



# ***Towards Framing an Academic Plan***

OISE's Planning Process

Working Draft May 19, 2017

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## INTRODUCTION

As we move closer to a draft academic plan that will offer our shared vision, priorities and implementation plans for achieving them, this brief report suggests overarching themes to further focus our work, and to assist us in framing how we organize our efforts going forward. These are the themes or foci that have received the most attention throughout the planning process to date. Most important, they are *interdependent and overlapping*. We invite your feedback regarding these themes and their descriptions. As well, as part of your feedback to this report, it is certainly not too early for you to suggest a few major priorities that might be considered under the themes. Feel free to refer to the *What we've Heard* document linked below for some ideas. In the meantime, the next steps towards drafting our academic plan include:

- Refining the over-arching themes as a result of your input to this document;
- Developing an overarching organizational “promise”, a vision that depicts a long term aspiration that will guide our important work; and
- Identifying “commitments” under each theme that will include a list of short, medium, and long-term strategic initiatives that will move us forward, and help us achieve our vision.

At this stage, it is critical to increase our focus to achieve successful and sustainable impact. Therefore, directing our energies towards things that matter most will be critical. This is why your response to this draft is so important.

## FOCUSING THEMES

As evident in the



promote healthy outcomes for individuals along with social and economic progress for neighborhoods, communities and the nation at large. Finally, our work needs to be informed by a broader *wellbeing* lens that explores other determinants of health including such things as the environment, income and social cohesion, and their impact on mental, physical and spiritual health.

#### TRANSFORMATIVE PEDAGOGICAL INNOVATION

In order to play a leadership role in studying, understanding and assisting others in improving pedagogy at all levels of education, our work needs to be informed by an understanding of “diverse ways of knowing” moving well beyond narrower notions of what should be learned, and how it can be learned. Exploring arts-based, Indigenous methodologies and other non-traditional and transformative approaches to pedagogy is vital to our role in enabling important “understandings” for our learners, including new and experienced teachers and other educators and trainers. Additionally, conducting research-based investigations of pedagogies and employing new and emerging technologies in ways that may be socially or educationally transformative should be another hallmark of our pedagogical leadership. Taken together, this approach will ensure that OISE and its graduates are leaders in pedagogical innovation and education excellence. In addition, there is an interest in developing new, innovative EdD programs that will address professional needs of a broad range of educational practitioners.

#### SCHOLARSHIP-DRIVEN LOCAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL C

## MOVING FORWARD WITH YOUR HELP

As we noted, we will move to develop a draft academic plan complete with vision and mission statements and clear notions of how we move forward. The most compelling and relevant priorities will take the form of short, medium and long term actions as we move to develop implementation plans. Some initiatives will take time because of their complexity,