FOR RECOMMENDATION　　　　**PUBLIC**　　　　　　**OPEN SESSION**

TO:　　　　　　　UTSC Campus Affairs Committee

SPONSOR:　　　　Irena Creed, Vice-Principal Research & Innovation, UTSC
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PRESENTER:　　　See above
CONTACT INFO:

DATE:　　　　　　June 6, 2023 for June 9, 2023

AGENDA ITEM:　　2

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Establishment of an Extra-Departmental Unit C (EDU:C) - Institutes for Resilient and Inclusive Societies and Ecosystems (iRISE)

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Under section 5.1 of the *Terms of Reference*, the CAC is responsible for the "*Establishment, termination or restructuring of academic units and proposals for Extra-Departmental Units*." Section 5.8.1 of the *Terms of Reference* provides that the CAC recommends to the UTSC Council "*on plans and proposals to establish, disestablish, or significantly restructure academic units…regardless of the source of funds. Proposals for Extra-Departmental Units (EDU)-A's and B's are considered and recommended for approval while those for EDU-C's are considered and approved, pursuant to the Policy on Interdisciplinary Education and Research Planning*."

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1.　**UTSC Campus Affairs Committee [For Recommendation] (June 9, 2023)**
2.　UTSC Campus Council [For Approval] (June 21, 2023)
3.　Executive Committee [For Confirmation] (June 27, 2023)

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The Institutes for Resilient and Inclusive Societies and Ecosystems (iRISE) was brought forward to the UTSC Campus Affairs Committee and the Campus Council in Cycle 6A for information.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) is proposing the creation of *i***RISE (Institutes for Resilient and Inclusive Societies and Ecosystems)** as a new Extra-Departmental Unit C. (EDU:C). UTSC will be the Lead Division. The Office of the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation (OVPRI) will assume administrative and budgetary responsibility for iRISE. Directors of each of the *i*RISE institutes will be responsible for the administrative and financial operations of their Institutes.

*i***RISE** is a network of research institutes whose shared *vision* is to establish the University of Toronto as a leading global centre of scholarship in pursuit of goals of sustainable, resilient, inclusive, and equitable futures, and whose shared *mission* is to support the pursuit of convergence research to solve complex problems and catalyze transformative change by facilitating research discoveries, enabling innovators to move discoveries into action, inspiring communities and building their capacity to act, and training future leaders. The inaugural *i***RISE** institutes are the Institute for Environment, Conservation, and Sustainability; the Institute for Inclusive Health and Well-Being; and the Institute for Inclusive Economies and Sustainable Livelihoods, as well as the institutional strategic initiative named SDGs@UofT.

*i***RISE** advances the strategic goals of the University of Toronto. It promotes all five strategic directions for "achieving scholarly prominence in established and emerging areas" identified in UTSC's *Inspiring Inclusive Excellence*. It advances the strategic priorities of the University of Toronto by strengthening and deepening key international partnerships; advancing sustainability within our institution and beyond; creating new opportunities for students to learn and conduct research in international settings; and promoting multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary collaborations.

*i***RISE's** explicit objective of promoting convergence research *within* and *across* the three institutes cannot be accomplished through existing departmental and administrative structures. *i***RISE** brings together scholars from different disciplines to collaborate with one another and with national and international academic and non-academic/community partners on research projects. Through the integration of the different knowledge, theories, methods, data, and perspectives of their members and partners, the research institutes are expected to provide the new knowledge needed to address the interdependent challenges to planetary health, biodiversity and conservation, individual and community health and wellbeing, and sustainable local and global economies.

*i***RISE** is designed to intentionally embed commitments to Indigenization and equity, diversity and inclusion into their research, training, social entrepreneurship, partnerships, and knowledge-mobilization practices.

*i***RISE** promotes convergence research via visiting practitioners, visiting faculty and community leader residencies and fellowships, innovation tables and design studios, international workshops and symposia, and speaker series. It will train the next generation of research and community leaders via postdoctoral fellowships, international doctoral mentorships, undergraduate and graduate student research assistantships, entrepreneurial and experiential learning opportunities for undergraduate, graduate, and

postdoctoral researchers, summer camps, global design studios, and both local and global hackathons. It will also collaborate on micro-credential certificates, including one on Planetary Health and another on Storytelling.

*i*RISE will be comprised of faculty across the three University of Toronto campuses. Each institute already has members drawn from over 15 academic units across the University of Toronto and represent the diversity of scholars at the university. The internal and external advisory boards that will support *i*RISE institutes are similarly being struck to ensure a breadth of diverse backgrounds and expertise on research themes pertinent to each institute and to the SDGs@UofT.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Each *i*RISE research institute is funded by UTSC in the total amount of $1,500,000 for a period of five years. The SDGs@UofT institutional strategic initiative is funded by the Office of the Vice-President Research, Innovation, and Strategic Initiatives, the Office of the Vice-President International, and active divisional partners including Faculty of Arts and Science, Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering, Temerty Faculty of Medicine, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto Mississauga, as well as UTSC in the total amount of $2,190,000 for a period of five years. Additional revenue sources to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of iRISE are expected to include a) competitive research grants; b) corporate funding; c) donor and sponsorship funding; d) fees for training programs/certifications; e) fees for participating in design studios; and f) consultancy.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be It Recommended,

THAT subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee,

THAT, the Establishment of an Extra-Departmental Unit C (EDU:C) - Institutes for Resilient and Inclusive Societies and Ecosystems (iRISE) as described in the proposal, dated June 4, 2023, be approved effective June 28, 2023.

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

1. Proposal: Establishment of an Extra-Departmental Unit C (EDU:C) - Institutes for Resilient and Inclusive Societies and Ecosystems (iRISE)

*i*RISE: *i*nstitutes for Resilient and Inclusive Societies and Ecosystems

An EDU:C proposal to establish *i*RISE
June 4, 2023

1. OVERVIEW

This document outlines the rationale, structure, research foci, and academic goals of *i*RISE—the *i*nstitutes for <u>R</u>esilient and <u>I</u>nclusive <u>S</u>ocieties and <u>E</u>cosystems—to support its application to become an EDU:C.

*i*RISE is a network of research institutes located at UTSC but with a tri-campus orientation and membership. Its three founding institutes are the Institute for Environment, Conservation, and Sustainability (IECS), the Institute for Inclusive Health and Well-Being (IIHWB), and the Institute for Inclusive Economies and Sustainable Livelihoods (IIESL).

*i*RISE also includes an institutional strategic initiative (ISI), the Sustainable Development Goals Institutional Strategic Initiative (SDGs@UofT). ISIs are intended to build research capacity in high-priority areas of strategic importance, with the goal of securing significant funding and/or realizing transformational impacts on issues of societal importance. This ISI was approved on May 12, 2023.

The network of research institutes and the ISI have distinct mandates and memberships, but shared operational and governance structures and reporting structures.

The proposed start date of operation of *i*RISE is July 1, 2023.

The Office of the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation (OVPRI) will assume administrative and budgetary responsibility for *i*RISE. This is in line with:

a) the following recommendations of the Tri-Campus Administrative review:

> The group recommended a continuation of existing policy when it came to senior leadership positions. Campus Principals are the academic and administrative heads of UTM and UTSC with delegated authority to others. The Principal has certain areas of inherent authority under the *Policy on Appointment of Academic Administrators* (PAAA), including the budget, and can delegate responsibilities to the Dean, CAO, Vice-Principal Research[1], and others. The working group recommended that UTM and UTSC create matrices to document what activities fall into the inherent or delegated authority of the Principal or the Dean and other senior roles on those campuses – work that is underway at those campuses *(https://www.provost.utoronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/155/2023/05/Progress-Report-on-the-Implementation-of-the-Findings-of-the-Tri-Campus-Review-2018-2020.pdf)*.

and

b) the operationalization of the above recommendation about delegated authority in *University of Toronto Scarborough Job Descriptions for Academic Administrators*, which delegates responsibility for EDU:Cs to the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation. The Vice-Principal Research and Innovation has delegated authority, and the Office of the Vice-Principal Research has all the relevant administrative resources and expertise, to manage the iRISE budget, as required by the *University of Toronto Guidelines for Extra-Departmental Units*. The Office of the Vice-President Research and Innovation and Strategic Initiatives will be informed, per the Guidelines (p. 18).

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[1] Position now called Vice-Principal Research and Innovation.

Vision

To establish the University of Toronto (UofT) as a leading global centre of scholarship in pursuit of goals of sustainable, resilient, inclusive, and equitable futures.

Mission

To support the pursuit of **convergence research**[2] to solve complex problems and catalyze transformative change by facilitating research discoveries, enabling innovators to move discoveries into action, inspiring communities and building their capacity to act, and training future leaders.

2. RATIONALE FOR *i*RISE

2a. Fit with strategic goals

*i*RISE advances the strategic goals of the university, as laid out in UTSC's 2020-2025 strategic plan, *Inspiring Inclusive Excellence,* UofT's *Towards 2030* and its *four strategic priorities*, UofT's *Institutional Strategic Research Plan* 2018-2023, and UofT's *International Strategic Plan* 2022-2027.

Inspiring Inclusive Excellence identifies "innovative, high-quality undergraduate and graduate student experience and success" and "scholarly prominence in established and emerging areas" as strategic priorities.

Related to these priorities are the following seven strategic directions:

1.1 Provide all students with transformative, experiential, and holistic curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular learning opportunities.

1.4 Develop academic programs that make UTSC an exemplar of life-long learning and expand opportunities for non-traditional students.

2.1 Enhance and grow current and emerging areas of research strength that differentiate UTSC as a global research leader in those fields.

2.2 Develop and implement a new research support framework that facilitates the realization of UTSC's scholarly ambitions.

2.3 Establish UTSC as a centre of excellence for research partnerships and knowledge translation.

2.4 Invigorate the tri-campus research culture to increase disciplinary and interdisciplinary engagement across departments and the wider community.

4.3 Identify and help lead a set of priority research collaborations that bring together tri-campus colleagues and local, regional, national, and international partners from various sectors.

To achieve these strategic directions, *Inspiring Inclusive Excellence* announced the future establishment of research institutes "organized around areas of established and emerging strength and supported by an appropriate funding framework." The identified areas of research strength were: i) global cultures,

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[2] Convergence research is transdisciplinary research that shows deep integration across disciplines and is driven by a specific and compelling problem, whether that problem arises from deep scientific questions or pressing societal needs (US National Science Foundation [NSF]; https://new.nsf.gov/funding/learn/research-types/learn-about-convergence-research downloaded May 1, 2023). Convergence research is successful when organized outside the boundaries of traditional academic disciplines. As such, the research institutes and the SDGs Scholars Academy of *i*RISE represent the mode by which complex problems can be challenged and solved.

connectivity, identities, and livelihoods; ii) the environment, conservation, and sustainability, and related technologies; and iii) health, well-being, and resilient communities.

*i*RISE establishes three tri-campus research institutes and joins them with SDGs@UofT under one operational framework.

*i*RISE serves all seven of the above-listed strategic directions. In so doing, it advances UofT's strategic plan *Towards 2030* and its four strategic priorities (i.e., leverage the university's urban location more fully for the mutual benefit of the university and City; strengthen and deepen key international partnerships; reimagine and reinvent undergraduate education; and advance sustainability within our institution and beyond). *i*RISE also advances UofT's *International Strategic Plan 2022-2027* (i.e., develop international partnerships with other academic institutions, create new opportunities for students to learn and conduct research in global settings, and generate multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary collaboration).

*i*RISE is a mechanism for the university to achieve global recognition and impact by enhancing internal support for convergence research, leveraging institutional resources that make UofT a top-ranked global powerhouse of scholarship, and facilitating collaborations with partners and scholarly networks across the university and world-wide.

2b. The Unique Niche of *i*RISE

The challenges of the current climate crisis, the health of our planet, the health and well-being of individuals and societies, and the inclusiveness and sustainability of local and global economies are all intertwined to an unprecedented extent. The solution to these challenges is rarely linear (the preferred path of many) nor without unrealized twists and turns associated with living in an unprecedented time. *i*RISE occupies a unique niche in providing organizational, human, and financial resources for convergence research that is needed to address these interdependent challenges. This convergence research cannot be accomplished through existing departmental structures.

*i*RISE provides a venue for the aggregation and synthesis of scholarly thought from different disciplines—with different ontologies, epistemologies, and methodologies—to create collaborative solutions to the vexing problems of our time.

*i*RISE is intentionally designed to embrace local, national, and international collaborations among academic and non-academic partners. Besides collaborating *within* the constituent research institutes, *i*RISE members will engage one another in convergence research and training initiatives *across* the institutes and with the SDGs@UofT.

2c. *i*RISE Benefits Departments

The added value of *i*RISE is expected to be most significant for faculty whose research interests and goals are best advanced by collaborating with faculty in disciplines housed in departments and divisions other than their own.

Faculty and students in *all* academic departments can contribute to and benefit from *i*RISE.

While the *i*RISE institutes are still in their infancy, the university-wide appeal of the three research institutes is evident in the list of faculty members who have expressed their interest in being members of these institutes (see Appendix 1). Interest and participation will grow as the institutes develop and faculty can visualize the value of their contribution.

2d. *i*RISE is Dedicated to Solving Complex Problems

*i*RISE will join a small group of world-leading research institutes creating convergence research to address the global sustainability challenges (see Table 1). Focusing on these themes, *i*RISE will play a prominent role in Canada and internationally in generating and diffusing transformative knowledge that promotes human and planetary health, well-being, and sustainability goals.

Table 1. Comparator institutes.

Name	Country	Scope
Convergence Research (CORE) Institute, UC San Diego	USA	"The Convergence Research (CORE) Institute is designed to catalyze an impact network of researchers, practitioners, and industry and public policy professionals committed to collaboratively engaging in convergence research that is driven by a specific and compelling societal problem and requires deep integration across disciplines and sectors."
Convergence Researcher Incubator (CORE), Texas A&M Energy Institute	USA	"The grand challenges our world faces today are complex and tightly interconnected. Addressing them requires convergence across disciplines to develop innovative, multifaceted solutions that respond to the social, economic, technological, and policy dimensions of those challenges. Such solutions will be the outcomes of a process of co-creation among and between the diverse researcher and stakeholder groups connected with these challenges."
Woods Institute for the Environment, Stanford University	USA	"Stanford's community of faculty, researchers, and students are world leaders, transcending the boundaries of traditional disciplines, departments, and schools to create the knowledge and solutions required to allow people and the planet to thrive. Their research produces fundamental insights and actionable guidance for scholars, decision-makers, and practitioners operating at local, regional, and global scales."
MIT Policy Lab at the Center for International Studies: Enhancing the impact of MIT research on public policy	USA	"The mission of MIT's Policy Lab at the Center for International Studies is to develop and enhance connections between MIT research and public policy, to best serve the nation and the world in the 21st century." For example, **"Phillip Sharp, MIT Institute Professor and Nobel Laureate and Susan Hockfield, MIT president emerita are producing a report documenting the importance of the "convergence research model" in addressing the next breakthroughs in health. Convergence refers to the integration of the life sciences, physical sciences, engineering, and information technology to solve human health challenges, such as cancer, Alzheimer's disease, etc."

International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)	Austria	"The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) is an international research institute that advances systems analysis and applies its research methods to identify policy solutions to reduce human footprints, enhance the resilience of natural and socioeconomic systems and help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals."
Stockholm Resilience Centre	Sweden	"The Stockholm Resilience Centre is a research centre on resilience and sustainability science at Stockholm University. It is a joint initiative between Stockholm University and the Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences."
Weizmann Institute of Science	Israel	"The climate crisis affects every aspect of our civilization. To change our trajectory, we need to develop science-driven, fundamental breakthroughs that revolutionize how we live. And we need to do it faster than ever before …It is a complex web of interdependent challenges that touch on every aspect of modern civilization, from food production, urbanization, and transportation to energy consumption, manufacturing, and waste disposal. It is not enough to simply find solutions that work. We need solutions that are economically and socially compelling enough to overcome market demands, and deeply embedded behaviors. We need to work together across disciplines and sectors to enact a fundamental paradigm shift that changes the rules of the game."

3. RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC GOALS

3a. *i*RISE Goals

The *i*RISE constituent research institutes and SDGs@UofT share several research and academic goals:

- To increase the vigor of knowledge production and exchange throughout the disciplinary spectrum.
- To create intellectual spaces enabling convergence dialogues within and between *i*RISE research institutes and encouraging the envisioning of alternative futures.
- To conduct research that deploys the diverse epistemologies and methodologies of different disciplines to generate transformative solutions to problems.
- To build locally and globally sustainable partnerships and collaborations across academic and partner institutions, which engage diverse stakeholders to co-create knowledge infused with social concerns and values.
- To train the next generation of scholars and leaders dedicated to creating inclusive, sustainable, just and equitable societies.

- To maximize the positive societal impact of research knowledge by disseminating it within and beyond academia and translating it into public policy and practice.

3b. *i*RISE Constituent Units

The Institute for Environment, Conservation, and Sustainability (IECS)[3]: The IECS will catalyze convergence research on the challenges of living and thriving on a warming planet in the Anthropocene. Through its diverse range of programs and initiatives, it will create opportunities for transdisciplinary and historically grounded conversations about the relationships between people and the natural world, and encourage and support faculty, students, and partner organizations to develop evidence-based solutions to mitigate climate impacts and create sustainable and environmentally just societies. Its research themes will include**:** the impact of climate change on human communities; the effects of climate change from the cellular to ecosystem levels; Indigenous perspectives on the natural world; the effectiveness of social and economic policies on climate outcomes; publicly engaged environmental research; sustainable agriculture; green technologies; just transitions; ecological restoration; environmental sustainability; and nature-based climate solutions.

The Institute for Inclusive Health and Well-Being (IIHWB): IIHWB will catalyze convergence research to address the health challenges of living in the Anthropocene. IIHWB will support socially engaged scholarship that builds intellectual awareness and generates knowledge that improves the health and well-being of current and future inhabitants of our planet. IIHWB will explore the "wider determinants of health" that include the social, economic, and environmental factors that influence one's physical and mental health. IIHWB will focus on health and well-being under a progressing climate crisis and promulgate solutions. Health and wellbeing in the Anthropocene have revealed a crisis in delivering and understanding public, community, and global health. To address this crisis, the IIHWB's leadership will accelerate research and innovation at the intersection of planetary change and health and well-being. IIHWB will encompass at-risk communities, including Indigenous, immigrant, refugees, and those populations adversely affected by factors under the IECS and IIESL. Failure to respond will constitute a social failure that will develop into a health and well-being emergency.

***The Institute for Inclusive Economies and Sustainable Livelihoods* (IIESL):** IIESL will catalyze convergence research that enables the exploration, imagining and sharing of alternative economic futures from perspectives rooted in populations, communities and geographies that have been marginalized from mainstream economic development. Its focus on global peripheries implies exploring and connecting the economic practices, sustainability approaches and policy experiments of rural areas, small and medium-sized cities, and diverse suburbs. Dialogues around the making of diverse community economies, feminist economies, and queer geographies, as well as Indigenous political economy and racial capitalism studies will contribute to the work of the institute. IIESL will promote South-South and South-North research around people-centered economies and sustainable livelihoods connecting academic researchers with local community leaders, policymakers, activists, artists, cooperators, and social entrepreneurs in the region and around the world. Scarborough, located in one of Toronto's most diverse suburbs, will provide an interesting base to think about inclusion, cooperativism, and sustainability from the peripheries of a global city, facilitating a dialogue across Global North and Global South peripheries.

SDGs@UofT: SDGs@UofT will pursue convergence research that advances the SDGs and informs future global sustainability goals. The research will focus on four themes. First, it will address transition pathways to achieve the SDGs and the significant shifts required to create sustainable transition pathways. Second, it will develop indicators to measure progress towards achieving the SDGs' social, economic,

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[3] Note: IESC and the School of the Environment have complementary but substantively different foci, and will collaborate to achieve their shared objectives, just as they have committed to doing under the umbrella of the SDGs@UofT Institutional Strategic Initiative.

and environmental goals before the end of 2030. To do so, it will address, for example, the indicators, methods (e.g., artificial intelligence and deep learning) and approaches (e.g., narrative storytelling) that should be considered to measure the impact of SDG research on marginalized communities, including Indigenous peoples, as well as valid and context-sensitive indicators and indices to measure country-level progress and performance across selected SDGs. Third, it will develop instruments and interventions (policies, programs, strategies) intended to influence post-Agenda 2020 SDGs. To do so, it will address questions such as the changes that are needed to support better progress on the SDGs and future iterations of global goals; the appropriate frameworks and tools to influence policy-making processes to address the SDGs; and how policy instruments can be better implemented to address the SDGs. Fourth, it will explore tensions and synergies among the SDGs that influence the effectiveness of efforts to address them. This theme will enable a systematic, data-driven analysis of synergies or trade-offs between all SDGs and SDG indicators.

3c. *i*RISE Programs

*i*RISE will design and implement innovation programs described further below.

Research Programs:

The following examples of activities will be undertaken to create and mobilize convergence research at the university, national, and international scales:

- *Practitioner*[4] stipends to create a space for community experts to interact with faculty and graduate students.

- Visiting faculty and community leader *residencies* will allow affiliated UofT faculty and their graduate students to work closely with visiting scholars from other institutions on a specific problem or issue associated with the mandate of the research institute. *Residences* are intense, short-term (typically one week long) programs during which the visitor and a group of affiliated faculty and graduate students work together on a single topic.

- Visiting *fellowships* will provide opportunities for scholars based in other domestic and foreign universities, as well as individuals in the private and public sectors and non-governmental/community organizations, to visit the university, lead student workshops, offer public lectures, visit undergraduate classrooms, and be available for informal exchanges. Visiting *fellowships* are longer-term (typically one-term or one full-year) programs during which the visitor can conduct their own research while sharing their ideas with the UofT community.

- *Innovation tables* and *design studios* will provide an opportunity for UTSC/UofT academics to meet, discuss, and pool their knowledge and insights with others from academia, the private and public sectors, activists, and the community to address a particular problem and come up with possible solutions to it.

- International *workshops and symposia,* hosted by each research institute and including faculty, students, and community leaders from Canadian and foreign institutes, will be organized on specific themes and topics. Domestic as well as international students will be participants given opportunities to present their research.

- *Speaker series* featuring experts from academic, private, and public sectors in Canada and internationally.

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[4] Practitioners are defined here as individuals from outside the University, with relevant expertise and accomplishments, who provide professional guidance in support of training.

Training Programs:

Training the next generation of research and community leaders is at the core of the three institutes and SDGs@UofT and will be achieved through competitive fellowships for trainees, research opportunities for undergraduates, and youth outreach locally and globally. Such include but are not limited to the following:

- *Postdoctoral* fellowships.

- International *doctoral mentorships*, delivered locally at UofT or virtually from UofT to the students' institutional home.

- *Undergraduate* and *graduate* research assistantships.

- *Entrepreneurial* and *experiential learning opportunities* for undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral researchers with UTSC/UofT academics, cooperatives, and community partners.

- *Summer camps* for high school students in the Eastern GTA, to bring students into research institutes to work on a specific problem related to the mandates of the institutes.

- *Global design studios* that bring faculty, students, and community leaders virtually and physically to other places to learn about new research, policy or community initiatives that are contributing to a more sustainable and inclusive future. This training opportunity will be coordinated with the UofT summer abroad and co-operative education programs.

- Training by senior affiliated members of iRISE in convergence *knowledge co-production* and *co-mobilization* methods and careers, targeted to doctoral students, postdoctoral fellows, and early-career faculty.

- Local and global *hackathons* that bring students together with international partners to address solutions to pressing sustainability challenges.

Credentials/Certificates:

If convergence credentials/certificates are created, *i*RISE institutes will, individually or collectively, work in partnership with academic departments in areas of shared interest.

4. *i*RISE COMMITTED TO EQUITY-DIVERSITY-INCLUSION, INDIGENIZATION, AND SUSTAINABILITY

*i*RISE constituent units will intentionally embed commitments to Indigenization and equity- diversity-inclusion into their research, training, entrepreneurship, partnerships, and knowledge-mobilization practices. The institutes will develop and use theories and frameworks to elevate underrepresented and marginalized voices locally and internationally. They will embrace a research culture in which everyone feels they belong. They will collaborate with members of UofT's Black Research Network and Indigenous Research Network to conduct research involving Black and Indigenous communities. They will also be responsive to the needs of diverse communities, including those of government, industry, not-for-profits, for-profits, and civil society. And they will propose actionable solutions that address systems of oppression and reduce inequities.

IECS is committed to research on environmental issues and on the impact of climate change on planetary health, and emphasizes the importance of sustainability in climate research. The institute will advance sustainability goals by building partnerships with scholars in regions of the world most heavily impacted

by our climate crisis. In the development of its projects and programs, it will foreground equity, diversity, inclusion, and Indigeneity, both in terms of the design and deployment of its programs and the research initiatives it supports.

IIHWB is committed to research on health and well-being assessments and health system improvements for equity-deserving groups, including Black and Indigenous peoples, women, working families, the poor and underemployed, youth and the elderly, the LGBTQ2+ community, migrants, refugees, and stateless peoples, among others, in Canada and internationally. In addition to community-centric research, the lens of planetary health will expand the focus on marginalized communities concerning the effects of climate change and globalization—linking this institute to the changes considered by IIESL and IECS. An IIHWB-led working group on global health analytics and evaluation—a potential certificate from the institute—will create the evidence base for policy, accountability, and action to protect and maintain the health and well-being of people across the globe.

IIESL is committed to place-based, experimental, and decolonial approaches to reimagine economic development and sustainability by connecting ideas, practices, and people from the peripheries of the Global North and the Global South. It will be critical of universal approaches that push for one-size-fits-all policy and "best practice" solutions to promote localized and cooperative forms of economic livelihoods. The IIESL will be the place to work collaboratively to promote inclusive economies and sustainable livelihoods—from the need for a "green new deal" to current degrowth debates and dialogues—around alternative economic practices. This implies also training a new generation of planners, bureaucrats and policymakers that can understand the relationship between the economy, the environment and culture, and who are able to collaborate with community leaders and learn from the experiences of people, places and practices that have been marginalized from mainstream economic development and sustainability discourses.

SDGs@UofT will conduct research exploring knowledge from Indigenous and other underrepresented communities that have often criticized the SDGs and their previous incarnations as being non-inclusive and unrepresentative of their worldviews. Under the leadership of the SDGs Scholars Academy, spaces will be intentionally created to embrace different ways of knowing and understanding the world and to enable equitable and inclusive knowledge co-production and co-mobilization.

5. *i*RISE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

5a. Impact metrics

*i*RISE will use impact metrics, ranging from some of the most used to those that are "leading-edge", to assess the performance of *i*RISE (Table 2). See Appendix 2 for baseline measurements and multi-year targets.

Table 2. Description of impacts associated with *i*RISE outputs, short-term outcomes and long-term outcomes needed to realize our vision of resilient and inclusive societies and ecosystems.

Impact	Description
Program Activities	Highly-qualified personnel training; conference presentations; peer-reviewed publications; workshops-conferences-summits; creative exhibits; public relations; visiting fellows-speaker series; activism-advocacy; public outreach-cooperative events; expert networks-partner acquisition; ideation-incubator-accelerator labs; certificates-credentials
Outputs	Faculty-driven initiatives and projects; initiatives by faculty together with collaborators/partners from other organizations; joint publications;

	academic and media outputs (e.g., articles, opinions, policy briefs, podcasts); expanding networks; expanding personal and professional capacities; showcasing better practices; sharing knowledge-advising-advocating; nurturing thought leaders-influences-advisors; nurturing innovators-entrepreneurs; building productive institutional partnerships and networks
Short-term outcomes	Tangible changes in diplomacy-policy-practice-communities; knowledge transfer and translation with other institutions-organizations-collaborators-partners (including innovation-entrepreneurship-commercialization-corporativism)
Long-term outcomes	Traditional and non-traditional researchers are empowered; academic and partner institutions and organizations are empowered; new ways of making knowledge are created; knowledge about inclusive-just-equitable-resilient societies is created and disseminated; new fields of knowledge are created; an ecosystem of like-minded institutions and organizations promote resilient and inclusive societies and ecosystems
Impact	Resilient and inclusive societies and ecosystems

5b. Periodic Review

*i*RISE will also be subject to an external assessment (self-study and external review) every five years. Commissioned by the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation of UTSC, the external assessment will evaluate the EDU:C's performance relative to the goals set out at its establishment and to financial sustainability. The ISI component of *i*RISE will also have its own review, following the requirements of all ISIs. Furthermore, in line with UTSC's *Guidelines for Institutes, Centres, and Clusters* that came into effect May 9, 2023 and that reinforce institutional policies, *i*RISE will also be required to provide an annual report for assessment by the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation.

6. MEMBERS

*i*RISE, as an EDU:C, will not hold any faculty budgetary appointments. Members will be active, participating or collaborating on a volunteer basis. Affiliate Members may be *internal* to the University of Toronto or *external* (i.e., from other universities, governments, industries, and community organizations)[5]. See Appendix 1 for a list of inaugural members, as of May 8, 2023. This initial group is made up of individuals who, either on their own or through solicitation by the institute directors, have indicated an interest in being associated with iRISE and willing to participate in the activities of any of the constituent institutes.

Subsequently, prospective members may apply for membership by approaching the relevant *i*RISE director(s) and requesting consideration for appointment. They will be assessed on the basis of the alignment of their interest and expertise with *i*RISE's vision and mandate and their ability to undertake research in the areas on which the institutes focus.

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[5] We recognize that external members will not be granted the right to use UofT as an official affiliation.

7. *i*RISE OPERATIONAL AND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

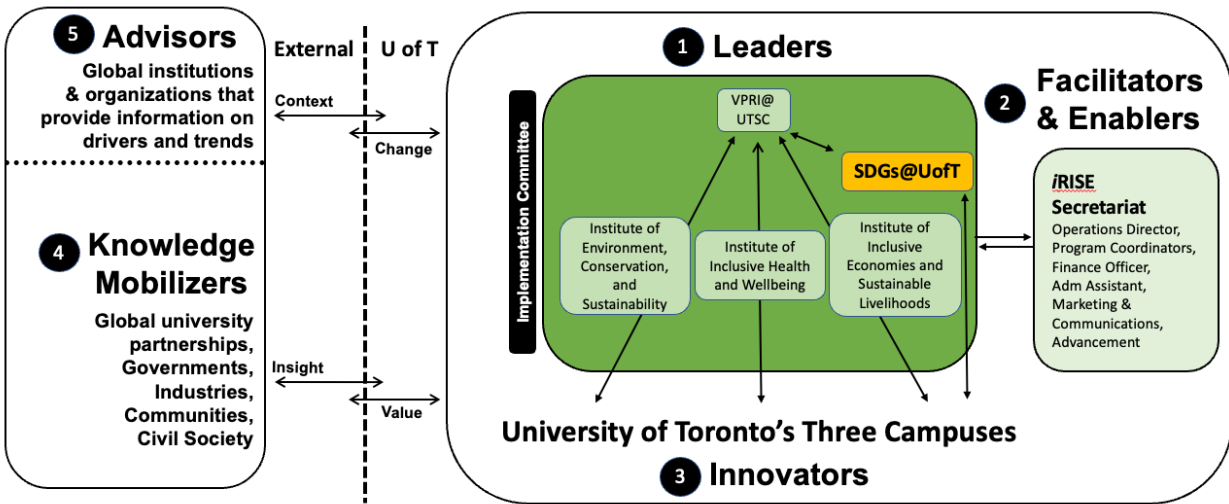The proposed operational and governance structure is presented in **Figure 1.**

Figure 1: Proposed operational and governance structure of *i*RISE reflects the interrelationship between the three research institutes and the SDGs@UofT ISI and the shared administrative support systems to facilitate their mutual success. (Note: the approved SDGs@UofT ISI proposal has an operational and governance structure that is consistent with the one presented here).

a. Operational Structure

*i*RISE *Leaders (Number 1, in Figure 1)*
Acting on delegated authority from the Vice-President and UTSC Principal , per tri-campus review recommendations and under our guidelines for academic administrators, the UTSC Vice-Principal Research and Innovation has responsibility for administering the iRISE operating budget, including non-tri-agency grants and philanthropic gifts that are directed specifically to the *i*RISE and which do not fall under the administrative and regulatory oversight of the Office of the Vice-President Research, Innovation and Strategic Initiatives.

When a principal investigator, who is a member of *i*RISE, receives a research grant in their individual capacity, the grant will be administered through their academic unit, per usual University policies and guidelines, with one-up oversight exercised by the relevant Chair.

When an individual applicant or team of applicants applies for and receives a research grant over which the Office of the Vice-President Research, Innovation and Strategic Initiatives has regulatory oversight and obligations (e.g., tri-agency), even if such a grant was applied for under the auspices of and with support from iRISE, the funds will be managed through the academic unit of the principal investigator, in line with the provisions of the University's EDUs guidelines as referenced above and per usual University policies and guidelines.

Each *i*RISE research institute and the SDGs@UofT will be headed by a research director, who reports to the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation (in their role as director of *i*RISE), and will:

- provide leadership for strategic planning and operations support;
- direct research and facilitate training program activities;
- manage the budget under the direction of the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation;

- engage in fundraising to support their research institute; and

- work collaboratively with other directors to support one another's mandate and advance their shared objectives.

The research directors will be appointed by the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation for a fixed term of not more than 5 years (renewable once) and are not appointed under U of T's triple A policy on academic appointments.

*i*RISE *Facilitators and Enablers (Number 2)*
The *i*RISE research directors will be supported by an *i*RISE secretariat, that will be part of the Office of Vice-Principal Research and Innovation portfolio, providing a full range of services to support the work of the institutes and the SGDs@UofT, including Human Resources, Finance, marketing & communications and advancement support.

iRISE Innovators (3)
*i*RISE innovators will be affiliate members who engage in the programs and projects led by the institutes or the SDGs Scholars Academy.

iRISE Knowledge Mobilizers (Number 4)
*i*RISE institutes and the SDGs Scholars Academy will engage with global university partners, governments, industries, communities and civic society to confirm values and share insights to mobilize knowledge from the convergence research conducted in *i*RISE.

b) *Governance*
iRISE Advisors (Number 5)
The *i*RISE research institutes and the SDGs@UofT[6] will have an advisory board, that will be formed based on the following considerations that are aligned with the Provost's Statement on the Role of Advisory Bodies[7].

Mandate:
- Advisors will help select the core themes and activities.
- Advisors will serve as sounding boards to ensure that *i*RISE's mandate is being met and that *i*RISE leaders are aware of external drivers that may influence the convergence research being conducted by *i*RISE.
- Advisors will provide counsel to the directors; vet ideas for new members, collaborators, and partners; vet new projects that the institutes may pursue; and ensure financial decisions are consistent with the institutes' mandate.

Composition:
- Advisory boards will be intentionally composed to include members with as diverse a range of expertise and experience as possible on the multiple challenges that *i*RISE will pursue.
- Advisors will include world-known scholars with expertise and experience working on *i*RISE's mandate.
- The boards will have both UofT and external representation, the balance of which will be determined by the UTSC Vice-President and Principal, following a recommendation by the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation.
- The total number of members will be determined by the Vice-President and Principal, following a recommendation by the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation.

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[6] The MOUs are currently being completed for the SDGs@#UofT ISI
[7] https://www.provost.utoronto.ca/planning-policy/advisory-bodies-role-provost-statement/

- The Vice-Principal Research and Innovation shall be a member of the board.

Appointment and Tenure:
- The Vice-Principal Research and Innovation, in consultation with respective directors, will appoint the advisory board members.
- Non-ex-officio members shall serve for a term of 3 years, renewable once.

Chair:
- The Chair of the board will be appointed by the Vice-President and Principal on the recommendation of the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation, normally from among external members.
- The Chair shall serve a term of 2 years, renewable once.

8. BUDGET

The total budget for *i*RISE is presented in Table 3. The *i*RISE research institutes do not have active divisional partners (i.e., faculty from the divisions participate on a volunteer basis). However, the *i*RISE SDGs@UofT ISI does have active partners which require an MOA. While financial commitments from active partners have been confirmed, the MOAs are still being completed for the SDGs@UofT ISI. See Appendix 3 for individual budgets for each of the three research institutes and SDGs@UofT.

Table 3. *i*RISE Budget. There are two components to this budget – one that is non-active divisional partners (the research institutes) and one that has active divisional partners (the ISI).

Revenue	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
UTSC (for research institutes)						
Total						
UTSC (for ISI)	$142,547	$127,043	$133,810	$196,600	$300,000[8]	$900,000
FAS (for ISI)	$40,000	$40,000	$40,000	$0	$0	$120,000
FASE (for ISI)	$40,000	$40,000	$40,000	$0	$0	$120,000
TFoM (for ISI)	$40,000	$40,000	$40,000	$0	$0	$120,000
DLSPH (for ISI)	$40,000	$40,000	$40,000	$0	$0	$120,000
UTM (for ISI)	$30,000	$30,000	$30,000	$0	$0	$90,000
OVPI (for ISI)	$0	$40,000	$40,000	$40,000	$0	$120,000
OVPRISI (for ISI)	$0	$200,000	$200,000	$200,000	$0	$600,000
Total	**$332,547**	**$557,043**	**$563,810**	**$436,600**	**$300,000**	**$2,190,000**

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[8] UTSC's financial contributions here are partial; they represent those funds needed to support the assistant director and program director of the SDGs@UofT institutional strategic initiative. Additional financial contributions will be provided to support the other staff members of the *i*RISE secretariat.

Expenses	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
1. Salaries & Benefits						
IECS	$40,650	$41,450	$41,450	$41,450	$0	$165,000
IIHWB	$30,950	$30,950	$30,950	$30,950	$31,200	$155,000
IIESL	$30,950	$30,950	$30,950	$30,950	$31,200	$155,000
SDGs@UofT	$231,424	$237,993	$244,760	$187,550	$300,000	$1,201,727
Subtotal	**$333,974**	**$341,343**	**$348,110**	**$290,900**	**$362,400**	**$1,676,727**
2. Research Programs						
IECS	$77,500	$150,000	$150,000	$180,000	$0	$557,500
IIHWB	$10,000	$165,000	$165,000	$165,000	$165,000	$670,000
IIESL	$82,000	$132,000	$132,000	$137,000	$137,000	$620,000
SDGs@UofT	$0	$120,000	$120,000	$120,000	$0	$360,000
Subtotal	**$169,500**	**$567,000**	**$567,000**	**$602,000**	**$302,000**	**$2,207,500**
3. Research Training						
IECS	$92,500	$172,500	$107,500	$107,500	$0	$480,000
IIHWB	$0	$115,000	$120,000	$120,000	$120,000	$475,000
IIESL	$30,000	$105,000	$110,000	$110,000	$110,000	$465,000
SDGs@UofT	$0	$120,000	$120,000	$120,000	$0	$360,000
Subtotal	**$122,500**	**$512,500**	**$457,500**	**$457,500**	**$230,000**	**$1,780,000**
4. Knowledge Mobilization						
IECS	$65,000	$45,000	$45,000	$20,000	$0	$175,000
IIHWB	$12,500	$31,500	$31,500	$31,500	$30,500	$137,500
IIESL	$37,500	$37,500	$37,500	$37,500	$37,500	$187,500
SDGs@UofT	$75,000	$75,000	$75,000	$5,000	$0	$230,000
Subtotal	**$190,000**	**$189,000**	**$189,000**	**$94,000**	**$68,000**	**$730,000**
5. Operations						
IECS	$15,750	$8,750	$8,750	$8,750	$0	$42,000
IIHWB	$6,000	$8,500	$8,000	$8,000	$8,000	$38,500
IIESL	$9,000	$8,000	$8,000	$8,000	$8,000	$41,000
SDGs@UofT	$26,123	$4,050	$4,050	$4,050	$0	$38,273
Subtotal	**$56,873**	**$29,300**	**$28,800**	**$28,800**	**$16,000**	**$159,773**

6. Contingency						
IECS	$5,500	$25,000	$25,000	$25,000	$0	$80,500
IIHWB	$0	$4,000	$6,000	$6,500	$7,500	$24,000
IIESL	$5,000	$5,000	$7,000	$7,000	$7,500	$31,500
SDGs@UofT	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subtotal	**$10,500**	**$34,000**	**$38,000**	**$38,500**	**$15,000**	**$136,000**
Total for research institutes	**$550,800**	**$1,116,100**	**$1,064,600**	**$1,075,100**	**$693,400**	**$4,500,000**
Total for ISI	**$332,547**	**$557,043**	**$563,810**	**$436,600**	**$300,000**	**$2,190,000**
Grand Total	**$883,347**	**$1,673,143**	**$1,628,410**	**$1,511,700**	**$993,400**	**$6,690,000**

Budget Justification

The total budget is $6,690,000, including $4,500,000 operating budgets for each of the three institutes and $2,190,000 for the SDGs@UofT and partial support of the *i*RISE secretariat. UTSC provides $5,400,000, and other Divisional partners of the SDGs@UofT institutional strategic initiative provide the balance ($1,290,000). A description of how this budget will be expended is provided below.

Salaries & Benefits

This will cover administrative stipends for the research directors of the three institutes and the SDGs@UofT; some staff of the *i*RISE secretariat, including an assistant director that will provide administrative oversight, program coordinators for the *i*RISE SDGs@UofT's scholars academy. The OVPRI will provide an administrative assistant and a financial officer, and will be sharing other resources including HR, financial analyst, marketing and communications, and fundraising support.

Research Programs

Design Studios: Design studios will be hosted each year. These studios will bring together experts from various fields to collaborate on innovative solutions to pressing global issues. The budget includes the cost of venue rental, equipment, materials, and expert facilitators.

New Research Initiatives: A new research initiatives fund will be established to support groundbreaking research projects and provide seed funding for promising new ideas.

Visiting Fellows and Scholars: *i*RISE institutes will each host visiting fellows and scholars. These scholars will bring unique perspectives and expertise to the research activities of the institutes.

Fellowships: *i*RISE institutes will each support fellowships that enable outstanding researchers and professionals who demonstrate exceptional potential to undertake scholarly and creative activities that advance the objectives of *i*RISE.

Summer Schools and Research Programs: *i*RISE institutes will offer several summer schools and term research programs to train and support the next generation of researchers. These programs will provide hands-on training and research experience to students and early-career researchers.

Co-funding Grant Opportunities: *i*RISE will offer co-funding grants to support collaborative research projects between researchers from different institutions and fields.

Overall, these initiatives will provide vital support for cutting-edge research and training, enabling researchers to collaborate across disciplines and institutions to develop innovative solutions to complex global issues.

Synthesis Grants: Three SDGs Scholars Academy synthesis grants will be available per year. Synthesis Grants will provide funding for working groups that bring together local, national, and international interdisciplinary experts to work on a specific problem aligned with one or more of the research theme areas, and to produce knowledge syntheses such as scoping reviews that respond to the information needs of knowledge users in relevant areas to the SDGs.

Catalyst Grants: Three SDGs Scholars Academy catalyst grants will be available per year. Catalyst Grants will provide funding for working groups that bring together local and international interdisciplinary experts to create new knowledge, including new paradigms and frameworks that incorporate the use of critical "non-mainstream" epistemologies/ methodologies, and that address systems of oppression and marginalization. These grants will support two streams of research projects, specifically, the thematic and applied streams. The thematic stream will provide funding for proposals that align with the initiative's thematic areas and associated questions. The applied stream will provide funding for projects that evaluate the impact of sustainability initiatives that can result in solutions that further multiple SDGs in local communities. Both streams will support research while also designing and testing new partnership approaches for research and other related activities that can result in solutions.

The primary use of these funds is to host working group meetings. If additional funds are needed, grant holders will be encouraged and supported to leverage these funds with external funds (e.g., Tri-Agency, government, industry, community organizations) to amplify the knowledge co-creation and co-mobilization activities associated with the grant funding. These external funds would need to be held by the participating member (i.e., the principal investigator on the grant) and administered through their academic unit.

Research Training Programs

Research training programs are integral to the success of the research institutes and the SDGs Scholars Academy, and so there will be a budget to support postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, and undergraduate students. This budget allocation will support the training of the next generation of researchers by providing necessary resources to conduct cutting-edge research. The postdoctoral fellowships will help to attract and retain top-level talent, while the graduate and undergraduate funds will provide valuable hands-on experience for students.

Trainees will engage with faculty in the synthesis and catalyst grant activities, as a "value-added" opportunity to their program activity. Funds have been allocated for 10 undergraduates, 25 graduates, and 25 postdoctoral researcher awards. Trainees will be eligible to receive support to work globally for the synthesis and catalyst grants. Funds have been allocated support for international travel for trainees.

Knowledge Mobilization

Research Institutes

Knowledge mobilization includes a range of activities—including high school programs, symposia and conferences, and networking events. These activities are intended to promote knowledge mobilization and research dissemination, facilitate collaboration and partnerships, and support the engagement of different

stakeholders in research activities. The program will enable the research institutes to share their findings and insights with a wider audience, promote the uptake and use of research outputs, and create opportunities for the application of research in different contexts.

Community engagement and public forum activities will facilitate knowledge mobilization through engagement with community leaders from government, industry, and civic society. Funds have been set aside to cover honoraria for community members and expenses related to public forum activities and diverse modes of delivering public engagement opportunities.

Operations

The operations budget includes expenses related to website maintenance, computer equipment, and office supplies for the three research institutes. These expenses are necessary to ensure the smooth functioning of the research institutes, enabling them to carry out their research activities and fulfill their mission.

Contingencies

To ensure the smooth and successful operations of the research institutes, it is imperative to account for unforeseen circumstances that may arise during activities. This requires setting aside a contingency fund to cover unexpected expenses and potential cost increases due to inflation, market fluctuations, or other economic factors.

9. *i*RISE's FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

The OVPRI funds each research institute for $1,500,000 over five years. The SDGs@UofT is funded by the ISI for $2,190,000 over five years. Additional revenue sources for the research institutes are expected to include a) competitive research grants; b) corporate funding; c) donor and sponsorship funding; d) fees for training programs/certifications; e) fees for participating in design studios; and f) consultancy. Administration of these various grants will follow usual university policies and guidelines as outlined above in Section 7a.

10.   CONSULTATION

10a. Stakeholders Consulted

_i_RISE

The origin story for *i*RISE begins in the strategic planning process for UTSC's strategic plan, *Inspiring Inclusive Excellence*. It is important to acknowledge the previous efforts of the Principal's Office, the Office of the Vice-Principal Research & Innovation, and others in engaging the university community. More than 1100 people were consulted at that time (p. 6, *Inspiring Inclusive Excellence*). **Please note that these consultations are not included in the information provided about consultations that were held in this calendar year**.

Starting on January 1, 2023, the OVPRI engaged in a multi-faceted communication strategy to consult with the UTSC campus community as well as faculty from across UofT (we total almost 2,000 unique interactions; we assume that some people engaged through more than one mechanism and so these are not 2,000 people).

1:1 faculty meetings (>100 people)
The interim/inaugural directors personally contacted 75 people to elicit their interest in becoming members of the institutes.

Zoom cafes (50 people)
Interim/inaugural directors held dozens of Zoom cafes with faculty across the university to learn about what inclusive economies mean to them.

Public forums (160 people)
The OVPRI held two one-hour virtual forums on 7 February and 27 February 2023 to discuss and receive feedback from the UTSC/UofT community. The two forums were comprised of an initial slide presentation by Vice-Principal Research and Innovation Professor Creed on the overall vision and goals of GTA-RISE, presentations by the three inaugural/interim directors of their visions and proposed initiatives and activities for the three research institutes, and a Q&A session in which online participants provided feedback to the earlier presentations and questions posed in the slide deck presented. The 7 February online forum had 130 registrants and 70 attendees who were invited to provide input on how GTA-RISE and its three inaugural institutes could support interdisciplinary and inter-divisional work at UTSC and UofT. Non-attending registrants received access to a recording of the forum and an opportunity to use email and/or a webform to give feedback. At the 27 February online forum, the approximately 30 attendees were asked: Does the vision of GTA-RISE resonate with you? What would encourage you to become involved with one of the institutes of GTA-RISE? What opportunities do you want the institutes to offer you and your research that are currently missing?

Town halls (270 people)

The Office of the Principal and VP held a two-hour town hall on 21 March 2023 to present updates on strategic initiatives to the UTSC campus community and the *i*RISE proposal.

Website/Emails (934 unique pageviews)
Feedback was also elicited via the *i*RISE website (www.utsc.utoronto.ca/gta-rise) and a webform (https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/gta-rise/get-involved). Additionally, individuals were invited to send an email or set up a meeting to chat with the inaugural/interim *i*RISE research directors.

SDGs@UofT (118 people)
The consultation process for SDGs@UofT began in December of 2020 when UofT hosted a 17 SDG Rooms event to discuss, analyze, and innovate new ways to advance UofT's commitment to the SDGs. These discussions prompted the recommendation to create an Institutional Strategic Initiative (ISI) to further research on the SDGs at UofT (SDGs@UofT).[9] The SDGs@UofT proposal has been informed by extensive consultations at UofT, a landscape scan of SDG initiatives at peer academic institutions, and citation analysis of UofT-led research.

10b. Consultation with chairs of departments *(100 people, including chairs, directors, vice-deans, Associate Vice-Principal Research and Innovation and select senior staff)*

On 10 March 2023, Vice-Principal Research and Innovation Professor Creed presented the **latest iteration of ideas**[10] for *i*RISE and SDGs@UofT to the Chairs and Directors' (CAD) meeting. Research

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[9] A Steering Committee was created to lead the development of a proposal for the SDGs@UofT. It was co-chaired by faculty members, Erica Di Ruggiero (UTSG) and Marc Cadotte (UTSC). A Student Advisory Committee, co-chaired by Anisha Hundal and Kehkashan Basu, elicited input from students on the three UofT campuses.

[10] The work for *i*RISE was laid through a series of consultations over the course of the last four years. The initial consultations through the work of the strategic plan research working group and with other groups such as Tri-

institute directors presented their visions for their respective institutes, and those present were, in turn, invited to offer their views on how the research institutes could help further their department's research activities and connect the UTSC campus community as it works to become a world leader in research.

On 28 April 2023, Associate Vice-Principal Research and Innovation Professor Skogstad presented the final proposal for *i*RISE, and Vice-Principal Research and Innovation Professor Creed presented the final proposal for SDGs@UofT, the institutional strategic initiative embedded in *i*RISE, to the Chairs and Directors' (CAD) meeting, and those present were invited to offer their views on how the research institutes could help further their department's research activities and connect the UTSC campus community as it works to become a world leader in research. With the final proposal that included the inaugural members of each of the *i*RISE institutes, chairs requested that more time be given to attract inaugural members; later that day, an email was distributed to all chairs inviting them once again to share with their departments, requesting anyone who was interested in becoming a member to self-identify to the OVPRI or to one of the three directors by 5 May 2023.

10c. Consultation with Executive *(9 people)*

On 25 April 2023, Vice-Principal Research and Innovation Professor Creed presented the proposal for *i*RISE to the UTSC executive team.

10d. Consultation with Academic Affairs *(71 people)*

On 1 May 2023, Vice-Principal Research and Innovation Professor Creed presented the proposal for *i*RISE as a component of her Annual Report to UTSC Academic Affairs Committee.

10e. Consultation with UTSC Campus Affairs (*17* people) and UTSC Campus Council (*15* people)

On 10 May 2023, Vice-Principal Research and Innovation Professor Creed presented the proposal for *i*RISE for information to UTSC Campus Affairs, and on 24 May 2023, she presented the proposal for *i*RISE as a component of her Annual Report to UTSC Campus Council.

10f. Consultation with Tri-Campus Deans Council

On 18 May 2023, Vice-Principal Research and Innovation Professor Creed presented the proposal for *i*RISE to the TriCampus Deans Council. Furthermore, for the SDGs@UofT component of *i*RISE, where there are active partnerships with Deans and Vice-Principals of Research and Innovation, the proponents met several times with Deans to gather support for the ISI proposal.

Campus Vice-Presidents, and community partners resulted in the inclusion of its predecessor – Institutes for Globalization, Transnationalism and the Advancement of Resilient and Inclusive Societies and Ecosystems (GTA-RISE) – in UTSC's strategic plan, *Inspiring Inclusive Excellence* (2020-2025). There have been refinements of the framework since that iteration in response to subsequent consultations and input, including those outlined in here.

10f. Consultation with Office of the Vice-President Research, Innovation, and Strategic Initiatives

In May 2023, Vice-Principal Research and Innovation Professor Creed shared a draft of the EDU:C application with Professor Timothy Chan and Stephanie Roy, who provided valuable feedback.

10g. Consultation with Office of the Provost

In May 2023, Vice-Principal Research and Innovation Professor Creed shared a draft of the EDU:C application and met with Vice-Provost Academic Programs-Professor Susan McCahan, Director Academic Programs-Daniella Mallinick, and Coordinators Academic Change-Jennifer Francisco and Annette Knott, who provided valuable feedback, which is reflected in the final version of the EDU:C application. In June 2023, Vice-Principal Research and Innovation Professor Creed met with the Provost Cheryl Regher, Vice-Provost Academic Programs-Professor Susan McCahan, Vice-President Research, Innovation and Strategic Initiatives Leah Cohen, and Vice-President and UTSC Principal Wisdom Tettey, who provided valuable feedback from the Provost Advisory Group, which is reflected in this final version of the EDU:C application.

10h. Feedback from Consultation Process

Feedback received during the consultation process has been incorporated into this proposal.

11. Endorsement: Letter of endorsement from UTSC chairs/directors most closely affiliated with institute

See next page.

May 1, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to secure your endorsement for the application of the Institutes for Resilient and Inclusive Societies and Ecosystems (*i*RISE) at the University of Toronto Scarborough for the status of EDU:C, as defined under the terms of University of Toronto's *Guidelines for Extra-Departmental Units*, and consent for members of your Department to become affiliate members of *i*RISE institutes.

*i*RISE is comprised of three founding institutes: Institute for Environment, Conservation and Sustainability; Institute for Inclusive Health and Well-Being; and Institute for Inclusive Economies and Sustainable Livelihoods. These three institutes will pursue solutions to the complex problems the world faces today, as defined by global frameworks such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Individually and together, they will provide support for research and innovation, initiate, and sustain vibrant research collaborations and partnerships, and bring attention to the important contributions being made across the disciplines by scholars across the University of Toronto's Tri-Campuses. The Institutes of *i*RISE will help us take on the challenges of living on a planet under stress—the result of human activities which have come to threaten the sustainability of life on the planet for all living things.

The projects and programs that *i*RISE will introduce to University of Toronto Scarborough will amplify and expand research opportunities for faculty and students and create connections to those communities in the Eastern GTA, Ontario, and Canada most severely impacted by the multiple changes which are the outcome of today's multiple planetary stresses. The contributions of these vibrant new Institutes offer UTSC an incredible opportunity to participate in the work of achieving the goals set by the UN to create a more equitable, diverse, inclusive, healthy, and more sustainable world.

A number of faculty in your Departments have already expressed their interest in being affiliated with one or more of its three founding institutes. It is anticipated that the number of affiliated members will grow as the activities of the three institutes roll out.

Affiliation with an *i*RISE Institute is a voluntary, status-only appointment that faculty members can opt in to and opt out of at any time. Affiliation with an *i*RISE institute will provide faculty members with access to its financial and other resources to further enrich their research and training of undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows.

Should an affiliated faculty member wish to engage in institute-related activities that might impact their current Departmental/University roles and responsibilities, they will be asked to notify their Chair in advance of engaging in the activity(ies), and secure said Chair's written permission to do so, and relay that permission to the Director of the *i*RISE institute.

I hope the above provides you with the information necessary to consent to your faculty members' affiliation with *i*RISE. If so, I would be grateful if you could please return to me a signed copy of this letter (by virtue of an email reply).

Below is a list of faculty in your Department who have currently indicated their interest in being affiliated with *i*RISE institutes.

Should you have any questions regarding this request, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Irena F. Creed, PhD, FRSC. FAGU, Hon. D. Agr. Sci,
Vice-Principal Research and Innovation
Professor
Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences
University of Toronto Scarborough

I hereby consent to the below-identified faculty members in my Department being affiliated with i-RISE institutes.

Dr. George Arhonditsis
Chair, Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences
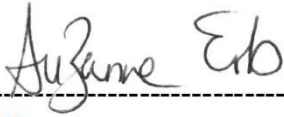
George Arhonditsis

_____   May 1, 2023
Signature   Date

Dr. Suzanne Erb
Chair, Department of Psychology

--   ----------------------------------
Signature   May 01, 2023
                                                         Date

Dr. Thembela Kepe
Chair, Department of Human Geography

--   ----------------------------------
Signature   April 30, 2023
                                                         Date

Dr. Andrew Mason
Chair, Department of Biological Science

--   ----------------------------------
Signature   1 May 2023
                                                         Date

Dr. Mark Schmuckler
Interim Chair, Department of Health & Society

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Signature   May 01, 2023
                                                         Date

Appendix 1.

Table A1.1a. Institute for Environment, Conservation, and Sustainability (IECS): **Internal members**.

	Name	**Department/Unit**	**Campus**	**Role**
1	Imre Szeman	Human Geography	UTSC	Director
2	George Arhonditsis	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
3	Terrence Bell	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
4	Marc Cadotte	Biological Sciences	UTSC	Member
5	Kamari Clarke	Centre for Criminology & Sociolegal Studies	UTSG	Member
6	Michael Classens	School of Environment	UTSG	Member
7	Irena Creed	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
8	Vinicius de Aguiar Furuie	Anthropology	UTSC	Member
9	Heidi Daxberger	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
10	Jamie Donaldson	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
11	Maria Dittrich	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
12	Steve Easterbrook	Computer Science	UTSG	Member
13	Mike Ekers	Human Geography	UTSC	Member
14	Phillip Heron	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
15	Matt Hoffmann	Political Science	UTSG	Member
16	Marney Isaac	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
17	Eva-Lynn Jagoe	Spanish & Portuguese/Comparative Literature	UTSG	Member
18	Shashi Kant	Institute for Management & Innovation	UTM	Member
19	Kagan Kerman	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
20	Donald Kingsbury	Political Science	UTSG	Member
21	Nicole Klenk	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
22	Sherry Lee	Faculty of Music	UTSG	Member
23	Patricia Lankao*	Sociology	UTSC	Member
24	Stuart Livingstone	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
25	Mary Elizabeth Luka	Arts, Culture & Media	UTSC	Member
26	Scott MacIvor	Biological Sciences	UTSC	Member
27	Adam Martin	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
28	Carl Mitchell	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
29	Kent Moore	Chemical & Physical Sciences	UTM	Member
30	Sergio Montero*	Human Geography	UTSC	Member
31	Kate Neville	School of Environment	UTSG	Member
32	Jeffrey Pilcher	Historical & Cultural Studies	UTSC	Member
33	Matt Ratto	Faculty of Information	UTSG	Member
34	Carolina Sa Carvalho	Spanish & Portuguese	UTSG	Member
35	John Robinson	Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy	UTSG	Member
36	Myrna Simpson	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
37	Karen Smith	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
38	Nicole Spiegelaar	School of Environment	UTSG	Member

39	Ruby Sullan	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
40	Julie Teichroeb	Anthropology	UTSC	Member
41	Sean Thomas	Forestry	UTSG	Member
42	Laura Tozer	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
43	Oleksandr Voznyy	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
44	Mathew Wells	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
45	Caleb Wellum	History Studies	UTM	Member
46	Xiao-an Zhang	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member

* Joining UTSC, July 1, 2023

Table A1.1b. IECS: **External Canadian and international members**.

	Name	Affiliation
1	Ricardo Acuna	Executive Director, Parkland Institute
2	Sibo Chen	Professional Communication, TMU and City University of Macau, China
3	Brigt Dale	Research Director at Nordland Research Institute, Norway
4	Naoko Ellis	Clean Energy Research Centre/Chemical and Biological Engineering, UBC
5	Derek Gladwin	Fellow, UBC Centre for Interactive Research on Sustainability and Professor of Language & Literacy Education, UBC
6	Gabrielle Hecht	President, Society for the History of Technology/ Professor of History, Stanford University
7	Mette High	Director of the Centre for Energy Ethics, St. Andrew's University
8	Cymene Howe	Anthropology, Rice University/Norwegian University of Science & Technology
9	Tara Howse	Program Manager, Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee for TMX
10	Aalok Khandekar	Department of Climate Change, Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad
11	Seth Klein	Author and Director of Strategy, Climate Emergency Unit; Founder of BC Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
12	Stéphane Labranche	Science Po Grenoble, France and Director, International Panel on Behaviour Change
13	Barbara Leckie	Academic Director, Centre for Climate Communication and Engagement, and Co-ordinator, Carleton Climate Commons
14	Julia Levin	Associate Director, Environmental Defence Canada
15	Glen Lowry	Associate Vice-President, Applied Research, Centennial College
16	Geoffrey Mann	Fulbright Canada EcoLeader
17	Elizabeth May	Co-Leader, Green Party of Canada
18	Joerg Niewoehner	Director, Integrative Research Institute, Transformations of Human-Environment-Systems, Humboldt University, Berlin
19	Chris Russill	Associate Professor, School of Journalism, Communications and Climate, Carleton University
20	Johanne Saint-Charles	Directrice, Institut Santé er Société, Université du Québec à Montréal
21	Sverker Sörlin	KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm and Climate Policy Council, Sweden
22	John Smol	Past President, Academy of Science, RSC and Distinguished University Professor of Biology, Queen's University
23	Sanaz Sohrabi	Visual Artist and Filmmaker, Montréal

24	Peter Stoett	Dean of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ontario Tech University
25	Oxana Timofeeva	Professor of Environmental Philosophy, St. Petersburg University, Russia

Table A1.2a. Institute for Inclusive Health and Well-Being (IIHWB): **Internal members**.

	Name	Department/Unit	Campus	Role
1	Charles Trick	Health & Society	UTSC	Interim Director
2	Allison Crawford	CAMH, Psychiatry	UTSC	Member
3	Hillary Brown	Health & Society	UTSC	Member
4	Andrea Charise	Health & Society	UTSC	Member
5	Suzanne Erb	Psychology	UTSC	Member
6	Ian Hamilton	Physical & Environmental Sciences	UTSC	Member
7	Casandra Hartblay	Health & Society	UTSC	Member
8	David Jenkins	Temerty	UTSG	Member
9	Sara Levitt	UHN	UNH	Member
10	Carmen Logie	Social Work	UTSG	Member
11	Fiona Miller	Dalla Lana School of Public Health	UTSG	Member
12	Jeffrey Pilcher	Historical & Cultural Studies	UTSC	Member
13	Erica Di Ruggiero	Dalla Lana School of Public Health	UTSG/UTSC	Member
14	Anthony Ruocco	Psychology	UTSC	Member
15	Jay Shaw	Research Director, Artificial Intelligence, Ethics & Health	Women's College Hospital	Member
16	Michelle Silver	Health & Society	UTSC	Member
17	Daisy Singla	CAMH, Psychology	CAMH	Member
18	Nicholas Spence	Health & Society	UTSC	Member
19	Walter Tavares	Health & Society	UTSC	Member

Table A1.2b. IIHWB: **External Canadian and international members**.

	Name	Affiliation
1	Gerald McKinley	Western University
2	Makino Mitsutaku	University of Tokyo
3	Misty Peacock	Salish Sea Research Center, Northwest Indian College
4	Shion Takemura	Chair, Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forests
5	Heather Tallis	University of California, Berkeley
6	Vera Trainer	University of Washington

Table A1.3a. Institute for Inclusive Economies and Sustainable Livelihoods (IIESL): **Internal members**.

	Name	Department/Unit	Campus	Role
1	Sergio Montero *	Human Geography	UTSC	Director
2	Caroline Hossein	Global Development Studies	UTSC	Interim Director
3	Martha Balaguera	Political Science	UTM	Member
4	Michelle Buckley	Human Geography	UTSC	Member
5	Leslie Chan	Global Development Studies	UTSC	Member
6	Karen Chapple	School of Cities	UTSG	Advisory
7	Kamari Clarke	Law	UTSG	Member
8	Beth Coleman	Institute of Communication, Culture, Information & Technology	UTM	Advisory
9	Allison Crawford	Psychiatry & CAMH*	UTSG	Member
10	Nisrin Elamin	Anthropology	UTSG	Member
11	Esmat Elhalaby	Historical & Cultural Studies	UTSC	Member
12	Robert Gillezeau	Management	UTSC	Member
13	Rafael Grohmann	Arts, Culture & Media	UTSC	Member
14	Sonia Kang	Management	UTM	Advisory
15	Patricia Landolt	Sociology	UTSC	Member
16	Ann Lopez	OISE	UTSG	Member
17	Uahikea Maile	Political Science	UTSG	Member
18	Notisha Massaquoi	Health and Society	UTSC	Member
19	Beverly Mullings	Geography & Planning	UTSG	Member
20	Kevin O'Neill	Study of Religion	UTSG	Member
21	Natalie Oswin	Human Geography	UTSC	Member
22	Alejandro Paz	Anthropology	UTSC	Member
23	Ito Peng	Sociology	UTSG	Advisory
24	Thy Phu	Arts, Culture & Media	UTSC	Member
25	Jeffrey Pilcher	Historical & Cultural Studies	UTSC	Member
26	Andre Sorensen	Human Geography	UTSC	Member
27	Jason Spicer	Geography & Planning	UTSG	Member
28	Imre Szeman	Human Geography	UTSC	Member
29	M. Derya Tarhan	OISE	UTSG	Member
30	Antonio Torres-Ruiz	Global Development Studies	UTSC	Member
31	Alissa Trotz	Women & Gender Studies	UTSG	Member
32	Bettina von Lieres	Global Development Studies	UTSC	Member

* Joining UTSC, July 1, 2023

Table A1.3b. IIESL: **External Canadian and international members**.

	Name	Institution	Country
1	Isabelle Anguelovski	ICTA – BCN UEJ Lab, Universitat Autónoma de Barcelona	Spain
2	Chris Benner	Institute for Social Transformation, UC Santa Cruz	USA
3	Gautam Bhan	Indian Institute for Human Settlements	India
4	Gianpaolo Baiocchi	Urban Democracy Lab, New York University	USA

5	Daniel Aldana Cohen	Socio-Spatial Climate Collaborative, UC Berkeley	USA
6	Ayona Datta	University College London	UK
7	Arturo Escobar	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	USA
8	David Singh Grewal	The Law & Political Economy Project, UC Berkeley	USA
9	Holly Harriel,	MIT CoLab, MIT, Boston	USA
10	Giorgos Kallis,	ICTA-Research & Degrowth, Universitat Autónoma de Barcelona	Spain
11	Jovan Scott Lewis	UC Berkeley	USA
12	Joan Manuel Mendoza	Mondragón Unibertsitatea	Spain
13	Diana Mitlin,	International Institute for Environment and Development, University of Manchester	UK
14	Diana Ojeda	CIDER, Universidad de los Andes	Colombia
15	Edgar Pieterse	African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town	South Africa
16	John Powell	Othering & Belonging Institute, UC Berkeley	USA
17	Ananya Roy	Institute of Inequality and Democracy, UCLA	USA
18	Andrés Rodríguez-Pose	London School of Economics	UK
19	Chandni Singh	Indian Institute for Human Settlements,	India

Appendix 2.

Table A2.1. There are several outputs and indicators outlined below that will help us to measure the progress of *i*RISE institutes in the first five years. These indicators will evolve as the plan's actions are carried out.

Goal	Target	Indicators
To create intellectual spaces for convergence dialogues within and between *i*RISE research institutes and in which to imagine alternative futures.	• Centralized and streamlined governance for *i*RISE and related research activities. • Increased number of interdepartmental research collaborations among *i*RISE members.	• *i*RISE governance structure established. • External funds secured to support stipend/salaries of the *i*RISE secretariat post the four-year funding period. • # *i*RISE staff positions that are culturally diverse to assist in good governance. • # *i*RISE faculty members who are changemakers. • # of departments/divisions participating in collaborations through the *i*RISE institutes and the SDGs Scholars Academy. • # of internal and external grants focused on human development. • # of participants in grant applications/awards with historically excluded groups. • Streamlining requirements for community-based programming
To conduct research that deploys the diverse epistemologies and methodologies of different disciplines to generate transformative solutions to problems.	Increased number of convergence research projects adopting methods that facilitate co-production of knowledge with Indigenous, Black, and other marginalized communities.	• # of convergence research grants applied for and received based on leveraged funds from the synthesis and catalyst grants. • # of convergence grant applications to groups or organizations representing Indigenous, Black, and other marginalized communities received. • # community partners engaged in research production. • # of community partners directly funded. • # of citations from historically excluded groups, especially Black and Indigenous scholars. • # and diversity of attendees for convergence knowledge co-production training. • # of participants who report an improvement in their knowledge and understanding of knowledge co-production and co-mobilization.

To build locally and globally sustainable partnerships and collaborations across academic and non-academic institutions, which engage diverse stakeholders to co-create knowledge infused with social concerns and values.		• # of cooperative institutions engaged in this work. • # of new multi-sectoral partnerships created to support research and training. • # of projects that include representatives (faculty, students, or organizations) from the Global South. • # of trainees who participate in *i*RISE entrepreneurial and experiential learning programs overseas and in Canada. • # of collaborations that foster bi-directional knowledge exchange with partners and communities. • # of international partnerships that involve UofT trainees, especially from historically excluded groups. • # of international partnered research projects with UofT faculty at IRN and BRN.
To train the next generation of scholars and leaders dedicated to the creation of sustainable and environmentally just societies.	Increased student engagement in *i*RISE-related research. Increased access to learning abroad programs and community-based placements for undergraduate students. Increased access to international training opportunities for trainees.	• # of Black and Indigenous faculty who are training graduate students and doing primary supervision. • # of applications from racialized students to undergraduate, graduate, postdoctoral researcher training programs. • # of departments represented in training programs.

To maximize the positive societal impact of research knowledge by disseminating it within and beyond academia, and with the goal of translating it into public policy and practice.	Increased bi-directional knowledge exchange and engagement in *i*RISE research. Increased uptake in outputs of *i*RISE research	• # of reports published on *i*RISE and its research institutes' websites • # of knowledge exchange events hosted. • # keynotes and invited lectures by Black and Indigenous experts. • # web news articles (UTSC news, UofT news), op-ed mainstream media, Conversation Canada (https://theconversation.com/ca/pitches). • # social media engagement (retweets, impressions, etc.). • # of visitors to *i*RISE website. • # of conference presentations among grant recipients. • # of publications (peer reviewed/grey literature) published among grant recipients • # of feminist events. • Reciprocal engagement with partners who are working in policy change. • Uptake of reports and research by policy leaders. • # publications by Black and Indigenous scholars. • # of joint publications with international partners. • # of visualizations of products and media publications outside of Canada.