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2015-2018

**Faculty of Health,
Community and Education**
Strategic Plan

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Message from the Dean

In Fall 2013 we set the gears in motion to define the next era for our Faculty. A strategic planning process was undertaken to guide our direction for the period 2015-2018. This three-year plan sets the framework for an impactful set of desired outcomes identified through our planning and development process.

A predominant theme in this strategic plan for the Faculty of Health, Community and Education at Mount Royal University is collaboration – integrating people, groups, organizations and ideas that all become part of our innovative and holistic approach to health, community, education and research. It is this mindset that will nurture our optimism and forward-thinking community in support of our plan, to make a difference for healthier and better educated communities — together.

Our unique collection of programs tailored to health, community and education professions, creates a compelling collective. Singular health, community and education professions come together by exploring the connections across disciplines. They identify a unique blend of linkages for students and faculty to create new paths for education and practice. Our partnerships with the community, and within the post-secondary sector, open up new and exciting avenues that increase access and opportunity, while augmenting the overall student experience.



We are dedicated to staying connected with practice settings, schools and the community to inform our decisions and keep our programs relevant; we seek to continuously improve our existing programs while looking for opportunities to expand our offerings.

Not only do we want our graduates to access vibrant careers, but to become leaders, mentors and visionaries. We strive to develop graduates with an affinity for Mount Royal, who will impart the spirit of our Faculty — in both their careers and personal lives — and drive perpetual betterment of our communities as culturally aware and engaged citizens.

Our Faculty is constantly looking forward to an inspired future where our efforts contribute to healthy communities and ultimately improve the quality of life of those with whom we interact.

Curiosity drives us, information fuels us and community keeps us together. I am extremely excited and look forward to the next three years as we strive to achieve our vision, and I thank everyone for their contribution to this plan. It has been a collective effort that has resulted in a visionary guide to take our Faculty above and beyond.

I am happy to invite you to discover the future plans for our Faculty and am eager to work with you on the many great things we can accomplish over the coming years. We believe strongly in this plan and we are committed to reaching our vision — because together we can.

Chad London, PhD

Dean

Faculty of Health, Community and Education
Mount Royal University

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Together we succeed

September 3, 2009 marked a historic day for Mount Royal. The Premier of Alberta officially changed our name from Mount Royal College to Mount Royal University. We were approved as a member of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) on October 28, 2009.

As the University has continued to grow into itself, the Faculty of Health, Community and Education together with other Mount Royal Faculties, has evolved through strategic planning and consultation with the community. Our Faculty's first strategic plan as a University was released in 2010 and was focused on charting the Faculty's course to 2015.

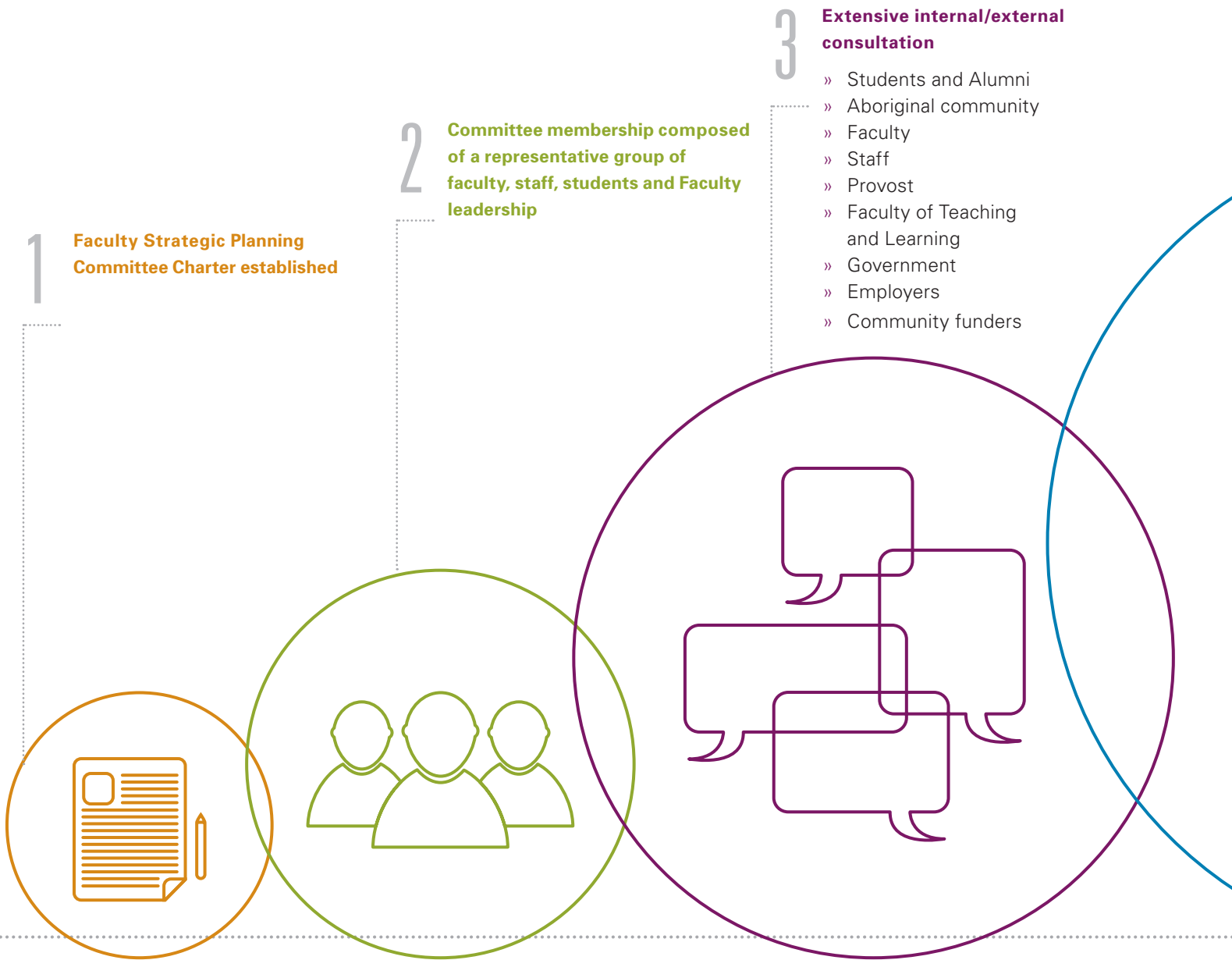
There have been many successes for the Faculty including the launch of Mount Royal's first degree, the Bachelor of Nursing, and the recent approval of three new programs: Bachelor of Midwifery,

Bachelor of Child Studies, and Bachelor of Health and Physical Education, which add to our existing programs. In mid-2015 we again broadened our program offerings with the addition of the Bachelor of Education when we welcomed the Department of Education and officially became the Faculty of Health, Community and Education as part of restructuring across campus. We also celebrated the first graduating classes of the Bachelor of Midwifery and the Bachelor of Education — Elementary at Convocation in June 2015.

Looking ahead, the challenges of years passed are behind us and we look to the next three years as being ripe with opportunity for growth, collaboration and success. Our optimism propels us as we continue to define our niche in the context of our innovative, holistic and collaborative approach to health, community and education in Calgary, throughout Alberta and across Canada.



Mapping our future



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Alignment with Mount Royal Comprehensive Institutional Plan, Academic Plan, and Mount Royal University Strategic Plan

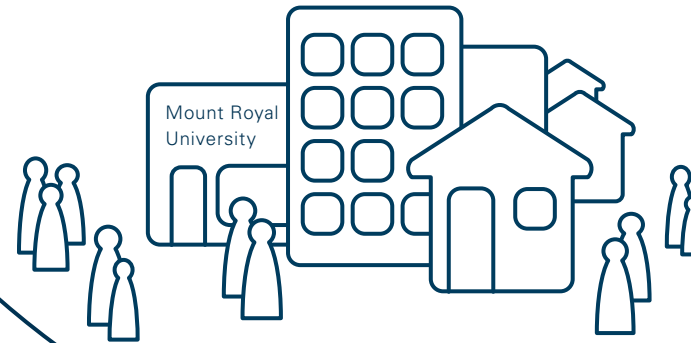
Emergent themes:

- Excellence in undergraduate teaching
- Experiential learning
- Scholarship and research
- Student access and success
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Inclusion
- Well-being
- Community engagement and partnerships

Vision Canada's leading collaborative practice faculty, inspiring students to make a difference.

Mission Preparing students to lead through collaborative teaching, inspired learning, and community engagement, and by advancing knowledge through focused scholarship and research.

Core Values Integrity
Innovation
Inclusion
Well-being
Accountability



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Sharpening our focus — committed to action

The student experience is the essence of our existence and acts as perpetual inspiration and motivation as we continue to evolve the Faculty of Health, Community and Education. This notion is resonant and inspires our vision for the future.

In order to achieve our vision, we have sharpened our focus by defining five focal points that will guide the decisions and actions of our Faculty in alignment with Mount Royal's Academic Plan 2012–2017 and Strategic Plan 2024.

Focal points

“Curiosity drives us, information fuels us and community keeps us together.”

Chad London, PhD, Dean
Faculty of Health, Community and Education

Inspire excellence in teaching and learning

- » Collaborate across the Faculty to optimize inter-professional education and practice
- » Create new and unique opportunities for experiential learning
- » Provide new program offerings and ensure existing programs remain current with industry needs
- » Strengthen administration and support for experiential learning
- » Locate departments together to enhance cross-Faculty collaboration

“I believe that teaching should not be stagnant, but rather a process of change fuelled by participation, interaction and new ideas.”

Monica Pauls, Assistant Professor
Department of Child Studies and Social Work

Support the well-being of our people

- » Engage actively with students, faculty and staff to support overall well-being
- » Encourage developmental opportunities for staff to encourage professional growth

“The ability to pursue professional development opportunities with the support of the Faculty means I am continuously learning and developing my skills as a student services professional.”

Sarah Kinch, Academic Advisor and Practicum Coordinator
Department of Health and Physical Education

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Strive for improved student access, inclusion and success

- » Provide current, relevant programs enhanced with practical experience
- » Facilitate the process for students to transfer into our degree programs from other institutions
- » Foster a sense of community that supports a respectful and supportive learning environment
- » Align Mount Royal's Aboriginal strategy within our Faculty
- » Develop new admission processes to assess non-academic skills vital to success in health, community and education professions
- » Create opportunities for students to develop an affinity with the Faculty and the University

"For me, to live a life of fulfillment and purpose I need to be embraced by a culture that fosters holistic learning. Mount Royal has accomplished this by sharing the experience and dream of a vibrant community."

Ché Burnett, Student
Bachelor of Child Studies

Strengthen scholarship and research

- » Promote a culture of inspired intellectual curiosity
- » Capitalize on opportunities to augment research capacity and supports for scholarship and research
- » Undertake research in partnership with community to facilitate evidence-informed practice

"Our teaching and practice professions, such as those represented in the Faculty of Health, Community and Education, are informed by research and scholarship. Strengthening our capacity for research and scholarship ultimately impacts the health of Albertans."

Pam Nordstrom, PhD, RN, Director
School of Nursing and Midwifery

Collaborate through community engagement

- » Recognize opportunities to engage with people, groups and organizations beyond our campus to encourage new relationships and opportunities for students, faculty and staff
- » Leverage our stories to augment our profile and create greater awareness about our Faculty in the community
- » Enhance resources and supports through collaborative strategies with community partners

"Collaborative relationships developed through community engagement result in more learning opportunities for students, a better understanding of the connection between theory and practice and research that continues to inform both."

Jodi Nickel, PhD, Chair
Department of Education

The impact we will have

Excellence in teaching and scholarship prepares our students as competent and collaborative professionals. We commit to measuring and reporting on the execution of this plan annually, making necessary adjustments as warranted.



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If everyone is moving forward together,
then success takes care of itself.

Henry Ford

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