

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY AND WIDER COMMUNITIES

To complement the year-end report to the Board on my annual objectives, what follows is an overview of some of my main activities to engage with the University and wider communities during the reporting period from April 16 – July 15, 2025. Should the Board have any questions about any of the information below – or about any activities that are not listed in this partial summary – I would be pleased to discuss them either at the July 29 meeting or as follow-up.

Engagement with the University community: Since mid-April, my engagement with the University community included:

- Participating in daily operational decision-making on a wide variety of issues;
- Conducting media interviews as requested on various topics, including as a featured guest on the Evan Bray Show;
- Weekly or near-weekly planning meetings with:
 - The University Executive Team;
 - The Vice-Presidents (both as a group and individually);
 - The Chief Governance Officer;
 - The Interim Associate Vice-President (Human Resources);
 - The Government Relations Advisor; and
 - The President's Office administrative team.
- Regular meetings with:
 - The Presidents of the Federated Colleges;
 - The Senior Leadership Team; and
 - The CUPE and URFA/APT Chairs.
- Monthly meetings of the Space Allocation Committee;
- As requested, meetings with academic and administrative staff as well as students about a variety of issues;
- Beginning searches for the positions of Associate Vice-President (Human Resources) and Provost and Vice-President (Academic);
- Chairing meetings of Executive of Council each month, and providing operational updates to different Faculty Councils and administrative units at their regular meetings;
- Participating in the campus launch of the strategic planning process;
- Attending the meetings of the University of Regina Alumni Association as an *ex officio* member, and hosting alumni events in Saskatoon, Victoria, and Calgary. In addition to meeting with alumni in those cities, I met with donors and prospective donors;
- Participating in the June meeting of Senate, as well as related committee meetings;
- Lunch with the incoming Chancellor's Scholars;
- Participating in many aspects of Spring Convocation, including meeting with honorary degree recipients, delivering an address at each of the four ceremonies, hosting the Convocation dinner, and attending First Nations University of Canada's Convocation;
- Holding a budget forum for members of the University community; and
- Attending and in many cases speaking at numerous University events, including:

- A coffee reception for faculty and staff to wrap up the annual Big Hearts Family Giving campaign;
- A panel discussion on academic travel to the United States;
- As One Who Serves Day (formerly Campus Beautification Day);
- Several 50th anniversary-related faculty and departmental celebrations (including the Faculty of Social Work in both Saskatoon and Regina, and a Media, Art, and Performance jazz concert that brought together alumni and current students), and the 50th anniversary wrap-up event;
- The Saskatchewan Population Health and Evaluation Research Unit's 25th anniversary celebration;
- The Faculty of Business Administration's annual Levene Dinner;
- The national Building Reconciliation Forum that was co-hosted by the University and First Nations University of Canada;
- The Canadian Institute for Public Safety Research and Treatment's 2025 national conference;
- The Canadian Higher Education and Information Technology national conference, which was hosted at the University by Information Services;
- The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding that will see the University of Ottawa help expand French-language program options for University of Regina students;
- The signing of a renewed Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy agreement with the University of Saskatchewan;
- An announcement of funding for the University's Online Therapy Unit to provide mental health services to new and expecting parents;
- The Psychology Department's annual Honours poster symposium;
- The Conservatory of Performing Arts awards ceremony; and
- A reception for graduate students who have received significant internal and national scholarships.

Engagement with the wider community: During the reporting period, my engagement with the wider community included:

- Regular meetings with officials from the Ministry of Advanced Education (including presenting about the University's operations forecast and capital plans), attending the announcement of the provincial budget, and participating in other events held at the Legislature;
- Attending a reception in Saskatoon with the Prime Minister of Canada and the province's premiers;
- Individual meetings with officials from different levels of government;
- Participating in meetings of the Regina Growth Board and the national MyCreds™ Strategic Advisory Board;
- Teaching a history classes at Regina Christian School, and visiting other high schools both in Regina and beyond. I also participated in a class assignment at the request of students from the Regina Huda School;
- Engaging with the Ministry of Education and SaskLEADS about the University's recruitment efforts in Saskatchewan schools for the forthcoming year, and writing to the Directors of Saskatchewan's school divisions to facilitate additional school visits for the coming year;

- Meeting with representatives of other Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions, including the Regional Colleges, about issues of mutual interest;
- Meeting with diplomats, trade officials, and representatives of industry and post-secondary institutions from several countries, including Ukraine and Japan. I also met with representatives of Howard University as the University signed a Memorandum of Understanding with them, and with the CANARIE Board of Directors while they were in Regina;
- Meeting with representatives of different Saskatchewan organizations to discuss potential academic partnerships;
- Attending the Regina TedX presentations, which included two faculty members from the University of Regina; and
- Attending and in some cases speaking on the University's behalf at a variety of external events, including:
 - The Awasis Indigenous Higher Education Conference in Saskatoon;
 - The First Nations University of Canada Pow Wow;
 - The Queen City Pride parade;
 - The Women Entrepreneurs of Saskatchewan gala;
 - An evening of classical Indian music and dance that a community group held at the University;
 - A collaborative event put on by the University's GATE Centre and the Regina and District Chamber of Commerce to provide a networking opportunity for graduate students and local CEOs;
 - The YWCA Women of Distinction Awards;
 - The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce's Political Forum;
 - A critical minerals conference held in Estevan;
 - The raising of the Treaty 4 and Métis flags at the Hotel Saskatchewan;
 - Innovation Saskatchewan's Innovation Week activities held on the University's main campus;
 - The Saskatchewan Order of Merit induction celebration; and
 - The national 3M Teaching Fellowship celebration in Saskatoon, at which Dr. Taiwo Afolabi of the Faculty of Media, Art, and Performance became the first University of Regina professor in three decades to be named a 3M Teaching Fellow, and Computer Science student Mohammad Hossain was awarded a 3M National Student Fellowship.