

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that the University of Prince Edward Island is located on the unceded and ancestral lands of the Mi'kmaw people, known to them as Epekwitk, a traditional district in the territory of Mi'kma'ki.

APOLOGY TO THE UPEI CAMPUS COMMUNITY

The *University of Prince Edward Island Review (UPEI Review)* released in June 2023 revealed a culture at UPEI that has not lived up to the values that we put forth as an institution of higher learning and as a workplace dedicated to fair and inclusive treatment.

Although the *UPEI Review* is not specific as to when events occurred, it recounts troubling incidents that have impacted our employees and students over many years. The review expresses important concerns about the need for improved policies and procedures on harassment, discrimination, and sexual violence.

Through the review, concerns with clarity and consistency of UPEI policies, processes, and practices were identified. As a result, the review outlined recommendations to significantly strengthen these areas and highlights further areas in which the University must demonstrate accountability in order to rebuild trust and build a safe work and learning environment.

We regret that, as an institution, we have not always lived up to our values and failed to create a safe, respectful, and positive environment for all members of the UPEI community. We apologize for the harms caused to members of the University community as a result of these failures.

The *UPEI Review* provides a number of recommendations that have been identified as crucial to strengthening the University's practices and policies, and to address any current conditions that do not reflect UPEI's values.

As leaders of the UPEI Board of Governors and current University leadership, we are appreciative of these recommendations.

We recognize that rebuilding trust requires continual, demonstrated effort and open dialogue with our many community members.

We are committed to doing the hard work necessary to earn our community members' trust.

The University and the UPEI Board of Governors are committed to the values outlined in our Strategic Plan and our Equity Diversity and Inclusion Strategy. The accountability provisions of the Action Plan represent a further commitment to protecting members of the community from discrimination, harassment, and sexual violence, and to building an inclusive environment on our campus.

We understand that we must do better and that we are accountable for encouraging and enabling the changes needed for UPEI and its people.

Shannon MacDonald, FCA, CPA, ICD.D (she/her) Chair, UPEI Board of Governors Greg Keefe, DVM, MSc, MBA (he/him) President and Vice-Chancellor (Interim)



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SUMMARY

In December 2021, the UPEI Board of Governors retained a Canadian law firm to conduct an independent third-party review of UPEI's policies, procedures, and programs concerning harassment, discrimination, and fair treatment.

In addition, the firm was retained to conduct an investigation into allegations that were brought to the University's attention concerning the former president.

Throughout 2022, the firm carried out surveys and interviews with current and former UPEI faculty, staff, and students. Surveys focused on a review of the culture on campus. Of those surveyed, 1,295 responses were received. In addition to surveys, 163 one-on-one interviews were conducted with current and former UPEI faculty, staff, and students. What was learned through these surveys and interviews formed the basis of the *University of Prince Edward Island Review* (UPEI Review) and the multiple recommendations that accompanied the report.

In June 2023, UPEI released the *UPEI Review* to the campus community and the public. To protect

the privacy of those who participated in the review's confidential surveys and interviews, the public report contained redactions. Redactions within the report were made by an external legal counsel with expertise in privacy requirements.

The details outlined within the *UPEI Review* were incredibly difficult for the UPEI community.

The report outlined deeply troubling incidents of harassment, bullying, toxicity, discrimination, and unfair treatment that occurred on campus over a number of years. The incidents have deeply impacted individuals, the campus community, and UPEI's overall culture.

The *UPEI Review* highlighted a difficult truth: the University and those with accountability for its oversight had failed to ensure that the University lived up to its institutional values—in particular, the values of inclusion, equity and reconciliation, and its commitment to fair treatment and respectful relationships.

The *UPEI Review* outlines how immediate change is needed in relation to policies,

procedures, and overall workplace safety.

The need to rebuild trust and safety on campus was identified as being imperative to improving UPEI's work and educational environments, and the overall culture of UPEI.

UPEI is committed to making the changes needed to enable the University and its community to move forward.

UPEI recognizes that the road to healing and rebuilding has to be authentic, meaningful, and informed by ongoing consultation with members of our campus. Based on what the University has learned over the past months, there is a strong understanding that a mandate to change is not enough. Clear actions and a new level of accountability to implement actions are needed.

Since early 2020, UPEI employees and students have experienced a series of rolling crises: the global pandemic; a hurricane of historic proportions; disruptions to teaching, learning, and work; leadership dismissals and changes; a strike; and the release of the *UPEI Review*.

Asking UPEI community members to come together yet again—following the release of the *UPEI Review*—tested UPEI on a level that the institution had never experienced before.

And yet community members did, and continue to, come together.

Collectively, our campus community has been clear in its message: UPEI must do better. UPEI must be accountable and transparent in developing and putting in place actions needed to ensure trust, safety, and responsibility within its work and learning environments.

Further, our community has expressed that the road to healing and rebuilding must recognize two overarching needs. The first being a recognition that the UPEI Board of Governors has to regain the confidence of the University and broader communities. The second being a commitment to timely actions.

The plan and actions that follow are UPEI's response to the *UPEI Review* and recommendations. The plan is informed by the feedback and candid dialogue that has taken place with UPEI stakeholders over the past six months.

In alignment with the guidance and expectations of our community, the plan focuses on accountability. In support of this focus, plan elements and actions are developed to build our campus culture in a way that ensures inclusion, safety, fair treatment, and respect are part of everyday work and learning experiences at UPEI.

RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR CHANGE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The need for UPEI to develop a comprehensive plan to address the problems identified within the *UPEI Review* is a key deliverable of the report. The *UPEI Review* outlines the expectation that the development of the plan would follow a highly consultative framework of internal and external consultation of those impacted as well as engaging with experts to help address recommendations "...aimed at ensuring that the University provides its community members with a safe environment for working and learning, and enhancing the University's response to harassment, discrimination, fair treatment, and sexual violence." (Rubin Thomlinson LLP, *UPEI Review*, June 2023, p. 73)

Since the release of the *UPEI Review* and recommendations, UPEI has worked to

demonstrate its commitment to listen, learn, and rebuild. This includes recognizing the roles that accountability, transparency, and respect play in every step of the path forward.

This process has been challenging on many levels. The greatest challenge has undoubtedly been asking people—co-workers, colleagues, students and, in many instances, friends and neighbours—who have experienced harm and challenges to engage with UPEI in a process to help change the culture. This is a significant request considering the extent of harm outlined in the *UPEI Review* and challenges of the past few years.

However, the campus community did engage. And the honesty and courage of our community members has been overwhelming.

Although discussions alone do not resolve the challenges, the willingness of our community to come together to share their experiences, listen to each other, and address difficult truths has enabled the campus community to begin the process needed for healing and finding a way forward.

These discussions have provided UPEI with a very clear mandate to vastly improve its culture.

In doing so, UPEI must deliver on a new level of accountability for developing and delivering on actions to ensure trust, safety, and responsibility within its work and learning environments.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

The consultation process following the release of the *UPEI Review* has focused on bringing campus community members together through town halls, the development of a UPEI Action Plan Advisory Group with broad community representation, and campus listening sessions.

Following the release of the *UPEI Review* and recommendations, UPEI held a town hall for faculty and staff. The purpose of the town hall was for members of the University community to speak about UPEI's culture, climate, and the *UPEI Review*.

What the University heard during the town hall was an overwhelming reflection of how deep the personal and collective hurt was on campus. Although the day was intended to be the start of a journey of enabling the campus to move forward, it was quickly acknowledged that more listening was needed to enable healing.

UPEI immediately put in place more supports for the campus community, including additional in-person and remote counselling resources and disclosure pathways. To better understand campus members' experiences and where changes were urgently needed, an additional town hall for staff was scheduled.

In the coming days and weeks, the UPEI community moved through what many employees likened to a grieving process. Individually and collectively, members dealt with anger, humiliation, re-living harm, questioning their faith in the institution and its leaders, seeking supports, wanting to understand how such events could take place, demanding accountability, and determining how to move forward.

The second town hall for University staff members followed. With this second meeting came a clearer picture of foundational, day-to-day challenges throughout the University that ranged from unfair treatment; scarcity of people, resources, and processes; inequities in employee groups; and lack of access to information and processes to enable people in their roles.

Town hall consultations revealed long-term unresolved challenges that had resulted in the development of a culture that made people feel that they were not valued, did not have a voice or the ability to report challenge or encourage change, and lacked clear leadership and supports.

Dedicated employees who support students, collaborate with colleagues, contribute to the University's development, and build community partnerships expressed feeling defeated and embarrassed by the impact of the review on their service and careers. At the same time, employees were grateful for the support of many in the community who spoke up to recognize the positive and valuable contributions of the University and UPEI employees that reach beyond the problems outlined in the review.

Alongside an urgent need for remediation in a number of areas, a sense of pride in UPEI, its role, and contributions remained with many campus members, alumni, and students. Based on collective feedback, UPEI established additional consultation processes through the UPEI Action Plan Advisory Group and campus listening sessions to gather further input on UPEI's climate and changes needed to rebuild trust and safety.

The resulting action plan is informed significantly by the feedback and guidance of the Advisory Group and listening sessions.

UPEI ACTION PLAN ADVISORY GROUP

Establishment of the UPEI Action Plan Advisory Group (Advisory Group)

In response to the recommendations outlined in the review and initial town hall sessions, UPEI committed to the development of an Advisory Group with broad community representation to provide feedback on the development of the UPEI Action Plan. To encourage broad perspectives and input, UPEI encouraged community members with an interest in contributing to the consultation process to indicate their interest in participating through an open call for expressions of interest. In addition, unions representing unionized faculty and staff at UPEI each had the opportunity to appoint a member to be a part of the Advisory Group.

The University accepted expressions of interest from UPEI faculty, staff, and undergraduate and graduate students, as well as members of

the UPEI Alumni Association and the broader community. Members of the group were selected with an EDI lens based on their statement of interest in participating and their ability to attend meetings. Groups such as the UPEI Student Union, UPEI Graduate Student Association, and UPEI Alumni Association were also consulted in relation to representatives for their respective areas.

Consultation Process and Mandate

Composed of internal and external community representatives, the Advisory Group held two orientation meetings (September 27 and October 4, 2023) followed by weekly, four-hour-long consultations meetings from October 11 to November 22, 2023.

Led by a third-party facilitator, Sara Roach Lewis, the Advisory Group was mandated to:

- reflect on the *UPEI Review* and recommendations;
- provide multi-stakeholder perspectives on the issues; and
- provide feedback to help inform the development of the UPEI Action Plan to address the recommendations of the report.

In total, the Advisory Group collectively spent more than 650 hours reflecting on and discussing the recommendations of the *UPEI Review*. In doing so, it has provided thoughtful input and guidance on ways UPEI must challenge itself to recognize and address barriers that are preventing the University from living its institutional values. In addition, the Advisory Group has provided valuable input into what accountability needs to look like in order to rebuild trust and safety within UPEI's work and learning environments.

For transparency and to ensure that the Advisory Group's voice and considerable work is accurately reflected, the consultation overview and feedback for each recommendation (as prepared by the Advisory Group) is provided in its entirety in Appendix 2 – UPEI Action Plan Advisory Group: Overview and Guidance.

Advisory Group Membership

Advisory Group feedback and guidance was informed by a broad group of UPEI and community members with diverse and relevant experience. Within the group are members with expertise in areas relating to EDI, sexualized violence, and racism. Members of the UPEI Action Plan Advisory Group are listed below; for brief biographies, please refer to Appendix 2.

Appointed Members

Margot Rejskind (appointed by UPEI Faculty Association) Jaclyn Borden (appointed by CUPE 1870) Dave Csernyik (appointed by CUPE 501) MJ Rogers (appointed by IBEW 1928)

Members via Expression of Interest

UPEI Students

Nicole Jay (Undergraduate Student) Saugat Shrestha (Undergraduate Student) Sasha Nandlal (Graduate Student) Nabeel Zafar (Graduate Student)

UPEI Faculty

Blake Jelley

UPEI Staff

Shannon Snow Missy Chareka

UPEI Deans

Nola Etkin Miles Turnbull

UPEI Alumni

Sharon Anderson June Jenkins Sanderson

PEI Community Representatives

Eileen Conboy Lucky Fusca Jane Ledwell Karen MacDonald Sharon O'Brien

Sobia Ali-Faisal

LISTENING SESSIONS

Alongside the work of the Advisory Group, UPEI's interim president held a series of campus listening sessions from September 25 to November 20, 2023. The purpose of these sessions was to learn more

about faculty, staff, and student experiences as well as their concerns and suggestions on how to improve the climate and culture on campus.

The listening sessions enabled members of the campus community to express their views and provide candid input regarding the *UPEI Review* and recommendations directly to the interim president without their supervisors in the room.

Listening sessions included feedback relating to three specific questions:

- 1. How can we make our learning and work environment safer?
- 2. How do we build a more trusting and respectful environment on campus?
- 3. In addition to the information shared on steps the University is taking to address the report and recommendations, what other information do people feel is needed to help them on a daily basis?

Over approximately two months, 16 listening sessions were held across campus. Through these sessions, more than 350 campus members provided candid insights, asked questions, raised concerns, and challenged University leadership to take action to improve UPEI's workplace culture and learning environments. The input—which was often provided with emotion and a sense of urgency for change—provided clear insight into the work and learning environments at UPEI.

Listening sessions took place with community members from the following groups:

- · Faculty of Education
- · Faculty of Nursing
- · Faculty of Business
- · Faculty of Arts
- Faculty of Indigenous Knowledge, Education, Research, and Applied Studies
- Robertson Library
- Faculty of Science
- Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (2)
- Faculty of Sustainable Design Engineering
- UPEI Students
- Staff reporting through the Vice-President Academic and Research portfolio
- · Staff within Facilities Management
- An additional session for staff members unable to attend other scheduled sessions
- · Staff reporting through the Vice-President

Administration and Finance, Vice-President
People and Culture, Chief Information Officer,
and Office of the President portfolios

Staff within the Atlantic Veterinary College

Listening Sessions: Lessons learned and expectations for the future

In responding to the guiding questions for the listening sessions, faculty, staff, and students provided feedback that related to campus issues ranging from day-to-day operations to changes needed to improve the culture of the University over the long-term.

Some of the key themes that surfaced during listening sessions included: accountability; the need for more effective policies and processes; the priority of effective training for leadership and those supervising others; a strong indication of the expectation for mandatory training for all campus members on prevention of sexual violence; greater transparency and collaborative decision making; better information sharing and communications practices on campus; the need for more staff and resources for day-to-day operations; the need to value and respect people more; and the need for better ways to address

micro-aggressions and provide conflict resolution pathways.

The table that follows provides some common themes and points of feedback relating to the three discussion questions outlined in the listening sessions. Efforts have been made to summarize multiple points of feedback into collective topics to provide a sense of the range of input shared by the campus community. For ease of assessment, items are grouped by themes and placed in the column to which they relate the most. It should be noted that some comments are related to more than one theme.

Listening Sessions: Themes and Feedback

How can we make our learning and work environment safer?	How do we build a more trusting and respectful environment on campus?	In addition to the information shared previously regarding report recommendations, what other information do people feel is needed to help them on a daily basis?	
	Leadership		
Expected behaviour needs to start at the top. University leaders (including members of the Board and Senate) need to model the behaviour expected across campus and be part of the change process from a University governance standpoint.	The Board of Governors and senior leadership need to regain trust by committing to improving governance and following through on actions and commitments needed to improve the culture on campus. There was a significant impact on trust on campus due to the labour dispute, which is still	Leadership needs to collaborate more fully so campus members have a voice in planning and decision-making, including budgeting. Actions related to sustainability need to be considered.	
Leadership needs to demonstrate that 'bad' behaviour, including micro aggressions, that harms people and the work culture will not be tolerated. More process communication, early intervention and prevention is needed.	being felt. UPEI leadership needs to recognize how hard events over that last number of years have been on employees and the impact on morale and campus engagement. Efforts need to be made by UPEI leadership to help rebuild a sense of community.	The presidential search process needs to be transparent and demonstrate a focus on ensuring the next president is truly committed to EDI and has been thoroughly vetted. This includes providing the campus with opportunities to receive updates and provide input.	
The Board and University Leadership need to be aware of the level of trauma and burnout on campus and the impacts this has on physical and mental health, and a sense of physical and psychological safety on campus.	Make minutes of Board of Governors and Senate meetings more accessible and transparent so the campus community understands decisions and actions being made at the highest levels.	Ongoing listening sessions with the president without supervisors present would be helpful. Demonstrate that when input is sought, that it is heard and considered—and, ideally, acted on.	
Training			
Strong indication from all areas of campus community that training on Preventing Sexualized Violence should be mandatory for all campus members. Leadership (including Board) should set example for this and other training.	EDI training should be more accessible to everyone and included in onboarding of new employees at all levels. Everyone, including lawyers advising the University, need to be trauma-informed.	Employee groups are eager for more access to training, skills development, and professional development opportunities to enable them to carry out their roles and further develop both professionally and personally.	

Making bystander training accessible for all	A broad range of training needs to be provided for	
campus members would be beneficial.	those supervising others and with decision-making	
	authority.	
	Safety	
More security is needed on campus—especially	Some groups on campus are protected while some	The University needs to do more to support people
at night and in certain areas of campus that have	are not. The inequities cause problems in how	who reach out looking for help to navigate fair
classes, services, and activities stretching into the	people feel valued, in development opportunities,	treatment processes/reporting.
evenings. Isolated areas of campus need security	job security, and how they are 'allowed' to treat	
improvements (lighting/cameras) and security	others.	
presence.		
Resources need to be added immediately to SVPRO	People need to trust that systems work and that	Psychological safety needs to be recognized and
and EDI offices to improve processes and supports,	offenders/repeat offenders that are still on campus	addressed within overall health and safety at UPEI.
including education and awareness.	are being dealt with in the appropriate manner.	
More clarity is needed around imbalances of power	There is an urgent need for the Fair Treatment	The health, safety, and wellbeing of students
as they relate to students and faculty. Steps need	policy to be updated so that staff members feel	in clinical and experiential learning placements
to be taken to help students who experience a lack	protected in making reports and speaking up.	external to the University needs to be considered.
of safety in the classroom.		
Use best practices and lessons learned from the	UPEI needs to ensure that people who have	The condition of physical space on campus
hard experiences of UPEI and other universities to	harmed others on campus are not protected by	contributes to employee morale and student
improve safety and a better culture at UPEI.	collective agreements, policies, or NDAs in a way	learning and experiences.
	that allows them to continue to harm.	
Gender neutral bathrooms need to be up to	Racism, bullying, sexual violence, and gender-	
standard.	based violence should not be tolerated or excused	
	on any level. Campus wants to be confident that	
	harm is being addressed.	

	Communications		
Communications need to be timelier and more	More information on university risk management so	Simplify or better explain campus processes.	
transparent, so campus members are aware	that employees know the University views as risk	Processes in areas such as hiring, budget,	
of University planning, initiatives, and issues.	and the implications within their day-to-day roles.	onboarding, research services can be overly	
Communication needs to be concise and clear.		complicated and frustrating.	
The UPEI SAFE app needs to be kept up to date.	Additional communications, supports, and training	Communications on decisions, new processes,	
Campus members need to know about its features	is needed around institutional change processes	reasons for changes are needed to help guide	
to support safety on campus.	and online systems.	work.	
	Employee Engagement		
Many staff members feel they are not able to work	Many staff feel there is significant inequity and a	UPEI should consider using the Seven Sacred	
to their full scope due to management approaches	lack of respect for their contributions and roles.	Teachings as guiding principles for the University.	
and lack of resources. Inequities across campus	More collaboration and respect are needed on		
are noted by many as staff are often treated much	campus from all levels, in all directions.		
differently than faculty on many levels.			
Employees need pathways to provide feedback	Staff need to feel valued through development	More data collection is needed across the	
on supervisors' performance in a timely and	opportunities, being treated with respect, and	University to inform decision making. There needs	
confidential manner.	having access to the supports and tools they need	to be ongoing opportunities to provide input and	
	to do their jobs.	feedback.	
The number of ongoing contract positions leave	The HR classification system needs to be reviewed	Employees, alumni, and students continue to have	
some employees dealing with stress and anxiety,	as it is seen as a major barrier to staff development	a great deal of pride in UPEI. People want students	
as well as being vulnerable to reprisal.	and morale. Existing staff expressed concern	to succeed and be proud of their UPEI experience.	
	regarding new-hire classification of positions of	The culture and reputation need to be rebuilt to	
	comparable scope and function.	support this pride.	
	Provide mentorship for staff members within units	The Healthy Campus Committee should expand its	
	and across campus.	scope beyond fitness.	

DEVELOPMENT OF THE UPEI ACTION PLAN

Using the lens of the Advisory Group's input from its ten-week consultation process, feedback from campus listening sessions, consultation with government partners, and ongoing dialogue with the Chair of the UPEI Board of Governors and members of UPEI's leadership team, UPEI has developed key goals and actions in response to the *UPEI Review* recommendations.

The preliminary UPEI Action Plan is outlined in Appendix 3. The UPEI Action Plan provides a framework for how the University will respond to the recommendations outlined in response to the focus areas within the UPEI Review: Accountability and Acknowledgement; Strengthen Leadership; Other Culture Initiatives; and Improve Policies and Practices.

Within the draft Action Plan, UPEI has identified priority goals, corresponding actions, overall accountability, and the implementation timeframe for following through on actions. To support the action plan framework, implementation plans will be developed to support the implementation and evaluation of actions and initiatives in support of the goals.

To support UPEI Review recommendations, UPEI has identified priority goals and corresponding actions. As implementation planning is developed, additional detail will also be outlined, including:

- overall accountability for the action,
- campus partners responsible for implementation,
- · required resources,
- · identified challenges,
- · implementation timeframe, and
- evaluation metrics.

In many ways, the UPEI Action Plan will be a pledge to members of our campus that we recognize that things must change.

Understanding that intention does not equal impact means that UPEI leadership must be diligent in living up to its commitment to make the incremental changes and investments needed to establish a new culture that is anchored by the values of inclusion, accountability, transparency, and respect for all members of campus.

As indicated by the Government of Prince Edward Island, the UPEI Action Plan will be audited on an annual basis for five years. The auditor will

be determined in consultation with the provincial government partners. UPEI will post the audits to its website for transparency.

The feedback and guidance of our community members and the Advisory Group makes it clear that the core components of the UPEI Action Plan must be accountability and transparency.

The UPEI Action Plan will be shared with the UPEI and broader community for reflection and additional input in early January 2024.

Following additional UPEI and broader community feedback, UPEI will finalize the Action Plan.

Once adopted, the UPEI Action Plan will be an ongoing priority of the UPEI Board of Governors and UPEI President. As a priority, UPEI will be committed to the development, implementation, and evaluation of plan elements to ensure the University achieves the needed change in climate and culture required to enhance trust and safety within UPEI work and learning environments.

UPEI recognizes that accountability and transparency are required throughout the process and over the long-term to ensure

trust in people, processes, and priorities while responding to the *UPEI Review* recommendations.

In keeping with the recommendations of the *UPEI Review* and the expectations of community members, UPEI is committed to timely progress reporting on actions outlined in the Action Plan.

UPEI ACTION PLAN PROGRESS AUDIT PROCESS

A recommendation of the UPEI Review is for the University to engage in an annual audit process to assess the execution of the action plan and progress for the next five years. This recommendation was developed based on the need to rebuild trust in the Board of Governors and University.

In keeping with this recommendation, an audit framework and process will be fully developed as the UPEI Action Plan is finalized and an Auditor is confirmed.

UPEI is committed to working with the provincial government to engage an external auditor. Based on Advisory Group feedback, UPEI will endeavour to secure an auditor with expertise in EDI. Ideally, the auditor will have access to resources from another geographic location and experience with similar culture-change-focused audits.

UPEI will work to establish an internal process to support the Auditor's work and reporting over a five-year time frame. UPEI is also committed to publicly sharing the UPEI Action Plan and audit results on the UPEI website, as well as communicating action efforts and audit results to the UPEI community on an ongoing basis.

RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS FOR THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Campus Community Supports

UPEI is committed to providing resources and supports to members of our community. This includes additional supports needed as a result of the release of the *UPEI Review* in June 2023.

UPEI Student Affairs and International Student Office

UPEI has a number of resources for students through UPEI Student Affairs, including academic advising and personal counselling (studentserv@

upei.ca), and the International Student Office (irostu@upei.ca).

Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office UPEI's Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office (SVPRO) is a safe and confidential space for students, staff, and faculty who have experienced sexual violence, or knows someone who has, to obtain support. Call 902-620-5090 or email sv-pro@upei.ca for support and/or to learn about your options and connect with trauma-informed services.

UPEI created the Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office in 2018. The office was created in response to the development of the University's Sexual Violence Policy. The office administers the Sexual Violence Policy. It also leads education and prevention training and activities on campus related to sexual violence and provides sexual violence response services to faculty, students, and staff. The Office prepares annual reports regarding its activities, including the number of incidents of sexual violence disclosed and/or reported to the SVPRO. In 2022, the reporting structure for SVPRO was changed to report into the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Office.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Office UPEI's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Office (EDI Office) was developed in 2019. The EDI Office is responsible for supporting the strategic direction towards advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion within the University community. It is also responsible for monitoring the progress of the UPEI Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Strategy, and provides leadership to the University to ensure equity, diversity, inclusion, and human rights obligations and goals are being met. The Office also ensures that training and resources are available to faculty, staff, and students at UPEI. Learn more about the UPEI EDI Office at upei.ca/equity-diversity-and-inclusion or email equity@upei.ca.

New third-party counselling and disclosure support for UPEI employees With the release of the UPEI Review, the University

has coordinated two new confidential processes to support faculty and staff who have experienced harm from harassment, sexual violence, or discrimination at UPEI.

Confidential third-party personal counselling
The UPEI Health and Wellness Centre has
engaged a psychologist to meet individually
with faculty and staff, by appointment.

Employees may email Caylin Jenkins at cbjenkins@upei.ca, indicating "Appointment required" in the subject line. Caylin will coordinate with the psychologist and confirm the time and location of the appointment with the employee.

Making a confidential disclosure
People have asked about the process for
making disclosures of incidents of harassment
or discrimination by senior executive members
of the University. The University has established
an independent third-party process to address
any such issues with Resonance Inc., a
multidisciplinary human resources firm, based
in Saint John, NB, that specializes in workplace
assessments. The contact person at Resonance
is Trisha Perry, who may be reached at tperry@
resonanceinc.ca or (506)799-0412.

Employee Assistance

UPEI faculty and staff can access resources on the HR site on myUPEI while eligible employees can call the Employee Assistance Program at 1-800-387-4765 for support.

GLOSSARY

Anti-racism: is the active process of identifying and eliminating racism by changing systems, organizational structures, policies and practices and attitudes, so that power is redistributed and shared equitably.

Equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI)

Equity: is a principle of fairness in treatment, access to opportunity, and advancement for all members of the University community. It requires acknowledging that treating people equally does not always produce fair outcomes, and there is a need to eliminate systemic barriers and biases that have played a role in impeding the full participation of underrepresented or disadvantaged groups.

Diversity: means differences between people. This can relate to the groups protected by human rights legislation, and, also within the University community, can refer to differences in beliefs, disciplines, education, and values. Understanding diversity requires recognizing that people have multiple and intersecting identities.

Inclusion: is the creation of an experience where everyone on campus can feel welcomed, respected, and valued. Inclusion requires recognizing that some groups have been historically and/or structurally disadvantaged and meaningfully engaging with those groups.

Gender-based violence: is any act of violence (physical, emotional, financial, sexual) based on a person's gender, gender expression, gender identity or perceived gender.

Governance: in relation to UPEI, is based on a bicameral model:

- The Board of Governors, as vested by the University Act, holds the responsibilities of conduct, management, administration and control of the property, revenue, business, and affairs of the University, and delegates the daily management of the University to the President and Vice-Chancellor and Senior Administration, and
- The Senate is responsible for the establishment of the University's academic policies and programs and for making recommendations to the Board of Governors on the University's academic administration and development.

Intersectionality: is the complex, cumulative way in which the effects of multiple forms of discrimination (such as racism, sexism, and classism) combine, overlap, or intersect especially in the experiences of marginalized individuals or groups.

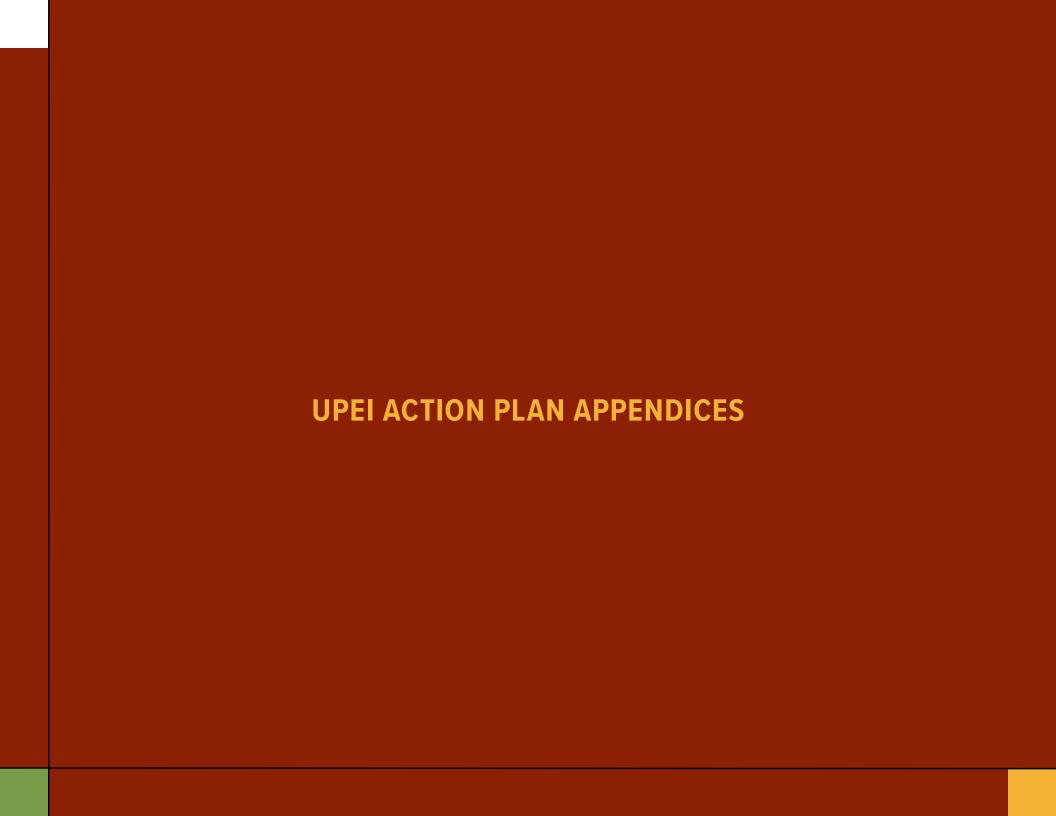
Procedural fairness: a legal principle that is focused on the process through which formal decisions are made (i.e., investigations). It safeguards the rights of the participants in the process including impartiality and participation rights.

Psychological safety: is the absence of interpersonal fear. It is the belief that you will not be punished or humiliated for speaking up with ideas, questions, concerns, or mistakes.

Sexual violence: means any act targeting a person's sexuality, gender identity or gender expression, whether the act is physical or psychological in nature, which is committed, threatened or attempted against a person without that person's consent.

Trauma-informed: is an approach that understands and considers the pervasive nature

of trauma and seeks to accommodate its effects on a person's physical, emotional, cognitive, and neurological systems to avoid re-traumatization.



APPENDIX 1 – RESPONSE TO UPEI REVIEW AND UPEI ACTION PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS AND TIMELINE

June 14, 2023 Release of *UPEI Review* and Recommendations

June 15, 2023 Changes to UPEI Senior Executive Team

June 21, 2023 Resignation of the Chair of the Board of Governors

June 26, 2023 **UPEI Town Hall**

July 19, 2023 **UPEI Staff Town Hall**

August 29-September 7, 2023 Calls for Expressions of Interest for UPEI Action Plan Advisory Group

September 15, 2023 UPEI Action Plan Advisory Group Confirmed

September-November 2023 Campus Listening Sessions for Students, Staff, and Faculty

September-November 2023 **UPEI Action Plan Advisory Group Consultations**

November 29, 2023 High-level preliminary outline of draft Action Plan provided to UPEI Action

Plan Advisory Group to ensure group's input is accurately captured for next

steps in ongoing drafting of draft Action Plan

December 2023 Continued work on drafting UPEI Action Plan, including further defining

goals and actions

January 2024 Posting of Draft UPEI Action Plan to Website for Community Input

January-February 2024 Revision of UPEI Action Plan based on Community Input

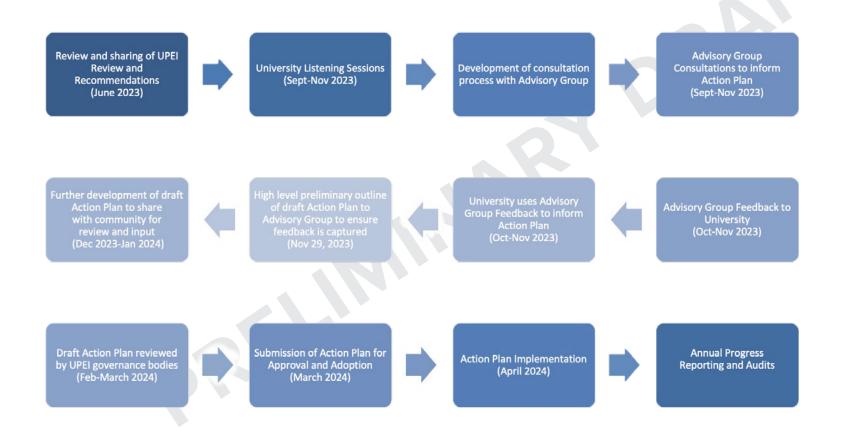
Governance Reviews and Approval of UPEI Action Plan March 2024

Launch of UPEI Action Plan April 2024

The UPEI Action Plan development process was drafted and shared with the community online following the release of the UPEI Review.

The process was developed to serve as a high-level guide to consultation, information sharing, and drafting of the UPEI Action Plan in response to the recommendations of the UPEI Review.

The following illustrates some of the key steps undertaken since the release of the UPEI Review in June 2023. Since the development of the process several months ago, action plan development has stayed true to its approach with only minor adjustments due to time challenges.



APPENDIX 2 – UPEI ACTION PLAN ADVISORY GROUP: OVERVIEW AND GUIDANCE

Overarching Feedback from the **Advisory Group**

(Provided in full by Sara Roach Lewis, **UPEI Action Plan Advisory Group Facilitator)**

The Action Plan Advisory Group (APAG) was tasked to read the *UPEI Review* and Recommendations. examine issues, and provide perspectives. The 21-member group was asked to give input on actions and expectations of the community in order to rebuild trust and safety within the UPEI learning and work environments.

The UPEI Review exposed bleak and challenging times for many on campus.

Folks joined the group with questions, skepticism, and mistrust. They also joined with a desire to make things better for the UPEI community.

The approach to actively seek advice and guidance from both campus and the broader community to guide the development of the UPEI Action Plan is a promising example of a new, inclusive direction. We hope the work of the APAG marks the beginning of a new era at UPEI.

The group's diversity fostered a spirit of goodwill and brought a wide range of valuable perspectives to this essential task.

Given the constraint of only ten half-day sessions, we were aware from the outset that achieving perfection would be challenging. More time would have been preferable. We also acknowledged that moving to action is a decisive next step in holding leadership accountable and supporting the community to begin the muchneeded healing journey.

After deliberating at length about the recommendations in the UPEI Review (collectively, we spent more than 650 hours on them), two key themes emerged: accountability and transparency—the need for accountability and transparency intertwined through every discussion.

Accountability encompasses much in an academic institution. UPEI must uphold its educational values with integrity, maintain high standards

of teaching and research, ensure proper use of resources, and respond effectively to the needs of its students, staff, and faculty.

It also means taking responsibility for institutional decisions and their impacts and correcting mistakes when they happen.

Transparency is showing your work. It includes openly sharing information related to governance, operations, and performance. It means providing clear, accessible, and accurate information about the institution's policies, financial health, decision-making processes, and outcomes of academic programs.

Given the inherent lack of trust across campus, these two principles must guide UPEI as it addresses the immediate recommendations of the UPEI Review as a starting point and in cultivating a more deeply embedded culture of equity, diversity, and inclusion for the long term.

In our feedback, we provide examples of what

transparency and accountability should look like as both direction and inspiration.

As UPEI develops the Action Plan in response to the recommendations, we have identified five key priorities which must be front of mind. The Action Plan must:

1) Have intersectionality as the starting point

Intersectionality, the overlap of various identities such as race, sex, class, ability, socio-economic status, religion, and gender contributes to the systemic oppression and interdependent systems of discrimination, disadvantage, privilege or advantage.

The *UPEI Review* strongly recommends that issues of racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, and ableism be addressed.

By centering the Action Plan on the nuanced needs of those most vulnerable to intersectional discrimination, we inherently create a framework that benefits everyone.

Fortunately, through UPEI's existing commitment to the Scarborough Charter and

Universities Canada's Commitments to Truth and Reconciliation, the University already has a foundation to guide its action plan.

These existing agreements focus on addressing systemic racism and promoting inclusive practices and provide a valuable framework for UPEI's efforts to create a more equitable and supportive academic environment.

This inclusive approach will ensure that no one is left behind and that the action steps implemented are effective and empathetic, leading to a healthier and more inclusive community where the fundamental rights and well-being of all are promoted and protected.

2) Be trauma-informed

Harassment and bullying lead to a toxic work and learning environment. A trauma-informed approach recognizes the profound impact this has on many people. Traumatic experiences can leave deep psychological scars, affecting trust, wellbeing, and performance.

By adopting a trauma-informed Action Plan, we ensure the strategies are responsive to the needs

of those directly affected and seek to prevent further harm.

This means creating welcoming spaces for reporting and healing, providing access to appropriate support services, and ensuring that leadership, staff, and faculty are trained to respond to disclosures with empathy and understanding.

A great deal of healing is needed on campus. For any healing to occur, the Action Plan must shift the institutional culture from one that continues to (re)traumatize people to one that fosters recovery, empowerment and resilience.

Integrating trauma-informed approaches into policy, procedures, and culture is vital.

3) Follow evidence-based approaches

An evidence-based approach will help ensure that the strategies outlined in the action plan are supported by a combination of critical thinking and the best available evidence (Barends et al., 2014).

The independent third-party reviewers acknowledged that their recommendations require

broader and more detailed action planning. The APAG believes the recommendations must be addressed thoughtfully, including more in-depth consideration of relevant topics and interventions; of what is known, unknown, or contested.

For example, unconscious bias training is currently a popular means to foster diversity, equity, and inclusion. However, its effectiveness appears to be mixed, and it comes with risks of adverse side effects—still, existing literature points to promising ways to provide more effective variations of such programs. Knowledge syntheses and other research in this area can facilitate evidence-informed decisions and actions (e.g., Atewologun et al., 2018; Carter et al., 2020; FitzGerald et al., 2019; Kim & Robertson, 2021; Möller et al., 2023; Schmader et al., 2022).

Combining cumulative findings and primary research on topics like diversity training (Bezrukova et al., 2016; Kalinoski et al., 2013; Kawaski & Zota, 2021) and sexual violence prevention (Ruvalcaba et al., 2022, Senn et al., 2020), including bystander interventions (Bouchard et al., 2023; Mujal et al., 2021) and social marketing campaigns (Lee et al., 2023), could increase the probability that programs

implemented in response to the UPEI Review will be effective.

Similar considerations exist for the design and delivery of leadership training and development interventions (Avolio et al., 2009; Lacerenza et al., 2017). These examples only illustrate that existing evidence and perspectives can help inform UPEI's response.

In our commitment to a genuinely inclusive and intersectional Action Plan, UPEI must actively explore and integrate diverse and culturally informed approaches.

It is important to note that intersectional, traumainformed approaches to support EDI work are continually evolving. We must act on the best available knowledge and be open to new information as it emerges or is identified.

The APAG discussed the importance of tracking and analyzing our institutional data. This will help UPEI be better equipped to iterate the Action Plan to our unique context, thus enabling us to make informed decisions which reflect the specific needs and experiences of our community members.

4) Be mindful of power dynamics and imbalances

Hierarchical structures like that at UPEI, by their very design, create levels of authority and subordination, inherently establishing power imbalances. At the core, these hierarchies are intended to organize and streamline decisionmaking processes, delineate responsibilities, and ensure clear, accountable reporting structures.

The *UPEI Review* outlines, in painful detail, how power without accountability created a toxic work and learning environment, a place where a negative work culture flowed from the top—a place where people could not voice concerns or challenge the status quo without risk of retribution.

Systemic bias and inequality are entrenched in hierarchies. Some argue it is impossible to break them down within such a structure, but we must try.

Within this hierarchy, people feel power imbalances in expected and unexpected ways. There is no question, however, that some positions hold more authority. Power imbalances manifest in and across administration, faculties,

and departments with unequal consequences. The Review documents how faculty, sessionals, staff, administration, contractors, unions, and students can be victims and/or perpetrators.

Careful checks and balances are necessary to prevent the abuse of power at all levels. This is the only way to ensure that people feel valued and heard and can contribute and learn without fear of marginalization or retribution.

To the Board of Governors, the Senate, the interim and new president, and senior members of the administration: you must be cognizant of your responsibility to this institution and its members.

At every step, with every decision, you must work to break down silos; to rebuild bridges; to become more diverse; to ensure authentic, meaningful engagement across the institution.

5) Be properly resourced

The *UPEI Review* calls for sweeping change to address serious problems and create a culture change on campus. This won't happen without significant resources—time, money, people, space.

Where money is spent indicates priority. The APAG believes significant resources must be dedicated to this Action Plan and recognizes that there will be constraints.

APAG members worry resources will be diverted from other areas, such as academic programming and services for students. The APAG calls on the provincial government to provide additional funding to UPEI. This will ensure this important work is done, but not at the expense of other vital programs and services.

Transparency in budget and decision-making is critical in developing the Action Plan. It is important to make accessible the rationale for the sequencing of actions and the allocation of resources.

Engagement and consultation in overall budget processes contribute to transparency and trust-building. Take for example, clarity on how much revenue comes from international students as compared to how much is invested in services and support programs for them.

In addition to our overall feedback to support the development of the UPEI Action Plan, we discussed the importance of good communication. It is the cornerstone of cultural transformation.

As UPEI works to change campus culture, the role of an effective communications department cannot be overstated.

Good campus communication can help transform the implementation of an Action Plan from a top-down directive into a community-engaged movement, thus fostering a shared sense of ownership and accountability that is essential for lasting cultural change.

We appreciate that UPEI has had ongoing communications about the *UPEI Review*, with regular updates to the community and dedicated pages on the website.

Official UPEI communications continue to be a source of distrust for folks. People worry messages are crafted and sanitized due to legal concerns.

We understand that managing the flow of communications for an institution is essential. People expressed frustration, however, that there are no real mechanisms for folks on campus to communicate with each other.

This contributes to a lack of cross-departmental collaboration, compartmentalized information flow and often, as a result, silos.

We advise a review of the mission and objectives of the communications department, with a strong focus on finding ways to improve cross-campus communication.

Effective communication is not a one-way street. It requires active listening and a willingness to engage in meaningful dialogue. As UPEI implements these recommendations, the ability for everyone to listen to feedback, understand the community's concerns, and adapt strategies accordingly will be vital.

Finally, UPEI should complete a review of its administrative structure. Given the updates and changes to policies, important issues need further consideration: reporting structures, a better understanding of the People and Culture role, and ensuring an administrative structure that contributes to a positive work and learning environment.

In a community where many people are angry, frustrated, hurt, embarrassed, and disappointed

by what the *UPEI Review* revealed, it's easy to wonder how UPEI will move on from here.

As members of the APAG, we've heard the

concerns and are worried ourselves.

The gravity and complexity of the *UPEI Review* is far too significant to be dismissed or addressed superficially. UPEI is too important to all of us for this to define its future.

For 55 years, UPEI has stood as a cornerstone of our Island, a pivotal force in shaping the fabric of our community; influencing every aspect, from government and health, to arts and culture, environment, business, and education.

Our final piece of general feedback is to highlight who the Action Plan is for.

There is no question that much of the responsibility lies on leadership to ensure that time, energy, and resources are dedicated to implementing the Action Plan and putting mechanisms in place to avoid future abuse of power.

We hope that everyone on campus sees a role for themselves here. We also acknowledge that for some, that's a tall order. During our first meeting, an APAG member observed that participating in this process required members to place "trust in an institution that doesn't necessarily deserve it." That sentiment was widely shared.

Another APAG member likened the Action Plan to a script for a play. Just as in a theatrical production, where the success of the play depends on the contributions of all, so too does the enactment of this Action Plan rely on the collaborative effort of every member of the campus community.

The script is not without its challenges; it demands not only our participation but also our hope—a hope which must be fostered and earned.

It is in this complex interplay of skepticism and hope, of caution and participation, that we find the true test of the collective commitment to change. We encourage your engagement to be discerning yet hopeful, ensuring that the steps forward are as grounded as they are aspirational.

We invite you to find your part in this Action Plan, to contribute to a campus community that champions diversity, equity, and inclusion so every voice is heard and valued.

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The Equity Myth: Racialization and Indigeneity at Canadian Universities

ADVISORY GROUP MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

Eileen Conboy (she/her): Eileen Conboy is a trauma therapist in Charlottetown and the sexual violence prevention and response coordinator with the Government of PEI. She works to ensure that survivors are treated with dignity while we work together to end sexual and gender-based violence.

Jane Ledwell (she/her): Jane Ledwell was appointed to the Group as a community representative. Her full-time work is as executive director of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women. She is also a writer, editor, and author with past experience at UPEI as a sessional instructor and staff person.

Nola Etkin (she/her): Nola Etkin is the Dean of Science and has been a professor of chemistry at UPEI since 1997. Nola's involvement in equity work began as a PhD student at the University of Alberta where she was involved in the local Women in Science and Engineering group and co-chaired the campus LGBTQ group. This involvement has continued throughout her career—she was a founding co-chair of Abegweit

Rainbow Collective, which was formed to provide support and advocacy to PEI's 2SLGBTQ+ community and is currently a member of the UPEI Joint Equity Committee and the UPEI EDI Steering Committee.

MJ Wardle (she/her): MJ was born and raised in Barbados, immigrated to Canada in 2009, and began working with UPEI in Facilities Management in 2019. MJ is the shop steward with IBEW. In her spare time, she enjoys riding her motorcycle and spending time with her grandson.

Sobia Ali-Faisal (she/her): As the executive director of BIPOC USHR, a non-profit organization committed to serving racialized communities on Prince Edward Island, Sobia is grateful to apply the knowledge and expertise she gained from her PhD in Applied Social Psychology to her role. Sobia intertwines her Islamic faith with her commitment to liberation work. She views her faith as a guiding force, inspiring her to challenge and dismantle oppressive structures. Sobia's values are rooted in anti-colonial and anti-oppressive principles, and she tries to work toward the liberation of all oppressed peoples. Sobia is an alumnus of UPEI, having completed her undergraduate degree at the institution, and has taught at the University in the Department of Psychology.

Sasha V Nandlal (she/her): With ten years of experience in inclusive education practices,
Sasha V Nandlal is the Canadian Committee of Graduate Students in Education (CCGSE) director of EDIIA and the University of Prince Edward Island Graduate Senate Representative, serving as a consultant to policy and program development. Completing her master's thesis examining the Instructional Practices of Educators working with Special Needs Students at a Trinidadian Secondary School during COVID-19 from the University of New Brunswick, Sasha is now at UPEI pursuing her PhD in Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion concepts and large-scale assessment, and looks forward to continuing her practice in the field.

Blake Jelley (he/him): Dr. Jelley represents faculty members and is a full professor of management in the UPEI Faculty of Business. He holds a PhD in industrial-organizational psychology and a professional designation as a Chartered Professional in Human Resources (CPHR). Blake currently serves on the CPHR PEI and CPHR Canada Boards of Directors and is the PEI Employment Standards Board's vice-chair. He is a fellow of the Center for Evidence-Based Management, and previously served as chair of the Canadian Society for Industrial and

Organizational Psychology and co-chair of the UPEI-UPEIFA Joint Equity Committee.

Nicole Jay (she/her): Nicole Jay was appointed to the Group as an undergraduate student representative. She is in her fourth year of the Bachelor of Arts program at the University, with a major in Psychology and a minor in English. She is a member of the UPEI swim team, as well as a volunteer with UPEI Medical Brigades. Nicole joined the Action Plan Advisory Group to contribute her insights on creating an improved University environment from a student-focused lens, with psychological well-being as a top priority.

Nabeel Zafar (he/him): As the graduate student representative, and a professional having an 18-year career in teaching, educational leadership, and policy in Pakistan's premier institutions, Nabeel has a deep commitment to academia. Possessing degrees in engineering and a master's degree in quality management, he has played a crucial role in shaping national education policies. Recognized as a distinguished alumnus of the US Department of State's Community College Administrator program, he has made significant contributions, including playing a pivotal role

in Pakistan's educational landscape. Currently serving as the president of UPEI's Graduate Student Association, he brings substantial academic depth to the APAG.

Sharon Anderson (she/her): As an educator and administrator, predominantly at the senior high level, for over 40 years in PEI, Sharon has always had a keen interest in learning. She believes deeply in the power of education and its impact on society. She currently sits on the Board of Directors of Pat and the Elephant and also serves as chair for the Net Zero Advisory Committee. She proudly represents the UPEI Alumni Association on the UPEI Action Plan Advisory Group.

Lucky Fusca (they/them): Lucky, a transgender/
non-binary leader, serves as the executive director
of the PEI Transgender Network. They advocate
for the rights and inclusion of transgender
and gender-diverse individuals in Epekwitk
and beyond. With a background as Pride PEI's
board chair, Lucky brings significant experience
in tackling issues like sexual violence and
discrimination. They are dedicated to fostering
inclusive dialogues focused on gender and
sexuality equity, with a strong commitment to

intersectionality, decolonization, and anti-racism.

Sharon O'Brien (she/her): After a distinguished 25-year career, Sharon retired two years ago from the position of executive director at the Mi'kmaq Family Resource Centre. There she focused on supporting and advocating for off-reserve families, providing essential services such as parenting courses and a HeadStart program for children, and guiding parents through challenging times. Sharon also played a significant role in the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women, serving as a member and later as chair. Sharon has been a board member of PEI Family Violence Prevention Services and previously served on the board of Community Legal Information Services.

Jaclyn Borden (she/her): Jaclyn holds a Master of Education in Leadership with a specialization in Inclusion from UPEI. Her academic focus has been on leading change and enhancing educational experiences for equity-deserving students. With over 15 years dedicated to advocating for equity, diversity, and inclusion, she has also developed significant expertise in addressing ableism on campus and supporting diverse student communities facing discrimination and harassment. Their educational background and

experiences position them as a knowledgeable advocate in the field of equity and inclusion.

June Jenkins Sanderson (she/her): June's educational background in environmental sciences and counselling therapy shaped her career in counselling therapy, conflict resolution, and leadership training. Her work focused on supporting vulnerable populations, a foundation she built upon during her time with the Canadian Red Cross. Her role as school counsellor led to her earning the Premier's Award in family violence prevention. She developed and led workshops on topics such as stress, resilience, and work-life balance. Her volunteer work focuses on social and environmental justice.

Missy Chareka: Missy is the current assistant manager of residence culture at the University of Prince Edward Island. With a strong educational background and diverse professional experience at various academic institutions nationally and internationally, Missy is dedicated to promoting equity, wellness, and student-centred focus in academic settings. Her academic pursuits are rooted in psychology and education, which have guided her in providing a deep understanding of social dynamics, inequities, and the practical

aspects necessary to address institutional challenges and change.

Shannon Snow (she/they): Shannon works at the University of Prince Edward Island in the Experiential Education department, collaboratively developing programming for students with faculty, staff, and external partners. Their education includes a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education from UPEI, and a Master of Education and some PhD work from York University, all with a focus on education and queer theory. They are a proud member of the 2SLGBTQ+ community and are passionate about anti-oppressive communitybuilding work in all its varied forms.

Karen MacDonald (she/her): Karen MacDonald was appointed chief executive officer of Island Waste Management Corporation in May 2021. Karen has served in several public service leadership roles including acting deputy minister of Justice and Public Safety and deputy attorney general, and director of Community and Correctional Services. Karen holds an Executive Master of Business Administration from the University of Prince Edward Island, and a Criminology degree from Carleton University. Karen is a lifelong learner who leads with a

focus on continuous improvement and healthy organizational culture. With over 30 years in public service, Karen is proud to serve Islanders at work and in her community.

Saugat Shrestha (he/him): Saugat Shrestha, a 19-year-old undergraduate at the University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI), is studying Psychology and Philosophy. He serves as the undergraduate student representative on the Action Plan Advisory Committee (APAG). In this role, Sagut demonstrates his commitment to creating positive change.

Dave Csernyik (he/him): David has served 30 years as a police officer with the UPEI Police and UPEI Security Services. He also represents CUPE 501 in the APAG. As a police officer, David has encountered many issues that have been key topics in APAG meetings. By participating in this group, he hopes that he has played a part in UPEI becoming more than just a place for higher learning and that he can help it become known as one of the safest universities in Canada. He strives to make UPEI a safe and respectful learning environment for everybody.

Margot Rejskind (she/her): Dr. Margot Rejskind is a Charlottetown-based conductor; she is artistic director of Island Choral Society, Forte Men's Choir, and the professional group Luminos Ensemble & Chamber Orchestra. She taught in the UPEI Department of Music from 2013–2022, and before that was on faculty at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. Margot joined the executive committee of the UPEI Faculty Association (UPEIFA) in 2019, and became vice-president in 2020. She served as lead negotiator for the UPEIFA in 2022–2023 through a challenging round of bargaining that included a four-week strike. Margot is proud to serve as the UPEIFA's first executive director.

Miles Turnbull (he/him): Miles is a proud alumnus of UPEI (BA '87). He has worked at UPEI on and off since 1988. Miles returned to UPEI as Dean of Education on July 1, 2023! He is thrilled to be back home on the Island.

ADVISORY GROUP GUIDANCE ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE UPEI REVIEW

All APAG feedback, advice, and guidance in the following table is 100% consensus based with the exception of one point.

	RECOMMENDA	ATIONS RELATED TO ACCOUNTABILITY AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
Recommendation	Additional Context	Rebuilding trust and safety within learning and work environments
i. Make the report public	 University/Board 	The redacted report has been made public. It is important to continue to consider how to balance
	responsibility to	protecting the confidentiality of survivors and also honour transparency. Members of the Action Plan
	share a redacted	Advisory Group (APAG) worry that some redactions are designed to protect the university leadership
	copy of report with	rather than individual people's confidentiality.
	community.	
		It is unfortunate that even in the recommendation section, there are redactions; it would have been
		helpful to have avoided those redactions, as it will make the audit process more challenging. As
		discussed in more detail in the recommendation Review climate and management practices, it will be
		important to determine how to assess if redacted items have seen any action or change.
		Feedback: Provide a high-level, non-identifying summary of redacted sections of the full report
		available to the public; alternatively, explain why sections were redacted.

- ii. Publicly acknowledge there is a serious problem and undertake to fix it
- University and Board of Governors. in particular, asked to restate its commitment to protect members of the community from discrimination. harassment, and sexual violence, among other things. Restate commitment to values and establish an action plan (with objectives, milestones, and timeline) for progress measurement and accountability.

The former Chair of the Board of Governors' public statements immediately following the release of the UPEI Review caused additional damage to the community and harm to the reputation of the Board of Governors. It is a positive step that he and another board member stepped down to allow for leadership renewal.

The Board of Governors has significant work to do to regain the confidence of the UPEI community and beyond (government, PEI public). Since the *UPEI Review* was released, there have been ongoing updates from the UPEI Interim President and Board of Governors Chair and significant media attention regarding this situation. However, the APAG does not believe that the Board of Governors has acknowledged their role in the negative work- and learning-environment described in the UPEI Review. We believe this acknowledgement is important in repairing the harm.

Board engagement in the action plan process, especially listening to campus community feedback is important. We would like the Board of Governors to make a public commitment to follow through on the advice of the APAG and the resulting Action Plan to the fullest extent possible.

In disseminating the Action Plan, we would like the Board of Governors, and senior administration, to be here on campus in person for direct communication and discussion.

Greater transparency and accessibility in Board decisions, governance processes, and decision-making in the form of minutes, with minimal use of in-camera decision-making, will help.

For example, one could argue the Board is already transparent. A good amount of information about the BoG is publicly available on the UPEI website (schedule, minutes, agenda, etc.).

		Transparency in this climate could be improved by introducing the following mechanisms, among
		others: Proactively reminding the UPEI community of the meeting dates and times. Proactively
		communicating meeting minutes and updates. Proactively explaining why people must register one
		week in advance to attend board meetings. Noting in the minutes how much time was spent in each
		meeting in camera.
		The commitment to ongoing training (noted in Refresh membership of the Board of Governors below)
		will also help board members have the skills they need to deliver on their governance responsibilities
		and demonstrate the board's commitment to professionalism, ethical conduct, and inclusive practices.
iii. Annual Audits to	University will	The APAG believes an external audit of this action plan is a significant step for accountability and
measure progress	engage in audits to	transparency.
	assess execution of	
	the action plan and	We believe auditing the UPEI Action Plan is too big for one person. And while the UPEI Review
	progress (or lack of	recommends a senior government official take on the role, given PEI's size and interconnectedness,
	it) for next five years.	we believe an independent external auditor located off PEI is the best approach.
	 Need to recognize 	
	low trust in Board	An external auditor working with an internal audit committee is the structure the APAG thinks would
	of Governors and	work best.
	University.	
	Auditor to be	We suggest UPEI look to other audit processes both in academic settings (e.g., King's College) and
	determined based	other sectors to capture best practices. For example, we anticipate needing specialized auditors (e.g.,
	on consultation with	Equity, Diversity, Inclusion). The PEI Advisory Council Equality Report Card is an excellent example
	the Government	of an audit process that has been working effectively for several decades on PEI. It measures the
	of Prince Edward	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
		government's response and action on gender equality issues.
	Island.	

The audit should be granular enough to ensure it is assessing impact yet able to be completed in a timely fashion. We anticipate yearly audits with a baseline established in Year 1. The Action Plan should identify a person/role responsible for each recommendation (including responding to the auditor/ committee).

The audit should establish objectives, scope, responsibility, and criteria so there is a clear understanding of what is being measured. We also recognize that some recommendations will be easier to audit than others. When it comes to culture change, this requires contribution from everyone. We suggest there are a few key questions that a representation of campus communities is invited to answer for measuring culture change. It will be important for the audit to report on both what is not working and what is. Finally, the public audit reports should be released promptly as submitted.

RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO STRENGTHEN LEADERSHIP						
Recommendation	Recommendation Additional Context Rebuilding trust and safety within learning and work environments					
i. Selection of the next	Next president must	The Action Plan Advisory Group provided immediate consensus feedback to the UPEI Board of				
President and review	have:	Governors because the selection process was already in progress. This included:				
of their performance	clear vision on how					
	to address issues	The detailed job description was only accessible through the recruitment firm, which is not transparent.				
	within the report	(The UPEI website was updated to include the full description as a result of the APAG's feedback.)				
	ability to manage					
	change	In this climate, meaningful public (university community) input on the short-list of candidates is crucial.				
	 deep understanding 	The APAG envisions this to include accessible presentations and opportunities to provide input,				
	of workplace	including options for anonymous feedback, as was common in past presidential searches (prior to the				
	fairness, harassment,	most recent presidential search in 2010).				
	discrimination, EDI),					
	and commitment to					
	these issues					

	strong values	The process should accurately reflect the values UPEI is seeking in a president. How will the Selection
	 Candidates must be 	Committee balance the educational mission and academic priorities with corporate, fiscally-based
	thoroughly vetted.	responsibilities in the vetting process?
		The final candidates should review and respond to the UPEI Action Plan (even in draft form). It is critical to have a strong understanding of the candidate's commitment, experience, and track record on EDI issues.
		The Board of Governors must take responsibility for the vetting process. This includes significant
		vetting beyond the references provided by candidates.
ii. Refresh membership	Refresh board with	The UPEI Review made it clear the important role the Board of Governors plays in leading the
of the Board of	new people.	organization. There are two pathways for a member of the public to join the board—the government
Governors and	 Provide enhanced 	of PEI appoints people through the Engage PEI process and UPEI also has open seats.
enhance oversight on	oversight of	
key issues identified	the University's	The PEI Government appointed five new board members in October 2023 and UPEI is appointing new
in this report	actions re: EDI	members in the coming weeks, so renewal is in progress.
	Strategy, progress	
	of EDI initiatives;	There must be diversity on the Board of Governors, which can mean recruiting differently. There is a
	more probative	good body of best practices for ensuring board policies, practices, and recruitment create conditions
	re: the nature	for meaningful board diversity. Developing a board matrix that encompasses a robust representation
	and number of	of demographics, such as race, gender, and age, to ensure a rich diversity of perspectives and
	complaints regarding	experiences in addition to professional, geographic, and other considerations.
	harassment,	
	discrimination, and	Additionally, there should be consideration for how to collaborate with Engage PEI to ensure
	sexual violence	government-appointed board members contribute to a diverse board. In addition to sharing the Board
	received by the	Matrix, Engage PEI should consult with the Interministerial Women's Secretariat and the Anti-Racism
	University.	Office. Board diversity should be a high priority for the governance review.

- Board be informed of terminations and resignations of individuals to ensure problematic behaviour is not 'swept under the rug'.
- Board members should have governance training, harassment/ discrimination/ respect at work and **EDI** training within the last two years.

Over the coming years, as board renewal continues, it will be essential to ensure that candidates are vetted for their contribution to and experience with EDI issues.

Through the governance renewal process, the Human Resources Committee can take the lead on ensuring appropriate oversight processes are in place. For example, the board should receive periodic (annual or quarterly) reports from the HR department with aggregate data to verify and validate that terminations and resignations are within acceptable standards for an institution of this size and scope. Regular and ongoing updates on terminations and resignations.

The APAG believes the faculty should seek to diversify the Senate. While the Senate has less flexibility, there still should be a focus on diversifying. For example, improving the nomination and voting processes.

The Board of Governors and Senate should engage in governance training. It equips board members with the knowledge and skills to fulfill their responsibilities, understand their role within the organization, and ensure that the board operates within its legal and ethical framework.

Good governance training will help board members truly understand their role and empower them to provide the oversight and diligence required.

The board/leader role is often characterized by the phrase, "trust my abilities and question my actions." Board members must have confidence in UPEI administration while critically evaluating their decisions and actions.

EDI training helps create a board culture that values diversity at all levels. Mandatory, ongoing training should be integrated into the regular operations of the BoG and the Senate.

iii. Leadership training

- Those in leadership roles at the University receive leadership training, including:
- respectfully managing professional relationships including teams
- how to build and maintain a positive working and educational culture and
- developing emotional intelligence

When it comes to leadership training, the APAG wants to see a broad definition of leadership to include: board, senate, administrators, chairs of departments, coordinators, directors, athletic leaders, student and labour unions, students who are committee members, graduate student associations, societies, and clubs.

Leadership training can help transform toxic work cultures into more positive and productive environments. For example, effective leadership training should focus on basic managerial training, fostering cultural competence, mitigating unconscious bias, implementing policies effectively, conflict resolutions, creating inclusive environments, etc. Leaders must also be equipped with strategies for advocacy, conflict resolution, and systemic change to build and maintain a diverse and empowered workforce.

Members of the APAG worry about the lasting effects of the culture the *UPEI Review* documented. There is much unlearning and learning that needs to happen at all levels of leadership at UPEI. A solid review of The Equity Myth: Racialization and Indigeneity at Canadian Universities is a good place to start. It is a data-based study of racialized and Indigenous faculty members' experiences in Canadian universities that challenges the myth of equity in higher education.

The APAG members agree that more comprehensive educational approaches like courses (or degrees and certificates), in addition to one-off and self-directed workshops, are needed to affect the needed culture change.

The APAG discussed ways to ensure the training is meaningful and challenges associated with that:

- Opportunities for ongoing support to avoid a fallback to old habits.
- Meaningful engagement with the community as proof of adopting training.
- Commitment to learning: Building expertise over time through scheduled training sessions.
- Leadership development includes mentorship and succession planning and could be professional development for folks with leadership aspirations.

In terms of accountability:

- University training calendar: Certification and training frequencies, with an online format and a reporting function to monitor completion.
- · Mechanism to measure how leaders implement new training into their role and recognition of improvement.
- Accountability measures: Incorporating training requirements into job descriptions, growth plans, and performance appraisals.
- Mechanism for people to signal when their leader needs additional training (e.g., flagging knowledge gaps in 360-degree reviews).
- Determine who is responsible for managing training and compliance to ensure leaders at all levels—from the board and the president to student leaders—participate.

In terms of content, the APAG imagined a combination of internal UPEI faculties/departments contributing their expertise to aspects of the leadership training. UPEI will also need to engage external support to introduce fresh solutions and balance internal/external expertise.

The APAG recognizes that significant training is cost- and time-intensive. Adding training and ensuring meaningful engagement, though challenging, is still worthwhile in a space where people and dollars are stretched.

	RECOMMENDATION RELATED TO OTHER CULTURAL INITIATIVES			
Recommendation	Additional Context	Rebuilding trust and safety within learning and work environments		
i. Create a culture	Regularly solicit and	A culture of listening is rooted in a sincere commitment of leadership to foster trust, ensuring that		
of listening	listen to information	every voice within the community is heard, understood, valued, and acted upon with transparency and		
	from employees and	empathy.		
	students as to their			
	experiences.	It requires continuous effort to maintain open channels of communication, address systemic barriers,		
	 Set up systems that 	promote inclusivity, and facilitate a responsive environment where feedback leads to meaningful		
	are geared towards	change.		
	asking employees			
	and students about	Many of the recommendations in the <i>UPEI Review</i> are specific and relatively measurable. However,		
	experiences.	working toward culture change is a broad recommendation encompassing all aspects and areas of the		
	 Exit interviews as 	university and requires contribution from everyone.		
	tools to determine			
	why employees are	Other areas of the UPEI Review Recommendations and our feedback address many facets of culture		
	leaving.	change. We are restating some of them here to reinforce their role in creating the broader culture		
	• 360 reviews of	change we all wish to see in the UPEI campus community.		
	managers and			
	leaders.	Leadership Commitment		
		Ensure UPEI's leadership is visibly committed to change. This includes consistent messaging, active		
		participation in training, and clear, transparent policy changes reflecting the new direction.		
		Trauma-Informed Approach		
		Implement a trauma-informed approach across all levels of the institution (see our overarching		
		feedback for more details and resources). This requires training for faculty and staff to be able to		
		handle disclosures sensitively and to foster an environment where students and staff feel safe to share		
		concerns. For example: a trauma-informed approach to creating a culture of listening avoids an over-		
		reliance on victim story-telling.		

EDI and Accessibility

Invest in comprehensive and accessible EDI training and initiatives that move beyond basic training to programs that create and monitor lasting change. This includes opportunities for campus-wide and cross-departmental initiatives as well as opportunities for more in-depth, specialized training and development.

Transparent Feedback Systems

Establish clear, consistent, and accessible channels for feedback that protect anonymity and ensure confidentiality.

Active Listening Practices

Train employees (including Student Union and Graduate Student Association reps) in active listening, which is a foundational component of a culture of listening. Regular listening sessions should celebrate diversity of opinions, invite difficult conversations, and allow community members to speak freely about their experiences without fear of retribution.

Empowerment of Student Unions and Groups

Support student unions with resources and training to effectively represent and advocate for all their peers. They should be equipped to navigate UPEI's structures.

Campus Events

Integrate regular, institution-wide events that promote open dialogue and sharing of experiences. These can help in building community and reinforcing a culture of listening.

Regular Assessments

Conduct regular and clear cultural assessments and surveys to gauge the environment and identify improvement areas. This can include social inclusion, confidence in UPEI, sense of belonging, awareness and understanding of EDI policies.

Structural Changes

Implement structural changes that dismantle hierarchies impeding open communication. This includes, where possible, creating

spaces where individuals from all levels of the institution can interact as equals.

Community Engagement

Engage with the wider community, including alumni, local communities, and other stakeholders to build partnerships that reinforce UPEI's commitment to a healthy environment.

Mental Health Support

Ongoing access to mental health resources for both students and staff, recognizing the stress and trauma that can arise from toxic environments. UPEI should consider signing on to the Okanagan Charter: An International Charter for Health Promoting University and Colleges. It provides institutions with a common language, principles, and framework to become health and wellbeing-promoting campuses.

Continuous Improvement

Commit to continuous improvement, including the yearly audit process and is open to making the necessary changes.

ii. Public awareness campaign

· Awareness of the expected behavioural standard, relevant policies and practices, where to submit complaints, where to receive support.

The APAG agrees that ongoing communication, including public awareness campaigns, is crucial in transforming the working and learning environments at UPEI. Support for the topic of the campaign must also be in place (For example, a campaign around sexual violence leading people to the SV office must ensure the office has enough resources in place to respond to the increased awareness on campus.)

• Encourage dialogue and open discussion. We suggest a structured approach to developing and implementing a public awareness campaign. This will ensure it is comprehensive, effective, and adaptable.

• Strong, clear messaging on fair and inclusive environment.

UPEI should review and renew behavioural standards and expectations for all campus community members before implementing a campaign.

In terms of content, once key themes and messages are confirmed, awareness campaigns should be specific and targeted and developed in collaboration with subject-matter experts.

In addition to awareness of the code of conduct and behaviour standards, there can be campaigns around prevention of and response to harassment, discrimination, and sexual violence. These campaigns can include topics such as anti-racism, unconscious bias, microaggressions, etc. to encourage a culture of reporting and speaking up against violations.

Campaigns should be culturally appropriate; have an EDI lens; consider the challenge of safety, including psychological safety; and empower diverse groups within the community.

	RECOMMENDATION RELATED TO	IMPROVE POLICIES AND PROCESSES
Recommendation	Additional Context	Rebuilding trust and safety within learning and work environments
Section (i): Restrict the	use of NDAs	
i. Restrict the use of	Restrict use and content of NDAs and	The APAG appreciates that UPEI has offered to release people from their NDAs.
NDAs	confidentiality clauses relating to allegations	The APAG also appreciates that no new NDAs have been signed since the
	of harassment, discrimination, and sexual	interim president was appointed in December 2021. These are moves in the
	violence, unless a signatory wishes one to	right direction.
	be used.	
	 The form of agreements used by the 	While there is a risk of misuse, the APAG also recognizes there are times when
	University be reviewed and any "fact of"	non-disclosure agreements for HR issues are appropriate. Given that PEI has
	language be removed.	new NDA legislation, UPEI should prioritize compliance. NDAs should not be
	Board of Governors monitor all terminations	used to solve problems for UPEI. If NDAs are used, they should not use 'fact-of'
	and resignations for the foreseeable future,	language, a stipulation prohibiting the parties from disclosing the existence of
	to ensure that NDAs are not being used to	the agreement itself.
	informally resolve or mediate complaints	
	about wrongdoing.	There should be training on the new legislation in the HR Department and with
		the Board of Governors.
		The Board of Governors should receive periodic HR reports (annual or quarterly)
		with aggregate data to ensure NDAs are not being misused.
Section (ii): Review clin	nate and management practices	
ii. Review climate and	The University needs to review the climate	The APAG is concerned about how this recommendation will be implemented
management practices	and management practices in areas where	and measured.
	concerns of bullying and harassment were	
	mentioned most often.	The APAG recognizes the need for redactions in the UPEI Review. The
		redactions associated with this recommendation reinforce people's concerns
		about a culture of secrecy.

UPEI will need to explain clearly how they plan to approach this recommendation regarding implementation, transparency, accountability, and auditing.

Section (iii): Improve practices related to addressing harassment and discrimination

A. Create an on-campus equity, diversity, and inclusion office.

 Create an on-campus EDI office with additional resources dedicated to EDI awareness, support, and response. Office to include an EDI director and multiple staff members.

The APAG recognizes that Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) efforts at UPEI include both the enforcement of policies and the nurturing of a culture that preempts the need for such enforcement.

The enforcement aspect, grounded in policy and legal frameworks, provides the necessary backbone of accountability, ensuring that there are clear consequences for violations.

However, unless managed carefully, it can create a culture of apprehension, further reinforcing some of the issues UPEI is trying to overcome.

On the other hand, the focus on prevention, awareness, and social justice seeks to cultivate a proactive environment of understanding and respect, reducing problems and concurrently the need to lean on policies and formal processes when problems do occur.

The challenge and goal, therefore, lie in harmonizing these two aspects; and that requires a much larger team than currently exists.

It also requires a thoughtful balance, where enforcement is seen not as an end in itself but as one part of a broader strategy aimed at fostering a genuinely inclusive culture.

By promoting restorative practices and transparent communication, and by investing in comprehensive training, the APAG believes UPEI has the opportunity to create a synergy between these dimensions of EDI work, leveraging the strengths of each to build a more equitable and respectful community.

While we provide our guidance, we encourage ongoing reviews of promising initiatives in other institutions and solid engagement with the folks working in the EDI office currently to have a good understanding of the gaps and opportunities.

Purpose and Roles

Establish the purpose of the EDI office in clear terms with delineating roles. Ensure that these roles are distinct from one another, have well-defined responsibilities, and connect to existing gaps and needs on campus.

Ensure Autonomy and Authority

The action plan must clearly articulate how the EDI office will have the autonomy and authority to address issues without conflicts of interest, including the power to hold all levels of the institution accountable (e.g., implementing the Harassment and Discrimination Policy).

Provide Adequate and Secure Resources

While the EDI office is a natural place to house special projects, it requires ample secure core funding to ensure stability, including job security for the team.

Education and Training

We see the EDI office as having a key role in developing (or procuring) and delivering mandatory training programs recommended in the *UPEI Review*. These programs should be ongoing and evolve based on feedback and the latest research in the field.

For broader culture change to happen, we also see the EDI office supporting individual departments and faculties in their own EDI efforts.

Accessibility and Support

As noted in the Review, being especially focused on ensuring the EDI office is accessible, with support tailored to various and intersecting community needs, including people who are Indigenous, international students, BIPOC, 2SLGBTQ+, and people with disabilities.

Staffing and Human Resources

There must be a diverse staff with the necessary skills and experience in EDI, including the dual aspects we noted above. Establish hiring criteria that prioritize competence and potential, ensuring that the screening process and credential requirements do not inadvertently exclude candidates who could bring valuable perspectives and skills despite non-traditional backgrounds or pathways. Consider involving equity-seeking organizations in the hiring process.

Community Representation

The APAG would like to see a representative and active structure where each department/faculty/union has an EDI liaison to ensure issues are heard and addressed by the EDI office.

Cultural Competence and Sensitivity

Staff members must not only understand, but be experienced in addressing issues like colonization, settler colonialism, anti-oppression, systemic racism, and trauma-informed approaches to effectively supporting the community.

Conflict Management and Resolution

Build capacity for informal resolution methods that are less adversarial and more conducive to maintaining community relationships.

Communication and Reporting

Set up regular reporting mechanisms to the President, the Board of Governors, Senate and the campus community, ensuring that the EDI office's activities are visible and its guidance is both considered at the highest levels and shared widely.

Student Involvement and Empowerment

Involve students in the EDI office's work. This will help better understand and address their needs and to foster a campus culture that values student voices, including peer support training.

Change Management and Data Analysis

Throughout these recommendations, we advise UPEI to formalize its EDI initiatives' data gathering, analysis, reporting and change management processes. This continuous development approach allows for more nuanced and targeted strategies, as decisions are based on the campus's evolving needs and dynamics.

B. Create a new harassment and discrimination policy

- Replace the Fair Treatment with a comprehensive harassment and discrimination policy that covers all University community members and reflects the updated structure of an EDI office for addressing complaints as noted above.
- Revised policy must conform with Workplace Harassment Regulations to the Provincial Occupational Health and Safety Act and **Employment Standards Act.**
- New policy should contain a carve-out for matters of sexual violence (to be addressed under a revised Sexual Violence Policy) recognizing instances where the policies cannot be separated and should advise how to proceed in such cases.
- Revised policy should capture conduct (including off-campus conduct that has a nexus to, or material negative impact on, the University).
- · Revised policy should move the time limit for bringing forward a complaint from six months to at least one year.

The APAG agrees with the recommendations of the *UPEI Review*. We focused on several areas to provide more feedback to UPEI in creating the harassment and discrimination policy.

Who should develop the new policy?

An expert committee of internal and external experts should draft the new policy with an anti-oppressive lens. This work policy must be trauma-informed and healing-centered, as well as meeting regulatory body requirements. There should be a validation process (including student feedback) integrated into the policy development phase.

As the UPEI Review noted, this policy will need to align with the Sexual Violence Policy to make clear when the SV policy is in place and times when the policies can't be separated.

Everyone follows the same policies, and this also includes external contractors. Policy development needs to consider how Student Work Placements can be included.

The policy should be written in plain language with clear definitions of commonly used terms and culturally appropriate behaviour. It should focus on the survivor's needs, including providing multiple pathways for resolution. The policy should include who is and who is not protected by it. People who do not fall under the policy's protections should be directed to off-campus supports and services.

- Revised policy should have definitions for key terms that are consistent with legislation.
- Revised policy should clearly identify decision-makers who would hold responsibility for key procedural decisions under the policy; and an alternate decision maker if there is a conflict.
- Revised policy should acknowledge that harassment and discrimination can be systemic in nature and provide a mechanism for the University to investigate or make inquiries into such issues with or without a formal complaint.

The policy should include clear positions on consensual relationships between faculty/staff and students; and employ mechanisms for addressing community harm. It should include a range of options for repairing harm and ensuring accountability.

Reporting

While good policy development is key, the APAG members are clear that people who report need to feel safe, heard, and responded to respectfully and effectively.

Not only should the time frame for reporting be at least one year, the policy should recognize the temporary nature of some people's time at UPEI. Students should be able to report for a set duration after leaving the University.

A good trauma-informed approach to reporting is ensuring a victim doesn't have to re-narrate their experience to different groups.

Implementation

The APAG would like UPEI to invest in complaint management or antiharassment software. This allows for efficient and effective data collection (including third-party complaints), monitoring, and analysis.

Once developed, an initial education campaign will be required. Then, training on this policy to be included in onboarding for staff and faculty, the Senate and the Board of Governors. For students, policy education should be included in orientation with yearly reinforcement (e.g., similar to a mandatory Academic Integrity course and badge).

		Provide training on academic freedom and freedom of expression, ensuring faculty members, staff, administrators, and students understand its scope and limitations. (N.B.: while there is consensus on this point, there was not 100% agreement by the Advisory Group). Support for putting the policy into practice can include flow charts, templates, and simple guides that will encourage understanding and implementation by the campus community.
C. Use a variety of external investigators	University should use a wide variety of external investigators to ensure procedurally fair investigations or provide parties with an ability to request an alternative external investigator.	Investigations The APAG wants to see public procurement of diverse investigators with a range of expertise, including harassment, discrimination, violence etc. UPEI should have a standing list of investigators (updated every 3–5 years) and not rely on any one firm to provide investigators. This will both provide a range of options and avoid conflicts of interest. Due to time constraints, the APAG didn't delve deeply into how outcomes should be decided, but agreed that options that include external decision-making similar to the Human Rights Commission process and volunteers should be considered.
Section (iv) Improve prac	tices related to addressing sexual violence	
A. Additional resources	 In addition to an EDI Office, a centralized office on campus responsible for administering the Sexual Violence Policy with the support of more resources/team 	We agree with the <i>UPEI Review</i> recommendations in this section. Additionally, the APAG suggests that the SVPRO should have ongoing evaluations and surveys to ensure they are being as responsive as possible to people's needs.
	members.	We strongly agree that there should be separate roles for prevention and response, including additional resources. In addition to awareness campaigns,

 Support is needed for awareness and education initiatives re: sexual violence on campus. Separate roles for sexual violence prevention and sexual violence response are needed. the APAG sees a role for a series of guides or simple flow charts to help people on campus navigate responding to disclosures of sexual violence.

The APAG suggests determining if existing resources such as the UPEI SAFE App (campus app) or Moodle can be leveraged to provide additional support and resources to students. Provide folks with opportunities for experiential learning (e.g., practice using the Blue Emergency poles during Orientation Week).

UPEI can build and improve relationships with organizations working on similar issues, like the PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Centre, the RISE Program, and Victim Services.

Other supports UPEI can adopt include a Safe Walk program to help ensure student and staff safety on campus.

We would like to see additional support for people based on their intersecting identities, including BIPOC and 2SLGBTQ+ folks. For example, Indigenous people should be advised they can have an Indigenous advocate or Elder involved to support them and assist in the process. A list of Indigenous resources and support organizations should be made available.

B. Education and awareness

- In addition to mandatory training on consent for all first-year students, training should include clarity on how to make a disclosure or report sexual violence.
- Mandatory training be extended to faculty and staff, and within onboarding for new employees.

There is a strong need for ongoing training around issues of sexual violence. We believe everyone employed by UPEI (staff, faculty, administration, teaching assistants, etc.) and the Board of Governors and Senate should be included in mandatory training requirements.

Any training programs should include pre-tests and ongoing evaluations to benchmark initial knowledge levels, quide content customization, monitor progress, and help evaluate the effectiveness of the training.

We also recognize that increasing training and awareness translates into more disclosures. Having enough support and resources will need to increase as a result.

The APAG would like to see clear definitions, including a distinction between gender-based violence and sexual harassment/sexual violence, with training to include gender-based violence.

The mandatory course offered to students is a good step. The APAG encourages UPEI to make the course mandatory upon registration rather than graduation. This will align with pre-move-in training modules for students in residence that include consent. It will help ensure students receive the critical training upon beginning their time at UPEI, rather than potentially as it wraps up.

Use a variety of tools, including Peer Support training for students and employing the UPEI Campus Student App and Moodle as places for straightforward guides for sexual violence prevention and what to do in response to sexual violence.

The APAG would like UPEI to explore programs like the Enhanced Assess, Acknowledge, Act (EAAA) program for women. It is evidence-based and been shown to reduce the sexual violence that women students experience by 50%.

		Suggestions for mandatory training for employees
		Prioritize sexual assault training for all employees (and student leaders) who work directly with students.
		Align training with other staff priorities as research and grant funding often requires EDI considerations/training.
		Ensure staff and faculty have the support they need to access training. This includes a stipend for sessionals who are only paid for their course time and ample resources to ensure staff training doesn't impact students' access to services.
C. Coordinated	Sexual Violence Policy should provide for	The APAG is pleased to see a coordinated response team being piloted at UPEI.
response	a coordinated response team approach to	
team approach	support the SVPRO in decisions related to disclosures and reports of sexual violence. The response team can be comprised of University members with the requisite expertise. This will provide support to the SVPRO and create accountability in decision-making which has been noted to be lacking.	We want to ensure there is a reliable reporting system with data tracking and ongoing evaluation of this new project. This is also an area where good communications and training will be important. Folks on campus need to know more about this team, including when and how they are used; the process for determining who is involved; and how to refer cases to the team.
D. Physical location	Improve the location of the SVPRO Office	The location of the SVPRO is a fine balance of accessibility and privacy. The
of SVPRO	to a more accessible and visible space for students, while ensuring confidentiality.	location should have enough other traffic and services to provide cover for folks accessing the SVPRO office.

E. Increased support for parties

- Policy should be updated to reflect how respondents to sexual violence allegations will be adequately supported through the process.
- This includes strengthening support for parties at the end of an investigation process. Advance notice of the delivery of the investigation report be given to the parties; reports could be shared with the SVPRO and the respondent's dedicated support.

Updating policy to offer stronger support for complainants is a key step for a fair and comprehensive process. We agree that all parties should be given advance notice before the delivery of the investigation report, providing adequate time to prepare for the next steps.

Sharing the reports with the SVPRO and the respondent's dedicated support person can ensure that both the complainant and the respondent are informed and feel supported throughout the process.

More resources are needed to support all parties, including when no formal report is filed. There is a need for clear protocols on police involvement and a differentiated approach that accounts for the diverse experiences of all parties, including Indigenous, 2SLGTQ+ folks, BIPOC and international students, who can face unique and more harsh consequences, such as visa issues.

Strengthening this support could include enhancing restorative justice practices and developing targeted interventions for those who do not receive adequate support, ensuring that policies are not merely procedural but effective and empathetic.

It is also important that the university ensure that those in student affairs and others involved in these processes have the necessary training and experience to handle these situations effectively.

Section (v) Revise the Sexual Violence Policy

A. Structure of the policy

- Sections of the policy need to be updated to keep in line with evolving practices.
- There should be one standalone policy that applies to students, staff, and faculty. One policy can map out processes and decision streams depending on the status of the respondent (similar to policies at McMaster and Dalhousie).

The Sexual Violence Policy is being drafted, and the APAG expressed frustration that they were asked to provide feedback and guidance on this recommendation without being able to review the draft policy.

Without reviewing the draft, the APAG advises there should be a validation process (including student feedback) integrated into the policy development phase. We advise that UPEI engage external subject matter experts to review it. For example (but not limited to), the Provincial Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Coordinator, the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, the PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Centre, the Department of Justice and Public Safety, Family Violence Prevention Services, BIPOC USHR, Rise Program (Community Legal Information), PEERS Alliance, PEI Transgender Network, Native Council of PEI, the Mi'kmag Confederacy, Aboriginal Women's Association, Human Rights Commission, and Pathways to Thrive (Women's Network PEI).

We also suggest doing an environmental scan to understand what best practices are emerging from other academic institutions (both in policy development and implementation).

Campus sexual violence policies exist to provide a clear framework for preventing, addressing, and responding to sexual violence, ensuring a safe and supportive environment for all students, faculty, and staff.

UPEI, through this policy, needs to prioritize the survivor's choice and control over their situation, providing them with full information about reporting options and potential outcomes. At the same time, they must adhere to legal obligations to report criminal acts, especially when there is an ongoing risk to the individual or the community. This delicate balance requires clear communication, compassionate support, and an understanding of both legal responsibilities and the survivor's rights and needs.

As a result, navigating the interaction between campus sexual violence policies and the criminal justice system requires a balance of respecting the legal process while recognizing that most survivors choose not to report or pursue a criminal complaint. Most often survivors seek support and accommodations, making it essential for UPEI to focus on creating a responsive and empathetic system that prioritizes their well-being and informed choices while still fulfilling legal and ethical obligations. Finally, at this point, the police do not accept thirdparty reports, while we believe the UPEI SV policy should allow for this.

The APAG agrees there should be one standalone policy with various streams. The policy should be structured based on Universal Design for Learning principles. The policy (and procedures) should include definitions and be written in plain language.

This is especially important for International students new to English and people with disabilities. It should be understandable and accessible using various tools like flowcharts, guides, visual aids, and templates to ensure accessibility.

When it comes to putting the policy into practice, like with the Harassment and Discrimination Policy, there is a need for training and awareness, including in culturally sensitive behaviour.

B. Definitions and scope

- Definition of 'sexual harassment' needs to be in compliance with provincial legislation (Employment Standards Act, OH&S Act). 'Community members' should be more broadly defined and the policy's jurisdictions better explained.
- The new policy should clarify and strengthen its application to off-campus conduct.
- The policy should be more flexible in relation to complaint processes when the respondent ceases to be a University member to permit continuation of the process or steps to safeguard the community.
- Keeping with current trends, the University may wish to consider implementing a prohibition on consensual romantic/ or sexual relationships between faculty and students where there is a form of supervisory or reporting relationship.

In addition to the *UPEI Review* recommendations, the new policy should be survivor-led.

Campus sexual violence policies should clearly define the types of sexual violence covered by the policy, including sexual violence, sexual harassment, gender-based violence, stalking, exploitation, sharing of intimate images, etc. and the procedures for reporting and responding to such incidents. These definitions and procedures should be aligned with legal standards and tailored to the campus environment's specific context.

In crafting UPEI's sexual violence policy, there should be specific considerations for Indigenous people. The higher incidence of sexual violence among Indigenous communities, particularly among women, warrants a policy that is both sensitive to and inclusive of Indigenous rights and cultural contexts.

It should acknowledge the unique challenges Indigenous people face, including systemic barriers and the pervasive effects of racism and colonization, which contribute to a reluctance to report incidents.

To address these challenges, the policy must guarantee the option for Indigenous individuals to be supported by someone from their community during the reporting process—a support person who could be a friend, relative, or designated Indigenous support worker. This provision would not only respect cultural practices but also foster an environment where Indigenous voices are heard and believed. The policy should actively work to dismantle the mistrust in reporting mechanisms.

The policy should be intersectional in applications of consequences and resolutions. Without compromising safety, there should be space for education and learning.

Additionally, the policy needs to recognize the disparities in how disciplinary actions are meted out, particularly towards Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC). BIPOC often face more severe repercussions, a pattern that can stem from systemic biases rather than equitable treatment. This is especially true for those who are not Canadian citizens or Permanent Residents, who may face deportation as a consequence.

C. Preliminary issues

The policy should:

- allow for interim measures in the absence of a formal complaint in a manner which ensures procedural fairness to the individual against whom the allegations are being made
- be explicit that parties be given written notice of interim measures and practice to review the interim measures
- · clearly state factors to consider in conducting an initial assessment of the complaint
- · allow for third party reports and anonymous reporting
- provide processes for addressing multiple disclosures about the same person (this was noted as a problem that repeat offenders were remaining within the University community despite multiple complaints)

Addressing sexual violence on campus requires an immediate and unwavering commitment to the safety and support of survivors, regardless if they make a formal report.

Cases of sexual harassment/assault in student residences present unique challenges, particularly in terms of confidentiality and personal safety, as victims and alleged perpetrators often share the same living spaces.

Current policies sometimes leave residence staff feeling powerless when it comes to taking effective action during investigations. There is a noticeable disparity in the powers granted to residence staff for handling various infractions. This imbalance not only hinders the effective management of serious incidents like sexual harassment and assault but also creates negative optics regarding the institution's commitment to student safety and well-being. When developing the new policy, it is important to specifically address incidents of sexual harassment/assault within the residence environment.

 address conflicts of interest by
acknowledging that there may situations
in which the person who normally has
responsibility for some aspect of the policy
should not be involved due to a conflict and
provide for alternatives
limit the terminology throughout

to 'report' and 'disclosure'.

The Campus Security team should be trained to respond to harassment and assault calls.

D. Informal resolutions

- Rename this section to 'alternative resolutions' to provide restorative practices, healing or peacemaking circles, transformative justice, etc.
 —but it should not include mediation.
- The policy should contain certain preconditions or criteria before a report of sexual violence is considered suitable for alternative resolution.

In a survivor-led policy, there must be a distinction between disclosure and a report because they serve different needs and outcomes for survivors.

A disclosure is a confidential sharing of an experience of sexual violence, primarily for the purpose of accessing support and resources without triggering a formal investigative process. This is for survivors seeking a safe space to be heard and to receive care without the pressure of engaging in a formal process.

On the other hand, a report is a formal complaint that activates a response, potentially leading to an investigation and disciplinary actions. This process is integral to upholding perpetrators' accountability and the community's safety but is also more public and structured.

The clarity between these two paths ensures survivors have control over their journey towards healing and justice, aligning their chosen course of action with their personal needs and expectations for resolution.

E. Investigations	The policy should:	In addition to the <i>UPEI Review</i> Recommendations, the APAG would like the
	 require investigators to be culturally 	policy to provide clear guidance for how to determine when the university
	competent and trained in a trauma-informed	should independently report to the police. This should include consistent risk
	approach to investigations	assessment tools.
	 incorporate language that prevents 	
	investigators from asking complainants	The policy should establish internal processes for handling sexual violence
	irrelevant questions about their sexual	cases that can run parallel to criminal justice proceedings. However, they should
	history	be distinct and not reliant on the outcome of the other.
	 where a University process is suspended 	
	pending a criminal investigation, the policy	We would like to see policies and processes to keep the Sexual Violence
	should	coordinator abreast of the progress of the investigation.
	require the respondent to update	
	the University of any conditions	Investigators should have expertise in this type of investigation and
	of release or related orders, or disposition of	be culturally competent and trained in trauma-informed approaches to
	charges.	investigations.
		In all aspects of this process, there should be support for respondents who are
		affiliated with UPEI as well, including a support person.
F. Appeals	The policy should:	The UPEI sexual violence policy should incorporate appeal processes that
	 allow parties to appeal findings on the 	offer survivors clear, accessible pathways that prioritize confidentiality and
	ground of 'new evidence that could not have	procedural fairness.
	been reasonably presented earlier.'	
	provide that the appeal panel include an	These processes must be done in a timely fashion, involve independent third-
	independent third-party member.	party review, and provide protection against retaliation. There should be
	require that the appeal panel provide	consistent support services throughout for both survivors and respondents.
	written reasons for their decisions.	Feedback on the process should be integrated in policy reviews as well.

G. Data and reporting	The policy should provide for fuller	As with the Harassment and Discrimination policy, the APAG wants to see UPEI
	collection of data and statistics, specifically	use an electronic reporting tool to help manage data collection, monitoring, and
	laying out what data is collected, how the	analysis.
	data is collected, who it is shared with, and	
	for what purposes.	

APPENDIX 3 – PRELIMINARY DRAFT: UPEI ACTION PLAN FRAMEWORK

As an institution of higher learning, UPEI is committed to expanding knowledge and discovery, contributing to personal and societal growth, and helping to foster the critical thinking and skills needed to address the challenges of our world.

Our purpose in developing personal and community growth is steadfast.

However, with the release of the *UPEI Review* in June 2023, our University was faced with the stark awareness that we had failed to live up to our institutional values—especially those related to inclusion, accountability, and integrity. As a result, members of our campus community have experienced various forms of harm and difficulties, rather than feeling supported and protected.

Over the past six months, UPEI has learned a great deal about what is needed to acknowledge and accept accountability for the harm that has occurred and what our community expects as we work to build a better educational and work environment.

A Commitment to our Community

The UPEI Action Plan is a commitment to support the *UPEI Review* recommendations and calls to action to provide campus members with a safe working and learning environment. The Action Plan focuses on changes and initiatives needed for our University to enhance equity and inclusion on campus, as well as UPEI's response to fair treatment, harassment, discrimination, and sexual violence.

Overall, the intent of the Action Plan is to achieve a cultural shift that is needed to ensure our people feel valued, supported, and have a sense of safety on campus. This includes changes related to University policies and operations and, where necessary, structures. Through our promise to learn from the mistakes of the past, we are committed to creating a stronger future.

Based on the overall input of our community, UPEI's senior executive team (consisting of the President, Vice-Presidents, and Chief Information Officer) has developed goals and actions that are meant to build a pathway for a significantly improved campus environment.

The actions outlined respond to the recommendations of the UPEI Review and have been informed by consultation with the **UPEI** community through town halls and listening sessions, and the broader community through the UPEI Action Plan Advisory Group.

Knowledge gained from other campus priorities that are underway, such as the development of UPEI's Indigenous Strategic Framework: Pesk'tek—The Path Ahead: The Journey to Reconciliation and Action Reform, will also provide valuable guidance for the action plan. Based on its consultation, the Action Plan Advisory Group has provided input for UPEI to consider in relation to building trust and safety on campus for Indigenous members of our community. As a component of the Action Plan, the University is committed to engaging in ongoing consultation with Indigenous

campus members and groups regarding our reconciliation journey.

Together, we remain steadfast in our mission as a University and in our vision to develop our students to their full potential in both the classroom and the community. We are eager to take the steps needed to re-commit to our purpose and values as a higher learning institution and employer.

To deliver on the development and implementation of actions outlined within the UPEI Action Plan, the plan will be audited annually. The plan and audit results will be posted publicly for transparency and accountability.

Foundational Components of the UPEI Action Plan

To be accountable to our diverse work and learning community, UPEI will:

- hold leaders to a higher standard of accountability,
- build institutional capacity to better support key supports and services,

- ensure we have best-practice informed policies and processes in place to promote day-to-day experiences at UPEI that are anchored by a commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion, and the safety of campus members,
- work to address systemic barriers to inclusion and fair treatment that have been identified in our work and learning environments, and
- reestablish our commitment to upholding the core values of our University.

As encouraged by the UPEI Action Plan Advisory Group guidance, UPEI has worked to develop actions that:

- · have intersectionality as the starting point,
- · are trauma-informed,
- are evidenced-based,
- are mindful of power dynamics and imbalances,
- · are properly resourced, and
- are supported and enabled with strong communications.

Anticipated Challenges

It is recognized that developing and implementing the actions outlined in the plan will not be without challenges. Securing additional financial and human resources will be required. In addition to increasing overall staff capacity, the University will need to build additional expertise in specialized aspects of EDI and sexual violence prevention.

As indicated in the UPEI Action Plan, new policies and processes also need to be developed in response to *UPEI Review* recommendations related to fair treatment, harassment, discrimination, and sexual violence.

As these policies are implemented, strong collaboration and communication with campus members will be needed to ensure workflows are aligned and new processes and supports are easily understood and accessed by our community.

An enhanced level of accountability and transparency will be fundamental to the implementation and overall success of the Action Plan. UPEI's focus on accountability and

transparency includes a commitment to ongoing consultation and information sharing with campus members around initiatives to improve our work and learning environments, as well as annual audits. Overall, a high level of campus engagement will be needed to enable the cultural shift we aspire to achieve.

To support the Action Plan, UPEI units will develop implementation plans for their areas of responsibility. These implementation plans will further develop the actions and goals, put the actions into operation, and oversee evaluation of progress. Challenges associated with planning will be further identified and addressed in implementation planning.

UPEI is committed to identifying, communicating, and meeting these challenges to the best of its ability in an effort to address the need for change.

PRELIMINARY DRAFT: KEY GOALS **AND ACTIONS**

The UPEI Action Plan addresses the recommendations of the UPEI Review and feedback from campus consultations with the goal of rebuilding trust and safety and creating an improved campus culture at UPEI.

Goal 1

Acknowledge and demonstrate accountability for the issues within the UPEI Review

Actions

- 1. Publish the UPEI Review and acknowledge the serious issues within it
- 2. Commit to addressing all the recommendations within the UPEI Review
- 3. Develop an Action Plan to drive the cultural change needed at UPEI
- 4. Engage in annual audits of the progress of the **UPEI Action Plan**

Goal 2 Strengthen UPEI's governance and leadership

Actions

structure

- 1. Recruit and select a new University President through a transparent, consultative process that emphasizes due diligence in respect to vetting candidates
- 2. Refresh the UPEI Board of Governors with new members and an enhanced commitment to accountability and oversight
- 3. Improve onboarding and training of UPEI Board of Governors and Senate members

- 4. Develop a UPEI leadership training program for those in leadership roles
- 5. Create a leadership development program for academic administrators

Goal 3

Improve UPEI's campus culture

Actions

- 1. Create a culture of listening at UPEI
- 2. Foster an environment in which employees feel valued
- 3. Rebuild trust and safety on campus
- 4. Develop a campus awareness program to promote safe, inclusive work and learning environments
- 5. Improve campus information sharing and communications processes

Goal 4

Put in place new policies and processes that focus on preventing and addressing discrimination, harm, and violence at UPEI

Actions

1. Develop an EDI and Human Rights Department at UPEI

- 2. Create an NDA policy based on new legislation
- 3. Create a harassment and discrimination policy for all members of the UPEI community
- 4. Finalize and implement UPEI's revised Sexual Violence Policy
- 5. Establish clear feedback, disclosure, and reporting systems for campus members

PRELIMINARY DRAFT: UPEI ACTION PLAN GOALS AND ACTIONS TABLES

The actions outlined in the tables below have been developed by the UPEI Senior Executive Team which consists of: the President; Vice-President Academic and Research; Vice-President Administration and Finance; Vice-President People and Culture; and Chief Information Officer.

The actions are:

- informed by UPEI Review recommendations, feedback from campus Listening Sessions, Advisory Group guidance, and UPEI partner consultations;
- 2. provided to the UPEI campus and broader community for feedback to further develop planning;

- aligned to specific UPEI roles for development, implementation, and accountability purposes;
- provided with best estimate implementation timeframes for the next five years for audit purposes.

UPEI Action Plan Timeframe

Year 0 = June 15, 2023 to April 30, 2024
(Note: the *UPEI Review* was released
June 14, 2023. June 15, 2023 represents
the first day of response to the review.)

Year 1 = May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025

Year 2 = May 1, 2025, to April 30, 2026

Year 3 = May 1, 2026, to April 30, 2027

Year 4 = May 1, 2027, to April 30, 2028

Year 5 = May 1, 2028, to April 30, 2029

GOAL 1 ACKNOWLEDGE AND DEMONSTRATE ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE ISSUES WITHIN THE UPEI REVIEW

Publish the UPEI Review and acknowledge the serious issues within it Action 1

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY			UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED	
1.1.1 Publicly share the UPEI Review President Chair, Board of Governors	Year 0	 A copy of the <i>UPEI Review</i> has been shared. As noted in the Review, redactions were necessary. Redactions were made strictly to comply with privacy and legal requirements, as recommended by external legal experts. Information in the review covered feedback that was both current and going back decades. To address this constraint, the interim President conducted 16 listening sessions with all facets of campus to get contemporaneous information. The Action Plan will include ongoing mechanisms to identify areas of concern where workplace supports can be deployed. 	Accountability and acknowledgement Make the report public	
1.1.2. Apologize for harms caused President Chair, Board of Governors	Year 0	 An apology was made to UPEI campus members through campus communications, media interviews, and in-person by the interim President and the Board Chair. The Action Plan contains an explicit apology, acknowledging harms, and a commitment to action that is signed by the Board Chair and interim President. 	Accountability and acknowledgement Publicly acknowledge there is a serious problem and undertake to fix it	
1.1.3. Provide additional supports to the campus community President	Year 0	 In the period following the release of the Review, increased information on UPEI's Employee and Family Assistance Program services and supports was provided and additional in-person on campus counselling supports were provided. Additionally, more information on how to make disclosures and reports, including those regarding senior leaders, was shared with campus members. UPEI will increase staff capacity in SVPRO, EDI Office, and Student Affairs to provide an increased levels of support in these areas as identified within the UPEI Review. 	Accountability and acknowledgement Publicly acknowledge there is a serious problem and undertake to fix it Additional supports Improve information sharing and communications processes	
1.1.4. Consult campus on addressing harms President	Year 0	 The UPEI Action Plan Advisory Group was formed to provide both a campus and broader community lens for consultation on how best to address harms. Additionally, the interim President held townhalls and a series of campus listening sessions. 	Accountability and acknowledgement Publicly acknowledge there is a serious problem and undertake to fix it	

		 UPEI leadership maintains communication with other groups and organizations including the UPEI Student Union, the UPEI Alumni Association, UPEI Retirees, and the Provincial government. 	Create a culture of listening
1.1.5 Commit to creating accountability mechanisms for leaders as a step to address work and learning challenges at UPEI President Chair, Board of Governors	Year 0	 An external review of Board of Governors governance will be initiated, including a review of processes for recruitment of new Board members, A review of senior leadership structure including duties and responsibilities will be initiated A renewed 360-degree review mechanism will be developed for senior leaders. 	Publicly acknowledge there is a serious problem and undertake to fix it Create a culture of listening Acknowledge leadership issues
	Year 1	Subsequent to administrative structure review, communicate clear accountability of leadership roles	Refresh membership of Board of Governors and enhance oversight on key issues by within <i>UPEI Review</i> Campus safety

GOAL 1 ACKNOWLEDGE AND DEMONSTRATE ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE ISSUES WITHIN THE UPEI REVIEW

Action 2 Commit to addressing all the recommendations within the UPEI Review

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIONS		UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
1.2.1 Publicly state UPEI's commitment to change and accountability President Chair, Board of Governors	Year 0	 The Action Plan contains a public statement committing to the accountability provisions in the plan, which include all aspects of the UPEI Review recommendations, as well as additional components developed through feedback provided by the Action Plan Advisory Group and through campus listening sessions. Through both the Action Plan Advisory Group and the listening sessions, the University has consulted with the community and used the consultation feedback to inform response to the UPEI Review recommendations within the Action Plan. This will remain an ongoing process as Action Plan initiatives are implemented. 	Accountability and acknowledgement Publicly acknowledge there is a serious problem and undertake to fix it Create a culture of listening Improve accountability and transparency

1.2.2 Develop an Advisory Group for input on plan development President	Year 0	 UPEI issued a call for expressions of interest for community members to participate on the Action Plan Advisory Group with goal of broad community representation. The University used external facilitator to consult with Advisory Group to gather feedback and provide guidance to help inform actions. Throughout the process, information on the progress of the Advisory Group was shared with campus. 	Accountability and acknowledgement Publicly acknowledge there is a serious problem and undertake to fix it Create a culture of listening Improve transparency
1.2.3 Engage in ongoing consultation President Senior Executive Team	Year 0-5	UPEI leadership commits to an enhanced level of consultation with the campus community on an ongoing basis. These consultations will include opportunities like the previously held townhalls and campus listening sessions, as well as new employee and student engagement channels. Through these channels, we will gather feedback on barriers to inclusion, safety, and trust on campus.	Accountability and acknowledgement Publicly acknowledge there is a serious problem and undertake to fix it Create a culture of listening

GOAL 1 ACKNOWLEDGE AND DEMONSTRATE ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE ISSUES WITHIN THE UPEI REVIEW

Action 3 Develop an Action Plan to guide the cultural change needed at UPEI

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIONS		UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
1.3.1 Use community feedback to inform actions President, Chair, Board of Governors Senior Executive Team	Year 0	 Utilize feedback from townhalls, campus listening sessions, and Advisory Group, and consultations with internal and external partners to guide the development of Action Plan. Share draft Action Plan publicly for feedback and finalize after consideration of community feedback as well as feedback from the UPEI Senate and Board 	Accountability and acknowledgement Improve transparency Create a culture of listening
1.3.2 Draft Action Plan and share with community President Chair, Board of Governors Senior Executive Team	Year 0	 Post the draft Action Plan on the UPEI website in early January 2024 Finalize the Action Plan after consideration of the community feedback as well as feedback from the UPEI Senate and Board 	Accountability and acknowledgement Create a culture of listening Improve accountability and transparency

1.3.3 Identify resources needed for implementation President Senior Executive Team	Year 0	 Collaborate to identify human resources and budget needs related to actions needed to respond to <i>UPEI Review</i> recommendations and campus feedback Align the implementation schedule of Action Plan deliverables and campus resources needed to develop and implement new policies, processes, and initiatives 	Build HR and resource capacity Additional resources Improve accountability
1.3.4 Develop a Board of Governors Campus Culture Committee Chair, Board of Governors	Year 0	 Create Campus Culture Committee to oversee implementation of Action Plan. This will include recommending selection of plan auditors and acceptance of audit reports to the Board. Once accepted, make audit reports public. This process as well as additional reporting detailed elsewhere, will increase awareness of UPEI climate and culture through reporting and engagement with new Board committee. 	Strengthen leadership Refresh membership of the Board of Governors and enhance oversight on key issues identified in the <i>UPEI Review</i> Improve accountability Campus safety

GOAL 1 ACKNOWLEDGE AND DEMONSTRATE ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE ISSUES WITHIN THE UPEI REVIEW

Action 4 Engage in annual audits of the progress of the Action Plan

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIONS		UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
1.4.1 Select auditor President Chair, Board of Governors VP Administration and Finance	Year 1	Board of Governors to select auditor with EDI expertise based on recommendation of the Campus Culture Committee and in consultation with Government of PEI Consideration to be given to an audit organization that has access to a resource base outside PEI as well as experience within post-secondary education	Accountability and acknowledgement Make the report public Annual audits to measure progress
1.4.2 Develop audit framework and process President, Senior Executive Team	Year 1	 Develop an audit framework that considers the success of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women Equality Report Card as a model Align internal resource needs to support the audit function and new workflow and reporting processes Determine effective ways to measure culture change efforts 	Accountability and acknowledgement Publicly acknowledge there is a serious problem and undertake to fix it Annual audits to measure progress Improve accountability and transparency

1.4.3 Carry out annual audits President	Year 2	 Carry out annual audits (aligned with UPEI fiscal year) based on audit schedule will be carried out 	Accountability and acknowledgement
Chair, Board of Governors		 Make audit results available to the public through communications and on the UPEI website after acceptance by the Board 	Annual audits to measure progress
		 Conduct the first audit following the completion of Year 1 and thereafter annually 	Improve accountability and transparency

Action 1 Recruit and select a new University President through a transparent, consultative process that emphasizes due diligence in respect to vetting candidates

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIONS		UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
2.1.1 Share full job description for Presidential search Chair, Board of Governors	Year 0	 Build the need to champion work on culture improvements (as outlined in the <i>UPEI Review</i>) within the job description for the next President Build the following components into the selection criteria for the next President: commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion deep understanding of workplace fairness and harassment track record of success in implementation of projects to advance EDI in meaningful ways commitment to reconciliation and Indigenization organizational change experience and desire to champion change ethics, transparency, and integrity Post a detailed job description posted on the UPEI website for full transparency 	Strengthen leadership Selection of next President and review of their performance Improve accountability and transparency
2.1.2 Presidential search communications Chair, Board of Governors	Year 0-1	Communicate information and updates regularly about the selection process to the campus community	Strengthen leadership Selection of next President and review of their performance Improve accountability and transparency

2.1.3 Candidate presentations Chair, Board of Governors	Year 0	 Provide the campus community with robust consultation and feedback opportunities, which will include public publications by shortlisted candidates Provide opportunities to give anonymous feedback on shortlisted candidates 	Strengthen leadership Selection of next President and review of their performance Improve accountability and transparency
2.1.4 Candidate response to UPEI Review Chair, Board of Governors	Year 0	 Require shortlisted candidates to provide a response to the <i>UPEI Review</i> recommendations Require final candidates to provide a response with respect to the draft Action Plan 	Strengthen leadership Selection of next President and review of their performance Improve accountability and transparency
2.1.5 Vetting candidates Chair, Board of Governors	Year 0	Ensure that candidates are thoroughly vetted	Strengthen leadership Selection of next President and review of their performance Improve accountability and transparency

Action 2 Refresh the UPEI Board of Governors with new members and an enhanced commitment of accountability and oversight

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIONS		UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
2.2.1 Fill Board of Governors vacancies Chair, Board of Governors President	Year 0	 Look at best practices to ensure board policies, practices, and recruitment create conditions for meaningful Board diversity Provide feedback to Engage PEI regarding the provincial government's appointment of Board members 	Strengthen leadership Refresh membership of the Board of Governors and enhance oversight on key issues within the <i>UPEI Review</i>

2.2.2 Develop skills matrix for competencies and representation Chair, Board of Governors President	Year 0	 Use the newly developed skills matrix to ensure a robust representation of skills, expertise, experience, demographics (including race, gender, and age), and other considerations in relation to the composition of the Board of Governors Assess best practices in recruitment including the initial skills and representation matrix in the external governance review of the Board of Governors Consider contributions to and experience with EDI issues as a factor in determining board appointments 	Strengthen leadership Refresh membership of the Board of Governors and enhance oversight on key issues within the <i>UPEI Review</i> Increase Board diversity Improve accountability and transparency
2.2.3 Review of Board Governance Chair, Board of Governors President	Year 0-1	Initiate an external review of the Board of Governors governance Make changes in board procedures resulting from the review recommendations public	Strengthen leadership Refresh membership of the Board of Governors and enhance oversight on key issues within the UPEI Review Improve accountability and transparency Improve governance leadership
2.2.4 Increase Board oversight Chair, Board of Governors President	Year 1-2	 Implement appropriate oversight processes through various committees Develop a Campus Culture Committee of the Board to oversee implementation of the UPEI Action Plan and EDI Strategy progress monitoring Enhance Board training 	Strengthen leadership Refresh membership of the Board of Governors and enhance oversight on key issues within the UPEI Review Review climate and management practices Improve accountability and transparency Leadership training
2.2.5 New reporting mechanisms to inform the Board Chair, Board of Governors President VP People and Culture	Year 1	 Develop new reporting processes to provide the Board with information on terminations and resignations, and on whether any such terminations or resignations have associated NDAs Develop new ways to inform the Board of areas within UPEI that have reported incidents of bullying and harassment 	Strengthen leadership Refresh membership of the Board of Governors and enhance oversight on key issues within the UPEI Review Review climate and management practices Improve accountability and transparency

Action 3 Improve onboarding and training of UPEI Board of Governors and Senate members

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIONS		UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
2.3.1 Develop orientation and training materials Chair, Board of Governors President	Year 1-2	 Engage the Board of Governors and Senate in governance training to provide additional knowledge and skill development on effectively fulfilling roles, legal and ethical frameworks, oversight and diligence in critically evaluating decisions and actions Integrate EDI training and training in priority areas (such as valuing diversity inclusive practices, and professionalism) that support development of UPEI's culture into the regular operations of the Board and Senate 	Strengthen leadership Leadership training Improve Board and Senate governance Improve climate and culture
2.3.2 Develop training schedule and tracking process Chair, Board of Governors President	Year 1-2	 Identify institutional resources to support the development of training programs and related materials Develop a training plan for Board of Governors and Senate Develop a process to track training participation of those in governance-related roles 	Strengthen leadership Leadership training Improve accountability and transparency

Action 4 Develop a UPEI leadership training program for those in leadership roles

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIONS		UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
2.4.1 Develop training program for UPEI leaders President VP People and Culture	Year 1-2	 Engage independent contractor to assess the leadership training needs of campus and make recommendations Develop an inclusive definition of leadership Introduce training that focuses on positive and productive work and learning environments, and supporting the mission and values of UPEI Include potential training topics such as: active listening, EDI, cultural competencies, mitigating unconscious bias, implementing policies and processes effectively, conflict management, emotional intelligence, helping to enact change within a diverse environment, accountability, and bystander training 	Strengthen leadership Leadership training Improve accountability Improve policies and processes Improve climate and culture
	Year 2	 Develop a leadership training strategy Consider potential opportunities for mentorship 	Improve trust and safety on campus Increase staff capacity
	Year 3	 Create a Leadership Training Office to implement the leadership training strategy 	Additional resources
	Year 4-5	The Leadership Training Office to administer the leadership training program	
2.4.2 Develop training schedule and tracking process VP People and Culture	Year 3	 Identify institutional resources to support the development of training programs and related materials Develop a training calendar Develop a process to track participation in leadership training 	Strengthen leadership Leadership training Improve accountability and transparency Improve policies and processes
			Improve climate and culture Improve trust and safety on campus

Action 5 Create a leadership development program for academic administrators

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIONS		UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
2.5.1 Develop training program for UPEI academic administrators President VP Academic and Research	Year 1-2	 Create a leadership development program for academic administrators (Deans, Associate Deans and Chairs) that builds effective leadership and management skills, training on EDI, and processes of continual improvement Develop leadership skills for fostering a healthy workplace such as motivating and inspiring faculty and staff, navigating difficult conversations, preventing burnout, and conflict resolution and mediation Use problem-based learning in program with real-life situations of academic administrators that reflect topics such as discrimination, institutional racism, micro-aggressions, bystander training, and 	Strengthen leadership Leadership training Improve accountability and transparency Improve policies and processes Improve climate and culture
2.5.2 Develop training schedule and tracking process VP Academic and Research	Year 1-2	 Develop institutional resources to support the offering of a leadership development program on a regular schedule, including a 1–2 day program with ongoing seminars for continual improvement Connect the process of appointment for academic administrators with training and tracking for satisfactory completion of the program Build, through the ongoing process of tracking, a community of colleagues with shared interests and common goals in effective leadership 	Strengthen leadership Leadership training Improve accountability and transparency

Action 1 Create a culture of listening at UPEI

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIONS		UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
3.1.1 Culture of listening for students President VP Academic and Research	Year 1-3	 Ensure Student Union Executive is introduced to Deans Council and Directors of administrative units to ensure they are equipped to navigate UPEI's structures Increase the institutional capacity for student focused data collection and analysis of resulting data to provide insight on student experiences, inform initiatives that address student issues, and help assess outcomes Seek meaningful feedback from students as to their experience through questions such as inclusive and intercultural learning, perceptions of institutional values and commitment to EDI, and diversity-related programming Develop an integrated system that seeks student feedback and builds initiatives to support student success through follow-up planning, student engagement, and actions arising from student surveys 	Improve accountability and transparency Improve information sharing and communications processes Improve climate and culture Improve trust and safety on campus
3.1.2 Culture of listening for employees President VP People and Culture	Year 0-5	 Identify institutional resources to support the development of training programs and related materials Develop a training plan for Board of Governors and Senate Develop a process to track training participation of those in governance-related roles 	Create a culture of listening Improve accountability and transparency Increase education and awareness
	Year 1	 Provide training on trauma-informed approaches to handling disclosures Provide active listening training 	Improve information sharing and communications processes
	Year 2	 Establish clear and accessible channels to provide confidential feedback on issues such as: safety, sexual violence, and harassment and discrimination Regularly seek employee feedback through surveys 	Improve climate and culture Improve trust and safety on campus

3.1.3 Foster a culture of listening for the UPEI community President	Year 0-5	Coordinate with campus partners to foster a campus culture built on a commitment to listening, idea sharing, collaboration, and valuing feedback Continue to work with the Indigenous community at UPEI to further our journey of reconciliation	Create a culture of listening Improve accountability and transparency Increase education and awareness Improve information sharing and communications processes Improve climate and culture Improve trust and safety on campus
3.1.4 Performance reviews and campus feedback	Year 1	Develop a process for 360 performance review of President	Strengthen leadership
Chair, Board of Governors President Senior Executive Team President	Year 1-5	 President to implement 360 performance reviews of Senior Executive Team Senior Executive Team to ensure performance reviews of Deans, Directors, Managers and others are carried out in the timeframe required 	Improve accountability and transparency Improve information sharing and communications processes
Senior Executive Team	Year 2-5	Following their first year of service, implement annual 360 performance review of President	
3.1.5 Improve feedback processes	Year 1	Secure the resources to support employee engagement and recognition activities Plan and develop employee engagement survey	Strengthen leadership
VP People and Culture	Year 2	Conduct employee engagement survey Establish clear and accessible channels to provide confidential feedback on issues such as: safety, sexual violence, and harassment and discrimination	Additional resources Build employee engagement
	Year 3-5	Continue and optimize employee engagement survey proces	Improve accountability and transparency Improve communications processes
			Improve climate and culture
			Improve trust and safety on campus

3.1.6 Exit interviews VP People and Culture	Year 1	Develop a comprehensive process to offer exit interviews for departing employees Develop a process to share aggregate information learned from exit	Review climate and management practices
		interviews in confidential and appropriate ways to help with continual improvements	Improve accountability and transparency
		Create a position in HR to support employee retention and satisfaction activities	Continual improvement
		Plan and develop exit interview process and reporting that will flow from such process	Improve climate and culture
	Year 2	Implement exit interview process and reporting	
	Year 3-5	Develop protocol for how information will be appropriately shared with the EDI and Human Rights Department where permitted and relevant Continue and optimize exit interview process	

Action 2 Foster an environment in which employees feel valued

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIO	DNS	UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
3.2.1 Employee engagement VP People and Culture	Year 1	Increase staff capacity in the Human Resources Department to support employee engagement and recognition Plan and develop employee engagement survey Plan and develop initiatives to enhance employee recognition Implement employee engagement survey	Create a culture of listening Additional resources Employee engagement
8	Year 3-5	Commence employee recognition initiatives Continue and optimize employee engagement and recognition processes Use data from employee engagement surveys to inform improvements	Improve climate and culture Improve communications processes Data informed decision making

3.2.2 Development opportunities for employees VP People and Culture VP Academic and Research	Year 1-5	 Provide staff with enhanced opportunities for training, skills building, and development Enhance faculty development opportunities in teaching and research through the Teaching Learning Centre and Office of Research Services Encourage and support faculty participation in conferences and other community events that foster professional development 	Create a culture of listening Employee engagement Improve climate and culture Improve communications processes
3.2.3 Review employee classification system VP People and Culture	Year 2	Examine the employee classification system with the objective of ensuring that all positions are consistently evaluated and properly classified	Create a culture of listening Employee engagement Improve climate and culture
3.2.4 Enhance open dialogue President, Senior Executive Team	Year 0-5	Continue opportunities for campus members to speak about their experiences, provide input, and share ideas	Create a culture of listening Employee engagement Improve information sharing and communications processes Improve climate and culture
3.2.5 Communicate supports and resources VP People and Culture	Year 1-5	 Enhance transparency and integration of information around existing supports for campus members in relation to health and wellbeing As they are implemented, share information on new supports and services in EDI and SVPRO that are accessible to campus members 	Create a culture of listening Improve information sharing and communications processes

Action 3 Rebuild trust and safety on campus

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIONS		UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
3.3.1 Improvements to Security Services	Year 0-2	Restructure management of Security Services to provide a dedicated management resource	Create a culture of listening
VP Administration and Finance	Year 0-2	Hire additional staff	Improve accountability and transparency
Tillance	Year 1-5	Create an annual staff training plan which includes Sexual Violence and EDI training	Improve information sharing and communications processes
			Improve climate and culture
			Improve trust and safety on campus
3.3.2 Review campus safety and infrastructure VP Administration and	Year 1	Collaborate with UPEI Environment, Health and Safety to provide campus members with clear information on reporting under Occupational Health and Safety legislation	Improve campus safety Create a culture of listening
Finance	Year 1-2	Gather input from campus members on areas of concern in respect to safety	Improve information sharing
	Year 2-3	Review campus safety infrastructure (lighting, safety poles, security cameras, other)	
	Year 2-3	Optimize campus safety supports such as UPEI Safe app	

3.3.3. Provide sexual violence and EDI training for Security Services VP People and Culture VP Administration and Finance	Year 2	 SVPRO to provide training on trauma-informed approaches to receiving disclosures Provide sexual violence and EDI training to Security Services staff on an annual basis 	Improve campus safety Build trust Training Education and awareness Improve campus safety Improve climate and culture
3.3.4 Create tracking processes for reporting	Year 1	 Develop a structure to track reporting information (including anonymous and third party) through the Sexual Violence Policy 	Improve campus safety
of sexual violence and harassment and discrimination VP People and Culture	Year 3	Develop a structure to track reporting information (including anonymous and third party) through the Harassment and Discrimination Policy	Build trust Data and reporting

Action 4 Develop a campus awareness program to promote safe, inclusive work and learning environments

ISSUES and	SUPPORTING ACTIO	NS	UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS
ACCOUNTABILITY			and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
3.4.1 Communicate behavioral obligations President Senior Executive Team	Year 1-2	Establish behavioural obligations and limitations through documents including the: Sexual Violence Policy, Harassment and Discrimination Policy, Student Code of Conduct, Residence Life Handbook, Athlete's Code of Conduct, Athletic Club Guidelines, and International Student Orientation Handbook	Improve practices related to harassment and discrimination Improve practices related to addressing sexual violence
			Public awareness campaign
			Education and awareness
			Improve campus safety Improve climate and culture
			Improve information sharing and communications processes
3.4.2 Develop and deliver awareness program President	Year 2-4	 Put in place the resources needed to support and develop a comprehensive awareness program related to building inclusive environments, including such things as: anti-racism, anti-oppression, unconscious bias, microaggressions, cultural 	Improve practices related to harassment and discrimination
Senior Executive Team		differences, sexual violence including gender-based violence, and harassment and discrimination • Ensure training has an equity, diversity, and inclusion lens	Improve practices related to addressing sexual violence
		 Use a trauma-informed approach to the delivery of training on difficult subjects Consult subject-matter experts for specific and targeted themes and messages 	Public awareness campaign
	06	Deliver the awareness program in ways that make it accessible to all campus community members	Education and awareness
		 Collaborate with campus partners to coordinate messages to support other campus initiatives Ensure there is capacity to respond to increased need for supports and reporting 	Improve campus safety Improve climate and culture
		 because of awareness program efforts Provide in-person and on-demand training related to building inclusive environments Provide mechanisms through which campus community members can request training on specific issues 	Improve information sharing and communications processes
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3.4.3 Update awareness program as needed President	Year 3-5	inclusion	Public awareness campaign Accountability and transparency
			Continual improvement

Action 5 Improve campus information sharing and communications processes

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING AC	TIONS	UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED	
3.5.1 Enhance transparency and information sharing Chair, Board of Governors President	Year 1-2	 Provide greater transparency and accessibility in Board decisions, governance processes, and decision-making in the form of minutes Ensure Board of Governors and Senate minutes are posted online shortly after approval 	Improve transparency Improve information sharing and communications processes	
	Year 2	 Commit to developing standards for the use of in camera sessions, to ensure they are used appropriately 		
3.5.2 Provide information on Board and Senate meetings President Chair, Board of Governors	Year 0	 Provide communication proactively to the UPEI community regarding Board of Governors and Senate meeting dates, and times, and include methods to attend 	Improve transparency Improve information sharing and communications processes	
3.5.3 Make pathways transparent President	Year 2-5	Make information easily accessible on common practices so all member of campus can identify resources and pathways for having their diverse needs met	Improve information sharing and communications processes Education and awareness	
3.5.4 Build opportunities for input and participation President	Year 1-5	 Enhance information sharing and transparency on campus so campus members are aware of campus initiatives Provide information to campus on opportunities to take part in planning, feedback processes, and idea sharing 	Create a culture of listening Improve information sharing and communications processes Employee engagement	
3.5.5 Improve campus communications	Year 1	 Review structure and objectives of UPEI Marketing and Communications Assess staff capacity 	Improve information sharing and communications processes	
President	Year 2	 Develop a campus communications strategy with focus on better understanding the communications needs of campus audiences, effective communications processes, and collaboration opportunities 	Improve climate and culture	
	Year 3	Implement the campus communications strategy		

PUT IN PLACE NEW POLICIES AND PROCESSES THAT FOCUS ON PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING DISCRIMINATION, **GOAL 4** HARM, AND VIOLENCE AT UPEI

Develop an EDI and Human Rights Department at UPEI Action 1

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIO	DNS	UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
4.1.1 Create New Department of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Human Rights President VP People and Culture	Year 1	 Create a new Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (EDI) and Human Rights Department with three major pillars of responsibility: equity, diversity, and inclusion; sexual violence prevention and response; harassment and discrimination complaints Establish the purpose of the EDI and Human Rights Department in clear terms with the organization chart delineating the roles within the office to enable clear responsibility and focus areas Director of EDI and Human Rights will attend the Board of Governors Campus Culture Committee to deliver Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Strategy progress reports, and annual reporting under the Sexual Violence Policy and Harassment and Discrimination Policy, and allow for direct communications Department will report directly to VP People and Culture 	Improve practices related to harassment and discrimination Improve practices related to addressing sexual violence Create an on-campus equity, diversity, an inclusion office Improve trust and safety on campus
	Year 2	 Develop a protocol, as an alternative pathway, for the Director of EDI and Human Rights Department to report issues directly to the President, and/or to the Chair of the Board of Governors, including conflicts of interests and other serious issues 	
4.1.2 Increase staff capacity in EDI, human rights, and sexual violence prevention President VP People and Culture	Year 0-1	 Hire additional staff to support the new EDI and Human Rights Department Create a new leadership position, Director of EDI and Human Rights to provide oversight and leadership to the Department Create a new administrative assistant position to support the Department Create a new position for sexual violence prevention and response coordination to supplement response capacity and improve prevention and response activities Build institutional capacity to support EDI, human rights, and sexual violence prevention 	Improve practices related to addressing harassment and discrimination Improve practices related to addressing sexual violence Additional resources
	Year 2	 Move the SVPRO to an area easily accessible while providing confidentiality Work with campus partners to cultivate a focus on prevention and awareness Create additional staff capacity on sexual and gender diversity to lead special projects to make the campus a more welcoming environment for members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community Create additional staff capacity on anti-racism and cultural diversity to lead special projects to make the campus a more welcoming environment for racialized members of the campus community 	Coordinated response team approach Physical location of the SVPRO Increased support for parties Education and awareness Improve trust and safety on campus

4.1.3 Administer Harassment and Discrimination Policy VP People and Culture	Year 1-2	 The EDI and Human Rights Department will be responsible for intake and administration of the new Harassment and Discrimination Policy (once developed) Create a new position, Human Rights and Equity Advisor, for the intake and administration of the new Harassment and Discrimination policy Communicate to the campus community that the EDI and Human Rights Department is the intake location for harassment, discrimination, and sexual violence reports and complaints Use a variety of external investigators Ensure investigations are procedurally fair Provide informal resolution services in accordance with the new Harassment and Discrimination Policy 	Improve practices related to addressing harassment and discrimination Create a new Harassment and Discrimination Policy Create an on-campus equity, diversity, and inclusion office Education and awareness Use a variety of external investigators Informal resolutions
4.1.4 Develop and deliver training President and Senior Executive Team	Year 0-1	 Consider promising initiatives at other post-secondary educational institutions Collaborate with areas of campus with their own EDI efforts Invest in partnership with a comprehensive EDI training partner (i.e., Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion) Create a new position responsible for equity, diversity, and inclusion training and education Create a new position responsible for sexual violence prevention and education Make the online sexual violence course available to all faculty, staff, and students Make the online sexual violence course mandatory for all incoming students President will consult with unions on an approach for implementation of the mandatory sexual violence prevention and training for union members 	Create an on-campus equity, diversity, an inclusion office Additional resources Training Education and awareness Improve climate and culture
	Year 2 -3	 Continue to review established best practices and research to inform the training offered Make the online sexual violence course mandatory for all faculty and staff 	Improve trust and safety on campus
4.1.5 Leverage feedback and data to inform decision making VP People and Culture	Year 1	 Continue to collect information regarding promising initiatives, best practices, and research in relation to efforts of the EDI and Human Rights Department Collect information regarding experiences with collection of workforce diversity information to inform future planning 	Create an on-campus equity, diversity, an inclusion office Data informed decision making
	Year 2	Ensure that voices from members of underrepresented and marginalized groups help inform the initiatives of the EDI and Human Rights Department	
	Year 3	 Collect workforce diversity information, guided by best practices, to create baseline information to better inform future decision making in equity, diversity, and inclusion policies and processes. 	

4.1.6 Cross-departmental communication to improve supports and services	Year 1-3	 Work collaboratively with campus partners who provide services to underrepresented or marginalized groups including International Students Office, Accessibility Services, and Student Affairs 	Create an on-campus equity, diversity, an inclusion office
VP People and Culture VP Academic and Research		 Work with Human Resources to improve accommodations processes for faculty and staff and make the information easily available 	Improve practices related to harassment and discrimination
		 Create a permanent EDI in Employment Systems Advisor position to continue to make EDI improvements to employment related processes on an ongoing basis Coordinate processes of student-related investigations among the offices of SVPRO and supports within Student Affairs 	Improve practices related to sexual violence
		 Improve cross-departmental support services for students in response to harassment, discrimination, racism, or sexual violence or other forms of distress 	Improve information sharing and communications processes
	Year 3	Encourage the development of EDI liaisons across campus	Improve climate and culture
4.1.7 Offer informal resolution President Senior Executive Team	Year 1	 Build capacity for informal resolution methods that are more flexible and less formal applicable to matters under the Sexual Violence Policy and a new Harassment and Discrimination Policy 	Create an on-campus equity, diversity, an inclusion office
20000			Informal resolutions
			Improve climate and culture
			Improve trust and safety on campus

GOAL 4 PUT IN PLACE NEW POLICIES AND PROCESSES THAT FOCUS ON PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING DISCRIMINATION, HARM, AND VIOLENCE

Action 2 Create an NDA policy based on new legislation

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIONS		UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
4.2.1 Create NDA policy President Chair, Board of Governors	Year 1	 Develop a policy that complies with all aspects of the PEI Non-Disclosure Agreement Act Commit to not using any 'fact of' language in any necessary NDAs Make the policy easily accessible 	Restrict the use of NDAs Leadership training
	Year 2	 Provide training on new provincial legislation and new policy to the Board of Governors and Senior Executive Team 	Education and awareness Improve trust and safety on campus Improve climate and culture
4.2.3 Create process for reporting NDA related terminations and resignations to Board of Governors President VP People and Culture	Year 1	Send regular reports to the Board of Governors on terminations and resignations, and if any were associated with an NDA	Restrict the use of NDAs

GOAL 4 PUT IN PLACE NEW POLICIES AND PROCESSES THAT FOCUS ON PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING DISCRIMINATION, HARM, AND VIOLENCE

Action 3 Create a Harassment and Discrimination Policy for all members of the UPEI community

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY			UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
4.3.1 Replace the Fair Treatment Policy Chair, Board of Governors President	Year 0	 As an interim immediate measure, create a pathway for employees to make confidential disclosures of incidents of harassment and discrimination against senior executive members of the University through an independent third-party expert Instruct the Fair Treatment Advocate to use a variety of investigators in their investigations 	Improve practices related to addressing harassment and discrimination Create a new harassment and discrimination policy
	Year 1	 Replace the Fair Treatment Policy with a comprehensive Harassment and Discrimination Policy that covers all campus members and reflects the new structure of the EDI and Human Rights Department Ensure the new policy incorporates all recommendations of the UPEI Review Ensure the policy is trauma-informed and procedurally fair Ensure the new policy aligns with legislative requirements, such as PEI Occupational Health and Safety Act and Employment Standards Act 	Use a variety of external investigators Training Improve trust and safety on campus
	Year 3	 Build information about human rights and health and safety obligations applicable to work and clinical placements into the program manuals for students in applicable programs 	Improve climate and culture
4.3.2 Communicate policy in plain language to campus President VP People and Culture	Year 1	Make the policy easily available to the campus community	Improve practices related to addressing harassment and discrimination Training
	Year 2	 Create materials to communicate the policy to UPEI community in easy to understand, plain language Develop and deliver training on the new policy 	Education and awareness Education and awareness Create a new harassment and discrimination policy
			Improve information sharing and communications processes

for harassment and	/ear 3	Continue to collect information regarding harassment and discrimination complaint management applications/software to assess quality, suitability, value, and relevance to UPEI	Improve practices related to addressing harassment and discrimination
discrimination reporting President VP People and Culture		relevance to OPEI	Data and reporting

GOAL 4 PUT IN PLACE NEW POLICIES AND PROCESSES THAT FOCUS ON PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING DISCRIMINATION, HARM, AND VIOLENCE

Finalize and implement UPEI's revised Sexual Violence Policy Action 4

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY 4.4.1 Finalize revisions to the Sexual Violence Policy Chair, Board of Governors President	SUPPORTING ACTIONS		UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
	Year 1	 Finalize revisions to the UPEI Sexual Violence Policy Ensure the new policy is comprehensive and implements all the recommendations of the <i>UPEI Review</i> Ensure the revised policy is trauma-informed, procedurally fair, and conforms to legislative requirements 	Improve practices related to addressing sexual violence Revise the Sexual Violence Policy
		 Consider how to specifically address incidents of sexual harassment/assault within the context of student residences 	Improve accountability
			Appeals
4.4.2 Implement the new Sexual Violence Policy Chair, Board of Governors,	Year 1	 Communicate the new policy in a timely manner Ensure training is provided to the Board, Senate, and Senior Executive Team on the new policy 	Improve practices related to addressing sexual violence
President		 Make the piloted sexual violence response team permanent and finalize terms of reference finalized 	Revise the Sexual Violence Policy
		 Ensure there are strong pathways between SVPRO and residence life administration Strengthen and clarify pathway for respondent support 	Leadership training
		 Whenever possible, provide advance notice of delivery of investigation results to the parties 	Coordinated response team approach
		Provide investigation results to the respondent's internal support provider	Increased support for parties
			Investigations
			Improve trust and safety on campus
			Improve climate and culture

4.4.3 Communicate the policy in plain language to campus President VP People and Culture	Year 1	Make the policy easily available to the campus community	Improve practices related to addressing sexual violence Improve information sharing and communications processes Training
			Education and awareness
	Year 2-3	 Create materials to communicate the policy to UPEI community in easy to understand, plain language Develop and deliver training on the new policy 	
4.4.4. Implement mandatory sexual violence training for all campus members President Senior Executive Team	Year 0-1	 Make the online sexual violence course available to all faculty, staff, and students Make the online sexual violence course mandatory for all incoming students President will consult with unions on an approach for implementation of the mandatory sexual violence prevention and training for union members 	Improve practices related to addressing sexual violence Training
	Year 2-3	Make the online sexual violence course mandatory for all faculty and staff	Education and awareness
			Improve campus climate and culture
			Improve trust and safety on campus
4.4.5 Collect statistical information VP People and Culture	Year 0-1	- Collect statistical information from a victim contared long	Improve climate and culture
	Tedi U-I	 Collect statistical information from a victim-centered lens Expand data collection processes to allow monitoring of trends 	Improve practices related to addressing sexual violence
	Year 3	Continue to collect information from counterparts and experts regarding sexual violence complaint management applications/software to assess quality, suitability, value, and relevance to UPEI	Data and reporting Improve campus safety

GOAL 4 PUT IN PLACE NEW POLICIES AND PROCESSES THAT FOCUS ON PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING DISCRIMINATION, HARM, AND VIOLENCE

Action 5 Establish clear feedback, disclosure, and reporting mechanisms for campus members

ISSUES and ACCOUNTABILITY	SUPPORTING ACTIONS		UPEI REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS and CAMPUS ISSUES ADDRESSED
4.5.1 Establish anonymous and confidential feedback channels President Senior Executive Team	Year 2-3	 Establish clear and easily accessible channels for feedback Create mechanisms for accountability in response to feedback or complaints made by campus members Continue to collect information on an electronic reporting and tracking tools Include an explanation of how anonymous and third-party reports will be handled under the new Sexual Violence Policy and Harassment and Discrimination Policy 	Improve practices related to addressing sexual violence Create a culture of listening Preliminary issues Data and reporting Improve information sharing and communications processes
			Improve trust and safety on campus
4.5.2 Respond respectfully to those who report issues President Senior Executive Team	Year 0-5	 Ensure that processes, through which campus members make reports, seek help, or engage in conflict resolution, are designed with safety, respect, and active listening as core features Ensure the pathways for sexual violence or harassment and discrimination disclosures and complaints are clear in respect to processes and expectations for resolution 	Improve practices related to addressing sexual violence Improve practices related to addressing harassment and discrimination
		resolution	Create a culture of listening
	RE		Improve information sharing and communications processes Data and reporting Improve campus trust and safety





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