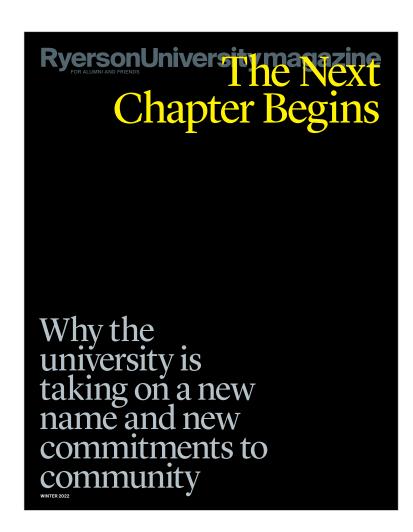
Preparatory Work

Audience: Alumni

Objective: Build understanding of why the university is being renamed and build confidence in the path ahead









MANDATE OF the Standing Strong (Mash Koh Wee Kah Pooh Win) Task Force is summed up in the title of its senior advisor, Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, report: "Acknowledging the past, learning from the and a member of the university's Board of Governors. present and looking to the future."

This strong message from the task force is intended to guide the community through the next chapter of the university, as it finds a new name and fulfils the other Why is it important that the university change recommendations in the report to reduce and even- its name? tually eliminate the structural sources of persistent JOANNE DALLAIRE: This has certainly been a question inequalities.

memoration at the university and provide context the loss of the university's history, but our goal is to around the history and legacy of Egerton Ryerson. spread greater awareness about the past and it got to the Thousands of community members participated in point where keeping the name was going to be harmful the process through an online survey, community to our future. conversations, emails, social media, open letters and We are known to be a university that's very much

report and was augmented by these community peroutlined in the report.1

task-force/ In a conversation after the report was A common concern that we addressed on the task



released last August, the co-chairs of the task force, Joanne Dallaire and Catherine Ellis, unpack these recommendations. They reveal how the report stems from a deep learning and unlearning of the past, highlighting the importance of keeping history alive as the university builds a more inclusive future informed by current reckonings with racial injustices and systemic inequities.

Joanne Dallaire is the university's Elder (Ke Shay Hayo), Catherine Ellis is a professor in the Department of History where she recently completed a term as chair.

on people's minds for a long while, and it was just time. The task force developed principles that guide com-

media publications. The extensive historical in the know and in the now, so this decision was also research conducted by the task force in 2021 greatly impacted by the current situation in the community-at-large, with all the painful things happening spectives to form the 22 recommendations in the Indigenous community. We didn't take this decision lightly, but it definitely needed to happen.

force was that we're not trying to erase

the history of Ryerson University. We're adding to its history, its entrepreneurial spirit and its reputation for being modern and in touch with the reality of the present climate and culture. This name change says that we're progressive, we question what we've been taught and we move into the truth. The name is antiquated now and, importantly, it doesn't convey a sense of pride for members of our community. Hopefully, our alumni will feel that the university still represents the same values it had when they came to it

CATHERINE ELLIS: This recommendation wasn't a short-term response to current events, but it certainly is part of a global movement that is challenging the commemoration of colonial figures. When the Ryerson Institute of Technology was founded in 1948, it was the first institution of its kind in Canada. At that time, the Ryerson name provided credibility and created many opportunities over the decades. However, that is no longer the case.

Through our research and community engagement, can reduce harm and we can build a much stronger and been doing so for a long time. So, it's no longer appropriate to commemorate the legacy of Egerton Ryerson Three of the recommendations address through the university's name when it no longer aligns

versity helps us "walk the talk" of our values.2 tial opportunities for our students through the name. Individuals and organizations no Black students. longer want to be associated with an institution

named after a colonial figure. We recommended that the university cease commemorating Egerton Ryerson through naming, but we sequences of segregated education for Black students did not recommend that we cease to learn about or in Ontario are still with us. They are a contributing

3 community's understanding and knowledge between Black students and those from other groups. of Egerton Ryerson's work and legacy, and the history of the university itself.3

How does the report handle the idea of education about residential schools and **Egerton Ryerson?**

JOANNE DALLAIRE: Community members need to do some of their own research and, at the Egerton Ryerson that has guided his commemvery least, read the report. Reconciliation is for oration up to now is largely based on the idea non-Indigenous people to educate themselves. that he advocated and implemented a free uni-There's continuing pressure on Indigenous versal public school system that was open to People to tell others what to do about reconcilall students, and this was very progressive at iation, but we don't have all the answers.

report came out in 2015, the Truth and islation and reports he drafted, provided for. Reconciliation at Ryerson report came out in What these actually provided for was an edu-2018 and now we have this new report in cation system that contained multiple types of 2021. There are many resources available for schooling for different types of children identipeople to educate themselves and look for fied by race and gender. This is contrary to the

part of the problem. The true purpose of reconciliation women in STEM and create pathways to education for is to first of all reconcile within ourselves.

CATHERINE ELLIS: As our recommendations show, we How were Indigenous voices and practices certainly want to make educational resources more incorporated as the task force arrived at these readily available to the community. But it's recommendations? important to remember that there are so many **JOANNE DALLAIRE:** Throughout the work of the task

power of action by non-Indigenous people.

report has done is bring these points home. cessfully for us. Many people think that reconciliation is not something that they are directly affected by or involved in. Our is the ceremonies—we started and ended report shows that we are directly affected, our actions each meeting with a prayer. This brought a religion and gender

we learned that the Ryerson name is now causing a inclusive community. It's not a choice anymore. It's lot of harm. It is negatively affecting community members—students, staff, faculty and others—and it has our community, reduces harm and acts on its values.⁵

advancing both Indigenous and Black with the university's values. Renaming the uni-scholarship. Why was it important to include

scholarships for Black students too? Furthermore, as a career-focused univer- CATHERINE ELLIS: It's important because the sity, we pride ourselves on offering experien- legislation that Egerton Ryerson drafted and implemented over 30 years, as superintendent our community partnerships, and those part- of education, enabled the creation and perpetnerships were being jeopardized by keeping uation of separate schools and segregation for

Contrary to some suggestions and rationales given at the time, there is evidence that this was not what Black families wanted. Most importantly, the convalue our history. In fact, a number of our recommendations relate to education and increasing the comes and participation in higher education that we see

> It's important that we recognize the ongoing harm and take action at the institutional level by including scholarships for Black students as well as Indigenous students, and eventually expand them to include other People of Colour.

JOANNE DALLAIRE: The image we have of the time. But there is tension between what he The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's said he wanted and what his actions, the leg-

answers, because you're either part of the solution or way the university operates now—we strongly promote students from all backgrounds.

resources already out there. The gap is one of force, we were trusted to carry out our mandate from sincere belief in reconciliation, an understand- an Indigenous point of view. It can take a lot for ing of why reconciliation is necessary and the people to understand the difference between a colonial construct and an Indigenous para-I hope one of the things the task force's digm for doing things, but it worked very suc-

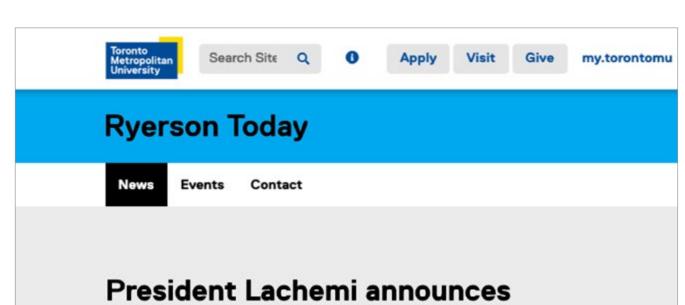
An important aspect of Indigenous events

Winter 2022 / Ryerson University Magazine 17

Preparatory Work — Internal Newsletter

Audience: Students, faculty and staff

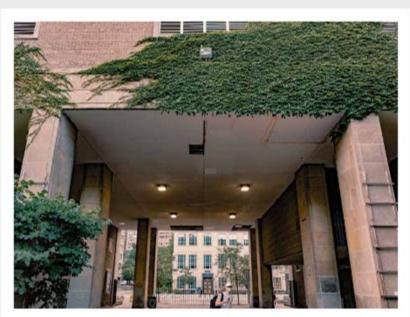
Objective: Establish an understanding of the breadth of perspectives that will guide the renaming process and commit to a timeline for the renaming



advisory committee on university renaming

Committee includes representatives from the student body, faculty, staff, Senate, Board of Governors and alumni

From the President September 12, 2021



A new advisory committee will guide the process of identifying a new name for the university, an important step forward in the institution's commitment to reconciliation. Photo by Alyssa K. Faoro

As announced on August 26, the university Board of Governors

accepted all 22 recommendations in the Standing Strong (Mash
Koh Wee Kah Pooh Win) Task Force's final report, including
renaming our institution. I am pleased to share that, as a next step

renaming our institution. I am pleased to share that, as a next step, an advisory committee has been assembled to guide the process of identifying a new name for the institution that reflects our university's strengths, values and aspirations.

The advisory committee, in consultation with our entire community, will help put into action one of the most significant changes in our university's history. Its work will result in recommendations that will be submitted to the university leadership for consideration and will ultimately go to the Board of Governors for a decision before the end of this academic year.

Committee membership

The advisory committee will be chaired by the Provost and Vice-President, Academic, Jennifer S. Simpson. Tanya (Toni) De Mello, assistant dean for Student Programming, Development and Equity, Lincoln Alexander School of Law will be vice-chair. Jennifer Grass, assistant vice-president, University Relations, will act as the executive lead. The committee membership includes representatives from our students, faculty, staff, Senate, Board of Governors, and alumni.

Jennifer S. Simpson

Provost and Vice-President, Academic (Chair)

Tanya (Toni) De Mello

Assistant Dean for Student Programming, Development and Equity, Lincoln Alexander School of Law (Vice-Chair)

Miranda Black

MASc student, Applied Environmental Science

Donette Chin-Loy Chang

Alumna and Honorary Doctorate recipient

Catherine Ellis

Professor, Department of History

Camilo Garay

Alumnus and elected member of the Board of Governors, 2021-22

Kiaras Gharabaghi

Dean, Faculty of Community Services, and Senator, 2021-22

Christa Hinds

Manager, Strategic Partnerships, Human Resources

Andy McWilliams

Chair, Department of Chemistry & Biology, and Vice-Chair of Senate, 2021-22

Krishan Mehta

Assistant Vice-President, Engagement, University

Advancement

Kiera Meinert

Undergraduate student, Media Production

Michael Mihalicz

Professor and Indigenous Advisor, Ted Rogers School of

Management

Marcelle Mullings

Executive Director, Office of the Vice-President,

Administration and Operations, and elected member of the Board of Governors, 2021-22

board or dovernors,

Frances Okoye

PhD student, Civil Engineering

Valerie Pringle

Alumna and Honorary Doctorate recipient

Brian Segal

Former President of Ryerson University (1980-1988) and

Honorary Doctorate recipient

Cheryl Thompson

Professor, Creative Industries and Senator, 2021-2022

My sincere thanks to these community members for taking on this important work. Finding a new name for our institution is an important step forward in our commitment toward reconciliation and in upholding the university's values and commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion.

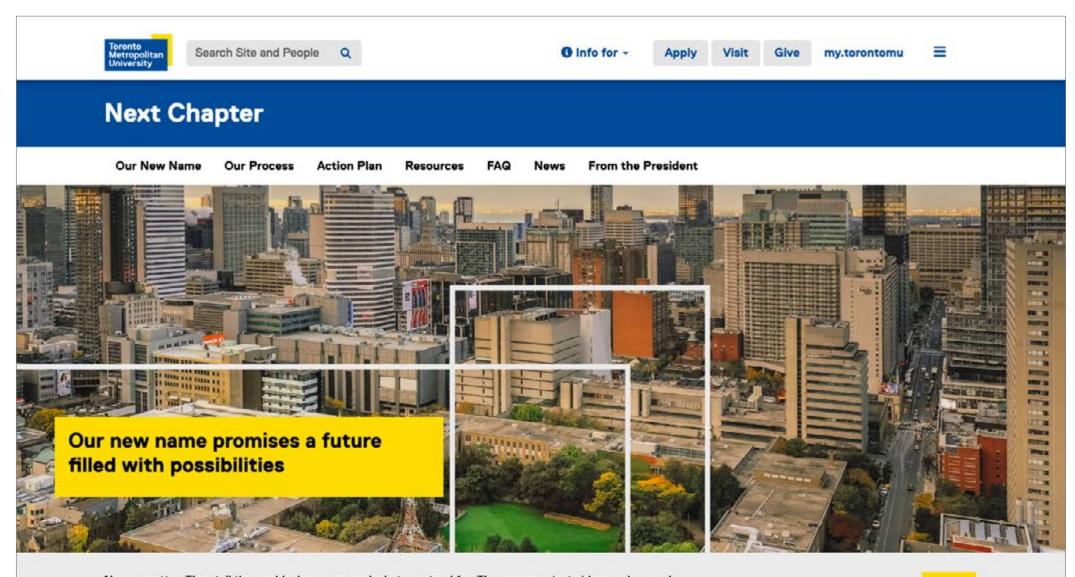
Stay tuned to learn how you can get involved

The committee will articulate the process for identifying recommendations for a new name for our institution. As was recommended by the Standing Strong Task Force, the process will be open, transparent, guided by our values, and designed to engage community members and university stakeholders.

Next Chapter Website

Audience: Students, faculty and staff and all external stakeholders

Objective: Provide up-to-date information, resources and materials for community members about the renaming



Names matter. They tell the world who we are and what we stand for. They communicate ideas, values and aspirations. They speak to the future even as they acknowledge the past.

A new name offers an invitation to be more inclusive, to imagine novel ways of thinking and creating — to open ourselves to new possibilities.

This is a new chapter for our university, informed by the pages that come before but open to the opportunities that lie ahead. Now is a time to recommit to the values that define us, to invite our community to gather around our shared mission and to shape a future in which everyone belongs.





The story of our new name

It's the many collisions between peoples and perspectives that take place in a metropolitan setting that drive innovation. As such, our name is as much a marker of location as it is a statement of identity, one that's befitting of a thoroughly urban university.







Next Chapter action plan

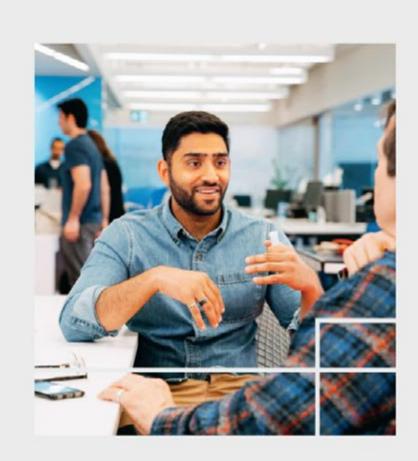
A new name is an important step in writing our next chapter, but there remains important work to be done to implement all the recommendations from the Standing Strong Task Force. Our action plan is a living document that will adjust, strengthen and respond to the evolving needs of our community over time.

Action plan

What comes next?

A new name ushers in an exciting new chapter for our university, and with it there will be many questions. Whether you want to know more about the rollout of our new name, the implications for our brand, or to gain access to new logos and icons, numerous resources have been developed to keep you informed and prepared.

Resources FAG



Contact To share

To share comments or questions, please email nextchapter@torontomu.ca.

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Media inquiries

Contact the university's media relations team

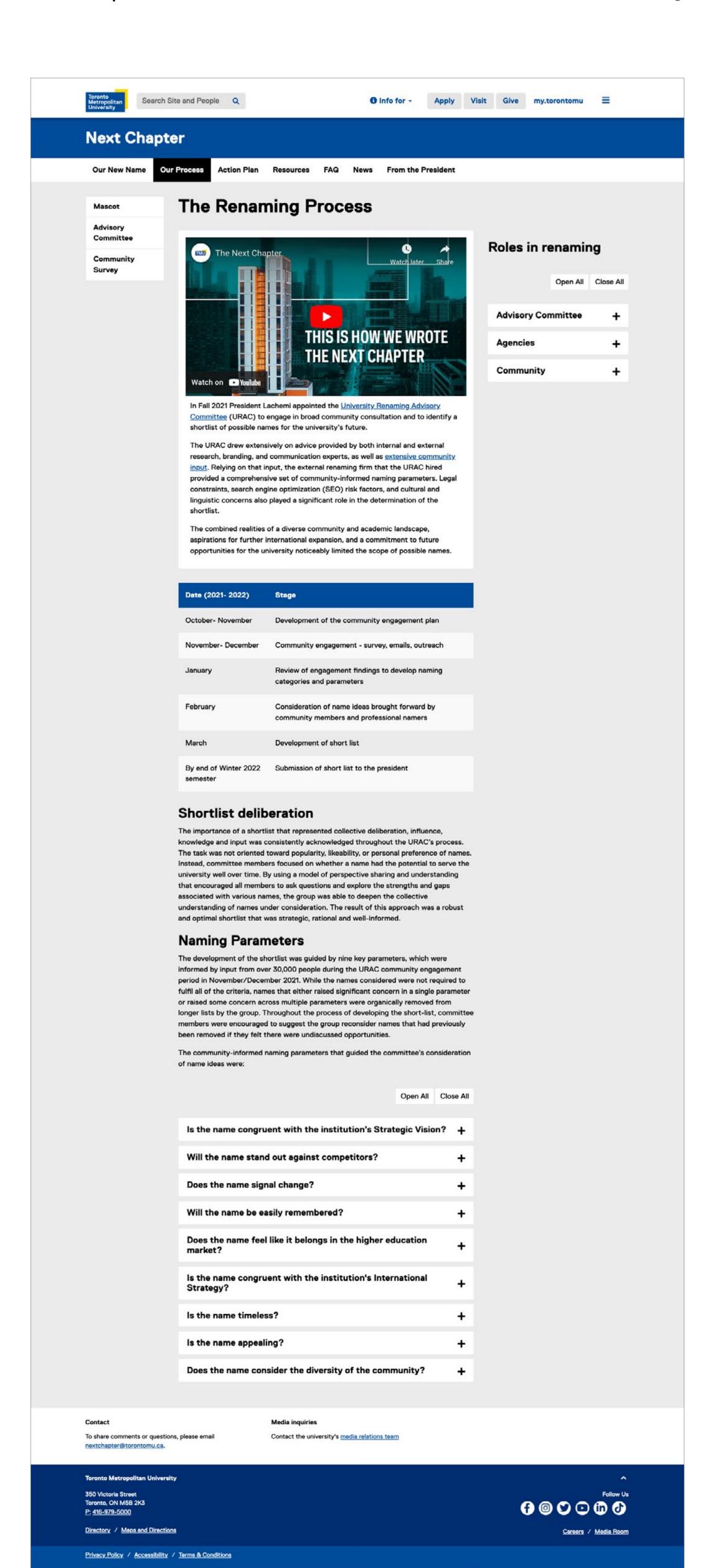
Toronto Metropolitan University

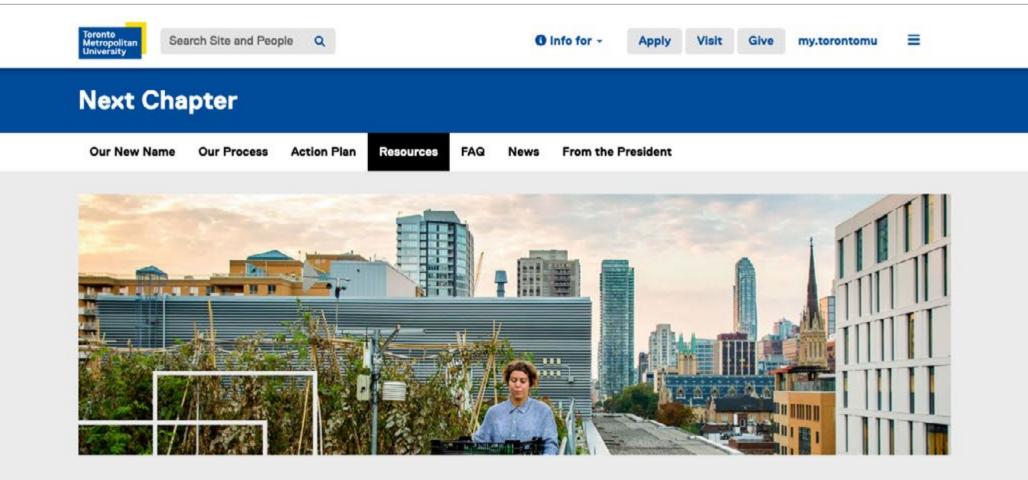
350 Victoria Street Toronto, ON M5B 2K3 P: 416-979-5000

Directory / Maps and Directions



Careers / Media Room





Resources

In April 2022, the university announced our new name of Toronto Metropolitan University, which will be adopted in a phased approach. We encourage students, faculty and staff to utilize the resources provided, in order to provide context in your communications and drive to the next chapter website for further information. For consistency, it is important to use the approved resources and terminology with the internal and external community.



For downloadable brand resources, please go to the TMU Brand website.

Ryerson-branded materials

Each department at the university is taking stock of the Ryerson-branded items used and distributed in our work and developing plans for how best to manage the transition to our new name.

The Branded Materials Transition Project is an initiative to prioritize opportunities to upcycle, reuse or recycle Ryerson-branded materials, including merchandise, apparel, stationery and keepsakes for example.

Land acknowledgements

One of the recommendations was to consider a new university protocol for land acknowledgements. As this protocol is reviewed, community members are encouraged to access resources about land acknowledgements and may continue to use the existing statement.

Education

As further materials are developed to provide educational resources about Egerton Ryerson, the university history and Indigenous history, community members can access the currently available resources.

- Standing Strong Task Force
- Aboriginal Education Council Resources
- Indigenous Canada Course University of Alberta 🖸
- Reconciliation Through Indigenous Education - University of British Columbia

Email signature

Use of the name, Toronto Metropolitan University, in the title/credentials section of your signature should be updated to reflect the new name and one of two options in parenthesis: (Formerly Ryerson University) or (Recently renamed). A note can be added below the contact information that provides context and links to the Next Chapter website.

Please copy and paste the email signature example below. Edit with your personal information and save to complete the set-up.

Learn how to create an email signature .

Full name (pronouns)

Title, Department

Toronto Metropolitan University (Formerly Ryerson University) or (Recently renamed) email@ryerson.ca

www.torontomu.ca

416-444-4444 ext. 444444

In April 2022, the university announced our new name of Toronto Metropolitan University, which will be implemented in a phased approach. Learn more about our next chapter.

To include the logo, click on Add an image > Web Address (URL) and in the field asking to Paste an image URL here, enter the following: https://www.torontomu.ca/content/dam/images/TMU-logo.png

Standing Strong Task Force

Our Next Chapter was initiated in response to the community-informed Standing Strong Task Force report and recommendations. The materials below outline the process, resources, findings and recommendations that are guiding the work underway.

- View full report and recommendations
- Appendix A: Task Force Terms of Reference
- Appendix B: What we learned: Engagement overview and analysis report
- Appendix C: External Scan
- Appendix D: Life and legacy of Egerton Ryerson
- Appendix E: Task Force reviewed documents, videos, podcasts and media publications

Contact

To share comments or questions, please email nextchapter@torontomu.ca.

Media inquiries

Contact the university's media relations team

Toronto Metropolitan University

350 Victoria Street Toronto, ON M5B 2K3 P: 416-979-5000

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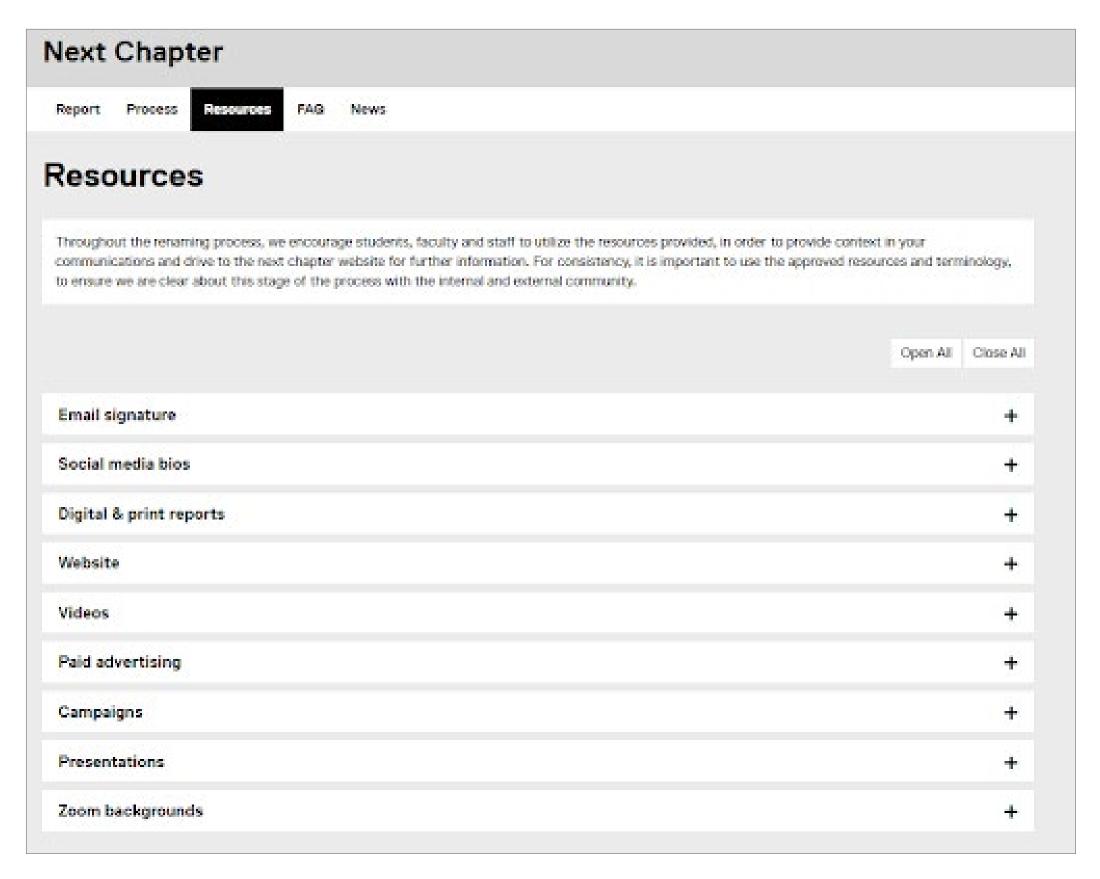


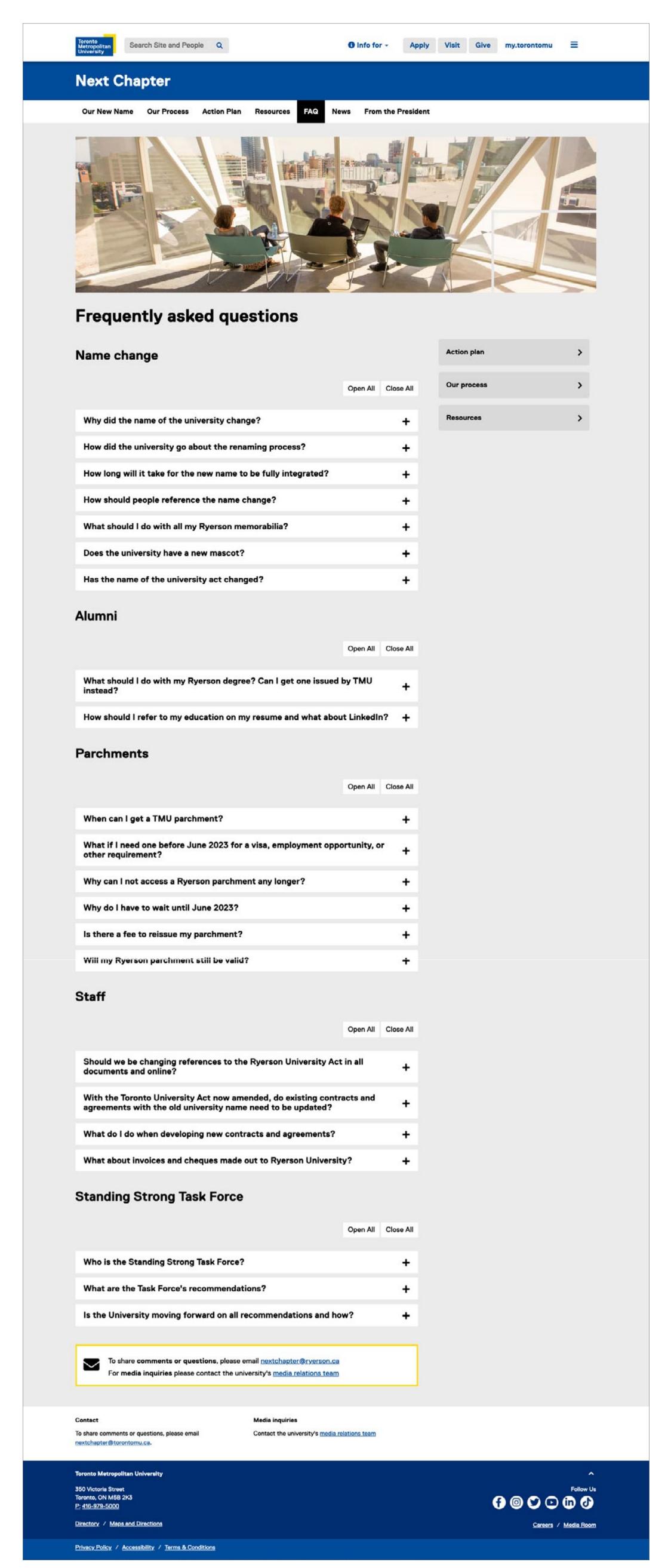


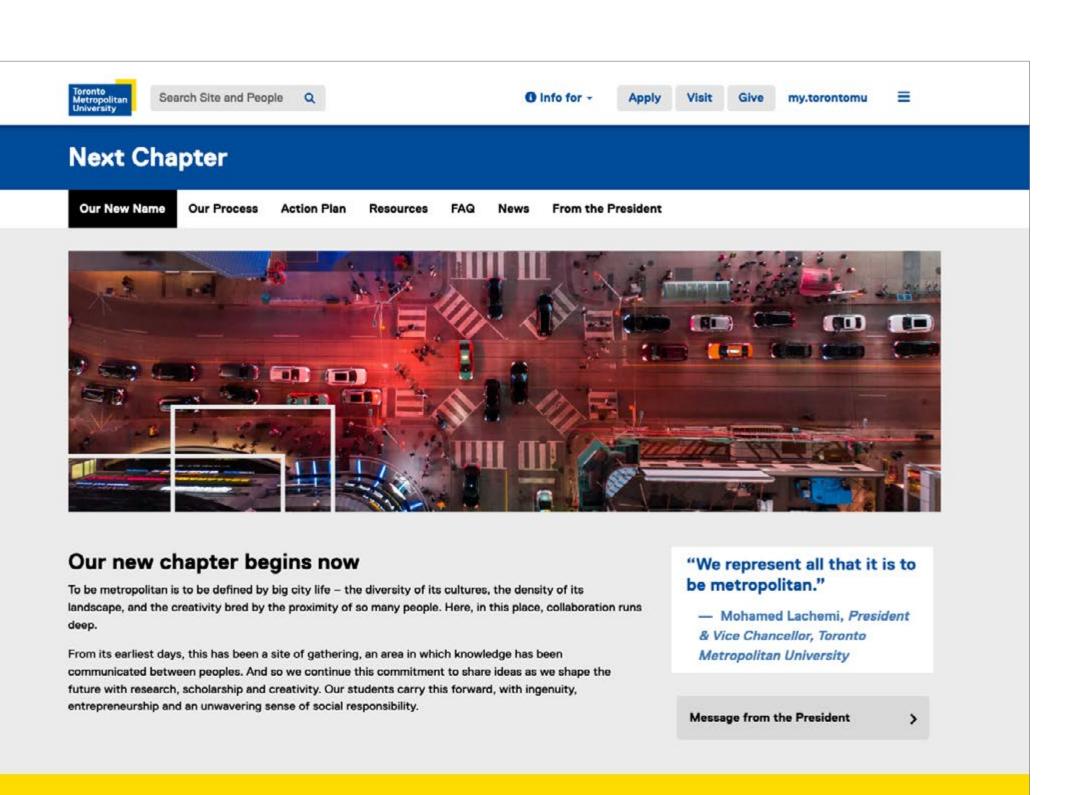
Careers / Media Room

Directory / Maps and Directions

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Our name, our values, our mission



If cities are one of humanity's greatest sites of innovation, then a university located at the heart of the world's most diverse urban centre is uniquely positioned to foster new ways of thinking and doing. We are at once a benefactor of this uniquely urban ingenuity, an incubator for its growth and a platform for its dissemination.

We are defined by our city and the communities that surround us, and we measure ourselves by how we give back to them – both locally and globally. This symbiotic relationship informs all that we do. From fostering inclusivity to our pledge to prepare students for impactful careers that steward transformative change to research that meets societal needs, being metropolitan is all about a collective commitment to creating a more equitable

To us, a metropolis is a place of multiplicity and belonging. Here we can be central and dispersed, unified and diverse.



Join us as we reimagine the future

A new name is an occasion to come together and write the future that we want to see. So, we invite you to make this new chapter part of your story. There is much to look forward to – from our first international campus in Cairo to plans for a School of Medicine in Brampton to the first graduating class at the Lincoln Alexander School of Law.

Our community – students, alumni, faculty and staff – have built a tradition of innovation from the commitment to build a better future. Whether it's through our leading experiential learning programs, our entrepreneurial ecosystem or our decisive city building efforts, the opportunities ahead are an invitation to improve lives on our campus, in our neighbourhoods, across the country and around the world.

Action plan
Our process
FAQ

Contact

To share comments or questions, please email nextchapter@torontomu.ca.

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Media inquirie

Contact the university's media relations team

Toronto Metropolitan University

350 Victoria Street Toronto, ON M5B 2K3 P: 416-979-5000

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Pre-launch resources and Op Eds

Survey launch supported through campus news

Audience: Students, faculty and staff

Objective: Encourage community members to provide insight on what the new name could be

TorontoMet Today

Events

Contact

2023 Archive

Update on finding a new name for the university

The community is invited to contribute ideas for names, and thoughts on guidelines for selecting a name

November 16, 2021



November 16 launches a three-week community input period on the renaming of the university. Photo by Jake Stendel.

Today the University Renaming Advisory Committee (URAC) launched a three-week community input period as part of its mandate to engage with community members. The feedback and insights shared throughout the engagement period will guide the URAC through the process of developing a shortlist of potential names for the university. The shortlist, along with rationale for the selections, will be submitted to the university president and Board of Governors for a final decision by the end of the 2021/2022 academic year.

How you can participate

From today (November 16) until December 7, 2021, we invite all community members to share ideas, opinions and perspectives about the new name of the university. It is important to the committee to learn not only from current faculty, staff, students, alumni and supporters but also to hear from historically excluded community members, prospective students and employees, and family of community members.

The easiest way for most people to participate is through an online anonymous survey 🗹 however, you are welcome to email the committee at renaming@ryerson.ca, share your thoughts on social media using the hashtag #NextChapterName, or mail a letter to the research firm: The Strategic Counsel, 1 St. Clair Avenue West, Suite 1200, Toronto, ON, M4V 1K6.

Similar to the Standing Strong Task Force approach which was guided by an understanding that "there is no one above, no one below, no one in front and no one behind," all submissions will be treated with respect and all perspectives will be valued for their perspective. To ensure this, all identifying information will be removed from all submissions.

Complete the survey [2]

Context

On August 26, 2021 the university's Board of Governors accepted the 22 recommendations put forward by the Standing Strong (Mash Koh Wee Kah Pooh Win) Task Force to guide commemoration at the university and to address the legacy of Egerton Ryerson. One of the recommendations was to rename the university through a process that engaged with community members.

The recommendation to rename was contextualized by the Task Force as a necessary step to recognize "the harm caused to community members by the ongoing commemoration of Egerton Ryerson, the impossibility of upholding our institutional values while commemorating Egerton Ryerson, and the necessity of advancing reconciliation."

Advisory Committee

At the beginning of September, President Lachemi announced the establishment of the University Renaming Advisory Committee. The membership includes individuals with a variety of perspectives, experiences and identities. The mandate of the committee is to help guide the engagement process and the subsequent curation of a shortlist of possible names that will be submitted to the president.

For more information about the committee and the renaming process, please visit www.ryerson.ca/next-chapter/renaming-process.









Toronto Metropolitan University

350 Victoria Street Toronto, ON M5B 2K3 P: 416-979-5000







Careers / M

<u>Directory</u> / <u>Maps and Directions</u>

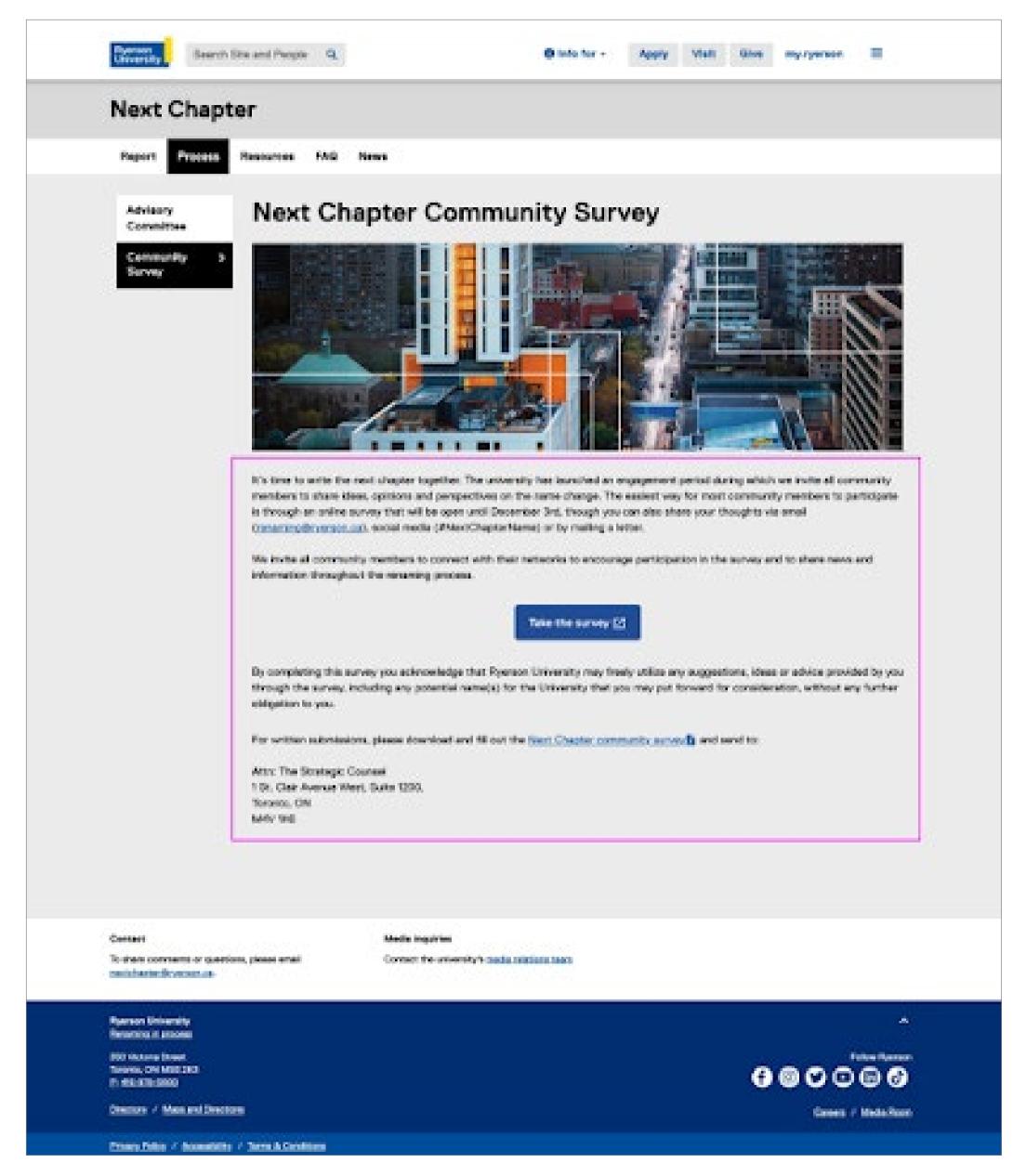
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Survey launch supported through campus news

Audience: All

Objective: Provide access to the survey in a way that could be shared digitally to encourage community members

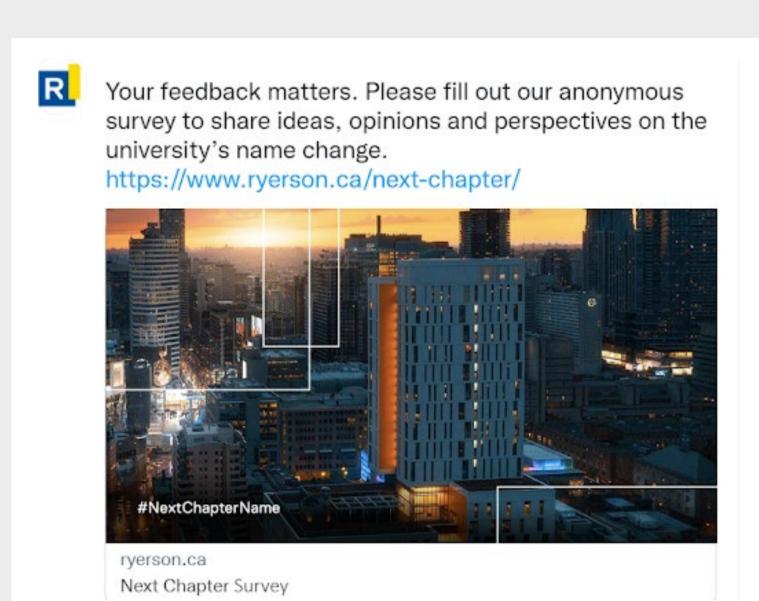
to provide insight on what the new name could be



Social Media

Audience: Students, alumni, prospective students

Objective: Encourage community members to provide insight on what the new name could be





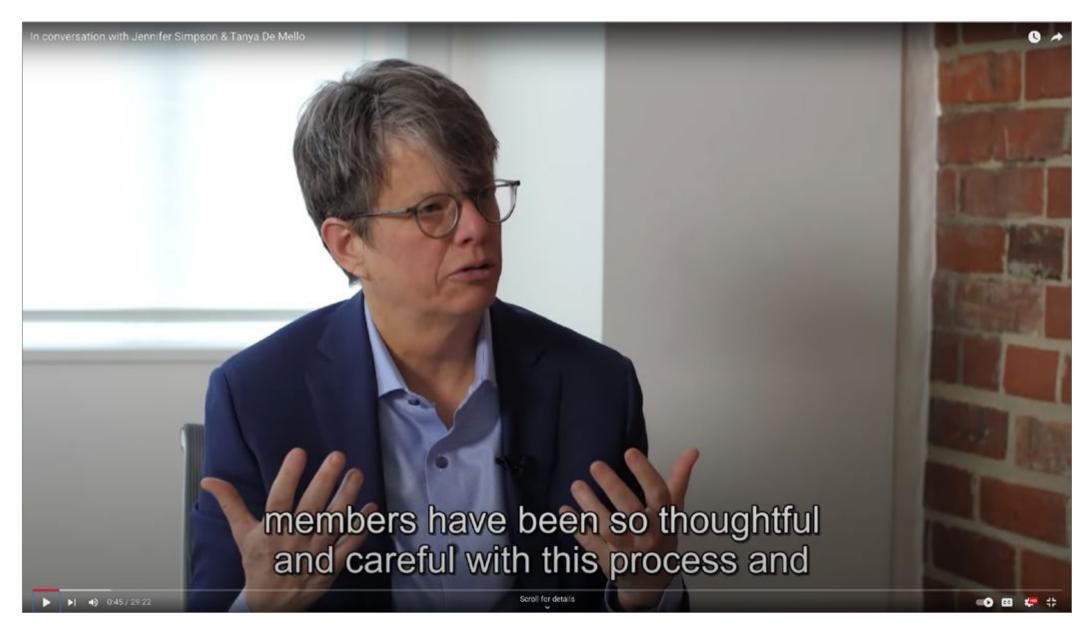


Pre-launch resources and OP EDS

Live Stream with Chair and Vice-chair of Renaming Committee

Audience: Students, faculty, staff, alumni

Objective: Provide answers to questions submitted by the community



University Affairs: Update on Renaming

Audience: Scholars, academic administrators

Objective: Explain the necessity of renaming within the context of post-secondary institution commitments to EDI and decolonization



News

Opinion

Features

be

In my opinion

An update on the renaming of Ryerson University

The work of equity asks leaders to support movement toward justice, even when we cannot always foresee or predict the path forward.

BY JENNIFER S. SIMPSON | JAN 28 2022



Post a comment







In the last couple of years, systemic injustice, its ramifications, and calls for action have filled the headlines and turned public attention to the disastrous consequences of inequity for racialized and Indigenous communities. The disparate burdens of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ongoing violence and harm done by institutions against Black communities, and the deaths of Indigenous children highlighted by the confirmation of unmarked graves at the sites of former residential schools in Canada all point to the need for significant institutional change.

Equity is a national concern and one that crosses every sector. Through decades of work by bodies such as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, as well as by Canadian organizations, institutions and communities, Canada is acknowledging its responsibilities toward anticolonialism and exploring the work of charting a different path forward. The Toronto City Council recently decided to rename Dundas Street in light of Henry Dundas' association with the Atlantic slave trade. In 2020, Queen's University decided to remove the name John A. Macdonald from the law school building because of the "conflicting message [the name sends] that interferes with the values and aspirations of the current law school." The names of our institutions constitute one area of possible inequity. A thorough examination of systemic racism and colonialism will necessarily investigate a range of realities, practices, and policies.

Ryerson University continues to consider its relationship to colonialism and racism, and to commit to different ways forward. In August 2021, the university's board of governors endorsed all 22 of the recommendations of the Standing Strong (Mash Koh Wee Kah Pooh Win) Task Force report. One of those recommendations is to "rename the institution in a process that engages with community members and university stakeholders." The task force's report notes that Egerton Ryerson "drafted the Bill that became the Common School Act (1850)," which supported the existence of separate schools based on race, religion, and gender. Ryerson's ideas related to education remained relevant to policies and practices well after 1850. While Ryerson made a range of contributions to public life, he is one of many public figures whose collective influence contributed to and/or sustained inequitable educational systems.

The renaming process at Ryerson University underscores a few critical points.

First, equity work speaks to our collective sense of purpose and life together, and not exclusively or even primarily to one specific cultural group. Anti-colonialism and anti-racism, and the renaming process at the university, will necessarily engage multiple communities. The outcomes of the renaming process will provide a way forward for, and benefit, the university community as a whole.

Second, equity work is urgent, and it requires more than awareness. It is not sufficient to name the existence of injustice. Institutions must change our practices. University leaders will ideally understand equity work as a central part of our professional and institutional responsibilities at this particular moment.

Third, while institutional commitments to equity will ideally be thoughtful and strategic, they will also involve uncertainty. The work of equity asks leaders to support movement toward justice, even when we cannot always foresee or predict the path forward.

Finally, equity work will involve disagreement, a hallmark of vibrant intellectual and educational contexts. Ideally, those engaged with this work will understand disagreement, at least in part, as informing a deeper understanding of a shared way forward, rather than centrally as a set of competing propositions and assertions.

The mandate of the University Renaming Advisory Committee at Ryerson is to develop a short list of potential names. The committee will forward the short list, along with a rationale for the selections, to president and vice-chancellor Mohamed Lachemi, who will then make a recommendation to the board of governors for a final decision by the end of the 2021-2022 academic year. This committee, led by myself in the role of chair and Tanya De Mello in the role of vice-chair, is composed of a diverse group of students, staff, faculty, and alumni who bring a wealth of experience, knowledge, and expertise to the committee's work.

Read also: Indigenous students, faculty weigh in on renaming process at Ryerson

One of the committee's first initiatives was to reach out to the university's constituencies for input. In November and December 2021, university community members confirmed the importance of collective engagement with the process of change. Over 30,000 students, staff, faculty, alumni, donors, university stakeholders and partners provided their input. This input will inform the committee's completion of the short list. The university will soon share publicly the approach to and plans for implementation of the 22 recommendations from the task force. The work of implementation will remain iterative, with multiple points for reflection and

Ryerson University, along with many other institutions and Canada more broadly, is implicated in the complexities and consequences of colonialism. The damage that colonialism and racism continue to cause is significant. As a community and an institution, Ryerson is opting to grapple with these complexities and consequences, to listen to what we need to change and to work out what is next. Moving toward equity will require institutions and individuals to name what is wrong and to imagine a different way forward.

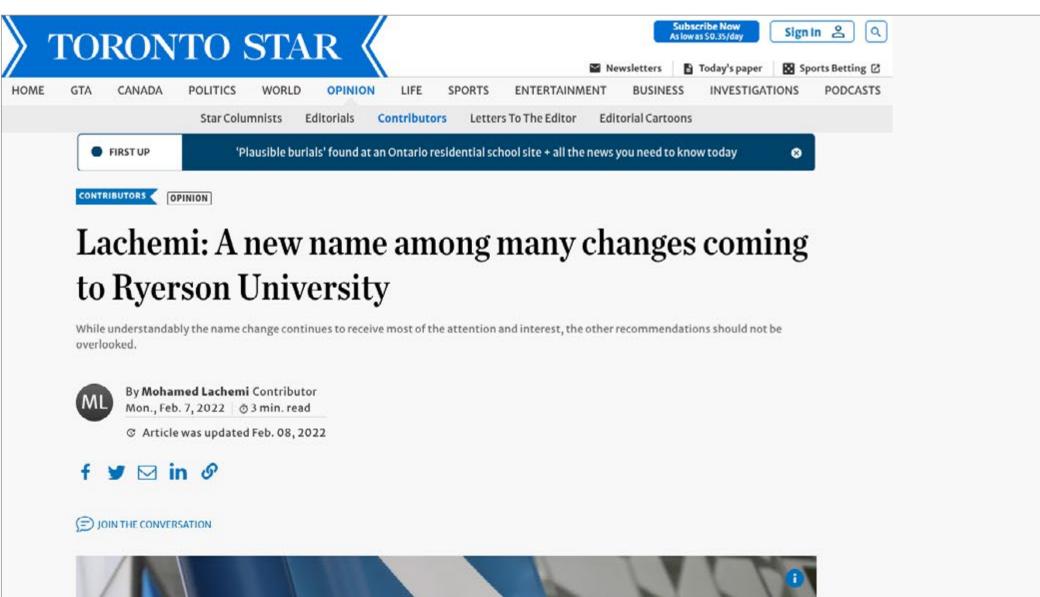
I would invite those interested in learning more about Ryerson University's commitment to the recommendations of the Standing Strong (Mash Koh Wee Kah Pooh Win) Task Force, including our renaming, to visit https://www.ryerson.ca/next-chapter/.

Jennifer S. Simpson is provost and vice-president academic at Ryerson University.

Toronto Star - A new name among other changes

Audience: Alumni, parents, broader community

Objective: Positioning of renaming as a single initiative of the university's EDI and commemoration work





Last August, when Ryerson University announced it would be changing its name, there was a wave of public interest and discussion. The name change, however, is just one of the 22 recommendations from our community-based Standing Strong Task Force that were accepted unanimously by our Board of Governors.

The task force recommendations outline the university's responsibilities under several themes — including the commitment to educate our community about Indigenous history and Indigenous and colonial relations; and to implement policies and procedures that guide commemoration on campus.

While understandably the name change continues to receive most of the attention and interest, the other recommendations should not be overlooked as they will continue to address our university's relationship to colonialism and racism, and our efforts to uphold our commitment to reconciliation.

The recommendations of the Task Force were informed by an immense level of engagement from across our community. We heard from more than 11,000 people, including students, faculty, staff, alumni and more. It was very clear that there was a desire to no longer commemorate Egerton Ryerson, and that putting a colonial figure at the centre of our university's life does not align with our values or our aspirations and does not represent a path toward reconciliation with Black and Indigenous peoples.

Only by renaming can our university move into a future that better reflects who we are today and who we aim to be.

Though many other colleges and universities across the country are dealing with complex relationships with colonialism, we are the first Canadian post-secondary institution to change its name in this context. We are charting a path forward, guided by our values, but there is no road map to follow in embracing this important change.

One of the Task Force recommendations was to develop an action plan by the end of January 2022 to address the implementation of all recommendations. I've had the privilege of reporting on our progress.

So where are we now in the process?

Senior leaders have taken the responsibility for implementing the individual recommendations and a great deal of work has already begun.

A University Renaming Advisory Committee has been appointed and tasked with determining a new name that can represent our institution. Suggestions have come from more than 30,000 community members, and their recommendations will help inform the committee as it develops a short list of possible names.

The renaming of the university and the creation of a policy on commemoration will be completed shortly. However, other recommendations, such as having critical conversations about a universitywide protocol for land acknowledgments and developing meaningful programming for our community to learn more about Indigenous history and colonial relations, will take more time.

To be clear, renaming alone will not eliminate systemic barriers. Institutions must change their practices, and we see striving for equity as a key part of our university's mandate.

Although we are taking a strategic and considered approach to moving forward, we know that the path toward the outcomes we seek is uncertain. It is not a perfect process, but it is a necessary one. We expect and welcome differing opinions as our community engages in the work ahead. Difficult conversations that involve strongly held opinions are familiar territory for a university, and we wouldn't have it any other way.

Later this spring, our university will announce a new name. There will be another wave of public interest, discussion, and no doubt criticism. It will, once again, be important to remember that the name change is just one of 22 recommendations that we are working on together, and that all of us at the university will continue to do the work to address our university's relationship

to colonialism, racism, and reconciliation.

Alumni Influencer Video

Audience: Alumni, donors, faculty and staff

Objective: To build excitement and provide reassurance of the ongoing inclusion of alumni and the history of the institution

in the process of renaming

TorontoMet Today



Events

Contact

2023 Archive

Reflections from Ryersonians

As we look ahead to renaming the university, community members weigh in on why it is important to move forward to the next chapter

April 19, 2022



Notable alumni have come together to discuss the opportunities that a new name will bring for the university.

Former university president Brian Segal and Ryerson University alumni, including communications strategist Donette Chin-Loy Chang, the Honourable Justice Gregory Regis, comedian Jessica Holmes, marketing expert Justin Poy, TRSM Indigenous advisor Michael Mihalicz and social justice advocate Marsha Brown, share their fondest memories and offer words of wisdom on how the university's values of inclusivity and open-mindedness will carry on as we welcome a new name for the institution.

Further information and ongoing updates on the renaming can always be found on the Next Chapter website. And be sure to follow the #AlwaysAlumni campaign on the alumni social











Toronto Metropolitan University

350 Victoria Street Toronto, ON M5B 2K3 P: 416-979-5000







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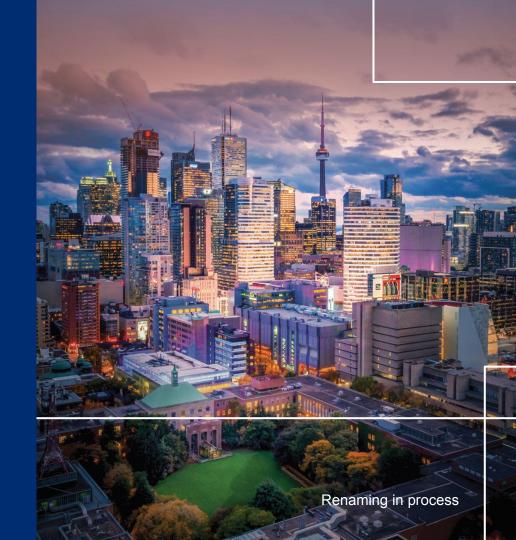
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Survey Results and Community Update

Update on Renaming

March 2, 2022





Our engaged community

- 21,820 completed in full
- 9,925 partially completed
- 1,820 social posts (#nextchaptername)
- 226 email responses
- 3 surveys sent via traditional mail
- **2,200** unique names



What we heard

- Names related to place/location and values/vision/mission are preferred by community members
- Notable persons was the least supported category however many community members shared the value of commemorating individuals of diverse identities
- While there were a range of name submissions, there were common themes and even names

Name considerations

- Many perspectives to consider when selecting a name
- Community insights helped to establish naming parameters
- Naming parameters will guide the process of name consideration
- Names considered from those submitted by community members and generated by professional namers
- Name options must be legally ownable and pass a series of linguistics and cultural checks

Where we are within the process

- With guidance from renaming firm, the URAC is filtering and assessing name ideas
- More in-depth linguistic, cultural and legal screening
- Development of a shortlist of viable name options and rationales

Timing

Complete	Oct - Nov	Development of the community engagement plan
Complete	Nov - Dec	Community engagement: survey, emails, outreach
Complete	Jan	Review of engagement findings to develop naming categories and parameters
Complete	Feb	Consideration of names: community and namers
In progress	March	Develop shortlist: legal/linguistic/cultural screens
Pending	End of term	Submission of shortlist to the president
Pending	Spring/Summer	Rollout as we move towards return to campus in fall

What can you do?

- Continue to use Ryerson University until a new name is announced
- Share updates from URAC and the action plan with your communities - via social, newsletters, emails etc.
- Reference Next Chapter website for updates
- Compile a list of assets that will be impacted (stationery, logos, marketing/comms materials, social media profiles)
- Send in your questions we will develop an FAQ resource

Contact us

renaming@ryerson.ca



Renaming Launch

Newsletter Announcement

Audience: Staff, faculty and students

Objective: Share the new name and provide rationale

TorontoMet Today

News

Events

Contact

2023 Archive

A new name for our institution

'Toronto Metropolitan University' honours place, community and values

From the president April 26, 2022



The new name for the university, Toronto Metropolitan University, was approved unanimously by the Board of Governors today.

Today marks the first page of a new chapter in our university's history. Earlier today, I was pleased to bring to our Board of Governors the name Toronto Metropolitan University, which they have approved.

Our new name Toronto Metropolitan University embodies so many things about our university, our community, our students, faculty, staff and alumni. Located in the heart of our country's biggest and most diverse city - we represent all that it is to be metropolitan. We are a gathering place for people from all over the world, from all walks of life, with broad and diverse perspectives, lived experiences and aspirations.

Our university is where it all happens - our energy, creativity, innovation and commitment to welcoming and accepting all who come here is what makes us who we are. Metropolitan also defines our aspirations to expand our reputation and reach, as exemplified by our new Lincoln Alexander School of Law, our first international campus in Cairo, Egypt, and our plans for a future School of Medicine in Brampton.

From its earliest days, the city of Toronto - our home - has been a gathering place. Toronto comes from the Mohawk word "Tkaronto," meaning "the place in the water where the trees are standing" - a place where people came together. I know our new name will continue to invite people from all over the world to gather - to learn, to teach, to share, to undertake scholarly research and creative activities, and to engage in new ways of thinking and doing. Toronto Metropolitan University reflects all that we are and our commitment to continue being a destination for the great minds, partnerships and discoveries that we are already known for.

I cannot think of a better name for our university. I am so grateful to the University Renaming Advisory Committee for their dedication and determination in finding a name that will unify us for decades to come. I also want to acknowledge all of our community members who have long advocated for change, and to all of you who provided ideas and perspectives to the University Renaming Advisory Committee - you have helped to make this day possible. My sincere thanks also to the Standing Strong Task Force for taking on the complex and challenging task of addressing our history - without your work we would not be at this critically important moment.

As we start the next chapter as Toronto Metropolitan University, I want to assure everyone that our new name is not about erasing our history. As a university, our values have long defined who we are and they will always guide where we are going. Our values are the basis upon which we have built our uniquely vibrant, diverse and intentionally inclusive culture. Our new name builds upon these values and, along with our 73 years of excellence and achievement, it is intended to be a name that unifies all of us - a place where all of our community members belong.

Our new name is a cause for celebration, to celebrate all that makes us who we are and to welcome all the ways we can make a positive impact on the people and communities around us - here in Toronto, across Canada and around the world.

I hope you will join me in embracing our new name of Toronto Metropolitan University, in continuing to challenge the status quo, and in knowing that you belong here.

You can learn more about our new name, how it will be implemented, and your role in welcoming this new chapter on our Next Chapter website.

Mohamed Lachemi,

President and Vice-Chancellor, Toronto Metropolitan University

Toronto Metropolitan University

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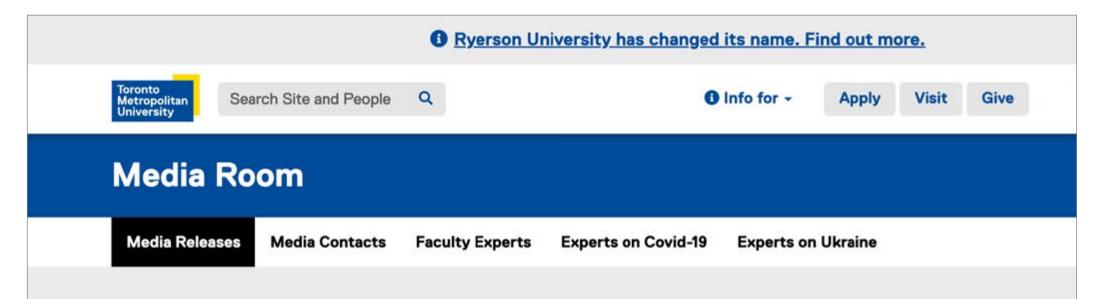
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News Release

Audience: Media

Objective: Share the new name and provide rationale



Ryerson University changing its name to **Toronto Metropolitan University**

Renaming is one of 22 recommendations put forward by Standing Strong Task Force to help the university address the legacy of Egerton Ryerson

April 26, 2022

Toronto, ON - April 26, 2022: Earlier today, Ryerson University's Board of Governors unanimously approved a motion to rename our institution "Toronto Metropolitan University" effective immediately. This change marks the start of a new chapter for the university, as it moves forward with a name that better reflects its values and aspirations.

"I cannot think of a better name than Toronto Metropolitan University," said President and Vice-Chancellor Mohamed Lachemi. "Metropolitan is a reflection of who we have always been - an urban institution dedicated to excellence, innovation, and inclusion and who we aim to be - a place where all feel welcome, seen, represented and celebrated."

Located in the heart of Canada's biggest and most diverse city, Toronto Metropolitan University represents all that it is to be metropolitan. The university is a gathering place for people from all over the world, from all walks of life, with broad and diverse perspectives, lived experiences and ambitions. Metropolitan also defines the university's aspirations to expand its reputation and reach, as exemplified by its new Lincoln Alexander School of Law, its first international campus in Cairo, Egypt and its plans for a future School of Medicine in Brampton.

The new name is the culmination of work carried out over several years. Following the Board of Governors accepting all 22 recommendations put forward by the Standing Strong (Mash Koh Wee Kah Pooh Win) Task Force, the university established a framework for the renaming process which included the formation of the University Renaming Advisory Committee (URAC).

"It was an honour to chair the University Renaming Advisory Committee, along with vice-chair Tanya De Mello. I am very pleased by the strong support of the Board of Governors and excited to have played a part in the adoption of our name which allows for a new beginning," said Jennifer S. Simpson, Provost and Vice-President, Academic and Chair of URAC. "Through our community engagement we learned that there was a strong desire - across all groups of students, faculty, staff and alumni - for the new name to reference our place or location. Toronto Metropolitan University reflects the feedback we heard and is in line with our values and our accomplishments that define who we are as an institution."

URAC oversaw extensive community consultations that generated responses from over 30,000 people and went on to review over 2,600 potential names. The committee produced a shortlist of names that were subject to several practical parameters including: ensuring alignment with our values, being intentionally inclusive with our diverse community, undertaking linguistic checks and trademark searches, and digital considerations.

Truth and Reconciliation is a key priority for the university, the renaming is an important and highly visible measure in the university's path toward reconciliation, and it is just one more step in the journey. The University remains committed to supporting the ongoing work of the Truth and Reconciliation Working Group and implementing all of the remaining Standing Strong Task Force recommendations.

"This is a very important moment in our university's history as we move forward with a name that better reflects our values and can take us into the future," said President Lachemi. "As a university, our values have long defined who we are and they will always guide where we are going. They are the basis upon which we have built our uniquely vibrant, diverse and intentionally inclusive culture. Our new name builds upon these values and, along with our 73 years of excellence and achievement, it is intended to be a name that unifies all of us - a place where all of our community members belong."

While the university is changing its name to better reflect its values and aspirations, the university's mission, vision and visual identity will remain in place to maintain continuity, recognizability and ease the transition to a new name.

Further information, including more background on the renaming process and ongoing updates on the action plan to implement all Standing Strong Task Force recommendations, can always be found on the Next Chapter Website.

About Toronto Metropolitan University*:

Toronto Metropolitan University, formerly known as Ryerson University, is Canada's leader in innovative, career-oriented education. Urban, culturally diverse and inclusive, the University is home to more than 46,000 students, including 2,900 Master's and PhD students, 4,000 faculty and staff, and 225,000 alumni worldwide. For more information, visit ryerson.ca.

*In April 2022, the university renamed and began a new chapter

Media inquiries Jessica Leach

416-704-2166 jleach@ryerson.ca

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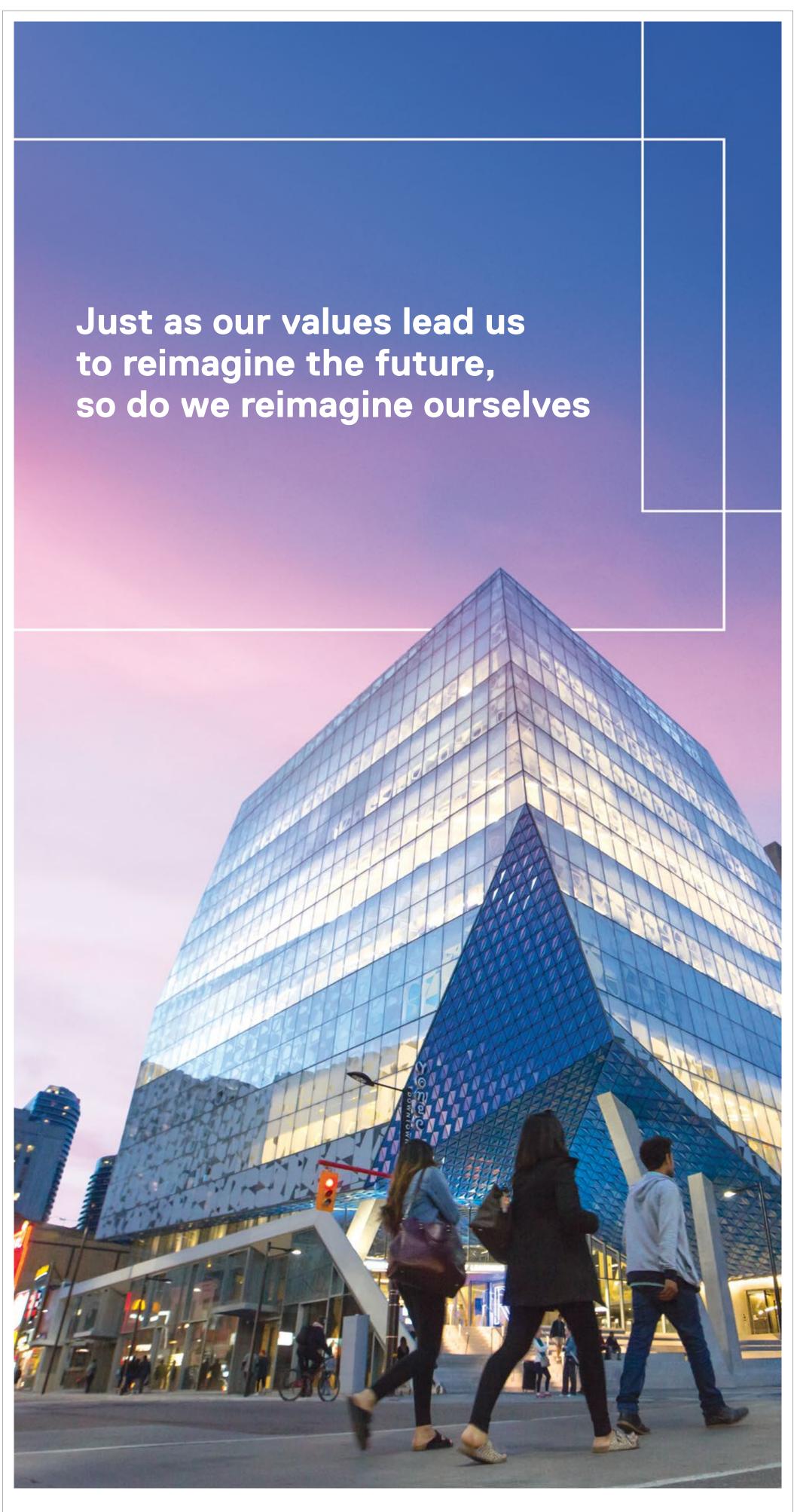
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Globe & Mail — Ad

Audience: Internal and external stakeholders and general public

Objective: Promotion of the new name





Names matter. They tell the world who we are and what we stand for. To be metropolitan is to be defined by big city life – the diversity of its cultures, the density of its landscape, and the creativity inspired by the proximity of so many people. **Join us as we reimagine the future.**

torontomu.ca

Toronto Star - Why Toronto Metropolitan

Audience: Media, Internal and external stakeholders

HOME

Objective: Provide insight on the appropriateness and strengths of the new name



Toronto Metropolitan University is more than just a new name for our school, it is a new chapter focused on growth, transformation and aspirations for our community, our city and beyond. It is a name that describes not only who we are but who we want to become.

Being a university named after Egerton Ryerson, with his linkages to the colonial administration of 19th century Ontario, was troubling to many in our community. A countless number of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends have told us time and again that the name of our university was a dark cloud over their engagement and all too often a source of division, frustration and pain. As such, putting a colonial figure at the centre of our university's life does not align with our values or our aspirations and does not represent a path toward reconciliation with Black and Indigenous peoples.

Embracing change and challenging the status quo are in our DNA. Our university is the product of an evolution that began almost from the moment of our founding and continues to this day. This is the fourth time that we have changed our name in 73 years as we have continued to evolve to meet societal needs. Consider that within just the past few years we have launched the Lincoln Alexander School of Law and are planning for a new School of Medicine in Brampton. Both of these professional schools were purposefully designed to be innovative, disruptive, diverse and inclusive.

The search for our new name began with consultations that caught the imagination of our community. More than 30,000 individuals completed a survey that elicited ideas and identified criteria. A few common threads of consensus became clear: people wanted our new name to be attached to a location (Toronto and Canada) and to reflect our university's values and aspirations. They also clearly indicated that they did not want a name that commemorated a notable person.

More than 2,600 names were submitted, which were thoroughly reviewed and vetted, including considering best practice parameters such as: is the name congruent with the university's strategic vision? Will it be easily remembered? Does the name consider the diversity of the community? Are there any negative associations in the most commonly spoken languages across the university and Indigenous languages?

Ultimately, we needed a name that everyone could use with pride. A name for the future that will unite us. In Toronto Metropolitan University, we found that name.

Adding Toronto to our name in the most prominent way possible makes so much sense. We know that our city's name is recognized internationally, a fact that supports our vision to increase our global impact. I was born in Africa, have studied and/or worked in Europe, Asia and North America and I can say from personal experience that including Toronto in the name gives it more than instant resonance with people around the world - it comes with the incredibly positive impression of a city that is diverse, innovative, creative and open minded.

The term metropolitan reinforces our university's urban presence, influence and mission to contribute to building a great city. To be metropolitan is to be defined by life in a big city and its expansive suburbs — the diversity of its cultures and the creativity bred by the proximity of so many people. The collision of broad perspectives that takes place in a metropolitan setting drives new ways of thinking and doing. It is both a marker of place and a statement of identity: our community's identity.

Since its founding in 1948, our university has been an outlier in the province's post-secondary system. We like that positioning. Students are attracted to our unique form of education that offers a focus on solving real world challenges.

We are extremely proud of how our university has evolved over the past 73 years and we are tremendously grateful to the tens of thousands of people who helped make it happen. Emboldened by an opportunity to shape a new kind of institution from the ground up, our predecessors have considered post-

secondary education a blank slate on which to try bold, new ideas and it has worked. Our university is built on the shoulders of these early innovators and our new name is inspired by their dreams and successes. With deep respect for our past and looking ahead to even greater contributions

of its accomplishments and ambitions. Toronto Metropolitan University: this is who we are, and this is who we want to become.

Mohamed Lachemi is the president of Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University).

to our city and our world, I believe our university now bears a new name worthy

University Affairs - Moving Towards Equity

Audience: Scholars and academic administrators

Objective: TBD

University Affairs Affaires

News

Opinion Features

Career Advice

In my opinion

Moving toward equity: hard questions, shared conversations at Toronto Metropolitan University

Institutions of higher learning are ideally places where there is deliberation and reflection on hard questions, and a shared grappling with the public good.

BY JENNIFER S. SIMPSON | MAY 11 2022



Post a comment





The university at which I serve as provost and vice-president, academic has begun a new chapter. On April 26, our board of governors approved President Mohamed Lachemi's recommendation to change our name to Toronto Metropolitan University. As Dr. Lachemi stated in a message to our community, our new name represents not only who we are as an institution, but who we aim to be in the context of our location and values. The name Toronto Metropolitan University speaks directly to who we are: a diverse community alive with the energy and creativity that result from the convergence of many people and perspectives.

Our commitment to engage in a meaningful process to change our name is significant for a variety of reasons. It points to the continued necessity of institutions in Canada, North America, and beyond, taking responsibility for ongoing forms of racism and colonialism. In the context of higher education, our new name demonstrates that those within university communities, including senior level administrators, have a pivotal role to play when it comes to responses to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and other calls for systemic change. Finally, our new name points to the reality of this institution, through deep and sustained community conversations, learning what it means to move toward equity.

Toronto Metropolitan University's renaming process began with a willingness to address complicated questions. In the context of concerns regarding the harm done by our former name, in November 2020 Dr. Lachemi established the Standing Strong Task Force. In August 2021, the university's board of governors endorsed all 22 of the recommendations put forward by the task force. Renaming was one of those recommendations. In fall 2021, Dr. Lachemi constituted a committee whose primary purpose was to identify a shortlist of names so that the he could make a recommendation to the board of governors by the end of the winter 2022 term.

I served as chair of the University Renaming Advisory Committee (URAC) with vice-chair Tanya (Toni) De Mello. We had the responsibility of guiding and engaging with the 15 dedicated members of the committee to identify a shortlist and rationales for each name on the list. The work of this committee is now complete, and our deliberations have supported the adoption of a new name that speaks to our university's values and commitments. In the role of chair, I was especially attentive to four considerations: the importance of turning toward complexity and resisting simplification; the generative power of questions; the importance of a collective sense of purpose; and the reality of power and difference.

Universities are ideally places where there is deliberation and reflection on hard questions, and a shared grappling with the public good. Downplaying or retreating from the complexities, intricacies and lived experiences of institutional harm will generally make change in the interests of equity less likely. Throughout the process of changing our name, this university has had to consider the role that individuals play in historical forms of colonialism. It is critical to name the consequences of and contributors to colonialism, as well as resist simplistic understandings of our past and our present.

As a group of 15 people with various perspectives, backgrounds and experiences, the committee worked hard to understand each other's ideas and reasons for their interest in specific names for the shortlist. We were less interested in persuading our colleagues or bringing others around to our point of view. Questions and conversations that led to a deeper understanding of others' ideas and values were critical. As committee members, we were open to reflection and change in the context of our ongoing and rigorous discussions.

Further, as chair, I was interested in the group generating a shortlist that the entire committee could support, and that served as a set of names that represented our shared knowledge and recommendations. To support this outcome, we foregrounded identifying a list that would serve the university well, and that would provide a range of avenues for connection and belonging. In this sense, we stepped back from individual interests and pursuits. We necessarily spoke from situated perspectives and experiences, and toward a collective outcome.

Finally, our committee brought together a diverse set of individuals who inhabit complex identities. We identify with groups that are privileged and oppressed. We are from Indigenous, Black, racialized, and settler communities. We are students, faculty, staff, and alumni – some relatively new to the university community and some with decades of experience. Further, in the renaming process, we were working at equity in a context in which racism, colonialism, and other forms of oppression persist. In such contexts, and indeed across university settings, power differentials are real. Likewise, myself and the vice-chair paid attention to who spoke and for how long, and to each individual's proximity to institutional power and authority. We did our best to be attentive and responsive to these differences and their significance.

It is an honour to be at Toronto Metropolitan University, and to work with colleagues on our commitment to equity. We will continue this work, which includes multiple initiatives that address a variety of forms of oppression and inequity. There are 21 additional recommendations from the Standing Strong Task Force, spanning priorities from changing our institution's mascot to ensuring Indigenous content in our courses. I look forward to what our community will learn as we address these recommendations and initiatives, and to our continued commitment to new ways of thinking and doing as we move into our next chapter.

Jennifer S. Simpson is provost and vice-president, academic, as well as chair of the University Renaming Advisory Committee at Toronto Metropolitan University.







COMMENTS

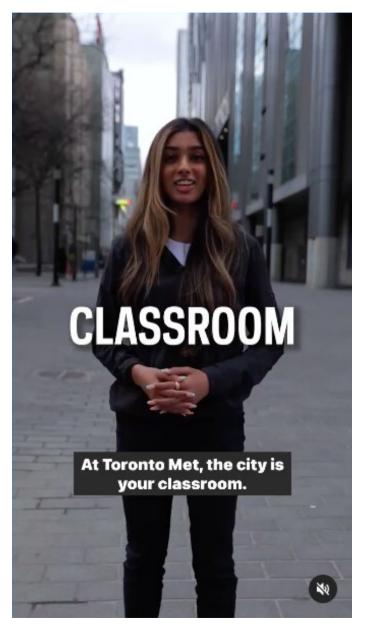
Post a comment
University Affairs moderates all comments according to the following guidelines. If approved, comments generally appear within one business day. We may republish particularly insightful remarks in our print edition or elsewhere.

Enter your comment here

Social Media Explainer

Audience: Students, alumni, prospective students

Objective: Share and explain the new name







Images of Renaming Campus Signage

Audience: Staff, students and visitors to campus

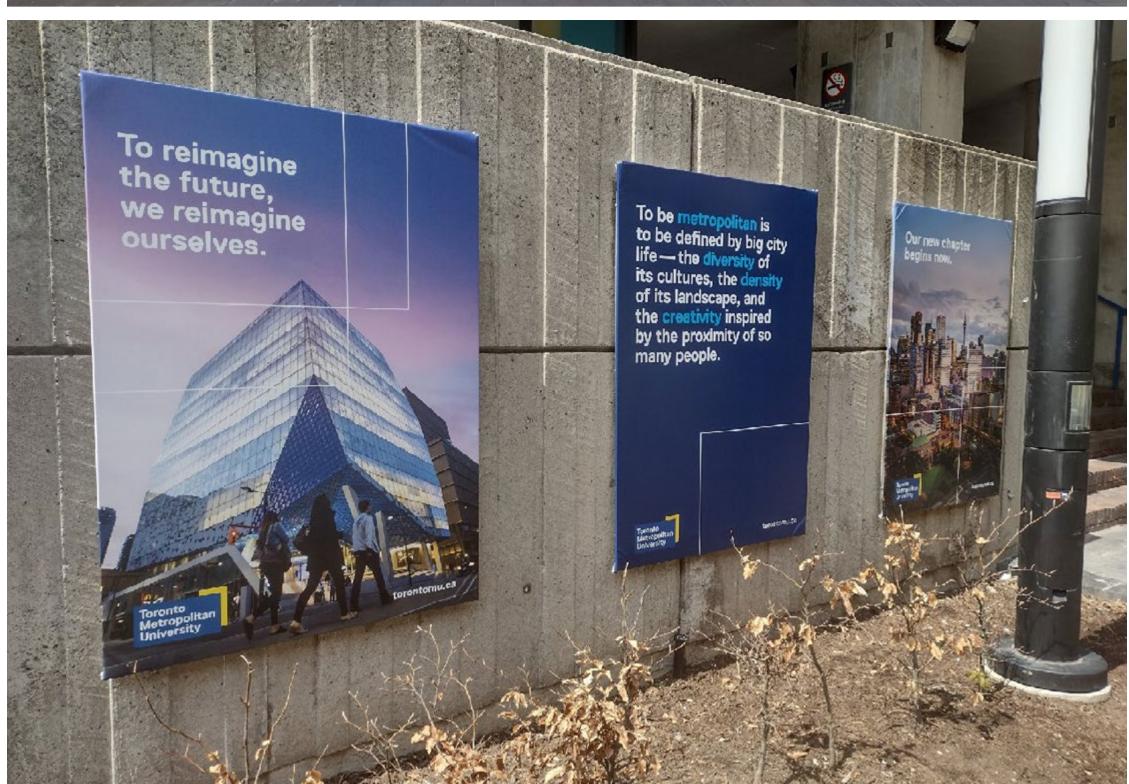
Objective: Share the new name and begin the process of placemaking on campus











Renaming Strategy Summary and Community Update

Renaming Ryerson University

May 25, 2022







Our New Chapter

In April 2022, the university announced our new name of Toronto Metropolitan University, which will be implemented in a phased approach. Learn more about our next chapter at torontomu.ca/next-chapter



The decision to rename the university was made in August 2021 when the Board of Governors accepted the final report and **22 recommendations** from the Standing Strong (Mash Koh Wee Kah Pooh Win) Task Force.



Commemoration of Egerton Ryerson

Recognizing the harm caused to community members by the commemoration of Egerton Ryerson, the impossibility of upholding our institutional values while commemorating Egerton Ryerson and the necessity of advancing reconciliation, we recommend that:

 The university rename the institution in a process that engages with community members and university stakeholders.

The Standing Strong Task Force

Broad community engagement

The Task Force reviewed input from **over 11,000 community members** after an extensive and heavily publicized two month community consultation period.

In-depth historical research

The Task Force oversaw the research and development of **Appendix D: The Life and Legacy of Egerton Ryerson** which draws from well over 100 cited works.

Extensive learning and unlearning

The Task Force deepened their understanding of various topics related to **commemoration**, **statues and naming** by way of presentations, institutional reports, media, and other publications.

Defining the Renaming Process

In the weeks following the release of the Standing Strong Task Force report and the commitment to rename, we:

- developed microsite to be source of truth for all SSTF recommendation implementation work
- committed to announcing a new name for the university within the academic year
- established a framework for renaming with executive leadership, an advisory committee and community engagement
- appointed the chair, vice-chair and membership of the University Renaming Advisory Committee (URAC) that would develop a shortlist of names and rationales
- identified the executive lead and project team to support the project

University Renaming Advisory Committee

The central mandate of the University Renaming Advisory Committee (URAC) was to provide the President with a shortlist of new names for the university, as well as to identify the strategic considerations of the strengths and possible challenges associated with each of the names on the shortlist.

The URAC reflected a cross-section of students, faculty, staff, and alumni in relation to their role at the university, their home unit, and their professional expertise and experience.

Leadership



Jami for Girepson Provest and Vice-President, Academic (Chair)



Tange (Toni) De Mallo
Assistant Deen for Glocket
Programming, Development
and Equity, Lincoln Alexander
School of Law (Vice-Chair)

Members



Addisons Atton Undergretate Chalest,



Donatta Chin-Loy Chang Aluman Hararay Doctorata



Cetherine Ellis
Associate Professo
Department of High



Carries Garay

Alarmac, elected member of



<u>Kinner Chambaghi</u> Deur, Pacuty of Community Services, Senator



Christa Hinds Marager, Christic Patrantipo, Human



Andrew McAfilliams Chair, Department of Charactery & Eichop; Vice Chair of Bends



Krishen Mehita Assistant Vice-President, Engagement, University



Kinn Mainert Undergreiteite student, Made Protestion



Michael Mihaticz Indigenous Advisor, Professor, Entreprensuratio & Strategy



Mercette Multinge Executive Director, Office of the Vice-President, Administration and Operations, elected member of the Sound



PhD student, Civil Engineering



Maria Pringle Marrie, Honoray Doctorale



Erian Gagal

Former President of Pywron

Linkwesky (1991-1999);

Honorary Controlle recipient



Chargi Thompson
Professor, Creative Industries
Security

URAC Process

- The URAC drew on advice provided by both internal and external research, branding, and communication experts
- Conducted three-week long community engagement period open to all submissions accepted through survey, social media, email and mail.
 - o 30,000 responses
 - 2,600 unique names reviewed
- Reviewed all names through a comprehensive set of community-informed naming parameters.
- Legal constraints, search engine optimization (SEO) risk factors, and cultural and linguistic concerns also played a significant role in the determination of the shortlist.
- Shortlist to President Lachemi before the end of the winter term







Communications Strategy

Communication Goals

- Inform all stakeholders of the decision
- Generate excitement and understanding for choice
- Demonstrate a commitment to our core values
- Enhance and protect the reputation of the university
- Control the narrative and manage potential leaks

Communication Channels

- University newsletter Ryerson Today
- Personal phone calls to stakeholders
- Media exclusive and scheduled op-ed
- Media interviews
- Direct emails to internal stakeholder groups from leadership - faculty, staff, students
- Webpages & social media amplification

Communications Strategy

Strategic considerations

- Much anticipated announcement (8 months in the making)
- A number of critics/adversaries who were active in sharing their perspective with the media
- Confidentiality in order to limit the potential for leaks the communications and marketing teams had to create/draft materials, educate community on timing and prep spokespeople without knowing the name
- Critical that urls/social handles were secured before announcement
- Not all community members felt renaming the right thing to do - not everyone would meet this news gladly - need to point to rationale and comprehensive and consultative





Pre-launch - January - April 2022

- MarComm team worked to develop a pre launch communications plan with tactics to help educate and build excitement for the coming change.
- Tactics included:
 - Ongoing updates to Next Chapter website
 source of truth for all name change info
 - Monthly email newsletter updates to community
 - Op eds in TorStar and University Affairs
 - "In Conversation with Jennifer Simpson and Tanya (Toni) De Mello" video presentation
 - Alumni influencer social media campaign





Pre-launch - January - April 2022

- Material preparation including Q&As (for president, other spokespeople and communications colleagues, government partners), website copy, template letters, social media plan and content
- Media training refresher sessions
- MarComm planning presentations to internal groups (between Feb. Apr.)
 - Communications teams from across campus faculties, zones, student-facing teams such as admissions and recruitment
 - Senior leaders deans and vice provosts
 - Senior support staff executive directors supporting deans and executive leadership team





Day of renaming rollout at a glance

- Morning of:
 - All drafted materials (message from the President, news release, messages to stakeholders, updated web content, social content) shared with MarComms teams for distribution/posting. Strict confidentiality asked of all staff.
 - Phone calls to VVIPs
- Board meeting at 12:00:
 - Final name shared by President Lachemi with Board, passed unanimously
- 12:30:
 - Globe and Mail given go ahead to publish story (provided 30 min window before university rollout)
 - Next Chapter website updated at the same time as article linked to it
- Approx 1 p.m., all university communications are executed
 - Message from the President is posted online and distributed via e-newsletter to community members
 - News release posted to newsroom and distributed to local, national and international media
 - Media relations team begin pitching, and lining up interviews for leadership
 - Immediate notice to all identified external stakeholders and alumni (VIPs)
 - Social media amplification
 - Later that day communications from Chief HR Officer and Vice Provost, Faculty Affairs sent tailored message to staff and faculty respectively

Renaming Launch Strategy

Media

- Globe and Mail Exclusive (April 26) story breaks
- Media release distributed CDN & International newswires (president available for live interviews with major outlets)
- Toronto Star op-ed by President (April 26 online, April 27 print)
- University Affairs opinion piece by Provost (May 11)

Website traffic

- Updated Next Chapter site. Within 24 hours of the announcement:
 - Next Chapter website pages were visited 15,745 times
 - Ryerson Today articles were visited 28,469 times

Emails

- Over 80,000 to faculty, students, staff and alumni
- Ryerson Today email was opened 40,316 times in the first 24 hours



Ryerson will be called Toronto Metropolitan University after board approves name change

JOE FRIESEN > POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION REPORTER
TORONTO
PUBLISHED YESTERDAY



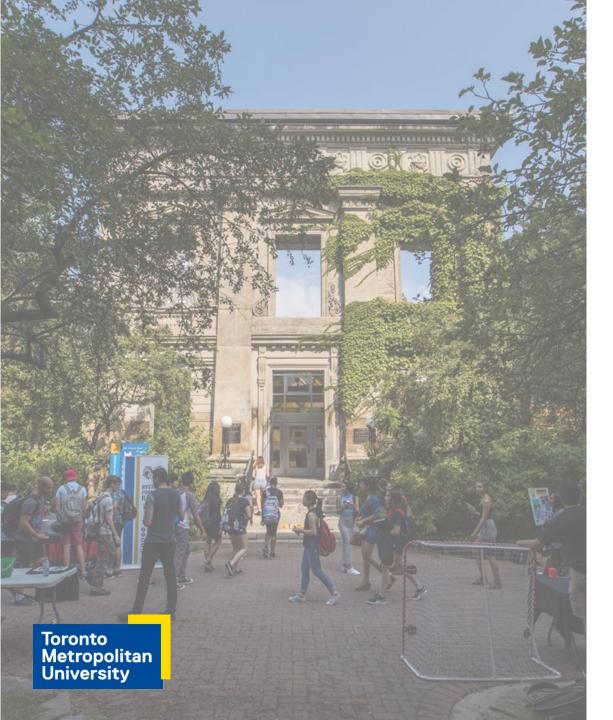
Exteriors of a Ryerson University building, in Toronto, on June 8, 2021.
FRED LUM/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

395 COMMENTS	→ SHARE	D BOOKMARK	
() LISTEN TO ARTICLE			~

Ryerson University will now be called Toronto Metropolitan University, becoming the first such institution in Canada to change its name in response to recent debates over colonization and historical commemoration.

A proposal to change the name was approved Tuesday by the university's board of governors. Ryerson president Mohamed Lachemi had recommended the Toronto Metropolitan option from a shortlist developed by a committee of professors, administrators, students and alumni.

The renaming process began last year in response to a task force that examined the legacy of the university's namesake, 19th-century educational reformer Egerton Ryerson.



Renaming Launch Results

Globe and Mail Exclusive (April 26)

- Potential reach of nearly 7.24 million readers
- Carried by 2 other media outlets
- Generated 4,800 social media shares

Toronto Star Op-ed (April 27)

- Potential reach of over 6 million readers
- Picked up by 3 other media outlets
- Generated 18 social media shares

April 26-May 2

 Over 3,670 media stories secured (1,020 print/online and 2,650 broadcast) Total potential reach of 1.35B

Major in-person Media Interviews

- CBC Metro Morning
- Global TV news
- CTV News

Renaming Launch Results

Instagram Reels

- 316K views
- 10K likes
- 20K shares
- 1.1K comments

TikTok

- 116K views
- 5.3K likes
- 575 shares
- 315 comments

LinkedIn

- 3.5K likes
- 377 shares
- 228 comments
- 10.5K link clicks

Twitter

- 1.8K likes
- 1K retweets
- 346 comments
- 1.9K link clicks

Facebook

- 876 likes
- 466 comments
- 318 shares
- 1.8K link clicks





Total Social Media Engagements

50.3K

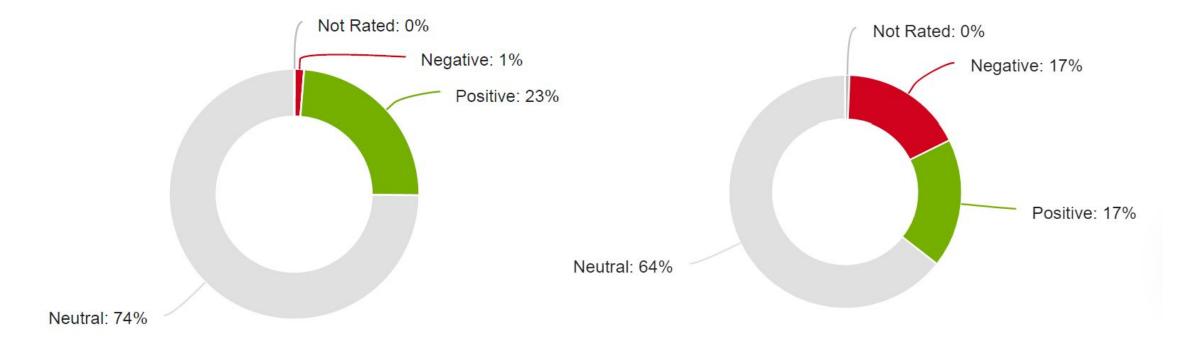
21.5K likes 12.3K shares 2.3K comments 14.2K link clicks



Renaming Launch Results

Earned Media Sentiment

Social Media Sentiment





Keeping the momentum going

- Print and digital advertising campaign with G&M
- Social media videos with students and leaders
- Resources for university communicators
 - Q&A and template letters
 - logo lockups
 - Guidelines for copywriting, email signature, web and social media (dos & don'ts)
 - Slideshow and zoom background templates
- Removal of some signs (larger plan lead by FMD)
- Updating priority videos with new name/logo
- New campus photography added to Media Valet
- Toronto Met marketing collateral (retractable banners, backdrops and podium signs) being made available for booking before the fall semester
- Branded merchandise is being developed with the Campus Store for convocation
- Brand and digital policy in development

Questions?