

A photograph of an Indigenous dancer in traditional regalia, featuring a red sequined tunic and a large, vibrant red feathered headdress. The dancer is seen from the back, with a white and black patterned shawl draped over their shoulders. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people and a large indoor space.

INDIGENOUS INITIATIVES

2019 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS BOARD

MAY 23, 2019



JONATHAN HAMILTON-DIABO, DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF INDIGENOUS INITIATIVES

Office of Indigenous Initiatives

Institutional Support & Guidance

- In responding to the University's Calls to Action, OII was established in 2017.
- Support and guide work to enhance Indigenous presence at the University.
- Monitor developments across the University to assess impacts and to identify challenges.
- Communicate advancements.



Office of Indigenous Initiatives

Institutional Support & Guidance

- Assist units to support and guide their work to enhance Indigenous presence at the university.
- Communicate advancements through annual reporting and new website.



New Indigenous Hires

Supporting the growth of the
Indigenous Community at
the University



Recruitment and Support

- Matching funding for the hiring of Indigenous Faculty and Staff hiring
- OII has provided a number of supports, such as reviewing and promoting postings; recommending members of search committee.



Students and Co-Curricular Activities

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- The Indigenous Studies Student Union hosted 3rd Annual “*Honouring Our Students Pow Wow*”
 - UTSC hosted the first “*Indig-U-Know Indigenous Conference and Pow Wow*”
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- Launching of Provost’s Postdoctoral Fellowship Program
 - SOAR Indigenous Youth Gathering – March Break programming for youth between 14 to 17 years



Challenges

- Lack of Indigenous representation (student or faculty) in certain fields
- Limited resources (time and people) available for consultation
- Knowledge gap about Indigenous histories, diversity and communities

Addressing the Challenges: Enhancing Presence

- Indigenous Garden – Landmark
- New building projects at UTM and UTSC
- Enhancing space for First Nations House and the Centre for Indigenous Studies
- Revising culturally appropriate and safe policies for traditional practices (e.g. smudging)
- New website: www.indigenous.utoronto.ca



Next Steps

A continued commitment to learning, healing and building trust.

- Planning and Process
- Building Relationship

A photograph of a rustic wooden table with various items on it. In the foreground, there is a white oval bowl filled with dried, greyish-green herbs. To the left of the bowl, there are several small, round, brown containers, some with colorful floral patterns. A small black bowl containing dark, dried material is also visible. A blue-handled knife lies on the table. To the right, a rectangular woven mat with purple and white stripes is partially visible. A small, round, colorful object (possibly a button or a small bowl) is on the table near the bottom right. The word "Questions?" is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif font at the top center of the image. The background shows a black office chair and a window with a view of a building.