



Memorandum to: Staff in the University Operations and Real Estate Partnerships portfolio
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: Professor Merik Gertler, President

Date: March 30, 2023

Re: **Appointment of Ron Saporta as Acting Vice-President, Operations**

I am pleased to announce that the Governing Council approved the appointment of Ron Saporta as Acting Vice-President, Operations for a seven-month term, from May 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023, while Professor Scott Mabury, Vice-President, Operations and Real Estate Partnerships (OREP) is on a partial administrative leave, further to the terms of the [extension](#) of his appointment.

As Acting Vice-President, Operations, Mr. Saporta will provide leadership to the senior [Operations](#) team, with all Assistant Vice-Presidents reporting to him.

The Assistant Vice-President, Planning and Budget will continue to report to Professor Mabury and Provost Regehr. Professor Mabury will also continue to provide leadership to the Real Estate portfolio and will remain engaged as the executive sponsor for all Four Corners capital projects, as well as the Landmark, Lash Miller, and Fitzgerald academic projects. He expects to be on campus roughly 40 percent of the time during his partial administrative leave.

Mr. Saporta will assume Professor Mabury's responsibilities as an assessor to a number of governance bodies.

Mr. Saporta, currently serving as the Chief Operating Officer, Property & Sustainability, is a senior member of the OREP leadership team. He has provided outstanding and transformative leadership since joining the University in 2018.

As Chief Operating Officer, Property & Sustainability, Mr. Saporta oversees the strategic and operational functions of Facilities & Services. A professional engineer, he has more than 20 years of experience in senior leadership roles in higher education and health care. He has deep experience in large-scale capital redevelopment, facilities, and support services.

Mr. Saporta is passionate about sustainability. He spearheaded the development of the [St. George Campus' Climate Positive Strategy](#) and a partnership with the Canadian Infrastructure Bank to secure financing for Project Leap - an ambitious initiative to cut on-campus emissions in half by 2030. He has been recognized for his transformative leadership. In 2022, he was named a [Canada's Clean16 and Clean50 honouree](#) and in 2023, he received the [Influential Leader Chancellor's Award](#).

Since joining the University, Mr. Saporta was appointed co-chair of the President's Advisory Committee on the Environment, Climate Change, and Sustainability, and chair of the Council of Senior Administrative Officers committee on the Facilities Condition Assessment Program.

He holds a Bachelor and Master of Civil Engineering from the University of Waterloo and a Master of Business Administration from the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto.

I look forward to working with Mr. Saporta in his capacity as Acting Vice-President. Please join me in congratulating him on his appointment.