

HARRIS CENTRE PROGRAM PROFILE OVERVIEW

MANDATE

The Harris Centre is mandated to: ***Coordinate and facilitate Memorial University's educational, research and outreach activities relating to regional policy and development. (Harris Centre website, "Mandate and Origins")***

The mandate includes responsibilities to:

- Act as a reliable point of access for all stakeholders seeking to work with the University,
- Work with all faculties and departments within the University,
- Identify priority themes and projects relating to: teaching, research and outreach,
- Advise the University on building its capacity in regional policy and development,
- Provide opportunities in regional policy and development to faculty and students, and
- Mobilize the dissemination of knowledge to stakeholders, decision-makers and the community at large.

VISION

The Harris Centre vision for Newfoundland and Labrador is of a vibrant democracy with informed citizens actively engaged in realizing a prosperous and sustainable society which values individual and collective responsibility for decision-making and development, true to [the province's] unique culture and identity.

VALUES

- Integrity – The Harris Centre is an honest broker that harnesses the resources of the University in speaking truth to power at all levels.
- Independence – The Harris Centre respects the professional expertise of Memorial's faculty, staff and students in providing objective contributions to regional policy and development.
- Transparency – The Harris Centre adopts best practices in governance, decision-making and communications to ensure fair and open operations.
- Collaboration – The Harris Centre recognizes the contributions of individual citizens, private, public and community organizations, as well as Memorial faculty, staff and students, in the collective advancement of regional policy and development.
- Practical application – The Harris Centre encourages research, teaching and outreach that are relevant to the needs of the citizens, communities and organizations of Newfoundland and Labrador and to the governance of the province. Developing the potential for practical application of Memorial's resources to the regional policy and development needs of the province is key to the Harris Centre's success.¹

¹ Harris Centre Annual Report 2006/07, inside cover.

GOALS

The Harris Centre works toward 5 goals, first articulated in its 2005 Strategic Action Plan to ensure fulfillment of its mandate. Each goal is supported by corresponding key objectives (in bullets):

Goal 1: Research

Stimulate more research in regional policy and development

- 1.1 Access funding for new research
- 1.2 Communicate and mobilize practical applications of existing research to potential users in the province
- 1.3 Communicate needs and opportunities of external stakeholders to Memorial University faculty, staff and students

Goal 2: Education

Stimulate education in regional policy and development at Memorial University

- 2.1 Facilitate development and delivery of existing and new courses and programs for credit
- 2.2 Facilitate development and delivery of practitioner training opportunities in regional policy and development

Goal 3: Outreach

Generate greater interaction of Memorial University faculty, students and staff with stakeholder needs and opportunities

- 3.1 Organize opportunities for interaction
- 3.2 Respond to requests for Memorial University involvement in regional policy and development opportunities and broker appropriate responses
- 3.3 Stimulate opportunities for debate and discussion on issues of public importance in regional policy and development
- 3.4 Collaborate with College of the North Atlantic to extend Memorial University's teaching, research and outreach in relation to regional policy and development

Goal 4: Capacity

Establish Memorial University as a recognized leader in regional policy and development

- 4.1 Enhance collaboration between Memorial University governments and other stakeholders on matters of regional policy and development in Newfoundland and Labrador
- 4.2 Increase Memorial University's recognition of regional policy and development
- 4.3 Encourage more Memorial University faculty, staff and students to publish results of research related to regional policy and development.
- 4.4 Communicate Memorial University achievements and contributions in regional policy and development

Goal 5: Operations

Establish Harris Centre operations for long-term success

- 5.1 Establish processes and procedures to ensure quality and integrity in all operations
- 5.2 Achieve financial sustainability for Harris Centre operations
- 5.3 Be an employer and partner of choice