Dear Colleague,

We are writing on behalf of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, the Howard R. Swearer Center for Public Service at Brown University, Simon Fraser University, and the McConnell Foundation to seek your participation in an initiative to deepen the civic and community engagement of Canadian advanced education institutions.

As an engaged member of an institution of advanced education, you understand the many ways that our institutions can contribute to the social, economic, environmental and cultural fabric of communities. Carnegie, Brown, SFU and McConnell are about to pilot the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification in Canada. This pilot is modelled after the preeminent US-based designation led through the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, which was developed over 25 years ago by the Carnegie Foundation under the leadership of its then president, Lee Shulman.

Participants will benefit from insights into how other leading Canadian post-secondary institutions have been able to foster a culture of civic and community engagement throughout their organizations.

Should you wish to participate, you will be asked to:

• Attend an initial meeting to learn about the philosophy and logic of the existing US Carnegie Classification. This event will be hosted at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC and is tentatively planned for January 21 - 25, 2019.

• Provide $5,000 US per institution for administration and research costs to the Swearer Centre, Brown University as well as additional cost sharing for meeting expenses. The organizing group is currently looking into options to defray a portion of the costs associated with institutional participation where cost would otherwise prohibit involvement.

• Complete and submit the existing US Classification application and host individual site visits from the existing US Carnegie Classification Team.

• Work together as a learning community to identify needed adjustments to the existing Classification, recommend solutions and contribute to the development of a version of the Classification specific to Canada, if deemed desirable.

This is an open invitation to all advanced education institutions in Canada. If you wish to be considered, an expression of interest can be declared by November 16, 2018 at www.sfu.ca/engage/carnegie.html.

Please direct any questions to Matthew Grant, Director Community Engagement, Simon Fraser University: carnegie-pilot@sfu.ca.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Paul LeMahieu
Senior VP, Programs and Operations
Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching

Mathew Johnson
Executive Director
Howard R. Swearer Center for Public Service
Brown University

Professor Andrew Petter
President and Vice-Chancellor
Simon Fraser University

Stephen Huddart
President and CEO
The McConnell Foundation

On behalf of the Canadian Pilot Project Team
INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

CARNEGIE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION
CANADIAN PILOT COHORT

WHY PARTICIPATE?

• You are a national leader; you want to be involved in shaping a future Canadian framework that will magnify impact nationally by supporting institutions and communities across the country in their partnership initiatives.

• Your institution is passionate about co-creating and sustaining positive impact; you see your campus as a hub for your communities—contributing to educational achievement, community engagement, and economic activity; or you would like it to be.

• Your faculty, staff and students are called to action in partnership with the cities and communities they serve and you are interested in strengthening a culture of shared-ownership and collaboration for engagement throughout your organization.

• You identify that the role of post-secondary institutions is solidifying to one of authenticity and scholarly impact; one which embodies the foundational principles and values of inclusion and diversity; mutual trust, respect and accountability; sustainable approaches; healthy relationships; equity and knowledge creation.

• You see value in strengthening inter-organizational relationships and participating in a learning community of like-minded institutions to share successful practices and approaches to civic and community engagement.

• You are interested in reflecting on and implementing institution-wide measurements and evaluation methods of community engagement.
WHO WILL PARTICIPATE?

5 – 8 select Canadian institutions will form a national cohort to identify appropriate tools to build an evidence-base of Canadian post-secondary institutions’ contributions to civic and community engagement.

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT?

Participating Canadian post-secondary institutions will:

• Attend an initial convening to learn about the philosophy and logic of the existing US Carnegie Classification. This workshop event will be conducted by the Swearer Centre, Brown University – the administrative and research home of the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification.
• Complete and submit the existing US Classification application and host individual campus site visits from the existing US Carnegie Classification Team.
• Work together as a learning community to identify needed adjustments to the existing Classification, recommend solutions and contribute to the development of a Canadian specific version of the Classification, if deemed desirable.

WHERE AND WHEN WILL THIS TAKE PLACE?

The initial convening and the closing convening will be hosted at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia, Canada.

Important Dates:
• January 21– 25, 2019: Launch of Canadian Cohort
• January 30, 2020: Completion and Submission of Classification Application
• March – May 2020: Site Visits, Learnings, and Recognition
• May 2020: Recognition and Closing Convening
• May 2020 –December 2021: Process to collectively author the Canadian Carnegie Classification Framework

OUR INVITATION TO YOU

This is an open invitation to all institutions of higher education in Canada. If your institution would like to participate, an expression of interest can be declared by the 16th November 2018 by visiting www.sfu.ca/engage/carnegie.html and filling in the expression of interest.

Please direct questions to Matthew Grant, Director Community Engagement, Simon Fraser University: carnegie-pilot@sfu.ca.