

Student Affairs
and Campus Life



Strategic Plan

2015-
2020



Our Services

Student Affairs and Campus Life

Accessibility Services

facilitating an accessible and equitable learning environment

Career Services

encouraging students to clarify their career paths and gain valuable work experience

Cougar Athletics

embodying athletics excellence and Cougar pride

Diversity and Human Rights

promoting an inclusive environment of respect and integrity



Iniskim Centre

providing academic support for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students

Recreation

supporting healthy and active lifestyle habits

Residence

promoting a safe, secure and supportive learning community

Student Learning Services

creating integral learning experiences to develop self-directed learners

Wellness Services

inspiring health and well-being



Introduction

The Student Affairs and Campus Life (SACL) Strategic Plan sets the vision for the SACL division, identifies key strategies to achieve this vision, and establishes critical measures to monitor progress over the next five years (2015-2020) at Mount Royal University (MRU). This plan is student-centred, supports the whole student, and aligns with the division's passion to meet the needs of an evolving and diverse student population.

This Strategic Plan directs Student Affairs and Campus Life departments in the development and delivery of our programs and services to help students achieve success with their academic and personal goals. Student success is connected to positive, engaging learning experiences on campus. It is our responsibility to provide students with meaningful and impactful experiences that contribute to their success. Our programs and services strive to integrate important core values such as academic success, community, citizenship, and wellness. These values reflect the dedication of the division to fully engage students so they can reach their potential.



To accomplish our mission, we have established broad, long-term goals with objectives to measure the achievement of these goals. Strategies have been developed to act on a broad range of activities, and take into account how critical success factors can be controlled or barriers overcome.

Strategies are aligned with the University's Strategic Plan and as we implement action plans during the strategic planning process, we will collaborate university-wide to ensure that Mount Royal provides an exceptional undergraduate experience. We will maintain momentum and be accountable over the next five years by carefully monitoring our progress.

Strategic planning across the university will guide and enhance how education is delivered to students in support of the University's vision and mission. Leading and learning together, we look forward to enriching the MRU environment and advancing our students success.



Our Vision

An exceptional
undergraduate
educational experience.



Our Mission

Student Affairs and Campus Life promotes students' success in their academics, careers and lives. We foster well-rounded citizens by providing an inclusive and holistic learning environment.



Our Guiding Principles

- We create a RESPECTFUL and INCLUSIVE environment by appreciating our similarities and differences, advocating for a safe and caring campus, and educating ourselves and others through openness, curiosity and listening.
- As authentic LEADERS, we foster innovation, inspire change and engage our community.
- We are RESPONSIVE by openly engaging stakeholders to identify needs and affect change in a timely manner.
- As student affairs PROFESSIONALS, we are accountable to students and committed to develop and share our expertise.
- Through COLLABORATION, we strategically partner with stakeholders to enhance student learning and the student experience.
- We are STUDENT CENTERED; we proactively seek to understand evolving student needs and respond with programs and services that put our students first.



Our Goals

A

Academic Success

Empower students to achieve their academic goals.

B

Community

Maximize the sense of belonging, meaningful inclusion and engagement of students and employees in a vibrant campus community while engaging our broader community.

C

Citizenship

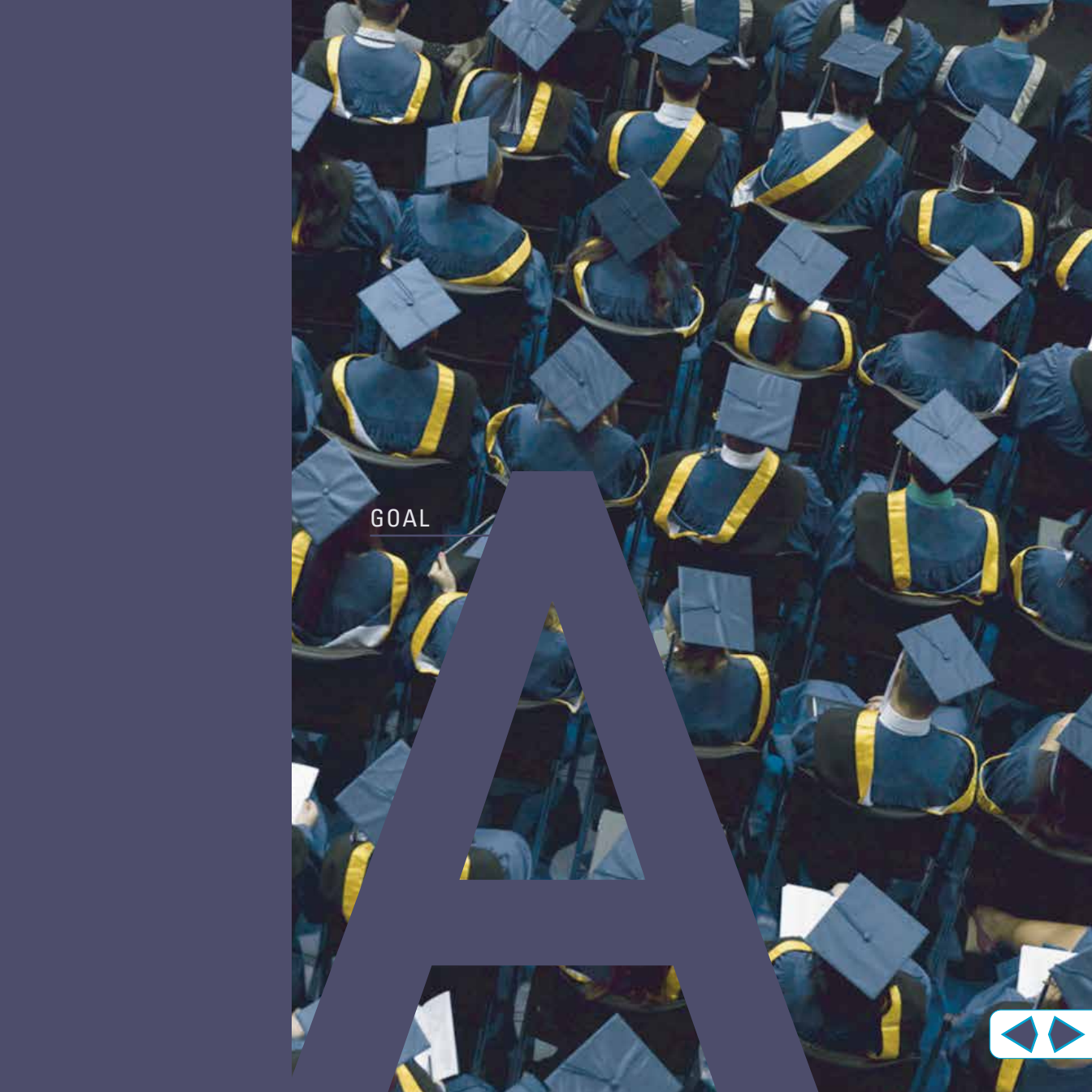
Foster holistic student development for engaged citizenship.

D

Wellness

Promote a healthy environment to support individual and community well-being.





GOAL



Academic Success

Empower students to
achieve their academic goals.



Objectives

- By 2020, increase by 50% the number of students completing a certification process in SACL programs.
- By 2020, increase by 50% the number of students participating in SACL academic support programs that help with curriculum requirements.
- By 2020, increase by 100% the number of students participating in SACL academic support programs that target core degree courses with high DFW rates.
- By 2020, increase by 15% the development and growth of students confidence as a learner after participating in SACL programs and services.
- By 2020, contribute to placing all degree programs within the top 10% among Canadian universities in terms of student retention rates.
- By 2020, 90% of graduating students will have participated in an experiential learning opportunity throughout their degree.



Strategies

- Create an experiential learning recognition program to help students identify and articulate competencies acquired in SACL student development opportunities.
- Implement more peer-to-peer programming to promote student success and increase student confidence, leadership and experiential learning.
- Embed foundational skills and success factors for students into 1st and 2nd year of degree programs.
- Develop an experiential learning framework that outlines opportunities for students to link theory to practice.
- Support the development of a comprehensive and coordinated student success plan to enhance student success.
- Undertake an assessment process to measure learner confidence after participating in SACL academic support programs.





GOAL



Community

Maximize the sense of belonging, meaningful inclusion and engagement of students and employees in a vibrant campus community while engaging our broader community.



Objectives

- By 2020, increase by 10% the self-reported sense of belonging for Indigenous students participating in SACL programs and services.
- By 2020, increase by 10% the self-reported sense of belonging of students participating in SACL programs and services.
- By 2020, increase by 50% student and employee participation in SACL community building programs and services.
- By 2020, increase by 10% the sense of community of MRU employees.
- By 2020, increase by 20% public participations in SACL programs and services to enhance MRU's connection with the community and/or generate revenue.
- By 2020, contribute to increasing MRU's Indigenous student population to 5.5% of the University's population.



Strategies

- Offer programs and services that increase students' and employees' sense of belonging and participation.
- Develop and implement an Indigenous Strategy to increase the Indigenous student population and improve Indigenous students' sense of belonging on campus.
- Offer high-impact programs and services with campus partners to educate students and employees about the importance of meaningful inclusion.
- Offer more programs and services to the public to increase their participation in SACL programs and services.
- Offer and contribute to programs and services that promote a positive sense of community among employees.
- Create more opportunities that encourage students to stay on campus to increase the continuity of their university experience.
- Provide training to appropriate employees to enable them to identify and address issues and concerns about creating a safe and positive working environment.



GOAL



Citizenship

Foster holistic student
development for
engaged citizenship.



Objectives

- By 2020, increase by 5% the number of graduating students volunteering for off-campus activities.
- By 2020, increase by 10% the number of graduating students volunteering for on-campus activities.
- By 2020, increase by 30% the number of students in SACL leadership roles.
- By 2020, increase by 10% the number of students advocating for self or others.
- By 2020, increase by 10% the number of students who have engaged in discussions with diverse others.



Strategies

- Embed a framework for the development of citizenship within relevant SACL programs and services.
- Create additional leadership and volunteer opportunities to provide students increased access to a variety of citizenship development experiences.
- Create programming to expose students to diverse perspectives.
- Measure student advocacy experience to augment current and create future programming in order to develop citizenship competencies.





D

GOAL



Wellness

Promote a healthy environment to support individual and community well-being.



Objectives

- By 2020, ensure that 8 of the 11 self-reported student well-being scores from the National College Health Assessment are higher than the provincial average.
- By 2020, increase by 15% the self-reported employee indicator on the sense of respectful work environment.
- By 2020, maintain the self-reported employee well-being score reported in the Employee Wellness Survey.
- By 2020, increase by 10% student and employee usage of recreation programs and services.
- By 2020, increase by 10% student and employee participation in SACL wellness education workshops.



Strategies

- Establish policies to support a healthy campus.
- Implement health surveys to measure self-reported student and employee well-being.
- Ensure appropriate and flexible programming to meet the diverse wellness needs of our campus community.
- Engage faculty to develop and to recognize conditions for well-being in the learning environment.
- Support an employee climate survey to measure sense of respectful work environment.
- Strategically partner with external organizations to impact individual and community well-being.





Supporting Strategies

To ensure the necessary marketing and communication, human, financial, facility, technology, assessment and administrative resources are available to successfully implement the Divisional Strategic Plan.



