

March 6, 2026

## REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Fellow Trustees,

The winter mid-term season was made better with the Olympics, and it was especially exciting to see [Queen's students and alumni representing Canada](#). As we enter the final push of the academic year, students will be busy juggling classes and all their extracurricular activities, like executing club events and conferences, competing for provincial and national athletic titles, and soaking in the spring weather when it arrives (hopefully) soon.

**Campus life** | Here are some bits and pieces of what's happening on the grounds at Queen's.

- Student leaders came together to mourn and celebrate the life of Amin Nazari. Amin was known for his bright spirit and involvement across campus, including service in the Commerce Society, Residence Society, AMS Assembly, and Senate. I benefited through the years from Amin's kindness and will personally remember his curiosity and impressively long preambles to questions about university governance.
- The recent announcement from the Provincial government regarding tuition and OSAP has stirred conversation and concerns, specifically around the steep reductions in grants available. Right now, students are asking for more context and are especially worried that it will disproportionately affect arts programs.
- Election season at Queen's has wrapped up, and there is a new cohort of student representatives getting ready to begin their term on May 1. Along with the election of leaders, students voted for fees for the upcoming school year to support resources such as wellness services, conferences, and club initiatives.

**Office** | The 2026 [Agnes Bendickson Tricolour Award](#) recipients are Emils Matiss, Bisola Olaseni, Oluwamisimi (Simi) Oluwole, and Daniel (Dan) Reddy. They have each contributed in distinct and inspiring ways, enhancing the student experience at Queen's and leaving a legacy that will be felt well beyond their time here. Thank you to the [Selection Committee](#) for their service. Our office has also been working on solutions to address the lack of study spaces on campus during the end of each semester, a support package for students required to temporarily withdraw, and a week of giveaways on social media.

**Community Engagement** | Recently, I delegated on behalf of Queen's at Kingston City Council. I spoke in support of the Alto high-speed rail project along the Québec-Toronto corridor, emphasized the compelling case for ensuring Kingston is included as a stop, and asked for the corridor to be closer to our city center to maximize accessibility and minimize disruption to green

space and family homes. Our team sponsored a meal at the Arts and Science Undergraduate Society service, [Good Times Diner](#) (GTD), and served up a free meal for 75 students. GTD does this twice a week and we are very grateful for their support in helping students fill up on healthy meals.

**Committee work** | Here are updates from some of the committees I participate in:

- **Honorary Degree Committee:** We determined that revisions will be appropriate to incorporate revocation as an option for deceased recipients, and the updated policy will be brought forward in the near future.
- **Indigenous Student Engagement Circle:** Led by the AMS Indigenous Initiatives Lead, this group of students and staff from across campus has been meeting monthly since the Fall semester. It has been a forum to discuss initiatives, concerns, and support one another.
- **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Planning Subcommittee:** We have begun making initial plans for September to ensure we are getting ahead of the biggest decisions, such as the orange t-shirt design and procurement.
- **Housing Demand Study and Housing Oversight Committee:** Our qualitative and quantitative studies have concluded, which both produced insightful and compelling data. Our next step is to draft a report and strategy.

**Rector's Digest** | We started the winter semester discussing the [Shift Survey](#), written by Pungavi, encouraging students to complete this year's questionnaire.

At your service,



**Niki Boytchuk-Hale**  
39<sup>th</sup> University Rector

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