



Lacrosse Canada Board of Directors Meeting Minutes March 24th 2026: 7:00PM EST Microsoft Teams

In Attendance:

BOARD:

Matt Shearer	President/Chair
Barbara Lockhart	Director at Large
Stephan Leblanc	Director at Large
Stephanie Pagan	Director at Large
Ted Goldthorpe	Director at Large
Hannah Lazare	Indigenous Director
Zach Currier	Athlete Director

STAFF/ADVISORS:

Eva Havaris	Executive Advisor
Wendy Dobbin	Technical Director & High Performance Lead
Beatrice Currie	Manager of Finance & Business Development
Samantha McKenzie	Operational Lead & Manager of Partnerships

CONTRIBUTOR(S):

Gerry Van Beek	Member Council Representative
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1. Opening Acknowledgement - Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM EST by Matt Shearer, President. "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.

2. Approval of Agenda - Motion to approve agenda by Barbara Lockhart. Seconded by Ted Goldthorpe. Approved.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes – Motion to approve previous minutes (19 February 2026) by Ted Goldthorpe. Seconded by Barbara Lockhart. Approved.

4. Operational & Financial Updates

A. High Performance Report

Wendy Dobbin reported on the Future of Sport Commission's final report, noting 94 recommendations to address system-wide issues and alignment with LC updated strategy and operational plan priorities.

- **Olympic Update:** The IOC delayed the 2032 Games decision until the fall, impacting Next-Gen programming.
- **Funding:** LC received \$800,000 for Sixes and \$120,000 for discipline-specific events including a training camp in Chula Vista.
- **Sustainability:** Discussion regarding a national athlete fee to offset rising costs of international qualification and training events.
- **Diversity:** The Board discussed the need for increased Indigenous representation in coaching and athlete pools for LA28.

B. Operations Report

Samantha McKenzie provided updates on the Membership Fee Allocation Projects.



- **Priorities:** Technology modernization, national streaming, sponsorship and championship support toolkits.
- **Action Item:** Ted Goldthorpe offered media property resources for free streaming of national events.

C. Finance Report

Beatrice Currie reviewed the nine-month fiscal period ending March 31, 2026 and provided a brief preview of Q1 2027.

- **Financial Standing:** Projected year-end surplus of **\$260,000**, though revenue recognition, allocations/adjustments based on twelve-month period may bring this closer to break-even.
- **Cash Flow:** Q1 (April-June 2027) remains a critical period before substance of revenue begins to hit later in the quarter.
- **Debt Management:** Priority remains paying down any AP balances in timely manner.

5. GOVERNANCE AND ADVISORY OBSERVATIONS

Eva (Advisory Capacity) provided an independent assessment of LC's current state.

- **Foundational Stability:** While the foundation is strong, the organization is at an inflection point. Eva warned that continued instability could trigger funding freezes from Sport Canada.
- **Governance Road Map:** Recommended a phased transition plan for modernizing governance and aligning staff capacity with senior leadership expectations.
- **ED Search:** Emphasized that the organization must be stable before attracting a high-caliber Executive Director.

6. MEMBER COUNCIL REPORT

Gerry Van Beek relayed the Member Council's concerns regarding transparency and the delay of the Special Meeting of Members (SMOM).

- **SMOM Rationale:** The Board clarified that the timeline followed the Not-for-profit Act requirements to ensure procedural fairness and organizational stability.
- **Sector Committees:** The Council identified the reconstitution of sector-specific steering groups as their highest priority and the Boards action taken to solicit candidates from Membership.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Nominations Committee

Barbara Lockhart reported that candidates were shortlisted for screening interviews through Nominations Committee to fill three vacant Board positions.

- **ED Search:** A hiring committee was established, and formal posting/search was underway.

B. Governance and Ethics Committee

Stephanie Pagan presented 11 priority items.

- **Steering Groups:** The Board approved the immediate solicitation of volunteers for **12 steering groups** (e.g., Box, Field, Women's, Indigenous) via an open call to Member Associations.
- **Appeals Process:** Review of current discipline and appeal policies was deemed to be warranted; further review of legislative and supporting documentation as well as current resources will be undertaken. Consultation with independent parties and members will also be conducted.



- **Safe Sport:** Reported receiving disturbing complaints regarding a toxic workplace/leadership and unsafe player environments in women's programs.
 - **Action Item:** The Board will consult an independent third party to investigate past conduct; review current resources and update the whistleblower policy.
- **Governance:** Considering the formal vetting of numerous candidates by the Nominations Committee, the Governance and Ethics Committee recommended that existing Director positions (x3) be filled as soon as possible as well as the Treasurer Officer position. Filling these positions is critical to continued good governance and accountability of the Board.
- **Bylaw Alignment:**
 - **MOTION:** To align the Governance Manual with Bylaw 5.5 regarding gender equity ratios (max 60% same gender).
 - **MOVED:** Stephanie Pagan
 - **SECONDED:** Barbara Lockhart
 - **CARRIED.**

8. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Canada Lacrosse Foundation (CLF) Appointments

MOTION: To remove former directors Brad Caan and Alan Preyra from the CLF Board and appoint new representatives at a later date.

MOVED: Matt Shearer

SECONDED: Barbara Lockhart

CARRIED

B. Appointments

- **Treasurer:** Ted Goldthorpe was proposed as Treasurer, pending his acceptance.
- **Member Council Liaison:** Stephan Leblanc was appointed as the Board's interim observer/liaison to the Member Council.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Adjourn Meeting

- **MOVED:** Stephan Leblanc
- **SECONDED:** Barbara Lockhart
- **CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 PM EST.
