

# COMMUNITY CONNECTOR 101

a quick and easy tool for our community & campus partners

The primary functions of **McMaster's Office of Community Engagement** are to **build capacity, communicate, reduce barriers & facilitate action oriented conversations**. Aimed at supporting these functions, this tool provides important information for partners about existing resources and information that can support you in developing community-campus partnerships.



## WHAT IS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT?

Community engagement at McMaster University values the expert knowledge and passion that members of the community (from local to global) have about their communities and issues affecting them; it fosters ongoing collaboration between University and community partners on how to better understand and consider the issues identified as priorities by local and global communities. Community engagement at McMaster involves performing research, teaching and service for or with community members and partners for the public good.

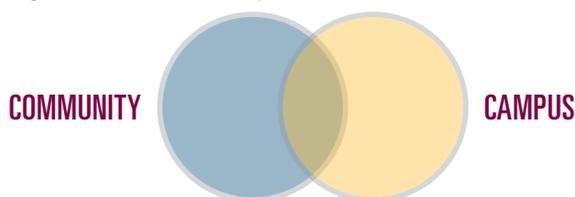
## PRINCIPLES OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Action-oriented principles of community engagement were co-developed between community and campus partners and include: Relationships, Reciprocity, Equity, Continuity, Openness to Learning, & Commitment to Act. The primary goal of McMaster's community engagement strategy is to establish these principles as the foundation of community-campus partnerships.

## NETWORK FOR COMMUNITY-CAMPUS PARTNERSHIPS

The Network for Community-Campus Partnerships is the structure that supports McMaster's work with our community partners to achieve our goals. Managed by the Office of Community Engagement, the Network fosters ongoing relationship-building between community and University partners through a variety of approaches to take on short-term actions that focus on the pillars of community engagement in contributing to work towards our long-term goals.

Through the Network, community and campus partners participate in working groups on Hamilton-based Research, Community-Engaged Education, Service, and co-identified theme areas of Poverty & Inclusion, Healthy Spaces & Communities, Access & Knowledge Sharing, and Economic Development.



## SPACE FOR MEETINGS OR EVENTS

Are you looking for community space for upcoming meetings or events? McMaster students, staff, faculty, and community partners are welcome to book space free of charge at two different Hamilton locations:

- 1) The McMaster Centre for Continuing Education (1 James St. N.) has space for small or large gatherings. Learn more at [www.mcmastercce.ca/ojnroom](http://www.mcmastercce.ca/ojnroom).
- 2) McMaster's School of Graduate Studies operates the Action Research Commons of Hamilton (ARCH) at the Perkin's Centre (1429 Main St. E.), which has space for small groups and workshops. Learn more at [gs.mcmaster.ca/arch](http://gs.mcmaster.ca/arch).

## 2016-2021 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

In June 2016, McMaster's Community Engagement Strategy was launched to set the direction for the next 5 years of community engagement at McMaster. McMaster's Office of Community Engagement was formed to support the pursuit of McMaster's Community Engagement Strategy goals and objectives.

You can download the strategy on our website at: [community.mcmaster.ca](http://community.mcmaster.ca)

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT VISION AND GOALS

The vision of the Office of Community Engagement is **Working together for an inclusive, sustainable greater Hamilton**. In pursuit of this vision, the four goals of McMaster's community engagement strategy are:

- 1) **Establish the Principles of Community Engagement** as the foundation of community-campus partnerships.
- 2) **Build Bridges between the University and the greater Hamilton community**, embedding the University in the community and inviting community into the University.
- 3) **Align with neighbourhoods, community groups, governments, and institutions** to partner on joint Ventures and collaborative projects that respond to community-driven issues and priorities.
- 4) **Assess and learn from the outcomes and impacts of our work** on an ongoing basis.



## REDUCED PARKING RATE FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS

If you are hosting a community-engaged event on campus that aligns with McMaster's community engagement goals and principles you may be eligible for a discounted parking rate. Please inquire at

[community@mcmaster.ca](mailto:community@mcmaster.ca) or visit our online form: [community.mcmaster.ca](http://community.mcmaster.ca)

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MINOR & COURSES

Designed to provide a foundation of knowledge and skills for participation in communities regardless of one's primary field of study, the Interdisciplinary Minor in Community Engagement allows students to deepen and expand their understanding of communities and develop skills for principled and effective engagement. Students are required to take CMTYENGA 2A03 and 21 additional units from the three course lists that include theory, experiential, and capstone courses. Learn more about the minor online: [http://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/preview\\_program.php?catoid=18&poiid=12673](http://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/preview_program.php?catoid=18&poiid=12673)

## NEED PARTNERSHIP ADVICE?

The Office of Community Engagement facilitates connections to support new research, education, or service partnerships. If you are interested in developing a partnership but are not sure where to start, please contact us at [community@mcmaster.ca](mailto:community@mcmaster.ca) or 905. 525.9140 ext. 26279.



## PATHS TO RESEARCH COLLABORATION TOOLKIT

Paths to Research Collaboration is a guide to working with McMaster researchers aimed at community groups, non-profits, or public organizations looking for assistance with research. It can be a helpful tool for partners seeking to connect with McMaster and is available online:

<https://macsphere.mcmaster.ca/handle/11375/21155>

## ONLINE CAREER PORTAL

OSCAR | plus

McMaster's online career portal, OSCARplus, is managed collaboratively across all five career centres on-campus to provide support for your career development, recruitment, volunteer, and experiential education needs. Learn more online: [oscarplustcmcmaster.ca/home.htm](http://oscarplustcmcmaster.ca/home.htm)

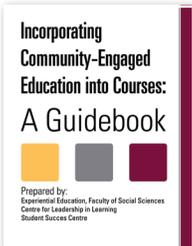


## RESEARCH SNAPS

To learn more about McMaster research, browse our research snaps. Snaps are short, readable summaries of what we do, what we discover, and why it matters. [snaps.mcmaster.ca/](http://snaps.mcmaster.ca/)

## COMMUNITY-ENGAGED EDUCATION RESOURCES

We know that resources to support new or existing community-engaged education partnerships can provide ideas and guidance for community partners, faculty, staff, or students. The following resources are great learning tools for those getting started or wanting to try new ideas in existing courses or activities:



1) Community-Engaged Education Toolkit provides a variety of resources built on our foundational principles of community engagement that can be used for curricular, co-curricular, or extra curricular projects or partnerships.

2) Incorporating Community-Engaged Education into Courses: A Guidebook provides in-depth ideas for curriculum development.

3) MyGradSkills.ca modules provide online learning overviews of both community engagement and community-engaged research. Links to these resources can be found online:

<https://macsphere.mcmaster.ca/handle/11375/21155>



## SIGN UP FOR OUR COMMUNITY-CAMPUS NEWSLETTER

**Interested in staying in the loop on all things community engagement?** The Office of Community Engagement's newsletter shares a community engagement news and information updates on a semi-regular basis. Regular updates are sent monthly, while special event-specific updates are sent in between. **Sign up online to stay in the loop:** <http://bit.ly/2FTFlNG>

[community.mcmaster.ca](http://community.mcmaster.ca) | [community@mcmaster.ca](mailto:community@mcmaster.ca)

## GET SOCIAL JOIN US ONLINE!

[f /McMasterCE](https://www.facebook.com/McMasterCE) | [t @McMasterCE](https://twitter.com/McMasterCE)

Like, follow, or tag us online to share or learn about upcoming events, new resources, or stories of community engagement.

## DAILY NEWS EVENT CALENDAR



McMaster's Daily News event calendar is a great way to share the details of your upcoming events with the McMaster community. Learn more online: [dailynews.mcmaster.ca/calendar](http://dailynews.mcmaster.ca/calendar)

## RESEARCH SHOP



The McMaster Research Shop works with public, non-profit, and community organizations in and beyond Hamilton to provide plain-language answers to your research questions. Learn more

and submit your request online: [researchshop.mcmaster.ca](http://researchshop.mcmaster.ca)

## CHANGE CAMP HAMILTON



Change Camp Hamilton was launched in March 2015 to bring residents, post-secondary education institutions, community organizations, and the City of Hamilton together in a conversation focused on community, partnerships, and

collaboration. McMaster's Office of Community Engagement is a leading partner in this effort, working alongside the McMaster Students Union and our community partners to provide community-campus partnership opportunities to students, faculty, staff, residents, and community partners. Sign up for the Change Camp Hamilton newsletter or learn more online: [changecamphamilton.com](http://changecamphamilton.com)

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DATABASE

One of the most important ways McMaster interfaces with our communities, both locally and globally, is through the exchange and mutual development of knowledge through education and ground-breaking research. Our growing community engagement database shares information about the projects McMaster faculty, staff, and students are working on in collaboration with our community partners. The database was launched in 2016 and will be populated with more projects over time. You can find the database online:

[community.mcmaster.ca](http://community.mcmaster.ca)