Canada Sesquicentennial Steering Committee

Terms of Reference

The University of Toronto is older than Canada and has played significant roles in the formation and development of our nation throughout its history. Notably, four of Canada’s Prime Ministers studied at the University,1 as did two Governors General2 and 17 Supreme Court Justices; and our students, faculty, and alumni contributed to national defense in the Fenian Raids and the two World Wars.

As Canada prepares for its Sesquicentennial on July 1, 2017, the University will join in celebrating this milestone and the University’s contributions to our nation’s history. Moreover, as Canada’s premier university, we will mark this occasion with a series of critical investigations of what it means to be Canadian as we move further into the 21st century.

Building on President Gertler’s institutional priorities of leveraging the University’s urban locations within Toronto and Mississauga, strengthening our international partnerships, and re-imagining undergraduate education, the University will mark Canada’s 150th birthday throughout the 2017 calendar year.

The Sesquicentennial Steering Committee will support these efforts by:

- Helping to coordinate initiatives within the University that are related to the Sesquicentennial celebrations with the theme of “Canada’s Future in the World after 150 Years”, ensuring institutional alignment of priorities and objectives.

- Supporting divisional and unit-level Sesquicentennial academic programming and activities through seed funding to be awarded through a competitive process.

- Encouraging undergraduate-focused academic initiatives thematically linked to the Sesquicentennial, such as special seminars or speaker series.

- Publicizing University events through a dedicated website and other communications opportunities.

- Developing proposals for external funding of Sesquicentennial celebrations and disseminating information on funding opportunities for divisional and unit-level activities.
