



Hello Presidents,

Congratulations on making it to the end of the year! Well done on each of your respective portfolios. For those who are graduating, I look forward to shaking many of your hands at convocation in June. And for the rest of us, have a wonderful summer and see you back for another exciting year.

Tricolour Award | The Agnes Benidickson Tricolour Award Selection Committee is thrilled to induct Hannah Burrows, Zaid Kasim, and Ore Maxwell into the [Society](#) as the 2025 recipients. I would like to thank the committee for their efforts in reviewing packages from a record-number of nominees and volunteering their time over several days to interview candidates. It is evident that there are students in every corner of campus upholding the tenants of the Tricolour Award.

Rector's Bursary | We created a new process for requesting emergency funds for unexpected costs. Details are posted in a [news update](#) on my website about why we made the change and how we got to it.

Committee work | I continue to serve on a number of committees, including a couple of seasonal ones for awards, which is always fun work! Here are some updates I can share:

- [Margret Hooey Governance Award](#) – Congratulations to Senator Lucas Balog for being this year's deserving winner.
- Student Affairs awards – the Rector serves on the [Brian Yealland Community Leadership Award](#) and the [Michael Condra Outstanding Student Service Award](#) selection committees. Congratulations to Vikas HK, Steven Murphy, Fatima Couto, Hanna Knowles, and Stacy Shane.
- [Board-Senate](#) – the annual retreat planned by this advisory committee was very successful. Senators and Trustees had a lot to discuss and there has been interest expressed for the governing bodies to have more frequent interactions with each other.
- [The Principal's Review Committee for Responsible Investing](#) – the committee has dissolved, and the Board has voted on the mater. Please refer to [my letter](#) published leading up to the announcement.
- NEW: Graduate funding review committee – this taskforce has been struck by the Provost and we are in the very early stages of establishing our way forward.

Board of Trustees | The last open session meeting of the Board was on March 7. Please refer to the [agenda](#) for motions and reports, including my own.

The next meeting is on May 9. The agenda for the Open Session can be found on the [governance portal](#) and members of the community can request to attend by emailing trustees@queensu.ca. Please let me know your thoughts, opinions, and experiences leading up to the session so I can help convey student voices to my fellow Trustees.

Rector's Digest | I contributed a total of 10 times to Volume 152. Many thanks to Sarah Eklove, Opinions Editors, and Allie Moustakis, Editor-in-Chief assigned to Ops for their support! My latest pieces discuss [The Scarborough Charter](#) and [Bicentennial Vision](#).

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.

At your service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Niki BH' with a stylized flourish underneath.

Niki Boytchuk-Hale
39th University Rector

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