



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
OISE | ONTARIO INSTITUTE  
FOR STUDIES IN EDUCATION

April 22, 2020

**Re: Earth Day 2020 and OISE's Commitment to Climate Action**

Dear Members of the OISE Community,

Every year, Earth Day is a time to pause, reflect and take action to address the single biggest challenge facing our planet. The current global pandemic adds to the urgency of this challenge, calling for even deeper reflection on our ability to influence change and on ensuring that OISE takes action and provides leadership toward achieving a more sustainable and environmentally viable future. Whatever you are doing today, please take a moment to join OISE and the world in recognizing our collective commitment to sustaining our earth.

**OISE's Commitment to Climate Action**

In honour of today's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Earth Day, I am announcing the implementation of the first set of recommendations coming out of OISE's [Climate Action Summit](#). This event took place in January with over 100 members of our community proposing a rich [set of ideas](#) to enact sustainability across OISE. These recommendations include establishing a new *Dean's Advisory Council on Climate Action*, resourcing and enacting a Climate Action Plan for OISE, and ensuring regular and transparent communication about this Plan as it develops. These actions will build on the research and practice already being done to address the climate crisis at OISE, including that of OISE's [Environmental & Sustainability Education \(ESE\) Initiative](#), JICS's [Natural Curiosity Project](#), and our [ongoing collaboration with the TDSB's Sustainability Office](#). As part of our Academic Plan, we are proud to be positioning OISE as a hub for ESE and Climate Action, and aim to bring together community members and partners in leading a societal shift towards sustainability.

Take care,

Glen A. Jones, Ph.D.  
Professor and Dean