



## **LC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Mar 19 2025**

### **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 9:09 PM EST by M. Di Bari

### **Roll Call of Delegates**

<b>Board:</b>	Shawn Williams	President
	Abby Macdonald	Director at Large
	Barbara Lockhart	Director at Large
	Marisa Di Bari	Director at Large
	Matt Shearer	Director at Large
	Sean Aggus	Director at Large
	Steph Leblanc	Director at Large
	Suzanne Belanger	Director At Large
	Zach Currier	Athlete Director
<b>Staff:</b>	Terry Rayner	Executive Director
	Wendy Dobbin	Technical Director
	Sam McKenzie	Manager of Partnerships
	Ashley Bull	High Performance Coordinator
	Kealan Pilon	Communications Coordinator
	Sarah Utting	Administration Coordinator (recorder)
	Rachael McKinnon	Technical Coordinator
	Josh Dawick	Sponsorship Coordinator
	Dustin Dunn	Technical/National Development Teams Coordinator
	Dyson Williams	Community Coordinator

### **Opening Acknowledgement -S. Williams**

"At this time, I would like to give thanks to the creator for giving this medicine to the Iroquois/Haudenousnee (people of the longhouse) for sharing this medicine with the world. Would also like to give thanks to all First Nations, Metis, and Inuit as we all sit in their territories we say thank you. We say thank you Creator for giving us Mother Earth. She then gave us the tree in which our sticks are made from. This is the true roots of the medicine we call Lacrosse today." Nay:weh / thank you.



## **1. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION:** S. Aggus, S. Belanger

S. Aggus requested to add a CLL update, S. Utting requested to add Gender Equity update and T. Rayner requested to add PEI request to the agenda.

“To approve the agenda with additions.”

**CARRIED**

## **2. Approval of Board Minutes – January 15 2025**

**MOTION:** S. Aggus, S. Belanger

“To approve the minutes from January 15 2025.”

**CARRIED**

## **3. PEI request**

N. McGuirk gave update on PEI’s financial situation in regard to Canada Games. PEI is requesting funding to attend the try session in Newfoundland as the funding they have received are paying for facilities for practices.

M. Di Bari noted that they have already received funding (\$15,000) and used it for preparation. PEI did not have a budget to provide the Board to support need for funding. It was unanimously decided that there is a need to develop the sport, not just individual teams. The board decided not to fund the request from PEI.

## **4. Business Arising from previous minutes**

The Board reviewed the Jan 2025 Task List

- a. To review Finance & Audit Committee Terms of Reference and bring recommendations forward to the Board – **ONGOING**

S. Williams noted that Jody Schmeltzer wants to be involved. T. Rayner noted that the committee needs to be created by March 31. A governance committee also needs to be created. Committee will comprise of board members and experts in the field. M. Di Bari suggested approaching Erin Brady.



B. Lockhart will spearhead external search for additional positions with the correct designations. M. Di Bari will send TORs to Barbara

**Action:** S. Belanger and S. Leblanc will join the Finance & Audit Committee with support from Jody Schmeltzer. M. Di Bari and S. Aggus will take on the Governance & Ethics Committee and create TORs.

- b.** To perform an audit of current committees and bring recommendations to the Board. – **ONGOING**

T. Rayner noted that almost every TOR needs to be updated. LC is waiting on Sport Law to give changes.

**Action:** T. Rayner to go through Skills Matrix to assign members to committees.

- c.** To bring quarterly budget vs actuals (where possible) and Operational Plan updates to Board meetings-**ONGOING**

S. Williams noted that this is continuing to happen.

- d.** Junior Women's standalone tournament project. **ONGOING**

Discussed in 12.e.

**Action:** S. Belanger and A. Bull to restart this project for 2026.

CLF: Jim Burke has sent Marisa and Matt onboarding documents.

- e.** To decide on LTAD in context of National Championships **ONGOING.**

W. Dobbin noted that the LTAD is under a full review with consultants from Sport for Life.

**Action:** LTAD committee will review Sport for Life recommendations once information is received from Sport for Life.

- f.** Transition for Men's Box Sector Chair **COMPLETE**

S. Williams noted that Sector Chair will be stepping down when his term is up in May. T. Rayner noted that work is getting done in the Major Box Sector.

- g.** Host Sr A and Sr B summit to address issues- **ON HOLD**

T. Rayner noted that this will be tabled to do with new Sector Chair.

**Action:** T. Rayner to meet with new Major Box Sector chair to discuss next steps after 2025 SAM.



**h. Organize PD opportunity at 2025 SAM on governance.- ONGOING**

S. Belanger suggested the Risk Management Matrix might be good to add to PD. T. Rayner noted that LC could have a virtual presentation of Risk Management at the SAM.

T. Rayner noted that there will be Coach/Officials PD already.

**Action:** T. Rayner to organize Risk Management PD at SAM for the Board.

**i. Appoint new Indigenous Director - ONGOING**

T. Rayner noted that he will be meeting with Ken Martin from FNLA to discuss

**j. Send out 2024 Convenor and OIC Reports to the Board. - COMPLETE**

A. Bull noted that the Convenor/Host/OIC reports are on the Board of Directors Microsoft Teams group.

**k. Investigate assaults from 2022 Canada Summer Games noted in K. Sandy's 2024 AM Report. - ONGOING**

T. Rayner reached out again to K. Sandy over email and is awaiting response.

**l. Look into Sport Dispute Management across country to ensure consistency across MAs. - COMPLETE**

T. Rayner noted that every province has their own Sport Dispute Management and has their own reporting mechanisms and does not have to align with Lacrosse Canada.

**m. Meet with ALA Executive Director. -COMPLETE**

T. Rayner has met with ALA ED.

**Action:** S. Aggus noted that he will connect T. Rayner with new ED.

**n. Review Operational Plan and make suggestions on what may be missing. -COMPLETE**

No new updates from the Board.

**o. Answers to questions from FNLA report sent to Member council. -ONGOING**

**Action:** S. Williams to send out report to Member Council to review.

**p. To have third party look at past two SAMs and AMs policy changes to confirm all is correct.- COMPLETED**

S. Aggus noted that at Member Council meeting on March 18 that there is no need to validate any of the votes on the motions. The request was to ensure all policies past are reflected properly in the Operations Manual.



**Action:** LC To review policies that were passed (past two SAMs and AMs) to confirm they are reflected in Operations Manual

**q. Confirm 2026 National Championships Calendar.- ONGOING**

S. Belanger noted that this is still ongoing.

**r. Bring Proposals to CLF for review – ONGOING**

The CLF Proposals will be brought to the CLF Board on March 23 to review.

**5. Shout Outs**

M. Shearer gave shout out to S. Utting for organization in Board meeting emails. M. Di Bari gave shout out to LC office for hard work at the office. T. Rayner welcomed Dustin Dunn and Dyson Williams. S. Belanger gave shout out to S. Utting and A. Bull for work on National Championships portfolio transition.

**6. ED Updates**

**a. TOP Lacrosse – Sanction Proposal**

T. Rayner noted that a proposal was brought forward on behalf of TOP Lacrosse by B. Lockhart. B. Lockhart noted that both Hockey Canada and Soccer Canada have already sanctioned them. B. Lockhart will research what TOP Lacrosse did to get sanctioned with Hockey Canada and Soccer Canada. T. Rayner noted the importance of this step for the Risk Management profile and the importance of creating a Sanction Policy.

**b. Canadian Safe Sport Program Adoption**

T. Rayner noted that this is the new Safe Sport. He noted that the board needs to accept this as the new provider for April 1.

**MOTION:** S. Aggus, M. Di Bari

“To accept the new Canadian Safe Sport Program (CSSP) as of April 1 2025.”

**CARRIED**

**c. Lauren Webley Suspension**

T. Rayner noted that a lawyer contacted LC to remove Lauren Webley from the Suspension List. T. Rayner discussed with Steve Indig. T. Rayner noted that there are instances where individuals were put on suspension lists without a hearing or providing evidence.



S. Williams noted that there are likely other names that will come off the list. S. Aggus noted that LC should review all suspensions to ensure there is supporting documentation.

Z. Currier to make policy that National Team athletes are required to fill certain financial obligations and add to this to player contract. W. Dobbin noted that LC will be required to have information packages in place for Own the Podium. W. Dobbin noted that LC High Performance staff will work with Zach.

**MOTION:** M. Di Bari, S. Aggus

"To remove Lauren Webley from the Suspension list."

**CARRIED**

**d. MA suspensions to LC list - communication**

Addressed in 6. d.

**e. Risk Management & Risk Registry**

Addressed in 4. h.

**f. Board Skills Matrix & Board recruitment**

T. Rayner gave update based on board member responses. T. Rayner noted that there needs to be recruitment for positions to address skillsets where there are gaps. Nominations committee will help with this.

M. Di Bari noted that the eligibility needs to include skills/requirements need to be known in the nomination process. B. Lockhart will support in vetting of candidates. S. Aggus suggested including Member Council in the nomination process so they feel represented. S. Aggus noted that the Terms of Reference need to be changed in the Nominations Committee to include Member Council. A. Macdonald noted that Member Council expressed a request for an open line of communication with the Board.

**7. Financials Update**

T. Rayner gave update that Sport Canada will release funds on April 1, but they have not released exact amounts.

**8. Sector/Committees/Working Groups**

**a. Responsibilities of Board members and staff**

T. Rayner noted that there is a lack of attendance from volunteers at the Sector/Committee meetings. T. Rayner suggested LC switch focus from large committees to small working groups to increase productivity and maybe add this in as a policy change.

S. Aggus suggested policies around how many committees each individual is allowed to sit on and the size of a committee and a removal clause if members are absent.





W. Dobbin noted that the current committee structure is inefficient and S. Belanger noted that more portions of the committees should be given to staff.

S. Belanger noted that the Board establishes and approves TORs for committees, so can be done outside of Semi annual meetings. T. Rayner to confirm with Sport Law.

*62. The Board will establish the terms of reference for all Committees and Sectors. All terms of reference with the exception of Committees must be approved by a Special Resolution of the Members. Further, all terms of reference, as well as Directors at Large, Athlete Director and Indigenous Director criteria will be inserted into the Bylaws as Appendices and referenced in each relevant area.*

A . Macdonald gave Gender Equity update on behalf of Donna Goguen (chair). S. Aggus suggested we honour Donna for her work. A . Macdonald noted that there is a recommendation of someone from BC to fill the position.

## **9. Sponsorship/Marketing Update**

S. McKenzie gave update on major partnerships. S. Mckenzie noted that LC will renew partnership with Nike for apparel, Gait for equipment and Veo for Sports cameras. S. McKenzie noted that LC is building assets for brands to buy into which includes the new digital presence.

K. Pilon gave update and showed the Board the new LC website. J. Dawick noted that new website will be beneficial in bringing in sponsorships.

## **10. Technical Updates**

W. Dobbin gave update and introduced Dustin Dunn and Dyson Williams as new staff members. W. Dobbin noted that R. McKinnon is working hard on the NCCP for Sixes. There have been updates to NCCP and goal is to remove barriers to certification. W. Dobbin noted work on Podium pathway, the Gold Medal profile and Winning style of play. Womens Sixes program has next camp in June. Super Sixes event has 9 teams registered in each gender. W. Dobbin also gave update on LC July Coaching and Officiating conference, noting that information is on website.

## **11. Canada Summer Games**

R. Mckinnon gave update. It was noted that OICs, Evaluators and Officials have been named. There will be Hybrid or virtual delivery for a few MAs who still have coaches with outstanding certifications. Canada Games is working with some provinces around exemption requests. S. Williams asked for update on certification of Indigenous coaches. W. Dobbin gave update on Indigenous bench staff requirement and there is a goal to make a strategy for 2029 to help support MAs for this requirement.

## **12. National Championships**

A. Bull gave update.

### **a. Minor Box Nationals overage exemption request**



A. Bull gave update on request from Minor Box for overage exemptions. The board discussed the importance of following the recommendations from LTAD to ensure the safety of all members attending National Championships. B. Lockhart noted that there needs to be more clarity around policy to make a more even playing field. A. Macdonald noted that some smaller MAs will not be able to field a team without the overage exemptions.

**MOTION** S. Aggus, M. Di Bari

“No overage exemptions considered for Minor Box Nationals.”

**CARRIED**

**b. Minor Box Nationals 5 day pilot**

Send policy change

**c. Minor Box Nationals awarding of Host – 1 vs 2 years**

S. Belanger gave update on discussions at Minor Box level around hosting rotation.

**d. Senior Women’s Box/Field Nationals Proposal**

A. Bull gave update of discussion at National Championship Committee around a combination of a Junior Women's and Senior Women's Box tournament as there are only currently standalone tournaments for Junior and Senior Men's. S. Aggus suggested an action item for the National Championship Committee to develop a Senior Women's Box Committee.

**e. Convenor and OIC Appointments**

S. Utting gave update that Officiating Chair is working on OIC appointments. S. Utting to send out vacant convenor positions for Board to express interest. If there are still vacant positions after this, the host MAs will be consulted.

**f. Trophies**

T. Rayner noted that a handful of the LC National Championship trophies need to be replaced as they are rusting. A. Bull brought up the need for B Division and U13 Girls Box trophies. T. Rayner suggested using the “naming” of new championships as a promotion either with fans or sponsors.

**13. National Teams**

A. Bull gave update on National teams. U20 Men's Field has camp in June. It was noted that there is a pool of 40 left for Women's Sixes. A. Bull also gave update Senior Womens field is currently picking coaching staff, followed by team selections.

**14. CLL**

S. Aggus gave update that Member Council wants information around CLL. Ontario wanted clarification on Lacrosse Canada's position in regards to the CLL. S. Williams noted that it still stands that MAs hold





responsibility over the players as per Lacrosse Canada policy and that it is up to MA to do the action in suspending athletes, not Lacrosse Canada.

**15. Next Meetings**

- a. Semi Annual Meeting - May 6-10 in Fredericton, NB

T. Rayner noted that there may need to be a Town Hall on the Operations Manual prior to the Semi Annual Meeting.

**MOTION:** S. Aggus

“To adjourn the meeting.”

**CARRIED**

Meeting adjourned at 12:23 AM ET.