



The Governance Committee of Saint Mary's University Board of Governors invites applications from or recommendations of individuals external to the University who might be considered for appointment to the Board. We seek nominations for appointments to commence in September 2026 for three-year terms, renewable once. These positions are voluntary and offer no remuneration.

The University and the higher education sector generally face extraordinary challenges and opportunities. Our governors play a key role in providing stewardship and continuity in our academic mission. Joining the board will be a unique opportunity to engage in governance of an institution built on a strong tradition of accessibility and community engagement.

Commitment to Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

Saint Mary's University is committed to equity in its policies, practices, and programs, and supports diversity and inclusion in its teaching, learning and work environments. The University is also committed to accessibility in all its forms. In keeping with these commitments, the Governance Committee of the Board welcomes applications from candidates from all gender identities, racially visible people, Indigenous people, people with disabilities, and others with the skills and knowledge to engage with diverse communities. Nominations of qualified individuals who would contribute to further diversification of our University community are encouraged and welcomed.

Competencies

We seek candidates who possess a high level of expertise in their chosen occupation at a leadership level. If you have senior leadership experience dealing with issues and challenges facing a complex institution, are you able to contribute your experiences and knowledge in one or more of the following areas?

- *Financial acumen; a professional accounting designation and experience in audit procedures and internal controls;*
- *Innovation and entrepreneurship; organizational leadership, strategic thinking and creative problem solving in a complex and competitive environment;*
- *Real estate development expertise, including oversight of major capital projects and investments;*
- *Technology; understanding the intersection of innovation, technology, and strategy for competitive advantage and risk management; understanding the increasing prevalence of artificial intelligence and its applications; understanding the strategic importance of artificial intelligence, cyber security and hyper vigilance for data governance;*
- *Advancement and philanthropy; experience in stewardship and profile-raising activities for community organizations; leadership in advancement activities (friend-raising and fundraising); understanding the role of a board in major campaigns and leadership activities required for aspirational change;*
- *Diversity, accessibility, and inclusion; building relationships and commitment to a community where everyone feels accepted, valued, and respected.*

Other Considerations

Desire to serve, willingness and ability to commit the time and effort required as a member of the Board of Governors

Experience as a board committee chair and willingness to serve in this capacity

Personal values alignment with the values of the Saint Mary's University

Experience working within a shared governance system

The Board of Governors' overriding consideration in identifying and confirming individuals to serve as Governors is merit and experience in relation to the governance needs of the University. All candidates

must possess the qualification, experience and commitment required to govern an institution of the size, complexity and reputation of Saint Mary's University and should reflect the diversity of the communities served by the University.

All individuals appointed to the Board of Governors are required to perform the duties assigned in the Saint Mary's University Act, 1970, which assigns to the Board responsibility for "... the government, conduct, management and control of the University and of its property, revenues, expenditures, business, and affairs"... including responsibility to "appoint and remove the President, the heads of all faculties and schools, the administrative officers including vice- presidents, if any, the academic and such other officers and employees as the Board deems necessary or expedient for the purposes of the University."

Submission of Nominations

Nominations and expressions of interest from individuals who may be suitable for future appointment to the Board of Governors are welcome at any time and, normally, will be kept on file for at least three years from the date of submission. If you are interested in being considered for appointment in 2026, please send your expression of interest to us by July 30, 2026.

Recommendations can be provided in confidence by email to the University Secretary at board@smu.ca.

About Saint Mary's University

Our Vision: Saint Mary's, building on our strong tradition of scholarly excellence, accessibility and community engagement, will be the university of choice for aspiring citizens of the world. We will achieve this by:

- creating a space for possibility through inspiration, innovation, inclusion, investment and action;
- nurturing a culture of care and community.

Our Mission: Saint Mary's University pursues excellence in research, teaching and learning, while fostering an inclusive and diverse community dedicated to local and global engagement, collaboration and service.

Our Values: Our university values guide our daily commitment to our distinctive contribution to society, locally and globally. These values are expressed through everything we do, as we pursue:

- Intellectual Transformation
- Individual and Collective Resilience
- Intercultural Engagement
- Alumni and Community Connection, and
- Ethical Wisdom.