

***Slide 1- Intro Slide***

Good Morning Chair, Mr. Mayor, and Members of Committee.

I'm Janet Morrison – and I have the pleasure and privilege of serving as Sheridan's 8<sup>th</sup> President and Vice Chancellor

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak with you today.

Before I proceed any further – through you Mr. Chair, I would like to request additional time, beyond the allotted 5 minutes, for my remarks.

***Slide 2 – Crossover slide***

Thank you again. Sheridan has been an anchor institution in Brampton for over 50 years.

Although we were founded in 1967 with the same mandate as other Ontario colleges – we have evolved dramatically over the years – and we continue to change and grow, in response to what the world needs.

Almost daily, headlines reveal how technological advancements and dramatic shifts in demographics and labour markets are reshaping how we live, work, learn and communicate.

While no one can fully predict all the disruptive forces or new possibilities that may emerge, researchers concur that flourishing in this new world will demand emotional acumen and competencies like agility, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity.

To prepare students for the future, Sheridan is codifying a bold plan of action, aimed at giving our graduates the hard and soft skills, knowledge, and confidence to seize -- and shape -- an ever-changing world.

Building on the best of our history, we're incorporating chosen elements of colleges, polytechnics and universities to architect a new, composite and visionary form of higher education.

It's an innovation space that tends to the development of the person as much as to the currency of knowledge and workplace preparedness.

This space is neither college, polytechnic, nor university. It's a new, composite and visionary form of higher education. It's ground-breaking and it is Sheridan.

That's great news for the dynamic and diverse City of Brampton...

It means that we have so much to contribute to **three priority areas of shared interest** between the City and Sheridan – each of which are captured in Brampton's Term of Council Priorities and in our new strategic plan, Sheridan 2024:

- Jobs and Talent;
- City Building; and
- Sustainability.

### ***Slide 3 - JOBS & TALENT***

Sheridan plays a pivotal role in incubating innovation, fueling economic growth and social cohesion and nurturing tomorrow's leaders – all of which serves Brampton.

Sheridan graduates – like the ones pictured here – are:

- inventing mobile apps to help those on the autism spectrum;
- helping ensure Brampton is a safe and welcoming community;
- serving the public as municipal Councillors or heads of public utilities;
- working at the height of professional sports;
- and representing Canada at World Skills competitions.

They are the conduits who transfer knowledge and skills to your workplaces.

### ***Slide 4 – A Pipeline of Talent***

Since 1995, Sheridan has launched over 62,800 graduates from its Brampton campus into the world ...

We also know that 33,000 Sheridan graduates reside in Brampton today ...

And 257 of our graduates work at the City of Brampton.

Currently -- our Davis Campus is home to 417 full time Sheridan employees, 33% of the full-time faculty hold PhDs and 49% hold Masters credentials.

What's the secret to our success?

We never, EVER waver on academic quality.

Sheridan offers 26 four-year, Honours Baccalaureate Degrees, which combine the theory and critical thinking of a university program with hands-on, applied learning and a practical work term. They include:

- Engineering;
- Mobile Computing;
- Cybersecurity;
- Supply Chain Management;
- Community Safety; and
- Kinesiology and Health Promotion... to name just a few.

These 4 year, honours degree programs lead to well-paying jobs. According to a recent Statistics Canada report, Bachelor's degree holders from colleges earn about 12% more per year, on average, than university Bachelor degree holders immediately after graduation.

We also offer 100 other credentials – from skilled trades apprenticeships (where we educate 1,500 people each year) to our two-and-three-year diplomas and graduate certificates. Fully 25% of our students already have an undergraduate university degree when they enroll at Sheridan.

We're a magnet for people who come to us seeking a career edge – something we deliver by having faculty members who are deeply enmeshed in industry – and industry experts tied to every program in our Professional Advisory Councils.

As a result, an impressive 85% of students indicate that they are satisfied they've gained the knowledge and skills that will help them in their future careers.

Truly-- our contributions to businesses and services in Brampton run deep.

Each year, we enroll approximately 12,000 students at our Davis Campus.

In the last three years, 164 Brampton companies have hired Sheridan students into more than 500 Co-op and internship positions.

And every academic year, over 765 organizations in Brampton benefit from hosting field placement students from 17 unique programs across the Schools of Education, Public Safety, Applied Health, and Community Studies.

This talent aligns with Brampton's diverse economic base that includes large, public sector institutions such as the William Osler Health System, Peel Regional Police, and the Ontario Courthouse.

### ***Slide 5 – Enriching Research***

Through our 6 Research & Incubation centres, we also fuel applied research, social innovation, entrepreneurship, and training.

Sheridan often becomes the R&D arm for small and medium enterprises who can't afford the cutting-edge equipment that's found in our workshops and labs.

I think you'll agree that this role is critically important in a place like Brampton where 94% of businesses have fewer than 50 employees; and where advanced manufacturing accounts for 30% of the city's economic output and almost 25% of the workforce.

In 2018-19, Sheridan received \$4.8 million in external research grant funding.

We engaged industry in 634 research partnerships and engaged the community in another 63.

We also involved 155 faculty and staff and 1,908 students in curriculum-based research and have been able to hire another 263 students to work on these projects.

One of our research centres, found here at our Brampton Campus is CAMDT - the Centre for Advanced Manufacturing and Design Technologies—which was founded with a \$2.5M investment from the City of Brampton

CAMDT features a fleet of ABB robots and extensive prototyping technology, including rapid circuit board printers and highly sophisticated commercial grade equipment for 3D printing.

Through CAMDT - we've worked with companies on a prototype for an LED system for space; we've developed a new hazard detection system for wildfires; and we've optimized designs for wind turbines.

In recent years, our projects have also supported the health and life sciences sector – such as the development of a portable EEG system to measure electrical activity in the brain – and the 3D printing of replica human organs, vessels and pathways to assist in pre-operative planning.

CAMDT and our facilities for teaching mechanical and electrical engineering are located in close proximity to our state-of-the-art, 130,000 square foot, purpose-built facility for our School of Apprenticeship and Skilled Trades – allowing for students in both streams to benefit from our resources.

## ***Slide 6 – City Building***

### *[Campus Master Plan]*

Sheridan has grown step in step with Brampton over the last 50 years.

I'm excited to share with you that we are in the process of developing a bold and ambitious campus master plan, lead by our consulting partner Urban Strategies, which aspires to transform our campuses and provide inspiring spaces to learn, teach, collaborate and innovate.

The plan will provide a road map to transform our built environment here in Brampton over the next 30 years. Fortunately for Sheridan – and Brampton – our land envelope affords us the space for future expansion.

Through this process, we are engaging with our internal and surrounding communities to develop a plan that recognizes our role as city builders and community leaders here in Brampton.

We are excited by the opportunity to collaborate with you and key partners like RioCan, to create a transformative ecosystem in the uptown community, to which Sheridan is the west anchor.

Rest assured that -- as we urbanize and intensify -- our collaborative leadership in sustainability and community energy planning will be one of the core principles in our new developments.

The Master Planning process will continue over the next 9 months, and you will be further updated throughout.

## ***Slide 7 - [Housing, Community Safety & Youth Strategy]***

As a proud and long-standing anchor institution in Brampton, we're committed to addressing urban challenges and fostering the building blocks of a vibrant and diverse community.

Drawing on my experience, I'm confident that -- working collaboratively with the City and other partners on housing, community safety and positive youth development-- we can foster the important feeling of safety among our students that leads to empowerment and belonging.

### *[Housing]*

It's of paramount importance to Sheridan that our students have safe and approved housing options.

To that end, we're committed to a comprehensive approach that includes:

Enhanced Data Collection and Analysis – We know that neighbourhoods close to post-secondary campuses tend to see increases in off-campus student housing. We also know that Brampton sees high volumes of immigration each year and is home to students that attend other public and private educational institutions in the City and beyond. We are doing more to fully understand the volume and location of off-campus housing in Brampton – and we want to work with you in this regard.

Education – We continue to work with the City of Brampton By-law and Enforcement Team to help students understand their rights and know what safe off-campus housing looks like. We're also collaborating with Brampton Fire at every student orientation to ensure students are aware of fire safety measures within off-campus homes.

We're also working on Capacity Building – through the renovations we'll undertake at our existing residence in Brampton to include rooms with 4-person occupancy to lower student rates and provide more students with access to safe, clean, quality housing.

### *[Community Safety]*

Sheridan is a caring community. My colleagues and I work hard to ensure that our students feel valued and welcome; I believe that they know we're genuinely invested in their success.

As part of that effort, we seek to integrate our students into the community where they can engage in events and community gatherings.

For example, we've partnered with Brampton Transit to arrange bus tours for our international students, which allow them to become familiar with the transit system and their surroundings, acclimatize to local amenities such as grocery stores, and participate in local events.

Sheridan also helps to build a safe community by providing knowledge and expertise in the upstream prevention of violence and crime.

Right here in Brampton, we have faculty expertise in child and youth work, social work, health promotion, criminology, sociology, and early childhood education.

Two of our senior leaders also serve on the Peel Region Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Systems Leadership Table. One of them, Dr. Michael O'Leary is here with us today. Students from our Police Foundations program also contribute to community safety.

They participate in an annual challenge– in which they propose a solution to a community safety issue presented by the Community Policing Panel at Peel Regional Police Services, which includes Constables who are graduates of our program.

In addition, they've served as Iron John and Iron Joan mentors for students in local high schools – where they've lead self-defense clinics and facilitated after school programs.

*[Youth Strategy]*

Another focus area for Sheridan, related to our new Strategic Plan – is a commitment to engage with – and contribute to – our home communities in a meaningful and intentional way.

We know that within the halls of Sheridan- and in our communities – many young people are marginalized or living in contexts that make it harder for them to succeed and thrive.

Early and meaningful engagement with Sheridan can change their trajectory.

We can help remove the barriers that stand in the way of education.

We can provide financial, social or emotional support that paves a positive path forward.

We can be the spark that takes a person from a place of disadvantage to one of confidence and hope. Sheridan is a place that translates dreams into achievement. I see it happen almost every day.

We're currently developing a strategy for giving-back to our communities, in ways that will support youth to overcome obstacles and systemic barriers. You'll be hearing more on this front in the months ahead .... as we leverage existing relationships and forge new ones to broaden and intensify our impact.

To that point, we're also thrilled to be part of Brampton's first "*We the Future*" Symposium on November 16 at Lester B Pearson Theatre, to celebrate youth achievement and get young people inspired.

***Slide 8 - Sustainability***

Both Sheridan and the City have embraced a commitment to be a model of sustainability for 21<sup>st</sup> century organizations.

Since 2010, our Office for Sustainability has been guiding Sheridan's progress through Mission Zero, our portfolio of initiatives to:

- Cut our energy and carbon emissions in half;
- Virtually eliminate the waste we send to landfill; and
- Restore biodiversity on our campuses.

### ***Slide 9 –Sustainability***

Sheridan understands that in addition to decisively managing its own adverse impacts, we have a pivotal role to play in actively bettering the world through education, innovation and principled leadership.

As a local leader in this space, we're collaborating with the City of Brampton as a partner on its Community Energy Plan which establishes targets and roadmaps for reducing energy and greenhouse gas emissions.

We've also made other strides such as:

- implementing a district energy network at our Brampton campus, which offers our students exposure and hands-on learning related to conserving and distributing energy; and
- hosting community education initiatives like our Repair Café events – both on campus and at local libraries - where attendees bring broken items to be fixed by skilled volunteers, teaching people to be less wasteful.

Taken together, these efforts are part of a wide-ranging drive to engage all of our community and beyond in taking incremental steps where we can to make a difference at the local level.

Just this past September, we were also pleased to partner with the City of Brampton and RioCan on the Nordic workshop – where we hosted many at our Brampton campus who came together to identify challenges and discuss opportunities for infrastructure and sustainable development with experts from 5 Nordic countries.

Looking into the future, we're tremendously excited by the discussions that are already underway regarding Sheridan's involvement in the Institute for a Sustainable Brampton.

### ***Slide 9 – Engage with Us***

I'd like to close by saying how proud I am to be a leader in the post-secondary realm – I know that's a sentiment that is shared by many other leaders here today from our Brampton Campus – including

Dr. Michael O'Leary – Dean of our Faculty of Applied Health and Community Studies and Campus Principal – Davis (who I introduced earlier)

Vertha Coligan – Dean of our Faculty of Applied Science and Technology

Dr. Michelle Chretien – Director, Centre for Advanced Manufacturing and Design Technologies

Karen Lemoine – Director, Community Engagement and Stakeholder Relations

and Sunand Sharma, Associate Dean, Community Citizenship, Leadership and Engagement

Having worked at 5 academic institutions over the past 30 plus years -both universities and colleges in Canada, the United States and Mexico – I've learned that what Sheridan does for learners, families and for the communities we serve matters.

Quite simply: the higher education we deliver has the power to transform lives.

Drawing on my three years of experience at Sheridan, I want you to know that our learning community is exceptional. It's distinguished by its deep commitment to quality, its generosity of spirit and character and people's unwavering dedication to student success.

And as anchors in the community, post-secondary institutions like ours have a critical role to play in catalyzing innovation, contributing to economic growth and fueling social development.

But it's a bigger job than any one organization alone can achieve.

We all must come together – industry, academia and government.

I extend an open invitation to all of you to get to know Sheridan better.

We're always willing to forge new partnerships that result in mutual benefit – and we're truly eager to collaborate with you.

Thank you.