

Update on the Strategic Research Plan

FACULTY OF HEALTH, MARCH 1, 2023
AMIR ASIF, VICE-PRESIDENT RESEARCH & INNOVATION

YORK 



Who We've Consulted– Fall 2022

Open Forum:

- ✓ September 28th online and in-person participation (<https://www.yorku.ca/research/strategic-research-plan-2023-2028/>)

Community Feedback Sessions-

series of unstructured feedback sessions across the University to discuss SRP development with the VPRI

- ✓ Friday October 21st – 9:00am – 10:00am, 402 HNES
- ✓ Tuesday November 1st – 1:00pm – 2:00pm , 283 Winters College
- ✓ Tuesday November 29th – 11:00am – 12:00pm, 305B Lumbers

Faculty Feedback-

average of 70 participates at each meeting

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ Health- October 5 | ✓ Schulich- November 4 | ✓ Lassonde- October 7 |
| ✓ FGS- November 3 | ✓ AMPD- November 9 | ✓ Science- November 8 |
| ✓ LA&PS- October 13 | ✓ Education - October 28 | ✓ EUC- November 24 |
| ✓ Glendon- October 28 | ✓ Osgoode- October 31 | |

- ✓ **Organized Research Units-** Council of Research Directors - November 16
- ✓ **ADR Council-** November 29
- ✓ **Graduate Student engagement-** post-doc feedback session November 17
- ✓ **Deans Meeting-** December 6
- ✓ **Continued consultations with Advisory Bodies-** VPRI presentations and engagement of Senior Advisory Bodies – APPRC, PVP, Board
- ✓ **Online Engagement:** SRP website found on Research & Innovation site: <https://www.yorku.ca/research/strategic-research-plan-2023-2028> online feedback received - 15 submissions
- ✓ **SRP Advisory Council** – August – December 2022- 4 meetings both online and in-person formats

Upcoming Consultations– Winter 2023

Senior Administrative Bodies

- **APPRC:** February, March, April
- **PVP:** February, March, April
- **Board Academic Resources:** February, April
- **Deans Meeting/ UEC:** March

Faculty Councils

- All 11 including Libraries from February to March

Community Open Forum/ Town Hall

- **March 8, 1:30pm-3:30pm- release the draft Plan to the community**

Community Chats

- 3 community chats scheduled for Late February- early April at locations across campus

External Consultation

- Early/ Mid March

Faculty Council Dates – Winter 2023

- ✓ **Education**– Friday February 17th, 9:30am-11:30am
- ✓ **Health**– Wednesday March 1st, 3:00pm-4:30pm
- **Libraries**– Wednesday March 2nd, 9:30am-10:00am
- **AMPD**– Wednesday March 2nd, 12:30pm-2:00pm
- **FGS**– Wednesday March 2nd, 3:00pm-5:00pm
- **Glendon**– Friday March 3rd, 1:30pm-3:30pm
- **Lassonde**– Friday March 3rd, 12:30pm-2:30pm
- **Osgoode**– Monday March 6th, 12:30pm-2:30pm
- **Schulich**– Friday March 10th, 11:30am-1:00pm
- **Science**– Tuesday March 14th, 3:00pm-4:30pm
- **EUC**– Thursday March 16th, 12:45pm
- **LA&PS**– TBC

SRP Advisory Committee

Amir Asif, VP Research & Innovation (Chair)

Joycelyn Amos, Markham Research Operations Manager, VPRI

Nation Cheong, VP Community Opportunities and Mobilization, United Way Greater Toronto

Krista Davidson, Interim Director, Communications, Office of the President

Tamara Daly, Director YU-CARE, Professor, School of Health Policy & Management, Health

Susan Dion, Associate VP Indigenous Initiatives, VPEPC, Professor, Faculty of Education

Barbara Edwards, Senior Policy Advisor, Research, VPRI

Trevor Farrow, Associate Dean, Research & Institutional Relations, Professor, Osgoode

Eileen Fischer, Associate Dean Research, Director Marketing Specialization, PhD Program, Entrepreneurial Studies, Schulich

Sarah Flicker, YRC in Community-Based Participatory Research, Professor, EUC

Jane Gertner, VP Partnerships, venture LAB

Luann Good Gingrich, Professor, School of Social Work, LA&PS, Director Global Labour Research Centre

Jennifer MacLean, Assistant VP, Innovation & Research Partnerships, Innovation York

Michael Moir, University Archivist, Office of the Dean of Libraries, Chair APPRC

Carmela Murdocca, Professor, Dept of Sociology, LA&PS

Kelly Ninh, Policy Research Services Coordinator, VPRI

Swann Paradis, Associate Principal Research and Graduate Studies, Associate Professor French Studies, Glendon College

Gillian Parekh, CRC in Disability Studies in Education, Associate Professor, Education

Sarah Parsons, Associate Professor, Dept of Visual Arts & Art History, AMPD

Joel Prowting, PhD candidate (CIHR)

Mark Roseman, Director SIRI, Office of Research Services, VPRI

Vivian Saridakis, Associate Dean Research and Graduate Education, Associate Professor, Dept. of Biology, Science

Jen Steeves, Associate VP Research, YRC in Non-Invasive Visual Brain Stimulation, Professor, Dept of Psychology, Health

Yvonne Su, Assistant Professor, Dept of Equity Studies, LA&PS

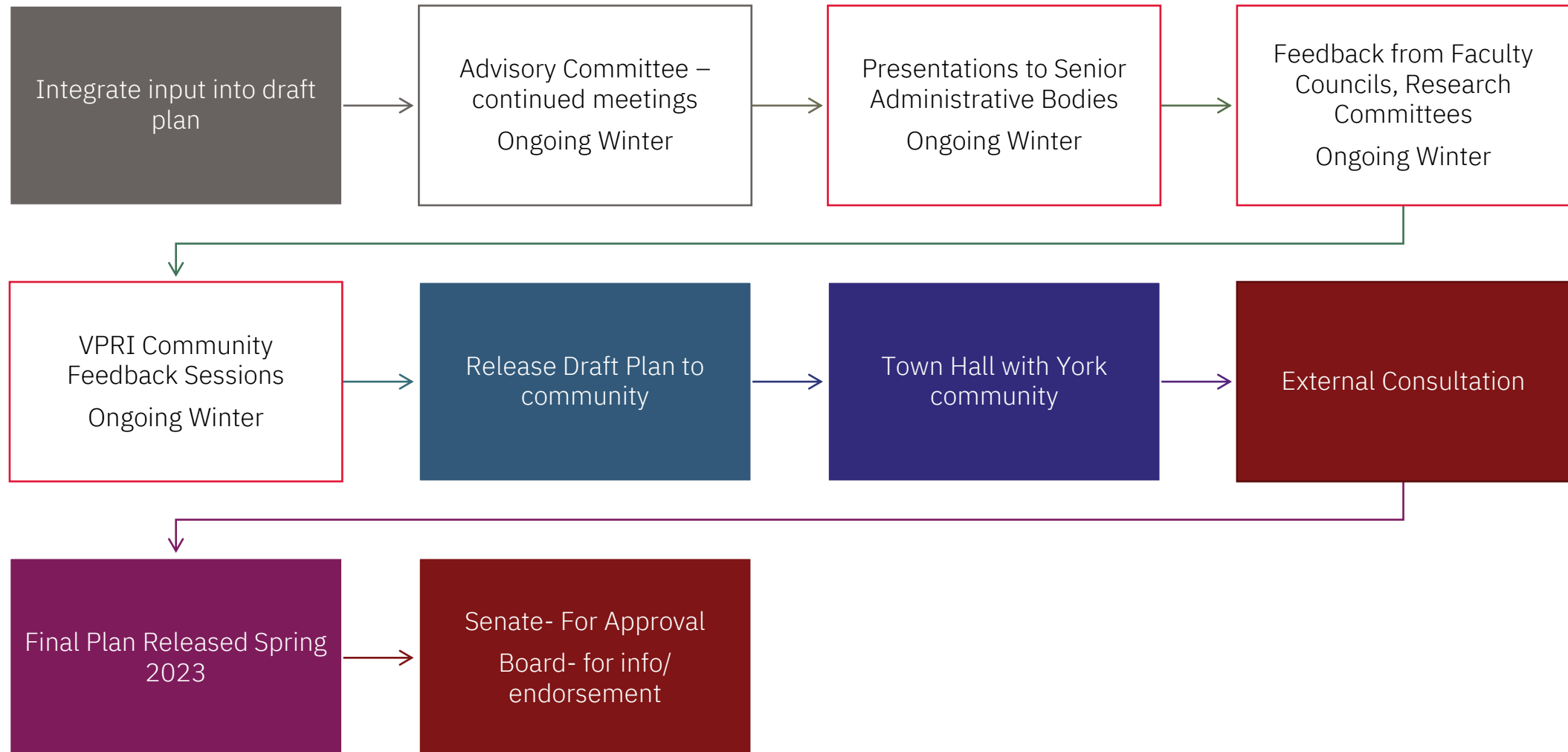
Skandha Sunderasen, Associate Director, Global Engagement and Strategic Directions, York International

Cheryl van Daalen-Smith, Associate Dean Academic, FGS, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, Health

Rick Wildes, Associate Professor, Vice-Chair Graduate Program, Dept of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, Lassonde

Xiaohui Yu, Associate Professor, Graduate Program Director, School of Information Technology, LA&PS

What's Next: SRP Process – Phase 2



Overall Structure:

Knowledge for the Future: From Creation and Discovery to Application

- **Introduction:**
 - Foreword
 - Executive Summary
 - Mission and Vision
 - Research Excellence
 - Commitment to Decolonizing Research
 - Commitment to Diversity and Inclusivity in Research and Scholarship
- **Research Areas of Strength (6)**
- **Research Areas of Opportunity (6)**
- **Enabling Strategic Research Success**
 - Supporting Research Development
 - A Commitment to Working in Partnership, Translating Research Into Action and Promoting Innovation & Entrepreneurship
- **Summary and Expectations**

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Strength

Current SRP: Advancing Fundamental Inquiry & Critical Knowledge; Analyzing Cultures & Mobilizing Creativity; Building Healthy Lives, Communities & Environments; Forging a Just & Equitable World; Exploring & Interrogating the Frontiers of Science & Technology; Integrating Entrepreneurial Innovation and the Public Good

Advancing
Fundamental,
Discovery and
Theoretical Research
and Scholarship

Illuminating Cultures
and
Cultivating Creativity

Building Healthy Lives,
Communities and
Reimagining Futures

Reaching New
Horizons in Science,
Technology and
Society

Pursuing a Just,
Equitable and
Sustainable World

Elevating
Entrepreneurship
Through Socially
Responsible
Innovation

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Opportunity

Current SRP: Digital Cultures; Healthy Individuals, Healthy Communities and Global Health; Indigenous Futurities; Integration of Artificial Intelligence into Society; Public Engagement for a Just & Sustainable World

Digital Cultures
& Disruptive
Technologies

Healthy
Communities,
Equity &
Wellbeing

Climate Action
for a
Sustainable
Planet

Indigenous
Futurities

Studies in
Equity & Social
Justice

Catalyzing
Inter &
Transdisciplinary
Research
Opportunities

Health in the Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Strengths	Advancing Fundamental, Discovery and Theoretical Research and Scholarship	Ground breaking research that is contributing to the fundamental advancement of knowledge across all disciplines
	Building Healthy Lives, Communities and Reimagining Futures	Study of health broadly, age-related ailments, disease prevention, cognitive and physical health, social determinants of health, health of communities and global health, COVID-19, health systems, biomedical and clinical sciences etc.
	Reaching New Horizons in Science, Technology & Society	Cross-cutting disciplines in this theme include health – vision research, neuroscience, life sciences
Opportunities for the Strategic Development of Research	Digital Cultures and Disruptive Technologies	Development of visual perception technologies; studying the implications of AI adoption; also, human health and health systems; health informatics
	Healthy Communities, Equity and Wellbeing	Expanding research underlying cultural, social, legal and environmental and economic perspectives. VHCP, York SoM, pursue new partnerships across health care spectrum
	Indigenous Futurities	Working with Indigenous communities on research that enhances cultural, economic & environmental sustainability including Indigenous health and health challenges
	Catalyzing Inter and Transdisciplinary Research Opportunities	Continuing development of both inter- and trans-disciplinary research; including global health, study of climate change on human health and others

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Strength

Current SRP: Building Healthy Lives, Communities & Environments

Updated SRP: **Building Healthy Lives, Communities and Reimagining Futures**

- Includes initiatives such as biomedical exploration; healthy aging and age equity; Indigenous understandings of healthy environments; the promotion of mental, creative and physical health; critical examinations of disabilities; analyses of global health and global health governance; health informatics and disease modelling; bioethics; exploring bullying behaviours; nursing; kinesiology; health policy and management; clinical psychology; neuroscience; and situating wellness in the contexts of history, culture and the lived environment; responding to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Highlights the World Health Organization collaborating Centre on Global Governance of Antimicrobial Resistance (WHOCC), six health specific ORUs, , Centre for Vision Research, Centre for Integrative and Applied Neuroscience, Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research, Krembil Centre for Health Management and Leadership
- Emphasizes partnering with public health organizations, hospitals and private sector industries to build on our strong relationships with those providing health care and developing new collaborations with our community partners

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Opportunity

Current SRP: Healthy Individuals, Healthy Communities and Global Health

Updated SRP: **Healthy Communities, Equity and Wellbeing**

- Updated to include post-pandemic recovery and research related to long-term care, the healthcare labour force, e-health and digital innovation, healthcare access, healthcare management, aging and alignment with the UN Decade of Healthy Aging
- Commitment to expand research that focuses on health, health care regulation, digital health, health outcomes and the promotion of wellness
- Commitment to pursue new partnerships across health care, social services, natural sciences, engineering and global health sectors to extend leadership and research influence
- Enhance focus on community engagement with opening of Markham campus in 2024, aspiration for a medical school, advance innovation through Vaughn Healthcare Precinct

Next Steps

Integrating your expert feedback into the draft Plan

Invite you to provide your comments and initial thoughts on the draft Plan over the next couple of weeks.

Online feedback:

<https://research.apps01.yorku.ca/machform/view.php?id=11767>



Questions, Comments, Discussion:



Appendix A: Research Strengths & Opportunity Area section updates

YORK 



Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Excellence Section

Updated SRP: Outlines examples of comprehensive research excellence at York followed by two new sections below:

Commitment to Decolonizing Research

- Underscores commitment to decolonizing research and the ongoing examination of the colonial processes, practices, and ways of thinking that continue to delegitimize and devalue Indigenous knowledges and Indigenous peoples at York
- Highlights York's commitment to working with Indigenous communities and York-based Indigenous scholars to deepen our understandings of respectful forms of research engagement, development and application

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusivity in Research and Scholarship

- Reaffirms York's long-standing commitment to the values of equity, diversity, inclusion and social justice
- Emphasizes commitment to cultivating equitable and inclusive research environments, creating and sustaining diverse research teams, encouraging research programs in equity-deserving communities, and continuing to support reconciliation and transformation through our Indigenous Framework

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Strength

Current SRP: Same as updated SRP title

Updated SRP: **Advancing Fundamental, Discovery and Theoretical Research and Scholarship**

- Underscores that research at York begins with appreciating the importance of fundamental inquiry, theoretical research and creative scholarship as an essential means for future social, scientific, and technological developments to solve complex societal problems
- Highlights research from the study of moral, political and legal philosophy to pure mathematics; from the investigation of molecular and subatomic interactions to exploring the human brain; from the poetic representations of data and generative systems in light and sound installations to the novel use of artificial agents in interactive environments; from the study of Indigenous life, cultures and traditions to the origins of government, the development of political institutions and the growth of non-state systems of government; from the study of chromosomes to the understanding of the cosmos; from understanding the limits of computation to developing more efficient methodologies for computational biology, cryptography, machine learning, and other engineering applications

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Strength

Current SRP: Analyzing Cultures & Mobilizing Creativity

Updated SRP: **Illuminating Cultures and Cultivating Creativity**

- Highlights collaborations in arts and culture related research areas, including internet of things, social media, 3D simulations and animation; artistic theories and cultural impact; interactive art and immersive environments; the implementation of participatory design, maker methods, physical computing, digital fabrication, wearable computing, and creative coding for the creation of novel digital forms; the expansion of procedural poetics into emerging virtual reality, augmented reality, and mixed reality media; the application of expertise in audio-visual signal processing, vision science, machine learning, artificial intelligence (AI), and robotics toward new conceptions of responsive living environments; design and development of assistive technologies in healthcare and other project-based research that integrates scientific investigation and creative expression into new critically computational futures.
- Includes initiatives such as Sensorium, collaborative AI research conducted in the Center for Artificial Intelligence and Society and York University Libraries, York's Social and Technological Systems Lab, York's Motion Media Studio

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Research Areas of Strength

Current SRP: Building Healthy Lives, Communities & Environments

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- Includes initiatives such as biomedical exploration; healthy aging and age equity; Indigenous understandings of healthy environments; the promotion of mental, creative and physical health; critical examinations of disabilities; analyses of global health and global health governance; health informatics and disease modelling; bioethics; exploring bullying behaviours; nursing; kinesiology; health policy and management; clinical psychology; neuroscience; and situating wellness in the contexts of history, culture and the lived environment; responding to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Highlights the World Health Organization collaborating Centre on Global Governance of Antimicrobial Resistance (WHOCC), six health specific ORUs, , Centre for Vision Research, Centre for Integrative and Applied Neuroscience, Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research, Krembil Centre for Health Management and Leadership
- Emphasizes partnering with public health organizations, hospitals and private sector industries to build on our strong relationships with those providing health care and developing new collaborations with our community partners

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Strength

Current SRP: Exploring & Interrogating the Frontiers of Science & Technology

Updated SRP: **Reaching New Horizons in Science, Technology and Society**

- Updated to emphasize areas including global health equity, environmental sustainability, water sanitation and security, clean energy, and smart and resilient communities to poverty and youth homelessness prevention, modeling and mitigating pandemic spread, disaster and emergency management, space science, engineering, geomatics and environmental sciences research, digital arts, disease modelling
- Highlights One WATER ORU, the Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Society (CAIS), the Centre for Integrative and Applied Neuroscience, Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research, Y-EMERGE, CIFAL, Toronto Centre of Excellence on Youth Homelessness Prevention, Microsystems Technologies and Application program, The Institute for Technoscience and Society, IP Osgoode

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Strength

Current SRP: Forging a Just & Equitable World

Updated SRP: **Pursuing a Just, Equitable and Sustainable World**

- Updated to include research relating to transnational criminal relations and human rights violations, violence, conflict, impact of war in all its forms, the justice dimensions of the transition to a greener economy
- Highlights York as an urban university with recognized expertise in urban design, planning, and sustainable transportation to facilitate and integrate city life– this includes the examination of issues related to urban sprawl and political ecology and urban immigration gateways
- Features York's new Centre for Indigenous Knowledges and Languages (CIKL) which hosts scholars whose research analyzes environmental degradation through the oral narratives of Indigenous elders and community members over time

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Strength

Current SRP: Integrating Entrepreneurial Innovation and the Public Good

Updated SRP: **Elevating Entrepreneurship Through Socially Responsible Innovation**

- Updated to include ESG issues and research focused on creating new knowledge about the social/ethical/environmental/political responsibilities of organizations
- More recent examples of research regarding sustainability, CSR, business ethics, and social sector management
- Research at IP Osgoode, Centre of Excellence in Responsible Business, the Global Labour Research Centre
- Innovation York initiatives: Yspace ELLA, Yspace Digital, Yspace Markham, Yspace Georgina, Black Entrepreneurship Alliance

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Opportunity

Current SRP: Digital Cultures combined with Integration of Artificial Intelligence into Society

Updated SRP: **Digital Cultures and Disruptive Technologies**

- Combined two opportunity areas from the current SRP to highlight continued need for research on the digital world at the intersection of the arts, sciences, law and engineering, pushing technological boundaries while critically investigating the social, cultural and legal impacts and the ways in which it is shaping and changing human activity and interaction.
- Commitment to extending research beyond AI to other disruptive technologies (Health Informatics, Blockchain, Quantum Computing, Beyond 5G, Advanced VR, Big Data, Cybersecurity, Smart Cities)
- Further recognized leadership at the interface of an expanding cluster of creative industries in film, television, informatics, data visualization games and app development

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Opportunity

Current SRP: Healthy Individuals, Healthy Communities and Global Health

Updated SRP: **Healthy Communities, Equity and Wellbeing**

- Updated to include post-pandemic recovery and research related to long-term care, the healthcare labour force, e-health and digital innovation, healthcare access, healthcare management, aging and alignment with the UN Decade of Healthy Aging
- Commitment to expand research that focuses on health, health care regulation, digital health, health outcomes and the promotion of wellness
- Commitment to pursue new partnerships across health care, social services, natural sciences, engineering and global health sectors to extend leadership and research influence
- Enhance focus on community engagement with opening of Markham campus in 2024, aspiration for a medical school, advance innovation through Vaughan Healthcare Precinct

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Opportunity

Current SRP: Indigenous Futurities

Updated SRP: **Indigenous Futurities**

- Updated to acknowledge that the context has changed since the launch of the last SRP in 2018 and affirms that the commitment to continue efforts to support Indigenous scholarship is maintained in this opportunity area
- Updated to include progress that has been made since the launch of the last SRP and the Indigenous Framework in 2017. This includes the Centre for Indigenous Knowledges (CIKL) and additional supports to CIKL, developing an action plan to address recommendations in the report “*Decolonizing Research Administration: An evaluation of Indigenous Research at York University*”, creation of Canada’s first dedicated Indigenous Research Ethics Board, investing in Indigenous Research Seed Grants (2022), creation of the Indigenous Incentive Grants and Indigenous Scholarly Events and Outreach grants (2021), hiring the Associate VP Indigenous Initiatives (2021), hiring Indigenous Provostial Post-doctoral Fellows (2022),

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Opportunity

Current SRP: Public Engagement for a Just & Sustainable World

Updated SRP: **Climate Action for a Sustainable Planet**

- Updated to include research on the root causes, expression, and consequences of inequality and oppression, underlying factors driving the climate crisis and the manifold consequences of key environmental and societal challenge, sustainability efforts to achieve net-zero emissions on our campuses and off, disaster response and humanitarian emergencies
- Underscores continued collaboration within interdisciplinary and broader transdisciplinary teams to address a range of climate-related issues such as designing cities to be resilient/inclusive/sustainable, addressing gendered and racialized challenges of employment/housing/health, sustainability around transportation, renewable energy research, and exploration of business ethics
- Moving forward, this research will include the preservation of ecosystems and species, emission and pollution, a sustained focus on human-animal interactions, issues of governance and human rights with implications for Indigenous reconciliation, global migration, and diplomacy
- Economic prosperity and ameliorating poverty remain squarely on York's research agenda, along with intimately related issues of security in all its forms

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Opportunity

Current SRP: Not included

Updated SRP: **Studies in Equity and Social Justice**

- New opportunity area that highlights inclusionary research and scholarship, across a broad spectrum of disciplines, at York that is dedicated to equity, social justice, and expanding critical analysis of the constructs and intersectionality of identity, gender, sexuality, class, race, ethnicity, nationality, citizenship, age and ability
- Includes initiatives such as Places of Online Learning for the Adjudication of Researchers Inclusively and Supportively (POLARIS), York Black Research Seed Fund and the Indigenous Research Seed Grants, Decolonizing Research Administration Action Plan York's Indigenous Research Ethics Board, Indigenous Research Officer, forthcoming DEDI Strategy, interdisciplinary ORUs, Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on Africa and Its Diasporas, Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLAC), Centre for Indigenous Knowledges and Languages (CIKL), and Centre for Feminist Research (CFR).
- Commitments include expanding collaborative research and programming that is relevant to the historical, cultural and creative productions of Black and other racialized communities among others

Revised: Strategic Research Plan (2023-2028)

Research Areas of Opportunity

Current SRP: Not included

Updated SRP: **Catalyzing Inter and Transdisciplinary Research Opportunities**

- New opportunity area that highlights the continuing development of both inter- and trans- disciplinary research and collaboration at York
- Initiatives highlighted include VISTA, the new Connected Minds: Neural & Machine Systems for a Healthy, Just Society, and One WATER ORU
- Commitments include continued support for Interdisciplinary Research Clusters program, increasing funding capacity and support for transdisciplinary research clusters, expanding stakeholder and partner engagement to pursue new research partnerships across the spectrum