



**Board Of Directors, June 25, 2026
114 Dundas Street
8:00 A.M.**

LDBA Board Meeting

Attending: Nick Vander Gulik, Natalie Boot, Greg Harris, Kristin Nielsen, Andrew McClenaghan, David Ferreira, Bonnie Wludyka, Asaad Naeeli, Michael Pottruff, Mario Circelli, Scott Collyer, Brian Dempsey, Carolynn Conron

Regrets:

Staff: Vicki Smith, Tristan Hughes, Kathy McLaughlin, Brent Hodson, Judith Smith

Guests: Mike Macaulay, Simona Rasanu, Jim Yanchula

1. LDBA Board Call to Order – Kristin Nielsen

2. Motion to approve consent agenda items

- a. Consent agenda items included: May 28, 2026 board meeting minutes, financial statement and report May 31, 2026, June 5, 2026 advocacy committee minutes, June 1, 2026 Board Recruitment minutes, and staff report.

Moved: David

2nd: Natalie

Carried

3. Downtown Plan Presentation - Mike Macaulay, Simona Rasanu

- a. Mike Macaulay and Simona Rasanu provided an overview of the City of London's Downtown Plan, which has been endorsed by Council. The Plan is intended to serve as a flexible roadmap to guide short, medium, and long-term action in the downtown.
- b. Key areas discussed included the Plan's focus on creating a more livable, vibrant, creative, innovative, and well-managed downtown. The presentation highlighted the Plan's major directions, including improvements to key public spaces, the development of a River District, leveraging London's UNESCO City of Music designation, and strengthening downtown governance.



- c. The Board discussed opportunities for Downtown London to support implementation, including promoting the business voice, supporting activation and promotion, and helping connect the City with property owners, businesses, tenants, and community partners. Discussion also included parking, office and storefront vacancy, and the proposed Downtown Office as a potential tool to help coordinate implementation.

4. Downtown London Strategy - Jim Yanchula

- a. Jim Yanchula provided an update on the development of Downtown London's Strategic Plan. He shared that stakeholder engagement has identified strong alignment with the City's Downtown Plan, particularly around supporting business success, creating a safe and welcoming downtown, and maintaining a strong focus on core BIA services.
- b. The next phase of the project will compare the implementation priorities of both plans to identify areas of alignment and opportunities for collaboration. It was also noted that, following the municipal election, Downtown London intends to work with the City to develop a Memorandum of Understanding that clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of each organization in implementing shared priorities.

5. Board Chair Update - Kristin Nielsen

- a. Kristin Nielsen noted concerns regarding the condition of City planters near Talbot and Dufferin, and staff confirmed the matter has been raised with the City for follow-up. The Board also discussed the Downtown Plan and Economic Development Strategy, including the need for continued focus on safety,

homelessness, and potential opportunities for coordinated advocacy around downtown development and incentives.

6. Staff Highlights - Vicki Smith

- a. Vicki Smith provided updates on ongoing advocacy efforts with Members of Parliament and Members of Provincial Parliament in support of downtown priorities. She also shared that Board recruitment is underway through Downtown London's website and newsletter, and advised that Kathy will transition to a part-time role beginning in September as she moves into semi-retirement.

7. London Police Services Update - Mike Pottruff

- a. Mike Pottruff provided a brief update from London Police Service and noted there were no major issues to report. He also shared that community partners are monitoring the closure of the former London Executive Suites and any related impacts downtown.

8. City Updates - David Ferreira

- a. David Ferreira provided City updates, including follow-up with staff regarding downtown planter maintenance. He also noted Council's approval of the Economic Development Strategy and the extension of the three-hour parking pilot at the 255 Queens Avenue Sifton lot.

9. ED Recruitment Task Force - Kristin Nielsen

- a. Kristin Nielsen advised that the Executive Director Recruitment Task Force will begin meeting in the coming weeks to establish the recruitment process and identify the skills and experience being sought in the next Executive Director.

10. Good News Updates



- a. Board members shared several positive updates, including the sold-out Digital Extremes TennoCon event taking place July 10 and 11, the opening of the Better Business Bureau's new downtown office, and the continued vibrancy and activity taking place throughout downtown during the summer season.

11. Motion to adjourn –“adjourn the meeting at 9:50 am”

Moved: Bonnie

2nd: Andrew

Carried