



2023/2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM) (Hybrid)

of the University of Regina Alumni Association (URAA)

Wednesday, October 23, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

uraa.ca

AGENDA

1. Hybrid Meeting Zoom Etiquette: Jennifer Murray, Vice President URAA
2. Call to Order & Opening Remarks: Scott Carson, President URAA
3. Adoption of Agenda: Philomina Eklo, Secretary URAA
4. Adoption of Minutes of URAA 2023 AGM: Philomina Eklo
5. U of R President's Update: Dr. Jeff Keshen
6. Guest Speaker: Gwen Keith, B.ED., M.ED., PGDEA., M.ED. and Class of '74 Introduction
by Monica Deters, U of R Senate Representative for URAA
7. URAA President's Annual Report 2023/2024: Scott Carson
 - a. Governance: Christine Niemczyk, Committee Chair
 - b. Communications & Public Relations: Robert Ellis, Director & Committee Member
 - c. Finance: Nse Ekong, Director
 - i. Approval of Audited Financial Statements for 2023/2024
 - ii. Appointment for 2024/2025 Auditor
 - d. Partnership & Sponsorship: Robert Ellis, Committee Chair
 - e. University Advancement & Communications Report, Marc Butikofer
8. New business: URAA & U of R Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Scott Carson

9. Election of Directors and Re-election of Directors for 2024/2025: Christine Niemczyk,
Past President
10. Closing Remarks: Scott Carson
11. Adjournment



UNIVERSITY OF REGINA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (URAA) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, October 24, 2023, Hybrid Meeting
MINUTES

Present In-Person and Virtually: Marc Butikofer, Adebola Chafuwa, Vivienne Dawson, Monica Deters, Bob Ellis, Philomina Eklo, Joan Eremko, Srah Fedirko, Dawn Gaetz, David Keene, Richard Keis, Gwen Keith, Charity Kumassah, Alexis McEwen, Lisette Marion, Lisa Mitchell, Tracy Muggli, Jennifer Murray, Musamu, Christine Niemczyk, Roxanne Oleynk, Adeline Reihl, Deb Roberts, Sharon Spott, Dan Spott, Breandan Spruyt, Karen Woolley, Bert Yakichuk, Richard Yeomans

Land Acknowledgement: The University of Regina is situated on Treaty 4 lands with a presence in Treaty 6 territory. These are the territories of the Nêhiyawak (Cree), Anihšīnāpēk (Saulteaux), and Dakota, Lakota, and Nakoda, and the homeland of the Métis. Today, these lands continue to be the shared territory of many diverse peoples from near and far.

Call to order for the 2022-2023 Hybrid URAA AGM at 6:02 p.m. CST

1. Zoom Etiquette: Scott Carson, President URAA

As this is a Hybrid AGM, show of hands will be required onsite. For those alumni joining us virtually, we ask that if you agree with the motions, that you remain silent. If you are in opposition, please motion via a hand wave and recording is in progress as well.

2. Call to order and opening remarks: Scott Carson (SC), President URAA

We have worked with the dedicated team at the University Advancement and Communications to ensure accurate registration of our alumni members assembled today. We also have emailed advance copies of the agenda and supporting documents. If you are still not sure where the agenda, previous minutes and other materials are, they can be located on the website at alumni.uregina.ca/uraa. Thank you to then ACE team for the organization and roll out of today's URAA AGM.

3. Adoption of Agenda: Philomina Eklo, Secretary

MOTION: To adopt the agenda as presented

MOVER/SECONDER: Philomina Eklo/Karen Woolley

CARRIED

4. Adoption of Minutes of 2021 AGM (Philomina Eklo)

MOTION: To adopt the minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting as presented this evening.

MOVER/SECONDER: Philomina Eklo/Bert Yakichuk

CARRIED

5. Introduction of special guests, Dr. Jeff Keshen and Marc Butikofer: Scott Carson

6. Guest Speaker: Dr. Jeff Keshen, President and Vice-Chancellor, U of R

Since the last AGM, it has been a tremendously busy year. While it is impossible to even begin to outline everything that has taken place, I'll provide a few highlights.

In November, we officially opened two new centres on campus.

The Brad Hornung Accommodations Test Centre provides a variety of state-of-the-art accommodation services for students who require supports while writing their exams. Brad was a talented hockey player and student who was injured while playing for the Regina Pats in 1987. He was one of the first students with a complex disability to attend our University, and many of the support we have for students was pioneered here while Brad was doing his history degree here. So, it is fitting that the Centre is named in his honour.

We also formally opened the Centre for Experiential and Service Learning, which brings together both existing and new means for students to have opportunities for experiential and service learning. By coordinating volunteer opportunities, finding ways to incorporate experiential learning into the curriculum, administering a "badge" program, and pulling in things like our longstanding Co-op program, this will help keep our students engaged, retained, and career-ready by graduation.

During the year we also signed some agreements with Saskatchewan Polytechnic and the Regional Colleges to enhance student pathways, with the Bachelor of Business Administration and Bachelor of Education programs being two areas of focus for these transfer credit agreements.

We have also been expanding dual credit opportunities in high schools, so that students can take a high school class that provides credit for a first-year University class. This is an exciting development in terms of recruitment and helping get students "university-ready," and we really are becoming the provincial leader in this regard.

Also, with an eye to recruitment in the province, last year we held “UR Days” recruitment events in several larger communities such as Estevan and North Battleford, and I spoke at a number of high schools in places like Indian Head and Esterhazy.

This year, we will have UR Days in a number of other places like Yorkton and Kindersley – and later this week, I’ll be paying a visit to the high school in Lumsden. So, connecting with schools around the province is a personal priority for me.

Agreements with universities in other countries have also been a priority – both to help with recruitment, and to further academic research and teaching collaborations as well as student exchanges.

Then-Provost Dr. David Gregory was in Vietnam and the Philippines late last year, and in February I visited India to sign agreements and attend recruitment events. I also did the same in Bangladesh and China just a couple of weeks ago.

These domestic and international recruitment activities are helping make a difference as we come out of the pandemic. Our enrolment, after a couple of years of sharp decline, has increased dramatically this year.

It is up more than 5 percent, to nearly 17,000 students, which is a record for this University. The largest increase is among international students who now number more than 4,000. But it is also of note that although domestic enrolments have remained relatively flat here and at other institutions, the largest rise in domestic students is among first years – which bodes well for the four-year program cycle.

It is also of note that the recent Fall Open house saw approximately 1,000 prospective students and family members on campus – far more than the few hundred who were here last year. Campus is coming alive, and more and more students are showing interest in what we offer.

This is welcome good news, because last year did pose challenges for the University, particularly in terms of budget. You will recall that we had budget cuts and layoffs associated with the budget we released in May. But through that management, and with enrolment increases for the year, we will now have a balanced budget for this year and are in a good position going forward.

And there have been some other notable accomplishments.

Two of our MAP faculty members – David Garneau and Dr. Taiwo Afolabi – were named to the Royal Society of Canada, demonstrating the excellence and national reputation of our academics.

One of our graduates, Isabelle Grajczyk, was one of only 20 Canadian recipients of the prestigious McCall MacBain Scholarships – Canada’s version of the Rhodes Scholarships.

And a number of other faculty members and students got national awards this past year.

So, we are on an upswing as an institution, and I'm confident that momentum will keep going. We just released our first-ever Indigenous Engagement Strategic Plan, for example, which will challenge us in many areas but in doing so, will make us a stronger, more welcoming, more accessible institution.

We have a new academic plan, with a clear focus on student success and satisfaction. A variety of things are already under way or under consideration – including new scholarships for top international and domestic students, and even the possible reduction in the international fee differential for top international graduate students.

My own objectives approved by the Board for the year include:

- Moving the needle on employee and student satisfaction;
- Developing and implementing a new budget model;
- Establishing and implementing key aspects of a Strategic Enrolment Plan;
- Developing a plan for capital builds and renovation that supports priorities like lab space, classrooms, and IT infrastructure;
- Completing Phase 2 of the “Go Far, Together” institutional identity project and producing a multi-year strategy for fundraising;
- Being more proactive than in the past at pursuing government funding opportunities and industry partnerships; and
- Implementing priority activities from the Indigenous Engagement Strategic Plan.

7. Presentation by ACE: Marc Butikofer, Executive Director - Advancement, University Advancement and Communications

We support alumni activities of the alumni team over the past year and our work to support the 88,000 alumni that we have around the world. And it's my great fortune for the support that we've received from the Alumni Association, and many of these different activities.

I will introduce the team behind all the communication events and programs.

Alexis McEwen answers all the social media related questions and work with chapters and branches across Canada and Regina.

Lisette Marion organizes and produces our Alumni Crowning Achievement Award, convocation, affinity programs and alumni data.

Vonda is in charge of all the newsletters such as Degrees Alumni.

Breandan Spruyt is involved in all of our budget, managing expense, and program and event registration.

I will provide an update on the different programs and successes we have had over the last year. The first is our affinity programs and these are programs that are available for alumni, which provide discounts in different areas, such as home and auto insurance. This year we have we added Manulife which is provides a life insurance. All these programs

are important because they provide resources back to the University to be able to help support the alumni program as well as others.

I want to touch on a couple of different activities that we do to be able to celebrate Alumni. One of these is the alumni effect, a monthly Lunch Hour series to showcase the stories of alumni who are doing incredible things within their work and communities. The second is the Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards, paint night, etc.

We also have events that are happening across Canada and we are really fortunate to be able to have some great branch leaders, volunteers in these different communities who we work with. Richard Keyes, in Saskatoon, Ian and Joanne in Ottawa, Danny Green and Sheldon Chambre in Calgary, Tori Dundas in Vancouver and Rujish Sarangi. We are proud of our involvement in slam dunk which is a huge event for us of which we usually have anywhere from 250 to 300 alumni and families come out. We are excited to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the University of Regina. The formal anniversary will be July 1st, 2024, but we'll be celebrating throughout the fall 2024, and into early 2025 through a number of different events in the community, engaging alumni, engaging students and engaging our broader community, and to help really celebrating what amazing things have happened on campus over the last 50 years.

Thank you to University of Virginia Alumni Association, Scott and to all the Board members who are involved. We thank you for your partnership and financial support that comes through the association and the work of the volunteers who are involved.

8. URAA Annual Report 2022/2023:

i. President's Report: Scott Carson

We started the year without a Finance Chair, luckily, we acquired Mahbub Tareq and Nse Ekong by way of our new Secretary, Philomina Eklo, and we got a pair that makes corporate non-profit accounting look easy after two months search.

We fell far short of my goal of reaching all faculties to lay the groundwork for an active network and bridge for alumni, however, we welcomed the Dean of the Centre for Continuing Education, Christie Schultz and we strengthened our partnerships with many groups at the University.

we waited 2 years for our new website which is live today we can serve the 88,000+ alumni that we represent.

We have found ways to build strict agendas during board meetings and empower committees.

My goal at the start of my term was to first establish URAA as a beacon for all alumni and affiliate organizations to point to, and then work as one united collective alongside the University as partners, not sponsors or donors. I still hold firm to that goal with the belief that the legacy will be a board that truly accomplished something great.

I must commend my board for its dedication and determination. Thank you for allowing me to serve as President this year.

ii. **Governance: Christine Niemczyk, Committee Chair**

URAA Bylaw Ratification

The only change to the bylaws, and this was approved by the URAA Board of Directors at the September 13, 2023 board meeting, and it pertains to section 3 composition of the board.

This was passed; however, we do need ratification from the alumni members who are joining us this evening at the AGM that “the Board's representative to Representatives to the University of Regina, Senate, and the University of Saskatchewan Senate shall participate on the board as a voting member, and not as ex officio members as per previous practice”.

MOTION: To adopt the URAA bylaws as presented.

MOVER/SECONDER: Christine Niemczyk/Brian Williams

CARRIED

iii. **Communications & Public Relations : Robert Ellis, Director:**

We provide support to the association and its board of directors in the outreach activities URAA undertakes with alumni, the university and the broader community.

The committee's major project was to work on a dedicated URAA website, and we are live today at uraa.ca. This is our alumni site – built by and administered by alumni for U of R alumni with current news and information, business directory, career section, alumni testimonials, and more and this will provide direct communication between the University of Regina Alumni Association and our valued alumni and students.

We support various university and community events such as the Saskatchewan Winter Games, U Prairie Challenge, Inspiring Leadership Forum and the Spring and Fall Convocations. Board members had speaking roles at those convocations and handed out label pins to graduates and assisted in frame sales for the degrees the graduates received.

Update on Ongoing Commitments

While the following commitments don't technically fall under the purview of this committee, we list them here for reporting purposes.

- URAA has oversight of the Alumni's Affinity partners that include BMO MasterCard and TD Home and Auto Insurance and Degree Frames from Milburn Universal Designs.
- URAA made pledge payments for the Dr. Vianne Timmons \$25,000 Scholarship. Those payments were initiated in 2019 and ended in 2023.
- URAA has several scholarships for students. These scholarships are funded by the association but administered by the university.

iv. **Finance: Mahbub Tareq & Nse Ekong, Committee Co-chairs**

a. *Approval of Audited Financial Statements for 2022/2023*

Audited financial statements for year ending March 31, 2023:

MOTION: To approve the Audited Financial Statements for 2022-2023 as circulated.

MOVER/SECONDER: Mahbub Tareq/Bert Yakichuk

CARRIED

b. *Appointment of 2023/2024 Auditor*

MOTION: That Virtus Group LLP be appointed as auditor for the fiscal year 2023-24.

MOVER/SECONDER: Mahbub Tareq/Margaret Hodges

CARRIED

v. **Partnership & Sponsorship: Bert Yakichuk, Director & Past President**

The University of Regina Alumni Association (URAA) is proud to support a number of groups, activities and initiatives that promote the university, its students and its graduates. The following is a list of programs and events supported by URAA over the past year.

Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards – Contributed \$25,000.

Inspiring Leadership Forum – Contributed \$6,300.

REAL Talk Forum – Contributed \$2,000.

University Career Fairs – Contributed \$1,900 (Spring and Fall).

Cougar Athletics Sponsorship, 2022-23 – Contributed \$6,000 and \$2,500 towards “swag” items.

Overall Athletics Sponsorship 2023-24 – Recently finalized a comprehensive athletics sponsorship with the university worth \$13,000. Rams \$2,000 and the new Varsity Sport event (\$2,500).

Support for the Cougar Women’s Hockey Alumni Golf Tournament – Contributed \$800.

Support for the Saskatchewan Winter Games – Contributed \$10,000.

9. **New business: Scott Carson**

No new business was brought forward.

10. **Election of Officers for 2023/2024: Christine Niemczyk, Immediate Past President**

The current directors on October 13, 2021 were appointed for a two-year term, which expires in October 13, 2023. These directors will remain on the URAA board for the duration of their term: Robert Ellis, TonBari Menegbo and Jennifer Murray.

Motion: To elect the directors as presented above for a second two-year term.

MOVER/SECONDER: Christine Niemczyk/Bert Yakichuk

CARRIED

The following current directors on October 13, 2021, were elected for a one-year term expiring October 2022 and at the October 2022 URAA AGM, agreed to put

their names forward for a two-year term ending October 2024: Bert Yakichuk, Cheryl Bergen.

The following directors have agreed to let their name stand for executive positions.

- President: Scott Carson
- First Vice-President: Jennifer Murray
- Past President: Christine Niemczyk (appointed)
Note: The past president position is not an elected position which means that Christine Niemczyk by virtue of being the past president will retain this position for one year ending October 2024.
- Philomina Eklo (Secretary)
- Nse Ekong (Chair Finance)

Note: Both were appointed following the 2022 URAA AGM, by the URAA Board as directors in September of 2023 for a one-year term.

Motion: To elect the Executive officers as presented for one-year terms.
MOVER/SECONDER: Christine Niemczyk/Rachel Alabi
CARRIED

Motion: To elect Nse Ekong as the VP Finance.
MOVER/SECONDER: Christine Niemczyk/Rachel Alabi
CARRIED

Nominations from the floor (on-site) and online (virtual) for one vacant position:

Rick Hagglund offered his potential involvement to fill the vacant position on URAA board.

Motion: For Rick Hagglund to fill the vacant position on URAA board for a year term.

MOVER/SECONDER: Christine Niemczyk/Cheryl Bergen
CARRIED

The following individuals are ex-officio directors:

Monica Deters, Senate Representative, University of Regina
Tracy Muggli, Senate Representative, University of Saskatchewan
President of University of Regina Student Union, Associate Director, Alumni & Community Engagement, University of Regina

Christine's closing

In closing just wanted to note that the again. We've referenced the Senate positions. The University of Saskatchewan Senate position on the URAA Board and not elected, as I said, but they are appointed for a 3-year term. We have Monica Dieters, who is the past President of URAA. She is the U of R Senate

representative, and has just completed her first year. I have mentioned Tracy Muggli is the U of S Senate representative, and she has completed her second year of a three-year term, both doing amazing jobs along with all their volunteers on the URAA Board. We have mentioned ex-officio directors. They are non-voting members. Currently we have 3, the president of the University of Regina Students Union (URSU). We have the University of Regina University Advancement representative, and we have the U of R President, who we've heard from this evening.

11. Closing Remarks: Scott Carson

In closing our first meeting as a new board is going to be Wednesday, November first at 5 pm at the University. He secretary will send the board package.

12. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the 2023 URAA Annual General Meeting.

MOVER: Kerrie Cadmin

CARRIED

2022-23 URAA AGM adjourned at 7:30 p.m. CST

The minutes were recorded by Philomina Eklo

URAA PRESIDENT'S AGM REPORT – 2023/24

This past year, we've dealt with a lot of unexpected happenings: new sponsorship requests, internal auditing of financials, a loss of an affinity partner, and the need for a renewed memorandum of understanding with the U of R. No matter, the URAA board worked alongside our partners at U of R Alumni Communications & Engagement (ACE) to embrace it all: The new sponsorship requests helped us further diversify beyond existing arts, athletics and scholarships; we built a responsible budget that will survive board turnover; and we found a new affinity partner. All the while, we did the necessary diligence expected by our 90,000+ members to be a voice for and celebrate our incredible alumni. The results were astounding, as made evident by the overwhelming success of every event we aligned with.

As my term concludes, it has been a sincere honour to serve as President for an association I have great respect for. I joined after a networking event led to a mentoring opportunity, and ever since I've wanted to bring about change or at least understand the workings of an institution that tens of thousands have entrusted with their livelihood. In reflecting, my time as president is bittersweet. On one hand, I'm content that URAA's infrastructure has never been stronger: we have a brand, a digital presence, a great opportunity to work with our friends at ACE, and we will be led by a brilliant new President in Jennifer Murray, backed by a dependable core of directors. I want to thank them all for supporting me and also continuing the work of the board. On the other, I wish I could have reached more faculties to establish relations with them. Regardless, I remain committed to advocating for an “alumni first” approach in everything the University procures. Thankfully, I get to be a thorn in Jenn's side for the next 2 years to push my agenda down the line a little bit longer!

The U of R has come a long way in 50 years, and so has the URAA. As we head into our 50th year as an association this spring, we celebrate the first of us to receive the distinguished title of Alumni. All the while, we stand together with a unified voice as we work as partners with the University to ensure our alumni proudly represent Regina on the national, and ultimately global, stage as the best in their field.

Scott Carson
President
URAA



URAA 2023/2024 AGM - October 23, 2024

Governance Report

1. **Bylaws:** No changes. Nothing to report. Please review at your leisure at uraa.ca

2. **Senate positions on the board:**
 - The University of Regina Senate position and the University of Saskatchewan Senate position on the URAA Board are not elected but are appointed by the board for a 3-year term.
 - Monica Deters is the U of R Senate Representative and has just completed year one of her 3-year term which expires October 2025.
 - Tracy Muggli was the U of S Senate Representative and served the board well for three years but recently resigned in September as she accepted and appointment to the Canadian Senate. This position is now vacant. The board will review U of R alumni based in Saskatoon who are potential candidates for the U of S Senate positions.

Submitted by:

Christine Niemczyk

Past President and Chair of the Governance Committee



Report of the Communications and Public Relations Committee at the University of Regina Alumni Association 2024 Annual General Meeting

The Communications and Public Relations Committee provides general support to the association and its board of directors in the outreach activities URAA undertakes with alumni, the university and the broader community. Its work connects with the work of other committees, in particular the Partnerships and Sponsorship Committee.

The committee's major project has been the development of a dedicated URAA website, which went live a year ago at the last annual general meeting and which can be found at uraa.ca. Refinements continue on the website which has been built by and administered by alumni for U of R alumni with current news and information, and plans to include a business directory, career section, alumni testimonials, and more. It is another resource for alumni, complementing the internet resources provided by the university and its alumni engagement team.

As other committee reports will indicate, URAA has been a supporter of, and partner on, various university and community events such as the Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards and the Inspiring Leadership Forum. Board members also had speaking roles at the Spring and Fall Convocations as members of the platform party. They handed out lapel pins to graduates and assisted in frame sales for the degrees the graduates received.

Update on Ongoing Commitments

While the following commitments don't technically fall under the purview of this committee, we list them here for reporting purposes.

- URAA has oversight of the Alumni's Affinity partners that include TD Home and Auto Insurance, Manulife Life & Health Insurance and Degree Frames from Milburn Universal Designs.
- URAA has a number of scholarships for students. These scholarships are funded by the association but administered by the university. Information on these scholarships can be found on both the URAA and university websites.

Submitted by:
Robert (Bob) Ellis

Report of the Partnerships and Sponsorships Committee at the University of Regina Alumni Association 2024 Annual General Meeting

The University of Regina Alumni Association (URAA) is proud to support various groups, activities and initiatives that promote the university, its students and its graduates. The following is a list of programs and events supported by URAA over the past year.

Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards – URAA is the presenting partner of these annual university awards that celebrate alumni excellence. The association contributed \$25,000 towards the program.

50TH Anniversary Alumni Week Sponsorship -- As the presenting partner, URAA contributed \$25,000 in support of the 50th anniversary alumni week events currently taking place on campus (October 21-26, 2024).

Inspiring Leadership Forum – URAA purchased two tables (total cost \$6,400) for the March 2024 edition of this annual university event aimed primarily at aspiring women leaders.

University Career Fairs – URAA supported the university's Fall and Spring Career Fairs by hiring a photographer to take photographs of graduating students for their portfolios. The cost was approximately \$1,500 for each Career Fair.

Overall Athletics Sponsorship 2024-25 – URAA has a comprehensive athletics sponsorship with the university worth \$16,000. It includes support of \$6,000 towards the Cougars teams, \$2,500 towards the Rams, \$2,500 towards UNITED: An Evening in Support of Varsity Sport, \$2,500 in "swag items for the annual February Cougar Slam Dunk event and \$2,500 towards the new Women's Soccer Homecoming Kick-off Event.

Support for the Cougar Women's Hockey Alumni Golf Tournament – URAA provided \$800 as a green level sponsor of this annual tournament which raises funds for scholarships for Cougar hockey players.

Support for the Faculty of Engineering's Project Day 2024 – URAA was a Silver Sponsor (\$750) of the Faculty of Engineering's Project Day 2024 in early April. Approximately 110 fourth year graduating students presented their final capstone projects to professional engineers, faculty, special industry guests and family members. URAA was billed as a Presentation Room sponsor at the event.

Support for the Fifth Parallel Gallery's "Rekindled Spaces" Art Exhibition – URAA is the presenting sponsor (\$3,500) of "Rekindled Spaces", an exhibition of the works of 39 fine arts alumni currently running at the student-run Fifth Parallel Gallery in the Riddell Centre.

Submitted by:
Robert (Bob) Ellis

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made on this ____ day of _____, 2024,

Between

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
[Address]
("URAA")

And

THE UNIVERSITY OF REGINA
the "University"
3737 Wascana Parkway
Regina, SK., S4S 0A2
as represented by the University Advancement
("UA")

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

WHEREAS:

- A. The URAA is an organization dedicated to being the leading proponent of the University of Regina and its' alumni throughout the world;
- B. URAA and the UA have in place a long-established collaboration and partnership and both parties are committed to building an active lifelong connection between the alumni and the University, a connection that responds to the priority needs of both the alumni and the University;
- C. The Parties to wish collaborate further in areas of mutual interest to meet and create opportunities for alumni around the world; and,
- D. The purpose of this MOU is to outline the agreement between the University and the Association regarding the control and management of funds raised through various fundraising initiatives and corporate partnerships.

NOW THEREFORE to strengthen and broaden the existing relationship between the URAA and UA and for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

1. Objectives:

- 1.1 To replace all previous MOUs and agreements between the University of Regina and the University of Regina Alumni Association.
- 1.2 Raise public awareness and the profile of the roles played by URAA and UA for alumni through programs, events, and communications.
- 1.3 Jointly plan, share, and participate in potential opportunities for alignment between URAA and UA activities to advance opportunities for alumni worldwide.
- 1.4 Work as partners through collaborative planning, decision-making, communication, and recognition of the roles of volunteers and staff from URAA and UA in the success of the alumni engagement program.
- 1.5 Align the visual identities of URAA and the University of Regina alumni engagement activities.

- 1.6 Ensure Affinity Contracts continue to be in place without interruption and fulfilled in alignment with the agreements, ensuring recognition and promotional opportunities for these programs are maximized.
- 1.7 Maintain separate budgets but collaborate to identify any duplication or inefficiencies, thereby increasing transparency.

2. Responsibilities:

2.1 Responsibilities of the University:

- 2.1.1 Provide resources to support URAA's fundraising initiatives, including marketing and promotional support.
- 2.1.2 Collaborate with URAA in identifying potential corporate partners.
- 2.1.3 Provide complimentary space and parking at the University of Regina campuses for URAA meetings and events, subject to availability.
- 2.1.4 Provide a direct link to URAA's website and social media on the UA's website. The University will also support URAA's digital marketing and communication efforts to enhance outreach and engagement with alumni.
- 2.1.5 Continue to receive mail for the URAA at the UA office.
- 2.1.6 Provide liability insurance coverage through the University's insurance policy for URAA activities related to University operations.
- 2.1.7 Provide URAA members with access to the university library's resources in accordance with the University's policies.
- 2.1.8 Employ alumni staff members to implement alumni engagement work.
- 2.1.9 Manage a central database of University alumni, ensuring compliance with privacy laws.
- 2.1.10 Allocate an annual budget to support alumni engagement programs.

2.2 Responsibilities of the Association:

- 2.2.1 Conduct fundraising initiatives and establish corporate partnerships aligned with the University's values and goals.
- 2.2.2 Retain control over the management and disbursement of all funds raised through these initiatives.
- 2.2.3 Provide regular reports to the University detailing the amounts raised, sources of funds, and how the funds are being utilized.
- 2.2.4 Ensure that all funds are used for purposes that benefit the University and its community, including but not limited to scholarships, research funding, and infrastructure development.
- 2.2.5 Commit to building alumni support for the University through responsible programs and services.
- 2.2.6 Include UA representatives as ex-officio non-voting members on the URAA Board.

2.2.7 Undertake a joint strategic planning process every three to five years.

2.2.8 Maintain a diverse and representative board of members.

3. Fundraising and Financial Management:

3.1 Funds & Management:

3.1.1 URAA shall retain control over funds raised through its fundraising activities, affinity programs, and corporate partnerships. All Alumni Affinity revenues earned from alumni affinity partners shall be transferred to the URAA to fund its core operations and programs.

3.1.2 Each Party shall retain control over their own affairs, activities, programs and partnerships.

3.1.3 The Association shall maintain a separate bank account for the funds raised through its initiatives.

3.1. **Programs & Projects:** While engaging in collaborative initiatives, URAA will maintain its independence and control over funds. Any joint expenditure plans will be mutually agreed upon annually, ensuring transparency and alignment with shared URAA and UA priorities.

3.2. **Consultation and Coordination:** URAA agrees to consult regarding any fundraising initiatives to ensure they align with the University's goals and planning processes.

3.3. **Financial Reporting:** The URAA will provide an annual financial report to the University detailing the funds raised and their allocation. This report will ensure transparency and accountability in the management of the funds. In the event that the University similarly obtains funds it will provide reciprocal reports to the URAA in accordance with GAAP, Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

4. Communication and Collaboration:

4.1 **Alumni Communication:** The URAA will be involved in all communications, strategy planning, tactics, and events in support of current and future alumni. UA and URAA will coordinate with each other in ample time to deliver the aforementioned.

4.2 **Joint Initiatives:** The University and the URAA will collaborate on initiatives that benefit both parties, including events, programs, and other activities that enhance alumni engagement and support the University's mission.

4.3 **Complimentary Resources:** UA agrees to provide complimentary space and parking at the University of Regina campuses for URAA meetings and events, subject to availability.

4.4 **Library Access:** UA will provide URAA members with access to the university library's resources in accordance with the University's policies.

4.5 **Mailing and Administrative Support:** UA will continue to receive mail for the URAA at the UA office and will provide necessary administrative support.

5. Strategic Planning and Representation:

5.1 **Strategic Planning:** The URAA and UA commits to joint strategic planning processes involving UA staff and other stakeholders, and to maintaining a diverse slate of board members representative of the University's alumni.

5.2 **Ex-Officio Representation:** UA representatives will serve as ex-officio non-voting members on the URAA Board to ensure alignment and communication.

6. Insurance Provisions:

6.1 **Liability Insurance:** UA will provide liability insurance coverage for URAA activities related to University operations.

7. Term and Termination:

7.1 **Term:** This MOU shall be in force from October 23, 2024, for a period of five years, ending on September 30, 2029.

7.2 **Renewal:** Six months prior to expiration, the Parties will discuss potential renewal. Either party can request to reopen the MOU with six months' notice or upon mutual agreement by the Executive Director University Advancement and the President of the URAA.

7.3 **Termination:** Either party may terminate this MOU with six months' written notice, provided that all financial obligations are honoured.

8. Dispute Resolution:

8.1 In the event of a dispute arising from this MOU, the President of the URAA and the Executive Director - University Advancement will meet to resolve the issue amicably.

8.2 If a resolution cannot be reached, the matter will be referred to firstly to mediation and, in the event a resolution cannot be reached, to arbitration in accordance with *The Arbitration Act (Saskatchewan)*.

10. Effective Date:

The Effective date of this Agreement is the [Date] day of [Month], 2024.

Signatories:

[Name]
[Title]
University of Regina Alumni Association
Date: _____

[Name]
[Title]
University of Regina
Date: _____



ASSOCIATION

AGM OCTOBER 23, 2024

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2024/2025:

According to the URAA Bylaws: a minimum of six (6) and a maximum of ten (10) elected directors as chosen by the Members of the Association.

The following directors on October 24, 2023 were appointed to a two-year term which expires **October 2025**.

- Robert Ellis
- Ton Bari Menegbo
- Jennifer Murray

Robert, Ton Bari and Jennifer have confirmed their intention to continue.

The past president position is not an elected position and is appointed which means that Scott Carson by virtue of being the current President will become Past President.

The following on October 13, 2021, were elected for a one-year term expiring October 2022 and at the October 2022 URAA AGM, agreed to put their names forward for a two-year term ending **October 2024**.

- Bert Yakichuk
- Cheryl Bergen

Both Bert and Cheryl would like to remain on the board for a second two-year term.

Motion: To re-elect Bert Yakichuk and Cheryl Bergin for a second two-year term ending October 2026.

Seconder:

Carried:

Philomina Eklo (secretary) and Nse Ekong (Chair, Finance) were voted and approved by the URAA Board as Directors in October of 2023, at a URAA Board Meeting, post the 2023 AGM. Both put their names forward after the AGM.

According to our bylaws, directors appointed to the Board by the Board must either be elected at the next AGM so we will require an election for Nse and Philomina's positions for a one-year term.

Motion: To elect Nse Ekong and Philomina Eko for a one-year term ending October 2025.

Seconder:

Carried:

The following directors have agreed to let their name stand for executive positions.

President – Jennifer Murray (The President may serve for two consecutive one-year terms on the Executive).

Vice-President – Robert (Bob Ellis)

Motion: To elect the executive member, Jennifer Murray as President, for a one year term ending October 2025.

Seconder:

Carried:

Motion: To elect director, Robert Ellis, as Vice-President, for a one-year term ending October 2025.

Seconder:

Carried:

The University of Regina Senate position and the University of Saskatchewan Senate position on the URAA Board are not elected but are appointed by the board for a 3-year term.

Monica Deters is the U of R Senate Representative and has just completed year one of her 3 year term which expires October 2025. Tracy Muggli was the U of S Senate Representative but recently resigned in September as she accepted and appointment to the Canadian Senate. This position is now vacant. The board will review U of R alumni based in Saskatoon who are potential candidates for the U of S Senate positions.

Election of two directors to the URAA Board:

Ron Podbielski: Class of '86, Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and

Communications. Ron is a respected communications practitioner with a 35-year record of service spanning the provincial and federal government, as well as the non-profit sector. He is also an active volunteer board member with organizations such as the Saskatchewan Science Centre, the Globe Theatre and Regina Crime

Stoppers. Ron is also a very excited, avid, and longtime Saskatchewan Roughrider fan and season ticket holder, a family tradition that carries on to this day with his son Jonathan. Ron's two children are currently attending his alma mater, the University of Regina.

Ron has put his name forward to join the URAA Board of Directors.

Motion: To elect Ron Podbielski as a board director for a one year term ending October 2025.

Secunder:

Carried:

1. **Amir Said, Bachelor of Arts and Certificate in Nonprofit Sector Leadership & Innovation in 2022.** He has been a passionate member of the University of Regina community since his first year in 2018, supporting fellow students through years of volunteering as part of the Ambassador Program and Regina Public Interest Research Group alongside a stint as Vice-President External Affairs of the University of Regina Students' Union. His involvement on campus continued as an elected member of the University of Regina Senate and Arts Council. Now based in Calgary, he's eager to continue supporting his alma mater as part of the University of Regina Alumni Association board

Amir has put his name forward to join the URAA Board of Directors.

Motion: To elect Amir Said as a board director for a one year term ending October 2025.

Secunder:

Carried:

Ex-Officio Directors (non-voting) are:

- President of the University of Regina Students Union (URSU)
- U of R Executive Director, University Advancement
- U of R, Director, Engagement, University Advancement

- U of R President

Background:

(a) the Past President shall serve as ex-officio voting director.

(b) the Board's representatives to the University of Regina Senate and the University of Saskatchewan Senate shall participate on the Board as a voting member, and not as an ex-officio member, as per previous practice. This motion was passed, carried, and approved at the September 13, 2023, URAA Board Meeting. Note: the two senate representative positions are not elected but are selected by the URAA board.

(d) President of the University of Regina Students' Union or their designate shall sit on the Board in ex-officio non-voting advisory role; and

(e) University Representative or their designate shall sit on the Board in ex-officio non-voting advisory role.

Section 7 – Terms of Office of Board Members

(a) All elected members of the Board shall be entitled to an initial probation term of one (1) year. Upon completion of that first year, the member has the option to run for a term of two (2) years and is further eligible for re-nomination for up to two additional consecutive two-year terms only.

(b) Any Board member who has served for six (6) consecutive years (excluding the first probation year) may be re-nominated for a seat on the Board if at least two (2) years has elapsed since the completion of their last term on the Board.

(c) The term of office for all elected Board members shall begin immediately following the Annual General Meeting at which they were elected or re-elected.

Submitted by:

Christine Niemczyk