

McMaster University Office of Community Engagement
Poverty & Inclusion Lab
Priorities¹

This document provides a summary of priorities for the Office of Community Engagement's Poverty & Inclusion Lab. The lab will take a systems approach to focus on a combination of the following issues as they relate to Poverty & Inclusion:

- Predatory lending
- Living wage & universal income
- Gentrification
- Social Isolation
- Affordable housing & inclusive zoning
- Employment & education
- Food security
- Civic inclusion
- Equitable access to services & opportunities
- Supporting newcomers & refugees
- Mental health
- Pre-post natal poverty intervention
- Social determinants of health
- Wealth disparity
- Neighbourhood Action Strategy support
- Supporting & celebrating diversity
- Mixed neighbourhoods
- Community empowerment

The Office of Community Engagement will take the following steps to develop the Poverty & Inclusion Lab:

- **Identify co-chairs and partner units, groups, or organizations** to form the lab.
- **Formalize the structure and function of the group** to include goals, budget, and responsibility of members.
- **Plan and facilitate a deliberative dialogue** focused on networking, knowledge sharing, project ideation, and summarizing the goals and objectives of the lab.
- **Develop a longer-term Poverty & Inclusion Lab agenda and workplan**
- **Support the formation of new partnerships** through providing catalyst funding and proactively connecting individuals and groups with common research, education, or service interests related to Poverty & Inclusion.

¹ This document was created in August 2016 by Dave Heidebrecht (Coordinator, Office of Community Engagement).