

McMaster University Office of Community Engagement
Service Working Group
Priorities¹

This document provides a summary of possible priorities for the service working group. These priorities were identified through consultations with community and campus partners as part of the development of a 5-year strategic plan for community engagement. The working group will review this list and determine which specific priorities to pursue moving forward.

- **Formalize the role of the group** to include goals, budget, and responsibility of members.
- **Collect exemplars and sharing best practices** of service through a series of case stories.
- **Improve access to information** about the various service opportunities available for both students and staff
- **Improve coordination of service activities** across campus to avoid duplication and confusion from community partners
- **Align volunteer opportunities with community-driven interests and needs**
- **Formalize a coordinated matching system to connect volunteers with community partners**
- **Develop a list of existing volunteer and service recognition awards** and explore whether more awards or other methods of recognition are possible
- **Develop mutually understood competencies for volunteering & service**
- **Encourage further integration of volunteerism and service** across the University
- **Create clubs training opportunities for students to learn about principles of community engagement** prior to volunteer opportunities
- **Reduce transportation barriers to volunteering**
- **Use the OCE database to track service projects**
- **Create opportunities for colleagues to share the outcomes of their work**, encouraging shared learning and networking (possibly building on the previous Idea Exchange model used by the Network for Community-Campus Partnerships).

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