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Lacrosse Canada Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
July 15th 2026 via Teams 5:00pm ET

In Attendance:

BOARD:

Barbara Lockhart	Interim President/Chair
Stephan Leblanc	Director at Large
Stephanie Pagan	Director at Large
Trish Chant-Sehl	Director at Large
Carolyn Meacher	Director at Large
Rob Matsuoka	Director at Large
Alon Eizenman	Director at Large
Zach Currier	Athlete Director
Hannah Lazare	Indigenous Director

STAFF/ADVISORS:

Lori DeGraw	CEO

CONTRIBUTOR(S):

Gerry Van Beek	Member Council Representative

1. Opening Acknowledgement - Meeting called to order at 5:02 PM EST by Barbara Lockhart, Interim 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 Rob Matsuoka. **SECONDED** by Hannah Lazare. Approved.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes – Technical difficulties are preventing the delivery of meeting minutes from May 13, 2026, and June 16, 2026. They are expected soon and will be circulated when available.

4. Operational Updates – Lori Degraw, CEO provided operational updates

A. First 8-days. Lori shared key learnings from her first 8-days in the position. This included building new relationships with staff and members and others in the Lacrosse community. It also included a note about the current state of staffing (i.e., being understaffed, under-resourced, and overstretched). Working towards streamlining demands and creating tangible goals.

B. National Development Team Program (NDTP). Lori DeGraw provided an update on the NDTP progress for 2026. Dustin Dunn has continued refining and continuing to develop this program. The Rivalry Challenge will take place in Oshawa in October. Additional technical aspects and athlete tracking has been integrated.

The success of the Rivalry Challenge will be heavily dependent on volunteers. The BOD is being asked to help circulate and promote through their networks to encourage volunteer participants. New apparel will also be showcased. The BOD has requested that Dustin provide the BOD with more specific details about when and where he requires volunteers for this event. Dustin will also circulate all information to the Members (Presidents and Executive Directors) for awareness.

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C. Other Events. Lori shared that the Women's National Team was preparing for training camp in Oshawa before heading to the World Championships held in Tokyo, Japan.

D. Grants & Funding. Lori shared that fundraising will be discussed in later items of the meeting, but in the last 8-days a couple significant grant applications had been submitted. In relation to the PALA Event (September 2026), an Ontario Sport Hosting Grant was submitted and conversations with the Minister's team have helped to create a positive relationship.

Other funding news through Sport Canada was shared. As part of the large $755 million investment in Sport, there is an opportunity to apply for supplementary funding through Sport Canada. Additional avenues for further funding are being explored.

5. New Business – Lori DeGraw with Barbara Lockhart presented new business

- **Meeting Cadence –** Revision to the BOD meeting cadence was proposed. Shifting to functional and effective committees relieves the need for monthly board meetings and lessens the burden placed on Directors and Staff. It was noted that communication and updates will continue on a regular basis despite meetings being moved to a different schedule. Noted was a desire to transition to a quarterly meeting schedule over time and dedicated time once per year for the Board to meet to align on strategy. Meeting cadence proposal will be brought forward at a later BOD Meeting for approval.
- **Meeting Minutes –** Due to workload, it was suggested that an external service provider be secured to capture future BOD meeting minutes. Lori will provide some organizations she is familiar with for approval. Anticipate implementing this strategy in time for the September AGM.
- **Fundraising & Funding –** Lori shared a presentation pulling together a fundraising opportunity leveraging the road to LA2028 through the PALA qualifier international event in Oshawa (Phase 1). This is seen as a springboard to growth and opportunity for the sport with increased visibility and legacy opportunities throughout. Financial targets with coinciding "levels" of partners would be a part of this plan. Currently UPS is slated to be the kickoff sponsor to the Road to LA2028 fundraising campaign, and they are excited to be involved with Lacrosse Canada as our journey to the Olympics continues. Philanthropic elements, corporate partners, major gifts, participation impact and engagement in schools and communities along with building capacity through coaches and officiating will continue to be targets as we aim to grow the sport in Canada. Lori indicated that her plan includes many engaging ideas beyond what was captured in the short presentation. Phase 2 would be implemented following the PALA Event and would create momentum and expansion following the event. The Board will be regularly updated on the progress of both Phases.
  - Directors raised questions about the language used when referencing the Olympics, specifically, this is Lacrosse Canada's road to the Olympics. It was recognized that rules are in place with IOC and others that may limit the scope of Lacrosse Canada's messaging (e.g., apparel and rules regarding Olympic branding; reference to the team(s)).
  - Distinction was also made about using the road to the Olympics as an opportunity to leverage the profile to support growing the sport in Canada following these events.

6. MEMBER COUNCIL REPORT

Gerry van Beek relayed the Member Council updates. Gerry shared that Lori DeGraw had been able to attend a meeting to introduce herself to the group.

- **AGM:** Member Council discussed the planning for AGM (i.e., days of travel and AGM topics). Members discussed the need for the financial documents to be presented prior to the meeting so attendees can ask meaningful questions.
- **Bylaw Amendments:** Gerry shared that there was a group of members preparing some bylaw amendments, but little else was known at this time.

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- **Steering Committees:** Gerry shared that continued work on the committees and the revisions Eva Havaris had been undertaking is a continued topic at MC.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Nominations Committee

Barbara Lockhart provided an update regarding the committee. She noted that the Nominations Committee has had some state of flux with both participants and not formally identifying a Chair over the last year and a half. Babara took on a leadership role in many of the areas undertaken by the committee. In May 2026, Stephan Leblanc accepted the nomination to be a Director connected with the Member Council. As a result, Carolyn Meacher was asked to join the Nominations Committee in his place.

Through the Nominations Committee, the proposal was brought forward to name Carolyn Meacher the official Chair of the Nominations Committee. Carolyn accepted the nomination. All Directors were asked if there were any objections. There were none. **MOTION** to name Carolyn Meacher as Chair of the Nominations Committee made by Stephanie Pagan. **SECONDED** by Rob Matsuoka. **CARRIED** all in favour.

B. LA2028

Trish Chant-Sehl provided an update about the LA2028 Advisory Committee. She shared that Terms of Reference (ToR) have been drafted and consideration for membership on the committee is ongoing.

C. Governance and Ethics Committee

Stephanie Pagan presented Committee updates.

- **Steering Groups:** With Eva Havaris, the Terms of Reference (ToRs) for all steering groups were revised. This newly revised manual clarifies committee structures and categorization. There are committees appointed by the Board (standing committees). These standing committees are established within the bylaws. The second group are those considered operational. These are appointed by the CEO with input from staff. The revisions have aligned and modernized the framework for all committees.
  - This heavy revision to the manual was presented to the BOD for approval. With Lori just having started in her tenure, it was decided to move this approval to a later date once Lori has had a chance to review the content. Follow up will be completed and electronic voting will be utilized.
- **Safe Sport:** Continued work on the framework brought to the BOD in June 2026 is occurring. There may be a need to engage a working group on this project.

Discussion regarding the possibility of adding a new position to the BOD was brought up by Trish Chant-Sehl. A request for the Governance and Ethics Committee to investigate the process for approving a Women's Athlete Director on the BOD was suggested. **MOTION** for the G&E Committee to explore this BOD addition was made by Trish Chant-Sehl. Discussion from board members supported this motion. **SECONDED** by Carolyn Meacher. All in favour.

8. Board Only Discussion (in camera) 6:58pm. MOTION to move in-camera Barbara Lockhart, **SECONDED** by Rob Matsuoka. **CARRIED.**

BOD exited from in-camera at 7:15 PM ET; **MOTIONED** by Barbara Lockhart and **SECONDED** by Rob Matsuoka.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 PM ET; **MOTIONED** by Barbara Lockhart and **SECONDED** by Alon

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