



**POLICY TYPE:** Board-President Relationship  
**POLICY TITLE:** President Emeritus  
**EFFECTIVE DATE:** June 2026

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In this policy, unless otherwise defined herein or the context requires otherwise, words have the same meaning as they do in the Definitions Schedule to By-law No. 1 of the College.

## **1. BACKGROUND**

The President Emeritus policy establishes the framework by which the Board may recognize former Durham College Presidents for exceptional service through the conferral of an honorific title.

## **2. POLICY STATEMENTS**

- 2.1. At the discretion of the Board, former Presidents who have completed two or more terms as President, or an equivalent period of service as determined by the Board, may be considered for designation as President Emeritus. Meeting the length-of-service threshold does not create any entitlement to, or expectation of, the designation.
- 2.2. The Board will consider the former President's overall performance and specific contributions to the College, the college system, and the community, including the effectiveness with which the President advanced the College's strategic goals, reputation, and long-term sustainability.
- 2.3. The title of President Emeritus is honorific in nature and confers no entitlement to authority, governance rights, privileges, resources, remuneration, or employment with the College. The designation does not create an advisory, representational, agency, or governance relationship with the College.
- 2.4. The Board retains the authority, at its sole discretion, to decline to grant or to withdraw the designation of President Emeritus at any time, without cause, by Special Resolution of the Board and in accordance with its fiduciary duties.

### **3. PROCEDURE**

- 3.1. Upon notification of the serving President's intention not to seek a subsequent term, to retire, or to otherwise conclude their employment as President of the College, the Executive Committee will initiate a review of the President's performance across all terms of their presidency, including their contributions to the College, the college system, and the community, to determine the appropriateness of this designation.
- 3.2. The Executive Committee may seek input from and may consider unsolicited submissions from representatives of the College, college system, and the community about the conferring of the designation of President Emeritus. Any such input is advisory in nature and is considered at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 3.3. The Executive Committee will inform the Board of the outcome of the review and, if appropriate, recommend approval by the Board of the granting of the title President Emeritus. Any recommendation to confer the designation of President Emeritus shall be made following the conclusion of the President's employment and, where possible, within twelve (12) months thereafter. No such honour shall be conferred while the individual continues to serve as President.
- 3.4. The Chair of the Board will inform the former President of the Board's decision with respect to the granting of the title President Emeritus.
- 3.5. The serving President shall not initiate, participate in, or be present for any discussions, deliberations, or decisions relating to their own consideration for the designation of President Emeritus.
- 3.6. Any consideration by the Board of the granting or withdrawal of the designation of President Emeritus will be conducted at an in-camera meeting.
- 3.7. Where possible, the title of President Emeritus will be granted at the first convocation ceremony following the Board's approval of the designation.