

SPROUT



STUDENTS PLANTING SEEDS OF TOMORROW.

INFORMATION DROP #1 **LOGISTICS**

FEBRUARY 18-21, 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Land Acknowledgements	4
Inclusivity Statement	5
What is SPROUT?	6
What are Info Drops?	7
Tips for Info Drops	8
Expectations	9
Teams	11
Team Liaisons	12
What do you receive from the Competition?	13
Location	14
Event Programming	15
Schedule	16
How to Pay Registration Fees?	18
Accessibility	18
What do I bring?	19
Tips to succeed	20
Contact Information.....	21



ABOUT SPROUT



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

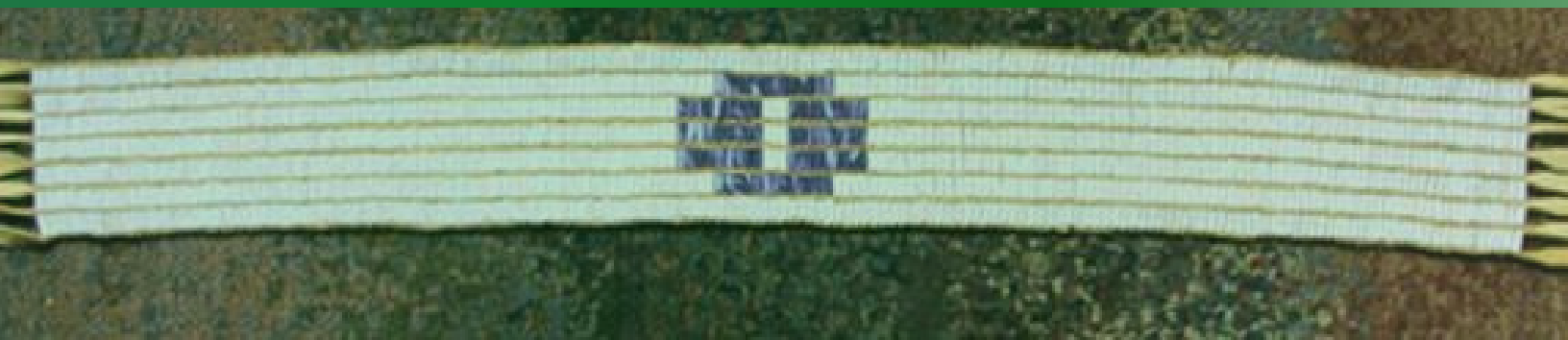
Toronto is in the 'Dish With One Spoon Territory'. The Dish With One Spoon is a treaty between the Anishinaabe, Mississaugas and Haudenosaunee that bound them to share the territory and protect the land. Subsequent Indigenous Nations and peoples, Europeans and all newcomers have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect.

The "Dish", or sometimes it is called the "Bowl", represents what is now southern Ontario, from the Great Lakes to Quebec and from Lake Simcoe into the United States.

We all eat out of the Dish, all of us that share this territory, with only one spoon. That means we have to share the responsibility of ensuring the dish is never empty, which includes taking care of the land and the creatures we share it with. Importantly, there are no knives at the table, representing that we must keep the peace.

This was a treaty made between the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee after the French and Indian War. Newcomers were then incorporated into it over the years, notably in 1764 with The Royal Proclamation/The Treaty of Niagara.

The land acknowledgement started in British Columbia, where there are no treaties at all. Its popularity has spread as an acknowledgment of Indigenous presence and assertion of sovereignty. It is used in a variety of ways, such as at opening events and meetings.



INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT

Toronto Metropolitan University as well as The Society of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (SASSH) is committed to maintaining and upholding the values of equity, diversity, and inclusion in all areas of life, including study, work and living environments, for both the campus and the wider community. We firmly believe that fostering a diverse, inclusive, and equitable environment will allow us to effectively meet the needs of the students, staff, faculty, and community partners.

As part of SPROUT, all committee members, experts, speakers and participants are held to the expectation of inclusivity. There will be no tolerance for discrimination, harassment or exclusion of any kind during the competition. If you experience any of this or witness someone else experiencing it, please report it to the organizing committee immediately.



WHAT IS SPROUT?

Welcome, and congratulations on your successful application to the seventh annual SPROUT Case Competition!

We are excited to have you join in on the four-day professional and collaborative competition hosted by The Society of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (SASSH). This year, SASSH has collaborated with the IKEA Toronto Downtown to provide you with an exciting competition experience. We are proud to announce that this year's topic is Community Development and Environmental Sustainability. This event also offers networking opportunities to gain valuable experience that will aid your future endeavours.

SPROUT is an interdisciplinary case competition that allows participants from various academic backgrounds to collaborate to create solutions for real-world issues. The knowledge of your peers will be necessary for a successful solution, so be sure to learn about your team member's expertise and experience.

The competition is a four-day-long event beginning on Tuesday, February 18th, 2025 and ending on Friday, February 21st, 2025. This provides the opportunity to build collaborative skills, create and form new relationships, and have your ideas be seen by professionals in the field. For a more in-depth breakdown, visit the section entitled [Schedule](#). Any further communication will be emailed to you from sprout@sassh.ca and available on tmusprout.ca.

WHAT ARE INFO DROPS?

Prior to the competition, you will receive three information packages that contain information about the SPROUT Case Competition and tips to better support you and your group. Each info drop will have its own specific purpose. This is Info Drop #1, which will include general information regarding the logistics, programming and the responsibilities of the participants. Info Drop #2 will contain information regarding this year's theme of Community Development and Environmental Sustainability that will provide some insight into areas and topics that will be useful for your team to explore during your case competition experience. Info Drop #3, the final one, is where you will meet your competition experts and professionals that you will be consulting with over the course of the competition.



TIPS FOR INFO DROPS

- Familiarize yourself with the contents of this drop, and make note of any and all important information that may be useful when creating your case solution. Info Drops are to be used as clues to success, with each drop giving more and more information until the competition itself. At the competition itself, the case question is discussed at length, and it is where you have the opportunity to ask more direct questions.
- This Info Drop can be used as a check-list to make sure that you are on the right track. Information regarding the schedule of the event, designated work times, workshops, expert roundtables, and rounds of presentations are all listed within this Info Drop and can be used to maintain a steady work schedule for your team.
- Using this year's theme of Community Development and Environmental Sustainability you may begin to conduct preliminary research before the release of the second and third round of Info Drops. We urge you to practise curiosity; use the theme as a starting point to start exploring ideas, objectives, and possibilities.
- If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact one of the SPROUT team members. Contact information is listed in the section title Contact Information

EXPECTATIONS PT. 1

- At the start of your SPROUT journey, we will deliver a question related to this year's theme: Community Development and Environmental Sustainability which is presented by our partner IKEA Downtown Toronto. As a participant, you will be tasked to construct an innovative solution for the presented problem. Participants are encouraged to explore the question, as well as the theme, and how they relate to the ambitions of IKEA Downtown Toronto.
- Participants will work in teams, with members from varying academic disciplines, to accomplish their objectives. Participants are expected to work effectively, and meet with their team members throughout the duration of the SPROUT Case Competition. When meeting with your team members, you must strive to create a respectful, inclusive, and collaborative environment that fosters collaboration and idea-sharing. With each member contributing, it will produce the best outcome regarding tackling the overarching question, and reaching a solution.
- Participants are also expected to attend the different activities delivered by the SPROUT team, including the designated worktimes, workshops, expert roundtable sessions, group consultations, and other activities. These activities are created with the intention of helping each team reach their full potential, and attending these activities will aid in your team's success.



EXPECTATIONS PT. 2

- On February 21st, participants will present their final solutions to a panel of judges. During the first round of presentations, the groups will enter one of three presentation rooms, and first submit to a small panel of judges. The top 3 presentations will advance further to the second and final round of presentations, and present their solutions once more. From this, the winning team will be selected. All participants and special guests will be invited to attend the final round of presentations. The winning team selected in the final round of presentations will be rewarded with a cash prize and further networking opportunities including a meeting with IKEA Downtown Toronto, and SASSH officials to celebrate their victory, and further discuss their solutions.
- Throughout the competition, participants must be respectful, encouraging, and professional towards one another, guest speakers, and competition organizers.
- Overall, expect to experience four days worth of fun activities, networking opportunities, and the chance to create meaningful change within the community!

TEAMS

Upon receiving Info Drop #2 on Day 1 of the competition, you will be provided with a team number, team member names, and name of your Team Liaison. However, if you have picked partners during the initial sign-up process, you and your partner will be placed on the same team. For those who did not, no worries! You will be placed in groups with other participants, from varying programs, and faculties



You can speak and meet with your team members using any preferred method of communication you wish. This can be in-person, or through the employment of social media, via Facebook, Whatsapp, phone calls, Google Meet, Zoom, etc. Choose any method your team is comfortable with. There are no rules or requirements for meetings; these meetings can be as long or as short as you would prefer, and as frequent or infrequent as you wish. You may even prefer to meet briefly to break off and complete individual work, eventually coming together to discuss. This process is entirely up to your discretion. However, you must ensure that this is a group decision, and that everyone is on the same page.

****Please note that the *SPROUT* Committee will provide in-person space for group meetings during the late evenings of the competition.***

TEAM LIAISONS

Each team will have a designated SPROUT Committee member and liaison for the entire competition. Your Team Liaison will create a designated group chat, on your desired platform, made accessible to all members of the team. The role of the Team Liaison is to answer any question that you may have, address any comments or concerns, and keep you informed of the activities occurring during the duration of the SPROUT Competition. It is important to note that your Team Liaison is not permitted to assist or aid participants in the constructions of solutions to the posed problem; they are only there to clarify SPROUT's process, activities, and other logistical parts. More information will be provided to your team once you have connected with your Team Liaison.



WHAT DO YOU RECEIVE FROM THE COMPETITION?

In addition to receiving a delegate bag with tons of SPROUT Swag for participating in the competition, each participant will receive:

- A certificate of participation.
- Opportunity to network with others from different academic backgrounds.
- Free food and snacks for the duration of the competition.
- Access to professionals to build your professional network.
- A positive, safe, and accepting environment to explore ideas, learn new information, and have fun!



The winning team will receive a cash prize of \$2,000, which will be divided equally between all team members. The winning team's solution from this competition will aid IKEA Toronto Downtown to find solutions to promote Community Development and Environmental Sustainability!



LOCATION

SPROUT Case Competition will be held from February 18th to February 21st, and will be conducted exclusively in-person. All participants are to adhere to the public health and safety guidelines for the in-person events. Most of the events are set to be held in the Student Learning Center at 341 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5B 1S1. However, there are a number of events taking place at off-campus locations to look out for.

Locations you need to know:

Student Learning Center (SLC)

- Majority of the competition will take place here.
- Address: 341 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5B 1S1

IKEA Toronto Downtown

- We will be doing an onsite visit to the IKEA Toronto Downtown office.
- Address: 382 Yonge Street (Floor 1), Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5B 1S9

Dinner Social Venue

- We will be hosting a Dinner Social at Page One Cafe.
- Address: 106 Mutual Street Unit #8, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5B 2R7

Gala Venue

- We will host our final gala on the last day of SPROUT at Archeo Venue at Distillery.
- Address: 31 Trinity Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5A 3C4



EVENT PROGRAMMING

SCHEDULE

DAY 1 *SLC 6th Floor*

11:00am - 11:30pm	Registration / Housekeeping
11:30am - 12:30pm	Workshop: How to Succeed in a Case Competition/ Lunch
12:30pm - 1:00 pm	Break
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Workshop: Mastering Public Speaking
2:00pm - 3:00pm	Keynote Travel to IKEA Toronto Downtown
3:00pm - 5:00pm	Partner Workshops
6:00pm - 8:00pm	Dinner Social Page One Cafe

DAY 2 *SLC 8th floor*

10:30am - 11:00am	Registration / Housekeeping
11:00am - 12:30pm	Work Time / Committee Questions
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Lunch
1:30pm - 3:00pm	Work Time
3:00pm - 4:00pm	Experts Roundtable pt. 1
4:00pm - 4:30pm	Work Time
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Experts Roundtable pt. 2

DAY 3 *SLC 8th floor*

9:30am - 12:00pm	Breakfast and Work Time
12:00pm - 12:30pm	Registration and Lunch
12:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Group Consultations
2:30pm - 5:00pm	Work Time

DAY 4 *SLC 6th, 8th floor & JOR*

9:00am - 10:00am	Registration / Housekeeping
10:00am - 12:00pm	Work Time SLC 8th floor
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm - 2:00pm	First Round Presentations - JOR
2:00pm - 3:00pm	Deliberations & Round 1 Winners announced
3:00pm - 4:00pm	Final Presentations
4:00pm - 4:30pm	Final Deliberations SLC 5th Floor Seminar Room (Room 514)

HOW TO PAY REGISTRATION FEES?

If you have not already done so, please visit the [SASSH Arts Apparel website](#) to pay the \$20 registration fee (non-refundable) by February 14th at 11:59pm. This fee will cover your registration, as well as your competition supplies. You may also pay in-person on Day 1 of the competition.

If you are unable to pay this fee due to financial circumstances, please contact us at sprout@sassh.ca

ACCESSIBILITY

The SPROUT Case Competition aims to provide an equitable, inclusive and accessible experience for all participants and guests. For those with accessibility needs, please contact sprout@sassh.ca so that we can ensure that you have the support you need to be able to fully participate in this experience.

WHAT DO I BRING?

SASSH and the SPROUT team will provide digital copies of all three information drops. Please bring any items that will assist you in succeeding during the competition.



The items below are a small, non-exhaustive list of essential items that you may need during the competition:

- Devices such as a laptop or tablet, and a charger
- Writing utensils such as pens, pencils, erasers, and notebooks
- Outdoor clothing for travelling days (Days 1 and 4)
- Professional attire
- Great attitude
- A collaborative spirit
- Eagerness to learn
- Your SPROUT Swag, and Spirit!!!



TIPS TO SUCCEED

- Get involved! Effortful involvement is imperative to your group's success, and working together is the best way to produce dynamic solutions. Ensure you are open-minded & receptive to all ideas, and incorporate multiple perspectives into your solution.
- Make some friends! For those collaborating with participants they have previously never worked with, this is the perfect opportunity to network and meet like-minded individuals. Getting involved with new people might be scary, so doing a few icebreakers to get to know one another might be beneficial. This competition is an opportunity to network with professionals in similar fields, and bring the Toronto Metropolitan community together - take advantage of that.
- Listen to the experts! These professionals are brought in to deliver invaluable knowledge and experiences that you can benefit from. They are providing their time to assist you, so use that to your advantage.
- Listen to your team members! You will be put into a team with folks from different faculties and programs. You will meet people who think differently than you do. Listen to all ideas and think together, take into consideration all of the different perspectives, while you build your presentation. The judges also look for collaboration in their deliberations.
- And most importantly, have fun!

Video Tips:

- [TEDxTalks - The 3 Magic Ingredients of Amazing Presentations](#)
- [Davis Burkus - 6 Tips For Effective Teamwork](#)

CONTACT INFORMATION

SASSH VP of Community Relations	Melissa Ventocilla	vp.community@sassh.ca
SPROUT Co-Chair and SASSH EUS Director	Izel Karadeniz	eus.director@sassh.ca
SPROUT Co-Chair and SASSH GA Director	Freeda Emmanuel	geo.director@sassh.ca
Logistics Lead	Diana Polania-Suarez	sprout@sassh.ca
Logistics Co-Lead	Hanad Abdi	sprout@sassh.ca
Experts Lead	Sydney Widenmaier	sprout@sassh.ca
Marketing Co-Lead	Taliyah Walker	sprout@sassh.ca
SASSH President	Biancka Pragash	president@sassh.ca
Staff-Manager	Josel Angelica Gerardo	jgerardo@torontomu.ca