



January 20, 2021

Task Force on Race, Indigeneity, and Social Justice

On behalf of the [Task Force on Race, Indigeneity, and Social Justice \(RISJ\)](#):

The Task Force, formed in August 2019, resumed its work in July 2020 amid the coronavirus pandemic. The mandate of the Task Force is to identify and address the barriers which prevent or discourage the realization of equity and inclusion for Indigenous and racialized peoples, and establish actions and processes to implement anti-racism, Indigeneity, sovereignty, and social justice.

Building on the earlier work of the Task Force, the committee has engaged in difficult conversations during bi-weekly meetings to reach consensus on priorities, and to collect data based on matters that are relevant to Indigenous and racialized students, staff, and faculty. The themes that will guide the recommendations include:

1. Student recruitment, retention and success
2. Staff and faculty recruitment, retention, development and advancement
3. Curricula, research, pedagogy and learning
4. Culture, climate, change process, and well-being

We welcomed Dr. Bahar Tajrobehkar to the Task Force as a Research Associate in December 2020. Dr. Tajrobehkar has previously served on the University of Toronto's Task Force on Race and Indigeneity, and has research expertise in the areas of anti-racism and education. She has worked as an equity, diversity and inclusion consultant within and outside of academic settings.

As we continue in this important work, you will be receiving ongoing communications, and invitations to provide feedback that will inform our approach, discussions and analysis, and ultimately the final recommendations produced by the Task Force. Ongoing activities that engage faculty, staff, and students will take place from February to April, 2021. Our final report, including the recommendations, is scheduled to be released on June 21, 2021, which coincides with the National Indigenous Peoples Day.

For more information, please visit our [website](#).

