



LIRN Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 16, 2025 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM EST

Attendance

Members

Remote: Theresa Leitch, Brenda Albuquerque-Boutilier, Anthony Gonsalves, Vicki Whitmell, Annette Demers, Edward Chadderton, Susan Virtue, Connie Crosby, Heather Ritchie, Hor Druma, Mofola Lyon

Absent: Augustine Krawchenko, Fernando Garcia

1. Land Acknowledgement (V. Whitmell)

1.1 [Land Acknowledgement](#) was read.

2. Introduction (V. Whitmell)

2.1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m.

2.2. Roll Call / Confirmation of Quorum

Quorum confirmed.

2.3. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

2.4. MOTION: Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda:



Moved by C. Crosby

Seconded by A. Demers

All in favour

Carried

3. Consent Agenda (V. Whitmell)

3.1. Chair's Remarks

Thanks offered for all of the work this past year on behalf of board members, officers and staff.

3.2. MOTION: Approval of Minutes

Approval of previous meeting's minutes and Record of Decision.

Motion to approve minutes of the August 25, 2025 Board Meeting:



Moved by A. Demers
Seconded by C. Crosby
All in favour
Carried

Motion to approve the LiRN Board's Record of Decision regarding a 2025 Q3 grant payment to the Nipissing Law Association as approved October 22, 2025 via email.



Moved by H. Druma
Seconded by T. Chadderton
All in favour
Carried

4. Audit and Finance Committee Report

4.1 T. Chadderton introduced the following motion regarding the continued efforts to obtain financial documents from the Nipissing Law Association, which T. Leitch will communicate:

LiRN will withhold Nipissing Law Association's 2025 Q4 and the 2026 grant amounts until such time that the Nipissing Law Association has provided the documentation requested by Welch LLC to complete the review that relates to historic financial records, and LiRN's Board is satisfied with the results.



Moved by T. Chadderton
Seconded by A. Demers
All in favour
Carried

4.2 T. Leitch continued with an update about the \$1.3 million grant from the Law Foundation of Ontario (LFO). The current grant will be closed off and any leftover monies returned before the new grant will begin. She is meeting again with the LFO in the new year to discuss the grant agreement and timing. A revised budget will be presented at the next Audit and Finance Committee Meeting. LiRN does not need to resubmit the budget to the Law Society of Ontario.

4.3: Q3 Financial Reports As provided by B. Albuquerque-Boutilier and A. Gonsalves, T. Chadderton noted that LiRN is in a good financial position with cash on hand and GIC investments.

5. Governance Committee Report

5.1 V. Whitmell presented the Governance Committee Report, noting that F. Garcia has been appointed as the new chair for 2025-2026. In 2026 the committee will consider establishing a Chair and Vice Chair structure and succession process, along with establishing a permanent Nominating Committee. Bylaws and policies will be reorganized to improve clarity and assist with the orientation of new board members.

6. Managing Director's Report

6.1 T. Leitch presented the 2026 Board and Committee Workplan, including dates and requested that LiRN be advised of any conflicts with dates.

6.2 T. Leitch noted that there was no report from the Network Policy Committee as their last meeting was cancelled due to the extended deadline into the new year (January 31, 2026) for feedback from the associations concerning the revised Library and Operations Policy document.

6.3 T. Leitch had previously noted that the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario case had been resolved, and further reported that the file is now closed as the complainant did not pursue judicial review.

6.4 The Board and Managing Director discussed the remainder of the report in camera starting at 3:14 p.m.

7. Any Other Business

None