

#### **Open Board of Governors**

Algoma University - Board of Governors CC 201 - SSM Campus / Virtual 2024-06-20 17:15 - 18:00 EDT

#### **Table of Contents**

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

#### **1.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories**

The acknowledgement of traditional territories was provided at the start of the Annual General Meeting to commence the meeting.

#### **1.2. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**

#### 2. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION : That all items listed under the 'Consent Agenda' be approved.

| 2.1. OPEN Agenda for | Board Meeting |
|----------------------|---------------|
|----------------------|---------------|

#### 

BOG - 30 May 2024 - Open Board of Governors Minutes.pdf......3

#### 3. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT - N/A

NOTE: An annual President's Report will be presented during the Annual General Meeting agenda.

#### 4. PRESENTATIONS

| 4.1. Algoma University Campus Economic Impact Report   | 3 |
|--|---|
| Note: Attachment 5. Economic Impact Report - SSM (full report) has been added as a supplementary document given the length. It is also available as linked in the briefing note. |   |
| BOG - 20-JUN-2024 - Open - Briefing Note: Algoma University Campus Economic  |   |
| Impact Report.pdf  | 3 |
| 1. Economic Impact Report Executive Summary - Province.pdf   | 2 |
| 2. Economic Impact Report Executive Summary - SSM.pdf27  | 1 |
| 3. Economic Impact Report - SSM (Projected).pdf30  | C |

#### 5. BUSINESS ARISING

#### 6. ITEMS FOR DECISION / DISCUSSION

| 6.1. Establishment of a Faculty of Computer Science and Technology48  |
|---|
| MOTION : That the Board of Governors approve the establishment of the Faculty of Computer Science & Technology, as recommended by the Algoma University Senate. |

BOG - 20 JUN 2024 - Faculty of Computer Science & Technology.pdf......48

| 1     | 1. Senate Report, June 7, 2024.pdf   | 50 |
|-------|--|----|
| 2     | 2. Business Plan - New Faculty Proposal.pdf  | 52 |
| 3     | 3. Presentation provided to BoG May 30,2024.pdf  | 58 |
| МОТ   | International Student Refund Policy Update<br>TION : That the Board of Governors approve the amendments made to the<br>mational Student Refund Policy, as recommended by the Risk & Finance Committe |    |
| E     | BOG - 20 JUN 2024 - Open - International Refund Policy.pdf   | 73 |
|       | 1. FI-13 International Student Refund Policy - Revised Clean Copy June<br>4.pdf  | 75 |
|       | 2. FI-13 International Student Refund Policy - Revised Marked Copy June<br>4.pdf   | 86 |
| 3     | 3. FI-13 International Student Refund Policy - Procedures.pdf1   | 03 |
| 6.3.  | Board and Committee Calendars 2024-25 & 2025-261   | 07 |
| for 2 | TION : That the Board of Governors approves the Board and Committee Calendars<br>2024-25 and 2025-26 as recommended by the Nominating and Governance<br>mittee.                                      |    |

| BOG - | 20 JUN 2024 | - Board and | Committee C | Calendar 2 | 2024-25.pd | f | 107 |
|-------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|---|-----|
| BOG - | 20 JUN 2024 | - Board and | Committee C | Calendar 2 | 2025-26.pd | f | 108 |

#### 7. NEW BUSINESS

#### 7.1. Departing Governors

The Board acknowledges the contributions of the Governors whose terms are ending: Paul Dupuis - Senate Member of the Board Rose Linklater - Non-Teaching Staff Member of the Board Isaac Withers - Student Member of the Board Mike Moraca -External Member and Chair of the Board

#### 8. INFORMATION ITEMS - N/A

#### 9. MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION

MOTION : That Board of Governors move into Closed Session.

#### **10. Closed Session Preparations**

Any guests and/or members of the media are asked to vacate the boardroom at the end of the Open Session.

## **Open Board of Governors** Minutes



Algoma University - Board of Governors Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 7:00 PM EDT @ CC 201 - SSM Campus / Virtual

#### Attendance

#### Present:

Members: Arjun Batra (remote), Robert Battisti, Paul Dupuis (remote), Sonja Kosuta (remote), Kelli-Ann Lemieux, Rose Linklater, Dionisio Nyaga, Paul Quesnele, Mario Turco, Asima Vezina (remote), Isaac Withers

Guests: Laurie Bloomfield (remote), Craig Fowler, Erin Morrison, Michele Piercey-Normore, Ilham Punjani (remote), Kramer Rousseau, Mary Wabano-McKay (remote), Colin Wilson (remote), Simon Xu

External Guests: Darren Taylor, SooToday, Brian Kelly, Sault Star

Secretariat : Samantha Giuliani, Shannon Kelly (remote), Nadya Ladouceur

#### Absent:

Members: Cecilia Bruno, Mike Moraca, Elaine Pitcher, Taylor Sayers

- 1. CALL TO ORDER (Presenters: Kelli-Ann Lemieux)
  - 1.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

As the Board of Governors began in Closed Session, an acknowledgement of traditional territories was provided in that session to commence the meeting.

1.2. Chair's Opening Remarks

The Vice-Chair welcomed Governors, members of the public and media to the open session of the Board of Governors meeting.

1.3. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

None.

#### 2. CONSENT AGENDA (Presenters: Kelli-Ann Lemieux)

#### Motion:

That all items listed under the 'Consent Agenda' be approved as recommended.

Motion moved by Rose Linklater and motion seconded by Isaac Withers. Carried.

2.1. OPEN Agenda for Board Meeting

3

#### 2.2. OPEN Minutes for Previous Meeting

#### 3. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT (Presenters: Asima Vezina)

The President presented her report indicating that Algoma University continues to be in a stable financial situation. Although the budget process was not without challenges due to the federal government's cap on international students and the provincial government's subsequent allocation of Provincial Attestation Letters (PALs), the University presented a student-centered, academic and research supporting budget. The President noted the milestone announcement of the construction of a new student residence in Brampton and indicated that the Sault Ste. Marie Campus Masterplan is on track. The President then announced that a new economic impact study will be shared with the Board at the June meeting and went on to present the six deliverables that were approved by the Board to complete over the next fiscal year.

#### 4. PRESENTATIONS

#### 4.1. 2024-25 Budget (Presenters: Kramer Rousseau)

K. Rousseau provided an overview of the 2024-2025 budget stating that the University continues to be in a strong, stable financial position which allows the University to increase its investments in what matters most to students, faculty and communities. The President noted that the main goal of the budget is to have a positive impact on people and community through building spaces, hiring individuals, and investing in academic and research excellence. The President noted that the budget serves the University's Special Mission and, as such, is built through a decolonized lens and supports the implementation of its EDI strategy and action plan. It was noted that the budget was centered around three pillars: (1) Investing to building in our communities; (2) Investing in people; and (3) Investing in academic and research excellence. The University's investment in Makwa Waakaa'igan and upcoming construction was highlighted which will serve as a centre of leadership and cross-cultural excellence in alignment with the University's special mission. Furthermore, increased investment in scholarships and bursaries were emphasized. It was noted that the budget was based on a projected enrolment of 10,740 students with continued efforts in domestic recruitment and growth while creating more opportunities for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students on all campuses, in addition to international student recruitment strategies underway.

The Board congratulated the Senior Leadership Team on the establishment of the budget.

4.2. Proposal for New Faculty of Computer Science and Technology (Presenters: Laurie Bloomfield)

L. Bloomfield, Acting Dean of the Faculty of Science, presented the proposal for a new Faculty of Computer Science and Technology, noting the interconnectivity between the new faculty and the department requests. The creation of the new faculty would separate the School of Computer Science & Technology from the existing Faculty of Science. This proposal was anticipated to elevate the profile of the offered computer science programs, and better support the increasing number of faculty members as well as the significant increase in enrolment. It was noted that Computer Science programs are providing in demand skills for students in a field where technology is constantly evolving. The creation of a Faculty of Computer Science and Technology would allow it to evolve with the market, offer training for in-demand programs and maintain its position as a program of strength. The University is anticipating that nearly 50% of all AU students could be enrolled in the Faculty of Computer Science & Technology within its first two or three years of existence and the faculty expects external funding for research which would attract even more students and faculty. Governors indicated that this would be beneficial for students and the workforce as this is an area in need.

5. BUSINESS ARISING - N/A

#### 6. ITEMS FOR DECISION / DISCUSSION - N/A

6.1. New Department Request - Computer Science

L. Bloomfield provided an overview of the work of department chairs to clarify the need to create two departments within the existing School of Computer Science and Technology and indicated that this change will allow departments to focus on their areas of expertise, help organize the faculty and manage workloads.

Governors expressed support for the development of the new departments. A question of process was raised and it was clarified that the Senate first needs to pass a motion to recommend to the Board of Governors the establishment of a new faculty before the Board can approve the establishment of such faculty.

5

#### Motion:

That the Board of Governors approve the establishment of two new departments under the School of Computer Science and Technology: the Department of Computer Science and Mathematics; and the Department of Information Technology and Professional Studies, as recommended by the Senate.

Motion moved by Dionisio Nyaga and motion seconded by Isaac Withers. Carried.

6.2. Naming and Recognition Policy (Presenters: Craig Fowler)

C. Wilson presented the revised Naming and Recognition Policy and noted that the policy was last reviewed in 2017. The policy has been updated to provide clear and consistent directives to staff and management and includes processes to revoke or remove naming rights. The revised policy has been developed in consultation with other universities and has been reviewed by legal counsel and the Risk and Finance Committee. Development of procedures associated with the policy will be completed afterward.

#### Motion:

That the Board of Governors approve the revised Naming and Recognition Policy as presented as recommended by the Risk and Finance Committee.

Motion moved by Dionisio Nyaga and motion seconded by Robert Battisti. Carried.

6.3. Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains: Algoma University Annual Report 2024

K. Rousseau presented the Algoma University Annual Report to Public Safety Canada: Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains and noted that the Federal government requires institutions of a certain size to report on this issue by May 31, 2024 following the introduction of Bill S-211 (effective January 1, 2024). The Act requires that the annual report be approved by the Board of Governors, submitted to the government, and subsequently posted on the University's website. AU's report speaks about the University's values and exposure to such risks, and reports no known issues and, therefore, no remedies. It includes future initiatives, mainly around education, key performance indicators, analysis of actual data, and inclusion of language in future contracts. The report needs to be approved and an attestation needs to be signed before submission to the government.

#### Motion:

That the Board of Governors approve the Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains: Algoma University Annual Report 2024.

Motion moved by Arjun Batra and motion seconded by Dionisio Nyaga. Carried.

- 7. NEW BUSINESS N/A
- 8. INFORMATION ITEMS N/A

#### Motion:

That the Board of Governors move into Closed Session.

Motion moved by Isaac Withers and motion seconded by Dionisio Nyaga. Carried.

7



### Algoma University Campus Economic Impact Report

| Open Agenda: 20 06 2024   | PURPOSE: |            |               |  |
|---|----------|------------|---------------|--|
| PREPARED BY:  | Approval | Discussion | ✓ Information |  |
| C. Fowler, Vice President of Growth, International & External Relations<br>C. Wilson, Director of Strategic Advancement |          |            |               |  |

#### **1.0 ACTION**

This report is for information only.

#### 2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Beginning in the summer of 2023, Algoma University engaged an external consulting firm to determine the University's contribution to the economy at both local (Sault Ste. Marie) and provincial levels. Algoma University has completed similar reports in the past for both the Sault Ste Marie and Brampton Campuses.

The reports will inform all internal and external stakeholders of the economic impacts of Algoma University. The analysis and presentation contains three separate reports :

- 1. Provincial impact for all operations
- 2. Local impact for the Sault Ste Marie Campus
- 3. Local impact for Sault Ste Marie once enrolment reaches 3000 FTE

This data will support ongoing external communications and many of the funding applications currently underway. Similar reports for all campus communities will be developed annually to better understand long-term impacts.

#### 3.0 ALIGNMENT WITH UNIVERSITY STRATEGY

This item is aligned with the following Strategic Direction(s) from the 2023-2026 Strategic Plan:

#3: Share Our Stories: Past, Present and Future -

#### 4.0 ANALYSIS

This study, conducted by Lightcast, measures the economic impacts created by Algoma University on the business community and the benefits the University generates in return for the investments made by its key stakeholder groups-students, taxpayers, and society. The report contains two components: the Economic Impact Analysis and the Investment Analysis.

The Economic Impact Analysis in Ontario:

Algoma University's total impact in Ontario for FY 2022-23 was \$577.6 million, the equivalent of 5,597 provincial jobs supported.

\$107.5 million

- 1. Operations Spending Impact
- 2. Research Spending Impact \$1.9 million \$11.1 million
- 3. Construction Spending Impact
- 4. Visitor Spending Impact \$0.2 million

| 5. | Student Spending Impact | \$118.9 million |
|----|-------------------------|-----------------|
| ~  |                         | <b>***</b>      |

6. Alumni Impact \$338.0 million

The Economic Impact Analysis in Sault Ste. Marie:

Algoma University's total impact in Sault Ste. Marie for FY 2022-23 was \$145.4 million, the equivalent of 1,645 regional jobs supported.

- 1. Operations Spending Impact \$36.8 million
- 2. Research Spending Impact \$1.3 million
- 3. Construction Spending Impact \$4.2 million
- 4. Visitor Spending Impact \$97.4 thousand
- 5. Student Spending Impact \$13.9 million
- 6. Alumni Impact \$89.0 million

By FY 2025-26, Algoma U expects to grow its Sault Ste. Marie campus enrollment to 3,000 students. This growth is projected to increase Algoma University's total impact to \$200.6 million, the equivalent of 2,235 regional jobs supported.

- 1. Operations Spending Impact\$65.6 million2. Research Spending Impact\$1.9 million3. Construction Spending Impact\$12.6 million4. Visitor Spending Impact\$139.1 thousand
- 5. Student Spending Impact \$21.7 million
- 6. Alumni Impact \$98.7 million

The Investment Analysis: Algoma University is a strong investment for all three primary stakeholder groups—students, taxpayers, and society. Students receive an excellent return for their investments in an Algoma University education. At the same time, taxpayers' investment in Algoma University returns more to government budgets than it costs and creates a wide range of social benefits throughout Ontario.

#### **Student perspective**

#### In Ontario

Students paid a total of \$113 million to cover the cost of tuition and fees and books and supplies at Algoma University in FY 2022-23. They also forwent \$69.9 million in earnings they would have generated had they been working instead of learning. In return for the monies invested in Algoma U, students receive a present value of \$288.5 million in increased earnings over their working lives. This translates to a return of \$1.60 in higher future earnings for every dollar students pay for their education at Algoma U. The corresponding average annual internal rate of return is 11.2%.

#### In Sault Ste. Marie

Students paid \$18.7 million to cover the tuition, fees, books, and supplies at Algoma University in FY 2022-23. They also forwent \$19.6 million in earnings they would have generated had they been working instead of learning. In return for the monies invested in Algoma U, students receive a present value of \$81.5 million in increased earnings over their working lives. This translates to a return of \$2.10 in higher future earnings for every dollar students pay for their education at Algoma U. The corresponding average annual internal rate of return is 14.4%.

#### In Sault Ste. Marie (Projected)

Students will pay \$53.6 million to cover the tuition, fees, books, and supplies at Algoma University in FY 2025-26. They also forwent \$30.8 million in earnings they would have generated had they been working instead of learning. In return for the monies invested in Algoma U, students receive a present value of \$127.8 million in increased earnings over their working lives. This translates to a return of \$1.50 in higher future earnings for every dollar students pay for their education at Algoma U. The corresponding average annual internal rate of return is 10.8%.

#### **Taxpayer perspective**

#### In Ontario

Provincial taxpayers in Ontario paid \$15.9 million to support the operations of Algoma University in FY 2022- 23. The net present value of the added tax revenue stemming from the students' higher lifetime earnings and the increased output of businesses amounts to \$73.5 million in benefits to taxpayers. Savings to the public sector add another \$273 thousand in benefits due to reduced demand for government-funded social services in Ontario.

Dividing the benefits to provincial taxpayers by the amount they paid to support Algoma University yields a 4.6 benefit-cost ratio, i.e., every dollar in cost returns \$4.60 in benefits. In other words, taxpayers fully recover the cost of the original investment and receive a return of \$3.60 in addition to every dollar they paid. The average annual internal rate of return for taxpayers is 20.2%.

#### In Sault Ste. Marie

Provincial taxpayers in Ontario paid \$11.8 million to support the operations of Algoma University in FY 2022- 23. The net present value of the added tax revenue stemming from the students' higher lifetime earnings and the increased output of businesses amounts to \$55.5 million in benefits to taxpayers. Savings to the public sector add another \$835.2 thousand in benefits due to reduced demand for government-funded social services in Ontario.

Dividing the benefits to provincial taxpayers by the amount they paid to support Algoma University yields a 4.8 benefit-cost ratio, i.e., every dollar in cost returns \$4.80 in benefits. In other words, taxpayers fully recover the cost of the original investment and receive a return of \$3.80 in addition to every dollar they paid. The average annual internal rate of return for taxpayers is 36.9%.

#### In Sault Ste. Marie (Projected)

Provincial taxpayers in Ontario will pay \$11.8 million to support the operations of Algoma University in FY 2025- 26. The net present value of the added tax revenue stemming from the students' higher lifetime earnings and the increased output of businesses amounts to \$88.2 million in benefits to taxpayers. Savings to the public sector add another \$1.3 million in benefits due to reduced demand for government-funded social services in Ontario.

Dividing the benefits to provincial taxpayers by the amount they paid to support Algoma University yields a 7.6 benefit-cost ratio, i.e., every dollar in cost returns \$7.60 in benefits. In other words, taxpayers fully recover the cost of the original investment and receive a return of \$6.60 in addition to every dollar they paid.

#### **Social perspective**

#### In Ontario

Society in the Province of Ontario will receive a present value of \$2.8 billion in added provincial income throughout the students' working lives. Society will also benefit from \$3.5 million in present-value social savings related to reduced crime, lower employment, and increased health and well-being across the province.

For every dollar that society invested in Algoma University in FY 2022-23, society will receive a cumulative value of \$16.30 in benefits for as long as Algoma U's FY 2022- 2023 student population remains active in the provincial workforce.

#### In Sault Ste. Marie

Society in the Province of Ontario will receive a present value of \$421.9 million in added provincial income throughout the students' working lives. Society will also benefit from \$2.1 million in present-value social savings related to reduced crime, lower employment, and increased health and well-being across the province.

For every dollar that society invested in Algoma University in FY 2022-23, society will receive a cumulative value of \$7.10 in benefits for as long as Algoma U's FY 2022- 2023 student population remains active in the provincial workforce.

#### In Sault Ste. Marie (Projected)

Society in the Province of Ontario will receive a present value of \$671.2 million in added provincial income throughout the students' working lives. Society will also benefit from \$3.2 million in present-value social savings related to reduced crime, lower employment, and increased health and well-being across the province.

For every dollar society invested in Algoma University in FY 2025-26, society will receive a cumulative value of \$6.60 in benefits for as long as Algoma U's FY 2025- 2026 student population remains active in the provincial workforce.

#### **5.0 RISK IMPLICATIONS**

Senior Executive and Management members have reviewed the reports and presentation . We do not foresee any significant risk implications.

#### **6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications.

#### 7.0 COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

The communications strategy will primarily target Sault Ste. Marie, showcasing the University as a crucial economic engine and contributor to the communities it serves. The communications plan outlined below aims to reiterate Algoma University's key message of being deeply rooted in its communities.

#### **Public-Facing Communications**

- A media briefing featuring the report's author or another economist from Lightcast held on June 20, 2024. President Asima Vezina to play a role along with, potentially, other university leaders. This event would largely target Sault Ste. Marie media and may be held virtually.
- A media release for June 20, 2024.
- Social media infographics and other content for June 20, 2024 and beyond.
- Incorporating new numbers into existing and new communications materials, including updating the website.

#### **Internal Communications**

- Key Messages for senior leadership.
- Presentation to the Board of Governors on June 20, 2024, by Lightcast economist with Advancement team support. *Note: media would be able to attend or watch on livestream.*
- Internal memo to all staff and faculty
- Inclusion of key data points in select locations across the University website

#### **Government and Community Relations**

- The report will be shared with key elected officials (municipal, provincial and federal), bureaucrats, and community leaders (including Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce).
- Select metrics to be highlighted in relevant community stakeholder presentations and other related advocacy efforts (Fall 2024 / Winter 2025).

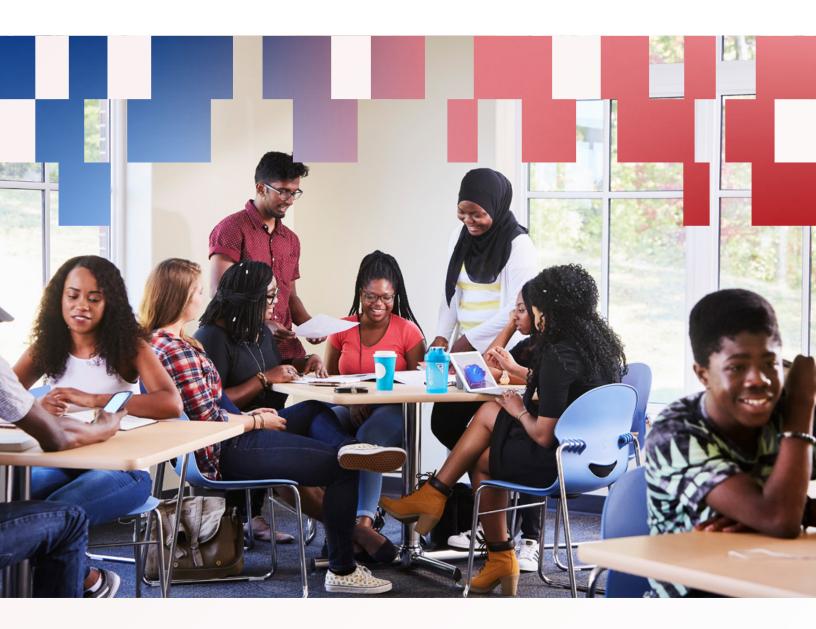
#### **8.0 ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. Economic Impact Report Executive Summary Province
- 2. Economic Impact Report Executive Summary SSM
- 3. Economic Impact Report- SSM (Projected)
- 4. Lightcast Presentation
- 5. Economic Impact Report SSM (full report)



## **Executive Summary**

APRIL 2024



# The Economic Value of Algoma University to Ontario





A LGOMA UNIVERSITY (Algoma U) creates value in many ways. The university plays a key role in helping students increase their employability and achieve their individual potential. It facilitates new research developments and draws visitors and students to the province, generating new dollars and opportunities for Ontario. Algoma U provides students with the education, training, and skills they need to have fulfilling and prosperous careers. Furthermore, Algoma U is a place for students to meet new people, increase their self-confidence, and promote their overall health and well-being.

Algoma U influences both the lives of its students and the provincial economy. The university supports a variety of industries in Ontario, serves provincial businesses, and benefits the provincial government through increased tax revenues and public sector savings. The benefits created by Algoma U even extend to society as a whole in Ontario, which benefits from an expanded economy and improved quality of life.

This study measures the economic impacts created by Algoma U on the business community and the benefits the university generates in return for the investments made by its key stakeholder groups—students, taxpayers, and society. The following two analyses are presented:



#### Economic impact analysis

#### ਤ੍ਰੀਂਤ Investment analysis

All results reflect employee, student, and financial data, provided by the university, for fiscal year (FY) 2022-23. Impacts on the Ontario economy are reported under the economic impact analysis and are measured in terms of added income. The returns on investment to students, taxpayers, and society in Ontario are reported under the investment analysis.

Algoma U influences both the **lives of its students** and the **provincial economy**.

# **Economic impact analysis**



Algoma U promotes economic growth in Ontario through its direct expenditures and the resulting expenditures of visitors, students, and provincial businesses. The university serves as an employer and buyer of goods and services for its day-to-day and research operations. The university's reputation and activities attract visitors and students from outside Ontario, whose expenditures benefit provincial vendors. In addition, Algoma U is a primary source of postsecondary education to Ontario residents and a supplier of trained workers to provincial industries, enhancing overall productivity in the provincial workforce.

#### **Operations spending impact**

Algoma U adds economic value to Ontario as an employer of provincial residents and a large-scale buyer of goods and services. In FY 2022-23, the university employed faculty and staff equivalent to 323 full-time employees (excluding research employees), 99% of whom lived in Ontario. Total payroll at Algoma U was \$38.8 million (excluding payroll from research employees), much of which was spent in the province for groceries, mortgage and rent payments, dining out, and other household expenses. In addition, the university spent \$55.7 million on day-to-day expenses related to facilities, supplies, and professional services (excluding research expenditures).

Algoma U's day-to-day operations spending added \$107.5 million in income to the province during the analysis year. This figure represents the university's payroll, the multiplier effects generated by the in-province spending of the university and its employees, and a downward adjustment to account for funding that the university received from provincial sources. The \$107.5 million in added income is equivalent to supporting 990 jobs in the province.

#### **Research spending impact**

Research activities impact the economy by employing people and requiring the purchase of equipment and other supplies and services. In FY 2022-23, Algoma U spent \$981 thousand on payroll to support research activities. This, along with \$618.4 thousand in other research spending, created a net total of \$1.9 million in added income for the provincial economy. This added income is equivalent to supporting 16 jobs.

Algoma U's research activities create an economic impact beyond spending. There are impacts created through entrepreneurial and innovative activities stemming from



the university's research. From exploring neuroscience to utilizing geographic information systems to support the quality of life for First Nations Peoples and rural, remote communities, Algoma U research faculty lead an impressive range of high-impact research projects that have tremendous value in the regional economy. However, the full scope of these factors is difficult to quantify. Some of this impact may be captured in the alumni impact. The broader spillover effects, however, remain as additional value created beyond this analysis.

#### **Construction spending impact**

Algoma U spends millions on construction each year to maintain its facilities, create additional capacities, and meet its growing educational demands. While the amount varies from year to year, this spending generates a short-term infusion of spending and jobs in the provincial economy. The quick infusion of income and jobs that occurred in the provincial economy as a result of this construction spending is considered short-term due to the one-time nature of such projects. Nonetheless, the university's construction spending had a substantial impact on the provincial economy in FY 2022-23, equal to \$11.1 million in added income and equivalent to supporting 87 jobs.

#### **Visitor spending impact**

Visitors from outside the province were attracted to Algoma U during the analysis year to attend commencement, sports events, and other activities sponsored by the university. While in the province, visitors spent money for lodging, food, transportation, and other personal expenses. The off-campus expenditures of the university's out-of-province visitors generated a net impact of \$226.5 thousand in added income for the provincial economy in FY 2022-23. This \$226.5 thousand in added income is equivalent to supporting four jobs.

#### **Student spending impact**

Around 87% of students attending Algoma U originated from outside the province in FY 2022-23, and all these students relocated to Ontario to attend Algoma U. These students may not have come to the province if the university did not exist. In addition, some in-province students, referred to as retained students, would have left Ontario if not for the existence of Algoma U. While attending the university, these relocated and retained students spent money on groceries, accommodation, transportation, and other household expenses. This spending generated \$118.9 million in added income for the provincial economy in FY 2022-23, which supported 1,317 jobs in Ontario.

#### Alumni impact

The education and training Algoma U provides for provincial residents has the greatest impact. Since its establishment, students have studied at Algoma U and entered the provincial workforce with greater knowledge and new skills. Today, thousands of former Algoma U students are employed in Ontario. As a result of their Algoma U educations, the students receive higher earnings and increase the productivity of the businesses that employ them. In FY 2022-23, Algoma U alumni generated \$338 million in added income for the provincial economy, which is equivalent to supporting 3,183 jobs.

#### Impact of international students

International students are an important part of the Algoma U community. In FY 2022-23, Algoma U served 5,119 international students, all of whom relocated to Ontario. These students brought new money to the provincial economy through their spending on housing, food, and other living expenses. International student spending in FY 2022-23 generated \$105.2 million in added income for the provincial economy, equivalent to supporting 1,166 jobs. It is estimated that 95% of international students remain in the province after finishing their time at Algoma U. Today, thousands of these students are employed in Ontario, receiving higher earnings, and increasing the productivity of the businesses that employ them. In FY 2022-23, these active alumni generated \$154.7 million in added income for the economy, equivalent to supporting 1,457 jobs.

#### **Total impact**

Algoma U added \$577.6 million in income to the Ontario economy during the analysis year, equal to the sum of the operations, research, and construction spending impacts; the visitor and student spending impacts; and the alumni impact.

Algoma U's total impact can also be expressed in terms of jobs supported. The \$577.6 million impact supported 5,597 provincial jobs, using the jobs-to-sales ratios specific to each industry in the province. In addition, the \$577.6 million, or 5,597 supported jobs, stemmed from different industry sectors. Among non-education industry sectors, Algoma U's activity and alumni in the Health Care & Social Assistance industry sector supported 1,014 jobs in FY 2022-23. These are impacts that would not have been generated without the university's presence in Ontario.

Top industry impacts (jobs supported)



# **Investment analysis**



An investment analysis evaluates the costs associated with a proposed venture against its expected benefits. If the benefits outweigh the costs, then the investment is financially worthwhile. The analysis presented here considers Algoma U as an investment from the perspectives of students, taxpayers, and society in Ontario.

#### **Student perspective**

In FY 2022-23, Algoma U served 6,232 credit and 51 non-credit students. In order to attend the university, the students paid for tuition, fees, books, and supplies. Additionally, students gave up money they would have otherwise earned had they been working instead of attending university. The total investment made by Algoma U's students in FY 2022-23 amounted to a present value of \$182.9 million, equal to \$113 million in out-of-pocket expenses and \$69.9 million in forgone time and money.

In return for their investment, Algoma U's students will receive a stream of higher future earnings that will continue to grow throughout their working lives. For example, the average Algoma U bachelor's degree graduate from FY 2022-23 will see an increase in earnings of \$28,700 each year compared to a person with a high school diploma or equivalent working in Ontario. Over a working lifetime, the benefits of the bachelor's degree over a high school diploma will amount to an undiscounted value of \$1.1 million in higher earnings per graduate. Altogether, Algoma U's FY 2022-23 students will receive \$288.5 million in higher future earnings over their working lives, as a result of their education and training at Algoma U.

The students' benefit-cost ratio is 1.6. In other words, for every dollar students invest in Algoma U, in the form of out-of-pocket expenses and forgone time and money, they will receive a cumulative value of \$1.60 in higher future earnings. Annually, the students' investment in Algoma U has an average annual internal rate of return of 11.2%.



Source: Derived from data supplied by Statistics Canada and the Lightcast CRIO model.



#### **Taxpayer perspective**

Algoma U generates more in tax revenue than it takes. These benefits to taxpayers consist primarily of taxes that the provincial government will collect from the added revenue created in the province. As Algoma U students earn more, they will make higher tax payments throughout their working lives. Students' employers will also make higher tax payments as they increase their output and purchases of goods and services. By the end of the FY 2022-23 students' working lives, the provincial government will have collected a present value of **\$73.5 million** in added tax revenue.

Benefits to taxpayers also consist of savings generated by the improved lifestyles of Algoma U students and the corresponding reduced government services. Education is statistically correlated with a variety of lifestyle changes. Students' Algoma U educations will generate savings in three main categories: 1) healthcare, 2) crime, and

3) income assistance. Improved health will lower students' demand for health care services. In addition, students will be less likely to interact with the criminal justice system, resulting in a reduced demand for law enforcement and reduced victim costs. Algoma U students will be more employable, so their reduced demand for income assistance such as welfare and unemployment benefits will benefit taxpayers. For a list of study references, contact the university for a copy of the main report. Altogether, the present value of the benefits associated with an Algoma U

For every dollar of public money invested in Algoma U, taxpayers will receive a cumulative value of **\$4.60** over the course of the students' working lives.

education will generate \$273 thousand in savings to provincial taxpayers.

Total taxpayer benefits amount to \$73.8 million, the present value sum of the added taxes and public sector savings. Taxpayer costs are \$15.9 million, equal to the amount of provincial government funding Algoma U received in FY 2022-23. These benefits and costs yield a benefit-cost ratio of 4.6. This means that for every dollar of public money invested in Algoma U in FY 2022-23, taxpayers will receive a cumulative value of \$4.60 over the course of the students' working lives. The average annual internal rate of return for taxpayers is 20.2%, which compares favorably to other long-term investments in the public and private sectors.

#### **Social perspective**

Society as a whole in Ontario benefits from the presence of Algoma U in two major ways. Primarily, society benefits from an increased economic base in the province. This is attributed to higher student earnings and increased business output, which raise economic prosperity in Ontario.

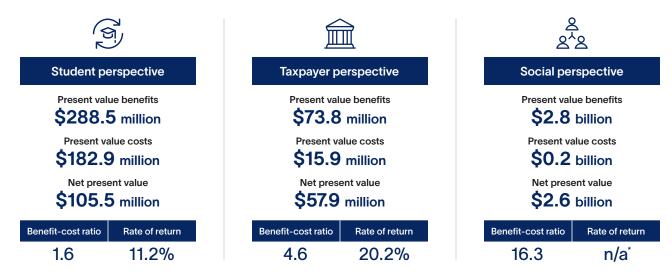
Benefits to society also consist of the savings generated by the improved lifestyles of Algoma U students. As discussed in the previous section, education is statistically correlated with a variety of lifestyle changes that generate social savings. Note that these costs are avoided by the consumers but are distinct from the costs avoided by the taxpayers outlined above. Healthcare savings include avoided medical costs associated with smoking, alcohol dependence, obesity, and mental illness. Crime savings include reduced criminal justice system expenditures, lower victim costs, and increased productivity of individuals who are working rather than spending time in custody. Income assistance savings include the reduced demand for employment insurance benefits and employment-related social assistance. For a list of study references, contact the university for a copy of the main report.

Altogether, the social benefits of Algoma U equal a present value of \$2.8 billion. These benefits include \$1.3 billion in added student income, \$239.6 million in added income from university activities, \$1.1 billion in added business income, \$150.3 million in added tax revenue, and \$3.5 million in social savings related to health, crime, and income assistance in Ontario. People in Ontario invested a present value total of \$171.6 million in Algoma U in FY 2022-23. These costs include all university and student costs.

The benefit-cost ratio for society is 16.3, equal to the \$2.8 billion in benefits divided by the \$171.6 million in costs. In other words, for every dollar invested in Algoma U, people in Ontario will receive a cumulative value of \$16.30 in benefits. The benefits of this investment will occur for as long as Algoma U's FY 2022-23 students remain employed in the provincial workforce.

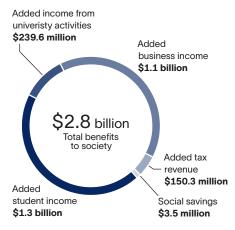
#### Summary of investment analysis results

The results of the analysis demonstrate that Algoma U is a strong investment for all three major stakeholder groups—students, taxpayers, and society. As shown, students receive a great return for their investments in an Algoma U education. At the same time, taxpayers' investment in Algoma U returns more to government budgets than it costs and creates a wide range of social benefits throughout Ontario.



\* The rate of return is not reported for the social perspective because the beneficiaries are not necessarily the same as the original investors.

Social benefits in Ontario from Algoma U



Source: Lightcast impact model.

# Conclusion

The results of this study demonstrate that Algoma U creates value from multiple perspectives. The university benefits provincial businesses by increasing consumer spending in the province and supplying a steady flow of qualified, trained workers to the workforce. Algoma U enriches the lives of students by raising their lifetime earnings and helping them achieve their individual potential. The university benefits provincial taxpayers through increased tax receipts and a reduced demand for gov-ernment-supported social services. Finally, Algoma U benefits society as a whole in Ontario by creating a more prosperous economy and generating a variety of savings through the improved lifestyles of students.



#### About the study

Data and assumptions used in the study are based on several sources, including the FY 2022-23 academic and financial reports from Algoma U, industry and employment data from Statistics Canada, outputs of Lightcast's Canadian Regional Input-Output model, and a variety of studies and surveys relating education to The results of this study demonstrate that Algoma U creates value from **multiple perspectives.** 

social behaviour. The study applies a conservative methodology and follows standard practice using only the most recognized indicators of investment effectiveness and economic impact. For a full description of the data and approach used in the study, please contact Algoma U for a copy of the main report.



Lightcast is a labour market analytics firm that integrates data from a wide variety of sources to serve professionals in postsecondary education, economic development, workforce development, talent acquisition, and site selection. Lightcast is a leading provider of economic impact studies and labour market data to educational institutions in Canada, the U.S. and internationally. Since 2000, Lightcast has completed over 2,800 economic impact studies for institutions across three countries. For more information about Lightcast's products and services, visit lightcast.io/solutions/education.



## **Executive Summary**

APRIL 2024



# The Economic Value of Algoma University to Sault Ste. Marie





A LGOMA UNIVERSITY (Algoma U) creates value in many ways. The university plays a key role in helping students increase their employability and achieve their individual potential. It facilitates new research developments and draws visitors and students to the region, generating new dollars and opportunities for Sault Ste. Marie. Algoma U provides students with the education, training, and skills they need to have fulfilling and prosperous careers. Furthermore, Algoma U is a place for students to meet new people, increase their self-confidence, and promote their overall health and well-being.

Algoma U influences both the lives of its students and the regional economy. The university supports a variety of industries in Sault Ste. Marie, serves regional businesses, and benefits the provincial government through increased tax revenues and public sector savings. The benefits created by Algoma U even extend to society as a whole in Ontario, which benefits from an expanded economy and improved quality of life.

This study measures the economic impacts created by Algoma U on the business community and the benefits the university generates in return for the investments made by its key stakeholder groups—students, taxpayers, and society. The following two analyses are presented:

#### Economic impact analysis

#### ਤਮੁੱਤ Investment analysis

All results reflect employee, student, and financial data, provided by the university, for fiscal year (FY) 2022-23.<sup>\*</sup> Impacts on the Sault Ste. Marie economy are reported under the economic impact analysis and are measured in terms of added income. The returns on investment to students, taxpayers, and society in Ontario are reported under the investment analysis.

Algoma U influences both the **lives of its students** and the **regional economy**.

Note due to data limitations, FY 2022-23 financial data are utilized throughout this analysis as a proxy for FY 2022-23.



Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

# **Economic impact analysis**



Algoma U promotes economic growth in Sault Ste. Marie through its direct expenditures and the resulting expenditures of visitors, students, and regional businesses. The university serves as an employer and buyer of goods and services for its day-to-day and research operations. The university's reputation and activities attract visitors and students from outside Sault Ste. Marie, whose expenditures benefit regional vendors. In addition, Algoma U is a primary source of postsecondary education to Sault Ste. Marie residents and a supplier of trained workers to regional industries, enhancing overall productivity in the regional workforce.

#### **Operations spending impact**

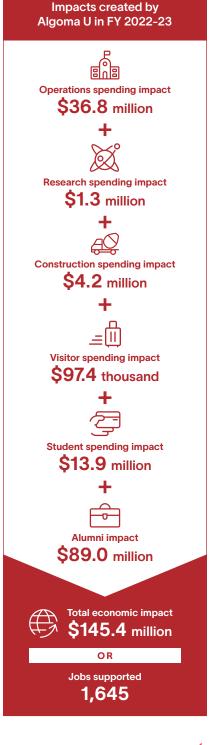
Algoma U adds economic value to Sault Ste. Marie as an employer of regional residents and a large-scale buyer of goods and services. In FY 2022-23, the university employed faculty and staff equivalent to 221 full-time employees (excluding research employees), all of whom lived in Sault Ste. Marie. Total payroll at Algoma U was \$25.6 million (excluding payroll from research employees), much of which was spent in the region for groceries, mortgage and rent payments, dining out, and other household expenses. In addition, the university spent \$11.3 million on day-to-day expenses related to facilities, supplies, and professional services (excluding research expenditures).

Algoma U's day-to-day operations spending added \$36.8 million in income to the region during the analysis year. This figure represents the university's payroll, the multiplier effects generated by the in-region spending of the university and its employees, and a downward adjustment to account for funding that the university received from regional sources. The \$36.8 million in added income is equivalent to supporting 373 jobs in the region.

#### **Research spending impact**

Research activities impact the economy by employing people and requiring the purchase of equipment and other supplies and services. In FY 2022-23, Algoma U spent \$981 thousand on payroll to support research activities. This, along with \$196.3 thousand in other research spending, created a net total of \$1.3 million in added income for the regional economy. This added income is equivalent to supporting 13 jobs.

Algoma U's research activities create an economic impact beyond spending. There are impacts created through entrepreneurial and innovative activities stemming from



the university's research. From exploring neuroscience to utilizing geographic information systems to support the quality of life for First Nations Peoples and rural, remote communities, Algoma U research faculty lead an impressive range of high-impact research projects that have tremendous value in the regional economy. However, the full scope of these factors is difficult to quantify. Some of this impact may be captured in the alumni impact. The broader spillover effects, however, remain as additional value created beyond this analysis.

#### **Construction spending impact**

Algoma U spends millions on construction each year to maintain its facilities, create additional capacities, and meet its growing educational demands. While the amount varies from year to year, this spending generates a short-term infusion of spending and jobs in the regional economy. The quick infusion of income and jobs that occurred in the regional economy as a result of this construction spending is considered short-term due to the one-time nature of such projects. Nonetheless, the university's construction spending had a substantial impact on the regional economy in FY 2022-23, equal to \$4.2 million in added income and equivalent to supporting 39 jobs.

#### Visitor spending impact

Visitors from outside the region were attracted to Algoma U during the analysis year to attend commencement, sports events, and other activities sponsored by the university. While in the region, visitors spent money for lodging, food, transportation, and other personal expenses. The off-campus expenditures of the university's out-of-region visitors generated a net impact of \$97.4 thousand in added income for the regional economy in FY 2022-23. This \$97.4 thousand in added income is equivalent to supporting two jobs.

#### **Student spending impact**

Around 95% of students attending Algoma U originated from outside the region in FY 2022-23, and all these students relocated to Sault Ste. Marie to attend Algoma U. These students may not have come to the region if the university did not exist. In addition, some in-region students, referred to as retained students, would have left Sault Ste. Marie if not for the existence of Algoma U. While attending the university, these relocated and retained students spent money on groceries, accommodation, transportation, and other household expenses. This spending generated \$13.9 million in added income for the regional economy in FY 2022-23, which supported 205 jobs in Sault Ste. Marie.

#### **Alumni impact**

The education and training Algoma U provides for regional residents has the greatest impact. Since its establishment, students have studied at Algoma U and entered the regional workforce with greater knowledge and new skills. Today, thousands of former Algoma U students are employed in Sault Ste. Marie. As a result of their Algoma U educations, the students receive higher earnings and increase the

productivity of the businesses that employ them. In FY 2022-23, Algoma U alumni generated \$89 million in added income for the regional economy, which is equivalent to supporting 1,013 jobs.

#### Impact of international students

International students are an important part of the Algoma U community. In FY 2022-23, Algoma U served 1,054 international students, all of whom relocated to Sault Ste. Marie. These students brought new money to the regional economy through their spending on housing, food, and other living expenses. International student spending in FY 2022-23 generated \$7.6 million in added income for the regional economy, equivalent to supporting 111 jobs. It is estimated that 60% of international students remain in the region after finishing their time at Algoma U. Today, thousands of these students are employed in Sault Ste. Marie, receiving higher earnings, and increasing the productivity of the businesses that employ them. In FY 2022-23, these active alumni generated \$20.3 million in added income for the economy, equivalent to supporting 231 jobs.

#### **Total impact**

Algoma U added \$145.4 million in income to the Sault Ste. Marie economy during the analysis year, equal to the sum of the operations, research, and construction spending impacts, the visitor and student spending impacts, and the alumni impact. For context, the \$145.4 million impact was equal to approximately 3.8% of the total gross regional product (GRP) of Sault Ste. Marie. This contribution that the university provided on its own is nearly as large as the entire Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services industry in the region.

Algoma U's total impact can also be expressed in terms of jobs supported. The \$145.4 million impact supported 1,645 regional jobs, using the jobs-to-sales ratios specific to each industry in the region. This means that one out of every 24 jobs in Sault Ste. Marie is supported by the activities of Algoma U and its students. In addition, the \$145.4 million, or 1,645 supported jobs, stemmed from different industry sectors. For example, Algoma U's activity and alumni in the Health Care & Social Assistance industry sector supported 273 jobs in FY 2022-23. These are impacts that would not have been generated without the university's presence in Sault Ste. Marie.

**One out of every 24 jobs** in Sault Ste. Marie is supported by the activities of Algoma U and its students. Top industry impacts (jobs supported)



# **Investment analysis**



An investment analysis evaluates the costs associated with a proposed venture against its expected benefits. If the benefits outweigh the costs, then the investment is financially worthwhile. The analysis presented here considers Algoma U as an investment from the perspectives of students, taxpayers, and society in Ontario.

#### **Student perspective**

In FY 2022-23, Algoma U served 1,854 credit and 49 non-credit students. In order to attend the university, the students paid for tuition, fees, books, and supplies. Additionally, students gave up money they would have otherwise earned had they been working instead of attending university. The total investment made by Algoma U's students in FY 2022-23 amounted to a present value of \$38.3 million, equal to \$18.7 million in out-of-pocket expenses and \$19.6 million in forgone time and money.

In return for their investment, Algoma U's students will receive a stream of higher future earnings that will continue to grow throughout their working lives. For example, the average Algoma U bachelor's degree graduate from FY 2022-23 will see an increase in earnings of \$27,200 each year compared to a person with a high school diploma or equivalent working in Ontario. Over a working lifetime, the benefits of the bachelor's degree over a high school diploma will amount to an undiscounted value of \$1.1 million in higher earnings per graduate. Altogether, Algoma U's FY 2022-23 students will receive \$81.5 million in higher future earnings over their working lives, as a result of their education and training at Algoma U.

The students' benefit-cost ratio is 2.1. In other words, for every dollar students invest in Algoma U, in the form of out-of-pocket expenses and forgone time and money, they will receive a cumulative value of \$2.10 in higher future earnings. Annually, the students' investment in Algoma U has an average annual internal rate of return of 14.4%.



Source: Derived from data supplied by Statistics Canada and the Lightcast CRIO model.



#### **Taxpayer perspective**

Algoma U generates more in tax revenue than it takes. These benefits to taxpayers consist primarily of taxes that the provincial government will collect from the added revenue created in the province. As Algoma U students earn more, they will make higher tax payments throughout their working lives. Students' employers will also make higher tax payments as they increase their output and purchases of goods and services. By the end of the FY 2022-23 students' working lives, the provincial government will have collected a present value of **\$55.5 million** in added tax revenue.

Benefits to taxpayers also consist of savings generated by the improved lifestyles of Algoma U students and the corresponding reduced government services. Education is statistically correlated with a variety of lifestyle changes. Students' Algoma U educations will generate savings in three main categories: 1) healthcare, 2) crime, and

3) income assistance. Improved health will lower students' demand for health care services. In addition, students will be less likely to interact with the criminal justice system, resulting in a reduced demand for law enforcement and reduced victim costs. Algoma U students will be more employable, so their reduced demand for income assistance such as welfare and unemployment benefits will benefit taxpayers. For a list of study references, contact the university for a copy of the main report. Altogether, the present value of the benefits associated with an Algoma U

For every dollar of public money invested in Algoma U, taxpayers will receive a cumulative value of **\$4.80** over the course of the students' working lives.

education will generate \$835.2 thousand in savings to provincial taxpayers.

Total taxpayer benefits amount to \$56.3 million, the present value sum of the added taxes and public sector savings. Taxpayer costs are \$11.8 million, equal to the amount of provincial government funding Algoma U received in FY 2022-23. These benefits and costs yield a benefit-cost ratio of 4.8. This means that for every dollar of public money invested in Algoma U in FY 2022-23, taxpayers will receive a cumulative value of \$4.80 over the course of the students' working lives. The average annual internal rate of return for taxpayers is 36.9%, which compares favorably to other long-term investments in the public and private sectors.

#### **Social perspective**

Society as a whole in Ontario benefits from the presence of Algoma U in two major ways. Primarily, society benefits from an increased economic base in the province. This is attributed to higher student earnings and increased business output, which raise economic prosperity in Ontario.

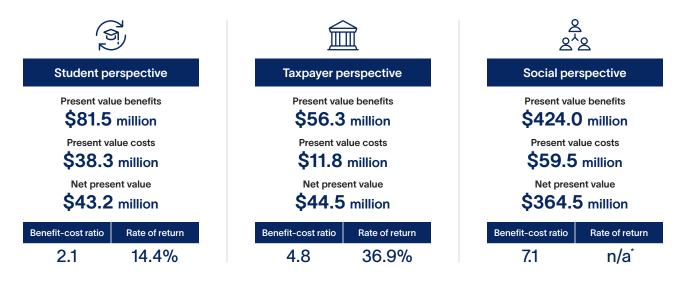
Benefits to society also consist of the savings generated by the improved lifestyles of Algoma U students. As discussed in the previous section, education is statistically correlated with a variety of lifestyle changes that generate social savings. Note that these costs are avoided by the consumers but are distinct from the costs avoided by the taxpayers outlined above. Healthcare savings include avoided medical costs associated with smoking, alcohol dependence, obesity, and mental illness. Crime savings include reduced criminal justice system expenditures, lower victim costs, and increased productivity of individuals who are working rather than spending time in custody. Income assistance savings include the reduced demand for employment insurance benefits and employment-related social assistance. For a list of study references, contact the university for a copy of the main report.

Altogether, the social benefits of Algoma U equal a present value of \$424 million. These benefits include \$175 million in added student income, \$67.7 million in added income from university activities, \$161.5 million in added business income, \$17.6 million in tax revenue, and \$2.1 million in social savings related to health, crime, and income assistance in Ontario. People in Ontario invested a present value total of \$59.5 million in Algoma U in FY 2022-23. These costs include all university and student costs.

The benefit-cost ratio for society is 71, equal to the \$424 million in benefits divided by the \$59.5 million in costs. In other words, for every dollar invested in Algoma U, people in Ontario will receive a cumulative value of \$7.10 in benefits. The benefits of this investment will occur for as long as Algoma U's FY 2022-23 students remain employed in the provincial workforce.

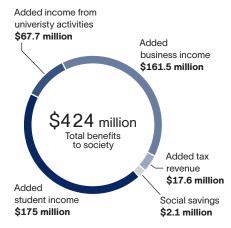
#### Summary of investment analysis results

The results of the analysis demonstrate that Algoma U's is a strong investment for all three major stakeholder groups—students, taxpayers, and society. As shown, students receive a great return for their investments in an Algoma U education. At the same time, taxpayers' investment in Algoma U returns more to government budgets than it costs and creates a wide range of social benefits throughout Ontario.



\* The rate of return is not reported for the social perspective because the beneficiaries are not necessarily the same as the original investors.

Social benefits in Ontario from Algoma U



Source: Lightcast impact model.

# Conclusion

The results of this study demonstrate that Algoma U creates value from multiple perspectives. The university benefits regional businesses by increasing consumer spending in the region and supplying a steady flow of qualified, trained workers to the workforce. Algoma U enriches the lives of students by raising their lifetime earnings and helping them achieve their individual potential. The university benefits provincial taxpayers through increased tax receipts and a reduced demand for government-supported social services. Finally, Algoma U benefits society as a whole in Ontario by creating a more prosperous economy and generating a variety of savings through the improved lifestyles of students.



#### About the study

Data and assumptions used in the study are based on several sources, including the FY 2022-23 academic and financial reports from Algoma U<sup>\*\*</sup>, industry and employment data from Statistics Canada, outputs of Lightcast's Canadian Regional Input-Output model, and a variety of studies and surveys relating education to The results of this study demonstrate that Algoma U creates value from **multiple perspectives.** 

social behaviour. The study applies a conservative methodology and follows standard practice using only the most recognized indicators of investment effectiveness and economic impact. For a full description of the data and approach used in the study, please contact Algoma U for a copy of the main report.

\*\* Note due to data limitations, FY 2021-22 financial data are utilized throughout this analysis as a proxy for FY 2022-23.



Lightcast is a labour market analytics firm that integrates data from a wide variety of sources to serve professionals in postsecondary education, economic development, workforce development, talent acquisition, and site selection. Lightcast is a leading provider of economic impact studies and labour market data to educational institutions in Canada, the U.S. and internationally. Since 2000, Lightcast has completed over 2,800 economic impact studies for institutions across three countries. For more information about Lightcast's products and services, visit lightcast.io/solutions/education.



#### Fact Sheet APRIL 2024

## The Economic Value of Algoma University's Growth to 3,000 Students in Sault Ste. Marie



This analysis quantifies the economic impacts associated with the growth of Algoma University (Algoma U) as the university expands to serve 3,000 students on its Sault Ste. Marie campus in fiscal year (FY) 2025-26. Algoma U creates a significant positive impact on the business community and generates a return on investment to its major stakeholder groups—students, taxpayers, and society. Using a two-pronged approach that involves an economic impact analysis and an investment analysis, this study calculates the expected benefits received by each of these groups as the university grows.

### 🛱 Economic impact analysis

In FY 2022-23, Algoma U added **\$145.4 million** in income to the Sault Ste. Marie economy, a value approximately equal to **3.8%** of the region's total gross regional product (GRP). By FY 2025-26, Algoma U expects to grow its Sault Ste. Marie campus enrolment to 3,000 students. This growth is projected to increase Algoma U's impact to **\$200.6 million** in added income, a value approximately equal to **5.3%** of the region's GRP. Expressed in terms of jobs, Algoma U's projected impact will support **2,235** regional jobs, which is equivalent to supporting **one out of every 17 jobs** in Sault Ste. Marie.

#### **Operations spending impact**

 As the university grows to serve additional students, Algoma U is projected to employ 393 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees (excluding research employees) in FY 2025-26, with payroll amounting to \$46.4 million (excluding payroll from



Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario research employees), much of which will be spent in the region for groceries, mortgage and rent payments, dining out, and other household expenses. The university will spend another \$19.8 million on day-to-day expenses related to facilities, supplies, and professional services (excluding research expenditures).

The net impact of the university's operations spending will add \$65.6 million in income to the regional economy in FY 2025-26.

#### **Research spending impact**

- Research activities at Algoma U impact the regional economy by employing people and making purchases for equipment, supplies, and services. They also facilitate new knowledge creation in Sault Ste. Marie. In FY 2025-26, Algoma U is projected to spend \$1.4 million on payroll and \$274.8 thousand on other expenses to support research activities.
- Algoma U's research spending will generate \$1.9 million in added income for the Sault Ste. Marie economy in FY 2025-26.

#### **Construction spending impact**

- Algoma U spends money on construction each year to maintain its facilities, create additional capacities, and meet its growing educational demands. While the amount varies from year to year, this spending generates a short-term infusion of spending and jobs in the regional economy.
- The net impact of Algoma U's projected construction spending in FY 2025-26 is \$12.6 million in added income for Sault Ste. Marie.

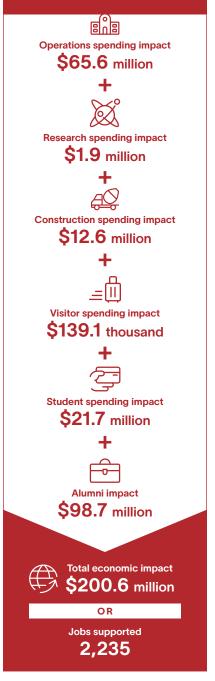
#### Visitor spending impact

- Out-of-region visitors attracted to Sault Ste. Marie for activities at Algoma U bring new dollars to the economy through their spending at hotels, restaurants, gas stations, and other regional businesses. By serving more students, Algoma U will also attract more visitors to the region.
- This increase in visitor spending will add approximately \$139.1 thousand in income to the Sault Ste. Marie economy in FY 2025-26.

#### Student spending impact

- Around 95% of students attending Algoma U originated from either outside the region or outside Canada in FY 2022-23, and all of these students relocated to Sault Ste. Marie to attend Algoma U. In addition, a number of local students would have left the region if not for Algoma U. These students spent money on groceries, mortgage and rent payments, and so on at regional businesses.
- As the university grows to serve nearly 1,100 additional students, or 3,000 students in total, the impact of student spending on the region is projected to add \$21.7 million in income to the Sault Ste. Marie economy in FY 2025-26. Of this impact, \$11.7 million will be attributable to international students who relocate to Sault Ste. Marie to attend Algoma U.

Projected impacts created by Algoma U in FY 2025-26 with 3,000 students



#### Alumni impact

- Over the years, students have studied at Algoma U and entered or re-entered the workforce with newly-acquired knowledge and skills. Today, thousands of these former students are employed in Sault Ste. Marie.
- As Algoma U's enrollment grows to reach 3,000 students, the university will add more skilled and knowledgeable workers to the regional workforce. By FY 2025-26, the net impact of Algoma U's former students employed in the regional workforce will grow to **\$98.7 million** in added income. Of this impact, **\$26.9 million** will be attributable to former international students working in Sault Ste. Marie.

## मुँस Investment analysis

#### **Student perspective**

- Algoma U's FY 2025-26 students are expected to pay a present value of \$53.6
   million to cover the cost of tuition, fees, and supplies. They will also forgo \$30.8
   million in money that they would have earned had they been working instead of attending university.
- In return for their investment, students will receive \$127.8 million in increased earnings over their working lives. This translates to a return of \$1.50 in higher future earnings for every dollar students invest in their education. Students' average annual rate of return is 10.8%.

#### **Taxpayer perspective**

- Provincial taxpayers support Algoma U with funding, and in FY 2025-26, taxpayers are projected to provide \$11.8 million of funding for the university. In return, they will benefit from added tax revenue, stemming from students' higher lifetime earnings and increased business output, amounting to \$88.2 million. A reduced demand for government-funded services in Ontario will add another \$1.3 million in benefits to taxpayers.
- For every dollar of public money invested in Algoma U, taxpayers will receive \$7.60 in return, over the course of students' working lives.

#### Social perspective

- Society in Ontario is projected to invest \$101.5 million to support Algoma U in FY 2025-26, including all student and all university costs. In turn, the Ontario economy will grow by \$671.2 million, over the course of students' working lives. Society will also benefit from \$3.2 million in present value social savings related to reduced crime, reduced demand for income assistance, and increased health and well-being across the province.
- For every dollar invested in Algoma U in FY 2025-26, people in Ontario will receive
   \$6.60 in return, for as long as Algoma U's FY 2025-26 students remain active in the provincial workforce.







# The economic value of Algoma University

ANALYSIS OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT OF EDUCATION





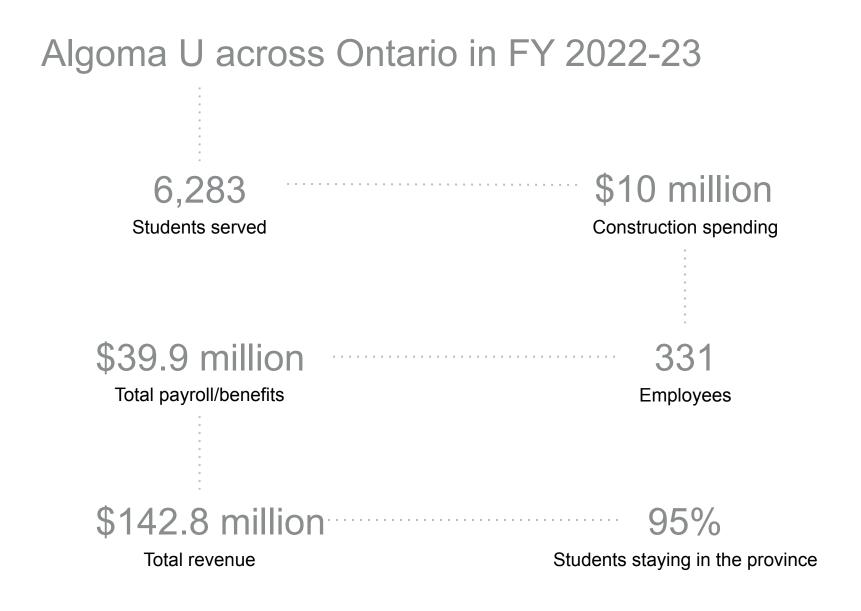
# What is an **ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS?**

Measures how an event or institution affects the local economy



# What is an **INVESTMENT ANALYSIS?**

A comparison of the costs and benefits to determine the return on investment





# ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS - ONTARIO



Operations Spending Impact

University payroll and other spending + ripple effects

# **\$107.5 million**

Added provincial income



# Construction Spending Impact

University construction expenditures + ripple effects



# Research Spending Impact

Research payroll and other research spending + ripple effects

# \$11.1 million

Added provincial income

# \$1.9 million

Added provincial income

OR

990

Jobs supported in the province



**87** Jobs supported in the province

16

OR

Jobs supported in the province



## ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS - ONTARIO



Student Spending Impact

Relocated/retained student spending + ripple effects



## Visitor Spending Impact

Non-local visitor spending + ripple effects



Alumni Impact

Higher alumni earnings and increased business profit + ripple effects

## \$118.9 million

Added provincial income

## \$226.5 thousand

Added provincial income

OR

## \$338.0 million

Added provincial income

OR

OR

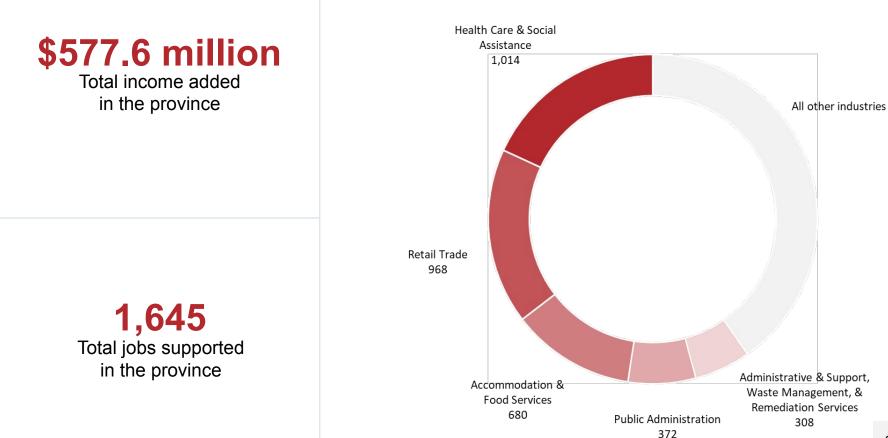
**1,317** Jobs supported in the province

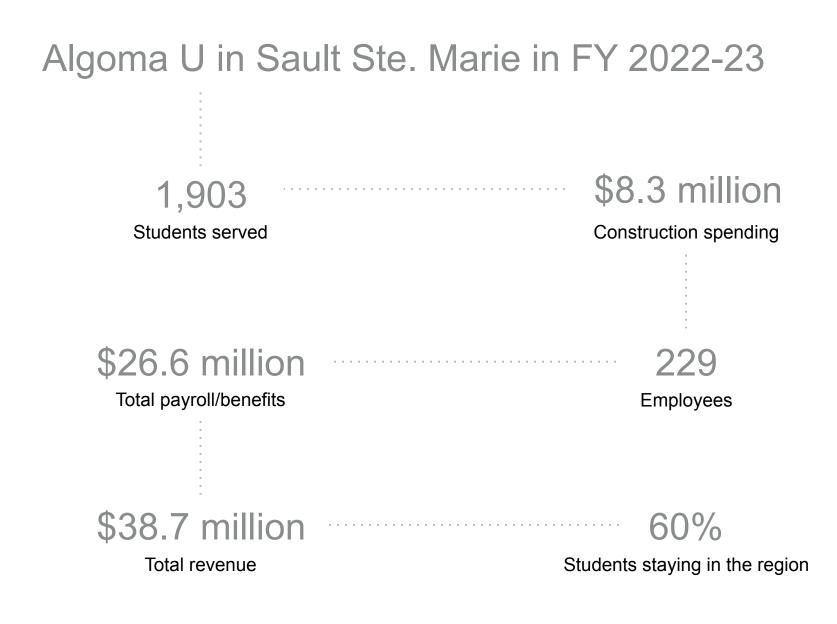
Jobs supported in the province

**3,183** Jobs supported in the province



#### Top industry impacts (jobs supported)







## ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS - SAULT STE. MARIE



Operations Spending Impact

University payroll and other spending + ripple effects

## \$36.8 million

Added regional income



## Construction Spending Impact

University construction expenditures + ripple effects



## Research Spending Impact

Research payroll and other research spending + ripple effects

# \$4.2 million

Added regional income

# \$1.3 million

Added regional income

OR

OR

**373** Jobs supported in the region OR

**39** 

Jobs supported in the region

**13** Jobs supported in the region



## ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS - SAULT STE. MARIE



Student Spending Impact

Relocated/retained student spending + ripple effects

\$13.9 million

Added regional income



## Visitor Spending Impact

Out-of-region visitor spending + ripple effects



Alumni Impact

Higher alumni earnings and increased business profit + ripple effects

# \$97.4 thousand

Added regional income

OR

# \$89.0 million

Added regional income

OR

OR

**205** Jobs supported in the region

Jobs supported in the region

**1,013** Jobs supported in the region

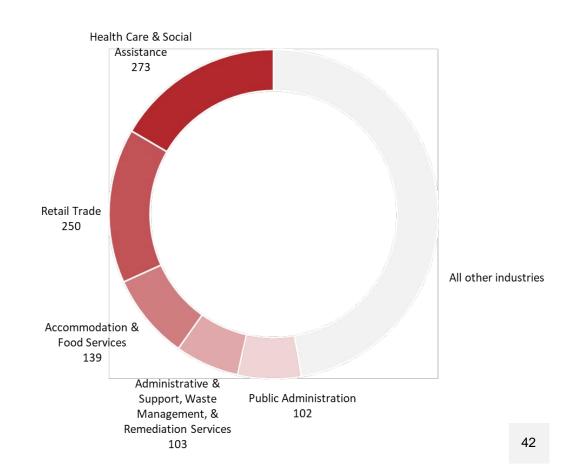
All results measured in income, not sales. Results are net of counterfactual scenarios.





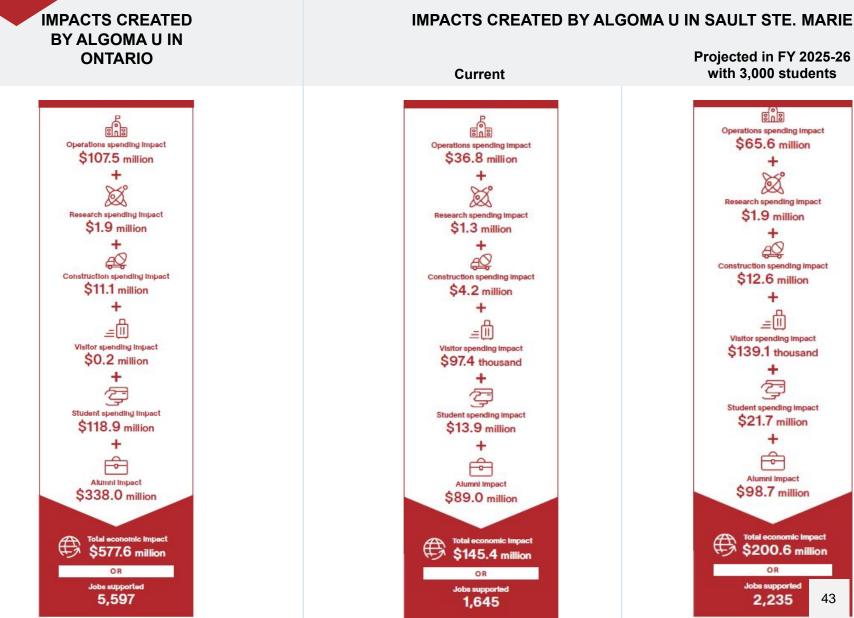
region

#### Top industry impacts (jobs supported)





### **ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS – COMPARISON**





## **INVESTMENT ANALYSIS – ONTARIO**



Student Perspective

\$288.5 million Benefit: Higher future earnings

\$182.9 million Cost: Tuition, supplies, opportunity cost

> **1.6** Benefit/cost ratio





Taxpayer Perspective

\$73.8 million

Benefit: Future tax revenue, government savings

\$15.9 million

4.6

Benefit/cost ratio

20.2%

Rate of return

Cost: Provincial funding

2 2<sup>1</sup>2

## Social Perspective

## \$2.8 billion

Benefit: Growth in provincial economic base, future earnings, tax revenue, and private and social savings

## \$0.2 billion

Cost: All university and student costs

**16.3** Benefit/cost ratio

n/a\* Rate of return

Future benefits are discounted to the present.

\* The rate of return is not reported for the social perspective because the beneficiaries are not necessarily the same as the original investors.



## INVESTMENT ANALYSIS – SAULT STE. MARIE



Student Perspective

\$81.5 million Benefit: Higher future earnings

\$38.3 million Cost: Tuition, supplies, opportunity cost

> **2.1** Benefit/cost ratio





Taxpayer Perspective

\$56.3 million

Benefit: Future tax revenue, government savings

\$11.8 million

Cost: Provincial funding

**4.8** Benefit/cost ratio

36.9% Rate of return



## Social Perspective

## \$424 million

Benefit: Growth in provincial economic base, future earnings, tax revenue, and private and social savings

## \$59.5 million

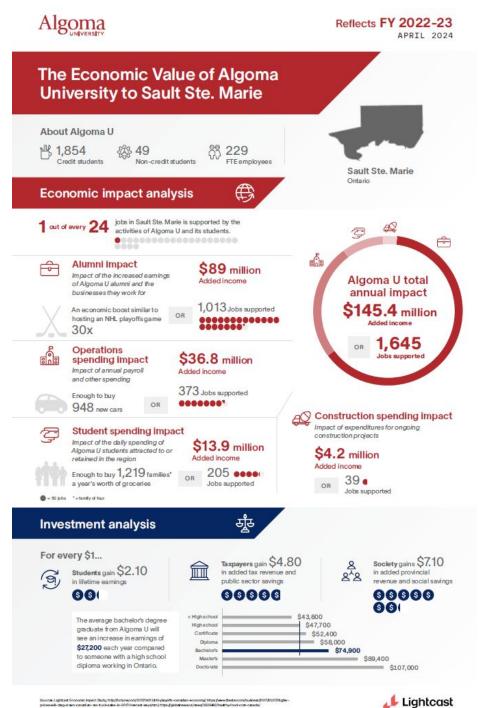
Cost: All university and student costs

**7.1** Benefit/cost ratio

n/a\* Rate of return

Future benefits are discounted to the present.

\* The rate of return is not reported for the social perspective because the beneficiaries are not necessarily the same as the original investors.



The results of this study were prepared by



For a copy of the report, please contact Algoma University.



#### Faculty of Computer Science & Technology Establishment

| Open Agenda: 20 JUN 2024   | PURPOSE: |            |             |
|--|----------|------------|-------------|
| PREPARED BY:   | Approval | Discussion | Information |
| Michele Piercey-Normore, Vice-President Academic & Reso<br>Laurie Bloomfield, Acting Dean of Science | earch    |            |             |
| Laune bloomield, Ading bean of bolence   |          |            |             |

#### **1.0 ACTION**

**MOTION**: That the Board of Governors approve the establishment of the Faculty of Computer Science & Technology, as recommended by the Algoma University Senate.

#### **Key Considerations:**

- A presentation surrounding the proposal of the Faculty of Computer Science & Technology was provided at the May 30, 2024 Board of Governors meeting.

#### 2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The School of Computer Science and Technology at Algoma University has experienced significant growth and development over the past decade. Enrollment has increased exponentially from 100 students in the 2017-2018 academic year to 2,500 Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) by April 2024, with projections to exceed 3,270 FTEs by Fall 2024. This dramatic increase in both undergraduate and graduate enrollments highlights the increased interest locally, nationally and internationally in computer science related programs, which is anticipated to continue. The creation of a new Faculty of Computer Sciences and Technology would respond to increasing student demand within computer science while providing an opportunity for development, growth, research, and innovation at Algoma University. It is anticipated that the establishment of this new faculty will attract high quality faculty members, researchers, and students, enhancing the University's academic reputation.

Over the last year, the School of Computer Science has undergone extensive consultation with the Senior Leadership Team, the Faculty of Science and its members, the Senate and its Committees in order to develop this proposal. If approved, the 2024-25 operating budget will allow for the expenditure to establish this new faculty.

The Algoma University Act (s. 24(a)), stipulates that the Senate has the power to *make recommendations to the Board with respect to the establishment, change or termination of programs and courses of study, schools, faculties, divisions and departments.* As such the Board of Governors holds the responsibility of approving the establishment of new faculties. The creation of the proposed Faculty of Computer Science & Technology was recommended by the Senate at its June 7, 2024 meeting (See attachment 1).

#### 3.0 ALIGNMENT WITH UNIVERSITY STRATEGY

This item is aligned with the following Strategic Direction(s) from the 2023-2026 Strategic Plan:

#1: Lead Transformative, Cross Cultural Learning in a Quality University Experience -

The creation of this faculty will enable the further development of future-focused programs and research that are responsive to the interests of students and the community.

#### 4.0 ANALYSIS

Governance Approval/Review:

- 01 May 2024 Proposal reviewed and recommended by the Senate's Academic Planning and Priorities Committee to proceed to Senate.
- 03 May 2024 Initial presentation to Senate to introduce proposal of new Faculty
- 30 May 2024 Presentation to the Board of Governors for review and feedback (if any)
- 07 June 2024 Senate reviewed and unanimously approved the motion to recommend to the Board of Governors the establishment of the new Faculty of Computer Science and Technology

Growth and Capacity Constraints

- Enrollment Surge: The School of Computer Science and Technology is anticipated to continue to see a high level of enrollment. The introduction of Masters programming, and eLearning projections forecasts a further increase to over 3,270 FTEs by Fall 2024.
- Insufficient Structure: The creation of a new structure with an Academic Dean, to support the rising student numbers will assist in managing the increased program, research and expansion on all three campuses.

Financial Outlook and Investment

- Revenue Growth: The school's revenue is projected to rise to \$60 million by 2029, marking a 174% increase from current figures.
- Net Contributions: Expected to grow to \$40 million by 2029, a 183% increase, reflecting robust financial health and the ability to sustain growth.

#### **5.0 RISK IMPLICATIONS**

The higher education sector is currently facing challenges due to federal government policy change with regards to international student enrolment caps. The implementation of a new Faculty will allow for further efforts to be put into the diversification of programs and markets to enhance and expand the university's offerings while enhancing research and innovation funding and also allow for the expansion of graduate programming.

#### **6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

With the anticipated introduction in the fall of a new Faculty, the introduction of a new Academic Dean into the organizational chart was added to the 2025-26 budget. A detailed business plan is attached below and requests are captured within the 2025-26 budget.

#### 7.0 COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

The Faculty of Science and School of Computer Science and Technology is working with communications to develop a robust communications strategy (pending approval).

#### **8.0 ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. Senate Report, June 7, 2024
- 2. Business Plan New Faculty Proposal
- 3. Presentation provided to BoG May 30, 2024

### **MOTION COVER PAGE**



## Academic Planning and Priorities Recommendation: Approval Creation of New Faculty: Faculty of Computer Science and Technology

| Senate meeting date: 07 June 2024     | Purpose: |            | Expedited   |
|---------------------------------------|----------|------------|-------------|
| Prepared by: Dean, Faculty of Science | Approval | Discussion | Information |

Senate committee: Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (AppCom) Mover: Laurie Bloomfield, PhD - Dean, Faculty of Science (Acting); Seconder: Isaac Withers - Student Rep.

#### 1.0 MOTION / DISCUSSION

#### MOTION:

Moved [ / ]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend the Board of Governors approve the creation of a Faculty of Computer Science and Technology, as recommended by the Academic Planning & Priorities Committee.

The AppCom motion was carried at the committee's May 1, 2024 meeting.

#### **Considerations for Senators:**

- As the University continues to grow in student enrollment and in full-time faculty members, previous Faculty
  restructuring exercises (2021-2022) took into consideration the size of each Faculty and their concomitant
  Senate and Senate Committee representation, as well as their student enrolment. Efforts were made to
  ensure equity across the proposed Faculties.
- Given the current structure of 4 Faculties, the Faculty of Science is on the precipice of reaching 57
  members. This is compared to the other Faculties which range from 12-26 FT faculty members (based on
  current approved hire requests).
- Maintaining the current structure of the Faculty of Science would result in 14 of 30 teaching staff Senators from the Faculty of Science for the upcoming 24/25 Senate year; nearly half of all teaching staff Senators (N=30). The proposed structure/creation of a Faculty of Computer Science and Technology would once again provide equity in terms of representation (N = 8, 7, 7, 6, and 3 Senators across the 5 Faculties).
- Members of the Faculty of Computer Science and Technology would also be provided a seat on many of the Senate Committees that seek a representative from each Faculty; an important consideration given their faculty and student numbers.
- Creating a Faculty of Computer Science and Technology would provide the opportunity for the leadership of a Dean rather than a Director, and the Senate has already approved a 2-department structure in May to assist with the oversight at both the SSM and BRA campuses.

#### 2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Academic Planning and Priorities committee approved the motion to create a new Faculty of Computer Science and Technology based on the current School of Computer Science and Technology at its May 1, 2024 meeting. This proposal is based on the increased expansion and advancement of the School of Computer Science and Technology over the past decade.

#### **3.0 ANALYSIS**

- Enrollment figures have surged from one hundred (100) students in 2018 to an impressive 2,500 Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) in April 2024, a substantial growth that surpasses the entire university's enrollment from just a few years prior.
- The School of Computer Science and Technology currently has thirteen (13) full-time faculty members, with eleven (11) new faculty hires in progress, and seven (7) new hire requests recently approved by Senate.
- With the growing number of students enrolled (2, 500 FTEs in April 2024 and estimated 3,500 FTEs in Fall 2024), the current school structure, with a single Director and one (1) Administrative Assistant, is proving inadequate to manage the expanding School.
- There is a pressing need for additional faculty support and enhanced student support.
- The creation of an autonomous Faculty of Computer Science and Technology would grant the school the latitude to concentrate exclusively on computer science/information technology education and research. This dedicated focus would permit the school to tailor curriculum, research endeavors, and academic offerings to the precise requisites of the computer science field.
- The current School of Computer Science and Technology has created a full proposal and financial/business
  plan for the creation of the Faculty, attached below.

#### 4.0 ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 of 3: Full proposal for a new faculty/departments

Attachment 2 of 3: Business plan for the new faculty

Attachment 3 of 3: Financial data

#### Business Plan for creating a new faculty: Faculty of Computer Science and Technology

#### **Executive Summary**

The proposed establishment of the Faculty of Computer Science and Technology aspires to capitalize on its remarkable growth and evolving industry demands. This executive move is orchestrated to enhance the university's global standing in computer science and information technology education and research, and to forge a future-facing, agile academic institution capable of delivering unparalleled educational experiences and innovative research outcomes.

#### Key Financial Highlights of the Proposed Plan:

- Projected Revenue Growth: With a stable number in student enrollment for undergraduate programs and a significant expansion of the master's program to 1500 Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) by Year 5, we anticipate a substantial increase in revenue. By Year 5, the projected tuition is expected to rise to \$30 million, while domestic tuition, government grants, and lab and other fees are projected to bring the total revenue to \$60 million (a 174% increase).
- **Financial Viability:** The model forecasts a substantial net contribution of **\$40 million** by the end of Year 5, marking a 183% increase compared to the current financial state. This robust financial health is indicative of the faculty's sustainable growth and its capacity to fund further innovation and development.
- Strategic Investments: To support the anticipated expansion and to maintain cutting-edge educational offerings, the faculty plans to invest in \$8 million in total which includes laboratory upgrades (\$2 million), new research facilities (\$2 million), and enhanced technology infrastructure (\$1 million initially with \$500,000 annually for maintenance and updates). Additional costs for new space acquisition or lease are projected at \$3 million for the first five years.
- Operational Efficiency: A focus on streamlining operations is mirrored in the proposal for a school that includes two departments, led by a dean, two department chairs, and supported by administrative and academic staff, enhancing managerial efficacy and student-focused services.

• **Staff Expansion and Development:** The faculty will see a significant recruitment drive, increasing full-time faculty members from the current 13 to a future 43, along with part-time faculty engagement. The staffing expansion is critical to delivering specialized, quality programs and maintaining our competitive edge.

#### **Operations Plan**

The operations plan for the newly established Faculty of Computing and Technology at Algoma University outlines the organizational structure, departmental configuration, administrative support needs, and the physical infrastructure required to support its mission and strategic objectives effectively.

#### Structure of the Independent Faculty:

- **Departments:** The Faculty will consist of two primary departments to cater to specialized areas within the computing and technology fields:
  - 1. Department of Computer Science and Mathematics
  - 2. Department of Information Technology and Professional Studies
- Administration: The Faculty will be led by a Dean, with the support of two Department Chairs—one for each department—and a Graduate Program Officer. This structure ensures focused leadership and administrative support for both undergraduate and graduate programs. The Dean's office will include administrative assistants and staff responsible for student services, financial management, and faculty support.
  - Estimated Staff Costs in Year 5:
    - Dean: \$200,000 per annum
    - Department Chairs (2): \$150,000 each per annum
    - Full-time faculty (13 current + 11 current hiring + 20 future hiring):
       \$100,000 yearly per new hire + 5% yearly growth on existing
    - Part-time faculty (300) \$7,000 each per course
    - Graduate Program Officer: \$150,000 per annum
    - Administrative Assistants and Support Staff (4): \$80,000 each per annum

#### **Costs for Transition to Independent Faculty:**

To accommodate the growth in student enrollment and the expansion of program offerings, **a total of \$8 million investment** in physical infrastructure is required:

- Laboratory Upgrades: Renovations and expansions of existing computer labs to support advanced research and teaching in areas such as AI, cybersecurity, and software development.
  - Estimated Costs: \$2 million for lab renovations and equipment updates over the next 5 years.
- **Research Facilities:** Development of dedicated research spaces for faculty and graduate students to conduct cutting-edge research.
  - Estimated Costs: \$2 million for the establishment of new research facilities.
- Technology Infrastructure: Investment in high-speed internet, advanced computing resources, and software licenses to support the faculty's teaching, learning, and research activities.
  - Estimated Costs: \$1 million for initial setup and annual costs of \$500,000 for maintenance and updates.
- Location: The Faculty will primarily operate within Algoma University's main campus, utilizing existing spaces while also seeking additional facilities to accommodate expansion. This approach leverages the university's resources and minimizes the need for immediate external property acquisition.
  - Estimated Costs for New Space Acquisition/Lease: Dependent on future growth and availability of external funding, but initially projected at \$3 million for the first 5 years for potential off-campus facilities leasing and customization.

#### **Financial Plan**

Current Financial State (Based on 2022-2023 data, including COSC, ITEC, MATH, PHYS and **adjusted** to include the 11 full-time faculty members under hiring):

Revenue:

- **Domestic Student Tuition:** \$1,267,804
- International Student Tuition: \$19,089,815
- Government Grants: \$985,199
- Lab and Other Student Fees: \$754,000

*Total Revenue:* \$22,096,818

#### Expenses:

- Salaries and Benefits: \$4,590,239
- International Student Recovery: \$580,099
- International Agent Commissions: \$2,600,991

*Total Expenses:* \$7,771,329

#### Net Contribution:

• Contribution Margin: \$14,325,489

#### **Financial Projections:**

The projections below consider a stable undergraduate enrollment for the next five years and the expansion of the master's program to 1500 FTE in Year 5. This effect is mainly on Master Student Tuition. For the Government Grants and Lab and Other Fees, we estimated a 3% and 20% growth respectively.

#### **Projected Student FTEs**

|                                 |         | year 1  | year 2  | year 3  | year 4  | year 5  |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 |
| UG/GC FTE                       | 2500    | 2870    | 2870    | 2870    | 2870    | 2870    |
| Master enrollment               | 6       | 400     | 750     | 1200    | 1350    | 1500    |
| Total enrollment all programs   | 2506    | 3270    | 3620    | 4070    | 4220    | 4370    |
| Total full time faculty members | 13      | 31      | 34      | 37      | 40      | 43      |

#### **Projected Revenue Growth:**

|                                | year 1       | year 2      | year 3      | year 4      | year 5       |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Revenue                        |              |             |             |             |              |
| Domestic UG<br>Student Tuition | \$1,267,804  | \$1,267,804 | \$1,267,804 | \$1,267,804 | \$1,267,804  |
| International UG               |              | \$26,345,00 | \$26,345,00 | \$26,345,00 | \$26,345,00  |
| Student Tuition                | \$26,345,000 | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0            |
| Master Student                 |              | \$15,000,00 | \$24,000,00 | \$27,000,00 | \$30,000,00  |
| Tuition                        | \$8,000,000  | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0            |
| Government                     |              |             |             |             |              |
| Grants                         | \$1,014,755  | \$1,045,198 | \$1,076,554 | \$1,108,850 | \$1,142,116  |
| Lab and Other                  |              |             |             |             |              |
| Student Fees                   | \$904,800    | \$1,085,760 | \$1,302,912 | \$1,563,494 | \$1,876,193  |
|                                |              | \$44,743,76 | \$53,992,27 | \$57,285,14 |              |
| Yearly Total                   | \$37,532,359 | 2           | 0           | 9           | \$60,631,113 |

Total Projected Revenue in year 5: \$60,631,113 (a 174% increase compared to Current

Financial State)

#### Expenses:

Assuming a 5% yearly growth in Salary and Benefits of existing faculties and \$100,000 per new recruitment of faculties members. We also estimated a 20% growth per year in International Student Recovery and International Agent Commissions. In addition, we added cost for the Transition to Independent Faculty (8 million in total) for the next 5 years including Laboratory Upgrades, Research Facilities, Technology Infrastructure, and additional facilities to accommodate expansion.

|                                   | year 1       | year 2       | year 3       | year 4       | year 5       |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Expenses                          |              |              |              |              |              |
| Salaries and<br>Benefits          | \$7,609,751  | \$8,290,238  | \$9,004,750  | \$9,754,988  | \$10,542,737 |
| International<br>Student Recovery | \$696,119    | \$835,343    | \$1,002,411  | \$1,202,893  | \$1,443,472  |
| International                     |              |              |              |              |              |
| Agent<br>Commissions              | \$3,121,189  | \$3,745,427  | \$4,494,512  | \$5,393,415  | \$6,472,098  |
| Costs for                         |              |              |              |              |              |
| Transition to<br>Independent      |              |              |              |              |              |
| Faculty                           | \$1,500,000  | \$1,545,000  | \$1,591,350  | \$1,639,091  | \$1,688,263  |
| Yearly Expense                    | \$12,927,059 | \$14,416,008 | \$16,093,024 | \$17,990,387 | \$20,146,570 |

#### Total Projected Expenses in Year 5:

Total Projected Expenses in year 5: \$20,146,570

#### Net Contribution at end of Year 5:

**Projected Net Contribution:** \$60,631,113 - \$20,146,570 = \$40,484,543 (183% increase comparing to Current Financial State)



# Proposal To Board of Governors Faculty of Computer Science and Technology

Thursday May 30, 2024

Dr. Michele Piercey-Normore, VPAR Dr. Laurie Bloomfield, Acting Dean, Faculty of Science Dr. Simon Xu, Director, SCST

## Purpose

The Algoma University Act [24(a)] empowers the Senate to make recommendations to the Board with respect to the establishment, change or termination of programs and courses of study, schools, faculties, divisions and departments

#### The introduction of a new Faculty of Computer Science and Technology:

- Provides an opportunity for growth, research and innovation for Algoma University in the era of Al.
- Responds to increasing student demand, increased numbers of courses offered across multiple disciplines, and new programming planned or underway
- Increases efficiency in organization and governance within the Faculty and across the planned multi-department structure
- Elevates the profile of Algoma by showcasing a dedicated faculty with specialized departments
- Attracts high-quality faculty, researchers, and students, enhancing the University's academic prestige

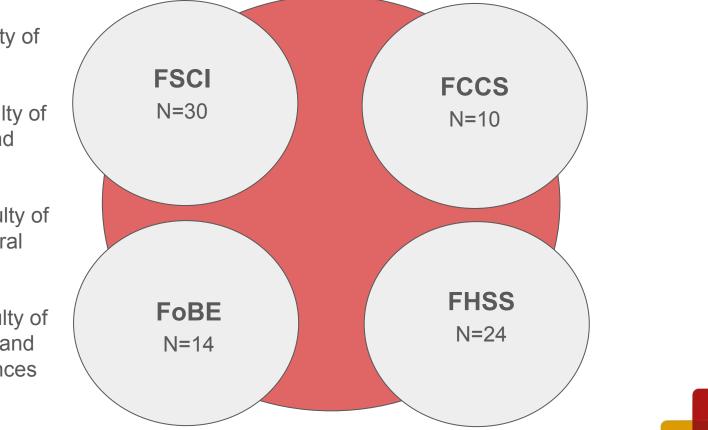
## **Current Structure: 4 Faculties (N=Full-time Members)**

**FSCI**: Faculty of Sciences

**FoBE**: Faculty of Business and Economics

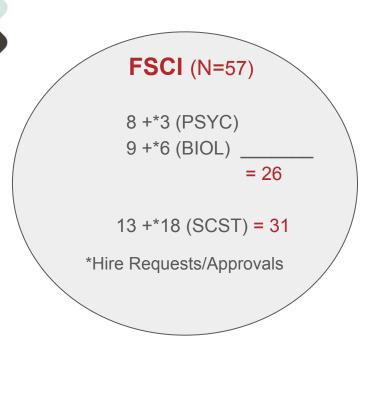
**FCCS**: Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies

**FHSS**: Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences



60

## Faculty of Science: Current and expected hires



\*Hire Requests/Approvals

Total of 27 ongoing Tenure Track (TT) and Contractually Limited Term Assignment (CLTA) hires or requests

- 2 TT Psychology + 1 CLTA
- > 1 TT Biology + 5 CLTA
- > 15 TT Comp Sci + 3 CLTA
  - 5 TT Data Science/CyberSecurity
  - 6 TT IT, XR (AR/VR/Computer Graphics) (Senate-approved June 2023)
  - 2 TT and 1 CLTA Computer Networks
  - 2 TT and 2 CLTA Software Engineering (Senate-approved April 2024)

# Estimated enrollment and required faculty members (2023-2029)

|                                  | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| UG/GCERT FTE                     | 2500    | 2870    | 2870    | 2870    | 2870    | 2870    |
| Master's                         | 6       | 400     | 750     | 1200    | 1350    | 1500    |
| Total enrollment all<br>programs | 2506    | 3270    | 3620    | 4070    | 4220    | 4370    |
| Total full time faculty members  | 13      | 31      | 34      | 37      | 40      | 43      |



- Currently, the FTE ratio between undergraduate (UG) and graduate certificate (GCert) programs is approximately 80:20. We expect the number of GCert students to decrease and UG students to increase, maintaining a total of around 2,870 for the next few years.
- The FTE ratio between Sault Ste. Marie and Brampton is approximately 30:70.

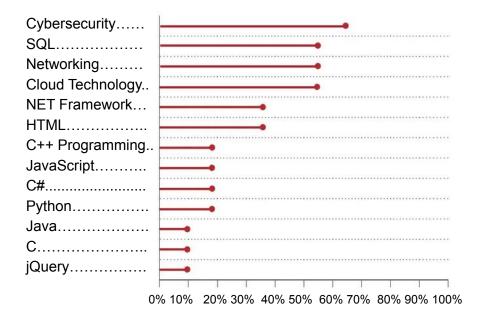
## Projected Revenue Growth 2024-2029 for Faculty of Computer Science and Technology



|                                     | 2024/2025    | 2025/2026    | 2026/2027    | 2027/2028    | 2028/2029    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Revenue                             |              |              | 1            | ·            | 1            |
| Domestic UG<br>Student Tuition      | \$1,267,804  | \$1,267,804  | \$1,267,804  | \$1,267,804  | \$1,267,804  |
| International UG<br>Student Tuition | \$26,345,000 | \$26,345,000 | \$26,345,000 | \$26,345,000 | \$26,345,000 |
| Master Student<br>Tuition           | \$8,000,000  | \$15,000,000 | \$24,000,000 | \$27,000,000 | \$30,000,000 |
| Government<br>Grants                | \$1,014,755  | \$1,045,198  | \$1,076,554  | \$1,108,850  | \$1,142,116  |
| Lab and Other<br>Student Fees       | \$904,800    | \$1,085,760  | \$1,302,912  | \$1,563,494  | \$1,876,193  |
| Yearly Total                        | \$37,532,359 | \$44,743,762 | \$53,992,270 | \$57,285,149 | \$60,631,113 |

# In-demand Skills provided by the School of Computer Science and Information Technology

Digital skills demanded by employers are always evolving. Employers were recently asked what technical skills (hard skills) they require and will target during the hiring process.



# Job Market for Computer Science and Information Technology is expected to continue growing

Many occupations are experiencing increased demand as a result of economic disruption during the COVID-19 pandemic. Skills in computer science and technology are projected to be essential to the post-pandemic recovery:

Computer and information systems managers

Web designers and developers

Computer programmers and interactive media developers

Information systems analysts and consultants

Database analysts and data administrators

"Outlooks for COVID-19 Impacted Occupations in Canada." – a 2021 Canadian labour market analysis by the federal government.

# Job Market for Computer Science and Information Technology is expected to continue growing

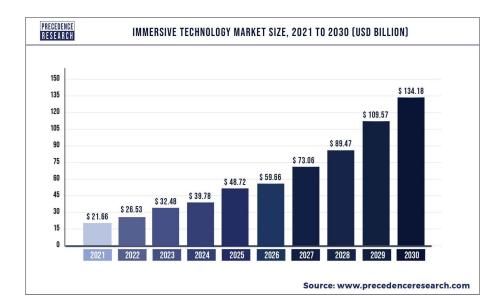
- Market demands for professionals in Artificial Intelligence, Data Science,
   Cybersecurity and Immersive Technology (AR/VR)
- Provincial Allocation Letters (**STEM programs**)
- Federal New Work Permit Policy (**STEM** and relevant programs)
- Market demands for Master of Computer Science program
- New programs (co-op programs, joint Master of Science in Business Analytics, Joint Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Data Analytics)

## Consultation process and approvals to date (since June 2023):

- The SCST full-time and part-time members
- President, VPAR, and VP-Finance
- Dean of Science (former and current)
- Science Faculty
- Approval by AppCom (April 2024)
- Multi-department structure approved and recommended by Senate (April 2024)
- Faculty proposal discussed by Senate Executive (April 2024)
- Faculty proposal presented to Senate (May 3 2024)
- Motion to recommend the creation of a new Faculty of Computer Science and Technology to Senate (June 7 2024 planned)

## **Connection with Centre of Excellence in Immersive Technology**

- Applications with AR, VR and XR
  - O XR market is growing significantly (see figure)
- Knowledge and Expertise
- Collaboration and Networking
- Research and Collaboration
- Industry Recognition
- Reputation and Marketing



#### Vision:

To become a **global leader** in immersive technology **by fostering** a thriving ecosystem of education, entrepreneurship, and industry leadership **and shaping a responsible and inclusive future** 

Mission: To advance the field of Immersive Technology by empowering individuals, organizations, an community to harness the power of people, technology, and collaboration

## **Proposed Governance Model**



## **Faculty of Computer Science and Technology**

## Department of Computer Science and Mathematics

1. Bachelor of Computer Science (General and Honours, Regular or Online)

#### Specializations:

- a. Computer Games Technology
- b. Computer Games Technology and Creative Arts
- c. Mobile Software Engineering
- d. Al and Data Science (in progress)
- 2. Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (General and Honours)
- 3. Accelerated Computer Science Second Degree (Regular or Online)
- 4. Accelerated Computer Science Second Degree (Co-Op)
- 5. Bachelor of Computer Science (Co-Op)
- 6. First Year Engineering program (Laurentian)
- 7. Master of Computer Science
- 8. Master of Science in Computer Science (in progress)

## Department of Information Technology and Professional Studies

- 1. Graduate Certificate in Information Technology (Regular or Online)
- 2. Graduate Certificate in Computing (Regular or Online)
- 3. Graduate Certificate in Computer Games Technology
- 4. Graduate Certificate in Mobile Software Development
- 5. Bachelor of Information Technology (in progress)
- 6. Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Data Analytics (in progress)
- 7. Master of Science in Business Analytics (in progress)
- 8. Microcredentials and Professional Training (such as Cyber Security) in collaboration with PACE (in future)

#### Future:

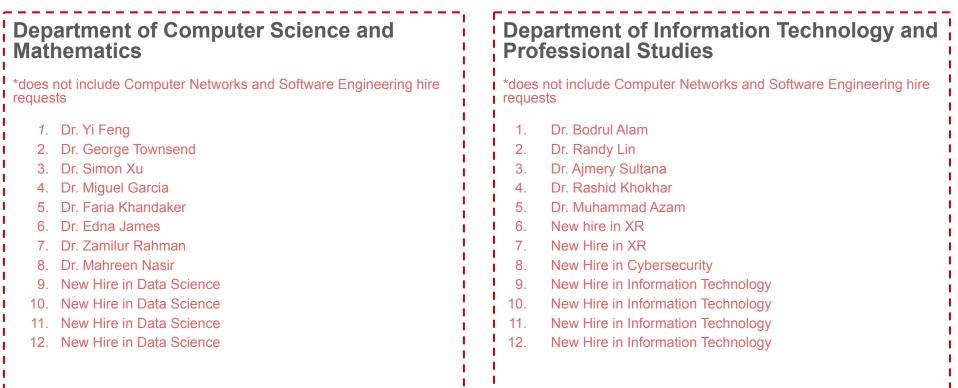
Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Immersive Technology (AR/VR/XR) Institute

### **Proposed Governance Model**



### **Faculty of Computer Science and Technology**



## **Next Steps**

- May 2024
  - Senate-approved recommendation to Board for two new Departments to be created within the School of Computer Science & Technology
- June 2024
  - Senate to review establishment of the new Faculty of Computer Science for recommendation to the Board of Governors at its June 7, 2024 meeting.
  - Board of Governors to consider motion for new Faculty of Computer Science & Technology for approval at its June 20, 2024 meeting.

# Thank you for your consideration



## International Student Refund Policy

| Open Agenda: 20 June 2024                               | PURPOSE: |            |             |
|---|----------|------------|-------------|
| PREPARED BY:  | Approval | Discussion | Information |
| Kramer Rousseau, Interim Vice President Finance and Ope | rations  |            |             |
| Rachel Tatasciore, Controller, Finance and Planning     |          |            |             |
| Lauren Nasby, Manager, Student Financial Services       |          |            |             |

## 1.0 ACTION

**MOTION**: That the Board of Governors approve the amendments made to the International Student Refund Policy, as recommended by the Risk & Finance Committee.

## 2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This policy was developed to establish the rules under which international student withdrawals and refunds may be made and ensure compliance with applicable legislation, the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) fee and refund policy, and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) guidelines.

The revisions made to the policy aim to reduce the overall risk to the organization with regards to refunding international applicants and students. Policy revisions have been reviewed by legal experts who have knowledge of the areas of legislation which impact this work and previous knowledge of this policy.

The Risk & Finance Committee reviewed this policy at its June 11, 2024 meeting and, with minor amendments, recommended that the Board approve the policy.

## 3.0 ALIGNMENT WITH UNIVERSITY STRATEGY

This item is aligned with the following Strategic Direction(s) from the <u>2023-2026 Strategic Plan</u>:

#4: Continue to Build Inclusive and Inspiring Teaching, Learning, and Working Environments -

## 4.0 ANALYSIS

The intent of these policy revisions are to eliminate any ambiguities. The amendments and additions proposed are summarized below:

- Definitions [3] expanded to include the following; Administrative Fee, Applicant, DLI, Exceptional Circumstance, Family Member, Fees, International Student, IRCC, Letter of Acceptance (LOA), Semester start date, Study Permit, and Tuition Deposit.
- Added international applicants to Scope [4], to clearly identify who the policy applies to, that is both applicants and students.
- Process to Commence a Semester [5.1], revised with the removal of language specifying the requirement of an individual to have landed in Canada, and expanded applicant requirements, including deadlines on the path to becoming a student.

- Refunds [5.3], identified Applicant Cancellation as an additional circumstance whereby an individual may be required to withdraw from a program or course(s).
- Removed the requirement for Algoma U to assess if an individual has landed in Canada or not.
- Clarity within exceptional circumstances, to now require medical documentation be verified by the individual's medical professional, thus eliminating the requirement for Algoma U to interpret such medical documentation.
- Appeals of Refunds process expanded upon with the following statement, "disputing a refund does not guarantee a favorable outcome. All decisions rendered by the Financial Relief and Appeals Committee are final with no further right of appeal."
- Minor updates to the Roles and Responsibilities [6] and cross referencing to the International Student Refund Policy Procedures for further clarity.
- Presentation style revisions to Appendix A Scenarios, by reformatting into chart form for greater clarity on refund eligibility amounts.

## **5.0 RISK IMPLICATIONS**

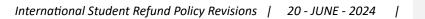
Due to the high volume of refunds processed daily, we recognize the need to update the policy to ensure it is clear and concise, thereby eliminating any risk of misinterpretation for the institution, applicants and students. Additionally, certain aspects of the current policy present operational challenges, such as validating if a student is in Canada when canceling their visa, or where an individual's medical condition meets the criteria of a medical emergency. These areas of risk have been mitigated through the updates proposed to this policy.

## **6.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

For the fiscal year 2023-24, Student Financial Services processed over \$30.0M in refunds in alignment with the International Student Refund Policy and Procedures.

## 7.0 ATTACHMENTS

- 1. FI-13 International Student Refund Policy Revised Clean Copy June 2024
- 2. FI-13 International Student Refund Policy Revised Marked Copy June 2024
- 3. FI-13 International Student Refund Policy Procedures *Note: Aligning with Algoma U policy, these procedures are being shared for information purposes only and do not require approval from the Board of Governors.*





# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT REFUND POLICY

| Category:           | Financial                               |
|---------------------|---|
| Number:             | FI -13-01                               |
| Responsible Office: | Finance and Planning                    |
| Approval date:      | Board of Governors June 20, 2024        |
| Last Updated:       | June 2024                               |
| Next Review Date:   | June 2029                               |
| Review Period:      | Five years or as circumstances warrant  |
| Procedures:         | International Student Refund Procedures |

## 1. INTRODUCTION

If an individual is interested in studying in Canada, they are required to receive a study permit through Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (unless an exception applies). The study permit is a document that allows foreign nationals to study at designated learning institutions in Canada. Algoma University (referred to herein as "Algoma U", "us", or "we") is a designated learning institution.

In order to obtain a study permit from the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada to study in Canada, a foreign national must fulfill certain qualifications, including being enrolled at a designated learning institution.

## 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the requirements and procedures for issuing a refund of student fees to international students. The policy aims to ensure Algoma

| Effective:    | Revised:      | Superseded #: | Page #: |  |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------|--|
| June 20, 2024 | June 20, 2024 | FI -13-01     | 1 of 11 |  |



University fulfills its obligations under applicable law, including but not limited to anti-money laundering and immigration. Additionally, this policy aims to mitigate the loss of operational costs incurred to process and administer an international student's application and partial participation in a program and course, with a recognition of and sensitivity to the unexpected circumstances that may change the plans or financial viability of international students.

## 3. **DEFINITIONS**

**"Administrative Fee"** means the amount retained by Algoma U to cover operational costs and losses incurred by Algoma U relating to the application, admission, and cancellation of the Applicant's position within the relevant Program. The Administrative Fees may be increased, from time to time, at the discretion of the respective leadership as deemed necessary.

"Applicant" is an individual who is considering becoming an International Student.

**"Course"** includes all course offerings at Algoma U, as well as courses offered as part of Programs leading to a degree, certificate or micro-credential, all courses offered under any of our academic faculties, and those offered as part of professional and continuing education.

"DLI" means a designated learning institution in Canada.

### "Exceptional Circumstance"

- Death of a Family Member of an Applicant or International Student.
- Serious illness or injury preventing an Applicant or International Student from participating in a Program or Course on an ongoing basis. The illness or injury, and the inability of the Applicant/International Student to participate in the Program or Course, must be verified in writing by a medical professional.

| Effective:    | Revised:      | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------|
| June 20, 2024 | June 20, 2024 | FI -13-01     | 2 of 11 |
|               |               |               |         |



**"Family Member**" means the spouse (by marriage, common law, or same sex partner), child (by marriage, blood, or adoption), parent, or sibling of the Applicant or International Student or of the spouse of the Applicant or International Student.

"**Fees**" means the international student tuition and ancillary fees for the relevant Program;

"**International Student**" is an Algoma U student who is a temporary resident of Canada and legally authorized to student in Canada on a temporary basis. An Applicant shall become an International Student upon completion of the steps set out in Section 5.1 below.

"IRCC" means Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada.

**"LOA"** means a conditional or unconditional Letter of Acceptance issued by Algoma U that confirms an Applicant's acceptance into a Program, either unconditionally or conditional on the Applicant's successful completion of certain matters.

**"Program"** means a program of study at Algoma U involving theoretical knowledge or research, and leading to a degree, certificate, or microcredential.

"Student fees" Student fees include the total of both tuition fees and ancillary fees.

"**Semester start date**" Date identified within Algoma U's official academic calendar as the first day of a semester.

**"Study Permit**" means a document issued by IRCC that authorizes a foreign national to study at Algoma U for the duration of the relevant Program.

**"Tuition Deposit**" means the non-refundable tuition deposit detailed in the LOA and due in accordance with Section 5.1(A) below.

## 4. SCOPE

This policy applies to all applicants and international students. This Policy does not apply

| Effective:    | Revised:      | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------|
| June 20, 2024 | June 20, 2024 | FI -13-01     | 3 of 11 |
|               |               |               |         |



to anyone who is not an international applicant or an international student (e.g. domestic students).

## 5. POLICY

### 5.1. Process to Commence Semester

- A. Where a foreign national has applied to Algoma U, and meets all of our qualifications, we will issue a conditional or unconditional letter of acceptance for use as part of the application process to IRCC. Once an applicant has received a LOA, the applicant must, in order to continue forward in the process to become an international student:
  - (a) pay the non-refundable tuition deposit; and
  - (b) use the LOA and tuition deposit receipt to apply for a study permit.

The application for a student permit should be submitted at least ten (10) weeks before the first day of classes of the relevant program. If this deadline is not met, the applicant may be required to defer the application until the next available intake for the program. The non-refundable tuition deposit will be kept on hold for the applicant by Algoma U.

B. Once the applicant receives the study permit, the

Applicant must:

- (a) register in the program to which the applicant was admitted; and
- (b) pay the full amount of the fees for the first semester of the program prior to the start of the semester.

Once these steps have been completed, the applicant will become an international student of Algoma University.

| Effective:    | Revised:      | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------|
| June 20, 2024 | June 20, 2024 | FI -13-01     | 4 of 11 |
|               |               |               |         |



## 5.2. Deferrals

- 5.2.1. Prior to paying the Tuition Deposit, an Applicant may defer the offer of admission <u>once</u> to the next available intake with no formal reason required. Deferring an offer of admission does not guarantee a seat in the preferred Program, campus, or intake and may result in submission of an alternate offer by Algoma U to the Applicant. To apply for a deferral, please fill in this <u>form</u>.
- 5.2.2. Once an Applicant has completed all steps to become an International Student, including payment of the Tuition Deposit for a Program, the International Student may defer starting the Program to future semesters as many times as the International Student wishes with no formal reason required. The Tuition Deposit will be kept on hold for the International Student by Algoma U and will only be refunded in accordance with this Policy.
- 5.2.3. A copy of an International Student's visa stamp or Letter of Introduction should be submitted to Algoma U at least five (5) weeks before the first day of classes of the relevant Program. If this deadline is not met, the International Student may be required to defer starting the Program until the next available intake for the Program. The Tuition Deposit will be kept on hold for the International Student by Algoma U and will only be refunded in accordance with this Policy.

### 5.3. **Refunds**

5.3.1. We recognize that there are certain circumstances where an applicant or an international student may be required to withdraw from a program or course(s). In these limited circumstances, Algoma U will issue a full or partial refund of any international student fees, less an administrative fee, in accordance with this International Student Refund Policy.

| Effective:    | Revised:      | Superseded #: | Page #: |  |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------|--|
| June 20, 2024 | June 20, 2024 | FI -13-01     | 5 of 11 |  |



Limited Circumstances:

- A. <u>Application Cancellation</u>: The applicant receives a LOA and pays the tuition deposit but, prior to applying for a study permit, decides not to pursue studies at Algoma U. Algoma U will issue a refund of the tuition deposit less the non-refundable portion identified on the LOA.
- B. <u>Visa Refusal</u>: The Applicant receives a LOA, pays the tuition deposit, and applies for a study permit, but is refused a study permit or denied a visa. Upon receipt of written confirmation that the applicant has been refused a study permit or denied a visa, Algoma U will refund the tuition deposit, less the applicable administrative fee.
- C. <u>Program Cancellation</u>: If Algoma U provides an applicant with a letter confirming that the relevant program has been cancelled, the applicant will be offered a choice of a program change or a full refund of the tuition deposit. No administrative fee will be charged.
- D. <u>Denial or Rescinding of Admission</u>: If Algoma U informs an applicant that Algoma U has denied or rescinded the applicant's admission, Algoma U will refund the tuition deposit. No administrative fee will be charged.
- E. <u>Visa Cancellation</u>: At least eight (8) weeks prior to the semester start date for the relevant program, the international student, decides not to pursue studies in Canada and cancels such international student's study permit or student visa. Upon receipt of written confirmation that the study permit or student visa has been cancelled, Algoma U will refund the tuition deposit, less the applicable administrative fee. If written confirmation is received less than eight (8) weeks prior to the semester start date, no

| Effective:    | Revised:      | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------|
| June 20, 2024 | June 20, 2024 | FI -13-01     | 6 of 11 |
|               |               |               |         |



refund of the first semester fees will be provided.

- F. <u>Transfer to another DLI</u>: The international student decides to pursue studies at another DLI. Upon receipt of written confirmation that the international student has been accepted by the other DLI, the student will be eligible to receive a refund of any deposit made in excess of the first semester fees, less the applicable administrative fee if their withdrawal request is submitted within fourteen (14) calendar days of the semester start date.
- G. <u>Failure to Maintain Academic Standing</u>. If an international student does not maintain an academic standing that allows the international student to progress into the following semester, the international student will cease to be a student of Algoma U. Such individuals will be required to attend a mandatory meeting with an International Student Advisor to ensure that the individual understands the available options and any immigration implications.

Upon receipt of written confirmation that the study permit / student visa has been cancelled OR written confirmation that the international student has been accepted by the other DLI the student will be refunded deposits for future terms, less an administrative fee.

H. <u>Program Completion</u>: If an international student completes the final semester of study, and has an account in credit status (i.e., overpayment), Algoma U will refund the amount of the credit to the international student. No administrative fee will be charged.

| Effective:    | Revised:      | Superseded #: | Page #: |  |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------|--|
| June 20, 2024 | June 20, 2024 | FI -13-01     | 7 of 11 |  |



- 5.3.2 All individuals must follow Algoma U's <u>procedures</u> to receive the refund.
- 5.3.3 A break-down of all of the scenarios in which a refund may be provided is set out in <u>Appendix A</u>.

#### 5.4. Exceptional Circumstances

If an international student does **not** fall under one of the categories set out in Section 5.3.1 above, but an exceptional circumstance exists (as defined in the definition section), the international student may submit a request to withdraw from Algoma U and receive a refund of fees, along with supporting documentation, in accordance with the <u>procedures</u>. There is no guarantee that an international student will be provided with a refund as the result of an exceptional circumstance. Each request for withdrawal and a refund will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

#### 5.5. Withdrawal and Refunds

- 5.5.1. International students must follow the <u>procedures</u> in order to withdraw from Algoma U and potentially receive a partial refund of the Fees.
- 5.5.2. Failure to attend classes or requesting withdrawal from another aspect of International Student life (e.g. residence, a specific class, etc.) does not constitute a withdrawal from Algoma U and will not result in a refund.
- 5.5.3. International students who choose to withdraw and forfeit their admission to Algoma U and their status as an Algoma U international student will need to reapply for admission if they later wish to return to Algoma U.

#### 5.6. Appeals of Refund Decisions

5.6.1. An applicant or international student wishing to appeal a refund decision must do so following the <u>Financial Relief and Appeals Process</u>. Applicants and international students must submit their claim within one (1)

| Effective:    | Revised:      | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------|
| June 20, 2024 | June 20, 2024 | FI -13-01     | 8 of 11 |
|               |               |               |         |



academic year of withdrawal. It is imperative to note that disputing a refund does not guarantee a favorable outcome. All decisions rendered by the Financial Relief and Appeals Committee are **FINAL with no further right of appeal.** 

## 6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1. The responsibilities of applicants and international students within the withdrawal and refund processes are as follows:
  - 6.1.1. an applicant or international student is responsible for requesting withdrawals, refunds, and deferrals in accordance with this Policy by submitting the required Forms and all supporting documentation within the relevant timelines;
  - 6.1.2. an applicant or international student is required to arrange a meeting with an International Student Advisor, if such meeting is desired by the applicant or international student or if such meeting is required under this Policy;
  - 6.1.3. if an applicant or international student would like to appeal a refund decision, such individual shall be responsible for initiating the appeal process set out in Section 5.6 above and completing and providing all necessary documentation in alignment with this Policy and the <u>Procedures</u>.
- 6.2. The responsibilities of the Student Success Office in the withdrawal and refund processes are as follows:
  - 6.2.1. The Student Success Office shall be responsible for, if requested by an international student, booking a meeting with such international student to support immigration inquiries during the refund process by discussing immigration implications, identifying available student supports, identifying any missing information, and answering questions that the international

| Effective:    | Revised:      | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------|
| June 20, 2024 | June 20, 2024 | FI -13-01     | 9 of 11 |
|               |               |               |         |



student may have.

- 6.2.2. The Student Success Office shall review any completed forms related to refunds and determine whether a refund request shall be fulfilled or denied.
- 6.3. The responsibilities of the Finance and Planning / Student Accounts Office in the withdrawal and refund processes are as follows:
  - 6.3.1. The Finance and Planning/ Student Accounts Office shall receive all Applicant and International Student refund requests via <u>International</u> <u>Student Withdrawal and Refund Request Form</u>, confirm that all required documentation has been submitted, calculate the refund amount, notify the relevant applicant or international student of the refund status and timelines.
- 6.4. The responsibilities of the Registrar's Office in the withdrawal and refund processes are as follows:
  - 6.4.1. The Registrar shall update Algoma U's records relating to the withdrawal of an international student from the relevant program and/or courses.
  - 6.4.2. The Registrar shall report applicants and international students who withdraw from Algoma U to the IRCC as part of Algoma U's bi-annual DLI international compliance report.
  - 6.4.3. The Registrar shall validate IRCC ad hoc verification requests.
- 6.5. The Associate Vice President, Finance & Planning and the University Registrar are responsible for ensuring that this International Student Refund Policy and the Procedures are fully implemented.

## 7. Cross Reference to Other Existing Policies or Regulations

International Student Refund Procedures

| Effective:    | Revised:      | Superseded #: | Page #:  |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| June 20, 2024 | June 20, 2024 | FI -13-01     | 10 of 11 |
|               |               |               |          |



## Appendix A - Scenarios

The following is a break-down of all of the scenarios in which a refund may be provided:

| Refund Category  | Administrative<br>Fee Applied? | First Semester Fees<br>Refunded?  |
|--|--------------------------------|---|
| (A) Application Cancellation   | No                             | Dependant on LOA -  |
|  |                                | Student will be refunded the<br>Tuition Deposit <b>less the</b><br><b>non-refundable portion</b><br>identified in the LOA |
| (B) Visa Refusal   | Yes                            | Yes   |
| (C) Program Cancellation   | No                             | Yes   |
| (D) Denial or Rescinding of<br>Admission   | No                             | Yes   |
| (E) Visa Cancellation (8 weeks<br>prior to the semester start<br>date)           | Yes                            | Yes   |
| (E) Visa Cancellation (Less<br>than 8 weeks prior to the<br>semester start date) | Yes                            | No  |
| (F) Transfer to Other DLI  | Yes                            | No  |
| (G) Failure to Maintain<br>Academic Standing                                     | Yes                            | No  |
| (H) Program Completion   | No                             | N/A   |

| Effective:    | Revised:      | Superseded #: | Page #:  |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| June 20, 2024 | June 20, 2024 | FI -13-01     | 11 of 11 |
|               |               |               |          |



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT REFUND POLICY

| Category:           | Financial  |
|---------------------|--|
| Number:             | FI -13-01  |
| Responsible Office: | Finance and Planning VP Finance and Operations               |
| Approval date:      | Board of Governors <del>, March 30, 2023</del> -June 20,2024 |
| Last Updated:       | March 2023 June 2024   |
| Next Review Date:   | January 2028 June 2029                                       |
| Review Period:      | Five years or as circumstances warrant                       |
| Procedures:         | International Student Refund Procedures                      |

## 1. INTRODUCTION

If an individual is interested in studying in Canada, they are required to receive a study student permit through Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (unless an exception applies). The study permit is a document that allows foreign nationals to study at designated learning institutions in Canada. Algoma University (referred to herein as "Algoma U", "us", or "we") is a designated learning institution.

In order to obtain a study permit from the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada to study in Canada, a foreign national must fulfill certain qualifications as defined in section XXX of this policy. , including being enrolled at a designated learning institution. If a foreign national has applied to Algoma, and meets all of our qualifications, we will issue a conditional or unconditional letter of acceptance for use as part of the application process to IRCC.

| March 30, 2023         March 30, 2023         N/A         1 of 12 |  | Effective:<br>March 30, 2023 | Revised:<br>March 30, 2023 | Superseded #:<br>N/A | Page #:<br>1 of 12 |
|---|--|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
|---|--|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|



An international student may be required to pay the international student fees for an academic term or, in some cases, for an entire academic year, before the student can apply for a study permit through IRCC.

At a minimum, every international student is required to pay Algoma's international student fees for the first academic term before the student can register for Courses at Algoma.

We recognize that there are certain circumstances where an international student may be required to withdraw from a Program or Course(s). In these limited circumstances, Algoma will issue a partial refund of any international student fees, in accordance with this International Student Refund Policy.

## 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the requirements and procedures for issuing a refund of student fees to international students. The policy aims to ensure Algoma University fulfills its obligations under applicable law, including but not limited to anti-money laundering and immigration. Additionally, this policy aims to mitigate the loss of operational costs incurred to process and administer an international student's application and partial participation in a program and course, with a recognition of and sensitivity to the unexpected circumstances that may change the plans or financial viability of international students.

- establish the criteria under which an international student may withdraw from an Algoma program or course(s) and receive partial refunds of the international student fees paid as of the date of withdrawal; and
- establish a balance between the requirement for Algoma to fulfill its obligations under applicable law, including (but not limited to) anti-money laundering legislation, and to mitigate the loss of operational costs incurred to process and administer an international student's application and partial participation in a program and course, with a recognition of and sensitivity to the unexpected circumstances that may change the plans or financial viability of international students.¶

| Effective:Revised:Superseded #:Page #:March 30, 2023March 30, 2023N/A1 of 12 |
|--|
|--|



## 3. **DEFINITIONS**

**"Administrative Fee"** means the amount retained by Algoma U to cover operational costs and losses incurred by Algoma U relating to the application, admission, and cancellation of the Applicant's position within the relevant Program. The Administrative Fees may be increased, from time to time, at the discretion of the respective leadership as deemed necessary. the Vice-President, FinanceFiance and Operations Planning.-Algoma U's Board of Governors.

**"Applicant"** is an individual who is considering becoming an International Student. - and has received a Letter of Acceptance from Algoma U.

**"Course"** includes all course offerings at Algoma U, as well as courses offered as part of Programs leading to a degree, certificate or micro-credential, all courses offered under any of our academic faculties, and those offered as part of professional and continuing education.

"DLI" means a designated learning institution in Canada.

#### "Exceptional Circumstance"

- Death of a Family Member of an Applicant or International Student.
- Serious illness or injury preventing an Applicant or International Student from participating in a Program or Course on an ongoing basis. The illness or injury, and the inability of the Applicant/International Student to participate in the Program or Course, must be verified in writing by a medical professional.

**"Family Member**" means the spouse (by marriage, common law, or same sex partner), child (by marriage, blood, or adoption), parent, or sibling of the Applicant or International Student or of the spouse of the Applicant or International Student.

**"Fees**" means the international student tuition and ancillary fees for the relevant Program;

| Effective:Revised:Superseded #:PageMarch 30, 2023March 30, 2023N/A1 of 1 |  |
|--|--|
|--|--|



"International Student" is an Algoma U student who is a temporary resident of Canada and legally authorized to student in Canada on a temporary basis. An Applicant shall become an International Student upon completion of the steps set out in Section 5.1 below.

"IRCC" means Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada.

**"LOA"** means a conditional or unconditional Letter of Acceptance issued by Algoma U that confirms an Applicant's acceptance into a Program, either unconditionally or conditional on the Applicant's successful completion of certain matters.

"Procedures" means Algoma's International Student Refund Procedures available at

**"Program"** means a program of study at Algoma U involving theoretical knowledge or research, and leading to a degree, certificate, or microcredential.

"Student fees" Student fees include the total of both tuition fees and ancillary fees.

**"Semester start date"** Date identified within Algoma U's official academic calendar (available at \_\_\_\_\_\_as the first day of a semester.

**"Study Permit**" means a document issued by IRCC that authorizes a foreign national to study at Algoma U for the duration of the relevant Program.

**"Tuition Deposit**" means the non-refundable tuition deposit detailed in the LOA and due in accordance with Section 5.1(A) below.

## 4. SCOPE

This policy applies to all Applicants and International Students. This Policy does not apply to anyone who is not an International Applicant or an International Student (e.g. domestic students).

| March 30, 2023 March 30, 2023 N/A 1 of 12 | Effective:     | Revised:       | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|---|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------|
|   | March 30, 2023 | March 30, 2023 | N/A           | 1 of 12 |



## 5. POLICY

## 5.1. Process to Commence Semester

A. Where If a foreign national has applied to Algoma U, and meets all of our qualifications, we will issue a conditional or unconditional letter of acceptance for use as part of the application process to IRCC Once an Applicant has received a LOA, the Applicant must, in order to continue forward in the process to become an International Student:

- (a) pay the non-refundable Tuition Deposit; and
- (b) use the LOA and Tuition Deposit receipt to apply for a Study Permit.

The application for a Student Permit should must be submitted at least ten (10) weeks before the first day of classes of the relevant Program. If this deadline is not met, the Applicant maywill be required to defer the application until the next available intake for the Program. The non-refundable tuition deposit will be kept on hold for the Applicant by Algoma U.

B. Once the Applicant landed in Canada and receives the Study Permit, the

Applicant must:

- (a) register in the Program to which the Applicant was admitted; and
- (b) pay the full amount of the Fees for the first semester of the Program prior to the start of the semester.

Once these steps have been completed, the Applicant will become an International Student of Algoma U.

### 5.2. Deferrals

5.2.1. Prior to paying the Tuition Deposit, an Applicant mayean defer the offer of admission <u>once</u> to the next available intake with no formal reason required. Deferral of admissions are subject to Program availability,

| Effective:     | Revised:       | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------|
| March 30, 2023 | March 30, 2023 | N/A           | 1 of 12 |
|                |                |               |         |



campus availability, and seat availability at the time of the request. Deferring an offer of admission does not guarantee a seat in the preferred Program, campus, or intake and may result in submission of an alternate offer by Algoma U to the Applicant. To apply for a deferral, please fill in this form.

- 5.2.2. Once an Applicant has completed all steps to become an International Student, including payment of the Tuition Deposit for a Program, the International Student may defer starting the Program to future semesters as many times as the International Student wishes with no formal reason required. The Tuition Deposit will be kept on hold for the International Student by Algoma U and will only be refunded in accordance with this Policy.
- 5.2.3. A copy of an International Student's visa stamp or Letter of Introduction shouldmust be submitted to Algoma at least five (5) weeks before the first day of classes of the relevant Program. If this deadline is not met, the International Student may will be required to defer starting the Program until the next available intake for the Program. The Tuition Deposit will be kept on hold for the International Student by Algoma U and will only be refunded in accordance with this Policy.

### 5.3. **<u>Refunds</u>**

- 5.3.1. We recognize that there are certain circumstances where an applicant or an international student may be required to withdraw from a Program or Course(s). In these limited circumstances, Algoma U will issue a full or partial refund of any international student fees, less an administrative fee, in accordance with this International Student Refund Policy. An Applicantwill be eligible to receive a full or partial refund of the Tuition Deposit, less the applicable Administrative Fee, if one (1) of the following-Limited Ceircumstances: eccurs:
  - A. <u>Application Cancellation</u>: The Applicant receives a LOA and pays

| Effective:     | Revised:       | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------|
| March 30, 2023 | March 30, 2023 | N/A           | 1 of 12 |
|                |                |               |         |



the Tuition Deposit but, prior to applying for a Study Permit, decides not to pursue studies at Algoma U. Algoma U will issue a refund of the Tuition Deposit less the non-refundable portion identified on the LOA. <del>Upon receipt of written refusal of the LOA,</del> <del>Algoma U will refund the Tuition Deposit, less the applicable</del> <del>Administrative Fee of One Thousand Dollars (\$1000.00 CAD), to the Applicant.</del>

- B. <u>Visa Refusal</u>: The Applicant receives a LOA, pays the Tuition Deposit, and applies for a Study Permit, but is refused a Study Permit or denied a visa. Upon receipt of written confirmation that the Applicant has been refused a Study Permit or denied a visa, Algoma U will refund the Tuition Deposit, less the applicable Administrative Fee. of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00 CAD), to the Applicant. ¶
- C. <u>Program Cancellation</u>: If Algoma U provides an Applicant with a letter confirming that the relevant Program has been cancelled, the Applicant will be offered a choice of a Program change or a full refund of the t∓uition dĐeposit. No aAdministrative fFee will be charged. in this scenario.
- D. <u>Denial or Rescinding of Admission</u>: If Algoma U informs an Applicant that Algoma U has denied or rescinded the Applicant's admission, Algoma U will refund the t∓uition dĐeposit. No administrative fee will be chargedapply. , less the applicable Administrative Fee, to the Applicant.

5.3.2 An International Student who has completed all of the steps set out in Section **5.3.1B** will be eligible to receive a full or partial refund of the Fees, less an applicable Administrative Fee, if one (1) of the following circumstances occurs:

E. <u>A.</u><u>Visa Cancellation</u>: At least eight (8) weeks prior to the

| Effective:     | Revised:       | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------|
| March 30, 2023 | March 30, 2023 | N/A           | 1 of 12 |



semester start date for the relevant Program, the International Student, <u>before landing in Canada</u>, decides not to pursue studies in Canada and cancels such International Student's Study Permit or student visa. Upon receipt of written confirmation that the Study Permit or student visa has been cancelled, Algoma U will refund the tuition deposit Fees, less the applicable Administrative Fee. <del>of One Thousand Dollars (\$1000.00 CAD), to</del> the International Student. If written confirmation is received less than eight (8) weeks prior to the semester start date, no refund of the first semester fees will be provided.

F. Transfer to another DLI: The International Student and landing in Canada, decides to pursue studies at another DLI. Upon receipt of written confirmation that the International Student has been accepted by the other DLI, the student will be eligible to receive a refund of any deposit made in excess of the first semester fees, Algoma will refund the Fees, less the applicable Administrative Fee if their withdrawal request is submitted within fourteen (14) calendar days of the semester start date.-

he Student, after receiving a Canadian study permit based on a valid offer letter from Algoma and landing in Canada, decides not to pursue studies at Algoma, returns to the Student's home country, and cancels the student visa; or \$11,300 BUT UNABLE to verify

G. <u>Failure to Maintain Academic Standing</u>. If an International Student does not maintain an academic standing that allows the International Student to progress into the following semester, the International Student will cease to be a student of Algoma U. Such individual will be required to attend a mandatory meeting with an International Student Advisor to ensure that the individual

| Effective:     | Revised:       | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------|
| March 30, 2023 | March 30, 2023 | N/A           | 1 of 12 |
| March 30, 2023 | March 30, 2023 | N/A           |         |



understands the available options and any immigration implications. Upon receipt of written confirmation that the Study Permit or student visa has been cancelled, Ifwhere the individual had, prior to the cessation as an International Student, paid Fees for future semesters, Algoma U shall refund such pre-paid fees, less the applicable Administrative Fee of One Thousand Dollars (\$1000.00 CAD), to the former International Student. Other types of expulsion are covered under Algoma's Policy available at

F. <u>H. Program Completion</u>: If an International Student completes the final semester of study, and has an account in credit status (i.e., overpayment), Algoma U will refund the amount of the credit to the International Student. No Administrative Fee will be charged.

5.3.23 International students transferring to another DLI, must submit their withdrawal request within fourteen (14) calendar days of the semester start date start date of the semester (the start date is set out in the conditional letter of acceptance) in order for the refund to be considered. Student to be eligible to receive a refund of the first semester fees minus an administrative fee.

If the Student's withdrawal request is received more than fourteen (14) calendar days after the semester has started, the fees for that semester will <u>not</u> be refunded. The Student may still be eligible will still be entitled to receive a refund of fees paid for any future semesters minus an administrative fee by following the <u>procedures</u>. All individuals The Student must follow Algoma U's <u>procedures</u> to receive the refund.

5.3.2. All individuals The Student must follow Algoma U's procedures to receive the refund. If the Student's withdrawal request is received more than fourteen (14) calendar days after the semester has started, the fees forthat semester will not be refunded. The Student may still be eligible will-

| March 30, 2023 March 30, 2023 N/A 1 of 12 | Effective:     | Revised:       | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|---|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------|
|   | March 30, 2023 | March 30, 2023 | N/A           | 1 of 12 |



still be entitled to receive a refund of fees paid for any future semesters minus an administrative fee by following the procedures.

- 5.3.3. For students who have prior admission deferrals, withdrawal requests must be submitted within 14 calendar days of the semester start datestart date of the semester (the start date is set out in the most recent letter of admission) in order for the Student to be eligible to receive a refund of the first semester fees minus an administrative fee. The Student must follow Algoma's procedures to receive the refund.
- 5.3.4. A break-down of all of the scenarios in which a refund may be provided is set out in <u>Appendix A</u>.

#### 5.4. Exceptional Circumstances

If an International Student does **not** fall under one of the categories set out in Section 5.3.1 or Section 5.3.2 above, but an Exceptional Circumstance exists, death in the family), the International Student may submit a request to withdraw from Algoma and receive a refund of Fees, along with supporting documentation, in accordance with the Procedures.below. The Financial Appeals Committee will have the discretion to make a determination about whether or not a refund will be issued. There is no guarantee that an International Student will be provided with a refund as the result of an Exceptional Circumstance. Each request for withdrawal and a refund will be determined on a case-by-case basis. the Committee will decide to issue a refund. Any decision of the Committee will be final.

#### 5.5. Withdrawal and Refunds

- 5.5.1. International Students must follow the <u>Procedures</u> in order to withdraw from Algoma and potentially receive a partial refund of the Fees.
- 5.5.2. Failure to attend classes or requesting withdrawal from another aspect of International Student life (e.g. residence, a specific class, etc.) does not

| Effective:     | Revised:       | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------|
| March 30, 2023 | March 30, 2023 | N/A           | 1 of 12 |
| Maron 60, 2020 |                |               | 1 01 12 |



constitute a withdrawal from Algoma and will not result in a refund.

5.5.3. International Students who choose to withdraw and forfeit their admission to Algoma and their status as an Algoma International Student will need to reapply for admission if they later wish to return to Algoma..

#### 5.6. Appeals of Refund Decisions

5.6.1. An Applicant or International Student wishing to appeal a refund decision must do so following the <u>Financial Relief and Appeals Process.in writing</u> (via <u>International Student Withdrawal and Refund Request Form</u>) to the Student Accounts office with all relevant documentation to substantiate their Applicants and International Students must submit their claim within one (1) academic year of withdrawal. It is imperative to note that disputing a refund does not guarantee a favorable outcome. All decisions rendered by the Financial Relief and Appeals Committee are **FINAL with no further right of appeal.** All international student tuition appeal requests must be sent via <u>International Student Withdrawal and Refund Request</u> Form and follow the <u>Procedures.</u>

5.6.2.

## 6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1. The responsibilities of Applicants and International Students within the withdrawal and refund processes are as follows:
  - 6.1.1. an Applicant or International Student is responsible for requesting withdrawals, refunds, and deferrals in accordance with this Policy by submitting the required Forms and all supporting documentation within the relevant timelines;
  - 6.1.2. an Applicant or International Student is required to arrange a meeting with an International Student Advisor, if such meeting is desired by the

| March 30, 2023 March 30, 2023 N/A 1 of 12 |
|---|
|---|



Applicant or International Student or if such meeting is required under this Policy when required under this Policy;

- 6.1.3. in the case of deferrals, an Applicant is required to accept the deferral inthe student portal; and
- 6.1.4. if an Applicant or International Student would like to appeal a refund decision, such individual shall be responsible for initiating the appeal process set out in Section 5.6 above and completing and providing all necessary documentation in alignment with this Policy and the <u>Procedures</u>.
- 6.2. The responsibilities of the Student Success Office in the withdrawal and refund processes are as follows:
  - 6.2.1. The Student Success Office shall be responsible for, if requested by an International Student, booking a meeting with such International Student to support immigration inquiries during the refund process by discussing immigration implications, identifying available student supports, identifying any missing information, and answering questions that the International Student may have. arrange for an International Student Advisor from the Student Success Office to meet with international students requesting refunds or withdrawal processs, provide immigration advice, and discuss options available to the students;
  - 6.2.2. during the meeting, to review the reason for the withdrawal, discuss immigration implications, identify available student supports, identify any missing information or required additional supporting documentation, and answer any questions the student may have on the process.
  - 6.2.3. to assist a student with completing a request for withdrawal and/or refund;
  - 6.2.4. The Student Success Office shall review any completed forms related to refunds and determine whether a refund request shall be fulfilled or denied. complete, approve an application for withdrawal and/or refund

|--|



#### prior to submitting it to the finance office.

- 6.3. The responsibilities of the Financial Services / Student Accounts Office in the withdrawal and refund processes are as follows:
  - 6.3.1. The Financial Services / Student Accounts Office shall receive all Applicant and International Student refund requests via <u>International</u> <u>Student Withdrawal and Refund Request Form</u>, confirm that all required documentation has been submitted, calculate the refund amount, notify the relevant Applicant or International Student of the refund status and timelines.
  - 6.3.2. The Financial Services / Student Accounts Office shall facilitate deferrals for International Students waiting on their Canadian study permit.
  - 6.3.3. The Financial Services / Student Accounts Office shall handle appeals in accordance with Section 5.6 above.
- 6.4. The responsibilities of the Registrar's Office in the withdrawal and refund processes are as follows:
  - 6.4.1. The Registrar shall update Algoma's records relating to the withdrawal of an International Student from the relevant Program and/or Courses.
  - 6.4.2. The Registrar shall report Applicants and International Students who withdraw from Algoma to the IRCC as part of Algoma's bi-annual DLI international compliance report.
  - 6.4.3. The Registrar shall validate IRCC ad hoc verification requests.
- 6.5. The Director, Financial Services and the University Registrar are responsible for ensuring that this Internamust be verified in writing by a medical professional.tional Student Refund Policy and the Procedures are fully implemented.

| Effective:     | Revised:       | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------|
| March 30, 2023 | March 30, 2023 | N/A           | 1 of 12 |
|                | ,              |               |         |



## Appendix A - Scenarios

The following is a break-down of all of the scenarios in which a refund may be provided:

A1. Study Permit or Visa Denial – No Previous Deferral. If a Student falls under Section 5.3.1(A) above and has <u>not</u> previously deferred admission, the following process must be followed:¶

A request to withdraw from the Algoma program must be submitted within <u>fourteen (14) calendar days of the start date of the semester</u> (the start date is set out in the conditional letter of acceptance) in order for the Student to be eligible to receive a refund of the first semester fees minus an administrative fee. The Student must follow Algoma's <u>procedures</u> to receive the refund.¶

If the Student's withdrawal request is received more than fourteen (14) calendar days after the semester has started, the fees for that semester will <u>not</u> be refunded. The Student will still be entitled to receive a refund of fees paid for any future semesters minus an administrative fee by following the <u>procedures</u>.

A2. Study Permit or Visa Denial – Previous Deferral. If a Student falls under Section 5.3.1(A) above and has previously deferred admission, the following process must be followed:¶

A request to withdraw from the Algoma program must be submitted within <u>fourteen (14) calendar days of the start date of the semester</u> (the start date is set out in the most recent letter of admission) in order for the Student to be eligible to receive a refund of the first semester fees minus an administrative fee. The Student must follow Algoma's <u>procedures</u> below to receive the refund.¶

If the Student's withdrawal request is received more than fourteen (14) calendar days after the semester has started, the fees for that semester will <u>not</u> be

|  | Superseded #:<br>N/A | Page #:<br>1 of 12 |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|
|--|----------------------|--------------------|



refunded. The Student will still be entitled to receive a refund of fees paid for anyfuture semesters minus an administrative fee by following the procedures.

B1. Cancels Student Visa Before Arriving in Canada – No Previous Deferral. If a Student falls under Section 5.3.1(B) above and has <u>not</u> previously deferred admission, the following process must be followed:¶

A request to withdraw from the Algoma program must be submitted within <u>fourteen (14) calendar days of the start date of the semester</u> (the start date is set out in the conditional letter of acceptance) in order for the Student to be eligible to receive a refund of the first semester fees minus an administrative fee. The Student must follow Algoma's <u>procedures</u> to receive the refund.¶

If the Student's withdrawal request is received more than fourteen (14) calendar days after the semester has started, the fees for that semester will <u>not</u> be refunded. The Student will still be entitled to receive a refund of fees paid for any future semesters minus an administrative fee by following the <u>procedures</u>.

**B2.** Cancels Student Visa Before Arriving in Canada – Previous Deferral. If a Student falls under Section 5.3.1(B) above and <u>has</u> previously deferred admission, the following process must be followed:¶

A request to withdraw from the Algoma program must be submitted for a student to receive a refund for funds deposited in excess of their first semester fees (minus an administrative fee). If the student's withdrawal request is received less than two months before the semester start date then the student will <u>not</u> be refunded their first semester fees.

f

C. Student Decides to Study at Different DLI. If a Student falls under Section 5.3.1(C) above, the Student will not be eligible to receive a refund of any first semester fees. However, the Student will be eligible to receive a refund of any deposit made in excess of the first semester fees, minus an administrative fee, if

| Effective:     | Revised:       | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------|
| March 30, 2023 | March 30, 2023 | N/A           | 1 of 12 |
|                |                |               |         |



the Student follows Algoma's withdrawal procedures.¶

- D. Student Decides to Return Home (to their home country). If a Student falls under Section 5.3.1(D) above, the Student will not be eligible to receive a refund of any first semester fees. However, the Student will be eligible to receive a refund of any deposit made in excess of the first semester fees, minus an administrative fee, if the Student follows Algoma's withdrawal procedures.¶
- E. Student is Finishing Program and Has Overpaid Fees. A Student completing the final semester of study in a program, who has an account in credit status (overpayment), is eligible to receive a refund of the balance. The Student must, after the fourteenth (14<sup>th</sup>) day of the final semester, follow Algoma's procedures to receive a refund. No administrative fee will be charged to process the refund in this scenario.¶

| Refund Category                          | Administrative<br>Fee Applied? | First Semester Fees<br>Refunded?  |
|--|--------------------------------|---|
| (A) Application Cancellation             | No                             | Dependant on LOA -  |
|  |                                | Student will be refunded the<br>Tuition Deposit <b>less the</b><br><b>non-refundable portion</b><br>identified in the LOA |
| (B) Visa Refusal                         | Yes                            | Yes   |
| (C) Program Cancellation                 | No                             | Yes   |
| (D) Denial or Rescinding of<br>Admission | No                             | Yes   |

| Effective: Revised:           | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------|
| March 30, 2023 March 30, 2023 | N/A           | 1 of 12 |



| (E) Visa Cancellation (8 weeks<br>prior to the semester start<br>date)            | Yes | Yes |
|---|-----|-----|
| <b>(E) Visa Cancellation</b> (Less than 8 weeks prior to the semester start date) | Yes | No  |
| (F) Transfer to Other DLI   | Yes | No  |
| (G) Failure to Maintain<br>Academic Standing                                      | Yes | No  |
| (H) Program Completion  | No  | N/A |



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT REFUND PROCEDURES

| Category:           | Financial                                    |
|---------------------|--|
| Number:             | FI -13-02                                    |
| Responsible Office: | VP Finance and Operations                    |
| Approval date:      | March 2023                                   |
| Last Updated:       | October 2023                                 |
| Next Review Date:   | October 2028                                 |
| Review Period:      | Every five years or as circumstances warrant |

## PROCEDURES

- 1. International Students wishing to withdraw and/or request a refund must complete the following steps within the timeframe required as stipulated within the <u>Policy</u>:
  - 1.1. Prepare and include the supporting documentation required to support the reason for the student's request to withdraw as follows:
    - a) For a Study Permit Refusal or Visa Denial:
      - Visa Denial Letter or Permit Refusal
    - b) If transferring to another Designated Learning Institution (DLI):
      - Offer letter from the other DLI (with all conditions satisfied); and
      - Study Permit and CAQ Quebec if applicable
    - c) If returning home:
      - Copies of a return plane ticket;
      - Copy of boarding pass; and

| Effective:Revised:Superseded #:Page #:March 2023October 6, 2023FI-13-021 of 4 |
|---|
|---|



- Passport Page with stamp from the country of destination
- Copy of visa cancellation
- d) for other reasons not included above:
  - Explanation letter; and
  - Any other documentation you may have to support your request
- 1.2. Complete the International Student Withdrawal and Refund Request Form
- 1.3. The completed <u>International Student Withdrawal and Refund Request Form</u>, together with all applicable supporting documentation must be submitted within the timelines set out in Section 4.3.1 and Appendix A of the Policy.
- 1.4. If your withdrawal request is due to transferring to another Designated Learning Institution (DLI) and you wish to have an appointment with an Immigration Advisor, please book your appointment via the link provided in the form or email <u>immigration@algomau.ca</u>. Your withdrawal request will not move forward until after your meeting.
- 1.5. Upon receipt of the completed request package (containing the Form, the required supporting documentation and a completed recommendation for approval from the international student advisor (where applicable), the Student Accounts team within the Finance office shall:
  - a) confirm eligibility for refund and/or withdrawal in accordance with this Policy;
  - b) verify required documentation and reach out to the student for missing documentation;
  - c) calculate the amount of the refund,
  - d) process the refund, if applicable; and
  - e) notify the student of the status of the request

| Effective: | Revised:        | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|------------|-----------------|---------------|---------|
| March 2023 | October 6, 2023 | FI-13-02      | 2 of 4  |
|            |                 |               |         |



Refunds are processed by the Student Accounts office according to current standard finance procedures

Students should allow eight to ten weeks for refunds to be processed.

For incomplete submissions, each team will make a minimum of 3 attempts to receive the information from the student(s) over a course of 8 weeks. Failure to respond or provide the requested information will result in your request being closed.

- 2. Admissions Deferral Students who experience a delay on their study permit approval and wish to defer their offer of admission to the next available intake shall follow the below steps:
  - 2.1. If the student applied with the help of an education consultant or agent affiliated with Algoma University, the student must make the deferral request via their consultant or agent.
  - 2.2. If the student applied directly without the help of an education consultant or agent, the student shall complete the <u>International Student Deferral Request</u> <u>Form</u> to request a deferral.
- 3. Appeals A student wishing to appeal a refund decision can do so via the following steps below:
  - 3.1. Prepare and include the supporting documentation required to support your reason for appeal.
  - 3.2. Fill in the <u>Financial Relief & Appeals Request Form</u> to substantiate their claim within one month of the refund decision.
  - 3.3. Once the submission is received, Student Accounts will:
    - 3.3.1. Review documentation to verify if the request is warranted;



- 3.3.2. If required, reach out to the student for additional documentation/information;
- 3.3.3. Determine based on the information and documentation required if the student meets the appeals criteria;
  - 3.3.3.1. If the request does not meet the criteria, deny the students request in Smartsheets. The student is notified through the smartsheet. This decision is final unless the student's circumstances change.
  - 3.3.3.2. If the request meets the criteria, click that the student "Meets Financial Appeals Committee Criteria" in Smartsheets to have the case proceed to the Financial Relief & Appeals Committee. Students will be notified of the decision directly from the committee within 6-8 weeks.

| Effective: | Revised:        | Superseded #: | Page #: |
|------------|-----------------|---------------|---------|
| March 2023 | October 6, 2023 | FI-13-02      | 4 of 4  |
|            |                 |               |         |



S

20

July 2024

W

т F

10 11 12 13

18 19

25 26 27

Т

16 17

22 23 24

28 29 30 31

1 2 3 4 5 6

8 9

S Μ

7

14 15

21

# **Board of BOWERSITY** Board of **Governors**

# July 2024 - June 2025 Board / Committee Calendar

#### **Board Approval: TBD**

| October 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|
| S            | Μ  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |  |  |
|              |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |  |  |
| 6            | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |  |  |
| 13           | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |  |  |
| 20           | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |  |  |
| 27           | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |  |  |

| S  | Μ  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 1 |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 8 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 1 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 2 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 2 |

| S  | Μ  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|
|    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |  |
| 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |  |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |  |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |  |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |  |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |

August 2024

| December 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|
| S             | Μ  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |  |  |
| 1             | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |  |  |
| 8             | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |  |  |
| 15            | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |  |  |
| 22            | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |  |  |
| 29            | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |  |  |

|   |    | January 2025 |    |    |    |    |  |
|---|----|--------------|----|----|----|----|--|
| 5 | S  | Μ            | Т  | W  | Т  | F  |  |
| _ |    |              |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |  |
| 1 | 5  | 6            | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |  |
| L | 12 | 13           | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |  |
| 3 | 19 | 20           | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |  |
|   | 26 | 27           | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |  |

September 2024

W

**10** 11 **12** 

16 17 18 19 20

May 2025

12 **13** 14 15

20 21 22

26 27 28 **29** 30 31

Т F

24 25 26 27 28

13

S

14

21

S

4

11

18

25

3

10

24

2

16 17

23

1

8 9

S

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 9

15

22 23

29 30

S Μ т W Т F S

4 5 6 7

11

18

25

Μ Т

| February 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|
| S             | Μ  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |  |  |
|               |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |  |  |
| 2             | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |  |  |
| 9             | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |  |  |
| 16            | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |  |  |
| 23            | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |    |  |  |

June 2025

4

24 25 26 27

**10** 11 12

15 16 17 18 19

5

6

13 14

20 21

7

28

| March 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|
| S          | Μ  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |  |  |
|            |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |  |  |
| 2          | 3  | 4  |    | 6  | 7  | 8  |  |  |
| 9          | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |  |  |
| 16         | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |  |  |
| 23         | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |  |  |
| 30         | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |

|    | April 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |
|----|------------|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|--|
| S  | Μ          | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |  |  |  |
|    |            | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |  |  |  |
| 6  | 7          | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |  |  |  |
| 13 | 14         | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |  |  |  |
| 20 | 21         | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |  |  |  |
| 27 | 28         | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |  |  |  |

#### Legend:

- GOVERNANCE [Zoom 12pm 1:30pm]
- RISK & FINANCE [Zoom 12pm 1:30pm]

HUMAN RESOURCES [Zoom 12pm - 1:30pm]

BOG ORIENTATION Aug 21 / BOG RETREATS Oct 25-26 & Feb 7-8

STATUTORY HOLIDAYS/CLOSURE, MARCH BREAK [K-12]

**IMPORTANT DATES:** 

John Rhodes Scholarship Dinner (Oct 24)

President's Holiday Social (Dec TBC)

Fall Convocations: Timmins (Oct 11), Brampton (Oct 22-23)

Spring Convocations: SSM (June 14), Brampton (June 18-19)

#### **Rationale:**

19

BOG: Meetings are scheduled on the last Thursday of the scheduled months and held in-person and via Zoom.

S Μ Т W Т F S

1

8 9

22 23

29 30

2 3

Open meetings: 4:30 pm to 5:15 pm

Closed meetings: 5:30 pm to 8 pm

Board Committees: Meetings are held virtually and scheduled from 12 pm to 1:30 pm by default.

Risk & Finance Committee: Meetings are scheduled two weeks prior to Board meetings on Tuesdays (except March 18)



# **Board of BOUNIVERSITY** Board of **Governors**

F S

1 2

16

23

30

6

S Μ Т W

7 8 9

28

1 2 3 4 5 6

29 30

August 2025

тwт

11 12 13 14 15

18 19 20 21 22

25 26 27 28 29

December 2025

W

3

16 17 18

Т F S

4

10 11 12 13

5

19 20

**25 26** 27

Μ

S

3 4 5 6 7 8 9

10

17

24

31

S

7 8 9

14 15

21

28

Μ Т

1

2

22 23 24

29 30 31

# July 2025 - June 2026 **Board / Committee Calendar**

| Board | Approva | ıl: | TB | D |
|-------|---------|-----|----|---|
|       |         |     |    | - |

| October 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S            | Μ  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |
|              |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5            | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12           | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19           | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26           | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

| January 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S            | Μ  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |
|              |    |    |    | _  | 2  | 3  |
| 4            | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11           | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18           | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25           | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

September 2025

14 15 16 17 18 19 20

21 22 23 24 25 26 27

F S

Т

10 **11** 12 13

| February 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S             | Μ  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |
| 1             | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8             | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15            | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22            | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |

| May 2026 |    |    |    |    |    | _  |  |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|
| S        | Μ  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |  |
|          |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |  |
| 3        | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |  |
| 10       | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |  |
| 17       | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |  |
| 24       | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |  |
| 31       |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |

| _ |    |    | Jun | e 20 | )26 |    |    |
|---|----|----|-----|------|-----|----|----|
|   | S  | Μ  | Т   | W    | Т   | F  | S  |
|   |    | 1  | 2   | 3    | 4   | 5  | 6  |
|   | 7  | 8  | 9   | 10   | 11  | 12 | 13 |
|   | 14 | 15 | 16  | 17   | 18  | 19 | 20 |
|   | 21 | 22 | 23  | 24   | 25  | 26 | 27 |
|   | 28 | 29 | 30  |      |     |    |    |

#### Rationale:

BOG: Meetings are scheduled on the last Thursday of the scheduled months and held in-person and via Zoom.

Open meetings: 4:30 pm to 5:15 pm

Closed meetings: 5:30 pm to 8 pm

Board Committees: Meetings are held virtually and scheduled from 12 pm to 1:30 pm by default.

Risk & Finance Committee: Meetings are scheduled two weeks prior to Board meetings on Tuesdays (except March 18)

| July 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S         | Μ  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |
|           |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6         | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13        | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20        | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27        | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |
|           |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| November 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S             | Μ  | Т  | W  | Т  | F  | S  |
|               |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2             | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9             | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16            | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23            | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30            |    |    |    |    |    |    |

March 2026

17 18 19

WΤ

**10** 11 **12** 13

24 25 26 27 28

F S

20 21

14

|    |    | Ар | ril 2( | 026 |    |    |
|----|----|----|--------|-----|----|----|
| S  | Μ  | Т  | W      | Т   | F  | S  |
|    |    |    | 1      | 2   | 3  | 4  |
| 5  | 6  | 7  | 8      | 9   | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15     | 16  | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22     | 23  | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29     | 30  |    |    |

#### Legend:

S Μ Т

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8

15

22 23

29

9

16

30 31

| BOARD OF GOVERNORS [CC 201 4:30pm - 8pm]; AGM June 25     |
|---|
| GOVERNANCE [Zoom 12pm - 1:30pm]                           |
| RISK & FINANCE [Zoom - 12pm - 1:30pm]                     |
| HUMAN RESOURCES [Zoom 12pm - 1:30pm]                      |
| BOG ORIENTATION Aug 21 / BOG RETREATS Oct 24-25 & Feb 6-7 |
| STATUTORY HOLIDAYS/CLOSURE, MARCH BREAK [K-12]            |
| IMPORTANT DATES:  |
| John Rhodes Scholarship Dinner (Oct TBC)                  |
| President's Holiday Social (Dec TBC)                      |
| Fall Convocations: Timmins (Oct TBC), Brampton (Oct TBC)  |
| Spring Convocations: SSM (June TBC), Brampton (June TBC)  |