



September 27, 2023

VPR Report to Senate #713-October 4, 2023

IPON Annual Commercialization Plan updates

As Vice-Chair of the Ontario Council for University Research, I was happy to chair special OCUR meetings on over the summer and early fall, including, on September 19, a discussion initiated by Intellectual Property Ontario regarding the draft IPON report on Annual Commercialization Plans.

That report has now been published [online](#), outlining IPON's recommendations for how best to support the development, protection, and commercialization of research IP and innovation in Ontario. These recommendations to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities are a positive step in the development of Ontario's ongoing IP strategy. Brock published its first [Annual Commercialization Plan](#) in February 2023.

Niagara Health Knowledge Institute

September 26 saw the inaugural meeting of the Advisory Board for the Niagara Health Knowledge Institute, of which I am a member. The NHKI is a new initiative working to integrate and expand the research work and aspirations of Niagara Health.

The Advisory Board functions to provide guidance on strategic directions and to facilitate the growth and impact of the research mandate within Niagara Health. Brock University researchers are already a significant part of that work, and should find increasing opportunities in the coming months and years as the NHKI continues its work.

Community Economic Development Roundtable

On August 30 Brock hosted, and I was pleased to chair, a Community Economic Development Roundtable in Niagara hosted by the Honourable Filomena Tassi, Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario; guests included regional mayors, industry representatives, not-for-profit community leaders, and PSE colleagues.

The event saw a vibrant discussion of opportunities for collaboration and growth for Niagara, with a consistent emphasis on Brock's value and role in supporting the vitality of Niagara Region.

Crawford Lake Interpretive Tour

On August 18, I joined President Rigg in welcoming Pam Damoff, MP for Oakville North - Burlington and Adam Van Koevedern, MP for Milton, to Crawford Lake Conservation Area to hear from Professors Francine McCarthy and Martin Head (GEOG) about Dr. McCarthy's research on this highly significant geological site, and its relationship to the potential designation of an Anthropocene Era.

MCU Deputy Minister Visit

It was a pleasure to join President Rigg and Provost Wells in meeting with Deputy Minister David Wai of the Ontario Ministry of Colleges and Universities on September 25. This was an opportunity to discuss the many respects, including through research, that Brock University helps build the future of Niagara, of Ontario, and of Canada.

T. Kenyon

Vice-President Research