

UPEI Future Directions Update – December 10, 2012

In early 2012, UPEI's Future Directions initiative was introduced to our campus community. The key objective of Future Directions is to focus on identifying our strengths, opportunities, and ideas that will guide UPEI into a thriving, sustainable future.

I am very pleased that we have successfully completed the first two of the four phases of Future Directions. From January to May our community participated in a critical dialogue that resulted in the development of our UPEI Vision Document.

From June to October, we built upon the input and energy of these discussions with the second phase of Future Directions – the Dare to Dream campaign. Dare to Dream has been very successful thanks to the engagement and idea sharing of our students, staff, faculty and alumni. With more than 130 ideas for our future success and development submitted, we are in good shape to move to the next phase of this important University initiative.

From December 2012 to March 2013, phase three of Future Directions – the 'design' phase – will take place. During this phase, our Vice Presidents will work with the Dare to Dream ideas and other strategic priorities to develop the Strategic Action Plan for our University.

UPEI's Strategic Action Plan will provide a clear roadmap for our University's development over the next five years. Recognizing our commitment to transparency and accountability, this plan will be widely shared and include a reporting framework. The fourth and final phase of the Future Directions initiative will be the delivery of priorities outlined in UPEI's Strategic Action Plan.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to our campus community for the vast amount of input provided and the genuine eagerness that has been demonstrated in the interest of making UPEI the best University possible. Your participation in Future Directions over the past year has been critical.

However, we all recognize that to be truly transformative there is yet more to be accomplished. In the coming weeks and months we will continue to depend on your engagement, input, and collaboration to meet the challenges that lay ahead.

I look forward to sharing with you timely updates on the progress of our Vice Presidents' task in developing the UPEI Strategic Action Plan and the role we can all play to ensure the success of our future direction.

With thanks,

Alaa Abd-El-Aziz
UPEI President and Vice Chancellor