

Office of the Rector
Report to Assembly
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Hello Presidents,

It's officially fall convocation season! I will be living in the beautiful Grant Hall this week as graduates celebrate this exciting milestone. The following week, I will be away at a conference and suggest reaching out to my team at rector.assist@queensu.ca for the fastest reply.

Office | The [Agnes Bendickson Tricolour Award](#) nomination package for 2026 is now live. We are rolling out social media posts, which you can help share, and hosting a drop-by table in the JDUC near my office on November 20 from 1-2:30 pm. If you know a student who has significantly and positively impacted life at Queen's, in your life or the lives of others while attending Queen's, submit a nomination by December 31 at 11:59 pm EST.

Community Engagement | We had a blast at Homecoming, reconnecting with and meeting alumni at all the signature events. The highlight was our JDUC grand re-opening celebration, which featured the student band, *Last Call*, a photobooth, cake, Tricolour yearbooks and Queen's Journal bound volumes on display, self-guided tours of the building, and, of course, the Queen's Pub and Society 68 were open for business. The building opening was ceremonially commemorated with speeches from the AMS President and myself, Principal, and Vice Principal (Finance & Administration), before all present were welcomed to participate in the ribbon cutting. You can see [our event recap video on Instagram](#). I also enjoyed attending a Navratri celebration, hosted by the Queen's Indian Student Association, as well as celebrating the [10th anniversary of Dr. Arthur B. McDonald's Nobel Prize in Physics](#) and recognizing \$45.5 million in federal support for the Arthur B. McDonald Canadian Astroparticle Physics Research Institute.

Board of Trustees | I have no updates, other than the Board and its committees will be meeting during the second week of December.

The Board has regular Open Session meetings four times per year, and community members can request to join in-person or online by sending an email to trustees@queensu.ca. Anyone can also access the [Governance Portal](#) to view the agenda by clicking on the calendar date of the meeting.

Committees | Here are all my available committee updates:

- **Rector Election Policy Review:** a discussion period occurred last month's AMS Assembly and SGPS Council, where we attached the committees draft changes. No member raised any concerns or asked for changes. The vote for approval on this policy will come to AMS Assembly's second November meeting, and the SGPS Councils meeting on November 18.
- **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Working Group:** the committee recently debriefed the programming and events from this year and is having early discussions about next year. If you have any feedback to share, please reach out to me. My Office also recently took down the orange hearts outside the JDUC and Richardson Hall in anticipation of the weather declining. We are considering options for them moving forward, and right now leaning towards re-planting the garden come spring time. Again, open to your ideas!
- **Housing Demand and Housing Strategy Oversight Committee:** A quantitative survey has been distributed to a select group of students, and I highly encourage you to complete it if you are contacted. The email came from survey@cri-facts.com if you'd like to search your inbox.
- **Indigenous Research Collaboration Day:** We have chosen the theme of 'Respectful and Ethical Engagement: Work Held in Good Relationships' and all are welcome to attend on November 11 - [register here](#). You can also help spread the word by [sharing this post](#) with your networks.

Rector's Digest | The October column has not come out at the time of submitting this report, but you can [visit this link](#) to see it when the October 31 issue is published.

That's all for now! Please reach out to me if you have any questions, need support, or would like to share an experience that can help me convey student voices to the administration. If you'd like to book a meeting or send an event invitation, please contact rector.assist@queensu.ca

At your service,



Niki Boytchuk-Hale (she/her)

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Princeps Servusque Es (Be a Leader and a Servant)

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