



University  
of Manitoba

Faculty of Education

# FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Strategic Plan 2024-2029

## Creating knowledge that matters

In leading change, UM will demonstrate advancements in exceptional research, scholarship, and creative activities to create knowledge that matters and that positively impacts the communities with whom we engage. UM will be increasingly sought out for our expertise and recognized for our contributions. To gain momentum, UM will:

### **Inspire knowledge creation by supporting and promoting an environment of excellence.**

Through this work, the Faculty of Education will:

- Enhance initiatives and resources that support faculty in successfully engaging in research, scholarship, and teaching, while increasing faculty recruitment and retention, and centering anti-oppressive and Indigenizing education.
- Expand experiential learning opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students by aligning coursework and research opportunities with responsive teaching programs and participatory learning in the faculty programs.
- Increase opportunities for graduate research supports, including advising, mentorship, and research assistantship experience, to continue developing skills for successfully engaging in research, scholarship, and teaching.

### **Identify sustainable and high-impact solutions through increased collaboration and connection across our campuses.**

Through this work, the Faculty of Education will:

- Identify barriers to promote programs that respond to students' needs and faculty's expertise. This includes sustainable solutions coordinated with resources, services, and supports already in place at UM.
- Connect diverse ways of knowing and being to identify new and unseen possibilities to create well-grounded, innovative solutions that address barriers faced by students, faculty, and staff.
- Identify and promote the strengths of our programs, locally, nationally, and internationally, to enhance the visibility of the Faculty of Education across our campuses while creating more streamlined pathways into education.

### **Build reciprocal relationships with communities to anticipate and identify solutions to emerging societal, cultural, economic, health, and environmental needs of Manitoba and beyond.**

Through this work, the Faculty of Education will:

- Build collaborative relationships with education stakeholders, creating more community-based research, and developing inter-disciplinary relationships with other educational institutions—locally, nationally, and internationally.
- Foster reciprocal knowledge exchange networks with key educational stakeholders in Manitoba, beyond including school divisions, and practicum partners, to work collaboratively and cohesively.
- Promote and recognize the faculty, staff, and students' strengths internally and externally with communities and UM to encourage knowledge creation in community (not in silos, whether internal or external).



**MOMENTUM:**  
LEADING  
CHANGE  
TOGETHER

## Empowering learners

In leading change, UM will empower learners through learning experiences that meet the needs of an increasingly diverse student body. We will provide researchers, instructors, staff, and learners with the knowledge, skills, and support they need to achieve their goals. To gain momentum, UM will:

### **Respond to changing needs of learners through the creation and advancement of supportive systems for learning and success.**

Through this work, the Faculty of Education will:

- Implement a continual reflection on policy and pedagogies that respond to the needs of learners in programs and realities in schools and the world, in alignment with Mamàhtawisiwin’s commitment to authentic involvement, centering learners, world views, values, identities, traditions, and contemporary lifestyles, and inclusive, culturally supportive learning environments.
- Ensure that information about academic and well-being supports and services is clearly communicated and consolidated for students, staff, and faculty, to enhance accessibility, address diverse needs, and foster student success.
- Identify and incorporate student-centered, flexible, and sustainable practices in delivering undergraduate and graduate teaching programs, including relevant professional learning and organizational development opportunities.

### **Build sustainable futures for learners by increasing opportunities for innovative and meaningful learning experiences.**

Through this work, the Faculty of Education will:

- Ensure undergraduate and graduate students have access to experiential opportunities to engage in learning, including Indigenous knowledge systems and ways of knowing, being, and doing in local community contexts, considering accessibility, accommodations, and protocols.
- Expand opportunities for students to participate in and contribute to their learning, welcoming diversity in praxis, and reflection in a rapidly changing world.
- Foster an exceptional student experience through a holistic approach that includes accessible academic support, mental health, and childcare services; flexible and inclusive learning options; equitable funding and teaching opportunities.

### **Foster an exceptional student experience by strengthening teaching and student support services across the university.**

Through this work, the Faculty of Education will:

- Invest in supports that provide faculty and staff cohesion, communication, and time to engage in high-quality teaching, research, and knowledge mobilization internally and externally.
- Develop more initiatives to ensure students, faculty, and staff have equitable access to inclusive opportunities for professional growth that respond to people with varied learning needs and diverse lived experiences.
- Identify and develop opportunities for faculty, staff, and students to collaborate in creating and fostering inclusive, responsive, and supportive learning environments across programs.



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## Reimagining engagement

In leading change, UM will be a partner of choice with the greater community. We will be a destination to learn, create, work, and play. In reimagining engagement, we will connect and thrive as a community for today and tomorrow. To gain momentum, UM will:

### **Strengthen and build mutually beneficial and reciprocal external relationships through meaningful and authentic engagement.**

Through this work, the Faculty of Education will:

- Support ongoing leadership growth in research grants and funding with international and national recognition in areas including anti-oppressive, decolonizing education, and 2SLGBTQ+ research and teaching programs.
- Become a welcoming and vibrant environment for faculty, staff, and students, expanding provincial outreach to newcomer and diverse communities as well as rural, northern, and Indigenous communities.
- Nurture/build alumni and donor network relationships to encourage consistent involvement and contributions to programs in ways that are meaningful and relevant for the Faculty, and students.

### **Empower staff, faculty, and students to thrive and succeed by creating a culture of belonging, well-being, and inclusion.**

Through this work, the Faculty of Education will:

- Centre a culture of relationality, belonging, and connection, encouraging consistent, accessible participation and engagement of staff, faculty, and students.
- Identify opportunities for authentic, deeper engagement with diverse communities, including Indigenous communities, newcomer communities, and historically marginalized communities, to continue supporting faculty, staff, and students in scholarly activities, and initiatives to increase and reinvigorate a culture of belonging in teaching and physical spaces.
- Identify solutions to barriers hindering systemically marginalized students, faculty, and staff's access to successful participation.

### **Achieve sustainability and accessibility targets through community decision-making processes and institutional initiatives.**

Through this work, the Faculty of Education will:

- Identify opportunities to build and promote sustainable and accessible physical spaces designed to facilitate being in community, including opportunities for land healing.
- Increase initiatives for staff, faculty, and students to participate in the decision-making process to reach sustainability goals, including meaningful community partnerships.
- Reduce waste and greenhouse gas emissions to reach sustainability goals informed by our Climate Action Plan.



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