



To: Staff in the Office of University Counsel
Staff in the Office of Safety and High Risk
Staff in Tri-Campus Safety Offices
Governing Council
Academic Board
Business Board
University Affairs Board
UTM Campus Council
UTSC Campus Council
Principals, Deans, Academic Directors and Chairs
Professional and Managerial Staff
Confidential Staff
President of UTFA
Presidents of Employee Unions
Presidents of APUS, GSU, SCSU, UTMSU and UTSU

From: Melanie Woodin, President

Date: March 30, 2026

Re: **Appointment of Kristin Taylor as Vice-President, Legal, Risk & Safety and Chief Legal Officer**

I am pleased to announce that the Governing Council has approved the appointment of **Kristin Taylor as Vice-President, Legal, Risk & Safety** for a six-year term effective May 1, 2026 to April 30, 2032. She will also retain the title of Chief Legal Officer.

This [new role](#) brings together legal affairs, enterprise risk management, insurance, privacy, and safety portfolios under unified executive leadership. In so doing, the University will better coordinate resources, enhance strategic alignment, establish consistent tri-campus standards and processes, and increase transparency and accountability in managing institutional risk and community safety. In particular, this alignment will coordinate roles and responsibilities in a crisis, and clarify escalation pathways to support timely, effective incident response.

The portfolio integrates the Office of University Counsel, University Privacy Office, Office of Enterprise Risk Management & Insurance, Office of Safety and High Risk, and the Campus Safety Offices across all three campuses (via dotted line reports for the offices at UTM and UTSC).

Ms. Taylor has a wealth of leadership experience in the areas of legal affairs, risk management, and safety. She brings 25 years of leadership experience to the role, including the last five years as University Counsel and Chief Legal Officer at the University of Toronto. During this time, she

has served as a trusted advisor to the University while also leading the creation of the Office of University Counsel which provides exceptional legal services to the University's tri-campus. Ms. Taylor will bring the same rigour and community-oriented approach to ensuring alignment and coordination of the University's safety and security functions.

Prior to her current role, she served as General Counsel and Vice-President, Chief Legal and Risk Officer at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, where she had executive accountability for a similar configuration of legal, risk, and security teams. Ms. Taylor was previously a litigation partner at Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, where she represented a variety of institutions on issues ranging from medical malpractice litigation, coroner's inquests, privacy law, physician credentialing, quality of care measures, and risk management.

Ms. Taylor obtained her law degree from Dalhousie's Schulich Law School. She was named one of Lexpert's Rising Stars Under 40 in 2011, was nominated as one of Canadian Lawyer's Most Influential Lawyers in 2014 and was recognized with the Litigation Management Award at the Canadian General Counsel Awards in June of 2024.

I look forward to working with Ms. Taylor in this expanded role on the President's Leadership Team.