

# The Vision for the St. George Campus

An oasis of green in the heart of a vibrant city, a landscape of physical and academic excellence, a unique and inspired place in which to live and learn. These are images that the St. George Campus should evoke.

The St. George Campus is the downtown campus of a world-renowned University, bounded by Bloor Street to the north, Spadina Avenue to the west, College Street to the south and University Avenue and Queen's Park to the east, with the Affiliated and Federated Universities and Colleges extending the eastern boundary of the University district to Bay Street. The campus is an intensely urban place, with lively street edges and dense development interwoven into a complex pattern of streets, spaces, buildings and activity.

## The History of the Campus Landscape

The University's original land grant of 1828 consisted of 168 acres of semi-rural land beyond the northern outskirts of the town of York. Changes to the landscape began to occur fairly quickly as the grant was reduced in size and shifted west to accommodate the construction of the Provincial Legislature building. By the 1880s, Queen's Park (by then a dedicated public park) and the University area comprised a distinct institutional district in a setting of forested parkland.

In 1917, a largely unimplemented Landscape Master Plan by landscape architect Bryant Fleming portrayed a "University and a Government Precinct" which appeared as a continuous place, linked by small-scale roads and walks. In 1939, the University still had the characteristic of being a distinct place apart from the City of Toronto, with large, interconnected, densely treed open spaces.



In 1886 the campus was an oasis of green in the growing city.

By 1950 a very different picture had emerged. The semi-rural character of the University had given way to separate open spaces surrounded by roads designed to accommodate the growing number of private automobiles. Many of the large groupings of trees were removed to accommodate building projects and many of the street trees were removed to facilitate road widening. The heavily treed neighbourhood west of the campus disappeared over the next 15 years as the campus grew toward Spadina Avenue.

Rapid westward expansion in the 1960s and 1970s created a West Campus precinct that was separated from the historic campus by the busy thoroughfare of St. George Street. The architectural designs and siting of the West Campus facilities had little in common with the traditional styles of existing University buildings and landscapes. The West Campus was not planned around a system of open spaces; rather, the priority at this time was to create classroom space to accommodate the rapid growth of the University.

### The Present St. George Campus

The incremental evolution of the campus grounds and facilities and a lack of comprehensive campus planning has left the city and the University with a district that does not live up to its full potential as a high-quality, inspiring and unique urban place in which to live and learn. Currently, as seen from the air, parts of the campus are relatively denuded of vegetation as contrasted with the rest of the city. The Taddle Creek ravine has been filled and the watercourse has disappeared. The proliferation of surface parking and garbage dumpsters in open spaces presents a negative image and makes pedestrian movement difficult. Widened streets, narrow sidewalks, fast-moving traffic and grade separations create challenges for students walking or biking to classes, particularly on Queen's Park Crescent. The changes to the campus landscape over the past 150 years have created a district with limited pedestrian amenity, disjointed open spaces, and little coherence in its landscape image.



The elegant homes on St. George Street were slowly absorbed into the life of the University over the first half of the century. The street trees were removed in 1948 to allow road widening.



Parts of the St. George Campus, particularly the West Campus, have few open spaces and sparse tree cover.

At the same time, many of the elements of the original campus landscape are still in evidence today: interlocking courtyards, patterns of movement and use, landmarks, and topography. These offer enormous potential for the reconnection and revitalization of the campus open spaces.

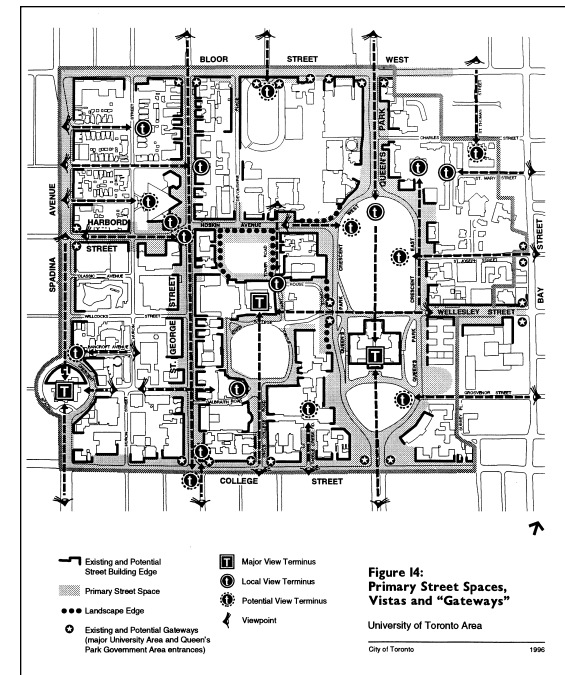
### Recent Campus Planning Initiatives

There have been some recent initiatives toward comprehensive University planning, including the *St. George Campus Master Plan* and the City of Toronto *Part II Plan for the University of Toronto Area*. Both documents set a policy framework for planning the buildings and grounds of the St. George Campus and include policies on landscape design and the revitalization of campus open spaces, landmark features, points of entry, streetscapes and pedestrian networks.

A policy framework, however, is not enough to effect change. Targeted action and a new way of thinking are needed.

Part of the new thinking is a recognition that strong open space design and management is a good long term investment. In the past few years, the University of Toronto has engaged in considerable discussion about its physical environment and the importance of its relationship to the University's academic and social environment. The campus is the centre of a great many people's lives and its landscape has significant impact on those who live, study, work and pass by the University. It conveys vital messages about what the University is, it facilitates or frustrates social contact and communication, it influences first impressions and can aid greatly in student and faculty recruitment.

A recent University document, *Raising Our Sights*, demonstrates the new thinking. It attempts to strategically position the University's downtown and suburban campuses into the next round of academic planning. It notes that the University of Toronto's large commuter population poses challenges to fostering the type of campus life that enhances student experience and creates a sense of community on the University campuses. It recognizes the need to provide more opportunities for students to be resident on campus



The City's Part II Plan sets out a policy framework for comprehensive planning of the University district.



The St. George Street revitalization was a targeted action that made an enormous difference to the campus landscape.

and to become fully involved in campus life. This requires the provision of high-quality open spaces for student gatherings, recreation, and contemplation, to create vibrant and lively places. *Raising Our Sights* endorses the University's initiative to repair and revitalize the open spaces of the St. George Campus.

The flip side of the new thinking is targeted action. The St. George Street revitalization is a recent action that has made an enormous difference to the campus landscape. With help from a generous private donation and the City of Toronto, this very successful project created a new balance between pedestrians, bicycles and cars on a functional and attractive street. The St. George Street project opened people's eyes to the opportunities to enhance open spaces elsewhere on the campus. It helped to spread the new way of thinking about living and learning on the campus to the entire University of Toronto community and led to a broad awareness of the importance of the campus open spaces and their ability to improve quality of life.

### Consultation on Campus Open Spaces

The University initiated a consultation process in 1997, as a first step in exploring the potential to improve the open spaces on the St. George Campus. The process began with a visioning exercise that included students, staff, administration, and alumni, and continued throughout 1998 by including the University community in the selection of the consultant team that would undertake the Open Space Master Plan. Over the summer and early fall of 1998, the consultation continued through a series of meetings, workshops, interviews and presentations for various groups.

In addition to providing a valuable communication role, the consultation process provided a wide range of feedback on the perception of the open spaces on the campus. It confirmed that concern about the quality of the campus landscape was not restricted to the present University community. Alumni feel strongly about this issue and are prepared to raise funds for improvements. Views were also presented by people who are not directly connected with the University but who consider the campus a very important place within the structure of open spaces in the City of Toronto.

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## The Open Space Master Plan

In March of 1998 the University began the process of creating an Open Space Master Plan to guide future site planning and landscape design for the St. George Campus. The plan was to address both public and private precincts and corridors and explore the possibility of reintroducing natural and historic landscape elements of the St. George Campus.

*Investing in the Landscape* is the end result of the process begun in 1998, but it is not an end in itself. It is a new beginning for the University. Prior to the St. George Street reconstruction there had been no defined plan for the landscape of the campus and no collective effort at improving open spaces beyond the regular operations and maintenance procedures of the University. *Investing in the Landscape* is the first comprehensive set of targeted actions in the post-war period for the spaces around and between the buildings of the St. George Campus. It represents thinking about the place rather than about isolated projects. It represents the ecological mission of the University and presents a broad range of conditions and ideas for the revitalization of the open spaces, which are built upon a long-standing history of policies and concepts contained in both the existing *Campus Master Plan* and the *Part II Plan for the University of Toronto Area*.

*Investing in the Landscape* provides coherent direction for a broad range of physical improvements and additions to the campus. It is the next stage in the continuum of University area planning and campus improvement.

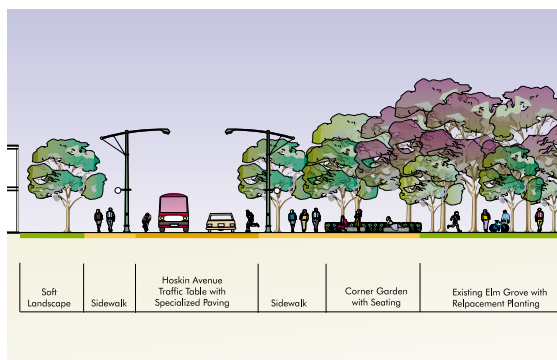
There are many opportunities to seize.

The courtyards on campus represent a unique open space resource and present opportunities for detailed landscape improvements in association with academic departments and special interest groups. The central open spaces on campus present opportunities to reconnect a significant landscape resource in the centre of the city.

Several of the large academic buildings on the West Campus will be rethought in the near future. Their revitalization can include improvements to general open space conditions and enhanced connections between the buildings and the streets.



*Investing in the Landscape* can guide the University toward revitalizing significant and historic campus spaces such as King's College Circle.



A revitalized Hoskin Avenue can become part of a distinctive University of Toronto street design.

An expansion of residence opportunities as outlined in *Raising Our Sights* may decrease the volume of automobiles entering and parking on the campus, allowing a new balance to be struck between automobile traffic, bicycles and pedestrian amenity. Street redesign based on an understanding of the differing characters and roles of the various campus corridors, particularly in the West Campus, can establish a distinctive University of Toronto street design that reflects the importance of streets as a primary part of the open space system. The success of St. George Street can be expanded by focusing on the many east-west linkages and crossings on campus. Pedestrian connections between buildings and between the west, central and east parts of the campus can be aesthetically enhanced and made safer.

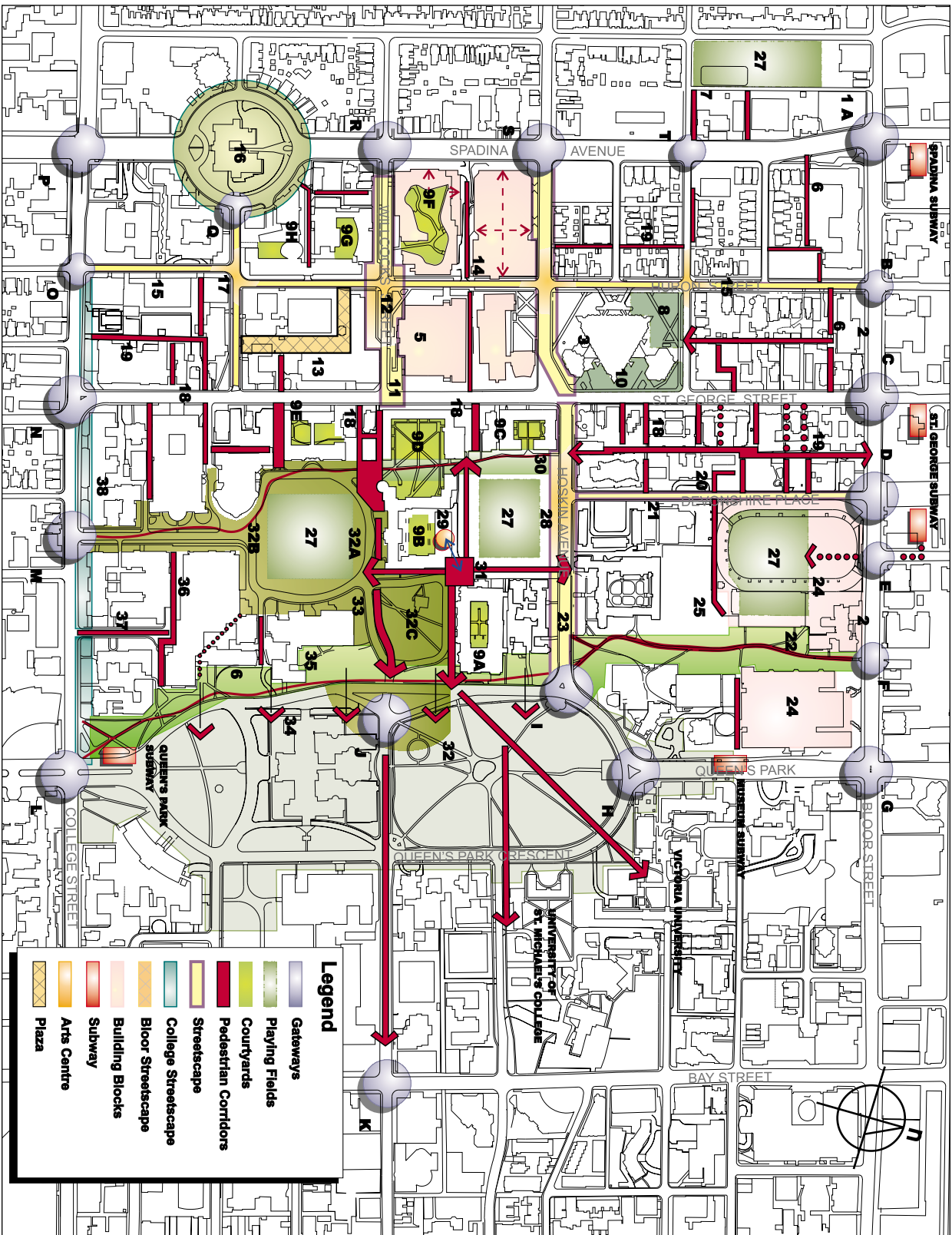
The major edges of the St. George Campus are primary thoroughfares. Queen's Park Crescent and College Street represent major opportunities to improve the streetscape conditions. Spadina Avenue and Bloor Street can both benefit from an improved relationship between new buildings and the street.

There are some 20 intersections where the St. George Campus and the city meet. Each of these locations is an opportunity to build upon the integration of the campus and the city and to recognize the University's presence in a unique way.

### The Vision for the Campus

*Investing in the Landscape* is a vision for the St. George Campus. The key to the vision is consistency and coherence: a system of distinctive landscape elements to allow the landscape to become a unifying framework that connects Queen's Park, the Central Campus and the West Campus. At the same time, the complexity and diversity of the University community and surrounding urban context must be recognized. *Investing in the Landscape's* vision can provide a cohesive structure for the campus to create a sense of place and distinguish it from the surrounding urban fabric, of which it is an integral part. At the same time, it allows for diversity in the spaces within its framework.

# Open Space Opportunities





The corner of College Street and University Avenue will become a landmark entrance to the University



The revitalized Front Campus area will include new open spaces and streetscapes on College Street and King's College Road.

### The Campus in the Future

Imagine the campus in a decade or two, responding to *Investing in the Landscape*.

Twenty years from now, as you approach the University district from the corner of College Street and University Avenue, a re-worked open space at the northwest corner, which includes the historic greenhouse and perennial plantings, has created a landmark entrance to the University. The Taddle Creek Road forecourt provides a landscaped area where you can find people reading and talking during breaks and over lunch. The handsome, solid university buildings and continuous setback along College Street provide the backdrop to a landscape of street trees and seating along the sunny side of the street.

A walk up King's College Road to the historic centre of the campus reveals a tree-lined boulevard, gated at each end to provide both a forecourt to the adjacent buildings and a defined sequence of entry into the Central Campus open spaces. Automobile movement has been limited to respond to pedestrian needs and surface parking has been removed from this historic ceremonial corridor. Convocation Hall Plaza is a pedestrian-only zone that is filled with students on their way to classes. With its memorial wall to provide a dramatic eastern backdrop, it is the stage for the ceremony of the campus and a central gathering point for special events. King's College Circle, an oval of green surrounded by new plantings of deciduous trees has a new playing field and pedestrian pathways along its perimeter. The steps and terrace of the Medical Sciences Building are a lively gathering place and the trees planted along the north facade of the building extend the landscape of King's College Circle. The perennial gardens and seating in front of Sigmund Samuel Library create a colourful, contemplative space where students read and watch others go by. Pedestrian linkages to St. George Street are well-lit and landscaped and a walkway along the east side of King's College Circle leads to the Hart House Green and through Soldiers' Tower to the Back Campus.

The Hart House Green, with its plantings, public art and water feature, enhanced pathways through Queen's Park to Victoria University and St. Michael's College, and a new at-grade intersection at Queen's Park Crescent and Wellesley Street have reconnected the significant open spaces of the University and Ontario Legislature district. Trees and a water feature at the intersection have transformed this entry to the campus and made it an important focal point in the city. This important gateway to the University is a landmark in the district and provides strong linkages to the Affiliated and Federated Universities and Colleges east of Queen's Park Crescent. Students now cross Queen's Park Crescent safely at newly re-worked pedestrian crossing zones.

Surrounded by historic buildings, the Back Campus is now a significant landscape in the heart of the campus, with two new playing fields, new deciduous trees, contemplative spaces, and four commemorative walkways and associated gardens. The eastern edge of the space and the Soldiers' Tower passage are linked to a busy pedestrian walkway to Hart House Green and the Central Campus. People enter the University Art Centre in University College from a sculpture court behind the Memorial Wall next to Soldiers' Tower.

As you walk along Hoskin Avenue from Back Campus toward the West Campus, the Harbord-Hoskin corridor, with street trees, wide sidewalks and seating leads to a green and pleasant Huron Street that includes a better pedestrian system, traffic calming and street tree planting. A walk down Huron Street's wide sidewalks past attractively landscaped buildings leads to the new Willcocks Street open space, a student area and focal point on the West Campus, with trees, public art and a skating area for winter activity.

Further down Huron Street is the Huron and Russell Street intersection, a pedestrian-oriented plaza that includes traffic calming measures to allow easy street crossing. Huron and Russell Streets exhibit a new image for the streets of the West Campus, one that makes the streets distinctive and recognizable as an integral part of the open space on campus, in which a better balance between automobiles, pedestrians and streetscapes is achieved.



**The Hart House Green and the intersection of Queen's Park Crescent and Wellesley Street will create a significant entrance to the campus district.**



**Back Campus will include four new walkways and gardens, significant tree planting and a sculpture court.**



**The Willcocks open space will be a focal point for student activity on the West Campus.**



Spadina Circle will be a landscape of landmark status.



*Investing in the Landscape* will connect significant open spaces, improve pedestrian amenity and quality of life and create a memorable University district.

Tree-lined Russell Street leads to Spadina Circle, a significant gateway to the southwest part of the campus. The form of Spadina Circle and the surrounding buildings create a one-of-a-kind place in the city. The new pedestrian plazas and access points to the historic courtyard create a special place from which to admire the long view of Russell Street and the Convocation Hall dome. The return of Spadina Circle to a landscape of landmark quality is a widely celebrated result of *Investing in the Landscape*.

The combination of the landscape improvements outlined in the vision will transform the campus in several important ways:

- The significance and interconnectedness of the open spaces in the district will be restored;
- A focus on quality design will make the campus physically distinctive and memorable;
- Conditions for the large number of pedestrians on campus will improve;
- A legacy of significant tree planting will be established for future generations;
- The University of Toronto will be associated with several landscapes of landmark status;
- The quality of life for the many students who live and learn on the campus will improve.

*Investing in the Landscape* represents the beginning of a long process and has the potential to have a tremendous influence on the campus. There is a real opportunity to use this Plan to attract partnerships and implementation capital.

To succeed, the plan's elements must become an integral component of the University administration. To this end, a permanent office, the Open Space Revitalization Office (OSRO), dedicated to the design and revitalization of the campus open spaces should be established to coordinate open space and landscape improvement projects.

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The OSRO, in association with the Physical Planning and Design Advisory Committee (PPDAC), can review building proposals against the recommendations contained in the Plan, bringing together architecture, urban design and landscape design in the planning of University facilities.

### Open Space Master Plan Structure

*Investing in the Landscape* can guide the University toward achieving the vision for the St. George Campus. It is intended to be an accessible guide to the revitalization of the St. George Campus, and is comprised of three interconnected sections of information:

#### Primary Objectives

- *Investing in the Landscape* is underpinned by ten Primary Objectives that exemplify a new way of thinking about the campus. They are high level goals, intended to set the University on a course of open space renewal and development. These Objectives implement many of the open space policies in the *University Master Plan* and the *Part II Plan for the University of Toronto Area*.

#### Recommendations

- The Primary Objectives are supported by a number of Recommendations that provide direction and guidelines to help the University through the process of planning, designing, funding and implementing a broad range of targeted actions to revitalize the campus open spaces. One of the most crucial recommendations is the creation of an Open Space Revitalization Office, to coordinate these targeted actions.

#### Demonstration Sites

- Demonstration Sites illustrate the way in which the Primary Objectives can be used to revitalize the open spaces on campus. The demonstrations show existing site conditions, pedestrian movements and a program of features that could improve the space. Taken together, these targeted actions create a bold and imaginative armature, or supporting framework, for the revitalization of the primary open spaces of the campus.

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Each of the document sections can be read independently of the others. Read together, they provide a broader overview of the vision and process that led to the creation of the Plan, and the necessary steps for its implementation.

Several issues required technical assessment and special study as background papers to the Plan. A study of the Queen's Park Crescent overpass removal and an order-of-magnitude Cost Study provide a basic understanding of these issues. These are available under separate cover.

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## The Primary Objectives of the Open Space Master Plan

The following Primary Objectives have been framed as high level goals for the University open spaces. They are founded upon policies contained in the *Campus Master Plan* and City of Toronto *Part II Plan for the University of Toronto Area* and provide direction for both the prescriptive portion of ***Investing in the Landscape***, and the general operation of the University as it creates physical additions and changes to the campus.

The Primary Objectives should be adopted formally by the University to provide long term direction for open space revitalization and the integration of the campus with the larger district.

### Primary Objective 1

**The considerable energy of the University should be focused toward the common goal of achieving the highest quality design for the campus open spaces.**

There are many opportunities across the campus to enhance spaces within an overall program of site improvements. ***Investing in the Landscape*** will re-focus attention on the potential for high quality design of the campus open spaces. Following this objective will, over time, create spaces and landscapes of landmark status that have a direct association with the University of Toronto.

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## Primary Objective 2

**The University should require all building projects, including the identified University Development Sites, to improve public open space.**

The general activity of adding to the University building stock represents potential to improve open space conditions on campus. To this end, any project which significantly renovates or reconstructs a building provides an important opportunity to undertake improvements to the adjacent open spaces. Major new development sites offer an additional opportunity to accomplish some of the larger aspects of open space renewal.

The process of revitalizing the open spaces of the campus will require a significant effort on the part of the entire University community. Most of the larger scale open space projects will likely establish their own source of funding for construction and long term maintenance.

## Primary Objective 3

**The University should participate in the planning, design and construction of capital works that will unify the separate open spaces of the campus and the City, within this important district of Toronto.**

The University of Toronto area has a remarkable and historically significant legacy of public spaces which, at one time, were part of a single land base. These spaces have been progressively separated and marginalized. *Investing in the Landscape* can be used as a blueprint, to begin to revitalize the landscape by finding ways to reconnect its parts.

In consultation with the City of Toronto, an opportunity was identified to adjust the infrastructure of Queen's Park Crescent to make it more responsive to the

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operation of the University and other uses in the district. The removal of the grade-separated overpass in favour of an at-grade intersection is one example of a large scale move that will set the stage to reconnect the important open spaces of the district.

This activity will be the basis of a long term partnership between the City of Toronto, the Ontario Legislature and the University of Toronto, in the management of this land base. It is perhaps the single most important opportunity in the Plan.

#### **Primary Objective 4**

**The University should establish a Pedestrian Priority Zone to implement the policies in the *University Master Plan* and the *Part II Official Plan*, which place a high priority on the quality of the pedestrian environment on campus. This zone should include the reduction of surface parking in the primary open spaces of the campus.**

The University should be a leader in the integration of high quality pedestrian systems in an urban environment. Placing a high priority on the function and quality of the pedestrian environment is important to a large number of campus users and is a major focus of the Plan.

When developing a design program for any capital works within the Pedestrian Priority Zone, first preference should be given to pedestrians, second preference to cyclists and third to automobile use.

#### **Primary Objective 5**

**The University should encourage and support community and cross-jurisdictional partnerships in open space and streetscape enhancements.**

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The University has the opportunity to partner with the City of Toronto, community groups, the Province of Ontario, the Affiliated and Federated Colleges and Universities and several adjacent institutions to increase the scope and value of improvements to the open spaces on campus and in the district in general. Several initiatives currently underway include the Taddle Creek Initiative with the City of Toronto and the neighbourhood, and the associated joint federal millennium application by the University, Royal Ontario Museum, Royal Conservatory of Music and the City of Toronto. Additional projects could include Bloor Street streetscaping and traffic calming on Queen's Park Crescent in partnership with the City of Toronto.

#### **Primary Objective 6**

**The University should place a high priority on the preservation of existing mature trees and support all activities that will enhance and increase the overall tree density on campus open spaces and streetscapes.**

One of the great losses the campus has suffered in the post-war period is the removal of large canopy trees. Replacement of these structural landscape elements requires generations to restore the lost effect. In addition to Primary Objective 3, aimed at reconnecting the open spaces of the district, a parallel effort should be placed on significantly increasing the urban forest of the campus.

#### **Primary Objective 7**

**On the West Campus, the University should place a priority on developing a significant open space and on improving the streetscapes.**

The West Campus was created from a nineteenth century residential neighbourhood by placing large university buildings into the existing block structure. No overall provisions were made to create a West Campus open space

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network in balance with the existing campus. As a result the landscape of the West Campus is largely related to individual building sites.

A significant open space, suitable for special events and student gathering on the West Campus, with good connections to St. George Street, should be a high priority for the University.

The City of Toronto streets on the West Campus need to be rethought, redesigned and reprogrammed to provide a higher quality streetscape and pedestrian environment that is distinctive to the University of Toronto.

### **Primary Objective 8**

**The open spaces on campus should support and promote the activities of the academic programs and represent the cultural diversity of the University community.**

Academic departments and user groups should be encouraged to play a role in the creation and use of the primary open spaces of the campus. This objective could be met through thematic design choices in gardens or by creating settings in the landscape that reflect the internal activities of the adjacent academic functions. The contemplative character of all of the major open spaces should be increased significantly.

### **Primary Objective 9**

**The University should promote opportunities to increase public art on the campus.**

The campus provides an excellent opportunity to incorporate public art into an outdoor environment. Public art can add to the richness and visual character of the campus, provide additions to the seasonal and winter landscape and is a valuable addition to a landscape design collaboration.

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### Primary Objective 10

**The University should increase its investment in open space improvements. These improvements should, over time, achieve a consistent palette of material use on campus and promote long term life-cycle design and construction methods. The investment should be protected by providing sufficient resources for high quality maintenance of open spaces.**

There are many reasons, including the process of time, for the diversity of materials present in the campus landscape. A short walk presents asphalt, concrete, precast, stone, and gravel pavers, in many methods of installation and in many combinations. Many types of light fixtures, fencing and furniture are also present. A new program of capital improvements should develop a palette of materials for site development that can be used successfully in repeated applications, have a long life cycle and potentially improve with age. The result of this method, over time, should be to provide a more consistent appearance to the campus landscape that can be recognized as unique to the University of Toronto.

The program of creating better quality open spaces, streetscapes and landscapes on the campus must be supported by increased resource allocations for the maintenance and management of the landscape, to protect the long term value of the initial capital investment. Investments in regular repair and upkeep will allow the landscape to mature and improve, while avoiding costly replacement due to deterioration.

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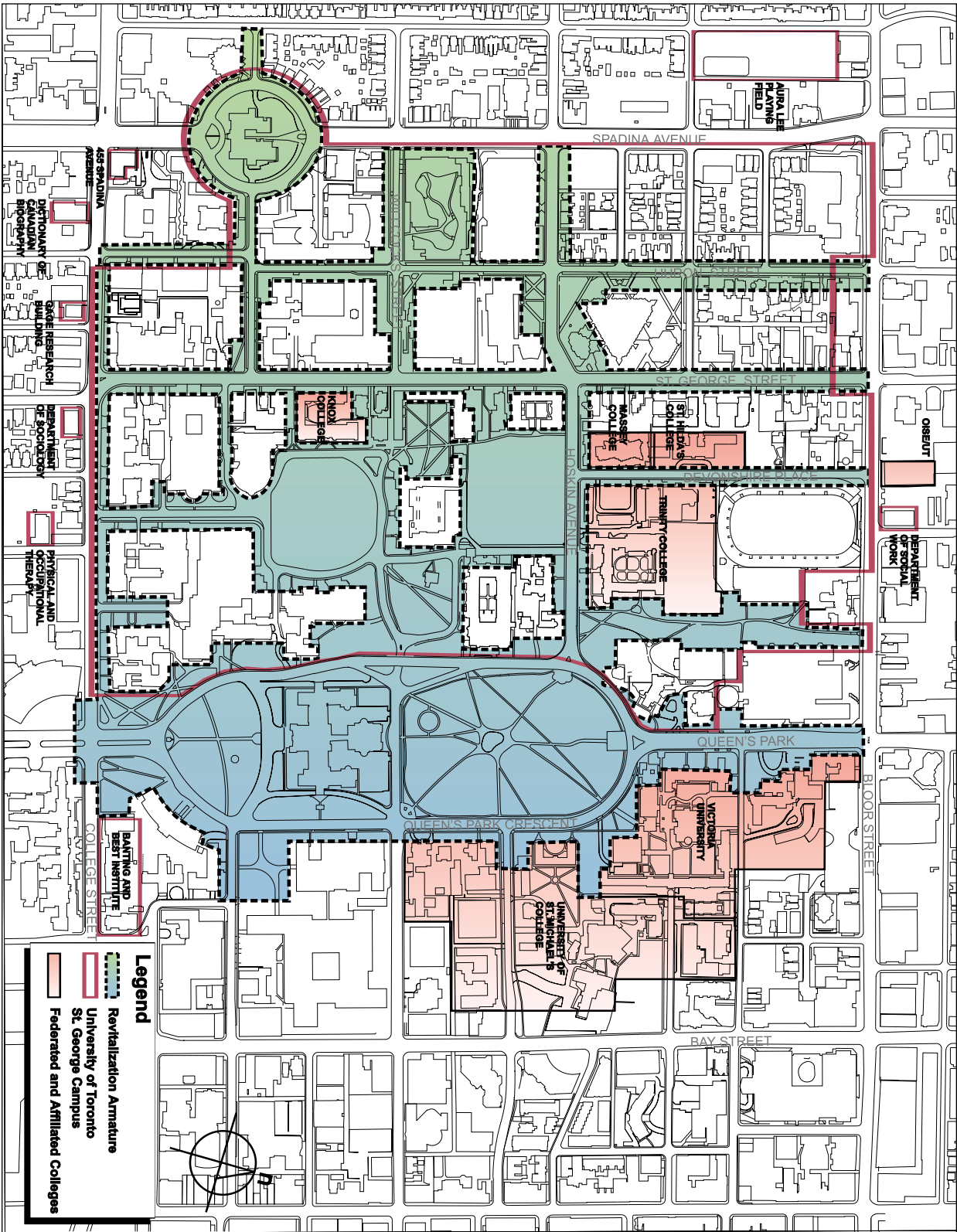
## The Revitalization Armature

The vision and Primary Objectives outlined in *Investing in the Landscape* have led to the creation of a Revitalization Armature or framework for campus open space improvement. The Armature represents a connected land base of streets and open spaces that can form the basis of targeted actions to revitalize and reconnect the major open spaces of the St. George Campus and the district.

The Armature is consistent with the policies of the *Campus Master Plan* and the City of Toronto *Part II Plan for the University of Toronto Area*, which seek to improve streetscapes and pedestrian amenity, enhance and preserve significant open spaces and retain the character of the University district with identifiable landmarks, gateways and entrances through coordinated, high quality landscape improvements.

It includes all of the entrances and major north-south and east-west pedestrian routes on campus, including Huron Street, St. George Street, Devonshire Place, King's College Road, Taddle Creek Road, Philosopher's Walk and Queen's Park Crescent, as well as Bloor Street, the Harbord-Hoskin corridor, Willcocks Street, Wellesley Street, Spadina Circle and Russell Street, and College Street. Significant existing open spaces that could be enhanced include the New College courtyard, the green space to the south of Robarts Library, Front and Back Campus, the Sir Daniel Wilson Residence Quadrangle, the Hart House Green, and Queen's Park. The Affiliated and Federated Colleges and Universities, while outside the terms of reference for the Open Space Master Plan, are linked to the Armature through opportunities to enhance and revitalize pedestrian connections and open spaces that are shared with the St. George Campus.

# Revitalization Armature



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***Investing in the Landscape*** is largely about doing many small things to improve the landscape of the campus. At the same time, it presents the opportunity to consider a few bold strokes to initiate a new direction, a new way of thinking and highlight significant opportunities. Six Demonstration Sites were identified within the Armature, along with the Taddle Creek Millennium Project, which has been underway for some time. The Demonstration Sites represent those areas that have the highest priority and can contribute most to the revitalization of the campus open spaces. They are bold strokes that provide examples of the types of targeted actions that will achieve the Primary Objectives.

The Demonstration Sites are as follows:

- Hart House Green - Queen's Park - Wellesley Street
- King's College Circle - Convocation Hall Plaza - King's College Road - St. George Street Pedestrian Linkages
- Back Campus
- Willcocks Street - Sidney Smith Hall - New College - Huron Street
- College Street
- Spadina Circle - Russell Street

These are described and illustrated in detail in the Demonstration Sites section of the Plan.

The Taddle Creek/Philosopher's Walk Millennium Project has been included within the Revitalization Armature in addition to the six Demonstration Sites. It is an ongoing project to create a storm water management system through the creation of water features along the former course of Taddle Creek, to help reduce combined storm water and sewage overflows to Lake Ontario.

Prior to 1860, Taddle Creek was a strong physical feature in the landscape, running along the current alignment of Philosopher's Walk to McCaul's Pond on the current Hart House Green, before splitting into two branches that continued to Lake Ontario along the current alignment of University Avenue and Taddle Creek Road. McCaul's Pond was filled and Taddle Creek disappeared as the city grew and the University developed its academic facilities.



**The Demonstration Sites are targeted actions within the Revitalization Armature.**

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Several existing studies of the site have been undertaken, including a technical analysis of the amount and quality of storm water and the possible location of storm water retention facilities within the Philosopher's Walk corridor. There is a continuing interest in this project in both the community and the City of Toronto, within its ongoing program of disconnecting storm water downspouts from various buildings in the area. Both interests are positive forces to the future landscape of the campus.

There are several potential linkages between the Demonstration Sites and the Taddle Creek Millennium Project. The redesign of the Hart House Green has been structured to accommodate a large pond area that would be suitable as a storm water storage and management facility. In this scenario, the final design of Philosopher's Walk could include an at-grade linear water feature to convey storm water to the Hart House pond, placed between and around the existing trees to mark the former course of Taddle Creek.

The proposed reconstruction of Queen's Park Crescent could also include the construction of a storm water conveyance system from Hoskin Avenue to the Hart House pond around Wycliffe College and Hart House. In addition, a discussion of University Development Site 21 in Section 3.10 of the Open Space Revitalization Strategies portion of the Plan outlines the important relationship between the Varsity redevelopment and Philosopher's Walk.

Federal Millennium Project funding could be used to fund all or part of the design of an overall storm water management system from Hart House Green through Philosopher's Walk to Bloor Street. The Millennium Project funding could cover a range of options, from simple demonstrations of effective storm water downspout disconnect systems, or if significant funds are available, the design and construction of an at-grade conveyance system and associated landscape improvements for Philosopher's Walk from Hart House Green to Hoskin Avenue. The federal decision on Millennium Project funding is pending.

Together, the Armature, the Demonstration Sites and the Taddle Creek Millennium Project present tremendous opportunities for the revitalization of the landscape of the St. George Campus.

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What's Next:  
Strategies and  
Demonstrations

The next part of *Investing in the Landscape* presents recommendations and strategies for achieving the vision and Primary Objectives. These strategies provide guidance for the University as it embarks upon a new program of landscape design, revitalization and maintenance.

The final part of *Investing in the Landscape* presents the six areas within the Revitalization Armature to be profiled in detail as Demonstration Sites. These should be considered as first steps to illustrate the potential of the campus open spaces to achieve the vision and Primary Objectives outlined in the Plan. Most of the sites contain a wide range of opportunities for both large and small scale projects.

