution: *That the Board of Governors adopt the November 12, 2020, Open Session regular agenda as circulated.*

6. Chair’s Remarks

7. Chancellor’s Remarks

8. President’s Remarks

9. Vice-President’s Remarks

- Provost and Vice President, Academic & Research
- Assistant Vice-President, Finance & Infrastructure
- Assistant Vice-President, Students

10. Board Committee Reports

- University Governance Committee – *Stuart Kidd, Committee Chair*
- 2019-20 Board Evaluation Survey
- Audit & Finance Committee – *Karen Barnes, Committee Chair*
- Community Relations Committee – *Patti Carr, Committee Chair*
- Fundraising Committee – *Bobby Ray, Committee Chair*
- Plant & Property Committee – *Joanne Laplante, Committee Chair*

11. Board Representatives on Other Committees/Bodies

- Nipissing University Student Union
- Academic Senate

12. Question Period

13. Other Business

14. Next Meeting Dates/Adjournment

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

Time: _____

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

OPEN SESSION

October 19, 2020

The Governance Committee met on Monday, October 19, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom remote video conferencing.

Members present: Stuart Kidd, Committee Chair
Marianne Berube
Fran Couchie
Ryan Hehn
Hannah Mackie
Judy Smith
Cheryl Sutton
Rick Vanderlee
Mykayla King (Student Observer – non-voting)
Arja Vainio-Mattila (Provost – non-voting)
Christine Dowdall (University Secretary – non-voting)

Regrets: Mitchell Crown
Paul Cook

Guests: Casey Phillips, AVP Students
Jenny Mackie, Director, Human Resources

Recording Secretary: Abby Blaszczyk (Executive Assistant, Office of the President)

1. Opening Remarks/Call for Conflicts of Interest

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. The committee chair called for any conflicts of interest; no such declarations were made.

2. Election of Committee Vice-Chair

The role of the Committee Vice-Chair was reviewed. Fran Couchie agreed to assume the role for the current academic year.

3. Review of Committee Terms of Reference

The committee terms of reference as outlined in the Board Bylaws were reviewed. There were no concerns expressed with the current terms.

4. Review of Annual Work Plan

The draft annual work plan was reviewed. It was noted that the University Secretary tracks all Board policies, and she will flag any that require review and/or updates. Those policies will be added to the work plan as appropriate.

5. Harassment and Discrimination Committee/Policy: Update

In 2019, this topic was brought to the University Governance Committee as a result of a request from Senate to have the Board review the Harassment and Discrimination Policy and the terms of reference for the related committee. In light of legislative changes, the continued relevance of the policy and the committee were in question. At that time, the University Governance Committee tasked Human Resources with reviewing the issue and coming back to the committee with recommendations.

The Director, Human Resources spoke to the decision to combine this policy with the Respectful Workplace and Harassment Prevention Policy. Because the revised policy will include students, faculty and staff, the Assistant Vice-President, Students assisted by providing a number of comments and suggestions.

A discussion followed. Several suggestions were put forward, including strong language around equity/diversity/inclusion (EDI), clarity around language for students and easy access to the policy on the website. Additionally, a discussion took place regarding the importance of prevention of harassment and discrimination on campus.

The Director, Human Resources will present a draft policy for the committee's review at the December meeting.

6. Joint Committee of the Board and Senate on Governance

Marianne Berube, former member of the Joint Committee, explained that the Joint Committee of the Board and Senate on Governance made the following recommendation for the Board of Governor's consideration:

The Joint Committee of the Board and Senate on Governance recommends the University Governance Committee of the Board of Governors review Section F of the Search/Appointment/ Reappointment of Senior Academic Administrative Officers (Policy #3.1.20212.B) to consider a shorter term for extension of the term of the President or Provost (i.e. less than five years) in order to encourage renewal and fill the position.

A lengthy discussion followed. Suggestions put forward included ensuring clarity with the language and consistency in the length of term extensions for all senior academic administrative positions. It was also noted that the positions of President and Provost fundamentally differ from other positions. It was recommended that the policy be amended with language that shortens the length of any potential extension to the term of the President or the Provost from the current five years to a maximum of 18 months, along with language that outlines the parameters around such an extension. A draft will be brought back to the committee in December for final review.

7. Results from Board Evaluation Survey

The results from the Board Evaluation Survey were included in the committee materials provided. The committee expressed disappointment in the lack of responses, and suggestions were provided on how to encourage participation. One such recommendation was to have one-on-one conversations between each member of the Board and the Board Chair. Best practices will be reviewed, and a summary of the 2019-20 results will be presented to the Board for discussion at the next meeting.

8. Board Recruitment – Status of LGIC Appointments

At this point in time, Nipissing University has two vacant LGIC positions. The Province is in receipt of the names of two individuals who were given Board approval over the past few months, and the University Secretary continues to follow up regarding these vacancies.

9. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Recording Secretary

Chair of University Governance Committee

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

AUDIT & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

OPEN SESSION

October 19, 2020

The Audit and Finance Committee met on Monday, October 19, 2020, at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.

Members Present: Karen Barnes, Committee Chair
Marianne Berube
Patti Carr
Hilary Earl
Stuart Kidd
Ward Loveday
Dave Smits
Cheryl Sutton
Stephen Tedesco
Hannah Mackie (Student Observer – non-voting)
Arja Vainio-Mattila (Provost – non-voting)
Christine Dowdall (University Secretary – non-voting)

Regrets: Paul Cook

Guests: Renée Hacquard
Casey Phillips
Debra Iafrate
Heather Hersemeyer

Recording Secretary: Abby Blaszczyk (Executive Assistant, Governance & Scheduling)

1. Welcoming Remarks/Calls for Conflicts of Interest

The meeting was called to order at 10:33 a.m. The committee chair called for any conflicts of interest; no such declarations were made.

2. Consolidated Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Operations Review as of August 31

The Assistant Vice-President, Finance & Infrastructure expressed her appreciation to the Finance team for completing the consolidated statements. She provided a high level review of both the statement of financial position and the statement of operations for the period ending August 31, 2020. She noted that expenses and revenue in the operating fund are in line with expectations. Significant variances in the budget include decreased tuition revenue due to international student enrolment being below budget, as well as a decrease in other revenue due to limited presence on campus.

3. Enrolment Update

The Registrar provided an update on enrolment as at August 31, 2020. Enrolment is tracking nicely with strong numbers in programs like Graduate Studies, Biology, Psychology, Nursing and Education. There has been an increase in students studying part-time, likely at least in part as a result of COVID-19. The Fall term head count is up when compared to previous years, but so far, the Winter term numbers are down. The Registrar acknowledged that the University is expecting those numbers to improve somewhat by January.

4. Year-end Projections

The Assistant Vice-President, Finance and Infrastructure reviewed the pre-COVID budget and spoke to the shortfalls in international tuition, domestic tuition and other revenues. As a result of the pandemic, the total anticipated shortfall is significant. Work is ongoing with budget holders in order to identify potential savings.

A question was raised regarding the potential for additional government funding. It is not expected that the provincial government will be providing additional funds in an across-the-sector response as a number of the larger, Southern universities have significant reserves to draw from. However, the Northern universities have been engaging their ministers in an effort to convey how COVID-19 is directly affecting the North, and we remain cautiously optimistic there will be some additional funding for our institution as a result.

A discussion followed concerning revenue generation. A number of suggestions were discussed, including micro credentials, approvals for new programming and encouraging continued education for community members.

5. Cybersecurity Update

The Director, University Technology Services provided a high level presentation on cybersecurity at Nipissing University. Themes included risks (such as phishing and data breaches), the current virtual environment and security initiatives currently in place. She invited individual committee members to contact her should they have any questions.

6. Other Business

There was no further business.

The meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Recording Secretary

Committee Chair

BOARD REPORT

As at 10/02/20

For the period ended 08/31/2020

	Actual YTD	Annual Budget	Variance \$ (Actual YTD - Annual Budget)	YTD Actual as a % of Annual Budget		Actual PYR	Annual Budget (Previous Year)	PYR Actual as a % of PYR Annual Budget	Variance \$ CY to PY	Variance % CY to PY	
Revenue											
Government Grants	\$ 10,707,059	\$ 35,655,369	\$ (24,948,310)	30%	1	\$ 10,900,609	\$ 37,301,609	29%	\$ (193,551)	-2%	1
Student Fees - Tuition	\$ 25,552,560	\$ 29,409,835	\$ (3,857,275)	87%	2	\$ 25,233,185	\$ 27,741,324	91%	\$ 319,374	1%	2
Student Fees - Other	\$ 2,326,864	\$ 2,805,862	\$ (478,998)	83%	3	\$ 2,137,604	\$ 2,355,450	91%	\$ 189,260	9%	3
Other	\$ 169,716	\$ 1,993,252	\$ (1,823,536)	9%	4	\$ 505,361	\$ 1,995,621	25%	\$ (335,645)	-66%	4
Investment Income	\$ 45,829	\$ 190,000	\$ (144,171)	24%	5	\$ 53,619	\$ 230,000	23%	\$ (7,790)	-15%	5
Donations	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ (100,000)	0%	6	\$ -	\$ 39,000	0%	\$ -	0%	
Revenue Total	\$ 38,802,027	\$ 70,154,318	\$ (31,352,291)	55%		\$ 38,830,378	\$ 69,663,004	56%	\$ (28,352)	0%	
Expenses											
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 16,057,224	\$ 55,400,290	\$ (39,343,066)	29%	1	\$ 16,942,554	\$ 54,801,488	31%	\$ (885,330)	-5%	6
Operating	\$ 2,974,609	\$ 9,611,933	\$ (6,637,324)	31%	7	\$ 3,415,043	\$ 10,200,309	33%	\$ (440,434)	-13%	7
Scholarships and Bursaries	\$ 1,216,564	\$ 3,788,400	\$ (2,571,836)	32%	1	\$ 1,099,841	\$ 3,808,400	29%	\$ 116,723	11%	8
Occupancy Costs	\$ 857,710	\$ 4,090,850	\$ (3,233,140)	21%	8	\$ 590,377	\$ 4,240,775	14%	\$ 267,333	45%	9
Principal and Interest on Long Term Debt	\$ 333,146	\$ 1,005,940	\$ (672,794)	33%	1	\$ 333,205	\$ 1,005,940	33%	\$ (59)	0%	
Expenses Total	\$ 21,439,253	\$ 73,897,413	\$ (52,458,160)	29%		\$ 22,381,021	\$ 74,056,912	30%	\$ (941,768)	-4%	
Surplus (Deficit) Before Undernoted	\$ 17,362,773	\$ (3,743,095)	\$ 21,105,868	-464%		\$ 16,449,357	\$ (4,393,908)	-374%	\$ 913,416	6%	
Transfers											
Transfers to (from) other funds	\$ -	\$ (1,730,000)	\$ 1,730,000	0%	9	\$ 10,508	\$ (1,892,903)	-1%	\$ (10,508)	-100%	
Transfers to (from) Internally Restricted	\$ 450,767	\$ 500,500	\$ (49,733)	90%	10	\$ 476,333	\$ 469,150	102%	\$ (25,566)	-5%	
Transfers Total	\$ 450,767	\$ (1,229,500)	\$ 1,680,267	-37%		\$ 486,841	\$ (1,423,753)	-34%	\$ (36,074)	-7%	
Total	\$ 16,912,007	\$ (2,513,595)	\$ 19,425,602	-673%		\$ 15,962,516	\$ (2,970,155)	-537%	\$ 949,490	6%	

Variance explanations: Actual YTD compared to budget

- 1) Variances are as expected due to timing
- 2) Tuition billing occurs in August, slightly below budget for domestic tuition, significant variance in international tuition.
- 3) Student Fees lower than budget due to lower enrolment than budgeted.
- 4) Other revenue includes revenue from 3rd parties (Cafeteria/bookstore commissions, summer camps, etc.). These are significantly impacted by the pandemic
- 5) Investment income lower than budgeted due to market fluctuations.
- 6) Transfer from Scholarship Fund to occur in October.
- 7) Some savings expected in this line due to Covid (ex: travel, meals & hospitality, supplies)
- 8) Some savings expected in utility costs
- 9) Transfers from other funds including ancillary and fundraising don't typically occur until later in the Fall.
- 10) Tracking as expected

Variance explanations: Actual YTD compared to prior year

- 1) Decrease due to Teacher Ed stabilization funding not received this year
- 2) FTE's are slightly higher than last year at this time, which translates to higher tuition revenue. Largest increase is in Education.
- 3) Higher ancillary fees for Career services, fees that used to be transferred to NUSU.
- 4) Significant reductions in other revenues due to limited traffic on campus. (ex: Bookstore & cafeteria commissions reduced, athletics revenues from summer camps and game days, etc.)
- 5) Due to market fluctuations
- 6) Decrease due to savings in PT salaries, due to classes being online
- 7) No travel, meals & hospitality expenses, less spending in other categories such as supplies.
- 8) Timing difference compared to prior year in Schulich transfers (\$131k).
- 9) Savings related to less renovation expenses incurred compared to prior year at this time (timing of expenses). Some savings expected in utilities.

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

OPEN SESSION

October 19, 2020

The Community Relations Committee of the Board of Governors met on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Members Present: Patricia Carr, Committee Chair
Marianne Berube
Johanne Brousseau
Fran Couchie
Donna Forget
Ryan Hehn
Denyse Lafrance-Horning
Hannah Mackie
Bobby Ray
Cheryl Sutton
Kathy Wilcox
Shannon MacCarthy (Student Observer – non-voting)
Christine Dowdall (University Secretary – non-voting)

Regrets: Paul Cook
Mitchell Crown
Arja Vainio-Mattila (Provost – non-voting)

Guests: Cristin Christopher
Casey Phillips
Abby Blaszczyk

Recording Secretary: Maggie Daniel, Executive Assistant – Office of the President

1. Welcome/Call for Conflicts of Interest – Patti Carr, Committee Chair

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. The Chair called for any conflicts of interest; no such conflicts were declared. The Committee Chair welcomed Johanne Brousseau, the mayoral representative on the Board of Governors, as the newest member of the committee.

2. Election of Committee Vice-Chair

As outlined in the committee terms of reference, a Vice-Chair is to be selected for the committee at the first meeting of the year. As a result, Kathy Wilcox agreed to assume the position.

3. Review of Committee Terms of Reference

The Chair reviewed the terms of reference for the committee. She reminded everyone to make sure all of the meeting dates are in their calendars in order to ensure maximum attendance and participation by committee members.

4. Review of Annual Work Plan

The Annual Work Plan was reviewed.

5. External Relations Report – *Cristin Christopher, Director, External Relations*

NU Community Response to COVID-19

The Director, External Relations, shared some of the ways that the University is supporting the region's response to, and recovery from, the COVID-19 pandemic. She shared with the committee a letter from the North Bay Regional Health Centre Foundation thanking Nipissing University for donating Founders House residence for frontline workers who required a safe place to stay.

The University has committed funding to several research projects organized by faculty members that address the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is anticipated that the research results will be shared with the wider community in the spring of 2021.

NU News Update

The Director, External Relations was pleased to announce that the "NU News" underwent significant updates over the summer that will make it easier for the University to share good news stories. The new website has sections dedicated to shining a spotlight on people who are doing great work across the University, as well as sections that focus on news, research, people, alumni, athletics, events and COVID-19. Additionally, the University has invested in a third-party technology that pulls stories related to the University from the broader media coverage. Committee members were encouraged to support NU News by clicking the *Subscribe to NU News* button on the web site.

6. Other Business

A question was raised concerning the role that the Community Relations Committee plays in relation to the External Relations department and the University in general. A discussion followed. The President (Interim) offered to speak with the Executive Team to seek out their feedback regarding how and when the Community Relations Committee should be involved in providing guidance and support to the University on public matters.

There was a discussion on how the University can continue to improve upon its image and engagement within the North Bay community and beyond. The President stated that she is happy to attend local community meetings to speak about what the University is doing, and she invited committee members to connect her with their community networks where appropriate.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Chair of Community Relations Committee

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING

OPEN SESSION

October 19, 2020

The Fundraising Committee met on October 19, 2020, at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom remote conferencing.

Members present: Bobby Ray, Committee Chair
Marianne Berube
Judy Koziol
Joanne Laplante
Ward Loveday
Gillian McCann
Stephen Tedesco
Kathy Wilcox
Cheryl Sutton
Shannon MacCarthy (Student Observer – non-voting)
Arja Vainio-Mattila (Provost – non-voting)
Christine Dowdall (University Secretary – non-voting)

Regrets: Paul Cook
Mitchell Crown

Guests: Abby Blazczyk
Cristin Christopher
Renee Hacquard
Casey Phillips

Recording Secretary: Maggie Daniel, Executive Assistant, Office of the President

1. Opening Remarks/Call for Conflicts of Interest – Bobby Ray, Committee Chair

The meeting was called to order at 2:32 p.m. The Committee Chair welcomed everyone to the first Fundraising Committee meeting of the new year and spoke about the growth of the University's philanthropic culture over the past year. Several items were highlighted, including record attendance at the Donor and Student Award Social, receipt of the fourth largest endowment in the University's history, and the successful execution of the unveiling of the Sparrow Family Experiential Learning Centre space.

2. Election of Committee Vice-Chair

As outlined in the committee terms of reference, a Vice-Chair is to be selected for the committee at the first meeting of the year. As a result, Kathy Wilcox agreed to assume the position.

3. Review of Committee Terms of Reference

The Chair reviewed the committee terms of reference, highlighting how the Fundraising Committee supports the University in general and the Advancement Department in particular.

4. Review of Annual Work Plan

The Annual Work Plan was reviewed. The annual appeal to Board Members, virtual fundraising, alumni relations and updates on the advancement campaign are some of the items the committee can expect to see this year.

5. Advancement Report – *Cristin Christopher, Director, External Relations*

Advancement's Response to COVID-19

The Director, External Relations, explained that the Advancement Team's response to the COVID-19 pandemic focused on ongoing preparation and planning and includes the incorporation of benchmarking into how the Advancement Department measures their fundraising goals.

The Advancement Team has been focused on storytelling and finding ways to bring donors and alumni closer to the University. Additionally, the team has been reaching out to individual donors to see how they are doing and to make sure they know Nipissing University is listening to them. The team has been doing a great job with stewarding relationships of key major donors and with community partners who have a vested interest in the University.

Other items highlighted in the Director's report included the cancellation this year of the annual Homecoming weekend. She also spoke to the virtual Alumni Awards event that will take place in late November and the virtual Donor and Student Award Social that will take place later this year. The organization of a Giving Tuesday appeal is underway. The event, which is scheduled to take place on December 1, 2020, will go along with the national day of giving. More information about the event will be forthcoming.

It was reported that as of September 17, 2020, the Student Emergency Fund had supported 384 students. This fund was established at the beginning of the pandemic to provide urgent financial assistance to students unable to cover immediate, essential expenses as a result of the crisis. Alumni have been the primary donors towards this initiative, followed by members of the Board of Governors and faculty. Several recipients have shared their personal stories, noting that the funds helped cover such things as income loss, housing insecurity, family support and urgent travel.

Financial Summary

The Year to Date (YTD) total of donations to the University is \$62,578.12, with a total of 299 donors. The average donation is just over \$209.

Other awards and donations were highlighted. This included the Shelby Dickey Memorial Award which was launched in April. The award is to be given annually to a female Nordic skier, and the first recipient of the award has been selected.

Capital Campaign Update

The President’s Capital Campaign Steering Committee has now been populated. The committee, which is separate from the Board’s Fundraising Committee, is made up of University executives, faculty and external partners. The new committee will support the Advancement team by helping open doors with key contacts.

6. Other Business

No other business.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Chair of Fundraising Committee

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PLANT & PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING

OPEN SESSION

October 19, 2020

The Plant & Property Committee met on Monday, October 19, 2020, at 3:30 p.m. via Zoom Remote Conferencing.

Members present: Joanne Laplante, Chair
Cheryl Sutton
Hannah Mackie
Judy Smith
Judy Koziol
Ryan Hehn
Donna Forget
Dave Smits
Marianne Berube
Shannon MacCarthy (non-voting)
Arja Vainio-Mattila (non-voting)
Christine Dowdall, University Secretary (non-voting)

Regrets: Paul Cook

Guests: David Drenth, Director, Facilities
Casey Phillips, AVP Students
Renee Hacquard, Director, Finance

Recording Secretary: Abby Blaszczyk, Executive Assistant, Office of the President

1. Opening Remarks/Call for Conflicts of Interest

The Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m. She called for conflicts of interest regarding any of the agenda items; no such declarations were made.

2. Selection of Committee Vice-Chair

Dave Smits agreed to serve as committee vice-chair for this academic year.

3. Review of Committee Terms of Reference

The committee terms of reference were reviewed.

4. Review of Annual Work Plan

The draft Annual Work Plan was reviewed. There were no recommendations for changes.

5. Capital & Construction Update

The Director of Facilities provided a capital and construction update. The presentation, which is appended to the PDF version of these minutes, included the following topics:

- **Student Centre**

The 32,000 square foot Student Centre is expected to be completed by the end of October.

- **Project List**

The Director reviewed the annual list of projects funded through various programs and budgets. Some of the highlights included items listed as “immediate”, such as the campus transformer replacement and related infrastructure, roofing replacement, and an immersive classroom.

- **FRP Funding**

Nipissing University has been allocated almost \$1.65 million in Facilities Renewal Program (FRP) funding for 2020-21. This is a significant funding increase over previous years. A list of eligible projects was provided, and the Director reviewed a number of campus projects that will be covered under the FRP.

Questions raised included whether or not the funding could be used toward improving access on campus and how the project list is determined. The Director confirmed that he will review elevator access on campus, and he noted that while some projects are added to the list on an urgent basis, many are planned renovations or time sensitive projects.

6. Operational Readiness Planning

The University, under the guidance of the Operational Readiness Committee, has safely welcomed approximately 150 employees back to campus. In addition, the Athletics Centre and Library are now open for student use. Employees and students visiting campus are required to complete a COVID-19 self-assessment before accessing any of the campus buildings.

7. Other Business

A concern was raised regarding the lack of sidewalks from the Student Centre northwards on College Drive. The Director of Facilities noted that he has already reached out to the City with regards to this issue, and he will follow up prior to the next committee meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

NIPISSING

U N I V E R S I T Y



Plant and Property - October 2020

Plant and Property Committee Meeting

Capital and Construction

1. Student Centre Construction
2. Project List
3. FRP Funding
4. Operational Readiness Planning



Student Centre Construction

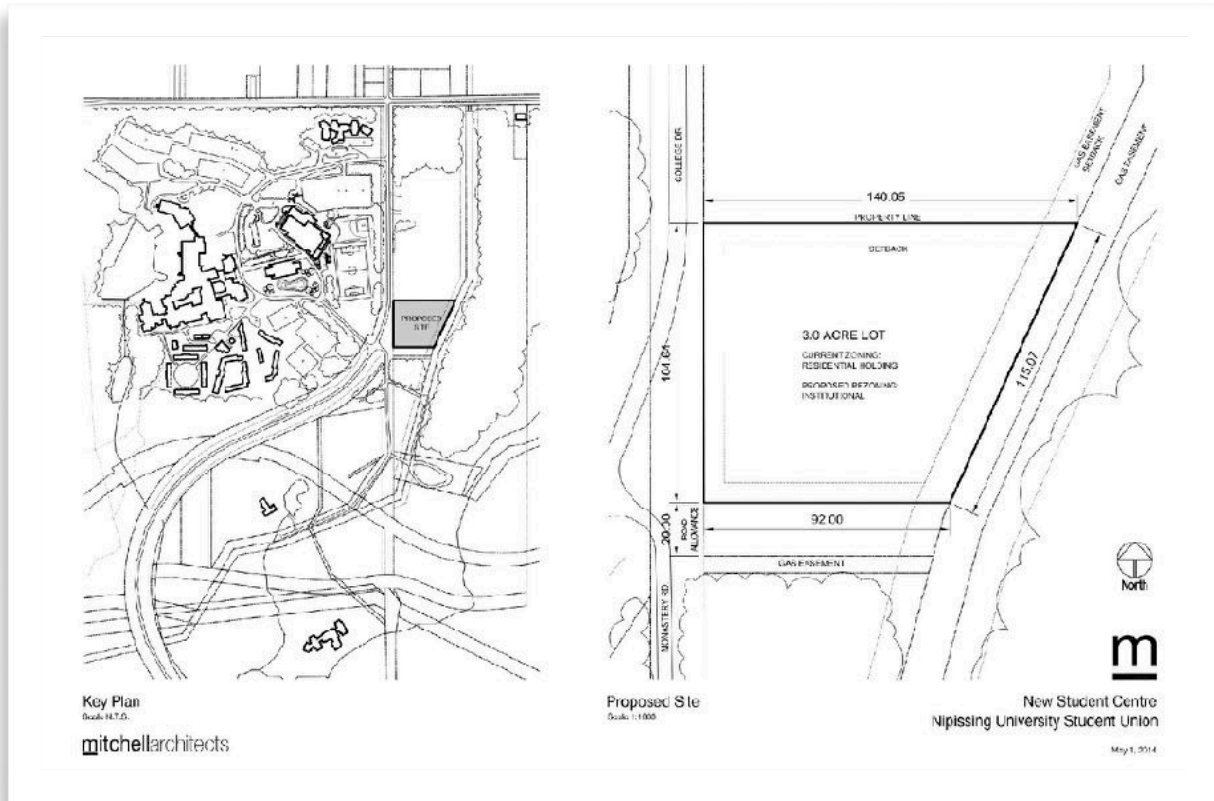
NUSU Student Centre

Project Description:

- Construction of a new 32,000 square foot building on the former Larocque farm property
- The project scope includes site development, parking, and construction of the new facility



Student Centre Construction

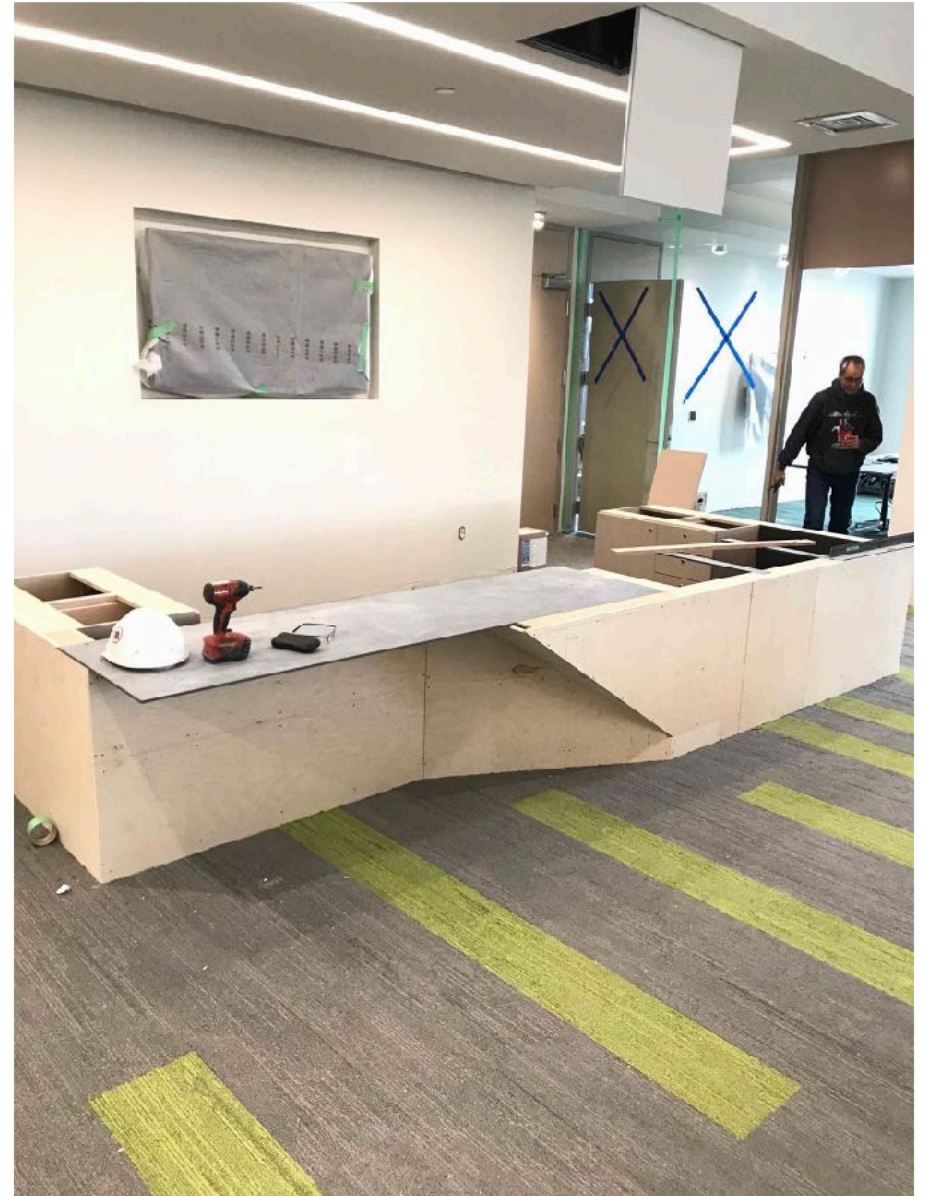


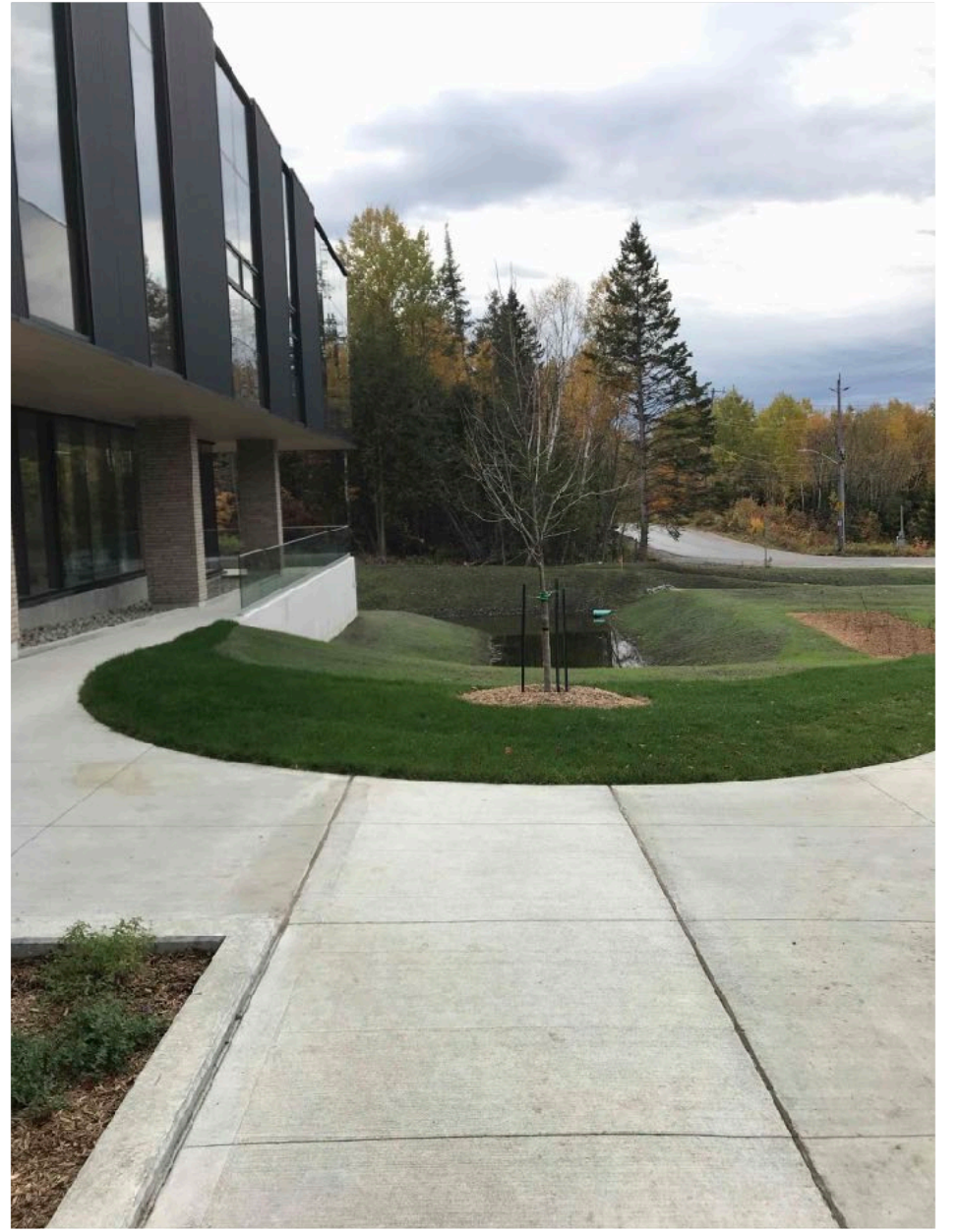
Project Status Update

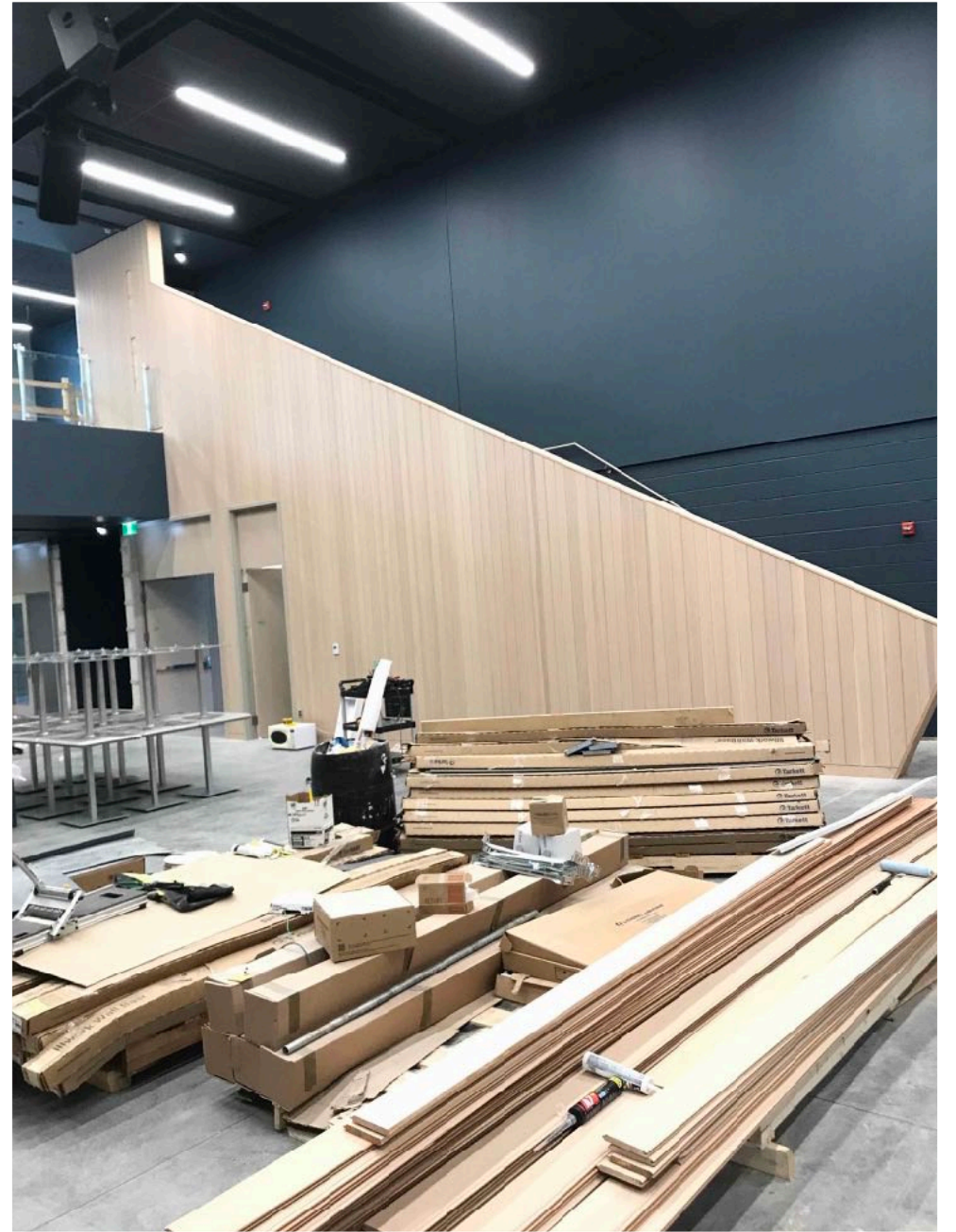
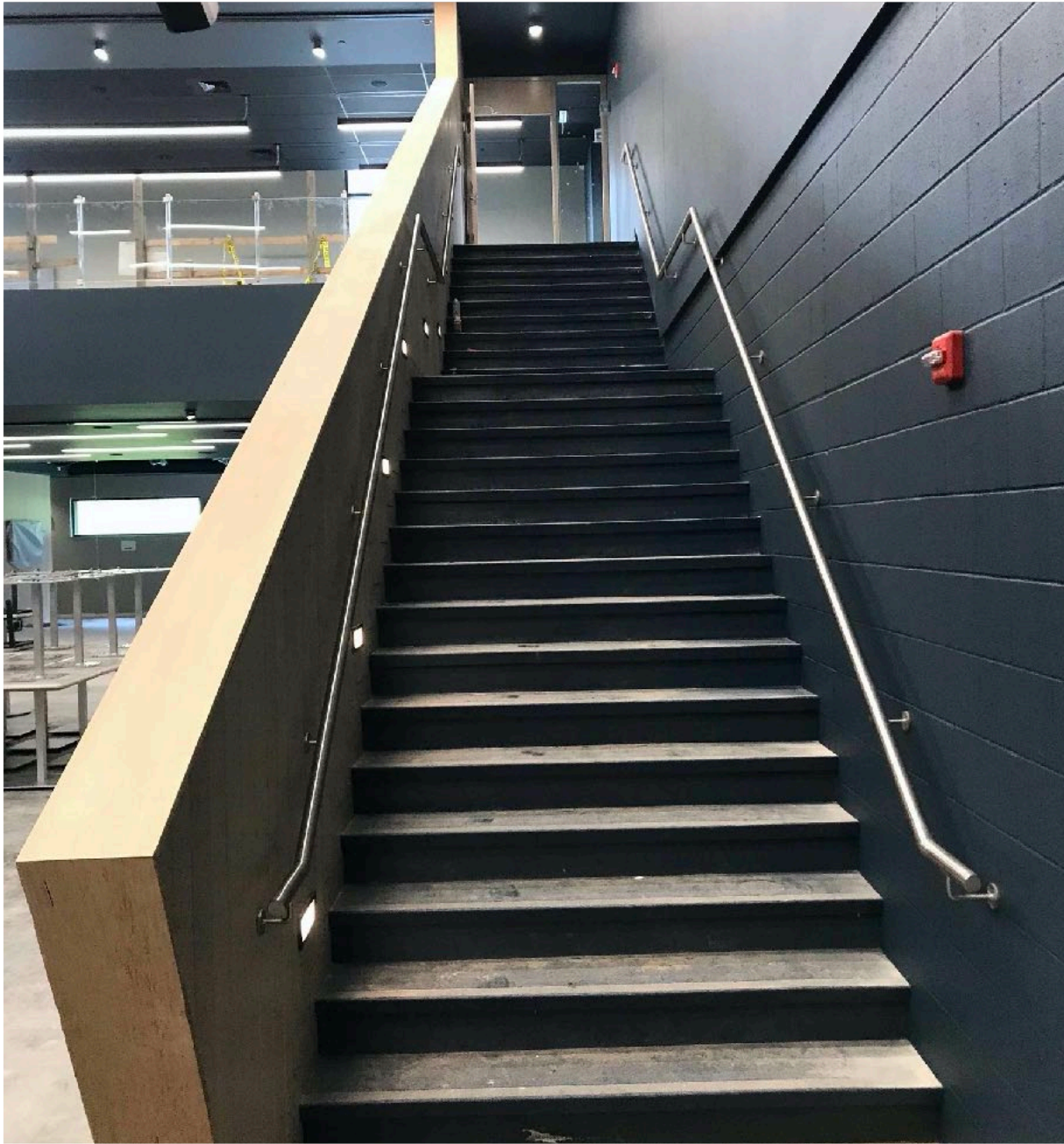
- Architect: Mitchell Jensen Architects
- Contractor: Kenalex Development LTD
- Funds: Construction contract awarded at \$13,780,620
- There are currently 57 change orders approved representing a 3.7% increase to the contract amount
- To date this is covered in the project contingency funds and cash allowances

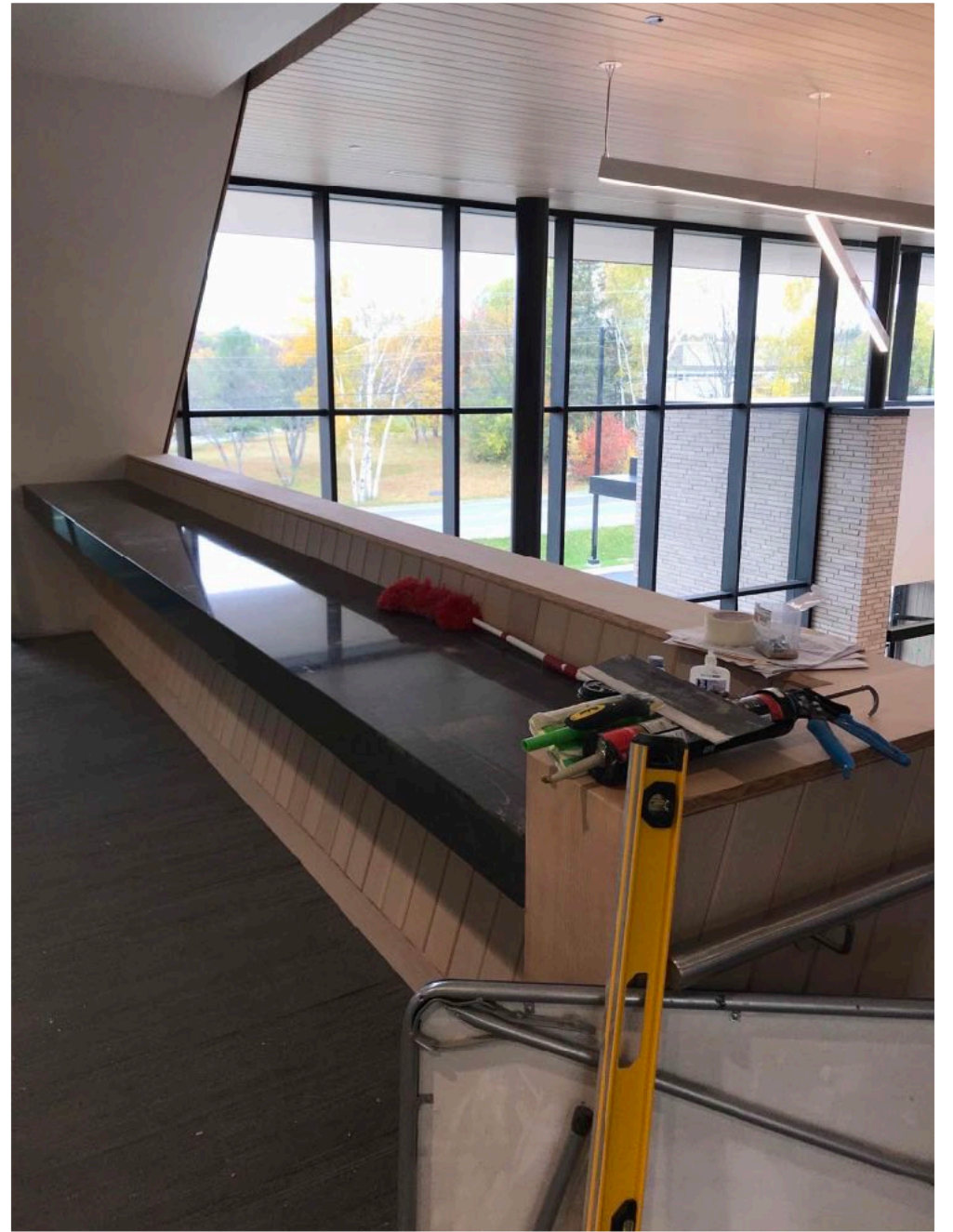
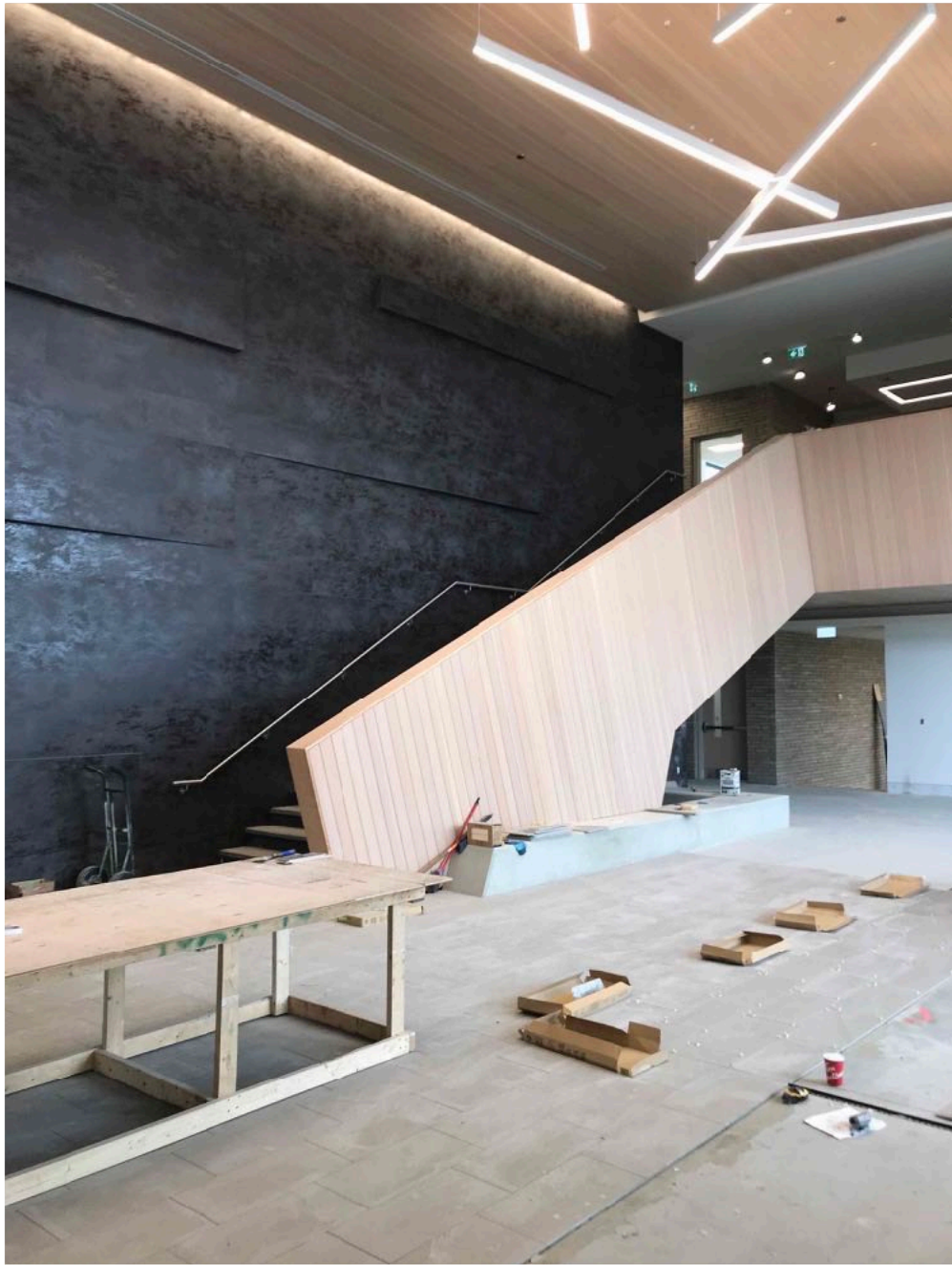
Construction Status Update

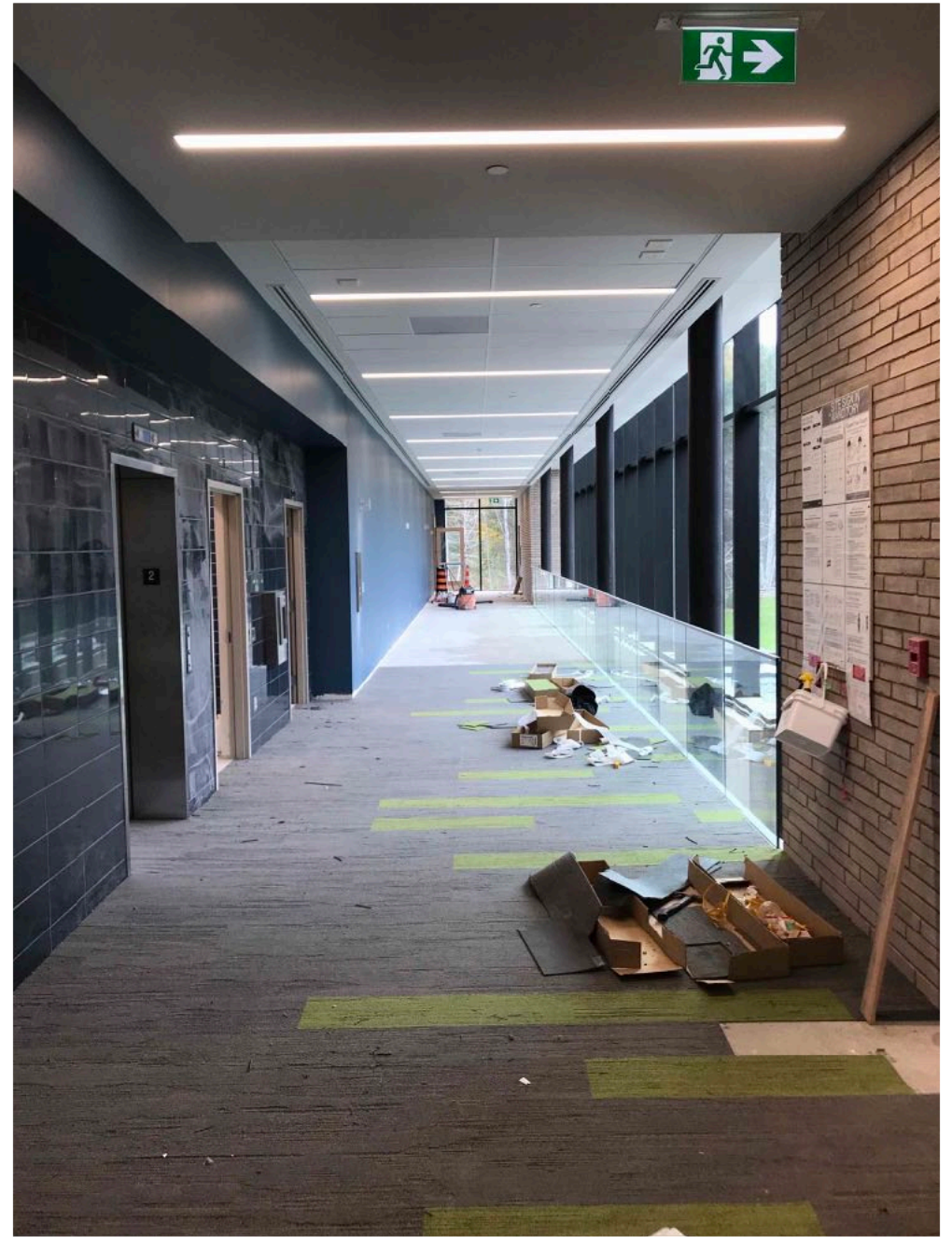
- Landscaping is near completion
- Wood door installations underway
- Millwork installation ongoing
- Carpet flooring installation in progress including washrooms and reception desk











Project List

Planning and Funding

- Review annual list of projects funded through various programs and budgets

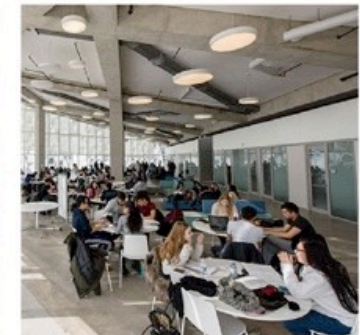
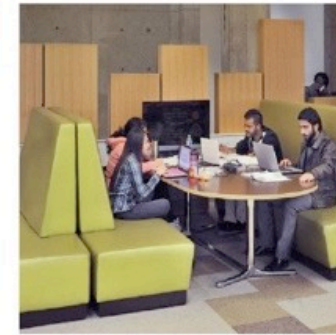
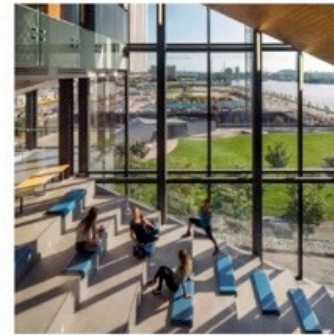
Site Pictures



Completed Jack Unit



Completed Hydraulic Control Valve



Facilities - Capital and Construction Future Plans

	Budget Amount				Total	Asset	Status	Costs incurred to date	% complete	Over/under budget	Notes
	Capital	Funded (FRP or other)	Ancillary	Shared capital							
IMMEDIATE											
Covid-19 Projects	TBD				\$ -	Campus	TBD				Keeping tally of expenses incurred for Covid-19 related items
Transformer Replacement and Infrastructure		\$ 150,000			\$ 150,000	Campus	Ongoing	\$ -	90%		Waiting on insurance to determine coverage
A-Wing Roofing Replacement - PH1	\$ -	\$ 275,000			\$ 275,000	Education Centre	TBD				Last major section of roofing on TEC to be addressed - Phase option
Immersive Classroom Reno		\$ 100,000			\$ 100,000	Education Centre	Approved	\$ -			Design drawings complete and reviewed by A/V Consultant
A-Wing Elevator		\$ 56,177			\$ 56,177	Education Centre	Approved	\$ -	20%		Required for compliance with TSSA - tender awarded
TRC Roofing			\$ 45,000		\$ 45,000	Townhouse Rez	Approved	\$ 45,000	100%		Work Completed
Pond Rehabilitation		\$ 50,000			\$ 50,000	Education Centre	TBD				Phased approach to restoring pond infrastructure
Campus Paving		\$ 30,000			\$ 30,000	Campus	TBD				Required campus road repairs
A-Wing Washroom Upgrade	\$ 100,000				\$ 100,000	Education Centre	TBD				Update washroom to current standards - save energy and water
Nursing Sim Labs	\$ 250,000				\$ 250,000	Education Centre	TBD				Required for in-house program delivery
Athletics Repairs and Upgrades	\$ 112,000				\$ 112,000	Athletics	TBD				
Fire Protection Panel Upgrades	\$ 50,000				\$ 50,000	Education Centre	TBD				Required for compliance
Student Centre		\$ 15,200,000			\$ 15,200,000	Student Centre	Ongoing	\$ 10,463,000	70%		Construction progressing well - reference invoice update
MEDIUM TERM (Must be addressed this year)											
Academic Advising Reno (Grad Studies)	\$ 200,000				\$ 200,000	Education Centre	TBD				Service improvement for students
Advancement/Development Space Reno	\$ 300,000				\$ 300,000	F-Wing	TBD				Space efficiency and productivity upgrade
LONG TERM (Could be deferred to next year)											
Agora at Front Entrance	\$ 350,000				\$ 350,000	Education Centre	TBD				Sourced from Academic Space Plan Audit
SPP Space renovation	\$ 350,000				\$ 350,000	Michener Institute	TBD				Renovate classroom space for SPP Students with UHN
Outdoor Classroom Construction	\$ 650,000				\$ 650,000	Campus	TBD	\$ -			Being prepped for tender - project with estimator for budget cost
LED Outdoor Lighting	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000			\$ 140,000	Campus	TBD				Replace end of life outdoor lighting fixtures with LED
HILL Compact Shelving Space Reno	\$ 50,000				\$ 50,000	Harris Learning Library	TBD				Remove compact shelving and restore space
Washroom Upgrades	\$ 100,000				\$ 100,000	Education Centre	TBD				Gender Neutral Renovation
Surtees Gym A Lighting retrofit	\$ 50,000				\$ 50,000	Athletics	TBD				Attractive payback on energy savings
Master Campus Plan	\$ 75,000				\$ 75,000	Campus	TBD				Long overdue
Parking Lot #2 Expansion	\$ 150,000				\$ 150,000	Campus	TBD				Parking addition for NU side of campus
Multi Faith Space Reno	\$ 50,000				\$ 50,000	Education Centre	TBD				Requirement for compliance
Access Control Doors				\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	Education Centre	TBD				Annual
NU Front Entrance Overhaul	\$ 250,000				\$ 250,000	F-Wing	TBD				Improve 'first impression' and service for visitors
Safety & Accessibility Projects	\$ 50,000				\$ 50,000	All	TBD				Refer to Accessibility reports
Flooring - Suite Common Tiling			\$ 80,000		\$ 80,000	Founder's House	TBD				\$2850/unit
Flooring - Suites Carpeting			\$ 63,525		\$ 63,525	Founder's House	TBD				\$700/bedroom/living room
Window Replacement - Bedroom			\$ 12,000		\$ 12,000	Founder's House	TBD				Phase by floor - \$160/bedroom & \$115/awning
Window - Common to Building			TBD		\$ -	Founder's House	TBD				Need Assessment & Estimate
Building Envelope - Siding			TBD		\$ -	Founder's House	TBD				Need Assessment & Estimate
Furnace/AC Refurbishment			TBD		\$ -	Founder's House	TBD				Need Assessment & Estimate
Chartwells Tim Hortons Reno - Deferred to 21			\$ 250,000		\$ 250,000	Education Centre	Approved	\$ -			Compliance requirement for Chartwells Food Services

FRP Funding

Facility Renewal Program

- The purpose of the Facilities Renewal Program is to assist postsecondary education institutions with renewing and modernizing their campuses through the repair and renovation of existing facilities and campus infrastructure.
- Previously allocated just over \$400k in the previous few years
- 2020-21 Nipissing University has been allocated \$1,648,700
- Examples of eligible items include:
 - repairs made to the fabric and structure of buildings;
 - repairs to building service equipment and electrical or mechanical systems, and built-in general academic support equipment;
 - alterations and renovations to existing space to improve the condition and efficiency of teaching and research functions;
 - improvements to remove accessibility barriers to persons with disabilities

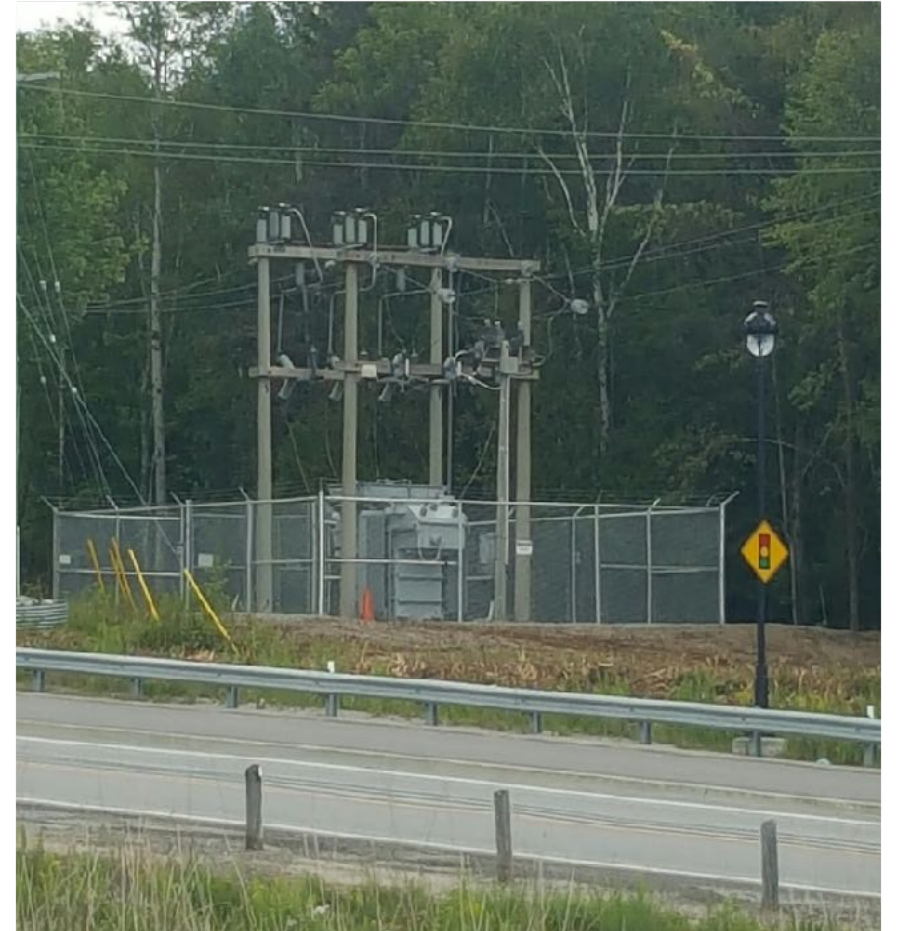
Athletics Building Water Piping Replacement

- Original building water line premature failure due to heavy corrosion
- Estimated cost ~ \$125,000
- Scope includes piping replacement and water damage repairs



Campus Transformer Replacement

- Main campus transformer failure this past summer
- Estimated cost ~ \$150,000
- Waiting for insurance determination to finalize budget commitment



nearby places



New Campus Transformer

Old Campus Transformer

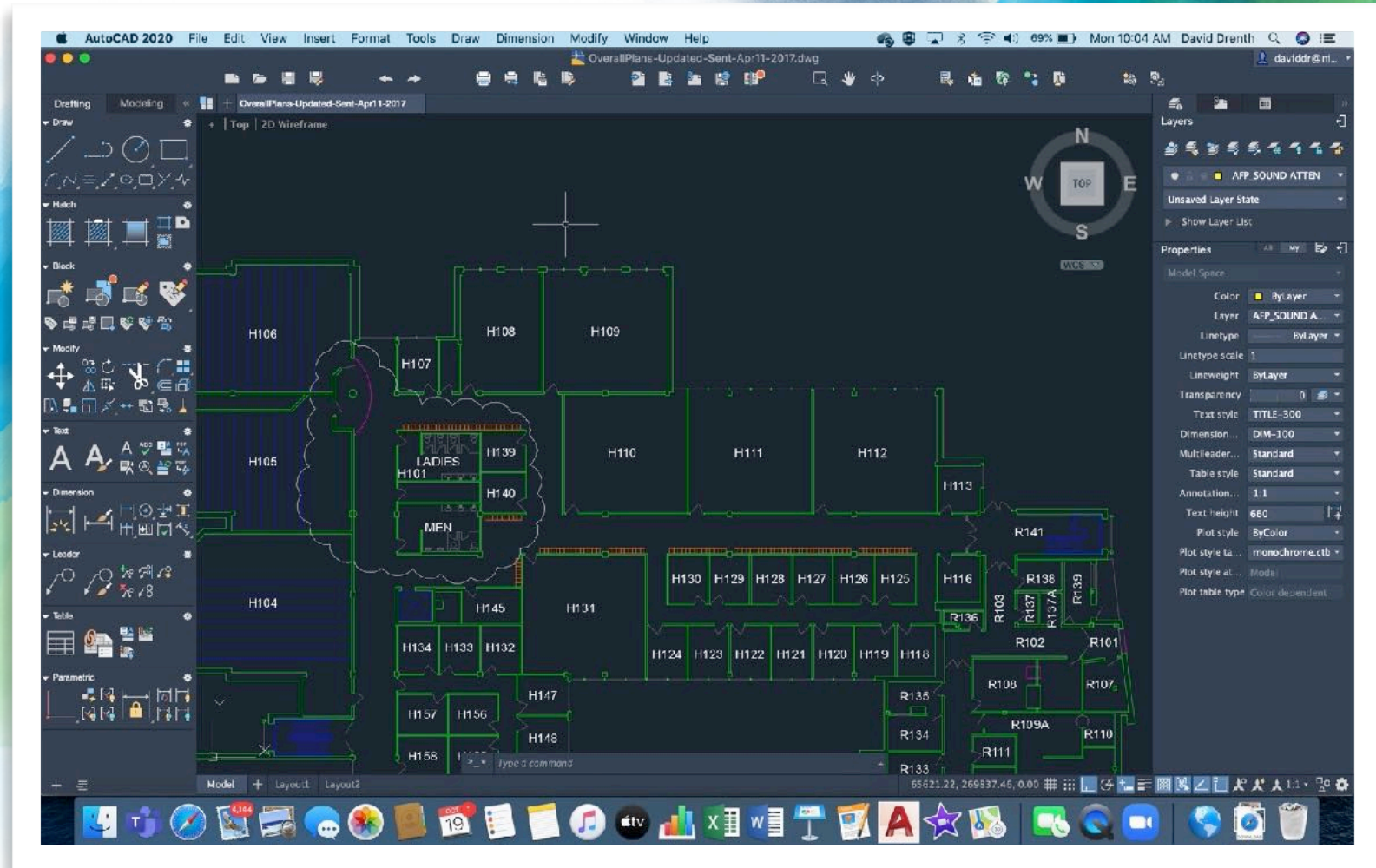
A-Wing Roofing Replacement

- Numerous leaks similar to F-Wing last year
- Estimated cost ~ \$275,000
- 2 remaining portions for future allocations



Larger Classroom Renovations

- Prepare larger instructional spaces for improved flexibility and potentially to accommodate social distancing
- Estimated cost ~ \$100,000
- Evaluating optimal locations



Operational Readiness Planning

Campus Access Phase Review

- Phase 0 - Restricted Campus Access
 - Essential duties only
- Phase 1 - Required Campus Access
 - Minimal permitted campus operations only
- Phase 2 - Limited Campus Access (CURRENT)
 - Optimal campus operations remaining in compliance with public health guidelines
- Phase 3 - Open Campus Access
 - All on-site services restored as required with access open to all visitors

Phase 2 Status

- Approximately 150 employees accessing the campus on regular basis
- Thorough department walkthroughs with employees for feedback
- Library opened for service - very little activity initially
- Athletics opened in Stage 2 of a well developed internal operational plan
 - Some ice rink training following the city's protocols
- Research Recovery remains in Stage 2 as final Stage
 - Approximately 12 researchers back in labs.



Provost's Report to the Board of Governors – November 12, 2020

Arja Vainio-Mattila, PVPAR

- Recruitment continues to move forward virtually. We have our Open House on November 8th.
- So far, applications for the next academic year are up from the same time last year (489 vs. 409).
- We continue to work on updating our Winter schedule (it will be done by Nov 9). Our goal is to minimize the impact on students; they will not need to re-register in courses for which they're already registered.
- An agreement was signed with Kenjgewin Teg in early September 2020 to offer joint delivery of the Indigenous Classroom Assistant Diploma Program (ICADP). Kenjgewin Teg is an Ontario Ministry recognized Indigenous post-secondary institute on Manitoulin Island.
- Dr. Cindy Peltier, Chair of Indigenous Education at Nipissing University, recently released a documentary film entitled *Peltier, C. & Lucas, S.D. (2020) Creative knowledge dissemination with Indigenous communities: The lived experience of Anishinaabe people with cancer and the use of Indigenous healing and western medicine to promote mno bimaadiziwin.*
- The Faculty of Arts and Science continued the Foundations Pathways pilot this year, integrating Indigenous ways of knowing and innovative pedagogies that include a focus on wellness.
- Grad studies students are still completing degree requirements and completing their programs within the context of COVID. Lab based students have been impacted by the pandemic, and we have made adjustments to accommodate students while still meeting the programs' learner outcomes.
- Research is progressing with a Canada Research Chair (CRC) hire in Climate and Environment. We will begin reviewing proposals for a 5th CRC position with a Health focus.
- The Online Learning Partners program, which provides student peer support for online learning, has been launched.
- The interim Student Opinion Survey for use during the pandemic has been tested and set up.
- The next Teaching Chairs have been selected. A public announcement will be coming soon.
- A Community of Practice on pedagogy was launched and well attended. This is an opportunity for faculty to share their concerns and their successes.
- The Harris Learning Library opened for student use on October 13. Operating hours are Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. While the building is closed on Saturday/Sunday, staff are in the library from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. to provide assistance and service by phone and email. Curbside pick-up is also available. Students are very happy to be back in the building. Library staff continue to support research, teaching and learning whether it is face to face or through online library instruction classes.
- International recruitment activities have kicked back in to high gear, and most recently, Nipissing participated in the following virtual recruitment fairs: EduCanada Mexico (21 October); EduCanada Latin America (20 October); EduCanada the Philippines (15-19 October); and EduCanada Indonesia (11 October). During these fairs, the NU booth was visited 445 times, and meetings were organized with agents learning about Nipissing for the first time.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPORT ~ ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT, STUDENTS NOVEMBER 2020

Departments within Student Development & Services (SDS) continue to support students through the transition into online learning and the Fall 2020 term. Since Mid-September the various functional units have begun their return to campus and the introduction of face-to-face appointment opportunities for students while continuing to offer services through virtual or alternative methods.

The focus within SDS has been on supporting the individual needs of students while attempting to develop a sense of connection to the greater Nipissing University community through virtual means.

STUDENT COUNSELLING SERVICES: Student Counselling Services has been busy over the summer and into the fall developing a Model of Service called Pathways to Care. There are new streams of service available for students, so they do not need to only utilize the traditional individual therapy that is offered. There are two ways for students to access services; through a scheduled intake appointment, or through a drop-in appointment. Drop-in appointments are available throughout the day and are offered virtually on a secure platform called Wellness Online, or in-person. This flexibility allows students to obtain rapid access to services.

Some of these new service options include a virtual online library, peer support, and counselling e-support (online modules where a counsellor provides bi-weekly online coaching support). We are also offering two groups this semester: Growing Together and The Four Directions.

STUDENT INTERVENTION SPECIALIST: The Student Intervention Specialist (SIS) continues to receive and respond to student referrals through the Student Retention Alert (SRA) system as well as through direct referrals from other staff and departments. A number of students are struggling with the reality of the COVID situation as well as the transition to a virtual learning environment. Students can choose a meeting in-person under specific precautions or they can be supported through video calls, phone calls, or email exchanges. Referrals to additional services and supports continue to be made both within Nipissing University as well as in the community.

INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES: 20WI Outgoing / Incoming Exchange - The Winter 2021 exchanges have been cancelled due to Government travel restrictions and our institutional international insurance provider, Guardme not issuing travel and health insurance. All Fall/Winter 2020/21 exchange students have been offered the ability to transfer their offers of exchange to Fall/Winter 2021/22.

20FW Admitted International Degree Students - On October 20, 2020 the Government released the list of DLI's with approved COVID-19 quarantine plans. At this time Nipissing is not on this list, along with the majority of other Canadian and more specifically Ontario institutions. The Government will only be updating the approved DLI list every two weeks. Currently we have been made aware that our quarantine plan and international readiness plan have received approval from the Ontario government and have been forwarded to the Federal government for approval.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION & EDUCATION: At the beginning of the pandemic SVPE services were available to students through a virtual platform. Services are now available to students in-person.

During this academic year 12 workshops have been hosted to date with 140 students attending in total so far. More workshops are scheduled for November and the Winter semester. Action plans have been developed for the Sexual Violence Task Force Report recommendations and are in progress.

STUDENT LEARNING AND TRANSITIONS: A new Career Services Coordinator started in mid-September to provide career development support for current students (undergraduate and graduate) and alumni, and to support the career development pieces of the NU Promise program. Careers Month (November) sessions are going to be available next week.

The Academic Success Program has been refreshed to reflect some course specific workshops based on the demand from Peer Tutoring and the Student Learning Coordinators using the Supplemental Instruction model.

An Extended Orientation was provided to students during the month of September to provide strategies for online learning and starting the semester. Virtual sessions included; How to Begin Your Semester; Tackling your Texting; Study Strategies; Technology Series: Part 1: Procrastinators Unite.

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES: This Fall, Student Accessibility Services emailed Letters of Accommodation to faculty for over 300 students with disabilities. While the online learning environment has removed some barriers for students with disabilities it has also created new barriers. SAS has been working closely with the Dean of Teaching and Learning Systems Technologists to address accessibility issues, support faculty with their duty to accommodate in an online environment, and implement new assistive software programs (e.g. Textaid) to support student learning and ensure equal access to courses in Blackboard.

STUDENT SUCCESS, NU PROMISE & NU GATEWAY: The newly launched NU Gateway program continues to support first year students through a cohort structure led by an upper year student employee. Gateway Community Leaders have been working collaboratively each week to provide opportunities and spaces for first year students to engage with their own cohort of approximately 35 students, as well as with cross community events to engage with students outside of their assigned cohort. The NU Gateway Community Leaders continue to provide social opportunities to enhance the student experience through virtual connections, while also providing referrals, resources, and information to support student success.

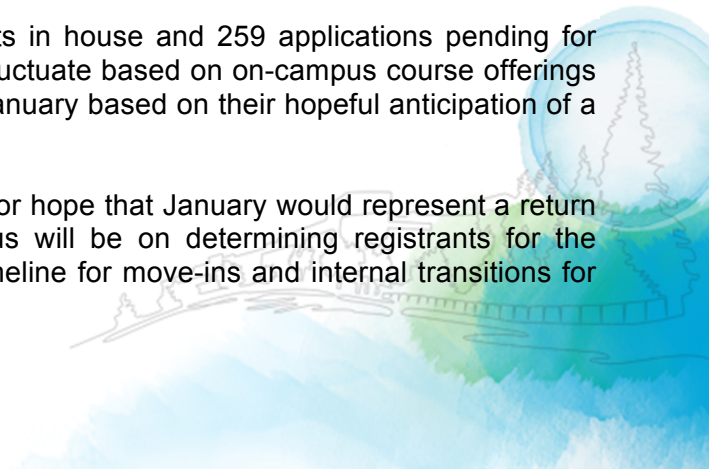
Student Retention Alert has been utilized by many faculty members who have identified academic concerns with students in their courses. Faculty continue to reach out to learn more about Student Retention Alert and whether or not their concern is something that should be submitted through the system or not. The increased adoption and utilization of the tool has allowed for timely outreach and intervention to support students with getting connected to support services available on campus and supporting their path to success.

The NU Promise program has seen more students register at this point in the year than in the previous two academic years. This is a significant positive when looking at the difficulties and challenges many areas are experiencing with regard to student engagement and participation. The program continues to serve as a support system to aid students in navigating University life in addition to the intended skill and competency development outcomes.

ATHLETICS: All teams have been following our return to train plan and all have successfully made it to stage 4 of our plan. We currently have approximately 200 student athletes in North Bay out of 237 training with their respective teams. The virtual Zumba and Yoga classes have had great attendance numbers and are being utilized by students. The Robert J Surtees Student Athletics Centre is currently in stage 2 (of 3) of its opening plan, which allows students, staff and faculty to utilize the facility during specific appointment times. On average we have had 91 students a day using the Athletics Centre.

RESIDENCE LIFE: Residence currently has 359 students in house and 259 applications pending for January as of October 29th. Numbers are anticipated to fluctuate based on on-campus course offerings for January. Many students selected to wait to attend in January based on their hopeful anticipation of a return to in-persons course offerings.

As well, many students attended in the fall with the belief or hope that January would represent a return to more in-person course options. Our Admissions focus will be on determining registrants for the second semester, making placements and plotting the timeline for move-ins and internal transitions for the upcoming winter break.





Board of Governors Alumni Report

NU Café

- November is Career Month and we have many exciting events for students and alumni. In coordination with Courtney Picard, the new Career Services Coordinator, we will be offering weekly events geared to supporting students and alumni on their career journey. Whether it is putting a resume together or deciding what career path to take, we have something for everyone. Visit www.tenthousandcoffees.com/schools/nipissingu to join the Career Month events.

Alumni Awards

- We will be announcing and celebrating our alumni award winners the week of November 23rd. Please stay tuned to the NU News for the official announcement and our social media for engaging videos from each winner. We look forward to celebrating their accomplishments with you.

Storytelling

- We are always looking for interesting alumni to highlight for our ongoing support of advancement and University fundraising efforts. If you notice an alumni doing great things or have a story to tell, please contact our office at alumni@nipissingu.ca. These stories will be featured to alumni for Giving Tuesday on Dec 1st and ongoing e-newsletters/social media.

**Nipissing University Indigenous Council on Education Report
Submitted to Board of Governors
November, 2020**

The Nipissing University Indigenous Council on Education met on September 29, 2020. The NUICE Terms of Reference were discussed at the meeting and edits were subsequently approved by the NUICE. Moving forward, the NUICE will meet no fewer than four times per year with most meetings annually via Zoom. The NUICE will meet again in November, 2020.

Indigenous Student Success

As collated by Institutional Planning for our report on the Indigenous Student Success Fund, 2019-2020, Indigenous student enrollment at Nipissing University for 2019-2020 was 433 students or 7% of total domestic enrolment (as measured by full-time headcount). Please note that Indigenous students accounted for 21% of Spring/Summer enrolment. Part-time Indigenous students accounted for 9.8% of domestic part-time enrolment. There were 74 self-identified Indigenous graduates in 2019-2020.

Indigenous Student Success Fund

We submitted our report to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) for the Indigenous Student Success Fund on May 28, 2020. This report is reviewed and signed by the Chair of NUICE and the President prior to submission. The Indigenous Student Success Fund Report template is divided into four sections:

1. Enrolment and Graduation Data
2. Indigenous Education Council, Student Representation and Staffing Complements
3. Indigenous Student Services
4. Accomplishments

This year the MCU added a section to the report on Student Supports During COVID-19. An additional financial reporting template must also be completed annually.

We receive \$675,886 annually from the Indigenous Student Success Fund in support of Indigenous Student Success programs and services in the Office of Indigenous Initiatives and Schulich School of Education's Indigenous Education Programs. The Indigenous Education Branch, Ministry of Colleges and Universities has confirmed that allocations for the Indigenous Student Success Fund at the same level as last fiscal year will be released to universities and colleges for this fiscal year.

Return to Campus

Staff in the Office of Indigenous Initiatives are gradually returning to campus full time. These staff primarily provide direct student support. Students may schedule in-person appointments with OII staff. We are also offering remote meetings, virtual workshops and access to Elders, the Dibaadan Counsellor and Indigenous knowledge holders online.

Summer Indigenous Institute

The program was initially intended for on campus delivery and quickly converted for online delivery. Students were provided with Apple iPads in rugged cases and fitted with sim cards to mitigate internet connection issues. Students participated in two Indigenous studies courses, INDIG 1506 On the Land, From the Land: Indigenous Worldviews and INDIG 1507 Critical Learning Skills in Indigenous Contexts. The instructor combined daily synchronous or live class sessions with asynchronous tasks. Students were supported in and outside of their classes by four Mentor/Tutors who received comprehensive training and preparation to support transition to university studies and academics throughout the program using online platforms. The Mentor/Tutors offered daily drop-in tutoring sessions, academic workshops, cultural and

social activities. The students were also supported through a visiting Elder program as well as the Dibaadan Counsellor. Twenty-one students successfully completed the program. A video project focused on the sharing of Indigenous knowledge was initiated in the spring to complement the program and offer opportunity for Fall/Winter workshops with local Indigenous knowledge holders involved in the video project. The completed videos are expected to be delivered in November 2020. The research component of the program focused on student well-being (mind, body and spirit) and the development of success indicators that were measured before and at the end of the first cohort and then intermittently over the following two years through interviews. A draft report has been completed with the final report to be submitted before March 31, 2021. OII staff submitted a revised budget to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities given that the Summer Indigenous Institute moved online in 2020, which was approved.

Indigenous Education Programs Update – September 2020

On-Campus Indigenous Education Programs Summer Numbers:

- 22 Indigenous Teacher Education Program
- 23 Indigenous Classroom Assistant Diploma Program Year 1
- 5 Indigenous Classroom Assistant Diploma Program Year 2
- 4 Teacher of Indigenous Languages as a Second Language

- Despite some students experiencing initial technical/connection issues, our students transitioned to our online program in July 2020. With the successful completion of the summer component, our students are now taking their fall online course.
- Our Peer Support Leaders, who provided technical and academic support through the summer, will be continuing in this role over the fall and winter semester.

Off-Campus Indigenous Teacher Education Program-Bimose (Kenora)

- With the closure of schools in the spring of 2020, the start of the 2nd year practicum requirements was delayed to the fall of 2020. However, with the anticipation of a second wave of Covid-19, as well as schools transitioning to online and/or remote teaching, the 2nd year practicum will begin in January 2021 (anticipated completion date of April 2021).
- Our current cohort of 15 students are completing their last 2 courses this fall (virtually).

Innu Education (Labrador)

- Continuing to work with Innu Education to deliver 2 separate programs in each community along Labrador coast.
- Program will be delivered over 1 full calendar year, rather than as a 2-summer program.
- We anticipate a January 2021 start date, but exact details are still being finalized.

Kenjgewin Teg (Manitoulin Island)

- An agreement was signed with Kenjgewin Teg in September 2020.
- A joint announcement was made.
- They are current marketing the program to be delivered on Manitoulin Island starting in January 2021.

Oshki-Pimache-o-win: The Wenjack Institute (Thunder Bay)

- We anticipate welcoming back ICADP students to Thunder Bay in the summer of 2021.
- We will be working with Oshki-Pimache-o-win to renew our current agreement by spring 2021.

Enji giigdoyang, Office of Indigenous Initiatives Events 2019-2020

In addition to Darrel McLeod's talk on campus in fall 2019, Penny Couchie of Nipissing First Nation, Muriel Miguel from Kuna and Rappahannock Nations, and Sid Bobb from Salish Territory British

Columbia provided a talk for the Enji giigdoyang Speaker Series. They shared their professional experiences in Indigenous theatre over decades.

Indigenous Week 2020 took place Monday, February 24 to Friday, February 28, 2020 on campus. Indigenous Initiatives organized a number of workshops, talks and teachings by Elders, including a strawberry teaching with Carol Guppy, a traditional feast with Kirby Mianscum, and a wampum belt beading workshop with Brenda Lee.

Highlights of Indigenous Week included a screening of *Falls Around Her* on Tuesday, February 25th at the Capitol Centre. This event was co-presented by North Bay Film and Near North Mobile Media Lab. The screening was followed by a Q & A with filmmaker, Darlene Naponse, of Atikameksheng First Nation.

The keynote, “Team Ahkamiymok Adventures: Living an Amazing Life,” was given by Anthony Johnson and Dr. James Makokis on Friday, February 28th in the Nipissing Theatre. This event was co-presented by North Bay Indigenous Hub. While visiting North Bay, Anthony Johnson and Dr. James Makokis also provided workshops at the North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre and the North Bay Indigenous Hub.

Anthony Johnson’s, Navajo Nation, story is one of hope, overcoming adversity, dealing with racism, activism, community engagement and success. His story allows people to have a stronger understanding of the challenges individuals from the LGBTQ2 and First Nation communities face and he provides practical solutions to treat others inclusively and with respect.

Dr. James Makokis, Saddle Lake Cree Nation, is one of Canada's leading experts related to Indigenous culture, traditions, values, and customs. Dr. Makokis also currently heads one of Canada's leading LGBTQ2 and Transgender focused medical practices and commits himself to saving lives through his progressive empathetic approach to medicine.

Anthony Johnson and Dr. James Makokis recently became the first Two-Spirit team to compete on the Amazing Race Canada and received national attention for their participation on the show, while bringing new awareness to gender, sexuality and First Nation issues.