

Shaping Health in a Changing Climate

The inaugural strategic plan of the Collaborative
Centre for Climate, Health & Sustainable Care

2023 - 2028



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO



COLLABORATIVE CENTRE FOR
Climate, Health +
Sustainable Care

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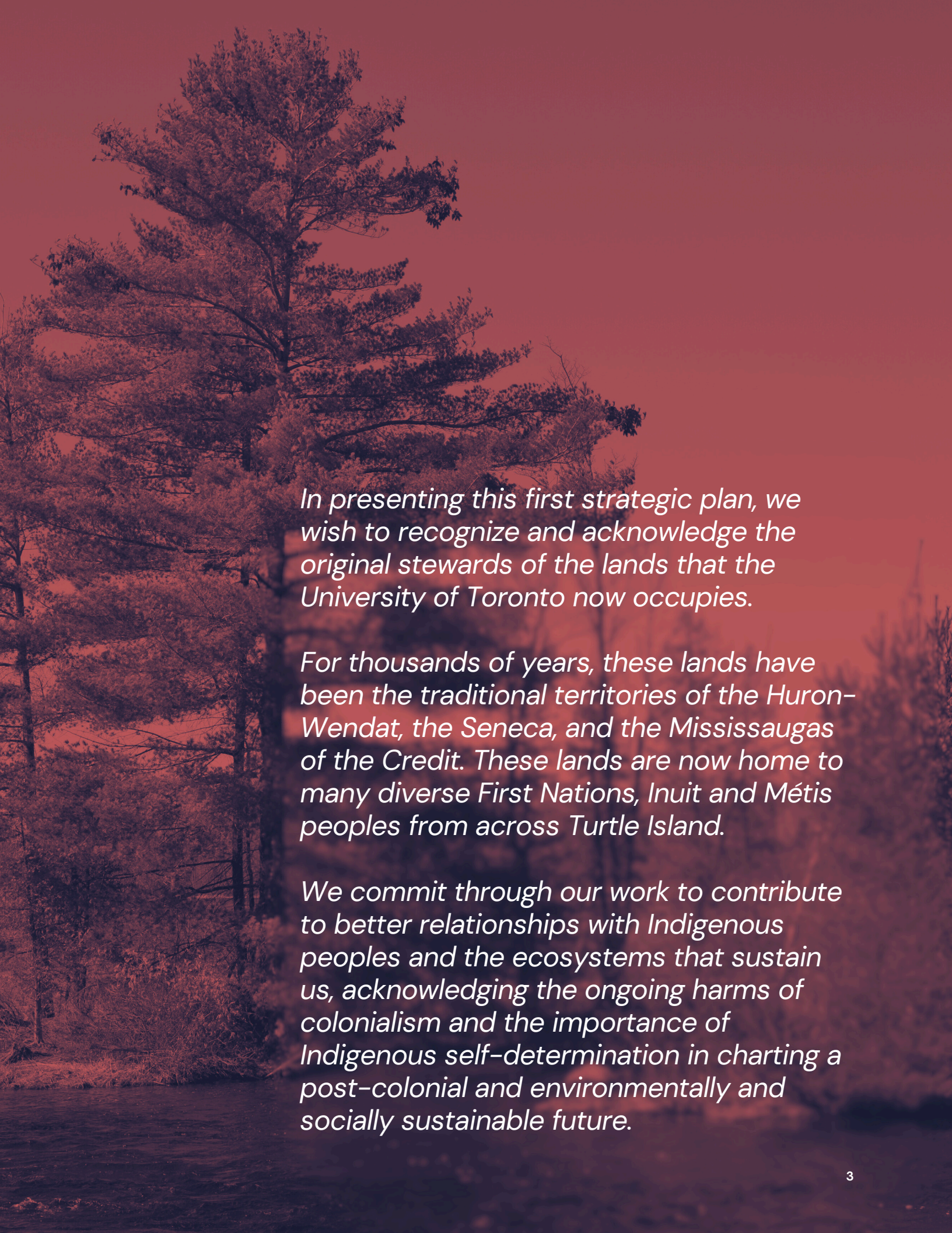
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About the Collaborative Centre

The Collaborative Centre was launched to catalyze collaboration and achieve impact in responding to the health and health system challenges of climate and environmental change and the demands of sustainability.

The Collaborative Centre is an **academic unit** at the University of Toronto, established as an 'Extra-Departmental Unit Type C' in November 2023 by its four founding faculties: The Dalla Lana School of **Public Health**, The Temerty Faculty of **Medicine**, The Lawrence Bloomberg Faculty of **Nursing**, and The Leslie Dan Faculty of **Pharmacy**.

Since commencing operations on November 1, 2023, the Collaborative Centre has embarked on a strategic planning process, continuing the tradition of engagement, consultation and collaboration that led to its creation. This inaugural strategic plan is the product of that process.



In presenting this first strategic plan, we wish to recognize and acknowledge the original stewards of the lands that the University of Toronto now occupies.

For thousands of years, these lands have been the traditional territories of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. These lands are now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples from across Turtle Island.

We commit through our work to contribute to better relationships with Indigenous peoples and the ecosystems that sustain us, acknowledging the ongoing harms of colonialism and the importance of Indigenous self-determination in charting a post-colonial and environmentally and socially sustainable future.

Our motivation:

The Future is Change



Urgent Issues in Critical Zones

The **critical zone** is the remarkably thin and dynamic skin of the living planet within which human and non-human creatures, and social and physical processes, intersect and interconnect.¹

It is the space near the earth's surface where complex interdependencies involving water, air, rock, soil, rules, norms and living things regulate natural habitats, including in social and political ways.

It is here that climate change is made and has its local and global effects, alongside resource depletion, pollution, land use change and biodiversity loss.

It is here that we can begin to chart the implications for our health and wellbeing.

Pollution is already a major cause of disease and premature death. Air pollution, for example, is responsible for about 7 million premature deaths every year, largely from stroke, heart disease, lung disease, lung cancer, and acute respiratory infections.²

Climate change compounds the effects of air pollution and adds heat and other risks, with an 85% increase in heat deaths among people over 65 since 2000–2004, and an estimated 250,000 additional deaths per year between 2030 and 2050, just from undernutrition, malaria, diarrhea, and heat stress.^{3,4}

Locally and globally, those rendered more vulnerable by social and structural factors face the greatest threats, highlighting the central imperatives of **environmental and climate justice.**

1. Latour B, Lenton TM. Extending the domain of freedom, or why Gaia is so hard to understand. *Critical Inquiry*. 2019. Mar 1;45(3):659–80. <https://doi.org/10.1086/702611>

2. WHO. Global air quality guidelines. 2021. World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/345329>

3. Romanello M, et al. The 2023 report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change. *The Lancet*, 402(10419): 2346–2394. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(23\)01859-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(23)01859-7)

4. WHO. Quantitative risk assessment of the effects of climate change on selected causes of death, 2030s and 2050s. 2014. World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland. <https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/134014>

The Role of the Health Sector

Health matters

We care about our health, the health of our children & neighbours and the health of future generations – locally and globally. Recognizing this, the health community has worked to elevate health as a critical imperative for climate and environmental action:

- ▶ **To understand the connections between health, health equity, climate change and ecosystem decline**
- ▶ **To develop the health argument for change in the policies and practices that sustain global environmental change**

In a world that has crossed multiple earth system boundaries, we must increasingly recognize that **all policy is climate & environmental policy**, and that **all climate & environmental policy is health policy**.

Health systems are deeply implicated

Health systems, including acute care, primary care, home and community-based care, social care, and public health, are on the front lines in managing health threats. Locally and globally, they are **not prepared** for the accelerating risks to health and health equity posed by climate change.

- ▶ **Health systems must be able to recognize, respond and adapt** to diverse climate and environmental threats to health and health equity, including through community-led responses
- ▶ **Health systems must develop resilience** in the face of inevitable disruptions, enabling them – and the communities they serve – to bounce forward to better and more just ways of working, and not simply back

Perversely, health systems are **highly resource intensive and polluting industries**, responsible for almost 5% of global greenhouse gas emissions and appreciable quantities of air, plastics, and chemical pollution, with the associated harms to health.⁵

- ▶ Solving the **paradox of healthcare pollution** will require new knowledge and new practices
- ▶ It will also require tackling longstanding challenges with new vigour – ensuring accessible, appropriate, affordable, and equity-oriented care, strengthening capacities for health promotion and primary and community-based care, and building integrated systems of health and social care

5. Romanello M, Di Napoli C, Drummond P, Green C, Kennard H, Lampard P, Scamman D, Arnell N, Ayeb-Karlsson S, Ford LB, Belesova K. (2022). The 2022 report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: health at the mercy of fossil fuels. *The Lancet*. 400(10363). 1619–54. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(22\)01540-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(22)01540-9)





Changing the Future

The Collaborative Centre has been formed to help change this future.

We aim to shape positive health sector responses to the profound health and health system challenges of climate and environmental change and the demands of sustainability.

The Collaborative Centre turns to diverse knowledge systems to address these urgent issues, including but not limited to:

Indigenous scholarship & praxis,

which offers worldviews of inter-connectedness between the land and all things in creation. Indigenous communities are the first stewards of the land, and now steward most of the world's remaining biodiversity

One Health,

which has emphasized how connections between human and non-human beings in changing ecosystems shape health risks, for example from infectious disease and antimicrobial resistance

Planetary Health,

which considers the many ways in which earth's interconnected natural systems have been disrupted in the building of the modern world, and the foundational importance of ecosystem flourishing for human health and wellbeing

Political ecology of health,

which asks how power, authority and socio-political arrangements shape human-environment relations and health outcomes



Our Origins & Capacities:

The Collaborative Centre has many origins.

Across our four founding faculties, many faculty, students, trainees, and health sector partners have developed expertise and capacity on climate, environment, and sustainability in health and health systems. This work has made the creation of the Collaborative Centre possible.

The Collaborative Centre builds upon a substantial body of impact-focused work on sustainable care, developed through an earlier unit, the Centre for Sustainable Health Systems.

To mobilize the healthcare sector, the Centre for Sustainable Health Systems led initiatives that helped spark the development of the Collaborative Centre:

2020

Creation of the **Sustainable Health System Community of Practice (CoP)** for the 14 academic hospitals of the Toronto Academic Health Science Network (TAHSN) – one of the largest and most productive academic health science networks in North America. Coordinated by a table of senior leaders, engaging expertise from across the academic health science community through working groups and pilots, and regularly reporting to TAHSN CEOs, the Sustainable Health System CoP enables learning, sharing and coordination for high quality, low carbon, and equitable care.

2021

Formation of **CASCADES** – a pan-Canadian initiative funded by Environment and Climate Change Canada, with leadership and partnership from across the country. CASCADES strengthens climate action and awareness in healthcare through continuing professional development courses, implementation-support resources, and pan-Canadian networks.

2022 - 2023

Conversations were initiated in fall 2022 about the potential for a purpose-built cross-faculty unit on climate and sustainability in the health sector. The Collaborative Centre for Climate, Health & Sustainable Care was approved by the governing councils of the four founding faculties in October and came into existence on November 1, 2023, absorbing the capacity and commitments of the Centre for Sustainable Health Systems.

The Collaborative Centre aims to be the focal point at UofT for impact-focused work on climate, sustainability & health – within and beyond healthcare.

Capacity and connections are growing. Research teams and units across the University of Toronto and TAHSN – with diverse focal interests – are becoming engaged in the work that the Collaborative Centre will champion and catalyze.

- ▶ **Health science units** are increasingly engaging with climate, environment, and sustainability
- ▶ **Climate, environment, and sustainability units** are increasingly engaging with health & health systems



There is no other Centre like us.

These origins give us extraordinary capacities. These origins set us apart.

- We address health & health systems
- We are inter-disciplinary & multi-professional
- We are embedded in one of the world's premier universities
- We are part of one of the world's premier academic health science networks
- We connect and collaborate with communities and academic and health institutions locally, across Canada & around the world

“Climate change has enormous and disproportionate impacts on disadvantaged populations, so any effort to advance health equity in our communities must tackle this challenge head-on.

That’s why MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions, Canada’s largest research centre focused on health equity and the social determinants of health, is so excited to work with the Collaborative Centre. We are thrilled to be a part of this interdisciplinary initiative to advance research, training, and policy impact.”

Dr. Stephen Hwang

*Director, MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions
Professor, Medicine, Temerty Medicine*

“At the Centre for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (CQuIPS), we are increasingly focused on planetary health and the environmental impact of healthcare. By partnering with the new Collaborative Centre for Climate, Health & Sustainable Care, we are not only expanding our network but also advancing our commitment to sustainable healthcare practices.

This collaboration is a cornerstone of our strategy to drive meaningful change and promote a healthier planet for future generations.”

Dr. Brian M Wong

*Director, Centre for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety
Professor, Medicine, Temerty Medicine*

“The Collaborative Centre plays an invaluable and unique role in linking researchers, educators, and clinicians with diverse backgrounds and skills. The scale of the issues we deal with is so large that many different perspectives are needed. Coordinating this, providing opportunities for networking and sharing, and **helping coalesce talent in a productive way is essential** & central to what makes the Collaborative Centre so important for the University, the research community, the professions involved, and the public we all serve.”

Dr. Zubin Austin

*Professor
Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy*

“Everyone plays a role in solving climate change.

Climate Positive Energy (CPE) researchers are only able to achieve progress on the climate challenge through a collaborative, interdisciplinary approach. By connecting engineers, chemists, and environmentalists with healthcare & health systems experts, we spark new conversations and strategies to address the multifaceted impacts of climate change on different community groups.

Interdisciplinary approaches are needed to support the development of solutions that protect both the environment and people.

We look forward to continued collaboration with Professor Miller and the new Centre as we advance innovative responses to the complex climate challenge.”

Dr. Shatha Qaqish-Clavering

Executive Director, Climate Positive Energy, Institutional Strategic Initiative

Our Process

Since its official launch, the Collaborative Centre has engaged in a transparent & participatory strategic planning process, engaging colleagues, cognate units, university and TAHSN leadership, students, and expert observers. We worked to develop our collaborative networks by co-sponsoring seminars and workshops, and co-hosting international guests.

7 strategic planning meetings that have engaged over

80 people across the 3 UofT campuses

9 seminars & workshops that have engaged over

680 people

2 trainee & student consultations attended by over

40 people

3 environmental scans

Countless other meetings & correspondence

Our Strategy

Our Purpose

To catalyze climate & sustainability action for health & health systems through research, education, and practice & policy change.

Our Values

As a mission-driven academic unit, we value:

Rigour & Integrity:

Conducting work to the highest standards of intellectual honesty and humility, transparency, and accountability, ensuring independence and integrity.

Boldness & Pushing Boundaries:

Addressing structural and root causes, and creating space for critical and heterodox scholarship.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Accessibility & Indigenous Reconciliation:

Prioritizing equity, and environmental and climate justice, elevating the expertise of socially and structurally marginalized communities, and working in allyship with Indigenous scholarship and praxis.

Strategic Priority 1

Shape the future of climate, environment & sustainability research in the health sciences

There is truly remarkable research capacity at the University of Toronto and across the affiliated academic health science community, the Toronto Academic Health Science Network ([TAHSN](#)).

A diverse constellation of scholars, scientists, students, trainees, and existing centres of excellence have interests and expertise that can contribute to the Collaborative Centre's purpose.

We aim to build a **thriving collaborative research community**, and to channel that capacity to **address critical issues in new ways**.

“ Through the implementation of research activities that include support for graduate students, the Collaborative Centre will engage learners in **interdisciplinary and interprofessional research activities that will prove integral to addressing the challenges and the impact of the climate crisis on our health systems, as well as the harmful impacts on the health of global communities.**”

This is vital for the Lawrence Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, given our commitment to the impact of evidence-based research in advocating for sustainable health systems and the role of nursing leadership.”

Dr. Kelly Metcalfe

Professor and Associate Dean Research & External Relations, Lawrence Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing

“ As a clinician scientist, the Collaborative Centre for Climate, Health & Sustainable Care is vital to my work. It offers a dynamic environment where I can connect with diverse experts, fostering collaboration that amplifies our collective ability to drive impactful research.

Together, we can tackle the critical challenges that climate change poses to health and the sustainability of healthcare.”

Dr. Kate Hanneman

*Associate Professor and Vice Chair Research, Department of Medical Imaging
Deputy Lead Sustainability, University Medical Imaging Toronto*

We aspire to:

Define Priority Research Directions

Set research agendas

To catalyze focus, momentum, and impact in priority areas of research

Channel research capacity

To purposefully leverage the capacity of diverse centres of excellence across UofT and [TAHSN](#) for impact

By:

Catalyzing Research Focus & Momentum

We will convene research clusters

Mobilizing attention to challenging issues, where timely, action-oriented research is critically needed

We will build research networks

Building interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary connections across teams, research units and communities in priority research areas

What are we doing?

We are designing research clusters, to convene **existing** research interests, capacity, and leadership to **mobilize attention** and **build networks** in critical areas, including:

- ▶ **Pharmaceuticals and the environment** – Addressing the substantial environmental harms of pharmaceuticals and ensuring resilient, sustainable access to essential medicines
- ▶ **Sustainable digital health transformation** – Addressing the contradictions of data-intensive health care and health research practices
- ▶ **Mental health in the Anthropocene** – Addressing the mental health and equity impacts of climate change
- ▶ **Equitable urban climate resilience** – Addressing the climate challenges to health, wellbeing, and equity in urban centres

We aspire to:

Strengthen Research CAPACITY

Make visible and amplify

To support and sustain a thriving, collaborative network of engaged scholars, scientists, and research partners, leveraging the diverse and deep expertise within existing networks in content, theory, and research methods

Strengthen research relevance and impact

To empower equity-oriented, responsible, and community-engaged research

By:

Building Research COMMUNITIES

We will strategically facilitate opportunities

Enabling timely access to relevant research opportunities and resources, including information, networking, and mentorship

We will foster collaboration

Working to strengthen links across research communities, including those leading in efforts to engage Indigenous knowledge systems, environmental health justice and equity

What are we doing?

We are developing a host of research services and supports, including:

- ▶ ***Seed grant competitions*** to catalyze inter-faculty collaboration and capacity in priority areas – partnering with other centres of excellence
- ▶ ***Enabling capacity***, including timely information & guidance, and networking & mentorship opportunities
- ▶ ***Journal club*** to create a space for students, trainees and faculty mentors to critically engage with a diverse body of relevant research

“ The Collaborative Centre is a foundational and essential component of the University of Toronto’s response to addressing the health impacts of climate change and the challenge of building sustainable health systems. The Centre will bring together the four founding faculties in a **collaborative, coordinated, and focused effort to develop ideas and undertake research that will have real impact at a global level.**

I am thrilled to be part of this important initiative and look forward to working with my colleagues in other faculties. ”

Dr. Geoff Anderson, Professor

*Institute of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation,
Dalla Lana School of Public Health*

“ The goal of TRANSFORM HF is to enable equitable access to high-quality care by leveraging digital health tools. While digital health does have many benefits, there can also be substantial climate and environmental costs associated with these solutions. Our engagement with the Collaborative Centre for Climate, Health and Sustainable care is crucial **to build a deeper understanding of the relationship between digital innovation and sustainable & equitable healthcare.**”

Dr. Heather Ross

*Director, TRANSFORM HF
Professor, Medicine, Temerty Medicine*

Strategic Priority 2

Equip learners to understand and act on the health and health system challenges of climate & environmental change

Health professionals and health scientists must be able to recognize and respond to climate change and the eco-social determinants of health, and to contribute to a more equitable and sustainable world.

Education is thus a **core responsibility** and **unifying theme** for the Collaborative Centre's work.

We aim to **strengthen the capacity** of health professions educators, and to deliver programs that meet the needs of diverse learners, including those in formal education, and those already in practice.

“The Collaborative Centre offers
**a rich academic and practice community where students
can be exposed to cutting-edge research and expertise
on evidence-based strategies for health systems.**

Students can build their knowledge through advanced learning opportunities, which uniquely positions them to take leadership on climate & sustainability in their own professional settings.”

Dr. Karen Born

*Program Director, MHS Health Administration, Institute of Health Policy,
Management and Evaluation, Dalla Lana School of Public Health*

“The Collaborative Centre is an
outstanding initiative that provides
**essential resources
for health professions
educators**

to enable teaching and learning
related to climate change and
planetary health. We have a great
opportunity to engage with the
Collaborative Centre and its
resources as we implement a
renewed PharmD curriculum.”

Karen Cameron

*Assistant Professor
Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy*

We aspire to:

Strengthen Professional CAPACITY

Equip health professional students and trainees

To support partner faculties in equipping learners with competencies in planetary health and sustainable care

Empower professionals in practice

To support practicing professionals to integrate critical knowledge and skills about climate, environment and sustainability in health & health systems into their work

By:

Delivering Professional SUPPORTS

We will train the trainers

Building and sustaining an engaged community of collaborative multi-professional leaders in health professions education, and supporting innovative pedagogical methods, including experiential and applied learning

We will innovate in continuing professional development

Delivering programming and resources for practicing health professionals, administrators, and leaders

What are we doing?

- ▶ **Faculty Training Program** – We are developing an intensive training program for faculty to support health professions education in planetary health & sustainable care
- ▶ **Network of Health Professions Educators** – We are building an engaged community of collaborative multi-professional leaders in health professions education for planetary health & sustainable care, working in collaboration with other initiatives & organizations that are striving to build capacity locally & globally
- ▶ **Partnered Professional Programs** – We are collaborating with partners to deliver critical continuing professional development programming, including the [Climate, Health & Sustainable Care ECHO](#) with CASCADES

We aspire to:

Develop EXPERTS

Strengthen specialization

To enable students and trainees from across faculties and disciplines to develop specialized knowledge & skills in climate, environment and sustainability in health and health systems

Empower emerging leaders

To foster and strengthen student and trainee capacity in climate, environment and sustainability in health & health systems

By:

Shaping CAREER PATHWAYS

We will develop specialized training opportunities

Developing educational programming for graduate and professional students and trainees to gain expert knowledge and networks

We will cultivate career opportunities

Working with students, trainees and junior faculty with focused interests in climate, environment and sustainability in health and health systems to facilitate their leadership, and to enable productive career paths in this emerging field

What are we doing?

- ▶ ***Climate, Health & Sustainable Care Student Training Program*** – We have launched a one-year non-credit certificate program for students and trainees to develop knowledge and research skills on the links between climate and ecological change, health, health systems & sustainability
- ▶ ***Partnered Student Programs*** – We are collaborating with the Centre for Advancing Collaborative Healthcare & Education (CACHE) to deliver critical Interprofessional Education on Climate & Sustainability

“The support from the Collaborative Centre for Climate, Health & Sustainable care is invaluable to me as an emerging nurse researcher as I work to advance my expertise in the developing field of environmental sustainability in health systems and policy.

This program will provide opportunity to engage with an interdisciplinary research community and find collaborators who will support and build the impact of my research.”

Navisha Weerasinghe

RN, PhD student, Lawrence Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing

“ This academic community has a lot to offer to the global quest for ecological balance, but this requires **bridging silos and building trans-disciplinary collaborations and partnerships, as well as preparing the next generation of applied scientists and public health & health care leaders, that can take co-created knowledge to new realms of action.**

The Collaborative Centre for Climate, Health & Sustainable Care is urgently needed to make such a shift happen. I am excited for the potential of this Centre to be a hub for the health sciences faculties, and their associated networks, where climate change and planetary health discourses can flourish and fuel an action-oriented health research agenda with sustainable impact.”

Dr. Ashley Aimone

Assistant Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health

Strategic Priority 3

Activate practice & policy change to promote health & health system sustainability

The Collaborative Centre is **built on the foundation of deep collaboration** with practice change and policy development within the health sector.

It **leverages the enormous commitment** to engagement, relevance and impact that exists across the Collaborative Centre community.

It **responds to the high priority** given to climate and health action and health system sustainability, locally and globally.

“ The Sustainable Health System Community of Practice, facilitated by the Collaborative Centre, has made it possible for the TAHSN to **deepen collective commitment to climate and sustainability action in healthcare, and drive changes in practice and organizational policy.**

As a result of this work, TAHSN's first strategy framework identifies sustainability, together with equity, as one of four strategic priorities for our network. We look forward to continuing our collaboration, and to deepening the impact of our work together.”

Heather McPherson

*President & CEO, Women's College Hospital
Chair, Toronto Academic Health Science Network (TAHSN)*

“ Developing effective responses to the health impacts of climate change requires many disciplines and perspectives.

The Collaborative Centre will play a critical role in making these connections

in my own work and that of my colleagues at CAMH as we ramp up research, education, and practice initiatives with our health system and academic partners.”

Dr. Sean Kidd

*Division Chief, Senior Scientist, The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)
Associate Professor, Psychiatry, Temerty Medicine*

We aspire to:

Catalyze INNOVATION

Cultivate experimentation

To enable brave spaces to think and act differently, supporting learning processes on multiple levels (micro, meso, macro)

Normalize humility

To strengthen capacity to change practice and policy, including by learning how to build new systems and to undo the status quo

By:

Co-creating LEARNING COMMUNITIES

We will nurture communities of practice

Working with partners to build and sustain learning communities, to enable and share shifts in practice & policy

We will cultivate continuous learning

Strengthening connections between education, research and practice and policy development to enable questioning and learning

What are we doing?

- ▶ ***TAHSN Sustainable Health System Community of Practice*** – The Collaborative Centre serves as secretariat to a community of practice across the Toronto Academic Health Science Network (**TAHSN**) aimed at climate and sustainability action in the health sector
- ▶ ***CASCADES*** – The Collaborative Centre hosts CASCADES, which supports pan-Canadian climate action and awareness in healthcare, funded by Environment and Climate Change Canada
- ▶ ***WHO Collaborating Centres*** – The 5 WHO Collaborating Centres based at UofT have come together to explore ways to collaborate across their areas of focus, united by the complex challenges of climate change and environmental degradation

We aspire to:

Achieve IMPACT

Strengthen change capacity

To elevate trans-disciplinarity through engagement with communities and health sector partners, to co-produce and mobilize knowledge

Amplify good ideas

To spread and scale validated change ideas, including by informing global norms, standards, and guidance

By:

Enabling KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION

We will develop knowledge mobilization services & supports

Supporting the efforts of Collaborative Centre members as they develop and sustain action-oriented partnerships and knowledge mobilization activities

We will strengthen action-oriented networks

Collaborating locally, nationally, and internationally to promote practice change and policy development at scale

What are we doing?

We are convening and partnering in knowledge mobilization events, including:

- ▶ **Seminars & agenda-setting events** – We bring together international and local experts through seminars, workshops and roundtables, working in partnership with other centres of excellence
- ▶ **Symposia** – Our annual symposium is designed to bring together diverse communities, across our strategic priorities
- ▶ **National events** – We are partnering with major national associations to convene critical discussions – for example, the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Forum 2024

“ Across our health care system, there is a critical need for a collective approach to the sustainability of our climate and environment.

The Centre for Practice Excellence, based out of the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, is dedicated to enhancing the health of patients and communities through the best use of medications. As challenges and opportunities related to environmental sustainability become increasingly evident, the Collaborative Centre will play a critical role in fostering and channeling alignment between health disciplines. Our work with the Collaborative Centre enables us to disseminate evidence and best practice models, build capacity and resilience, strengthen engagement, and create meaningful impact to optimize health for people and planet.”

Annalise Mathers

*Research Services and Knowledge Mobilization Specialist,
Centre for Practice Excellence & Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy*

Evaluating Our Progress

This inaugural strategic plan represents a critical milestone in the history of the Collaborative Centre. It sets out **our aspirations and the steps we will take to realize these aspirations.**

To track our outcomes and impacts, we will use quantitative and qualitative indicators, combining metrics that track activities with case studies.

Our progress will be tracked closely by the leadership team and reported annually to our community and to the Collaborative Centre's governance body, the Executive Committee, which is comprised of the Deans from the four founding faculties.

If we SHAPE RESEARCH by:

- Convening research clusters
- Building research networks
- Strategically facilitating research opportunities
- Fostering collaboration

THEN critical knowledge gaps will be filled:

- To explain the impact of eco-social challenges on health, health equity and health systems
- To identify what is required to reduce climate & environmental risks to health, and to ensure resilient & sustainable health services & systems

And we will understand our success through:

- The scope and impact of our research clusters and partnerships
- The knowledge we catalyze through our journal club, seed grants, and research events

If we EQUIP LEARNERS by:

- Training the trainers
- Innovating in continuing professional development (CPD)
- Developing specialized training
- Cultivating career opportunities

THEN the health workforce will have essential knowledge & tools:

- To integrate planetary health and sustainable care into health professional practice
- To identify & address the health impacts and health system actions arising from global environmental change

And we will understand our success through:

- The reach & impact of our faculty, student & CPD programs
- The students and emerging leaders who are engaged and equipped

If we ACTIVATE PRACTICE & POLICY CHANGE, by:

- Mobilizing communities of practice
- Cultivating continuous learning
- Developing knowledge mobilization services & supports
- Sustaining action-oriented networks

THEN sustainable transitions will be made possible:

- To deliver healthy communities & population health equity in the face of climate & environmental risks
- To ensure that all public & organizational health policies account for the centrality of climate & environment

And we will understand our success through:

- Metrics & case studies of the communities of practice we co-produce & sustain
- Agenda-setting and knowledge mobilization events we host & co-sponsor

Directors' Reflections

It has been a great honour and privilege for us to lead the Collaborative Centre, as Founding Director and Associate Directors. We are grateful to the Deans of the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, the Temerty Faculty of Medicine, the Lawrence Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing and the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy for their unwavering support and guidance. We are also grateful to the many faculty, professionals, students and trainees from across the four faculties and beyond who have contributed to the strategic planning process. This network forms the beginnings of our membership – of a thriving and dynamic community and an agent of change for a sustainable future.

We want to acknowledge the extraordinary work of Brittany Maguire as the inaugural Managing Director of the Collaborative Centre, and the able assistance of Emily Self, who completed her MPH practicum while supporting our environmental scanning efforts.

We also want to offer an additional and special word of thanks to Professors Zubin Austin and Karen Cameron who have ably served as sounding boards and wise counsel, guiding our engagement with faculty and students in the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, and advising on the alignment of our work with the faculty's strategic priorities.

Dr. Fiona A. Miller, Director

Professor, Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, Dalla Lana School of Public Health

Dr. Ross Upshur, Associate Director

Professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine, Temerty Faculty of Medicine

Dr. Quinn Grundy, Associate Director

Assistant Professor, Lawrence Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing

**Collaborative Centre for Climate, Health & Sustainable Care.
Inaugural strategic plan, 2023-2028. University of Toronto,
Toronto, Canada, October 2024.**



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TORONTO



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