The Neuroscience and Mental Health Institute (NMHI) is a Translational Science Institute (TSI) at the University of Alberta. TSIs are biomedical research and training institutes implemented to accelerate the discovery and application of knowledge to improve the health of Albertans. This strategic plan is a living document that sets out the goals and objectives of the institute.

**Goal 1: Develop an environment to support high impact research.** Foster research collaborations and partnerships across the academic and health care systems to facilitate the translation of research.

**Objectives:**

i. Assist with recruiting exceptional neuroscience and mental health researchers and trainees
ii. Facilitate resource and data sharing between NMHI members and beyond
iii. Develop research cores and facilities across the spectrum of neuroscience and mental health research
iv. Aim to become an Open Science Institute to accelerate discovery and application of knowledge

**Goal 2: Build capacity in the NMHI by advocating for and obtaining significant financial support for neuroscience and mental health research**

**Objectives:**

i. Work with FoMD Advancement to raise funds for neuroscience and mental health research
ii. Collaborate with engaged community members that will help the NMHI increase philanthropic support to advance neuroscience and mental health research
iii. Build awareness for the institute and explore partnerships with foundations, industry, and relevant government departments and funding agencies

**Goal 3: Train the next generation of basic researchers and clinician scientists**

**Objectives:**

i. Continually evaluate and update the neuroscience and mental health curriculum to ensure that training is current and multidisciplinary
ii. Increase opportunities for interdisciplinary research and collaboration for trainees
iii. Increase number of graduate student stipends and postdoctoral fellowships
iv. Provide training relevant to a range of career opportunities related to neuroscience and mental health research

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Goal 4: Raise the local, provincial, national, and international profile of the NMHI and integrate the NMHI with industry, research partners, the public, and the neuroscience and mental health scientific community

Objectives:

i. Build on communications and media relations partnerships to become a major resource for neuroscience and mental health information locally, nationally and internationally

ii. Highlight the impact and importance of NMHI members’ research

iii. Increase public outreach through engagement events

iv. Integrate with Foundations, Research Networks and Community Organizations serving those affected by brain disorders.

v. Foster linkages with the Addiction and Mental Health Strategic Clinical Network (SCN); the Neuroscience, Rehabilitation and Vision SCN; and the Alberta Addiction and Mental Health Research Hub.

vi. Foster linkages with industry

Goal 5: Act as a catalyst between high impact research groups in the NMHI to improve success in acquiring operating grants, team grants, and infrastructure funding

Objectives:

i. Identify relevant opportunities and work to bring researchers with common interests together

ii. Offer innovation grants to move projects from ideas into research with impact

iii. Work with FoMD and other partner faculties to identify and develop requests for core facilities and large-scale infrastructure