



UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**

# **Office of Indigenous Initiatives 2019-2020 Annual Report**

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, HUMAN RESOURCES & EQUITY

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT & PROVOST

# Progress on Answering the Call, *Wecheehetowin*

Responding to new barriers; impacts of COVID-19 on Indigenous U of T

The pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on Indigenous peoples and continues to do so.

## Key themes from the report are:

- Indigenous Spaces
- Indigenous Faculty and Staff
- Indigenous Curriculum
- Indigenous Research Ethics and Community Relationships
- Indigenous Students & Co-Curricular Education
- Institutional Leadership/Implementation



# Institutional Leadership

- 2019 Tree Planting Ceremony
- 2020 Institution-wide recognition of Orange Shirt Day

# Spaces

Significant new spaces on our campuses include:

- Hart House with the Art Museum, Centennial Art Commission by artists Rebecca Belmore and Osvaldo Yero
- Mural created by UTSC community, students, staff, and faculty, led by Christi Belcourt and Isaac Murdoch



# Indigenous Staff, Faculty, and Librarians



- 2019:  
2 new Academic Advisors to the Provost (Indigenous Curriculum and Education and Indigenous Research and Ethics)



- Expansion of the Office of Indigenous Initiatives: Assistant Directors, Indigenous Initiatives, UTSC and UTM
- Special Advisor to the President on Indigenous issues, Victoria University
- Indigenous Training Coordinator hired to offer institution-wide training
- New Indigenous faculty
- New Indigenous staff, including a tri-campus Indigenous Wellness Counsellor for students



# Students and Co-Curricular Education

- Tri-campus supports for Indigenous students
- 2019: hosted Pow Wows at UTSG and UTSC
- 2020: Virtual Pride, which celebrated Two-Spirit people and several Indigenous-specific events
- 2020: Indigenous Education Network (IEN) celebrated 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary



## LOOKING FORWARD

- Increasing numbers of Indigenous staff and faculty hires
- Multiple spaces (interior/exterior) on all 3 campuses, including a new space for the Indigenous Centre at UTM, Indigenous House at UTSC, and the Indigenous Landscape Project at Taddle Creek at UTSG