

## Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2026  
7:30 pm – 8:00 pm  
Via Zoom

### Directors Present:

- Jessica Ronzio, Chair
- Robert MacDonald, Vice Chair
- Olivia Choi, Director
- Katherine Walsh, Director
- Necia Martins, Director
- Bernie Crawford, Director
- Ankita Banerjee, Director
- Cindy Okosun, Director
- Nikk Uchil, Director
- Christiana Alkiviades, Treasurer

**Employees:** Lori Prospero, CEO & Corporate Secretary | ex-officio  
Susie Draper, Executive Assistant

**Regrets:** Alex Zhou, Director

### 1. Welcome & Call to Order

- Jessica welcomed the new directors following their election at the Annual General Meeting held earlier this evening. Introductions were made.
- There being a quorum of directors present for the transaction of business, and board members having been given adequate and proper notice of the meeting, the meeting was called to order at 7:44 pm. Jessica Ronzio served as Chair of the proceedings.
- Lori Prospero, Secretary, with assistance of Susie Draper, was confirmed as the minute taker.
- Robert, Katherine and Jessica declared a conflict of interest regarding their appointment to officer positions. This was resolved by asking said directors in attendance to abstain from that vote.

### 2. Approval of the Agenda

- No discussion arose from the agenda.
- **MOTION:** It was moved, seconded, and carried that the agenda for the April 14, 2026 board of directors meeting be approved, as circulated.
- Jessica welcomed new directors to the board and reflected on her experience as Chair over the past year.

### 3. Appointment of Officers & for 2026/2027

- Referring to the report from the Nominating Committee that was circulated prior to the meeting, the board was advised of the process options to appoint its officers for the new board year.
- The board determined that it was ready to proceed to 4 separate motions for the appointment of Officers. No further discussion was required.
- **MOTION:** It was moved, seconded and carried that the board of directors appoints Robert MacDonald as Chair of the board for a one-year term ending in April 2027. (9 in favour; 1 abstention due to declared conflict of interest).

**MOTION:** It was moved, seconded and carried that the board of directors appoints Katherine MacDonald as Vice Chair of the board for a one-year term ending in April 2027. (9 in favour; 1 abstention due to declared conflict of interest).

- **MOTION:** It was moved, seconded and carried that the board of directors appoints Alex Zhou as Treasurer of the board for a one-year term ending in April 2027.
- **MOTION:** It was moved, seconded and carried that the board of directors appoints Jessica Ronzio as Past Chair of the board for a one-year term ending in April 2027; and Lori Prospero as Corporate Secretary. (9 in favour; 1 abstention due to declared conflict of interest).

**4. Appointment of Committee Chairs for 2026/2027**

- The nominating committee presented the slate of committee chairpersons and committee membership for the 2026-27 board year.
- **MOTION:** It was moved, seconded and carried that the board of directors appoints, by virtue of their officer positions, the following as committee chairpersons. (8 in favour and 2 abstentions due to declared conflict of interest)
  - Finance & Audit: Alex Zhou
  - Governance: Katherine Walsh
  - Nominating: Jessica Ronzio
- **MOTION:** It was moved, seconded and carried that the board of directors approves the following committee appointments (for non-board committee members) and membership for the 2026-27 board year:

Committee Appointments/Membership 2026-27			
Finance & Audit	Governance	Nominating	GR Advisory to CEO
Alex Zhou	Katherine Walsh	Jessica Ronzio	Lori Prospero
Christiana Alkiviades, CPA	Cindy Ofunne	Necia Martins	Rob Leone, Consultant
Nikk Uchil, CPA	Bernie Crawford	Robert MacDonald	Olivia Choi
Alejandro (Alex) Lazcano	Nina Kavalinas	Bernie Crawford	Justin Watkins
Carlo Tenedero	Jennifer Prine	Ankita Banerjee, CHRP	Michael Bortolussi
Kate Cao, CPA	Sanjeev Singh	Alisha Michiels	Alisha Michiels
	Rachel Pautler		Kristine Parsons, staff

**Legend**

- chairperson
- directors
- committee only members
- new in 2026

**5. Incoming Chair's Remarks**

- Robert thanked the board for their confidence in him and shared that he is looking forward to working with both new and continuing directors.

**6. Adjournment**

- The upcoming meetings were confirmed:
  - April 21 – Board Orientation 6:30 pm in person – mandatory & includes dinner

- April 27 – FAC meeting 7:00 pm via Zoom
  - May 7 – GR Advisory meeting 6:30 pm via Zoom
  - May 12 – Board Meeting 6:30 pm in person
  - June 4 – Governance meeting 7:00 pm via Zoom
  - June 12 – Board & Family Social TBD
- **MOTION:** There being no further business, this meeting of the board of directors was adjourned at 8:01 pm.

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**DISCLAIMER**

The above minutes should be used as a summary of the motions passed and issues discussed at the meeting. This document shall not be considered a verbatim copy of every word spoken at the meeting. These minutes were approved by the board of directors on May 12, 2026 and now form part of the Public Record for RisingOaks Early Learning Ontario.

Original copy signed by:

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Robert MacDonald, Chair

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Lori Prospero, Secretary