

Backgrounder

"UCN welcomes the release of the OAG report on post-secondary governance. We have made renewal of our governance process a key strategic priority and the recommendations of the OAG will support and enhance our efforts." – Doug Lauvstad, president, University College of the North (UCN).

"The auditor's report focuses on oversight of Manitoba's seven major post-secondary institutions. Since the audit began almost five years ago, there have been significant changes in the college's leadership, board membership and governance practices as well as in our financial and HR accountabilities. As organizational governance models and approaches are continually evolving, we look forward to working with the province and our colleagues in post-secondary education on ways we can continue to modernize and strengthen governance practices," – Loren Cisyk, chair, board of governors, Red River College

"The University of Manitoba values the auditor general's review of best practices in post-secondary and welcomes recommendations to enhance our robust processes of governance and oversight while supporting institutional autonomy. UM has already begun moving forward on a number of recommendations within the report and looks forward to continued progress as part of our commitment to Manitoba's economic, social and cultural success." – Dr. Michael Bennarroch, president and vice-chancellor, University of Manitoba

"We look forward to working collaboratively with the province to implement the recommendations in the auditor general's report. As part of our goal of continuous improvement, the University of Winnipeg has already taken steps to address the majority of the areas for improvement highlighted in the detailed report. Manitobans can be confident that UWinnipeg is accountable for the public's investment and delivering top quality results." Dr. James Currie, interim president and vice-chancellor, University of Winnipeg

"We appreciate the insights and recommendations of the auditor general through this report. Our board has already started taken action to strengthen some of our practices in line with observations from the report." – Jeff Harwood, chair, board of governors, Assiniboine Community College

"Brandon University holds ourselves to the highest governance and oversight standards, and we are dedicated to delivering to our students and funders the absolute best value for their investments. We welcomed the opportunity to participate fully in this audit and look forward to working with the department to strengthen the post-secondary education system. For a smaller institution like BU, external support, including outside, independent reports like these, are critical for us to ensure we continue to meet these evolving standards. Together with our board, we will continue to ensure the governance of our institution aligns with leading practices in the sector." – Dr. David Docherty, president and vice-chancellor, Brandon University

"Université de Saint-Boniface (USB) has been paying close attention to governance issues for a long time and has, over the years, put in place an array of regulations, policies and practices creating a robust institutional framework. USB therefore, welcomes the recommendations of this report from the Office of the Auditor General of Manitoba in a spirit of collaboration and sees this as another opportunity to demonstrate its commitment to best practices in governance and accountability, while underscoring the importance of continuing to respect some of the unique characteristics of the university sector, including institutional autonomy and a bicameral governance structure. Several practices at USB are consistent with the recommendations in this report. In an effort to continually strengthen its governance framework, USB is committed to continuing in the same direction and to actively contributing to the development of Manitoba society and specifically to the vitality of the province's Francophone community." – Sophie Bouffard, president, Université de Saint-Boniface