

# Strategic Framework

2017–2020



# People for Education's Strategic Framework

**People for Education** is an independent, non-partisan, charitable organization working to support and advance public education through research, policy, and public engagement.

## ➤ OUR VISION

A strong, equitable and prosperous Canada where universal public education fulfills its role as a cornerstone of our society.

## ➤ OUR MISSION

To strengthen a universal public education system that graduates all young people with the skills and competencies they need to contribute to a fair and prosperous society, and to live happy, healthy, economically secure, civically engaged lives.

## ➤ OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

People for Education will:

- Lead a conversation, both in Ontario and nationally, about the purpose, value and future of universal public education.
- Build links among key constituencies both inside and outside the education sector in Ontario to enhance a shared understanding of goals for public education.
- Provide evidence and use research to advance public education's promise, and to ensure that all young people have an equitable chance for long-term success.

## ➤ OUR APPROACH

Research and Evidence

Policy Analysis and  
Recommendations

Communications

Convening and  
Engagement

## ➤ IMPACT INDICATORS

Monitoring the progress that People for Education is making in its strategic plan, and providing the feedback mechanisms to inform new learning and adjustment.

# People for Education Values

## ▶ PEOPLE FOR EDUCATION IS INDEPENDENT.

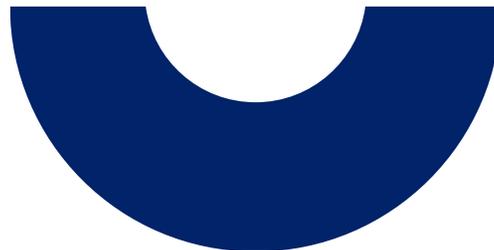
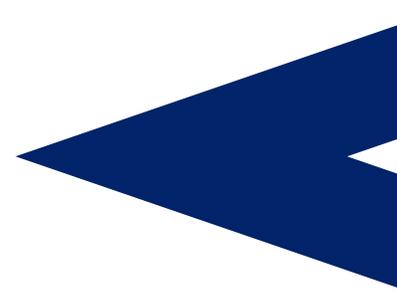
- We strive to do what is best for public education
  - We operate independent of all political and bureaucratic constituencies
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## ▶ PEOPLE FOR EDUCATION IS EVIDENCE-BASED.

- Our work and perspective is informed by rigorous research
  - We look beyond our borders to learn from leading practices that will enhance public education policy
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## ▶ PEOPLE FOR EDUCATION IS INCLUSIVE AND OPEN.

- We stand for universally accessible public education
- We advocate for equity
- We share what we are learning
- We engage a wide spectrum of stakeholders and points of view



# People for Education's Strategic Plan

In order to move our work forward, People for Education's strategic plan outlines the long-term aspirational goals within each of our strategic priorities, key approaches to achieving those goals, and our objectives for the next three years.

<b>STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1</b>	<b>People for Education will foster dialogue in Ontario and nationally about the purpose, value, and future of universal public education.</b>	
<b>LONG TERM GOALS</b>	<b>KEY APPROACHES</b>	<b>3 YEAR OBJECTIVES</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canadians link the success of the country with the strength of public education.</li> <li>• New generations have the skills to innovate, adapt, imagine, and solve complex global problems.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research and Evidence</li> <li>• Policy Analysis and Recommendations</li> <li>• Communications (Media Strategy, Thought Leaders)</li> <li>• Convening and Engagement (Partnerships)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The public, policy-makers, the media and education stakeholders have access to a strong, evidence-based case articulating the purpose and value of public education.</li> <li>• Key influencers in Canada – both inside and outside government – are including public education as a core element of emerging strategies for Canada's success.</li> </ul>

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY #2

People for Education will build links among key constituencies both inside and outside the education sector in Ontario to enhance a shared understanding of goals for public education.

### LONG TERM GOALS

- Government policy for children and youth is strengthened, and more consistently applied across departments.
- Organizations working on social policy see the connections between their work and public education.
- Employment stakeholders see the value and importance of public education in developing employability skills and building the workforce.
- Education, from early childhood through post-secondary, has common goals and language.

### KEY APPROACHES

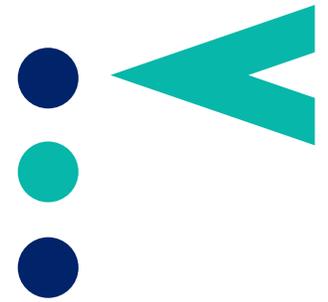
- Research and Evidence
- Policy Analysis and Recommendations (Government Relations)
- Convening and Engagement (Partnerships, Multi-sector Tables, Employer Involvement)

### 3 YEAR OBJECTIVES

- Ontario has made demonstrable progress toward integration of policies related to the alignment of skills, competencies and goals in K-12 and post-secondary education; and the alignment of education and workforce policy in relation to skills and competencies.
- There are active, ongoing multi-sector collaborations in Ontario and nationally (including corporate, labour, colleges, universities, civil society organizations), focused on the competencies and skills young people will require for long-term success.
- There is an informal national network of “non-state actors” (non-profits and perhaps foundations) learning from each other and focusing on developing synergy in their work to support positive outcomes for children and youth.
- Organizations such as UNESCO, Unicef, and the Canadian Index of Well-being are using education outcomes beyond the 3 Rs in their public reporting.

<b>STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3</b>		
<b>People for Education will provide evidence and use research to advance public education’s promise and to ensure that <i>all</i> young people have an equitable chance for long-term success.</b>		
LONG TERM GOALS	KEY APPROACHES	3 YEAR OBJECTIVES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students have the broad competencies they need to be happy, healthy, economically secure and civically engaged.</li> <li>• Young people have an equitable chance for long-term success.</li> <li>• Canada has new generations with the skills to innovate, adapt, imagine, and solve complex global problems.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research and Evidence</li> <li>• Policy Analysis and Recommendations</li> <li>• Convening and Engagement (Advocates representing many stakeholder groups and multiple sectors)</li> <li>• Measures of success in education that reflect broad outcomes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are more informal connections between organizations to share learning, cooperate on projects, shine a light on innovative work in education, and/or advances being made across the country with a focus on equity.</li> <li>• In Ontario, the EQAO is beginning – in cooperation with People for Education – to measure (through sampling) some of the competencies in MWM.</li> <li>• There have been public consultations on census-based standardized testing.</li> <li>• Education stakeholders in Ontario are starting to use the MWM competencies, including introducing them into on-the-ground practice as well as ongoing curriculum revisions.</li> <li>• There is progress in Ontario towards policies that support equity.</li> <li>• Parents, students, community members, researchers, teachers, stakeholders etc. have access to up-to-date data, reports and evidence to support advocacy around resources and policy for things such as the arts, special education, health programs, among others, in schools.</li> <li>• Non-government organizations in other provinces are beginning to explore the People for Education model.</li> </ul>

# People for Education's Approach



People for Education works in four highly inter-related areas. The focus of People for Education's research, policy analysis, convening and communications are in Ontario. People for Education engages nationally and internationally to share what we are learning, to learn from others, and to engage in the growing international conversation about the purpose and value of public education.

RESEARCH AND EVIDENCE	POLICY ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	COMMUNICATIONS	CONVENING AND ENGAGEMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Producing rigorous, publicly available research.</li> <li>• Ensuring we are a trusted source of information and knowledge.</li> <li>• Building partnerships with research groups.</li> <li>• Consulting widely in the development of our research agenda.</li> <li>• Communicating research findings in ways that are accessible to a broad audience.</li> <li>• Maintaining an accessible multi-year database of programs and resources in Ontario public schools.</li> <li>• Looking for trends, and identifying emerging issues.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informing policy discussions with research.</li> <li>• Developing – or partnering to develop – policy recommendations that result from our research agenda.</li> <li>• Building partnerships with policy analysis groups.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifying and spotlighting key issues that affect public education.</li> <li>• Frame complex ideas about public education and present these in ways that are easily communicated.</li> <li>• Producing information that is trusted.</li> <li>• Making information about policy and education research available and accessible to others through various channels.</li> <li>• Using multiple channels to communicate to stakeholders, partners and the public.</li> <li>• Do the above within the framework of a comprehensive communications plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convening education stakeholders – sometimes around single ideas, and sometimes as part of formal processes.</li> <li>• Creating space, establishing venues, and providing tools to gather and analyze knowledge about public education.</li> <li>• Cooperating with other national and international education organizations – within and outside government.</li> <li>• Ensuring that diverse voices are brought to the table and heard.</li> </ul>



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**People for Education is your strong voice for public education. We conduct vital research, make policy recommendations and ensure there is broad coverage of education issues in the media.**