LACROSSE CANADA
CROSSE CANADA

ADMIN@LACROSSE.CA
LACROSSE.CA
360 KING ST W, UNIT 102
OSHAWA, ON L1J 2J9

Lacrosse Canada Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
August 18th 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

Opening Acknowledgement - Meeting called to order at 5:02 PM ET 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.

1. Approval of Agenda - MOTION to approve agenda by Rob Matsuoka. **SECONDED** by Trish Chant-Sehl. Approved.

No conflict-of-interest declarations

2. Approval of Previous Minutes – **MOTION** to approve previous minutes (13 May, 16 June, and 15 July, 2026) by Hannah Lazare. **SECONDED** by Alon Eizenman. Approved.

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

A. Connections. Lori shared the positive reception she has been receiving while travelling across Canada to various National Championships.

B. Readiness. Lori provided an update on the focus to get caught up with our sport system partners. Final review of LC readiness with On The Podium (OTP) will occur in November. This presentation will include every level of strategy needed for success (e.g., staging, athletic, training plans etc.). It will be a three-hour meeting with OTP and panel that reviews operational, high-performance, and governance readiness.

C. Other Events. Lori shared that there will be a LA venue visit – invite from the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) in September. Also in September is the LC Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the PALA Olympic Qualifier in Oshawa. LC will also be participating in the Global Lacrosse Games tournament in December.

D. Staffing. Lori shared that Beatrice Currie was leaving to pursue other career opportunities and

ADMIN@LACROSSE.CA
LACROSSE.CA
360 KING ST W, UNIT 102
OSHAWA, ON L1J 2J9

wished her well in her future endeavors. A Chief Operating Officer posting has been circulated and a High-Performance Lead permanent position will also be posted. It was also noted at this time, that there has been an increase in phishing emails impersonating Board members. Lori encouraged everyone to be mindful of these emails as they are expected to increase as the Olympic games approach.

4. **Financial Performance Review / Finance Committee Update –** Lori DeGraw with Rob Matsuoka presented the financial performance review.

Rob began by thanking Beatrice for the great job she has done. Lori has been working with Celia at Sport Law in the interim and when the COO is hired will transition finances to their portfolio.
Rob spoke to the 2027-2028 proposed Budget and noted that due to the change to the year end, they had to be very conservative when designing it. Further, the committee has difficulty putting it forward due to the gap in timing (i.e., starts in April 2027) which makes it difficult to project that far out. For instance, On the Podium (OTP) funding is expected to change, new fundraising strategies and activities are not accounted for, change in provincial membership numbers are unknown as are the membership fees. As a result, the committee does not have confidence in putting forward a budget that would start in April. It is anticipated that a message will be shared with Members at the Annual General Meeting in September recommending the budget be provided closer to the end of the fiscal year.

- The LC fiscal year runs from April 1 to March 31 each year. As a result, it was suggested that perhaps the AGM run in the Spring and the SAGM be changed to September or October. If this is to be considered, the Not-for-Profit Act and Bylaws will need to be reviewed as timing for AGM and audited financial statements is clear.

Next, Rob provided the draft audited financials and noted the work Beatrice had undertaken with the auditors. Lori noted the challenge resulting from the change in fiscal year end, but shared that there was a $55,000 surplus and that projecting 12-months forward was anticipated to bear similar results.
Overall, the committee was satisfied with the audit and are bringing it to the BOD for approval to share with Members at the AGM.

- **MOTION** to approve the audited financial statements as presented by Rob Matsuoka. Discussion from board members supported this motion. **SECONDED** by Carolyn Meacher. All in favour. **CARRIED**

6. MEMBER COUNCIL REPORT

Stephan Leblanc relayed the Member Council updates.

- **Members Fees:** Member Council discussed members fees for 2027 and indicated there was not yet consensus on a single participant fee. However, it was indicated that members do not support any further fee increases and recognize that a Bylaw change to 2.6.1 may be warranted. It was also shared that members would support automated payments for members' fees.
- **BOD Meeting Minutes:** Member Council shared the need for timely BOD meeting minutes to be released. These meeting minutes serve as a form of transparency for all members to be aware of the discussions held at the Board level.
- **Complaints Contact:** Member council raised concerns regarding decision making authority and who to contact with complaints. It was shared that there needs to be a clear pathway for Provinces to know who to contact with concerns. It was further pointed out that steering groups could be the conduit for managing complaints.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Indigenous Report

ADMIN@LACROSSE.CA
LACROSSE.CA
360 KING ST W, UNIT 102
OSHAWA, ON L1J 2J9

Hannah Lazare provided an update as the Indigenous Director.

- **Teams:** Team First Nations had six (6) teams competing at National Events with teams medaling; Founders Cup had two (2) Indigenous teams competing. Hannah raised concerns regarding the Carol Patterson Cup and participation of Team Quebec and indicated she would provide a report to the Board with further details.
- **Committee:** Work is continuing to build and find members for the Indigenous Committee.
- **Key priorities:** Hannah reminded the BOD that all MA's should be having conversations regarding opportunities for Indigenous players and their decision to play with Team First Nations in competition. Additional support is also sought from LC for all Indigenous athletes across Turtle Island who do not feel supported by their MAs and LC (e.g., players who were prevented from playing in their U17 championships in Ontario). Finally, Hannah reminded the BOD that athletes must come first and must be kept safe.

B. Athlete Committee

Zach Currier provided an update as the Athlete Director.

- **Demand.** Zach shared that athletes are feeling high demand across all disciplines. He used the example of numerous try-outs that athletes are facing. There is concern that the number of try-outs may affect players' ability to commit.
- **Olympic Team.** Players are wondering about timelines and information regarding this team. For planning purposes, players are requesting additional information and guidance.
- **Insurance.** Athlete insurance remains a priority. It was noted that PLL/NLL/Global are covered. *Lori Degraw provided an update that World Lacrosse is now focusing on player insurance and there should be positive news soon.*

C. LA2028

Trish Chant-Sehl provided an update about the LA2028 Advisory Committee. She shared that she has advisors in place and is aware of the need for delineation between operational vs. governance activities. Trish will continue to meet with Lori for conversations and planning.

D. Governance and Ethics Committee

Stephanie Pagan presented Committee updates as Chair of the Governance & Ethics Committee.

- **AGM Amendment Process Proposal:** There is currently no mechanism in the LC Bylaws to outline the process for Members to submit suggested Bylaw revisions. Current timelines for the upcoming AGM are short so a proposal of two models were presented:
  - **Model 1: Tight Timeline:** 30-day model (14-day solicitation, 14-day publishing, vote at AGM)
  - **Model 2: Delayed Timeline:** 14-day solicitation, 14+day publishing, no vote at AGM, Special Meeting of the Members convened following AGM for voting.
  - **MOTION** for approval of Model 1 was made by Trish Chant-Sehl. Discussion from board members supported this motion. **SECONDED** by Rob Matsuoka. All in favour. **CARRIED**
- **BOD Suggested Bylaw Amendments:** Bylaw amendments to be brought forward on behalf of the board include changes related to housekeeping (e.g., terminology, page numbers etc.), suggestions already brought forward (i.e., to Member Council), and new changes (e.g., addition of Women's Athlete Director). Changes to policy and other governance documents will occur at a future time outside of the AGM.

E. Nominations Committee

Carolyn Meacher presented Committee updates as Chair of the Nominations Committee.

- Carolyn outlined the current cycle of Director nominations (e.g., terms are on a 3-year rotation

ADMIN@LACROSSE.CA
LACROSSE.CA
360 KING ST W, UNIT 102
OSHAWA, ON L1J 2J9

with the Indigenous Director renewed each year) and the alignment with current Bylaws. She indicated that Trish Chant-Sehl and Alon Eizenmann are both seeking re-election and that eleven (11) applications had been received for open nominations to the Board. Vetting of applicants would be taking place with the Nominations Committee.

- Carolyn also shared that Officers would need to be voted in and for anyone who is interested in the President/Chair role to email her directly. Rob Matsuoka has agreed to another year as Treasurer and the Corporate Secretary position was requested to be changed by Lori Degraw (CEO), specifically to remove that role/responsibility from the CEO position (this was added as a Bylaw amendment by the G&E Committee).
- Conversation and discussion regarding succession planning and stacked leadership is ongoing.

8. Board Only Discussion (in camera): None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52PM ET; **MOTIONED** by Rob Matsuoka. All in favour.