



However, other students in thesis-based programs may expect delays to completion of their degrees if the interruptions continue. Thesis examinations are proceeding through remote mechanisms

Given all the supports put in place by faculty and Faculties, we expect that 90+% of Laurentian students have the opportunity to complete term on time, with alternatives continuing to be actively worked on for the remainder. It is important to highlight the very strong response that Laurentian has received from its professors and instructors. Their response and commitment has been outstanding, and the success of our students in completing their terms is wholly due to the way that the entire Laurentian community has rallied around our students.

### **Fiscal Stewardship**

As of January 2020, the 2019-20 fiscal year the university was projecting a small deficit of approx. \$0.7 million, after reliance on one-time funding from the Province under the Northern Tuition Sustainability (NTS) Funding. The shortfall in one-time funding from the NTS compared to our expectation in the budget was \$1.4 million and the Administration was working on solutions to bring the budget into balance and ensure the accumulated Laurentian operating deficit did not exceed the Board approved maximum of \$14.8 million as of April 30, 2020.

In late January, the University commenced its Infectious Disease Response Planning, and more recently, our efforts to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak has demanded unexpected resources and has required extraordinary effort of our faculty, staff and students. The Finance team has been working with the departments to estimate the financial implications resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic.

In recognition of these additional costs and uncertainty placed on postsecondary education institutions, the Ministry of Colleges and Universities is providing immediate emergency funding of \$25 million to be distributed among colleges, universities and Indigenous Institutes. Laurentian University will receive \$793,008 in immediate funding, which will reduce the projected deficit.

At the time of writing this report, it is estimated that the operating deficit for the year ended April 30th, 2020 will grow from \$0.7 to approximately \$5 to 6 million, after consideration of potential savings and one-time MCU funding. The University has provided an update to the Finance Committee of the Board of Governors on April 14, 2020 and is exploring additional steps and actions to mitigate this deficit.

### **Community Engagement**

Laurentian, together with Cambrian College and College Boreal is an important part of the Greater Sudbury community and we are continuing to emphasize our community engagement and are working closely together as a regional post-secondary system during this challenging time. In

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particular, we have ongoing discussions as to how we can best support our students in the community, and coordinate our overall community engagement responses. For example, we are working to mobilize our applied research expertise and facilities to support local health care and community needs, including the use of 3D printing in the manufacturing of personal protective equipment (PPE).

At Laurentian, we have been a receiver as well as a provider of support. Most notable of the assistance that we have benefited from has been our community's support of our Student Emergency Support Fund, which received over \$95,000 in pledges. This fund is providing students with support for unexpected and additional expenses due to COVID-19. This includes underwriting unexpected travel, medical and housing expenses, but also includes support for broadband internet and additional costs they may be incurring in continuing their studies. As of

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Many thanks in advance for your ongoing hard work in this area. The administration also is committed to working transparently and openly with our labour partners with respect to the structure of work and related issues.

### **Monthly Kudos**

I would like to recognize the efforts of everyone in the Laurentian community that have contributed to our very strong response to COVID-19. In particular, I would like to recognize our front line people in student life, campus safety and security, cleaning and maintenance staff, all of whom have been at the front line of keeping our students and everyone on campus safe, secure and supported.

I also would like to highlight the work of the Emergency Management Team that coordinated our response to COVID-19 on campus and with the broader community. Beginning with 3 hour daily meetings from March 11th (including on the weekend), to what have now transitioned to weekly and as needed meetings as the situation has stabilized, this group has contributed highly laudable leadership to the community, provided support and fostered a sense of safety, security and optimism around campus. Chaired by Brad Parkes and supported by Christine Robinson, the group

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as well as hear the knowledge of experienced professionals. Attendees had the chance to pitch their skills to companies through the RBC Backpack to Briefcase speed networking session. A few other great aspects of this day included:

The launch of Ten Thousand Coffees at Laurentian. This online mentorship platform connects people for peer mentorship based on shared goals and interests. We thank the organization's founder, Dave Wilkin, for his kind words in celebrating the launch.

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The University of Sudbury hosted a three-day celebration of the 45th year of the Indigenous Studies department and program. These celebrations included the awarding of Professor Emeritus status to Dr. Emily Faries and Dr. Jim Dumont: <https://usudbury.ca/en/news/current-news/1728-anishinaabe-maanjido-win-the-continued-spirit-of-indigenous-studies-a-great-success>

For the third consecutive season, the OUA Men's Basketball MVP award was awarded to Kadre Gray. He is the first player in the OUA to receive this award three years in a row since 2014 and the third player in the history of the OUA to win this award in three consecutive seasons. Former Laurentian player, Ted Gonelmans, earned this honour from 1997 to 2000.

Litha Ncanisa, also from our Men's Basketball team has been awarded the Ken Shields Award, an award given to the student-

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Chris Critelli, Winnipeg, Laurentian, 1974-78  
Carol Hamilton, Laurentian, 1984-87  
Dianne Norman, Laurentian, 1989-95  
Susan Stewart, Laurentian, 1989-95  
Stephanie Harrison, Laurentian, 1995-2000  
Cassandra Carpenter, Laurentian, 2003-2008

Laurentian University is pleased to announce the creation of the Leo Gerard Legacy Fund, thanks to a generous financial contribution from United Steelworkers Canada and the Sudbury and District Labour Council. This \$33,500 pledge, adding to a donation of \$200,000 from last year will go towards two major new initiatives:

The biennial Leo Gerard Lecture on Workplace and Labour Studies, a series of presentations which will be free and open to the public

A scholarship for students enrolled in the Workplace and Labour Studies program

Hélène Lamoureux of our Women's Basketball Team was also named OUA Rookie of the Year and a member of the All-Rookie Team. She was fifth in scoring in the OUA, averaging 16.8 points per game.

Following the agreement signed between Laurentian University and Hainan Normal University (China), the Faculty of Management welcomed two representatives (c)7(u)63(78E50000912

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