



**FOR INFORMATION**

***PUBLIC***

***OPEN SESSION***

**TO:** Planning & Budget Committee

**SPONSOR:** Scott Mabury, Vice President, University Operations  
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**PRESENTER:** Same as above  
**CONTACT INFO:**

**DATE:** April 27, 2021 for May 06, 2021

**AGENDA ITEM:** 7

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Design Review Committee: Annual Report, 2020

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

Planning and Budget Committee receives reports for information.

**GOVERNANCE PATH:**

**1. Planning and Budget [for information] (May 06, 2021)**

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

During 2020, the Design Review Committee (DRC) reviewed several major projects that individually and collectively improve the physical beauty of the campus while providing for much needed new space and functional improvements. The projects represent new construction, as well as renovation and landscape projects demonstrating that a campus is comprised of quality buildings and open space that together contribute to the student experience.

Between January and December of 2020, the committee met on a monthly basis to review sixteen projects. Throughout the year a steady increase in project volume has resulted in the committee regularly meeting biweekly to accommodate work load. Last year, the committee reviewed and significantly contributed to the evolution of the following major projects across the three campuses:

St. George Campus

- Spadina Sussex Residence

- Myhal Centre for Engineering Innovation & Entrepreneurship Exterior Signage
- University of St. Michael's College Exterior Signage
- Innis College Addition & Renovation
- University of Toronto Schools Exterior Signage
- Trinity College 15 Devonshire Place, The Lawson Centre for Sustainability
- Indigenous Landscape at Taddle Creek
- Student Spaces: New College Residence, 45 Willcocks St.
- University of Toronto Landmark Project Donor Exterior Signage
- Centre for Civilization, Cultures and Cities: Exterior Signage

#### Mississauga Campus

- UTM Robotics Learning Environment
- UTM Arts Culture & Technology (ACT)
- UTM Master Plan (MP)

#### Scarborough Campus

- UTSC Indigenous House
- UTSC Instructional Centre 2 (IC2)
- UTSC Parking Structure

#### Membership of the Design Review Committee as of December 2017:

Scott Mabury, Vice President, Operations and Real Estate Partnerships (Co-chair)

Bruce Kuwabara (Co-Chair), KPMB Architects, Partner

Paul Bedford, Paul Bedford & Associates, Principal

Carl Blanchaer, WZMH Architects, Principal

Don Schmitt, Diamond Schmitt Architects, Principal

Jane Pepino, QC, Aird & Berlis LLP, Governing Council member

Robert Wright, Interim Dean, Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design

Richard Sommer, Director, Global Cities Institute, Professor of Architecture and Urbanism & Dean

Emeritus, Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design

Christine Burke, (Executive Secretary) Assistant Vice President, University Planning, University Planning Design & Construction

Costas Catsaros, Director of Project Development, University Planning Design & Construction

Adrienne De Francesco, Executive Director, Capital Projects Group, University Planning Design & Construction

Saher Fazilat, Chief Administrative Officer, University of Toronto Mississauga

Andrew Arifuzzaman, Chief Administrative Officer, University of Toronto Scarborough

At DRC meetings, projects are presented by the design team for each project to the DRC. Teams present the projects at least twice and on an as need basis, additional presentations are reviewed. The first review occurs at an early schematic design stage. This is intended to establish that the proposed building and landscape concept is contextually appropriate to the site and campus,

heritage context as applicable, and addresses urban design criteria and massing as outlined by the University's master plans as well as campus wide issues of parking, loading, traffic impact, accessibility and servicing. At this meeting, the DRC reviews building design requirements such as: internal functionality, opportunities to elevate student experience, flexibility/adaptability options and interconnectivity with other buildings.

A second review and follow-up discussions between consultants and the DRC occur when the project is in the design development phase where details of the building have been determined and are better refined.

The landscape plan is reviewed for the articulation of open space within the site, opportunities for synthesis with adjacent areas and interconnectivity to the wider campus. Finally, the palette of materials and signage is considered. Throughout the process, the DRC review is considered within the budgetary framework of the project.

The DRC conducts reviews of the strength of ideas proposed and provides guidance to explore options that otherwise might not have developed. In its deliberations, the DRC is mindful of the difficult trade-off between expectations, budgetary reality and long-term faculty goals, seeking a balanced approach to the resolution of design concerns. The DRC is not tasked with the design of the project, but to work with design teams to set high expectations for design, in all aspects.

Projects are also reviewed with respect to sustainability and environmental concerns as these continue to be more important in our built environment and impact the ongoing operating costs of our buildings.

The mandate of the Design Review Committee is defined in Design Review Committee Terms of Reference located on the University Planning Design and Construction website. This mandate was approved by Governing Council in June, 2014. As the University's capital project portfolio has increased to address critical space shortage demands on all three campuses, a re-evaluation of the Committee Terms of Reference is underway with the goal of adding resiliency to the committee through modifications such as the expanding membership and including a broad range of external experts in the design field.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

None

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For Information

**DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:**

*None*



# Design Review Committee

## Annual Review to December 31, 2020

### Presentation to Planning and Budget Committee

May 06, 2021



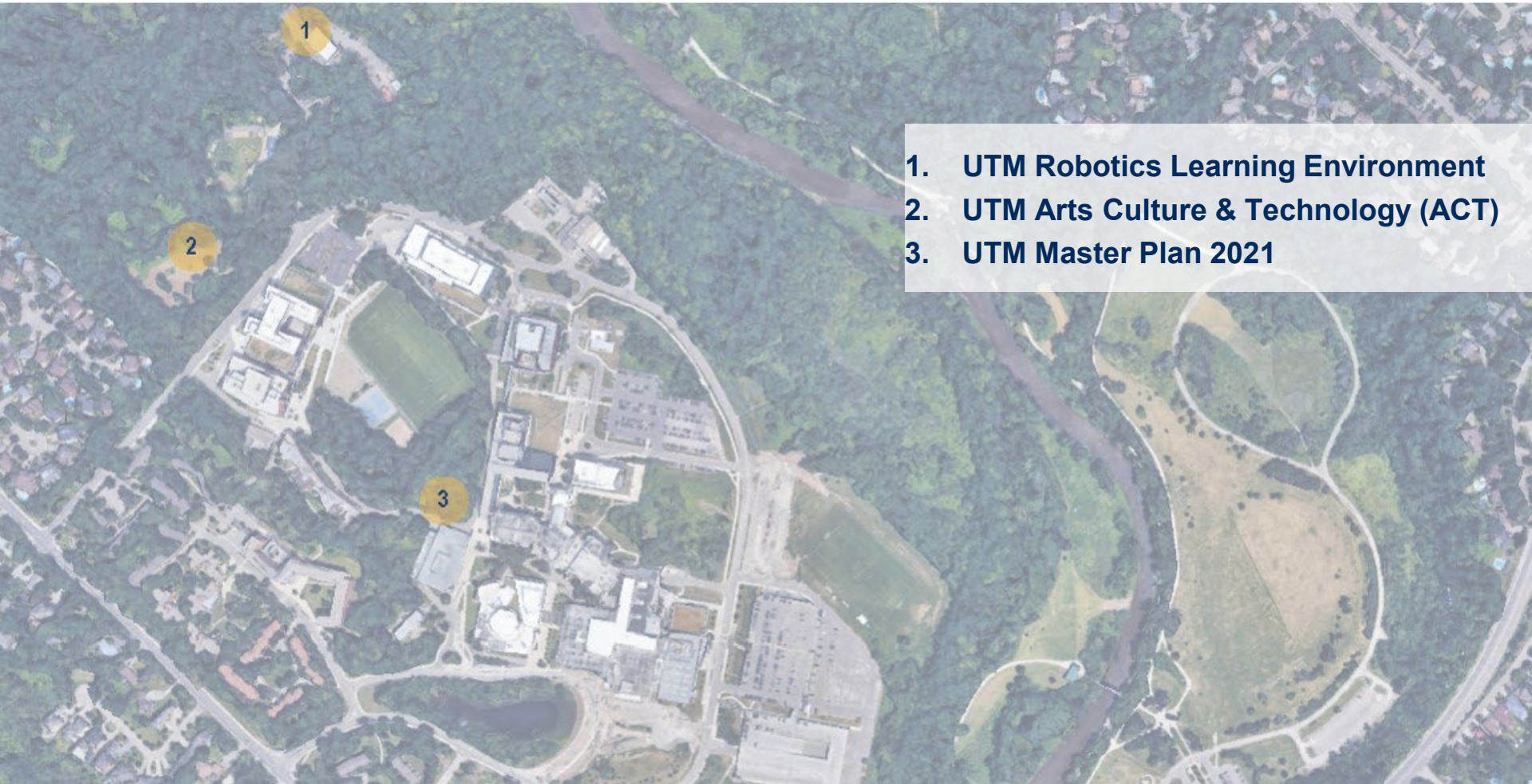
# Highlights

- During 2020, the Design Review Committee (DRC) reviewed a total of 16 projects that individually and collectively will improve the character of our 3 campuses while providing for much needed new space and functional improvements.
- The projects represent new construction, as well as renovation and landscape projects demonstrating that a campus is comprised of quality buildings and open space that together contribute to the student experience.
- As the University's capital project portfolio has increased to address critical space shortage demands on all three campuses, a steady increase in project volume has resulted in the committee regularly meeting biweekly, rather than on a monthly basis.
- A re-evaluation of the Committee Terms of Reference is underway with the goal of adding resiliency to the committee and bolstering the University's commitment to design excellence in city building.





# Projects Reviewed by the DRC



1. UTM Robotics Learning Environment
2. UTM Arts Culture & Technology (ACT)
3. UTM Master Plan 2021



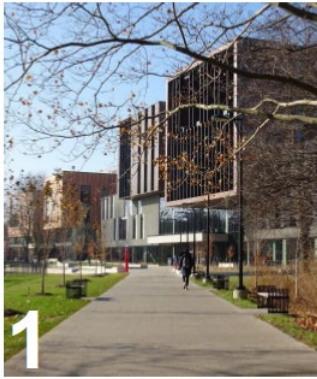






View from the south of the site - Quiet Court





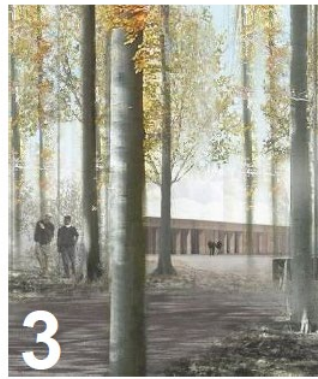
1

Create a Responsive & Adaptive Campus



2

Promote a Resilient Campus That Mitigates & Adapts to Climate Change



3

Use An Ecology-First Approach to Determine Development Opportunities & Organic Building Forms



4

Promote Appropriately Scaled Campus Development



5

Create a Porous Campus That Promotes Physical & Visual Connectivity



6

Facilitate a Multi-Modal Network That Supports a Range of Transportation Options



7

Promote A Mix of Uses That Support the University's Academic Mission



8

Create a Range of Learning Spaces (Indoor & Outdoor)



9

Promote Indigenous & Cultural Placemaking



10

Maintain & Enhance the Campus' Cultural Heritage Value



11

Encourage Positive Community Relationships





# Projects Reviewed by the DRC



1. **UTSC Indigenous House**
2. **UTSC Instructional Centre 2 (IC2)**
3. **UTSC Parking Structure**





UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO

UTSC INDIGENOUS HOUSE  
ARCHITECT: LGA | FORMLINE











# Projects Reviewed by the DRC



1. Spadina Sussex Residence
2. Myhal Centre for Engineering Innovation & Entrepreneurship Exterior Signage
3. University of St. Michael's College Exterior Signage
4. Innis College Addition & Renovation
5. University of Toronto Schools Exterior Signage
6. Trinity College 15 Devonshire Place, The Lawson Centre for Sustainability
7. Student Spaces: New College Residence, 45 Willcocks St.
8. University of Toronto Landmark Project Donor Exterior Signage
9. Centre for Civilization, Cultures and Cities: Exterior Signage
10. Indigenous Landscape at Taddle Creek





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TORONTO

SPADINA SUSSEX RESIDENCE  
ARCHITECT: DIAMOND SCHMITT









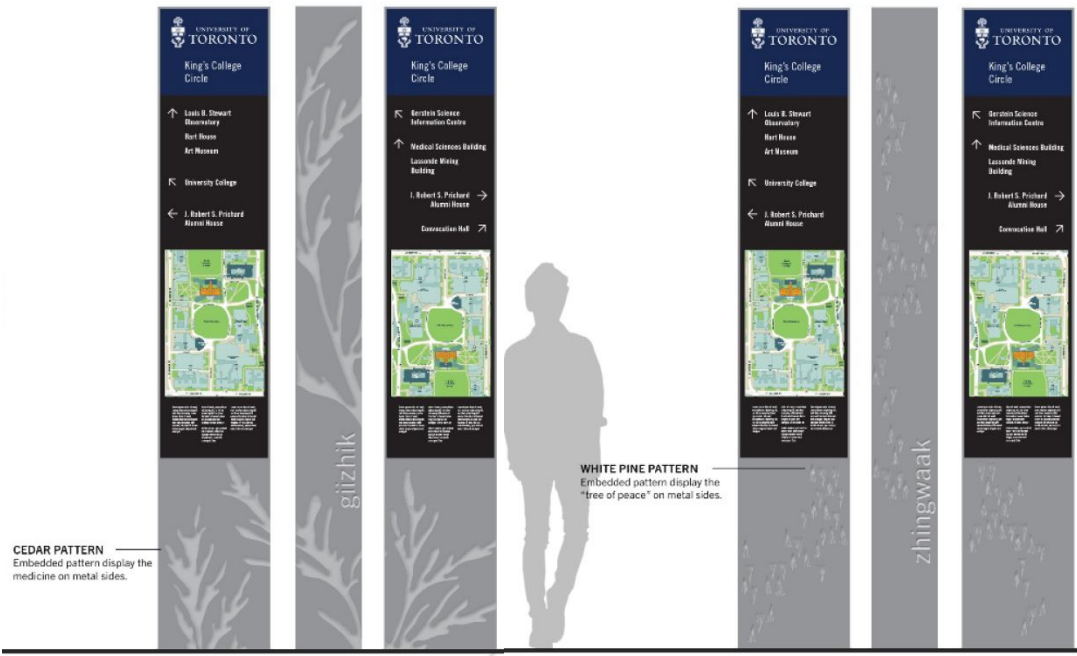
UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO

TRINITY COLLEGE  
ARCHITECT: MECANOO | RDHA





**STUDENT SPACES: NEW COLLEGE, 45 WILLCOCKS**  
ARCHITECT: LABEL & BOULIANE



**CEDAR PATTERN**  
Embedded pattern display the medicine on metal sides.

**WHITE PINE PATTERN**  
Embedded pattern display the "tree of peace" on metal sides.

South face    Side face    North face

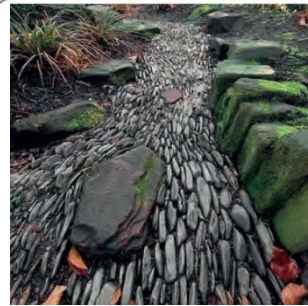
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Side face    Front face    Side face











UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO

INDIGENOUS LANDSCAPE TADDLE CREEK  
ARCHITECT: Brook McIlroy



# Design Review Committee

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