



The Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, June 17, 2026





The Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba Annual General Meeting

June 17, 2026

6:00 PM -7:00 PM (CT)

Zoom

Agenda

- 1. Call to Order and Welcome:** Honourable Dr. Pat Bovey, Chair, Alumni Association
- 2. Approval of the Agenda:** Honourable Dr. Pat Bovey, Chair, Alumni Association
- 3. Approval of Minutes, AGM 2025:** Honourable Dr. Pat Bovey, Chair, Alumni Association
- 4. Greetings from the University of Manitoba:** Michael Benarroch, President & Vice-Chancellor
- 5. UM150 Presentation:** Jade Laningham, Manager, Events & Special Projects
- 6. Chair's Annual Report:** Honourable Dr. Pat Bovey, Chair, Alumni Association
- 7. Bylaws Review:** Honourable Dr. Pat Bovey, Chair, Alumni Association
- 8. Election of Slate of Candidates to the 2026/2028 Alumni Association Board of Directors:** Honourable Dr. Pat Bovey, Chair, Alumni Association on behalf of Rennie Zegalski, Chair, Nominating Committee
 - **Candidate 1:** Jai Gandhi [BComm(Hons)/20]
 - **Candidate 2:** Meycee Kalaw-Crevier [MBA/23]
 - **Candidate 3:** Serena Vandersteen [BSc(Maj)/13]
- 9. UM Alumni Association Graduate Scholarship Recipient Speaker:** Mohammad Meybodi (PhD student, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Price Faculty of Engineering, University of Manitoba)
- 10. New Business**
- 11. Adjournment of Annual General Meeting**

MINUTES OF THE 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
105th Annual General Meeting, June 18, 2025
Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba
Minutes

The **105th Annual General Meeting** of the Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba was held on June 18, 2025 via Zoom.

Members Present:

Lasha Glennie	Michael Benarroch
Jessica Carvell	Vanessa Koldingnes
Carl Neumann	Tina Choy-Pohl
Netha Dyck	Paul Spark
Carla Loewen	Matthew Carvell
Michael Burdz	Jerome Kynsh
Khatereh Saei	Kaye Annie Byfield
Segun Olude	Karen Stock
Evan Kuz	Jai Ghandi
Tracy Bowman	Marlene Stern
Peter Wheatley	Paul-Emile Crevier
Elizabeth Ugwuegbulam	Meycee Kalaw-Crevier

Attendees: Dustin O'Donnell, April Quill

1. Call to Order and Welcome

Lasha Glennie , Chair, Alumni Association

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Lasha welcomed guests to the 2025 Annual General Meeting of the Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba and thanked them for attending. The Traditional Territories Acknowledgement was read.

2. Approval of Agenda, AGM 2025

Lasha Glennie, Chair, Alumni Association

Motion: *THAT the Alumni Association of UM adopt the Agenda as presented.*

Moved by: Jai Gandhi

Seconded by: Meycee Kalaw-Crevier **Carried**

2. Approval of Minutes, AGM 2024

Lasha Glennie, Chair, Alumni Association

Motion: *THAT the Alumni Association of UM approve the minutes of the June 20, 2024 AGM as presented.*

Moved by: Jessica Carvell

Seconded by: Meycee Kalaw-Crevier **Carried**

4. Greetings from the University of Manitoba

Michael Benarroch, President and Vice Chancellor

Thank you to the board and council members for such a supportive community.

Thank you Lasha and welcome everybody and Lasha, thanks for coming to a convocation. It's always a, a fun time, but they are a little long, some of them but we had a great convocation last week and so always exciting to watch students come to, to convocation and their families and the celebration.

I want to thank the Alumni Association board of directors and the council and all of you for all the work that you do and all the support you provide to the University of Manitoba. We really are as strong as our alumni, and I feel that our alumni community is strong, supportive of what our university is doing and helps us accomplish the goals that we want to accomplish.

So it's always great to be here and it's wonderful to catch up with the bisons. I'm using that word, the term bison purposefully because you know that our recent marketing campaign is really leaning into this idea of the bisons and that the bisons are at the center of so much. And I'm, I'm telling you right now, it's having remarkable effects when you, when you have a politician in the Manitoba legislature say to you my daughter is now a bison. You know, that it's resonating in our community.

It's a wonderful thing that that is happening and I think as a result of it, prospective students and our current students have a much more favorable opinion of our university. It's been a successful campaign. It's fun to be a part of it and to be able to have a little fun with the notion of a Bison also.

An alumni recently said to me that when he came to university, Bisons were the athletes. He thought of Bisons as those people who participated on the sports teams, but that now with the campaign, he's calling himself and seeing himself as a Bison. I think that that's exactly what we're trying to resonate with our community.

I thought I would talk about some of the fun things happening and good things happening around the University of Manitoba.

Eight of our alumni were inducted into the Order of Manitoba and including one of one of this year's Distinguished Alumni Award winners, Kristie Pearson. It's just nice to see people who have come to UM have success in their career, success in the work that they're doing within our province, being recognized by the highest order that we could give in our province.

This year's Distinguished Alumni Awards recipient is also Coach Brian Dobie, who coached our football team for 29 years and has had such a positive impact.

If you know Coach Dobie, he's a constant cheerleader, he is the most positive.

I'll tell you a story. Every year before the football season, I go to the stadium and a couple of Bisons and I record a little couple of football buys and I record a little greeting to entice people to come to homecoming. One of them is usually 6 foot 2 and a receiver, so muscular but thin and then the other one's a linebacker so he's 300 lbs and then there's me, this 5 foot 6 white haired guy. I always ask them, "so what's the team like this year? They give me the same answer every single year. It's oh man, we're good. We're really good this year. Then I go talk to Coach Dobie and I tell him this and he goes, we're just pumping them to be positive, that's my job is to keep them positive. He has brought that positivity to our university. He remains connected with the alumni and I just want to publicly thank him. It's been such an honor to work with him and to watch the impact that he's had on so many people in a positive way.

We installed a new Chancellor, Dave Angus an alumnus of UM as our 15th chancellor this spring. We started convocation in June with an installation ceremony. He's an alumnus of the Asper School of Business and he's excited to get started. I think he'll be great with alumni and with the community, probably a lot of people know him already. I had some fun with him recording my podcast, What's the Big Idea. Again, if you guys don't know about the podcast you should listen to it. It's the most popular podcast in Winnipeg with a podcaster's last name of Benarroch.

A great highlight of the year was the women's volleyball championship; it was sold out. All the games that they played were sold out. You couldn't hear yourself in the gym that night, I was lucky to be able to be there while the game was going on. In the first set, people were calling me saying I can't get a ticket, can you get me in? Not even the president can get you in. The atmosphere was electric and what a wonderful team of players that group of players got along so well with each other and I think part of that is what helped propel them through. It's not easy to win a national championship.

One of our track stars, Madison Lawrence, returned to competition after an injury. She's a pentathlete and she won nationals. She won gold for the second time in three years and broke the school record.

Coming back to coach Dobie, Brian took a risk on a kicker three years ago. Maya Turner was brought on as a red shirt. She was a soccer player, her sister's a soccer player from Minnesota but she decided that she wanted to play football, and she wanted to kick and be a field goal kicker. He brought her here and gave her the confidence to believe that she could kick for the Manitoba Bisons. At the beginning of her second year, which was two years ago, the kicker got injured and he called her and told her to go in and in her first game, she kicked the game-winning field goal. Couldn't write a better story and since then, she's become the best field goal kicker in Western Canada and last year was a Canada West football All Star.

This is amazing stuff. You all know that I'm a big Bison sports fan. We really want to hit the 10,000 or more mark for our homecoming game this year. I'm challenging all you alumni to

each to bring four people with you and get those four people to bring four more. It's a really fun way to celebrate University of Manitoba.

We had some real successes in the research field this year. This was the year that a record amount of research funds were brought into the university, over \$245 million. We are about to start construction on a bio manufacturing accelerator which is part of a \$54 million federal government grant, the largest research grant we've ever received at the University of Manitoba. It will involve 2 pieces. One is a Level 3 containment lab where you can test the diseases that require very high level of containment that'll be built on the Bannatyne campus and then a bio manufacturing accelerator, which will be a center that will take clinical trials and test the results here in Winnipeg, not just contained for University of Manitoba professors, private industry and it's a consortium of University of Manitoba, University of Saskatchewan, University of Calgary and University of Alberta. As part of that, we're hoping to build three additional floors on that building to modernize our science labs for our science students. So in total, we're hoping we'll build a 5 floor building that will be a huge addition to our science complex.

We also had the official opening of the Churchill Marine Observatory in August. The opening made it to the front page of the Globe and Mail, which doesn't happen too often for the University of Manitoba. It's world class marine observatory. The importance of Churchill is where sea ice and freshwater meet the Churchill River with Hudson's Bay. This research facility has two pools and we can test the water from each one. We can cover the pools and let the ice form. We can open the pools up and let the snow fall on top. We have mimicked satellites in space mounted around the pools and they can make measurements of the sea ice and the snow. It will allow us to better measure the depth of sea ice because it's very difficult to measure when you have a snowpack on it. Researchers from all over the world are coming. It will also allow us to test ways of breaking down oil spills with bacteria. 90% of oil spills are now broken down by releasing the appropriate kinds of bacteria into the waterways. We can test those kinds of things in the Port of Churchill. The five ambassadors from the Nordic countries have all visited with our Premier and the Ambassador from the United States has asked for a visit.

So, this is garnering international attention and its centering University of Manitoba at the center of research and University of Manitoba's Institute of Global Public Health received another major grant from the Gates Foundation. And in fact, Bill Gates visited our work in India this past year and continues to see the work that we're doing as a university as a leading the way in global public health, especially around early childhood and maternal care and now also extending to tuberculosis and diabetes. Some really good work and then I would add to this that this year was our largest ever class at the University of Manitoba, with over 31,000 students, with that comes very large graduating classes. We celebrated our 36th annual Indigenous graduation powwow, 470 First Nations in UNMAT students graduating, big impact on our community. I'm proud of the work we've done around reconciliation.

It has been a fabulous year and you're going to see the second phase of our reputational campaign come out this time looking at researchers. You'll see the posters around and the different pictures. I think we're going to launch some new clothing lines for University of Manitoba and just try to build some excitement and some interest around our brand. I'd love to see everywhere I go, people wearing University of Manitoba shirts and clothing. I do see some of them and I try to go up to them and talk, they think I'm crazy. But you know, we need to celebrate this and, and I think that we've got a, a beautiful logo and, and build that into some, some great clothing lines that people can get excited about.

5. Chair's Annual Report

Lasha Glennie, Chair, Alumni Association

I will share a few highlights of alumni engagement activity over the past year, but please note there is a more detailed description of the programs, events, benefits and discounts, and opportunities offered by the Alumni Association and the UM Alumni Relations unit in your meeting package, and you can also visit the umanitoba.ca/alumni to learn more what is available to you as alumni.

We have accomplished so much together over this past year including continuing to support, advance and improve:

Have you herd? – the monthly alumni e-news – we hope you have been enjoying the format of a selection of exclusive learning for life, benefits and discount offerings, and events and activities just for alumni. We are embracing the “we are all bisons” and “herd” brand, and renamed the monthly e-news to fit. We have also curated this monthly content by year of graduation and deploy three versions – young alumni, mid-career alumni, and encore / Boomer-aged alumni.

I hope you have seen the “Bisons at the Centre of it all” campaign around Winnipeg, whether on billboards, in and on buses, on our website and in movie theatres as a preview before your movie played. The campaign has spotlighted notable alumni who are leading in various industries, including:

Paul Soubry, President & CEO of NFI Group

Diane Roussin, Project Director of the Winnipeg Boldness Project

Randy Ambrosie, Commissioner of the CFL

Christina Litz, President & CEO of the Northern Super League

Isha Khan, President & CEO of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights

And Dr. Joss Reimer, Past President of the Canadian Medical Association

We just concluded the third season of President Michael Benarroch's podcast *What's the big idea?* in conversation with some of the University of Manitoba's big thinkers – some of these podcasts were recorded live, where alumni were invited to attend in-person in Winnipeg and

Brandon. In November 2024, we welcomed UM alum and renowned leading business journalist, Amanda Lang, as a guest at a live recording of the podcast on the topic of tariffs and the impact on Canada of the re-election of US President Donald Trump. You can listen to all the episodes of the last three seasons on Apple, Spotify or wherever you like to get your podcasts. Stay tuned for season four to kick off in this fall with more great guests and interesting topics.

UM has so many affinity, discount and campus partners, including the fourth year of our partnership with UM Bisons, where we offer all UM alumni up to four free tickets to any home game. Did you know you can get discounts on tickets to the Winnipeg Sea Bears, 50% off of Winnipeg Free Press online subscriptions for 6 months, discounts on family and individual memberships to the Manitoba Museum, and discounts on tickets to upcoming Winnipeg Blue Bombers and Valour FC games in June, and many more? Please check out our website and read the monthly *have you herd* alumni e-newsletter to learn more. We will be announcing two more herd perks in August – discounts on the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra tickets and Callia Flowers – so stay tuned for that.

A huge thank you to UM's affinity partners, TD Insurance, TD Wealth, iA Financial Group, Broadway Across Canada, Tempo Frames, and Artona Photography. As alumni you receive discounts on home, auto, travel, life and critical illness insurance from TD Insurance and iA Financial Group. There are many great Broadway Across Canada shows that have been announced making their way across Canada, so you'll want to take advantage of those ticket discounts. 100% of the funds raised through the UM's affinity partners go directly back into alumni engagement programming.

The Board of Governors alumni representative election process resulted in Dr. Irene Fakankun being re-elected to BOG this year for a second three-year term. Congratulations Irene!

The Alumni Association Committee awarded 17 students with financial awards through entrance scholarships, community leadership scholarships and graduate fellowships.

We celebrated 5 recipients in 5 award categories at the sold out 2024 Distinguished Alumni Awards gala on Thursday, September 19th.

The 2024 DAA recipients included:

Lifetime Achievement: **Steve Kroft [BA/88]**

Professional Achievement: **Dr. Joss Reimer [MD/08, MPH/13]**

Academic Innovation: **Dr. Harvey Max Chochinov [MD/83, PhD/98]**

Community Service: **Michael Robertson [BA/98, MArch/04]**

Outstanding Young Alumni: **Chimwemwe Undi [BA(Adv)/16, JD/20]**

The recipients of the 2025 Distinguished Alumni Awards, to be held on Thursday, September 18th during Homecoming, include:

Lifetime Achievement: **Rick Duha** [BComm(Hons.)/82]

Professional Achievement: **Brian Dobie** [BPE/74, Cert. Ed./75]

Academic Innovation: **Dr. James (Jamie) Blanchard** [BSc(Med)/86, MD/86]

Community Service: **Kristie Pearson** [BPE/96]

Outstanding Young Alumni: **Tréchelle Bunn** [BA/23]

Few tickets are still available for the Distinguished Alumni Awards Celebration of Excellence gala on September 18th. Visit the umanitoba.ca/alumni webpage to learn more.

A huge thank you to the generous support of our sponsors, both in 2024 and 2025.

Thank you to all alumni around the world who participated in a class reunion and Homecoming 2024. And, thank you to our faculty-partners for hosting an incredible mix of in-person, virtual and hybrid events to support Homecoming celebrations.

We look forward to seeing you all September 18 – 20 at Homecoming 2025. Bring the whole family for the Bisons Block Party, featuring live music, kids' zone, Billy the Bison's Birthday Party, an alumni lounge, a speakers' series, the big homecoming football game and more. All of this is happening Saturday, September 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Princess Auto Stadium. It is free and open to all!

I'd like to thank Marlene Stern and her leadership as Chair of the Alumni Council, a group of 30+ alumni representing faculties, colleges, and units across campus. We continue to build the Council to ensure all faculties and colleges are represented, and that it is representative of all alumni voices. The Council is a great opportunity for Alumni to have a strong voice on issues impacting the University of Manitoba, and for our alumni leaders serving on the Council to learn more about the University and its various units. Over this past year, Alumni Council topics of discussion included young alumni engagement, alumni benefits and discount partners, reimagining Homecoming (2025), and a review and feedback on the early concepts of UM's 150th milestone anniversary in 2027.

Priorities for the upcoming year for the board and council will be to support the UM Alumni Relations in promoting and will attend important alumni engagement activities and events as alumni ambassadors, sharing stories, links and information highlighting UM excellence and innovation within their networks and on social media, continuing to provide guidance and feedback to the 2024 – 2029 UM Alumni Engagement Strategic Plan, and supporting the Distinguished Alumni Awards program through ticket and sponsorship sales, and the selection of candidates for 2026.

I hope you all have been receiving a digital copy of the *UM Today The Magazine*. In 2024, the University of Manitoba changed to a digital alumni magazine model as we are continuing to move to a digital connection model with alumni and friends for sustainability reasons. And if you aren't receiving a digital edition of the magazine, please reach out to the Alumni Relations team and they will make sure to sign you up.

I'd like to thank my fellow board members for their commitment to the University and Alumni over the past year:

Peter Wheatley, Past Chair, Nominating Committee
Jessica Carvell, Chair, Nominating Committee
Evan Kuz, Member at large
Nathan Maertins, Member at large
Meycee Kalaw-Crevier, Board Representative on Senate
Jai Ghandi, Treasurer and Chair, Finance Committee
Marlene Stern, Chair, Alumni Council
Vanessa Koldingnes, Vice-President (External)

And thank you to the UM's Alumni Relations team, led by Executive Director, Tracy Bowman, for their continued support of not only our Board and Council, but of all Alumni.

6. Annual Financial Statements and Accountant's report for year ending March 31, 2025

Jai Gandhi, Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair

You may remember from the 2024 AGM that as a membership we voted to close the bank account of the UM Alumni Association.

To take you back to why that decision was made, as you may recall, the relationship between the University of Manitoba and the Alumni Association changed in 2012 when all affinity and sponsorship revenues that formerly went to the Alumni Association moved to the University with 100% of these revenues going towards alumni engagement activity. As part of this agreement, the University committed to cover all alumni relations unit staff salaries and related expenses, and the Alumni Relations unit began reporting through the Vice-President External and not the Alumni Association Board of Directors. The University also agreed to take on all expenses and revenue generation for alumni engagement activity.

At that time the alumni association board of directors required modest funds to cover its operating costs, and as such the University had been annually transferring \$15,000 to fulfill this obligation. Over time, the University took on all of the alumni association board of directors expenses as it was administratively easier and the expenses were minimal. Prior to the bank account being closed, in the previous five years, the board used some of its accruing funds to pay for alumni engagement activity including the former UM alumni book club membership during the COVID-19 timeframe, advertising in the WFP for the June Class of 2020 where each graduate's name was published as there was no ceremony at that time, and to support the Bisons Sports annual sponsorship to be the Homecoming football game day sponsor and offer free tickets to all UM alumni for all regular season Bisons games. The University of Manitoba and Alumni Association have a Memorandum of Understanding in place that instructs the University to continue covering the expenses for alumni engagement activity AND all of the operating expenses of the Alumni Association, and as such there was no reason for the alumni

association to have its own funds and continue to have a bank account that is costly to administer.

Please note the direction to close the bank account was voted on and the motion carried at the 2024 AGM last June. I just wanted to remind you of the background to this decision especially if you did not attend the 2024 AGM. This background information will also be relevant to when we review the proposed changes to the bylaws that fellow board of directors member Jessica Carvell will review in a moment.

- As you see on this slide, the net income for the year ending March 31, 2025 is - \$40,766.39.
- You'll see \$6,250 for the Bisons Sports sponsorship, which includes being the game day sponsor of the annual Homecoming football game and 4 free tickets for all alumni to attend each regular season Bisons home game in the expenses of the income statement. Please note this sponsorship was for the 2023 / 2024 Bisons Sports season but the payment of the sponsorship went over the 2023 / 2024 and 2024 / 2025 fiscal years. The ongoing sponsorship to Bison Sports is now covered through alumni affinity funds, tickets and sponsorship revenues. The Alumni Association's other expenses, including its insurance and meeting costs, are covered by the University of Manitoba.
- The Alumni Association Board of Directors voted to donate the remaining funds back to the University of Manitoba to purchase 4 seats at the new Desautels Concert Hall at \$4,009.95, and the remaining \$30,457.74 was equally split between the three alumni association scholarship funds – undergraduate entrance, undergraduate community leadership and graduate fellowship.
- On the balance sheet slide, reflecting the decision to close the Alumni Association bank account and donate the remaining money back to the University of Manitoba, you'll see the bank balance is \$0 and total assets are also \$0.

Thank you to Sabu Mathew, Budget Officer for External Relations, for compiling the alumni association's financial statements. Copies of these statements are available in your AGM proceedings.

Motion: *THAT the Alumni Association of UM approve the financial statements ending March 31, 2025 as presented.*

Moved by: Kaye Annie Byfield

Seconded by: Peter Wheatley **Carried**

7. By-Law Review

Jessica Carvell, Chair, Nominating Committee

I'm very happy today to present and explain some of the proposed changes to the Alumni Association bylaws. You can follow along in the alumni package that was circulated earlier.

Starting at page 25 of the material, you'll see the bylaw changes matrix followed by our proposed wording and a complete set of our bylaws. Our bylaw amendments that we're proposing this year primarily fall into two categories. The first are amendments are a result of winding down the financial operations, which Jai just referred to that was approved at last year's annual general meeting. And then there are some additional changes that we're proposing to reflect our current reality.

The first change that we're proposing is to amend the agenda items at our future annual general meetings to remove references to annual financial statements and the appointment of auditors, which are no longer required as a result of our decision around the bank account.

We are also proposing to amend Section 6.1 of our bylaws, which refers to the composition of the Board of Directors. We are proposing to remove the inclusion of the designate of the President of the University of Manitoba. This is because the Executive Director of Alumni Relations really is our lead staff person that supports the Alumni Association and the Alumni Council. This role reports directly to the Vice President External, who is currently the President's designate. There's a lot that the Executive Director does to support us, and so we feel it's more appropriate to have that person as our support rather than have a designate for the president involved.

Consistent with that change, we are also proposing to slightly increase the number of elected alumni who would serve on the Alumni Board of Directors because we'd like to maintain their existing size. We're proposing a couple changes to Section 6.2 and 6.4. These are consequential changes that flow from the amendments to 6.1. We are proposing to make some changes to 6.5. These refer to the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Directors. These are changes that flow again from the closure of our bank account and the wind down of the financial operations that were approved last year.

We're also proposing some additional changes to Section 6.5 that reflect the role that we'd like to see the Board of Directors take on related to the Distinguished Alumni Awards. We have come somewhat full circle with respect to the Distinguished Alumni Awards. This program began through volunteer engagement. Over time it was taken on by the University of Manitoba and the Board of Directors was no longer directly involved. There was a separate committee with some Board of Directors presence, but we would like to see the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association take meaningful and active role in the Distinguished Alumni Awards. We are proposing to include that directly in our bylaws.

Our remaining changes to Section 7.17.28.1 and 11.1 through 11.3 are all directed around the removal of the financial operations and the closure of the bank account. We're proposing to remove reference to the role of treasurer and the need for a financial committee and the need for financial statements to be presented at board meetings and AGM's. This is all just a reflection of the decisions that were made at last year's AGM.

Motion: *THAT the Alumni Association of UM approve the one proposed change to the by-laws dated June 18, 2025 to be effective immediately.*

Moved by: Meycee Kalaw-Crevier

Seconded by: Jai Gandhi **Carried**

8. Election of the 2025/2027 Board of Directors

Jessica Carvell, Chair Nominating Committee, Alumni Association

As outlined in our bylaws of our association, the Board of directors should be between the size of five and seven elected directors, but currently we do have seven elected directors. We also are joined by Marlene Stern, who's Chair of the Alumni Council and Vanessa Koldingnes VP (External) both as ex official members. Four of our current board members, including myself, Lasha Glennie, Peter Wheatley and Evan Kuz. We have completed the maximum number of terms we can with the Board of Directors this year. We also have a board member, Nathan Maertins, who's resigned due to some of his other professional and personal commitments. To fill these gaps on the board, the nominating committee is putting forward a slate of four candidates who will serve on the board for the 2025-2027 a two-year term.

Pat Bovey [LLD/21}

Kathryn Gompf [BSc(GE)/99]

Vicki Verge [BA/90, MSW/04]

Rennie Zegalski [BComm(Hons)/95]

There are detailed BIOS related to each of these candidates that are included in the board package that's begins at page 50. I'm very excited to put forward this slate of candidates of these are all very active, very involved members of our community. They have all through their past work, shown their dedication to the University of Manitoba. They have a variety of experiences and expertise that'll really help the Alumni Association grow and really represent our community well.

Outlined in our Association bylaws, we are not able to take any additional nominations from the floor during the Annual General Meeting, but if you are ever interested in joining the board or being more involved with the Alumni Association, please contact the UM Alumni Relations team. We are always interested in having more active members.

Motion: *THAT the Alumni Association of UM accept the slate as presented to serve as directors on the Board of Directors for a two-year term from 2023-2025.*

- **Candidate 1:** Pat Bovey [LLD/21}
- **Candidate 2:** Kathryn Gompf [BSc(GE)/99]
- **Candidate 3:** Vicki Verge [BA/90, MSW/04]
- **Candidate 4:** Rennie Zegalski [BComm(Hons)/95]

Moved by: Jai Gandhi

Seconded by: Segun Olude Carried

9. Thank you to outgoing board members

Tracy Bowman, Executive Director, Alumni Relations

I thought it was important that we share a significant amount of gratitude for our five outstanding board members who are leaving us after this AGM, four of whom who has been mentioned have served their maximum number of years and terms that are on the Alumni Association board. Lasha, Peter, Jessica, and Evan have all been members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors for six years in various roles. Peter and Jessica have been chairs of the Alumni Association Board of Directors for more than one year. I know that Lasha would continue to serve, but she's done her maximum number of years, so that's the end for her term. They have also served in roles in terms of chairing the Nominating Committee and the Student Awards Committee. They've all been extremely active members of the Alumni Council. They've been involved in the Distinguished Alumni awards in committee. They always come to events, whether it's the homecoming football game, the grand opening of the Desautels Concert Hall, a speaking event, convocation, as President Benarroch was mentioning, speaking at convocation, the list is endless in terms of the commitment and dedication of these 4 outstanding individuals.

I also want to let you know that when Jessica was Chair of the Alumni Association, she was our governance expert. The memorandum of understanding that was mentioned earlier was really driven and led by Jessica and her commitment to that with her legal background was instrumental in being able to provide that exceptional document and Memorandum of Understanding with the University.

Under Peter's leadership as Chair of the Alumni Association, the Alumni Council was formed and is still going very strong under the leadership of Marlene Stern.

And Evan has served on the Nominating Committee as a member and as a Chair for many years and has been very involved in recruiting for the board over that period of time.

Nathan, although his tenure has been shorter, has also been very involved on the board, most recently as Vice Chair, as well as also participating in the Students Award Committee over the last few years and was always a wonderful resource on all things financial, his sage advice has been great.

I just wanted to share on behalf of the membership of the University of Manitoba Alumni Association, Evan, Jessica, Peter, Lasha, and Nathan, thank you from all of us. You have provided outstanding service to your alma mater and to its alumni, and we are all much better for it.

10. Student Award Speaker:

April Quill, UM Student Scholarship Recipient

Hi, my name is April Quill, I'm Swampy Cree from Sapatoya Cree Nation, born and raised in Winnipeg and I am will be entering my fifth year pursuing a Bachelor of Science with a major in Statistics and a minor in Mathematics.

My journey through university hasn't been a straight path. I first started university in the fall of 2019. Back then, I had planned to study environmental science. However, the transition from high school to university was a little overwhelming for me, and I eventually withdrew from university. At the time, I didn't think I'd ever return, but everything changed when my older sister started university through the Access program. She was someone who dropped out of high school but eventually got her grade 12 diploma from adult education and came to university soon after. I watched my sister succeed and thrive in her first year, which was incredibly inspiring and it made me want to try again too.

In the fall of 2021, I re enrolled at the University of Manitoba, this time through the Access program journey. Access has truly changed everything for me. It gave me the support and direction I had been missing. It was also the first time I have ever been in a classroom where Indigenous stories, perspectives, and knowledge were centered, and for the first time in my education, I felt seen. That year, I also realized that I no longer felt drawn to environmental science. Instead, I wanted to pursue something that I was genuinely passionate about, and that happened to be statistics. I always enjoyed math in high school, but I never actually thought about pursuing it as a degree. That changed after I took STAT 1000 and my professor encouraged me to apply for the Woven 2 program in my second year. This program introduced me to Indigenous ways of knowing and community-based research. Suddenly I could envision a career for myself as a future health researcher using statistics to support Indigenous self determination and improve health outcomes.

It became a rewarding moment for me when all the work I had done, was seen through the Manitoba Indigenous Youth Achievement Award for Academic Senior, where I had completed my first two years of study with a perfect GPA. This award showed me that I have the potential to be a leader and that Indigenous youth could succeed. My third year became the start of my community involvement. I became a mentor in the Nietzsche Walk in Peer Mentorship program, Director of Finance for the University of Manitoba Indigenous Students Association, Associate SU Indigenous representative and student leader with the Indigenous Circle of Empowerment. These roles have fostered incredible growth within me. They taught me about responsibility, giving back, and the strength that comes from embracing your identity and supporting others in their journey. Looking forward, I hope to continue my education with a Master's in Biostatistics. Receiving the Alumni Community Leadership Scholarship was a great honor and recognized my community involvement. I've had a great journey so far at the University of Manitoba.

My two older sisters, Zoe and Candy, and now my younger brother Steven, will have studied here. This is the place where I became a leader and found my voice. I'm not just seeking

academic and professional growth; I'm also seeking personal growth, and this scholarship represents those experiences and I'm very grateful for the support. Migewich, thank you very much.

9. New Business and Q&A

No new business or questions.

10. Adjournment of Annual General Meeting

I'd like to thank President Michael Benarroch, Jai Ghandi, Jessica Carvell, Tracy Bowman and April Quill for their comments and presentations this evening. Most of all, I'd like to thank all of you for joining us on Zoom from wherever you are in the world.

Please continue to stay connected with your alma mater, make sure to read the *UM Today The Magazine*, the monthly alumni *have you herd* to learn all about the great benefits and services available to you as alumni, and save the date for Homecoming 2025, September 18 – 20, where there will be many activities and events taking place. We will see you at next year's AGM.

I declare this meeting officially adjourned.

Thank you.

State of the Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba Report: 2025 /2026

The Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba's guiding principle, purpose statement, alumni engagement themes and strategic priorities include:

GUIDING PRINCIPLE: To inspire a proud and engaged alumni community to be UM's greatest ambassadors and lifelong supporters who actively advance the University's reputation, support and contribute to its vision, and meaningfully demonstrate impact within our province and wider world.

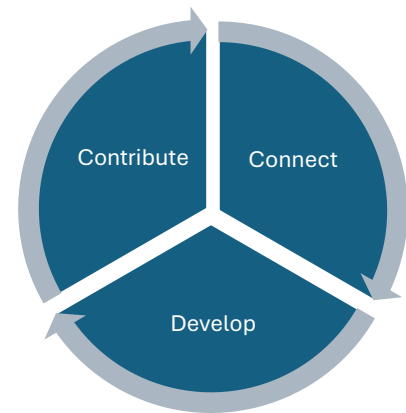
PURPOSE STATEMENT: To engage the University of Manitoba in the lives of its current and future alumni cultivating lifelong connection, personal growth, and alumni contribution that build bigger futures for students and the community.

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT THEMES & STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Alumni Engagement Theme 1 - *Connect*:

Strategic Priority 1: We will celebrate a wider breadth of alumni accomplishments, milestones and contributions in more communities, sharing and connecting with the stories that bind us.

- Execute a robust and structured milestone anniversary celebrations and reunion legacy giving program
- Enhance Homecoming celebrations to attract wider community beyond alumni audience that include sports, music, and lifelong learning programming
- Host the annual Distinguished Alumni Awards, a key institutional event, that both celebrates outstanding alumni achievement and meaningfully engages external partners and organizations



Strategic Priority 2: We will meet alumni where they are at each stage of their lives, connecting with them in the format they prefer with a strong emphasis on using targeted, enhanced and dynamic digital tools.

- Improve the format and frequency of communication with alumni through the monthly alumni newsletter "have you herd?", customizing learning for life opportunities and benefits shared in this tool by year of graduation
- Continually keep alumni contact information current and respect alumni's preferences for staying connected with their alma mater
- Streamline communications with alumni and increase accessibility with focus on digital tools including the UM website, social media channels and alumni newsletter

- Create an easy-to-use digital storytelling platform where alumni can access UM stories and current events featuring leading researchers, faculty, students and alumni achievements

Alumni Engagement Theme 2 - *Develop*:

Strategic Priority 3: We will enhance and expand upon the tools and resources we provide young alumni so that we can better help them succeed in their early careers.

- Working with campus partners, develop and offer relevant career and financial literacy programming, networking, and mentoring opportunities relevant to the GOLD (graduates of the last decade) alumni audience
- Regularly share on-demand career learning tools through alumni newsletter

Strategic Priority 4: We will expand and enhance life-long learning programming so that we reach more alumni around the globe.

- Working with campus and external / affinity partners to build, deliver and regularly share in-person and virtual lifelong learning content where the programming is accessible, easy to register and find on the UM alumni website, and offers an excellent user experience

Alumni Engagement Theme 3 - *Contribute*:

Strategic Priority 5: We will deliver an exceptional, customizable alumni experience by providing relevant and exclusive benefits and services, more opportunities to give back, and take in events such as Bisons sports, concerts and theatre.

- Offer diverse and relevant discounts to alumni (see below in benefits and discounts section for list of partners)
- Offer meaningful volunteer opportunities on boards, councils, as mentors and judges, and to give back as donors supporting what is important to them

Strategic Priority 6: We will invite more alumni to engage with and work alongside students, increasing idea exchanges and helping us all move forward together.

- Work with campus partners to match alumni with opportunities (speak in front of class, volunteer, judge competitions, etc.)
- Support mentorship programming between mid-career and GOLD alumni that is easy to access and use no matter where alumni live
- In partnership with Career Services, leverage virtual mentoring platform, grow membership and enhance user experience

UM Bisons are at the centre of it all, making a difference here in Manitoba and around the world. Some key highlights of UM alumni engagement activity over the past year include:

There are 230,000+ alumni living in 137 countries around the world (as of June 2026), including 70% who live in Manitoba.



- Our generous community of over 5,500 donors from 16 countries contributed \$90 million to advance learning and discovery in 2024 / 2025.
 - \$40 million was distributed annually in scholarships and \$14 million distributed annually in bursaries
 - 1,746 donors contributed to student awards
 - 1,600 first-year students begin their UM journey with entrance scholarships
 - 4,600 graduate studies awards were given
 - 3,000 awards for Indigenous students were given
- The graduating Class of 2026 was just over 4,300. Many of these new alumni have stayed in Manitoba contributing high-demand skills to the labour market.
- Three UM students were awarded with a Community Leadership Scholarship, two were awarded with an Entrance Scholarship, and three were awarded with a Graduate Fellowship from the Alumni Association (via its endowment fund for these annual awards).
- Jessica Floresco [B.Env.St.(Maj.)/08] was elected by UM alumni at large to a three-year term as an alumni representative on the UM Board of Governors in May.
- The *What's the Big Idea?* podcast and community events featuring President and Vice-Chancellor, Michael Benarroch, and the University's big thinkers completed season four that included seven episodes and one community event. In November 2025, UM hosted a live podcast community event with Vice-President, Indigenous, Dr. Angie Bruce [MBA/09] as guest host with UM alumni guests Diane Roussin [BSW/96], Kathleen Bluesky [BA/99, MBA/15] and Dr. Peter Pomart [MBA/18, PhD/25], on the topic of economic reconciliation – a model for shared prosperity.
- In April 2026, UM welcomed Nobel Laureate, Geoffrey Hinton, a pioneering researcher who developed the neural networks and machine-learning that spawned artificial intelligence, to a sold-out crowd as the 2026 Knight Distinguished Lecturer.



- In May 2026, the Desautels Concert Hall at UM was the host for a second year in a row to the TedX Winnipeg conference with several UM alumni, faculty and students as speakers.
- We continue to share exclusive alumni benefits, discounts, events, learning for life opportunities and ways to stay connected with UM through the monthly alumni e-newsletter “*Have you herd?*” by curating information into three groups by year of graduation:
 - Graduates of the last year (GOLD)
 - Mid-career alumni
 - Encore alumni (60+)
- For a third year in a row, we hosted the UM learning for life free financial literacy webinar series, “Tuesdays with TD.” Hosted by Tracy Bowman, Executive Director, Alumni Relations and presented by Daneeka Rico and other experts at TD Wealth and TD Insurance, this year’s topics included: estate planning, balancing spending and saving / building your personal wealth, home ownership / first-time home purchasing, and starting or growing a small business.



Alumni benefit, discount and affinity partners:

- \$330,000+ was raised from alumni affinity partners in 2025/2026 and \$157,100 raised through sponsorship and event ticket sales – 100% of funds raised go directly to alumni engagement programming
- Introduced one new affinity partner:
 - Small Business Insurance with TD Insurance
- Continued partnership with current affinity partners:
 - TD Insurance – exclusive partner for auto and home insurance, also offers travel insurance
 - TD Wealth – TD Direct Wealth
 - iA Financial Group – exclusive partner for life, critical illness, dental and health insurance, also offers travel insurance
 - Artona – graduation photography for purchase at convocation
 - Tempo Frames – degree framing
 - Broadway Across Canada – 20% discount on Broadway shows in major centres across Canada
- Thank you to UM’s affinity partners – we value our relationship with you and appreciate the excellent discounts you provide to UM alumni on your services!



TD Insurance



- Introduced new discount partners:
 - Rainbow Stage ticket discounts
 - Desautels Concert Series ticket discounts
 - Callia Flowers discount
 - Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra ticket discounts
 - Coursera Academy registration discount through Extended Education
 - Ottawa 67s and Ottawa Redblacks ticket discounts

- Renewed partnerships with existing hotel and retail partners:
 - Winnipeg Blue Bombers
 - Winnipeg Jets and Manitoba Moose
 - Winnipeg Sea Bears
 - Active Living Centre
 - Bisons Sports – 2 free tickets for any regular season game, any sport
 - UM Libraries access
 - Extended Education 50% off first course
 - Broadway Across Canada
 - Inn at the Forks
 - Free Press
 - Manitoba Museum memberships
 - Best Western Hotel – Pembina location
 - MyBoatCard.com
 - SoftMoc

Homecoming 2025 highlights:

- Homecoming is a time-honoured tradition that brings everyone together to celebrate what it means to be part of the herd at the University of Manitoba. It's a wonderful way to connect with our alumni and community! Homecoming 2025 was from September 18– 21.
- The weekend kicked off with UM's Distinguished Alumni Awards on Thursday, September 18.
- Friday, September 19 was the one-of-a-kind Desautels Faculty of Music concert in the new Desautels Concert Hall. This concert is a hit every year and a great opportunity to experience UM's and Winnipeg's newest concert venue.
- Saturday, September 20 was the main event – the new Bison Block Party – with a variety of activities centered around UM's men's Bison football game. The event included kid-friendly activities, Billy the Bisons' Birthday Party, the reveal of the new Bison Athletics brand, an Alumni Lounge for alumni from all faculties to connect and venue for the speaker series throughout the day, and a Bisons Boutique where attendees were able to purchase the new Bisons athletic apparel. UM also launched a retro UM Heritage apparel line in partnership with Mondetta. Neary 16,000 registered for the Bisons Block Party. Save the date for the 2026 Bisons Block Party on Saturday, September 26 featuring many family-friendly activities and both women's soccer and men's football.



Distinguished Alumni Awards: Sept. 18, 2025

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

PRESENTING SPONSOR: **TD Insurance**

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Kristie Pearson
(BPE/96)

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

Brian Dobie
(BPE/74, Cert. Ed./75)

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Rick Duha
(BComm./Hons./82)

ACADEMIC INNOVATION

Dr. James Blanchard
(BSc./Med./86, MD/86)

OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI

Tréchelle Bunn
(BA/23)

For more information visit:
umanitoba.ca/distinguished-alumni

Congratulations to this year's University of Manitoba Distinguished Alumni Award recipients. These incredible alumni will be recognized at the Celebration of Excellence Gala on September 18th.

Thank you to our generous sponsors!

ENTERTAINMENT SPONSOR:

MAKING MEMORIES SPONSOR:

EVENT CHAMPIONS SPONSORS:

Duha Color Services Ltd. **improving**
formerly Imaginet

VIP RECEPTION SPONSOR: **aramark**

SPECIALTY BEVERAGES SPONSORS: **SØBR MARKET** **PATENT 5**

VIP CORPORATE TABLE SPONSORS:

MEDIA SPONSOR: **Free Press** **AventPro**
The Aude Group (Event Partners)

- Over 440 business, community and UM leaders attended the sold-out 66th Distinguished Alumni Awards presented by TD Insurance to celebrate five outstanding UM alumni.





- Sponsorship increased from 6 sponsors in 2023 to 19 in 2024 to 29 in 2025. Thank you to the following sponsors for their generous support of the Distinguished Alumni Awards:
- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AdventPro – in-kind media sponsor - Aramark – VIP reception sponsorship in-kind - Asper Foundation – VIP corporate table sponsor - Asper School of Business – VIP corporate table - Birchwood – VIP corporate table - Bockstael Construction – VIP corporate table - Canada Life – VIP corporate table - Cholakis Dental Group – VIP corporate table sponsor - Duha Group – Event Champions sponsor - Free Press – in-kind media sponsor - Harvest Manitoba – VIP corporate table sponsor - iA Financial Group – Making Memories sponsor - Improving – Event Champions sponsor - Institute for Global Public Health – VIP corporate table - Johnson Group – VIP corporate table - Kristie Pearson and Doug Pollard – VIP corporate table sponsor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Magellan Aerospace – VIP corporate table - Maple Leaf Construction – VIP corporate table sponsor - New World Technologies – VIP corporate table - Patent 5 – specialty beverage sponsor - Pollard Family Foundation – VIP corporate table sponsor - Rady Faculty of Health Sciences – VIP corporate table - Sobr Market – specialty beverage sponsor - St. Paul’s High School – VIP corporate table sponsor - STC Marketing & Guru Communications – VIP corporate table sponsor - TD Insurance – Presenting sponsor - Trane – Entertainment sponsor - University Medical Group – VIP corporate table - Winnipeg Blue Bombers – VIP corporate table sponsor – in-kind |
|---|---|

Alumni Association Board of Directors:

Thank you to the following Board of Directors and Alumni Council members for being exceptional UM ambassadors:

Chair

Honourable Dr. Pat Bovey [LLD/21]

Vice Chair & Chair, Student Awards Committee

Kathryn Gompf [BSc(GE)/99]

Chair, Nominating Committee

Rennie Zegalski [BComm(Hons)/95]

Members at large

Meycee Kalaw-Crevier [MBA/23]

Jai Gandhi [BComm(Hons)/20]

Vicki Verge [BA/90, MSW/04]

Ex-Officio:

Marlene Stern [DipOT/77, BOT/83], Chair, Alumni Council, ex-officio

Alumni Council:

The Alumni Council, chaired by Marlene Stern [DipOT/77, BOT/83], is comprised of members representing alumni in faculties and colleges who provide strategic advice and guidance on key issues impacting the University. Many thanks to all members including:

Alex Blake	BComm(Hons)/22
Ashley Simac	BKin/13
Brenna Shearer	BMR(OT)/86
Carl Neumann	MA/20
Chau Tu	BSc(Maj)/09, MBA/17
Cheryl Lashek	BSc(ME)/02
Claire Betker	BN/77
Doug Collier	BSc/87
Duane Brothers	BA/82, BEd/84, PhD/17
Gloria Thompson	BA/19, BA/23
Irene Fakankun	PhD/21
Jai Ghandi	BComm(Hons)/20
JD Diabira	BA(Adv)/93

Jessica Carvell	JD/15
Johise Namwira	BA(Hons)/18
Karamveer Kaur Khosa	MN/24
Kathryn Gompf	BSc(GE)/99
Lasha Glennie	BA/08, ExtEd/16
Madison Halford	BComm/14
Mark Colley	BComm(Hons)/04
Marlene Stern	DipOT/77, BOT/83
Matthieu Lazarow	BComm(Hons)/08, MBA/17, CA/10
Meycee Kalaw-Crevier	MBA/23
Nancy Auyeung	DMD/92, BSc(Dent)/92
Pat Bovey	LLD/21
Peter Wheatley	BSc(ME)/07, ExtEd/10, MBA/15
Reanna Merastry	BEnvD/19, MArch/21
Rennie Zegalski	BComm(Hons)/95
Scott Roehl	BComm(Hons)/08
Serena Vandersteen	BSc(Maj)/13
Stephanie Butterworth	BSc(Maj)/08, BA/10, MD/15, MedRes/17, MedRes/21
Sue Boreskie	BPE/79, MPE/82
Tito Daodu	MD/13, BSc(Med)/13
Vicki Verge	BA/90, MSW/04
Zoe Quill	BSc(Maj)/23

UM Alumni Relations Staff & Support:

The Board of Directors would like to acknowledge the outstanding work of the staff supporting alumni including:

Vanessa Koldingnes [MBA/14], Vice-President (External)

Advancement Marketing team, including **Stephanie Matthews, Haley Proctor** and **Emily Janssens**

Tracy Bowman [BA(Hons)/96, MA], Executive Director, Alumni Relations

Advancement Services team, including **Alex Campomanes, Tanya Drinkwater** and **Eleonore Heinrichs**

Sabu Mathew, Accountant, Budget Officer, External Relations

**THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA**

BY-LAWS

Ratified at the Annual General Meeting

June 18, 2025

Effective Date: June 18, 2025

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

BY-LAWS

***Any notice required set forth in these by-laws may be provided by electronic means.**

This by-law is enacted in accordance with *The Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba Incorporation Act*, R.S.M. 1990, c.3.

DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

In this by-law:

“Act” means The Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba Incorporation Act, R.S.M.1990, c. 3.

“Alumni Relations” means the Alumni Relations Department of External Relations at the University of Manitoba.

“Association” means The Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba.

“Board” means the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba

“Board Member” means a member of the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba, in accordance with Section 6.1 hereof.

“Chair” means the person elected to lead the Alumni Association.

“Vice-Chair” means the person elected to support the Chair.

“Board of Governors” means the Board of Governors of the University of Manitoba, as established under *The University of Manitoba Act*, C.C.S.M. c. U60.

“Director responsible for Alumni Relations” means the Director responsible for Alumni Relations at the University of Manitoba.

“External Relations” means the External Relations Division of the University of Manitoba.

“Graduate” means

- i.) Persons who have received a degree, diploma or certificate approved by the Senate of the University;
- ii.) Persons with a designation from the Institute of Chartered Accountants (prior to 1970); or
- iii.) Persons who have successfully completed a program requiring at least one (1) year’s study and sponsored by or through the Extended Education Division of the University.

“Member” means a person described in Sections 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 hereof.

“University” means the University of Manitoba, as established by *The University of Manitoba Act*, C.C.S.M. c. U60.

Words importing the singular number include the plural and vice versa, words importing the masculine gender include the feminine gender, and words importing persons include individuals, bodies corporate, partnerships, trusts and unincorporated organizations.

1.0 NAME AND LOCATION

- 1.1 The name of the Association shall be the “Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba.”
- 1.2 The Association’s head office shall be maintained in the City of Winnipeg, in the Province of Manitoba, at a location to be determined by the Board.

2.0 PURPOSE

- 2.1 The purpose of the Association shall be:
- i.) To connect alumni with each other and with the University;
 - ii.) To provide guidance and the special perspective of alumni to the University to assist the University in setting their goals and objectives;
 - iii.) To generally promote the image of the University in the community and specifically through programs and communication to facilitate the relationship between the University and its alumni to promote a continuing affiliation of alumni with the University.
 - iv.) To advise the University on matters of interest to the alumni;
 - v.) To advocate on behalf of alumni to further the purposes set forth in this section.

3.0 MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Regular Membership

Regular membership in the Association includes and is limited to Graduates.

3.2 Alumni Life Membership

Alumni who paid a life membership fee, prior to the termination of this category on March 31, 1990, shall continue to enjoy regular membership privileges for life.

3.3 Honorary Life Membership

Honorary Life Membership in the Association may be conferred from time to time by the Board for exceptional or meritorious service to the Association. Honorary Life Membership would include any friend or supporter of the Association who may not be a Graduate. Honorary Life Members shall be entitled to all privileges of the Association except the rights to vote or hold office.

3.4 Associate Alumni Membership

Graduates who have successfully completed a program that is less than one year's study and sponsored by or through the Extended Education Division of the University. Associate Alumni members shall be entitled to all privileges of the Association except the rights to vote or hold office.

3.5 In addition to membership in the Association as provided in Sections 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 hereof, the Board may authorize such other categories of membership as it may determine from time to time.

3.6 The categories of membership in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 hereof have voting rights.

3.7 All memberships are terminated upon death of the Member. Regular memberships can be revoked as a result of the Senate of the University revoking a Member's degree. The Board may revoke an Alumni Life Membership or an Honorary Life Membership.

4.0 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4.1 There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held no later than one hundred eighty (180) days following the end of the fiscal year. Notice shall appear in the *UM Today the Magazine*, the Association website or other publications sent to Members at least forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

4.2 Thirty-days (30) prior to the Alumni General Meeting, the Nominating Committee will provide a slate of nominees for elections to the Board.

4.3 The agenda for the Annual General Meeting will include the following:

- i.) Election of the Board;
- ii.) Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting;
- iii.) The Chair's Annual Report;
- iv.) Any amendments to the by-laws;
- v.) Any new business.

4.4 The agenda shall appear on the Association website twenty-one (21) days prior to the meeting. Proposed agenda items should be forwarded to the Chair thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting. The Board shall approve the final agenda.

- 4.5 Any new business brought to the floor of the Annual General Meeting will only be discussed if the majority of those present approve the addition of the new business.
- 4.6 The quorum for Annual General Meetings shall be fifteen (15) voting Members.
- 4.7 The Board may determine that the Annual General Meeting shall be held entirely or partially by means of a telephonic, an electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting.
- 4.8 The Chair of the Annual General Meetings shall be the Chair, failing whom; the Vice-Chair shall act as Chair.
- 4.9 Voting at Annual General Meetings:
- i.) Each Member present shall have one vote;
 - ii.) There shall be no provision for a proxy vote;
 - iii.) The Chair does not have a second or casting vote. In the event of a tie, the motion is defeated.
 - iv.) Voting may be conducted by a show of hands, a ballot or electronic voting.
 - v.) One voting Member may request a ballot vote.
- 4.10 If an Annual General Meeting is adjourned for less than thirty (30) days, it shall not be necessary to give notice of the adjourned meeting, other than by announcement at the earliest meeting that is adjourned. If a meeting of the Members is adjourned by one or more adjournments for an aggregate of thirty (30) days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given as for an original meeting.

5.0 SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- 5.1 A Special Meeting of the Association may be called:
- i.) By the Chair, or
 - ii.) With prior written notice to both the Chair and the Director responsible for Alumni Relations, by either 50% of the Board or fifteen (15) voting Members of the Association.
- 5.2 Special Meetings shall be held at least one (1) week's prior notice in a Winnipeg newspaper of general circulation. A copy of the agenda shall be posted on the Association website one (1) week prior and through the completion of the meeting.
- 5.3 The quorum for Special Meetings shall be fifty (50) voting Members present.-
- 5.4 The Chair of the Association shall chair the meeting. In the event the Chair is not available, the Vice-Chair or one of the Past Chairs shall chair the meeting.

5.5 Voting at Special Meetings:

- i.) Each Member present shall have one vote;
- ii.) There shall be no provision for a proxy vote;
- iii.) The Chair does not have a second or casting vote. In the event of a tie, the motion is defeated.
- iv.) A show of hands may decide every vote; and
- v.) One voting Member may request a ballot vote.

5.6 The Board may determine that a Special Meeting shall be held entirely or partially by means of telephonic, an electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting.

6.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

6.1 Composition

The Board shall consist of a minimum of six (6) to a maximum of eight (8) Board Members elected from among the membership. In addition, the Board shall include the following ex-officio voting Board Member:

- i.) The Chair of the Alumni Council

6.2 Eligibility

Each Board Member shall:

- i.) Be at least 18 years of age;
- ii.) Not be an undischarged bankrupt;
- iii.) Be a Member of the Association, except the ex-officio voting Board Member;
- iv.) Further the objectives and act in the best interest of the Association.

6.3 Selection of Board Members

- i.) The Nominating Committee shall oversee the selection and nomination process.
- ii.) The Nomination Committee may nominate a candidate for the Board by written submission on a prescribed form to the Chair of the Nominating Committee (care of the Association) at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting. This submission must include the candidate's consent and the nominator's signatures.

- iii.) Any twenty-five (25) Members may nominate a candidate for the Board by written submission on a prescribed form to the Chair of the Nominating Committee (care of the Association) at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting. This submission must include the candidate's consent and the nominator's signatures.
- iv.) The Nominating Committee may choose to support or not support the nominations made under Section 6.3 (iii) hereof.
- v.) Nominations will not be accepted at the Annual General Meeting.
- vi.) The election of Board Members shall take place at the Annual General Meeting. Voting will take place only when there are more members nominated than positions available. Voting will take place by secret ballot. Three (3) Members who are not on the ballot, appointed at the meeting, will count the ballots. The Director responsible for Alumni Relations will oversee the process. Results shall be announced prior to the close of the Annual General Meeting. Ballots will be destroyed two weeks post-election by the Director responsible for Alumni Relations.

6.4 Term of Office

- i.) Each Board Member shall be elected for a two (2) year term by the Members of the Association present at the Annual General Meeting. No Board Member can serve more than three (3) consecutive two (2) year terms.
- ii.) A Board Member may serve a seventh (7th) year only if it is in the role of immediate Past Chair, which is not an additional position. Elected Board Members must not exceed eight (8) persons.
- iii.) A Board Member shall not hold act as Chair of the same committee for more than two (2) years.
- iv.) If a Board Member assumes their position on the Board in the midst of a term, they will have been considered to have served their first year at the following Annual General Meeting.

6.5 Power and Duties

The Board shall:

- i.) Govern the affairs of the Association in accordance with applicable legislation, regulations, by-laws and policies;
- ii.) Develop the Mission and Vision of the Association in consultation with External Relations at the University of Manitoba;
- iii.) Participate in the various committees and activities of the Association;
- iv.) Make representations on behalf of the Association;

- v.) Annually review the Association's By-Laws, Terms of Reference of all committees and other related governance documents;
- vi.) Guide the creation and oversee the selection and appointment of members to the Association's committees including Alumni Council;
- vii.) Guide the setting of the agenda for the Board and other Association committees; and
- viii.) Serve as the Distinguished Alumni Awards Committee, that includes the following responsibilities:
 - a. review nominations against the established criteria and recommend to the President of the University of Manitoba the proposed recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Awards for that given year;
 - b. support Alumni Relations with ticket sales and sponsorship solicitation by actively participating in outreach to their networks and leaders in the community; and
 - c. provide feedback on the Celebration of Excellence gala and format, nominations process, selection criteria, and Distinguished Alumni Awards program and Terms of Reference.

6.6 Vacancies

- i.) Should a vacancy occur in the position of a Board Member or an officer the Board may appoint a replacement to fill the vacancy to complete the term.
- ii.) Vacancies should be filled within thirty (30) days where possible.

6.7 Resignation or Removal of a Board Member

A Board Member's position will be deemed vacant where:

- i.) A Board Member submits a written resignation to the Chair;
- ii.) A Board Member does not meet required attendance as per section 6.9;
- iii.) An elected Board Member ceases to be a Member of the Association;
- iv.) A Board member dies;
- v.) At a special meeting of the Board, a resolution is passed by $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Board Members present at the meeting to remove a Board Member from office for just cause. The Board Member being considered for removal shall not participate in the vote. A notice of motion must be sent out prior to the vote to the Board Members. This motion cannot arrive as new business at a Board Meeting.
 - a. The Board Member being considered for removal, at their discretion, will have the opportunity to address the Board in person, by a personal representative or in writing.
- vi.) Anytime a Board Member resigns or is removed under any circumstance, a written letter must be sent to the Board Member by the Chair confirming the date of resignation or termination. A copy of such letter must be kept on file for the purposes of directors' liability insurance.

6.8 Board Meetings

- i.) The Board shall meet at least three (3) times annually. Meetings of the Board shall be called by the Chair, or when requested to do so, by at least three (3) Board Members. Twenty-one (21) days' notice should be provided where possible.
- ii.) Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Chair, by any three (3) Board Members, or the President of the University or designate. A minimum of two (2) business days' notice must be given.

6.9 Attendance

- i.) Attendance at Board and committee meetings by Board Members is integral to the effective functioning of the Alumni Association. Therefore, if any elected Board Member misses two (2) consecutive regular Board meetings without reasonable cause, or who misses more than 50% of board and committee meetings in a calendar year, the Member will be contacted by the Chair of the Board to discuss their attendance and the advisability of continued membership on the board. Based on the discussion, the Board Chair will determine whether or not to recommend to the Board that the Board Member be removed from the Board.
- ii.) Any Board Member unable to attend a regular or special Board meeting shall send regrets to the Chair of the Board and the Director responsible for Alumni Relations or to a person designated by the Director responsible for Alumni Relations prior to the start of the meeting.
- iii.) Where the Association is willing and able to facilitate, Board Members may participate in a meeting by means of any telecommunications device, which permits all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other. Such Board Members shall be considered present at the meeting for purposes of quorum.

6.10 Voting

Matters before the Board shall be decided by a majority of Board Members present. Voting shall be by show of hands or other means recognized by the Chair, unless a ballot is requested by any one Board Member. The Chair shall not vote unless there is a tie. In the case of a tie, the Chair shall vote to break the tie.

6.11 Quorum

Quorum at a meeting of the Board shall be a majority of Board Members.

- 6.12 The Chair of any meeting of the Board Members shall be the Chair, failing whom; the Chair will designate the Vice Chair to act as Chair. If the Chair cannot designate the Vice Chair, the Board members present shall choose one of the Board Members to be Chair.

6.13 Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Board shall have the full power in all things to manage and administer the business and affairs of the Association. The powers of the Board may be exercised by resolution passed at a meeting at which a quorum is present.

6.14 If a meeting of the Board is adjourned for less than thirty (30) days, it shall not be necessary to give notice of the adjourned meeting, other than by announcement at the earliest meeting that is adjourned. If a Board meeting is adjourned by one or more adjournments for an aggregate of thirty (30) days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given as for an original meeting.

6.15 Guests

With the exception of meetings or portions that are deemed closed by the Chair, meetings of the Board shall be open to all members of the Association and to such other person as permitted or invited to participate from time to time by the Chair or by the majority of the Board. The majority of the Board present may determine the Board meetings closed.

6.16 Conflict of Interest

On any matter before the Board or a committee, if any person has a real, potential or perceived conflict of interest, it must be declared to the Board or committee through the Chair. The person in a real potential or perceived conflict shall refrain from influencing others on the matter prior to the meeting shall not speak to the matter at meetings shall excuse themselves from discussion on the matter and shall abstain from voting on the matter. Board Members and committee members shall act in accordance with the Association's Conflict of Interest Policy, which may be introduced and /or amended from time to time.

7.0 OFFICERS

7.1 The officers of the Association shall be Chair, Past Chair, and a Vice-Chair. The Board shall determine the slate of officers from the elected Board Members at the first meeting following the Annual General Meeting.

7.2 The duties and responsibilities of the officers shall be as follows:

- i.) **Duties of the Chair:** To be accountable to the membership for the actions of the Board; to chair the Board and Annual General Meetings; to serve on the Nominating Committee; to act as the primary liaison between the Board and the Director responsible for Alumni Relations; and to act as the Vice Chair of the Alumni Council.

ii.) **Duties of the Past Chair:** To chair the Nominating Committee. If the Past Chair is unwilling or unable to chair the Nominating Committee for any reason whatsoever, the Board shall appoint another Board Member to chair the Nominating Committee.

iii.) **Duties of the Vice-Chair:**

- a. To assume the duties of the Chair in the event of the resignation or removal of the Chair.
- b. To act on behalf of the Chair on a temporary basis as required.
- c. To chair the Student Awards Committee

7.3 The Board may, from time to time and subject to the provisions of the Act, vary, add to or limit the powers and duties of any officer.

7.4 If any Board Member or officer is unable to perform his functions or discharge his duties as such Board Member or officer, the Board may appoint such other Board Member(s) or officer(s) to perform the functions and/or to discharge the duties of that Board Member or officer.

8.0 COMMITTEES

8.1 Standing Committees of the Association shall be the:

- i.) The Alumni Council:
- ii.) Nominating Committee
- iii.) Student Awards Committee

8.2 Ad hoc committees shall be as designated from time to time by the Board.

8.3 Membership on a committee shall be approved by the Board and may include Board Members, Members and/or such other person permitted by the Board, for a term designated by the Board. The duties and terms of reference of all committees shall be set out in writing and approved by the Board. The Chairs of all committees shall be approved by the Board.

8.4 The powers of the committee of the Board may be exercised by a meeting at which a quorum is present or by resolution in writing signed by all the members of such committee who would have been entitled to vote on that resolution at the meeting of the committee. Meetings of such committees may be held at any place the committee shall determine.

8.5 Unless otherwise determined by the Board, each committee shall have the power to:

- i.) Fix its quorum at no less than a majority of its members; and

- ii.) Regulate its procedure.

9.0 DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR ALUMNI RELATIONS

- 9.1 The Association recognizes that the Director responsible for Alumni Relations shall report and be accountable to the Vice-President (External) of the University.
- 9.2 The Director responsible for Alumni Relations or designate shall attend all Board meetings and shall be a non-voting Secretary to the Board and on all the Board's standing committees.
- 9.3 Duties of the Secretary shall include:
 - i.) Act as Secretary at all Board meetings. Secretarial duties may be delegated to a designate at the Secretary's discretion;
 - ii.) Give notice of all meetings and give or cause to be given all notices to Members, Board Members, officer, auditors, and committee members;
 - iii.) Keep records of the proceedings of all Board meetings and all Annual General Meetings and business matters; and
 - iv.) Perform any other duties pertaining to the office of Secretary and such other powers and duties as the Board or the Chair may specify.
- 9.4 Where the Director responsible for Alumni Relations is a Graduate of the University, their rights and privileges as a Member shall remain in full force and effect where expressly provided herein.
- 9.5 The Director responsible for Alumni Relations shall also have the following duties, as designated by the Vice-President (External) of the University.
 - i.) Provide oversight of day to day administrative activities for the Association;
 - ii.) Serve as a liaison between the Association and the University;
 - iii.) Provide the Board with leadership, guidance and subject matter expertise on key activities and initiatives; and
 - iv.) Assist the Board with strategic planning and goals.
- 9.6 The Director responsible for Alumni Relations shall be hired by the Vice-President (External), according to human resources policies and procedures of the University.

10.0 ELECTION BY GRADUATES OF ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

10.1 Nominations

- i.) The Association shall annually nominate two (2) or more candidates for election as a member of the Board of Governors by the Graduates to succeed the elected member whose term is about to expire, and two (2) or more candidates for election as a member of the Board of Governors to fill any vacancy in the Board of Governors to be filled by election by the Graduates.
- ii.) For the purposes of this section, if the Association is unable to nominate two (2) or more candidates because of an unwillingness or lack of interest by those approached the conditions of this section will be deemed to have been met.
- iii.) The nomination of a candidate may also be made by twenty-five (25) Graduates and accompanied by the written consent of the nominee;
- iv.) The procedure for nominations shall appear in the autumn issue of the *UM Today The Magazine*, or its successor, and/or other such printed or online forms of media that the Board may determine.
- v.) The closing date for nominations shall be March 1st of each year, or such other dates determined by the Association and the University, providing that it is in compliance with all requirements.
- vi.) The Nominating Committee shall oversee the selection and nomination process.

10.2 Eligibility

For the purposes of this election, those eligible to vote and eligible for candidacy are Graduates with degrees, diplomas and certificates as approved by Senate.

10.3 Terms in Office

Alumni elected by the Graduates to serve on the Board of Governors may do so for a maximum of three (3) consecutive three (3) year terms.

10.4 Election

The election shall be conducted by online voting, or by such other means as permitted by the Association. The secretary or designate shall conduct the election in accordance with these By-Laws, any policies established by the Alumni Association Board of Directors and in alignment with the UM Board of Governors' Code of Conduct and all other related

policies and procedures.

10.5 Ballots

- i.) A ballot shall be provided to all Graduates as soon as possible following the close of nominations;
- ii.) Full biographical information and photographs of all candidates shall be available on the University's website; and
- iii.) The ballot shall include a section for voting purposes, on which the following is to appear:
 - a.) Voting procedure;
 - b.) Deadline for return of ballots; and
 - c.) Address ballots are to be returned to.

10.6 Counting the Ballots

- i.) The counting of ballots shall take place after the close of the election; and
- ii.) The counting of ballots shall take place in the Association offices by or under the supervision of the Director responsible for Alumni Relations. Candidates may jointly appoint two (2) scrutineers to witness the counting of the ballots.

10.7 Election Results

The results of the election shall be forwarded in writing, no later than May 31st of each year, to the Secretary of the Board of Governors.

10.8 Cost of the Election

The cost of the election and its related advertising is to be borne by the University, as legislated in subsection 12(1) of the *University of Manitoba Act*.

10.9 Failure to Hold an Election

In the event that only a single candidate is nominated, the Board shall appoint that candidate to succeed the elected member whose term is about to expire. This appointment is subject to the approval of the Board of Governors who, under subsection 12(4) of The University of Manitoba Act, may take alternative steps to fill the vacancy.

11.0 FISCAL POLICIES

- 11.1 Board Members shall not receive any remuneration for serving as a member of the Board. However, Board Members may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred on behalf of the Association in accordance with the Association's travel and business expense policies as may be introduced and or amended from time to time.
- 11.2 The signing authorities of the Association shall be the Chair and Vice-Chair.

12.0 GENERAL PROVISIONS

12.1 Indemnification

The Association agrees to indemnify the Board Member and officers and all former Board Members and officers, as well as their heirs and legal representatives against all actions undertaken by them in good faith on behalf of the Association and all claims suits or proceedings brought against them provided that no Board Member or officer or former Board Member or officer shall be indemnified in respect of any liability cost charge or expense that they sustain as a result of fraud, dishonesty, willful neglect or willful default.

12.2 Limitation of Liability

No Board Member or officer shall be liable for the acts, receipts, neglects or defaults of any other member of the Board, officer or employee, or for joining in any other act or conformity or for any loss, damage or expense occurring to the Association through the insufficiency or deficiency of title to any property acquired for or on behalf of the Association or for the insufficiency or deficiency of any security in or upon which any of the monies of the Association shall be invested or for any loss or damage arising from the bankruptcy, insolvency or tortious acts of any person with whom any of the monies securities or effects of the Association shall be deposited or for any loss occasioned by an error of judgment or oversight on his part or for any other loss damage or misfortune whatsoever which shall happen in the execution of the duties of his office or in relation thereto unless the same occasioned by his own willful neglect or default provided that nothing herein shall relieve any Board Member or officer from the duty to act in accordance with The Corporations Act (Manitoba), C.C.S.M, c, C225 the Act or from liability for any breach of the provisions thereof.

- 12.3 The accidental omission to give notice to any Member, Board Member, officer, auditor or member of a committee or the non-receipt of any notice to any Member, Board Member, officer auditor or member of a committee or any error contained in such notice not affecting the substance of the notice shall not invalidate any action taken at any meeting held pursuant to such notice or otherwise founded thereon.

12.4 Robert's Rules of Order Newly revised, or the most current edition, will be the recognized Parliamentary Authority for all meetings of the Association.

13.0 AMENDMENTS

13.1 Amendments to the by-laws may be made by either a recommendation from the Board or by any Member(s). The by-law recommendation must be forwarded to the Chair at least forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting where such amendments are to be considered. Amendments to the by-laws must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) of those Members present.

13.2 Notice of proposed amendments must appear in a publication made available to the membership at least twenty-one (21) days prior to Annual General Meeting.

Election of 2026/28 Board of Directors to the Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba

June 17, 2026

Jai Gandhi [BComm(Hons)/20] - Seeking re-election for second two-year term:



Jai Gandhi is a proud University of Manitoba alum and currently serves on the University of Manitoba Alumni Board of Directors and the Alumni Council, where he has been a member for the past two years. Originally from Dubai, UAE, Jai came to Winnipeg as an international student and earned his Finance degree from the Asper School of Business.

During his time at the University of Manitoba, Jai developed not only a strong academic foundation, but also meaningful friendships, leadership experiences, and a deep appreciation for the university community. He credits the University with playing a significant role in shaping both his personal and professional journey.

Today, Jai feels incredibly grateful and blessed to have the opportunity to give back to the University and support its alumni community through his work on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. He is passionate about fostering connections, supporting future generations of students, and helping strengthen the lifelong relationship between alumni and the University of Manitoba.

Meycee Kalaw-Crevier [MBA/23] - Seeking re-election for second two-year term:



Maria Carmela "Meycee" Kalaw-Crevier (she/her) is a project management professional with experience leading complex initiatives in the healthcare and pharmaceutical manufacturing sectors. She currently serves as a Project Manager with Shared Health's Provincial Pharmacy Shared Services in Winnipeg, Manitoba, where she supports strategic initiatives focused on enhancing healthcare delivery, operational effectiveness, and system-wide coordination.

Meycee earned her Master of Business Administration from the University of Manitoba (UM). She also holds the Project Management Professional (PMP) designation from the Project Management Institute and completed the UM President's Student Leadership Program. Earlier in her academic career, she earned a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from the University of Winnipeg.

A proud alum of the UM, Meycee remains actively engaged in the university community through leadership, mentorship, and alumni initiatives. She has contributed to several university-affiliated programs and governance bodies, including the UM Alumni Association Board of Directors and Alumni Council, while also supporting student development through business case competitions, venture competitions, and leadership programming.

Serena Vandersteen [BSc(Maj)/13] – Seeking election for first two-year term



Serena began her career at MTS Allstream in their Wireless Technology Development department before moving to iQmetrix as an Integrations Developer in 2013. In 2019 she began a new role with at Hippo CMMS as a Full Stack developer until an opportunity became available at Ubisoft Winnipeg. Serena has served as a Generalist programmer and Team Lead Programmer at Ubisoft Winnipeg ever since.

Throughout her career, Serena was steadfast in her volunteering with Ladies Learning Code(LLC)/Canada Learning Code(CLC), where she began volunteering with the Winnipeg Chapter in 2014, and eventually led the chapter in 2015. Under her leadership, she assisted the Winnipeg Chapter of LLC through its rebrand to CLC and beyond and move into more of a bootcamp model where she still consults. Serena also served two terms from 2019 to 2023 with the Manitoba Organization of Disc Sports Board of Directors as part of the Governance Committee and Women's Committee, chairing the later committee and chairing the Conduct Committee.

For the past year, Serena has served on the University of Manitoba Alumni Council as a Faculty of Science representative.