

# TRENT

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19 THE IMPACT OF IMMIGRATION

31 EMBRACING GENDER DIVERSITY

Andressa Lacerda '08

Executive VP and co-founder  
of Noblegen

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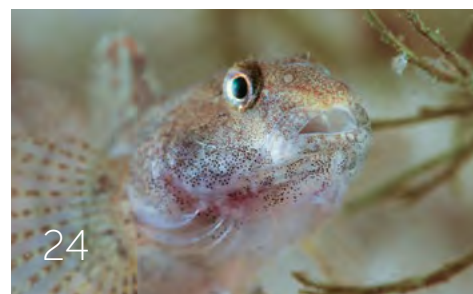


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ON THE COVER:  
**Andressa Lacerda '08**



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EDITOR'S NOTES

## OF ENDINGS & NEW BEGINNINGS

On the day I was to graduate, I was miles and miles away from Peterborough—sitting atop a mountain, just outside of Lake Louise, Alberta, to be precise. It was a rare day off from the several jobs I was holding down, and I did what I always did with time to myself: I hiked towards the sky.

I had exactly two ounces of single malt whisky with me to mark graduation day. Any more than that would have made for a perilous journey back down. As I recall, I enjoyed both the dram and the view. I felt worldly. All grown up. Moved on to a new chapter of my life.

What I didn't feel, I've come to learn, was the excitement that comes with graduation day at Trent University.

I've lost count of the number of convocations I've attended since then. As editor of *TRENT Magazine*, I'm usually found popping up all over the Bata Library podium, camera in hand, capturing the smiling faces of graduates as they accept their degrees.

And the faces are always smiling, no matter the circumstances. I've seen rows of grins shining through rain ponchos. I've seen beaming joy from one-shoed grads with broken-

heeled pumps in hand. I've seen a red-faced fellow dust himself off after an on-stage trip and fall, only to accept his diploma with both aplomb and sheepish delight.

Inevitably, it's a wonderful end to the student experience. What it's not, however, is an end to the Trent experience. That, I've come to learn, lasts a lifetime.

Part of this is a result of the bonds that are formed—and I count several of my best friends to be people I met within hours of arriving for first year. You can see this shared camaraderie at alumni social events such as Head of the Trent or Ideas That Change the World; or at lectures, networking socials, and conferences.

But there are plenty of other ways that alumni remain plugged in to the Trent community. There are mentoring programs, where you can either gain or share experience with fellow grads; volunteer experiences; or just simple day-to-day perks like discounts on car and auto insurance, or Bata Library and Athletics Centre privileges.

Then there are the thousands of alumni who follow us on social media or who are regular readers of *TRENT Magazine*, *TRENT Magazine Live* (the home of our blogs, news feeds,




and podcasts), or the monthly *Alma Matters e-Newsletter*—a publication that provides a regular digest of all things Trent.

If you're not already receiving these publications on a regular basis, please contact [alumni@trentu.ca](mailto:alumni@trentu.ca) to subscribe. And be sure to follow us on Facebook (the Trent University Alumni Association page), Twitter ([trentalumni](https://twitter.com/trentalumni)), Instagram ([trent\\_alumni](https://www.instagram.com/trent_alumni)), or LinkedIn (The Official Trent University Alumni Association).

Because, while convocation day may represent an end to your degree, it is merely the beginning of your rewarding experience as alumni. And we want to share this whole new chapter with you.

Donald Fraser '91  
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# A YEAR OF DYNAMIC GROWTH

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & VICE-CHANCELLOR

Having survived a hectic exodus from the Bata Library (to make way for the Bata renovations), it is good to take a moment and reflect on a busy Trent these days!

On the west bank, the Student Centre emerges from the mist every morning more evolved than the day before. It is looking to be everything we hoped for—a building which carefully respects Ron Thom architecture at the same time that it asserts itself as another iconic building on the banks of the Otonabee.

Beside the Student Centre, other architects and construction workers have started work on the transformation to restore the glory of the Bata Library while also turning it into a true “library of the future.” The project is one of orchestral proportions, with the Archives and book and print collections moving to alternate locations to serve students from a downtown location and an on-campus service point to be housed at the new Student Centre this fall.

One hundred people, administrative offices, and IT have been temporarily relocated from Bata to other offices and buildings. (My kayaks have found a different home and I have a new launch spot.)

On the east bank, the City of Peterborough is working on the basic servicing (water and sewage services) needed for a new arena and sports complex and the Trent Research and Innovation Park. I’m delighted that **Dr. Andressa Lacerda ’08** graces the cover of this issue as Noblegen continues its plan to be the anchor tenant in the park. Dr. Lacerda’s success at Trent—as an undergraduate international student; as a researcher in the course of her M.Sc. and Ph.D. programs; and now at Noblegen—is a wonderful Trent story.

Trent’s renewal continues in other ways as well. Our commitment to teaching excellence was affirmed in two ways following the May Board of Governors meeting. At the meeting, the Board approved a balanced budget that included 25 new faculty positions. This includes four new tenured faculty as well as 21 teaching-intensive positions, which will be assigned to our campuses in Peterborough and the GTA.

On the same day, the University also announced a remarkable donation by an anonymous Trent alumnus. Their transformative gift of \$1.25 million will create the Distinguished Visiting Teaching Scholar Endowment, and will allow the Trent Centre for Teaching and Learning to host a visiting teaching scholar every year. The visiting scholar will support teaching excellence at Trent, infusing new ideas and energy into teaching across the University.

This new donation will allow the Centre for Teaching and Learning to build upon two significant gifts received last year: gifts that have made possible the Deborah Berrill Teaching Excellence by Design Studio and four new Trent Teaching Fellowships.

In downtown Peterborough, the revitalization of Traill College continues. The former Principal’s Lodge has been renamed “Fry Lodge” in honour of Marion Fry, the founding principal of Catharine Parr Traill College, whose career included appointments as vice-president and acting president of Trent University, and then as president of the University of King’s College in Halifax. In other good news, the University has established a Traill endowment, which will provide the principal of Traill with discretionary funds to support events and initiatives

every year. Invigorated by a challenge gift of \$50,000 from Traill alumnus **Greg Piasetzki ’72**, the endowment successfully topped \$100,000 in a few months. We will look for ways to grow it in the future. In the long term, as it grows in size, it could provide significant financial support for Traill.

In a final piece of philanthropic good news, I want to thank those who helped me achieve the \$100,000 goal we set for the Louis and Paul Groarke Philosophy Endowment. The fund will continue to highlight the importance of philosophy through thought-provoking events that involve students, alumni and community members interested in philosophy. I hope that its success will inspire other fundraising efforts in support of future endowments towards other academic disciplines and departments at Trent. If you would like to see what philanthropy is making possible at Trent, I encourage you to look at the Unleash the Potential campaign website, where you will find some inspirational stories as we close in on our goal of \$50 million.

For those new Trent alumni who are receiving this as your first issue of *Trent Magazine* as you graduate in June, congratulations! Whether you’re graduating from the humanities, sciences, social sciences, professional or graduate programs, you are joining a distinguished community of accomplished fellow alumni the world over. And you’ll find plenty to interest you in this and future issues of *Trent Magazine*. We hope that you will contribute to *Trent Magazine* (we welcome your input and your stories) and that it will be a vehicle that will help you stay in touch with what’s happening at Trent.

Leo Groarke, Ph.D.

President & Vice-Chancellor  
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# WHAT'S NEW

## AT TRENT UNIVERSITY

### Trent University Affirms Its Commitment to Teaching Excellence

With burgeoning enrollment for the third year in a row, Trent University has announced 25 new faculty positions for fall 2017. These unique positions will be distributed across numerous departments, as well as Trent's GTA campus in Oshawa, and will be focused on teaching, and research on teaching, to ensure that Trent is at the forefront of pedagogical research. The new appointments will also include four tenure-track positions. In addition, the University is extending limited-term positions from nine to 12 months.

In a further enhancement to its renowned teaching focus, the University also announced a generous donation of \$1.25 million to create the Distinguished Visiting Teaching



Scholar Endowment, as part of Trent University's \$50 Million Campaign: Unleash the Potential.

"A dedication to teaching has always been a hallmark of Trent and its faculty," said Dr. Jackie Muldoon, provost and vice-president academic at Trent University. "This is a very significant investment which will reinvigorate our long-standing emphasis on teaching and learning that is personal and purposeful."

### Celebrating Another Year of Outstanding Teaching

Trent faculty and instructors are known for their commitment to students, and passion for teaching. This year, the University once again recognized educators across disciplines at the annual Celebration of Teaching Excellence.



The Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching was presented to Dr. Deborah Kennett, a professor of Psychology who's approachable and compassionate teaching establishes a learning environment that supports curiosity, immersing students in theory and application. As a leader in innovative pedagogy and dedicated advocate for students, Trent/Fleming School of Nursing professor Jane Mackie was named the 2017 recipient of the Award for Educational Leadership and Innovation. As a teaching assistant, the 2017 Award for Excellence in Teaching Assistance recipient, Mike Perry was recognized among students for his enthusiasm, passion, and commitment to their learning and success. Dr. Carla Ionescu, an instructor in Ancient Greek and Roman Studies at Trent University Durham – GTA, was named the 2017 recipient of the CUPE 3908-1 Award for Excellence in Teaching for her ability to informatively engage critical thinking and meaningful dialogue, motivating students to reflect on the commonality of the past and present.

The Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching will be presented at this year's Convocation, along with the following two awards:

**Eminent Service Award:** Presented to Dr. Elizabeth Popham and Ms. Kathy Fife in recognition of their commitment to the faculty, staff, and most of all, the students of Trent University.

**Distinguished Research Award:** Presented to well-known expert on Latin American history, and History professor at Trent University, Dr. David Sheinin.



Prof. Elizabeth Popham



Kathy Fife



Prof. David Sheinin





Architect's rendering conveying ideas for the Bata transformation

## Bata Transformation: Building the Library of the Future

Progress is underway as Trent University begins the amazing revitalization and transformation of the iconic Bata Library. Fueled by a \$8.1 million funding injection from the federal and provincial governments, as well as the generosity of University contributions and donor gifts, the \$18 million renovation will carry the academic heart of Trent University into the future. The new space will evolve into a modern, student-focused hub, complete with a new entrepreneurship and social innovation centre, visualization labs, 3-D printing studio, a green wall and much more. Follow this project and learn more at [trentu.ca/batatransformation](http://trentu.ca/batatransformation).



## The Future is Online: Trent Online Programs Receive \$1 Million Funding Boost

Thanks to \$977,180 in funding from eCampusOntario, online learning at Trent University is set to expand its catalogue of online courses with the creation of five collaborative development and research projects. Two of the programs, a Master of Environmental Monitoring degree program and a Circumpolar Studies Specialization

diploma, will be unique in Canada and will be offered almost entirely online. In addition, a series of open access online resources that utilizes community based-research, an exploration of the cost effectiveness of using virtual pre-simulation in nursing education, and research into tools and approaches for improving accessibility through enhanced online communication, will all begin development.

## Grad Student Receives National Fellowship for Outstanding Leadership

Trent University is known for developing and nurturing strong student leaders, and Environmental and Life Sciences graduate student Erin Hayward is continuing that legacy. In recognition of



her triumphs as a community builder, inspiring leader, passionate scientist, and polymath of cultural knowledge, the Society of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education and 3M Canada have named Ms. Hayward one of ten 3M national student fellows for 2017. With this accolade, Ms. Hayward will travel to Halifax, N.S. this June to collaborate with student fellows from across the nation. They will jointly deliver the final plenary address at the national conference of the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, and have the opportunity to develop and implement a national project for enhancing teaching and learning at the postsecondary level.



## Trent and Canada's National Ballet School Partner to Explore Social Inclusion of People with Dementia

Social isolation is a common health risk affecting the well-being of Canada's senior population, especially those living in rural areas. This is why Dr. Mark Skinner, Canada research chair in rural aging, health and social care and director of the Trent Centre for Aging and Society, and Canada's National Ballet School have partnered to study the effectiveness of the new Sharing Dance for Active Seniors program. Dance has been shown to help improve the aerobic power, muscle strength, balance and mental health for participants of all ages. The program, which is to be funded over the next four years by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) in partnership with the Alzheimer Society of Canada, aims to reduce hospital admissions for seniors living with Alzheimer's disease and dementia. The first pilot class of the project recently concluded in the village of Ennismore, Ontario, has demonstrated positive early results, establishing an exciting precedent as the project moves into its next phase and planned expansion to more than 120 communities in the next five years.

## Trill College: Celebrating the Past and Planning for the Future



The past, present, and future all intersected at Trent's Trill College this spring as the University announced the dedication and renaming of the Principal's Lodge to Fry Lodge, in honour of the College's founding principal, Dr. Marion Fry. Professor Fry began her role as principal in 1963, and throughout her career at the University she established herself as a groundbreaker for women in the often male-dominated field of academia. Dr. Fry shattered glass ceilings as a professor, for which she was awarded the prestigious Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching. She was also vice-president of Trent, and periodically, acting president. In addition to returning to the tradition of naming the buildings at Trill College after notable women, Trent University also announced the successful completion of the **Greg Piasetzki '72** Trill College Challenge, unleashing a \$100,000 endowment to support the goals set out in the Trill College review, and to maintain Trill as a beacon of higher education for years to come. This endowment is one of three recent funding announcements all part of Trent University's \$50 Million Campaign: Unleash the Potential. John and Thea Patterson, long-time friends of Trent University and honorary degree recipients at this year's convocation, have created a new endowment fund to support Trent graduate research at Abbey Gardens with a generous \$150,000 funding infusion. Thanks to the generosity of five Trent University alumni, a \$500,000 funding boost will also bring the ambitious Student Centre project at Trent University another step closer to completion.



## Summer of Archaeological Investigation at Trent

A silver plated spoon, a coin from the 1850s, and a harmonica—just a few of the discoveries made by students as part of Trent University's Ontario Archaeology Field School, a full-credit Anthropology course that runs each summer at the Peterborough campus.

According to field director and demonstrator for the Anthropology department at Trent, Kate Dougherty, Trent's Symons campus was once the location of a nineteenth-century industrial cluster that played a significant role in the development of the Peterborough region. The dig this

year aims to better understand the industry and the people that lived in this area at that time.

"These excavations add to other excavations we have done on campus relating to Nassau Mills. We are building up a collection documenting nineteenth-century settler life, and the industrial mill complex of Nassau Mills," Ms. Dougherty explained.

The dig offers students the opportunity to gain experience conducting hands-on research in the field, and to apply skills studied in class during the academic year.





## MEET SOME OF TRENT UNIVERSITY'S NEWEST GRADUATES

### DAVID SHADLOCK '13

**B.B.A. Business Administration with a Specialization in Accounting**  
*Port Perry, Ontario*

No matter the subject, David Shadlock never shied away from helping his peers succeed. As a recognized and award-winning leader, Mr. Shadlock's involvement across campus as a tutor, teaching assistant, and ambassador, coupled with his devotion to helping fellow students master new things, leaves him prepared for success in the pursuit of a master's degree. Heading next to the University of Toronto for the Master of Management & Professional Accounting (MMPA) program, Mr. Shadlock is excited to carry the skills he fostered at Trent forward with him as he works to achieve his long-term goal of professorship.



### KENNEDY SAGE '13

**B.Sc. Nursing**  
*Millbrook, Ontario*



Kennedy Sage found her true passion at Trent University. Having had the opportunity to learn and grow through clinical placements and the Trent/Fleming School of Nursing's hands-on learning

environment, Ms. Sage has a bright future in the field she loves. "I feel the program helped to prepare me for the real world of nursing by giving me the essential skills and critical thinking abilities that I need to be a successful nurse," said Ms. Sage, who has made her dreams a reality, graduating with a full-time job at a hospital in Lindsay, Ontario.

### MIKEELA SKELLEKIE '13

**B.A. Honours Psychology**  
*The Valley, Anguilla*

For Mikeela Skellekie, days at Trent University were "the best days of her life so far." Although she was more than 4,100 kilometres from her home country of Anguilla, getting involved on campus through student groups, activism, and cultural exchanges established Trent as her second home, where she realized her dreams of conducting psychological research. As she starts her graduate degree, Ms. Skellekie states, "For anything that life throws at me after Trent, I can say that my time here has definitely prepared me to challenge conventional ways of thinking and problem solving."



### OLIVIA WILLIAMS '13

**B.A. Honours, English Literature, Emphasis in Law and Policy, Trent University Durham – GTA**  
*Oshawa, Ontario*

Throughout her time as a student at Trent Durham – GTA, Olivia Williams had the opportunity to explore topics across multiple disciplines, expanding her English Literature studies and broadening her critical thinking skills. As a Bews Scholarship winner, Ms. Williams found the perfect balance of academics and involvement in the Trent community by working as a research assistant and a Career Services assistant, while also participating in the Academic Mentoring Program and organizing the popular Career Gala. As she pursues a master's degree in International Affairs, Ms. Williams is confident that the skills she honed at Trent will support her career aspirations and enable her to get involved wherever she goes.



Be sure to visit [trentu.ca/convocation](http://trentu.ca/convocation) to read more detailed profiles of students in our newest graduating class.

# SEVEN OUTSTANDING CANADIANS RECEIVE HONORARY DEGREES

An eminent Indigenous community leader, a dedicated civil servant, distinguished international philanthropists, a fierce advocate for social justice, a groundbreaking educator, and a former Canadian prime minister—meet Trent University's 2017 honorary degree recipients.



## FIONA SAMPSON

An honorary Doctor of Laws degree is conferred upon **Fiona Sampson '87** for her commitment and dedication to seeking

justice for society's disadvantaged. Ms. Sampson is a human rights lawyer, global advocate for women and children and the CEO and founder of the equality effect, a Toronto-based charity.



## KEITH KNOTT

Keith Knott was elected chief of Curve Lake First Nation between 1992 and 2012. A prominent figure in

the Peterborough area, he has been hailed a champion for First Nations people and devoted volunteer and has served the community for over 50 years. An honorary Doctor of Laws degree is conferred upon Mr. Knott for championing First Nations peoples and in recognition of his enrichment of the Curve Lake First Nation community.



## THE HONOURABLE DR. JEAN AUGUSTINE

An honorary Doctor of Laws degree is conferred upon the Honourable

Dr. Jean Augustine for her significant contributions to education and social justice. In 1960 Dr. Augustine came to Canada from Grenada. In 1993 she became the first African-Canadian woman to be elected to the House of Commons. Nine years later, she became the first Black Canadian woman to serve in the federal Cabinet.



## W. JOHN PATTERSON & THEA ANNA PATTERSON

An Honorary Doctor of Laws degree is conferred upon global citizens and changemakers John and Thea Patterson, for the commitment they exemplify as global citizens with a concern for the well-being of the planet. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson have spent decades incorporating education, technology, business and faith into their work tackling challenges here in Canada and abroad. In 2008, they founded Abbey Gardens, a not-for-profit charity that provides economic and recreational opportunities as well as educational sustainable living programs.



## THE RIGHT HONOURABLE PAUL MARTIN

The Right Honourable Paul Martin served as the 21st prime minister

of Canada. A member of Parliament for LaSalle-Émard in Montreal, he was the minister of Finance from 1993 to 2002 before becoming prime minister in 2003. An honorary Doctor of Laws degree is conferred upon Mr. Martin for his significant achievements in business, politics, international affairs, and Aboriginal empowerment.



## STEPHEN S. POLOZ

Mr. Stephen S. Poloz is the current governor of the Bank of Canada. He is also chairman of the Board of Directors of

the Bank and a member of the Board of Directors of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), serving as chair of its Audit Committee and Consultative Council for the Americas. An honorary Doctor of Laws degree is conferred upon Mr. Poloz in recognition of his outstanding commitment to effective public service. Born in Oshawa, Mr. Poloz will receive his honorary degree at the Durham – GTA convocation ceremonies.

For more information about our honorary degree recipients, visit [trentu.ca/convocation](http://trentu.ca/convocation)





## DONORS UNLEASH THE STUDENT CENTRE

### JUSTIN CHIU '76

Governor's Circle Donor

#### A Philanthropist and Community Supporter at Home and Abroad

"The formative student experience at Trent University helped me become the successful business leader I am today." – **Justin Chiu '76**

**Thank you Mr. Chiu, for your \$300,000 gift to the new student centre.**

The Governor's Circle recognizes donors who have made contributions of between \$250,000 to \$999,999.

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## CONGRATULATIONS

TO ALL OF OUR NEW GRADS!

Convocation marks a new stage in your relationship with Trent. And we want you to stay involved!

### LIFE AFTER TRENT: MENTORING PROGRAM

A Professional Networking Opportunity  
for Students and Recent Graduates

Current students and recent graduates are encouraged to apply to the **Life After Trent: Mentoring Program** for an opportunity to be matched with prominent alumni or Peterborough community leaders for a mentoring session. Successful applicants (mentees) can expect to receive guidance to help them navigate career options, learn invaluable skills for professional development, and make new contacts to give them a competitive advantage in the job market. Mentees will also receive coaching and professional development from the Career Centre.

**By participating in this program, you will have the opportunity to:**

- Select from prominent alumni from various sectors who have a career path that you are interested in exploring or learning more about;
- Ask questions and gain insight into these industries and occupations and see if they could be a good fit your future career path;
- Develop your professional network to gain an advantage in the competitive job market;
- Become confident and knowledgeable about networking;
- Improve your communication and interview skills; and
- Ease the confusion of school-to-career transition.

If you are interested in being an alumni mentor please contact Joanne Sokolowski at [joannesokolow@trentu.ca](mailto:joannesokolow@trentu.ca).

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Lee Hays (L) presents honorary TUA membership to Molly Thom, widow of Trent master architect, Ron Thom, joined by Adele Weder (R), journalist and curator of the Ron Thom and the Allied Arts national exhibit.

Another academic season has drawn to a close and I find myself reflecting on what was a whirlwind year for the Alumni Association. Our TUA president, **Jess Grover '02**, along with the Council, have been instrumental in supporting and developing many events and new initiatives driven from the Trent Alumni Strategic Priorities plan, which is aimed to strengthen the Trent community and assist the University in its mission. If you are curious about what's in store and what has already been implemented, you can view the plan online:

<https://mycommunity.trentu.ca/alumni/publications>

We want to make it easy for you to stay informed and to engage at the level that will work best for you. Here are just some of the highlights of what we've been up to since this time last year:

### LIFE AFTER TRENT

This mentoring program continues to expand and impact students. This year, over 60 alumni participated in group and one-to-one mentoring sessions, helping students with their transition from Trent. **Julian Smith '93** was selected as the alumni speaker at the

Last Lecture for graduating students who were treated to words of wisdom and encouragement as they begin the next stage of their journey.

### COMMUNITY FOR TRENT WOMEN

This shared interest group, chaired by **Krista Scaldwell '86**, is focused on growing Trent's alumnae network. Several events have been held, bringing together hundreds of women over the year in forums to support women's advancement: the Toronto Women's Leadership Assembly, Peterborough's Women of the Future, and Canada on the World Stage, which took place at Canada's Museum of History. Plans are in development for events in Ottawa, Peterborough and Toronto in the coming months.

### GOVERNMENT ALUMNI & FRIENDS

We've partnered with President Leo Groarke and executive advisor Brenda Blackburn to build our community of alumni connected with Parliament Hill and Queen's Park. MPs **Sheila Malcolmson '85**, **Nathan Cullen '94**, **Marjolaine Boutin-Sweet '74**, and **Minister Maryam Monsef '03** hosted an

# REFLECTIONS

## LEE HAYS '91

event in Ottawa, and **Minister Jeff Leal '74** and Ontario's first chief investment officer **Allan O'Dette '86** hosted an event at Queen's Park in Toronto.

## RUGBY BOOSTER CLUB

**Caleb Smith '93** and crew have done incredible work to support Men's Varsity Rugby, which celebrated its 50th anniversary this year. They have not only brought together the Trent Rugby community and provided enthusiastic cheers for the team, but have raised significant financial support for the athletes. Be sure to watch for upcoming Booster events in Toronto, Ottawa and Peterborough.

## HOMECOMING

Record numbers of alumni returned to campus in the fall for this signature event, paired with Head of the Trent Rowing Regatta. With more varsity games and special reunions added each year, alumni are enjoying the chance to come back to campus and feel the Trent energy again! In October, Men's Varsity Rugby celebrated their 50th reunion with a party in the Cellie; Champlain College celebrated its 50th birthday in style with an open house and dedication of the new Alumni Garden; and students thanked alumni for their contributions to the new Student Centre by announcing the Alumni Atrium.

## REGIONAL NEWS

**Lorraine Bennett '72**, **Karen Wickerson '87**, **Daphne Ling '08**, **Carol MacKinnon '69** deserve recognition for their Trent devotion and passion for spreading Trent pride. They organized stellar events that brought together alumni from far and wide, and featured speakers including **Peter Snell '87**, **Farah Shroff '83**, and **Dean Peter Elliott '73**. Watch for another exciting lineup of Vancouver Trent Talks in the months ahead.



## CONGRATULATIONS

to all the 2017 graduates. We are proud of your accomplishments and thrilled to welcome you to our growing alumni community—close to 50,000 strong.

Trent University Durham – GTA was the venue for several events that welcomed alumni throughout the year, including book launches by **Professor Robert Wright '79** (*Trudeaumania: The Rise to Power of Pierre Elliott Trudeau*) and **Chancellor Don Tapscott '66** (*Blockchain Revolution: How the Technology Behind Bitcoin is Changing Money, Business, and the World*). International Women's Day featured an inspiring talk on Life Lessons in Business and Philanthropy by honorary alumna **Katie Taylor**, chair of RBC.

Other regional alumni mixer events were held in Montreal; Singapore; London, England; Calgary; York Region; New York; and Kitchener-Waterloo.

The 2017 Alumni Award winners were recently announced and presentations of these awards will take place at various special events throughout the year. Congratulations to Spirit of Trent Award winners **Robin Quantick '78** and **Spencer J. Harrison '97**; Young Alumni Leader Award winners **Brianna Salmon '10** and **Robert Gauvreau '01**; and Distinguished Alumni Award winner **Garry Cubitt '67**. We are privileged to be associated with each of you!

This convocation marks the 50th anniversary of the first graduating class. To celebrate this milestone in our history, the first class of 1964 were invited to wear their gowns and hoods and join the 2017 graduating class at convocation. We also celebrated this milestone at a world-class event hosted by **Stephen Stohn '66** and Linda Schuyler at their Toronto Queen's Quay condo. A live band with appearances by Don Tapscott, **John Beach '65**, and **Paul Butler '68** kept the crowd energized throughout the evening.

### WHAT'S AHEAD?

Alumni will have the chance to support a new College Fund campaign. Spearheaded by the TUAAC Council, alumni volunteers will be working with Alumni Affairs and College heads to reach out to graduates to help build funds that focus on supporting College life.

Trent Community Day is a new annual initiative, led by the TUAAC, intended to facilitate and bolster the positive effects Trent is having around the globe. Community Day is a chance for alumni and their families around the world to work side-by-side to improve their local communities. Save the date for **May 5, 2018**, and watch for more ways to get involved in the coming months.

We're growing! Have you thought of working at Trent University in a role that has a significant impact on students' success? Alumni Affairs is hiring a development officer of annual giving. The job posting can be found at [trentu.ca/humanresources](http://trentu.ca/humanresources).

I want to congratulate **Sarah Carthy '13**, who has been awarded the 2017 CCAE Fellowship in Advancement and will be working with Alumni Affairs for the next year on a number of new initiatives. And welcome to Julie Ellis, alumni & development coordinator. You can reach Julie at [alumni@trentu.ca](mailto:alumni@trentu.ca) to update us on your news, or find out about ways to get involved.

Speaking of getting involved, if you're wondering how to stay informed and find ways to connect, the Alumni online community is for you! To experience some Trent pride all you need to do is follow one of our social networks (we're on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and Instagram); or visit us at [trentmagazine.ca](http://trentmagazine.ca); [trentu.ca/alumni](http://trentu.ca/alumni); . Our sites not only include news about Trent and what alumni are up to, as well as events you can attend, but also a host of intriguing podcasts.



A momentous occasion! Six TUAAC presidents (past and current) together with **Lee Hays '91** (far left) and **Tony Storey '71** (far right) during the Ideas That Change the World event: **Rod Cumming '87**, **Adam Guzkowski '95**, **Jess Grover '02**, **Michael Nolan '69**, **Harry VanderLugt '64**, **Paul Moore '80**.

# TRENT RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PARK

Canada is home to 26 research and innovation parks, each with their own scope or focus. The vision for the Trent Research and Innovation Park (TRIP) is to become Canada's premier green technology research and innovation site, hosting a cluster of companies and start-up enterprises in environmentally-focused fields including clean technology, environmental services, advanced material sciences, biotechnology, agri-food, and agri-business, to name a few. The park will seek out tenants who will foster connections between the research underway at the University, provide experiential learning opportunities for students, engage with the local business community, and contribute to the innovative culture of the park.

Trent University has set aside 85 acres of land for TRIP. This area was first identified in the 2006 Endowment Lands Master Plan and supported by the 2013 Trent Lands Plan. The creation of a research park at Trent was limited in the past due to the lack of municipal services on Trent's East Bank. The City of Peterborough has recently agreed to extend servicing to the park to realize the many benefits of this development.

Following six design principles, TRIP will:

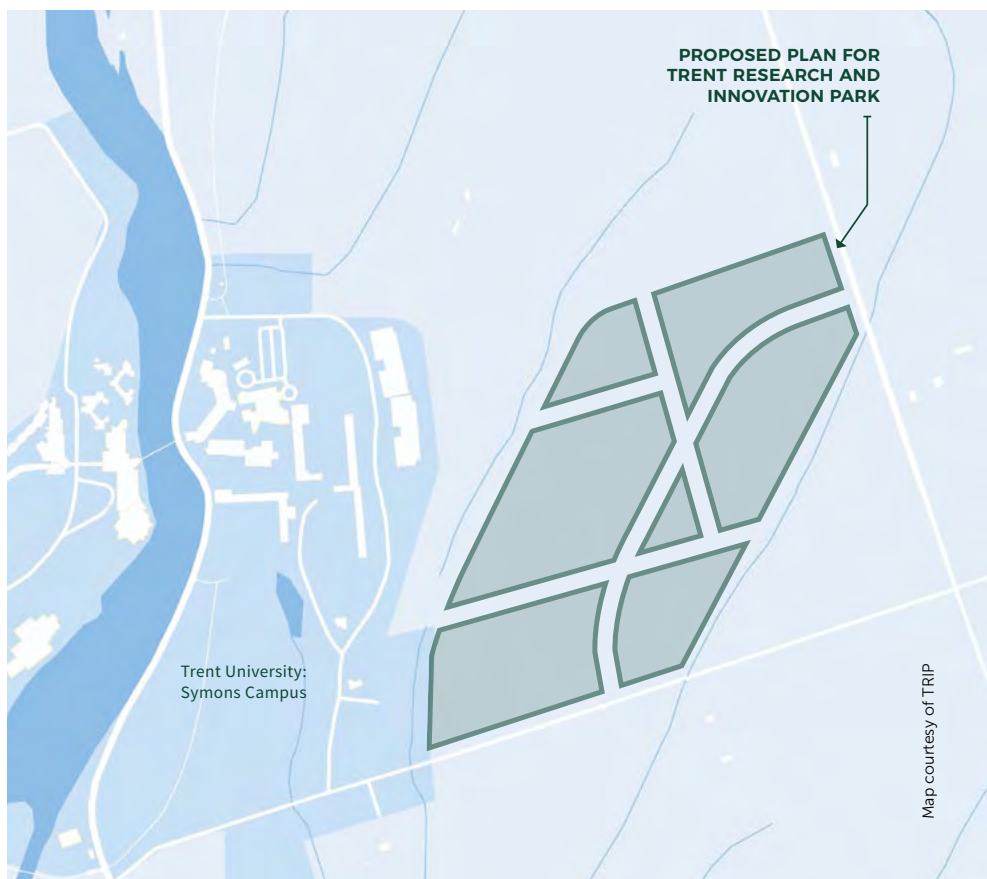
1. Be integrated with Trent's main campus physically, visually and socially;
2. Foster an innovation community culture encouraging social interaction and collaboration in all seasons;

3. Be a leader in sustainable design;
4. Be based on a design strategy that is landscape-led to maintain natural features and existing topography;
5. Be flexible to accommodate a range of enterprises and uses in a unique setting; and
6. Be well-connected to the city, county and region.

The research park will be guided by a master plan developed by Brook McIlroy and DM Wills Engineers. This plan is currently in development, and will ultimately be approved by Trent's Board of Governors and the City of Peterborough Council.

As is the goal for any development on Trent's Endowment Lands, the park will provide experiential learning and employment for students, forge new research partnerships, create a revenue stream for the University, and bring economic development to the region. Its most important contributions, however, may come as a result of the advancements in environmentally beneficial technologies and innovations from the firms located at the park.

Learn more: [trentu.ca/researchpark](http://trentu.ca/researchpark)





# NOBLEGEN

## Algae-based Research Blooms into a Successful Global Environmental Start-Up

SARAH MCMICHAEL

*Noblegen has its roots in algae.*

As a 15-year-old, Adam Noble became fascinated with the toxic blue-green algae that was blooming on his family's lake. An intellectually precocious youth with a passion for the microscopic life that lives in water, he soon began investigating other types of algae, including the then-underutilized and understudied *Euglena*. It didn't take long before he was farming colonies of the algae in his parents' backyard sauna.

His goal was to find a way to use *Euglena* to purify water.

A high school science fair project he developed, based on his early research and experiments, garnered both attention and awards. It also became the basis for what is now a groundbreaking biomaterials company located in Peterborough—soon to break ground at the new Trent Research and Innovation Park.

Noblegen Inc. is dedicated to finding cost-effective and ecologically sustainable alternatives for regularly

used consumer products. From food and beverage to cosmetics and pharmaceuticals, their reach and scope spans both consumer and industry sectors. Focused "on the generations of tomorrow and the environmental challenges of today," Noblegen harvests microorganisms for commercial use. Their vision is simple: "to make a meaningful difference by delivering inspired biological solutions for some of the world's greatest problems."

But you can't talk about Noblegen Inc. without addressing the brilliance of its now 23-year-old CEO. At 18, Mr. Noble won the gold medal at the Intel Science and Engineering Fair in Pittsburgh. This led to him travelling to the Nobel Prize ceremonies in Stockholm to accept the prestigious Dudley R. Herschbach Award for scientific achievement. In 2014, he was named one of Canada's Top 20 under 20, while becoming one of the youngest recipients of Canada's Clean50 Awards for work in sustainable development and



Samantha Moss

clean technology. He is known as the highest awarded youth scientist in Canadian history.

It was back in Grade 11, when Mr. Noble was preparing that original science fair project, that he was given access to Trent University aquatic science lab. It was also then that he was introduced to **Andressa Lacerda '08**, who was in the process of making a name for herself as she fast-tracked her way through a Ph.D. while shedding light on mutations that caused the genetic Charcot-Marie-

Tooth disease. Originally called on to mentor Mr. Noble, the young grad student soon found that her role was much larger than anticipated.

Working closely, the pair identified ways in which Noble's research could be applied to consumer and industrial purposes. The young duo formed a business together—then called Noble Tech—and haven't looked back since.

But, if you ask Mr. Noble, their story isn't about age, awards, or the individuals involved in the process. "It's about the development of sustainable technology and products," he notes, "and getting them into the hands of global players. We need to find new ways of addressing environmental sustainability and new ways of addressing human health."

And there is a sense of responsibility associated with his work. "We are talking about generations to come," he explains. "Our world is something we messed up and we need to bring it back. We have to do whatever we can to make it a more sustainable place."

Mr. Noble introduced the Euglena Biofiltration System in 2014. The concept made use of Euglena's unique capabilities for purifying wastewater. He also introduced ways in which the biomass could be used to create biofuel, food, and fertilizer. In 2015, Mr. Noble's original work was expanded to a one-million-times scale of the original prototype. As the company grew from its original focus, its name changed with it. Noble Tech Inc. became Noblegen Inc. in 2016, combining their two divisions, Noble Purification and Noble Biotechnology, into one.

The company is now a \$50 million start-up, and grows bigger and more diverse every year. It has a staff of over 30, including engineers and scientists—many of whom are Trent grads. Last year, Mr. Noble was recognized by Startup Canada as Canada's best young entrepreneur of the year.



Lucia Graca Remedios

**"Our story is about the development of sustainable technology and products, and getting them into the hands of global players." – Adam Noble**

"I think it's a really big step for us," he said at the time. "We're way beyond science and research now—we're here to generate revenue. This award is validating that."

Mr. Noble and Dr. Lacerda are hardly working in isolation. While their projects may be groundbreaking on a global scale, they continue to partner with local organizations and institutions. Trent University, Fleming College, Peterborough Economic Development, and the Greater Peterborough Innovation Cluster have all contributed to Noblegen's success. The contribution, it should be noted, is reciprocated. "It's very important to me that we are true to our roots," says Mr. Noble. "And that we give back to

the community that helped us get to where we are today."

The Trent connection is an obvious one. Mr. Noble's early research took place in Trent labs and was nurtured by (now vice-president of research and innovation) Dr. Neil Emery. Today, Noblegen works out of the DNA Building on the East Bank of Trent; next year they will break ground as a cornerstone tenant of the brand new Trent Research and Innovation Park.

When it eventually opens, the nearly \$100 million, 117,000-square-foot facility will be the largest of its kind in North America. It will focus on wastewater treatment and the creation of products for both nutritional and pharmaceutical sectors. The new facility will create another 22 jobs in Peterborough. Keeping to Noblegen's local ethic, the facility will be built by a local company, using 96% local content.

Like the first strands of algae that Mr. Noble cultured, this growth will take place in his own (figurative) backyard. While he and his technologies are quickly becoming known around the world, he is eager to keep it in the place it all began. It's a global success story that celebrates its hometown origins.

"We are going to change the way the world treats water and we want to do that right here in Peterborough," Mr. Noble says. "We have an aggressive growth strategy that will help us become the green tech leader in this field. Noblegen was incubated in the community and we want to build on our foundation in this region while creating jobs and growing the green economy."



## Andressa Lacerda '08

Entrepreneur, Award-Winning  
Researcher, Mentor

At the age of 27, and just two years removed from graduating with her Ph.D., **Dr. Andressa Lacerda '08** is already in mid-career stride. As executive VP and co-founder of Noblegen, a biomaterials start-up valued at \$50 million, she is looking forward to the construction of the company's new 50,000-square-foot production facility in the new Trent Research and Innovation Park—set to begin this spring. She has co-authored six publications and is a co-inventor on two US patents. During her doctoral work, Dr. Lacerda unlocked the genetic code behind Charcot-Marie-Tooth (CMT) disease, one of the most common neurodegenerative diseases known to humans. She's accomplished more in a few short years than many will in a lifetime.

A native of Brazil, Dr. Lacerda first came to Trent as an undergraduate student in 2008. "I chose Trent because it was a small university that welcomed international students, and a place where I thought I could make a difference," she recalls. "At a larger university I would have been just another face, but at Trent I've had close proximity to professors who have provided support and encouragement, and I've been given opportunities that I wouldn't have gotten elsewhere."

After graduating in 2011 with a B.Sc. in Biology and specialization in Health Sciences, Dr. Lacerda continued on to receive her M.Sc. with her research on why mutations of LITAF protein cause the genetic Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease. Because of her advanced level of research, she was fast tracked to the Environmental and Life Sciences Ph.D. program. Working with Trent Biology professor Craig Brunetti and former undergraduate Biochemistry student **Emily Hartjes '11**, Dr. Lacerda helped

produce new findings that could have far-reaching effects on the diagnosis and treatment of CMT, which affects one out of every 2,500 people.


Undertaking graduate-level research with real and exciting implications for medical treatments was a wonderful opportunity for her. "For a while, I was the only one at Trent doing this type of research on human-related diseases at the cellular level," she notes. "It was very exciting for me to finally see all this work in one paper, and to have this work coming out of Trent. Trent is known for having an amazing Environmental and Life Sciences program, but people don't always realize that the University also has the capacity for this type of research. Being part of that with my own research was amazing."

In 2011, Dr. Lacerda met Adam Noble, a Lakefield high school student. He was preparing a science fair project examining the use of the freshwater algae *Euglena* to remove the nanosilver particles from water.

"Adam thought that nanosilver could potentially be used to cure cancer and his research shifted from environmental to health sciences," she explains. "He also found that nanosilver might kill viruses, such as Frog Virus 3, which is contributing to worldwide amphibian decline. I was asked to show him how to use a confocal microscope so he could examine how nanosilver was entering into trout and frog embryos, and eventually suggested that I could teach him how to take his research to the cellular level."



I chose Trent because it was a small university that welcomed international students, and a place where I thought I could make a difference."



Mr. Noble's project, *Silver Nano-Particle Theory: A New Cure for Cancer*, received the Best Project Award at the 2013 Canada-Wide Science Fair. After that, the two became business partners, with a goal of applying Mr. Noble's award-winning research to industry.

At the outset, Noblegen was known for a unique water technology that applied some of Mr. Noble's early research. Based on this work, he garnered both international attention and awards (please see our story on Noblegen for more on Mr. Noble's accomplishments and recognition) while continuing to explore new directions for the business.

Since then, Mr. Noble and Dr. Lacerda's combined research and technological developments have expanded Noblegen's scope to include nutrition, health and biochemicals. The creation of a multi-product platform has expanded their product offering and has allowed them to remain agile sector leaders.

**"Science is much more impactful when it has a practical purpose.... It's been a focus of ours from the outset."**

— Andressa Lacerda

While the success of Noblegen has meant that Dr. Lacerda has spent less time in an academic setting, she hopes to return to teaching in the future. She also sees the start-up as a place where Trent students will be welcome for research placements.

"Science is much more impactful when it has a practical purpose," she notes. "And we anticipate learning opportunities for students to be integral to what we do in our new building. It's been a focus of ours from the outset."

Meaning that Noblegen will mentor others to reach the level of success Dr. Lacerda has already achieved in her young, but impressive career.

## All are invited!

### THE 45TH ANNUAL TRENT TEMAGAMI COLLOQUIUM

**September 21–24, 2017 – Camp Wanapitei, Temagami, Ontario**

This annual event is sponsored by several academic programs at Trent and the Bruce and Carol Hodgins Fund. It seeks to examine and experience our understanding of the land with a focus on the study of Canadian, environmental, and Indigenous issues. This unique event celebrates interdisciplinary, experiential learning.

We travel to Wanapitei for the beauty and remoteness of its location. The Temagami country is rich in history and home to generations of Teme-Augama-Anishnabai.

Each day, faculty and students will organize into small groups for guided hiking and canoe trips in the immediate region. Expeditions will be tailored to suit the skill level of participants. Instruction in canoeing will be offered to those indicating an interest. Each group will pack a lunch and eat on the land. Late afternoon and evening programs will include lectures, films, readings, square dancing, and informal discussion.

Each year, we invite a number of people to share papers and presentations related to the colloquium themes around the land, and this year's program is shaping up to be the best ever!

If you are interested in presenting your work and research, please contact Prof. Stephen Hill, [stephenhill@trentu.ca](mailto:stephenhill@trentu.ca).



Check us out:  
[trenttemagami.ca](http://trenttemagami.ca)

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## A NEW IDENTITY

### How Immigration is Changing Canada and the World

Immigration is an issue that has much of the world deeply divided. In many developed countries, debate over immigration and its effect on the economy, personal safety, and perceived cultural value has overwhelmed public and political agendas across the globe. Successful far-right campaigns worldwide have been based on issues surrounding immigration and national identity, with Brexit, the election of Donald Trump, and the rise of populist parties throughout Europe all being spurred, to a certain degree, by rising numbers of global refugees.

Here in Canada, it's a polarizing issue that is driven by highly-charged secondary issues. It is difficult to address employment numbers without addressing the growing influx of refugees. Discussions surrounding terrorism are inexorably linked to discussions about immigrants linked to radical groups or ideologies. Even the celebration of Canada's 150th birthday is impacted by how changing cultural demographics are changing what it really means to be Canadian.

It's a topic—or series of topics, really—that can be highly divisive,

emotionally charged, and yet essential to address. And while its impact on Canadian politics has not yet been as dramatic as it has been in the United States and Europe, it is becoming an increasingly important campaign factor. The waning days of the last national election, after all, featured debate over niqabs, "barbaric cultural practices" hotlines, and refugee acceptance numbers.

*TRENT Magazine* editor **Donald Fraser '91** reached out to two members of the Trent community with very different backgrounds and viewpoints for their takes on how





Maryam, 8, holds her handdrawn sign, alongside her family to welcome the first Syrian refugees at Toronto's Pearson International Airport on December 10, 2015.

immigration issues actually affect the social and economic status quo of Canada and Canadians: Alumnus **Mark Davidson '79** is a former director for Citizen and Immigration Canada (including posts as director general of Immigration Policy, and director general of the International and Intergovernmental Relations Branch); faculty member Haroon Akram-Lodhi is professor in the Department of International Development Studies, and a first generation Canadian who has recently celebrated 50 years of Canadian residency.

This is an abridged version of the interviews. Please visit [trentmagazine.ca](http://trentmagazine.ca) for the full transcripts.

**TRENT Magazine (TM): Compared to recent policy changes in the United States, where an immigration policy seems to be moving to one that ranges from restrictive to punitive, Canada is seen as progressive and accepting. According to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, we accept approximately 15% of**

**the refugees resettled globally in a given year and have gained a welcoming reputation by resettling more than 40,000 Syrian refugees, both by government and through private sponsorship. At the same time, Canada recently capped new applications for private sponsorship of Syrian and Iraqi refugees at 1,000 refugee spaces with only one month's warning—a number that was reached in just over a month. How do potential immigrants and refugees view Canada's immigration policy?**

**MARK DAVIDSON (MD):** First off, certainly President Trump's campaign had a number of immigration statements. But in terms of significant policy, we're still waiting for some of it. He has been talking about increasing deportations, he has been talking about the wall. We'll see what actually comes to pass.

In terms of resettlement of refugees ... it's really important to remember that the resettled population is a small percentage of the refugee need. The vast majority of refugees around the world are not

resettled to third countries. Most of them, the overwhelming majority of refugees, are either internally displaced into their own country or find themselves in a neighbouring or very close country, most of which are developed.

Syria is a classic example. The vast majority of refugees that have been displaced by the civil war in Syria have either been displaced to other parts of Syria, or in Lebanon or Jordan or Turkey.

So resettled refugees is a subset. And Canada has always been a significant player in the resettled refugee game. But it's also important to remember that the United States has always been the number one country of resettlement. And usually the United States resettles about 50% of refugees that have resettled. And although there's certainly been an increase in screening for refugees coming from primarily Muslim countries in the United States—significant re-screening, and President Trump's talking about ratcheting that up again—United States still resettles far more refugees than does Canada. So it's easy for us to pretend that we play a bigger role than we actually do.

#### **HAROON AKRAM-LODHI (HAL):**

Canada has a well-established global reputation for having a very transparent immigration system in which the rules are reasonably clear for anyone to be able to understand. Internationally we're seen as being quite generous in terms of immigration, simply because of the sheer numbers that we take in every single year.

On refugees I think the issue is a bit more muddled. Look at the crisis in Syria, which has driven the largest mass movement of people in the world in more than 40 years. When the Canadian federal election



**"I think we can pat ourselves on the back—but maybe we pat ourselves on the back too easily when it comes to the generosity we have for Syrian refugees." – Dr. Akram-Lodhi**

was taking place that saw the current government come to power, I was in communication with a local federal candidate, and I pointed out to him that Germany—where I currently am—was in the process of taking in a million Syrians. A million. I said to the candidate at the time that for Canada to do the same we would have to take in more than 300,000 refugees. And we've taken in 40,000. So on the one hand, 40,000 is really good. But on the other hand, I think Canada was capable of doing a lot more, given the nature of the crisis in Syria. When the Hungarian uprising took place in 1956, Canada let in 60,000 Hungarians in two weeks. So we've let in 40,000 Syrians in a year. I think we can pat ourselves on the back—but maybe we pat ourselves on the back too easily when it comes to the generosity we have for Syrian refugees. Especially given the fact that many of the Syrian refugees that have come into Canada are pretty well-educated, and, once they get English language skills, I think they'll probably be able to get work pretty straightforwardly. So maybe not quite as good a record as could be the case.

**TM:** Recently, wealthy countries such as Sweden have come under scrutiny for their immigration practices. While alleged links between increased crime rates and increased immigration rates in Sweden have been largely debunked, debate still rages about the country's welcoming immigration policy and its effect on both employment and the overall economy. What is the effect of Canada's current immigration policy on employment rates and job availability for current Canadians?

**MD:** In Sweden, they put a phenomenal emphasis on training and language development. They have very high standards in terms of when that training has succeeded. But the result is that, on average—and this is a shocking figure—on average, in Sweden, and it's true of other northern European countries, the first job that a refugee gets in Sweden is seven years after they've arrived in Sweden. They've spent seven years learning Swedish and being re-skilled. In Canada, seven years is inconceivable. And this is on average.

In Canada, we have expectations that refugees and immigrants are going to get jobs quickly. Immigrants definitely, as soon as they arrive. With refugees, particularly government-sponsored refugees, there's more of an understanding of a process. There's just a completely different emphasis on that holistic approach to integration.

We have a huge number of players that all are engaged in helping migrants—whether they're refugees, family immigrants, or economic immigrants—succeed. The federal government is a major funder. All of the provincial governments are also very active, and often are providing top-up funding to the funding made available by the federal government. Many, many employers, big, medium, and small, are also actively looking and actively searching for folks, potential immigrants, offshore but also here in Canada. They see these as a necessary addition to their labour force. We've got a huge network of NGOs that are very active in the field, again funded by the public sector but often also funded through trust funds or other sources of funding. We've got church groups, we've got community associations, municipalities, etc. So there's this huge infrastructure of support that's for the most part pushing all in the same direction, in Canada.



Signs welcoming refugees from Syria during a November 22, 2015 solidarity rally in Toronto.



arindambanerjee\_Shutterstock.com

Protesters reject racism and Islamophobia during an anti-Trump protest in front of the US Consulate in Toronto on February 4, 2017.

**HAL:** Sweden has much more restrictive labour market policies than Canada. Now, when I say this, what I mean is that when workers are hired in Sweden, their job security is significantly higher than it is for Canadians. The costs of unemployment are borne by the employer, not by a central fund the way we have in Canada that you pay into and which is managed by the government. This makes employers very reluctant to hire people who they're not sure about. So it can be very difficult for a newcomer into Sweden to actually get a job, because employers can be reluctant to hire.

Very different circumstances in Canada. It certainly is true that unemployment is an issue in many parts of the country, and poverty is an issue of course in many parts of the country as well. But it is the case that most incoming Canadians' family members end up in employment very, very rapidly after their arrival in the country. The net effect of incoming immigrants and refugees onto the labour market is really quite minimal

because they end up taking jobs, because they want to get a job, and end up taking jobs, generally speaking, which are actually not reflective of their qualifications or their status in the place they've come from.

But the thing is that, in Canada, the labour market works in such a way that there's no trouble in someone coming in, if they want to work, they can get a job, they can find a job. And the thing is, most people want to work; they don't want to rely on handouts; they want to look after their families themselves; they want to be able to support their families, and contribute to an improvement in the standard and the quality of life for their families. And they know that relying upon handouts isn't going to cut it.

**TM:** One of the prominent objections to accepting immigrants (particularly refugees from countries such as Syria and Iraq) is the threat of violence—either through terrorism, organized crime, or crime by individuals. Are these fears founded?

**MD:** Terrorism is obviously a significant concern by the public, and therefore it's something that the government is paying a lot of attention to.

We're talking, in the Canadian context, mainly about resettled refugees. Refugees that are being resettled—and that definitely includes the population from the Middle East—go through significant security checks where we're interviewing them by experienced visa officers and security professionals. Their information is being vetted by various databases. Stories are being corroborated, etc. These are not individuals who are coming in cold. We know more than a little bit about them before they come to Canada.

And I'll contrast that to the much, much, much higher numbers of asylum claimants that have been arriving in Europe over the past three years. In those cases, these are not individuals who are being vetted before they arrive on European soil. These are self-selected refugees who have decided that they can't stay in, particularly, Turkey, Jordan, and



Lebanon, for whatever reason, and so they're pitching up in Italy and Greece and various other parts of Europe. And they haven't been vetted before they've arrived.

I keep coming back to the integration story. Most terrorist incidents in our country have been homegrown terrorists. I'm not a big fan of that phrase, but it's an understandable phrase. These are individuals who are either born in Canada or the United States, or in other countries, and grew up here, or have been here for a number of years. Integrating immigrants well, giving them access to good jobs, fair access to the public welfare system, welcoming them in schools, providing opportunities for them and their children—real opportunities for them and their children. Not like what has happened in France in particular. That's the best protection against radicalization and homegrown terrorism. By integrating these individuals well, by showing them that they have a life here and that they can participate in Canadian society—that's the best protection against terrorism.

**HAL:** The thing about this is that when it comes to refugees coming into Canada from Syria—they're not coming from Syria. They're coming from refugee camps in Lebanon, in Jordan, in Turkey. The Syrian conflict is now in its sixth year. And the people that are being let into Canada are not people who have arrived in Lebanon or arrived in Jordan in the past year; they're people who have been sitting in those camps for years already. And they're vetted very, very carefully, multiple times.

Now I think you probably remember, during the United States election, this whole issue that Trump was bringing up about refugees and terrorism, and how the opposition to Trump would turn around and say the extent to which the vetting is taking place by multiple organizations. Vetting is taking place of possible refugees not only by the United Nations organizations but also by the Canadian government. If you were a terrorist, and you wanted to commit an atrocity in Canada, going the refugee route is probably the most difficult, long-winded way of doing it. The idea that you're going to sit in a camp for three or four years, to win a lottery, to be able to move to another country, is not a very sensible way of actually trying to commit a terrorist act.

And it must also be said that if we look at recent acts of terrorism in Europe—whether it's in Paris, Brussels, or Germany—most, not all, but most recent acts have been committed by people who have German and Belgian and French passports. So if we wanted to prevent terrorism, there's an argument that we would actually want to restrict Germans, French, and Belgian people coming to Canada. I don't think we want to do that.



**MARK DAVIDSON '79** graduated from Trent in 1982 with a B.A. (Hon.) in Geography. Immediately joining the Canadian Foreign Service as a visa officer, he served overseas in five countries (Pakistan, Syria, Bangladesh, China and South Africa) over a period of 15 years. After leaving the Foreign Service, he moved into a policy role with Citizenship and Immigration Canada, responsible, at various times, for economic immigration, citizenship, biometrics, temporary workers and foreign students. Mr. Davidson retired as director general, International and Intergovernmental Relations, responsible for bilateral and multilateral relations with other countries and international organizations in the migration domain as well as with provincial and territorial governments. He is an avid birder, currently focusing on "avian rather than human migration patterns."



**DR. HAROON AKRAM-LODHI** is a professor and former chair of International Development Studies at Trent University and an internationally recognized scholar on the political economy. Professor Akram-Lodhi is a member of the Board of the Canadian Consortium of University Programs in International Development Studies and of the Executive Council of the Canadian Association for the Study of International Development. He is editor-in-chief of the *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*.



# AN INVADER IN OUR MIDST

## Stopping the Spread of Invasive Round Goby

DREW MONKMAN HON. '15

Unbeknownst to most, a small but aggressive invader is lurking in the tranquil waters of Peterborough's Little Lake. Fortunately, for the time being, it seems to have met a roadblock in its attempt to expand and plunder waters further north.

The round goby (*Neogobius melanostomus*) is an invasive, bottom-dwelling fish that was first found in North America in the St. Clair River in 1990. Native to Eurasia, it is believed to have arrived in the ballast water of transoceanic ships. The goby has spread through all five Great Lakes and is now invading inland waters, including the Trent-Severn Waterway. Dr. Michael Fox and his colleagues at Trent University are doing fascinating research on gobies and may have discovered evidence that the Trent-Severn invasion has been stopped. Where, you might ask? Right at Peterborough's iconic Lift Lock.

### Identification

Round gobies are small fish, measuring up to about six inches (16 centimetres) in length. They have a blunt snout and a large, frog-like head, which gives them the appearance of a tadpole. They can be distinguished from all other Ontario freshwater fish by a pair of fins on the underside of the body that are fused together to form what looks like a suction disk. The tail fin is scallop-shaped, and the brown-to-olive body is covered with prominent, dark brown spots.

### Impact

The goby's diet consists mostly of invertebrates found on lake and river bottoms. Mussels, in particular, are relished. These include invasives like zebra and quagga mussels, as well as native freshwater mussels, many of which are species at risk. Gobies ingest zebra mussels whole, crush them with their teeth, and discard

the shells before the soft body of the mussel is swallowed. Eating zebra mussels is not without negative impacts, however, and is linking the gobies to botulism type E. Botulism kills fish-eating birds like ducks, gulls, grebes and loons. The disease is caused by a toxin that is produced by the bacterium *Clostridium botulinum*. It is suspected that zebra and quagga mussels are ingesting the botulinum bacteria (invertebrates are not affected by botulism) and concentrating the toxins in their tissues. It appears that the toxins are then passed from zebra mussels, to gobies, and finally to fish-eating birds. A large percentage of dead birds in the Great Lakes that test positive for botulism have gobies in their stomach.

Gobies have another troublesome habit. They feast on the eggs and young of other fish. This makes them a serious threat to native fish populations, including game fishes.



## It is important never to buy or use round gobies as bait and never to release baitfish of any kind into lakes and rivers.

Most affected, however, are native bottom-dwelling species such as logperch, mottled sculpins, northern madtom and the eastern sand darter. Madtoms and sand darters are listed as species at risk in the Great Lakes Basin. Gobies also compete with native fish for food and spawning habitat. Being larger and more aggressive, they take over prime spawning sites traditionally used by small-bodied native species. They also lay more eggs than many native fish and spawn more frequently. To make things even worse, gobies are at an advantage in killing prey, since they can hunt in total darkness. Gobies are so successful that divers have found up to 100 fish per square metre of lake bottom in parts of the Great Lakes.

### Trent Research

Much of the existing research on the round goby has been carried out by Professor Fox and his students here at Trent University. Working with Environmental and Life Sciences master's student, **Jason Brownscombe '05** in 2009 and 2010, they were able to identify some of the variables of goby range expansion. For instance, Prof. Fox and Mr. Brownscombe observed rapid range expansion during the non-reproductive season. These "pioneer" gobies tended to be smaller individuals and most often females when compared to gobies at other range locations. The trailblazers also exhibited more of a preference for rocky bottoms at range edges than in areas where a goby population has existed for longer periods. It appears that range expansion occurs when some of the gobies are forced from occupied areas by competition with others of the same species. They therefore migrate in search of alternate, high quality habitats.

A Trent study led by Biology student **Emily Myles-Gonzalez '10**, now a master's student at the University of Guelph, found that certain gobies are predisposed to exhibit behaviours associated with dispersal (moving into new territories) such as boldness, a higher resting metabolic rate and even a predisposition to "explore." Gobies such as these are more likely to be located along the invasion front—"to boldly go where no goby has gone before"—than at a location where the species has been established for a longer period of time.

Two new honours theses in Prof. Fox's lab have shown other interesting goby behaviours. Using laboratory experiments, biological sciences student, **Rebecca Paton '13** investigated "functional response," which is the amount of prey consumed relative to the amount available. She worked with fish from the invasion front (Little Lake), a high-density site in an established area (Hastings) and a low-density site in an established area (downstream of Hastings on the Trent River). Ms. Paton also compared the functional response of gobies with that of a native bottom-dwelling species, the

northern logperch, from the same site. She found that gobies have a higher functional response than logperch, and that the functional response of gobies increases with goby density. Functional response has been of interest to a number of researchers studying invasive species, as tests like the one Prof. Fox's lab did provide additional ways to assess their potential impacts, even before they invade.

Another Trent honours student, Scott Blair, did an intensive study of the round goby population in lower Cobourg Creek. He assessed the population each week from spring until the end of November, using electrofishing to capture the fish. This technique uses direct current electricity flowing between a submerged cathode and anode. The electricity affects the movement of the fish so that they swim towards the anode where they can be caught. Small injectable tags were used to mark the gobies, which could then be identified upon recapture. His results suggest that over 10,000 gobies occupied the lower 800 m of Cobourg Creek in 2016. More importantly, the spatial and temporal patterns of abundance during his



Adult round gobies are six to 16 centimetres long with a cylindrical body and a rounded to blunt snout.

Peter van der Sluis

study suggest that the gobies are migrating up the creek to spawn and returning to Lake Ontario to overwinter. Prof. Fox's own sampling in small Belgian streams suggests that the same migration pattern Mr. Blair found in Cobourg Creek may be happening in Belgium. This contrasts with what another student, Chelsea May, had found in Cavan and Baxter Creeks near Peterborough, which the gobies appear to occupy year-round.

#### **Invasion Thwarted?**

There is no direct evidence that gobies in the Peterborough area have been able to establish a population above the city's Little Lake, either in the Trent Canal, which leads to the Peterborough Lift Lock, or in the Otonabee River. The front appears to have been stationary for at least four years. According to Prof. Fox, this may represent the first time a goby invasion front has been stopped in its tracks. Ms. May and her team carried out extensive searches using seine nets, minnow traps and



angling, but were unable to find a single goby above Lock 20 at Little Lake. There is, however, some uncertainty. An angler has reported catching gobies in the Otonabee River above Little Lake. In addition, a Ph.D. student of Prof. Fox, Lawrence Masson, tested for environmental DNA (eDNA) along the invasion pathway and did detect goby eDNA in one location north of Parkhill Road, which is above Little Lake.

The apparent containment of the goby's range expansion is probably due to the combination of an artificial barrier, namely the dam on the Otonabee River at London Street, and water management practises in the Trent Canal. While there is no barrier in the Canal as such (gobies can pass through locks), the water level below the Lift Lock is lowered in winter to prepare the Canal for skating. A lower winter water level means less dissolved oxygen for the fish to breathe. Gobies

may be unable to survive in these conditions, unlike some of our native species, such as pumpkinseeds. Asked why the gobies aren't passing through the Lift Lock in summer, Dr. Fox said that small numbers may indeed get through, but not enough to establish a reproducing population.

#### **You Can Help**

Once round gobies are introduced to a new location, they can expand on their own. This may happen inadvertently when anglers use gobies for bait and then release them live in waters they do not yet inhabit. This is the most likely scenario for future goby expansion above Little Lake and in the Trent-Severn Waterway as a whole. It is important to never buy or use round gobies as bait and never to release baitfish of any kind into lakes and rivers.

If you find a round goby in the wild, please contact the toll-free Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711.





## Drew Monkman: Dedicated to the Natural World

A retired teacher, naturalist and writer, **Drew Monkman 'Hon. 15** has a love for all aspects of the natural world. As a local Peterborough resident, the retired French immersion elementary school teacher always brought his passion for the environment and natural history to the classroom. For over 20 years, Mr. Monkman oversaw the development of a schoolyard naturalization project and outdoor classroom at his school, Edmison Heights, which has been a model for many similar projects.

Mr. Monkman studied Biology and Geography for two years at Trent University, before completing an undergraduate degree in journalism at Université Laval in Quebec City. He later went on to complete a master's degree in Education at the University of Toronto.

Perhaps best known as an award-winning nature writer and naturalist, Mr. Monkman writes a weekly nature column in the local newspaper, *The Peterborough Examiner*, and is the author of three books: *Nature's Year in the Kawarthas: A Guide to the Unfolding Seasons*; *Nature's Year: Changing Seasons in Central and Eastern Ontario*; and *The Big Book of Nature Activities: A Year-Round Guide*

to *Outdoor Learning*. This latest work, co-written with alumnus **Jacob Rodenburg '87**, is a comprehensive guide for parents, grandparents and educators to help youth of all ages explore, appreciate and connect with the natural world. Most of the activities and information will be of interest to adults as well.

Mr. Monkman also maintains a website where he posts local nature sightings of note. The website features all of his past columns, his Twitter feed, information on his books, as well as information on climate change in the Kawarthas.

He is a former board member of Camp Kawartha and the past president of the Peterborough Field Naturalists, where he continues to lead field trips. He participates in special bird monitoring projects and is an active member of For Our Grandchildren, a group that works to increase awareness of the threat of climate change. He speaks regularly to a wide number of groups on topics such as nature through the seasons and climate change in the Kawarthas.

Mr. Monkman has won a number of awards for his writing and environmental advocacy, including



induction into the Peterborough Pathway of Fame, the Carl Nunn Media and Conservation Award from Ontario Nature, and the Environmental Excellence Conservationist Award from the Otonabee Region Conservation Authority.

In 2015, he received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Trent, in recognition of achievements in promoting knowledge of, and an appreciation for, the natural environment, particularly in the Kawarthas.



## HELP TRANSFORM THE BATA LIBRARY

Trent University's Bata Library is undergoing an amazing revitalization and transformation. We have a vision for the library of the future that builds on a very distinguished history. *We are asking for your help to make it a reality.*

[trentu.ca/give/bata](http://trentu.ca/give/bata)



UNLEASH THE POTENTIAL

# QUEER COLL(I/U)SIONS

**Sadleir House Conference Blends Academia, Activism, and Art**

It's a cold March evening in Peterborough, but a Victorian mansion on George Street is full of life. On stage, a number of burlesque performers dance provocatively with a puppet that may or may not be anatomically correct. The crowd eats it up and the chill in the winter air is completely forgotten. The Queer Coll(i/u)sions Conference (QCC) has arrived home for another year. Sadleir House was formerly the home of many of the offices of Peter Robinson College and is now the property of the P.R. Community & Student Association, where more than a dozen organizations rent office space and many more hold events. On March 3–5, this student-run centre was the host of the second annual QCC, a conference aiming to bring together academia, activism, and art.

While a wide variety of students and faculty from all over the world took part in the event, community members formed at least half of the participants over the three days. It was decidedly not just another academic conference. Its mission, after all, was to "provide the space for the collision of different queer discourses and [to] push the boundaries of the traditional conference by allowing for different modalities of expression and examination." In practice, that meant seeing the collision of worlds.

One room, for example, featured presenters discussing what it meant to manage multiple marginalized identities, including racialization. Trent professor Momin Rahman presented a paper examining the presumed dichotomy between Islam and queerness and how it wasn't as cut and dried as one might think. In a second room, a workshop guided participants through writing their own stories of sexuality and experience.

The conference had an undeniably Trent feel, which conference co-organizer (and current Trent Ph.D. candidate) **Derek Newman-Stille '98** remarked upon: "During my time at Trent, I learned that everyone has the right to learn and that learning can come from multiple sources. It is one of the reasons that **Cait P. Jones '07** and I decided to create the QCC as a space for the intersection of multiple different ideas and multiple different means for expressing ideas. Trent taught me the value of multiple different voices and this conference allowed us to intertwine those voices and strengthen them through our mutual love of learning and activism."

Throughout the weekend, participants had the opportunity to see the many ways in which queerness can be held, performed, and embodied. Panel discussions on queer parenting and queer tabletop gaming allowed participants to casually discuss the ways in which their sexualities impacted activities otherwise seen as mundane. These topics were filled with comedic moments and laughter. The pain and struggle many participants spoke openly about throughout the three days was frequently interrupted with a joy—no matter how dark and challenging the topic, it was clear that the participants drew strength from researching, writing, and sharing the information.

"The conference is a great reflection of our mission," said **Alissa Paxton '01**, Sadleir House steward. "It's a meeting place for arts, academics, students, faculty, and community members. In organizing the conference, we worked hard to hold these elements in balance."

The community and Sadleir House have blossomed into a welcome home away from home for students and alumni alike. An ode to

the history of Trent adorns the walls in nearly every room, and during the conference these rooms also hosted multiple exhibits by queer artists. The "then and now" of Trent rippled through every aspect of the weekend.

According to conference organizers, Sadleir House was an ideal place to hold QCC. "We wanted the conference to be free to make sure that people could access it regardless of income. Fortunately, Sadleir House was willing to provide space and an incredible amount of support for the conference. It was the perfect place for the conference given its history of bringing together town and gown and being a hub for the community."

QCC was the first major event held in the building since stewardship of the House passed from **Dwayne Collins '01** to Ms. Paxton in February. She is no stranger to Sadleir House, however. "I spent nearly nine years there as the convenor—a role that is very focused on the day-to-day happenings in the building. My new role is an exciting chance to take a step back and look at the bigger picture. I can now work on longer term planning for the facility, both in terms of the building and our programming."

Students, alumni, and community members are always welcome to pop by, visit the library and artwork, chat with staff, and feel at home.

## **SADLEIR HOUSE**

751 George Street North, Peterborough  
*Academic year:*

Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–6 p.m. and  
Saturday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

*Summer:*

Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–9 p.m.

## **Jess Grover '02**

jessalynnagrover@gmail.com





## "FREAK SHOW"

by Spencer J. Harrison '97 on Exhibit at the Art Gallery of Peterborough

Dr. Spencer J. Harrison's *Not a Freak Show: Growing Up Gay in Rural Ontario* bears witness to the artist's experience using the vernacular of the circus freak show to discuss both exclusion and inclusion. It will be on display at the Art Gallery of Peterborough until June 25, 2017. The work takes the form of a large circus tent that can be walked around and gathered within, acting as a catalyst for discourse and an assertion of presence. It was the first painted Ph.D. in Canada and was completed in the fall of 2014 for the Adult Education and Community Development program at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto. Dr. Harrison explains the work: "It's the walls of the tent; it's the roof of the tent; it's the circus side-show tent. The whole thing is based around the metaphor "freak show" because that was my nickname in high school. I was called that affectionately in high school—and negatively. People didn't call me fag; they called me freak show. "So I painted this tent as my dissertation. The outside images are the negative ways that gay men are assumed to be, interwoven with images from Barnum & Bailey freak shows to talk about how bizarre some of the ideas are that people have

about gay men. And then you step inside and I'm painting the story of my life, growing up from age three to about 15." Dr. Harrison, a proud Trent alum, is also a public speaker on anti-homophobia. He has travelled to countless schools, churches, police stations, and hospitals to speak on the topic. He admits he was indeed a bit of a freak show as the class clown in high school, someone who excelled at theatre, science, and wrestling.

He did not come out as a youth in Peterborough, where he grew up in a non-academic family. The first in his family to earn a university degree, Dr. Harrison graduated in Fine Arts from Queen's University. He completed his master's in Canadian Heritage and Development Studies at Trent University and his doctorate in Adult Education and Community Development at OISE, the University of Toronto.



# Trent Selected as Host of Inaugural Camp fYrefly Ontario

July 13–16, 2017



Leadership retreat for LGBTQ youth partners with Trent for summer 2017 launch

Canada's only national leadership retreat for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified, two-spirited, intersexed, queer, questioning, and allied youth, Camp fYrefly, is coming to Trent University this summer, marking the first time the groundbreaking camp will be hosted in Ontario.

Camp fYrefly's Ontario launch is a joint venture between the School of Education & Professional Learning at Trent University and the Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services at the University of Alberta. The arts-based resiliency building camp, which is currently held each summer in Calgary, Edmonton, and Saskatoon, utilizes all areas of the arts to aid sexual and gender minority youth and their allies to build strong, resilient identities and to become leaders in their communities.

"As an institution with a deep commitment to social justice and diversity, Trent University is very pleased to host the inaugural Ontario Camp fYrefly," said Dr. Leo Groarke, president and vice-chancellor. "We are happy to provide campers with access to Trent's facilities, supports and resources, and proud to play a role in helping these young people embrace and achieve their potential."

"Providing an opportunity for LGBTQ youth leaders to come together, express their experiences through art and build resiliency in a supportive environment is so important, and I am proud to see that the first-ever Ontario Camp fYrefly will be held here at Trent University," said **Maryam Monsef '03**, member of Parliament for Peterborough-Kawartha. "As an alumna of this great institution, and

a member of this community, I want to wish all of the participants a very successful, energizing experience."

"My master's at Trent is where I began to develop my passion for community building. As an artist born and raised in Peterborough whose practice focuses on issues of equity and inclusion, it only makes sense to open the first Ontario Camp fYrefly here in my hometown at Trent University," said **Dr. Spencer J. Harrison '97**, director of Camp fYrefly Ontario. "This proven model of an arts-based resiliency building camp for sexual and gender minority youth and their allies aligns perfectly with Trent's guiding principles around diversity and its strong connections with Indigenous communities. The history of Trent University will provide us with the foundation to open Camp fYrefly's first Ontario camp and the facilities will allow us to have a beautiful camp experience."

Camp fYrefly will work closely with Trent's renowned School of Education & Professional Learning, providing Bachelor of Education teacher candidates with the option to take part in an alternative placement with Camp fYrefly this summer.



The inaugural Ontario camp will run July 13–16, 2017 on Trent's Symons campus. The camp is open to youth between the ages of 14 and 24. It will include an artist-in-residence and an Indigenous elder-in-residence.

[fyrefly.ualberta.ca/Ontario](http://fyrefly.ualberta.ca/Ontario)



# BEYOND BINARY: STEPS TOWARDS GENDER INCLUSIVITY

*Over the past few years, transgender culture has gained a more prominent place within mainstream discussions on sexual identity as well as in both mass and social medias. Trent, like many educational institutions, has worked to make its campuses more gender inclusive. Other institutions, such as police forces and health units, are introducing gender diversity and inclusion training for their staff and volunteers. In popular culture, stars such as Caitlyn Jenner and Laverne Cox have brought the word “trans” into conversations that it rarely entered before. Just last month, the MTV Movie and TV Awards introduced a new gender-neutral best actor award—a major accomplishment for trans rights. Unfortunately, stigma and violence still share headlines with these more positive stories.*

*While preparing an article on the state of trans culture in Canada, we reached out to alumnus **Dr. Spencer J. Harrison**, the Ontario director of Camp fYrely, Canada’s only national camp for sexual and gender minority youth and their allies. With his background in working closely with youth of diverse gender and sexual identity—and with issues surrounding discrimination and bullying—he has a unique perspective. He responded with this personal reflection on his own growth in understanding the myriad issues surrounding trans life.*

DR. SPENCER J. HARRISON '97

**W**hen I was named the Ontario director of Camp fYrely, Canada’s only national camp for sexual and gender minority youth and their allies, I felt somewhat out of my league. I had been the artist in residence at Camp fYrely in Edmonton, Saskatoon, and Regina. I had completed my Ph.D. thesis with an arts-based dissertation. And I had grown up as gay most of my life. I have had lots of LGBTQ friends and been involved in lots of political actions working towards better, stronger, and more human rights for this community. Quite frankly, most of my life’s work has been dedicated to this, however, I wondered as a cisgendered male if I could really launch the first camp in Ontario providing the right environment to support transgendered youth?


The camp traditionally has about 30% Indigenous youth and 30% of the campers identify as transgender either before they arrive or by the time they depart. I knew when I went to the Edmonton Camp to learn how to run a fYrely camp that a great deal of my research was going to involve asking trans-identified youth what I needed to know, as an outsider, in this camp setting.

As a researcher, activist, artist, and now camp director, I believe that if you want to understand something you should ask the experts; ask those who themselves are most affected by the work you will do. In this article, I do not identify myself as an expert, rather as someone who fights for the rights of those in the sexual and gender minority community. I am also someone who has spent time with and observed transgender youth who have shared moments of camp life with me so I could better support them through the camp that I was opening. When I asked what the most important elements of the camp for them, three answers dominated their responses: Language, bodies, and stories were most significant.

Many of our campers told me that the understanding of the impact of pronouns—and understanding how important it is to correctly address someone with the gender they identify by—are among the best things about this camp. The idea of there being only two genders, or a gender binary, is common, but makes little to no sense. If you think of the spectrum of masculinity and femininity we all experience in our daily lives, all of our gender assumptions are



Watercolour, Anna Yunak\_Shutterstock.com  
Youth: Camp fYrely




created by how someone presents or identifies him or herself, the stereotypes we attach to gender, and the assumptions we make based on appearances or names. If this is how we navigate our worlds when considering other's genders, it should be clear that we are doing a lot of guessing and that we are assigning meaning to people's identities that create unintended or intended discriminations. If, rather than being hung up on the assumptions we make, we simply ask how someone wants to be identified, we give everyone the space and respect they deserve. We allow them to be who they are. It also encourages us to think beyond the him/her binary and to remember that other possibilities exist.

At camp, one of our opening activities is to create buttons with our names on them, as well as buttons with our preferred pronouns. We wear them for the duration of the camp and can change them as we go along. When we start to speak in a workshop or activity we state our names and our pronouns until people get to know us. This pushes against assumptions people make based on visual readings and stereotypes. Many may be in the midst of transitioning, and we provide space for that to be possible. Many are not interested in making any noticeable physical transitions; they simply do not identify with the gender they were assigned at birth. Shifting the pronouns that they are addressed by, allows them to equally shift how they feel. It is important to understand that some do not identify with gendered pronouns at all, and use ones that do not tie them down to the binary. Gender fluid or nonbinary people and pronouns may disrupt how some understand identities, but this shift allows us to deepen our respect for all. I think of this as one of the greatest gifts transgendered people give us.

Similarly, bodies—and the gender assumptions we attach to them—are the basis for much of the discrimination that exists in the world. Evaluating body sizes, shapes, abilities, and genders sets us up to discriminate. One of the workshops I attended was titled *Binders and Packers*, in which a variety of chest binders were made available to try on







Within the safety that Camp fYrefly offers, we will work with youth to help them build resiliency, to question and disrupt injustices, and to become leaders in their communities, and in the world.

and experience. Demonstrations of how to create and wear a phallic packer were also presented. For many, the concepts delivered in this workshop were (at first) a bit odd, uncomfortable, or humorous, but once packers were created and binders tried on, the laughter moved away from awkwardness and turned into fun. Everyone became much more comfortable with their bodies. For others, this workshop was purely liberating. I saw how the sense of empathy for others shifted and witnessed a greater and deeper understanding of the body dysphoria. Quite simply, binding your chest and making it resemble the gendered body you feel like you exist in, or packing a phallus and positioning it so it feels more like your body, allows you to see yourself, and have others see you, closer to how you actually identify. Similar workshops for those born into male bodies, and wanting to experience female bodies, provided equally similar liberations.

Another camp activity is a group swim where everyone wears similar oversized t-shirts. This disrupts the judgments we make about size and ability—and their relation to beauty; it pushes back against all of the imagery that we are bombarded with and told to attempt to replicate. Everybody's body becomes beautiful. It also allows those who are transgender to experience a regular social activity, possibly for the first time, in the bodies and identities they inhabit. Scars are not visible; binders go unnoticed; and the sexualization of all of our bodies

while we swim stops. We become humans, struggling with and enjoying the water and each other.

Five trans youth agreed. One stated: "The best thing about camp has been trying on and being recognized in the gender I identify with, and the swim. We got to just be who we are and not need our pronouns or our genders." Another finished their comments with, "I will never forget the swim. That pool, full of my new friends, all in t-shirts; that memory will save my life."

The camp is about sharing stories. On the first day of camp, everyone is meeting and a bit awkward with each other. Then we let bits of our identities out—fragments of our stories get told. We build to telling whole narratives and, for some, for most, it is often the first time we get to safely tell our stories. We get to tell our stories as the LGBTQ people and allies we are. We are not judged for those identities and how they weave into our stories. We also find very common ground because our identities are not the most significant elements of our narratives. Instead, the fuller dimensions of our lives can be the focus of our stories. The most interesting thing about me is not that I am a gay man. Far from it. But, for some, that is what they notice first and focus on more than anything else. For transgendered youth at the camp, their narratives can be truer: they get to present as they see themselves, not as others view them. When I first met a transgender person, I needed to realize that, when I initially meet

anyone, their gender is established by how they look and who they tell me they are. I have never asked them to prove it. If I eliminate the judgment of how they look and simply begin with the gender identification they provide me, it is easier to stop the gender discriminations that we have been taught. It becomes less about the binary construction and more about people just being people. It is a mind shift, but it is not complicated. It is just respectful. I know, as we open the first Ontario Camp fYrefly at Trent University this summer, I will learn much more. Transgender youth will teach me. And I may make some mistakes. But I know we will create a space where language, bodies, and stories can be thought through and explored differently. The principles of camp are not that different from Trent's, where we make space for everyone's voices. Our understanding of the world can be challenged and become much richer. We will work with youth to help them build resiliency, to question and disrupt injustices, and to become leaders in their communities and in the world. The only difference is that we will provide them with the safety that Camp fYrefly offers—one which they have not yet experienced in the world at large. My hope would be that they return to this campus as students, working to push the ideas they gain at Camp fYrefly into the classrooms and the worlds they will then live in and impact.

An excerpt from

# UNBUTTONED

## A History of Mackenzie King's Secret Life

PROF. CHRISTOPHER DUMMITT '92

Canada's greatest prime minister was a mama's boy. Not only that, he was a sexually repressed, hypocritical, ghost-talking, spiritualism practising, guilt-ridden, prostitute-visiting mama's boy. Or so Canadians learned in 1976.

That was Mackenzie King's *annus horribilis*, when the "Weird Willie" phenomenon reached a climax amidst a mounting din from books, documentaries, poetry, newspaper stories, and radio shows exposing King's secret life. "Weird Willie" King seemed to be everywhere and he looked nothing like the staid, boring bachelor William Lyon Mackenzie King who had so dominated Canadian political life as prime minister and Liberal leader for most of the first half of the twentieth century. Mackenzie King was dead. Long live "Weird Willie."

No man did more to expose King's double life than Charles Perry

Stacey. He was an odd figure to play the role of sensationalistic muckraking biographer. In 1976 Stacey was a septuagenarian professor of history at the University of Toronto whose memoirs, when published several years later, revealed almost nothing about his own intimate life. Stacey had grown up in—and imbibed the values of—"Toronto the Good," that city of Sabbath observance, propriety, and closed curtains. He was a man for whom restraint, not unabashed confession, was a virtue. Stacey was also a figure of the historical establishment, having served as the official historian of the Canadian Armed Forces during the Second World War. Nothing in his life beforehand would have pegged Stacey as the figure who would write the tell-all exposé of Mackenzie



King's private and often petty particularities. Yet that is exactly what he did in the spring of 1976. His book *A Very Double Life: The Private World of Mackenzie King* became the informational centre of the gossip storm whirling around the former prime minister's reputation.

There were many novelists, poets, historians, and others who delivered up "Weird Willie" to the public in the mid-1970s, and most of these selected their juiciest bits from Stacey's *A Very Double Life*. It was quite a transformation for the aging historian.

But this was 1976 after all. Neither politics nor society was what it had been. Maggie Trudeau, the flower-child wife of the current prime minister, was about to sneak off to New York to party with the Rolling Stones as her marriage to Pierre Trudeau fell apart in full view of the nation he governed. An American president, Richard Nixon, and his vice-president, Spiro Agnew, had been forced to resign in disgrace after reporters exposed their illegal and corrupt behaviour. It wasn't just politics. The culture of exposé made normal the outing of secrets and the baring of previously taboo desires. In the 1950s, the "girly magazines" like *Playboy* had bookended their snapshots of topless women with essays on high culture and literature, a veneer of respectability to get them past the censors. Yet in the 1970s *Hustler* magazine eschewed the facade of respectability and made no attempt to hide its masturbatory purpose. The two cultures of exposé came together nowhere more clearly than in the Watergate scandal that brought down Richard Nixon. The top-secret source who leaked information to the reporters at the *Washington*



Mackenzie King with Franklin D. Roosevelt and Winston Churchill, courtesy of *Unbuttoned*.



Post was code-named "Deep Throat"—a reference to pornographic film that had achieved mainstream notoriety in 1972 and, of course, to oral sex. Outing the secrets of the powerful and exposing the secrets of the bedroom—they were of a piece. The mighty had fallen. What was secret had come into the open. The personal was political.

For quite some time, it had been clear that Canada's longest-serving prime minister was a rather odd duck. Shortly after King died in 1950 stories leaked out claiming that he had been a practicing spiritualist. The full extent of his ghost-talking beliefs—including whether he relied upon ghostly advice to make political decisions—remained a question for years, always downplayed by those who had been close to him. New reminiscences from King's former mediums occasionally heightened the speculation. In the early 1970s, Mackenzie King's literary executors released a large number of volumes of his personal diary. These confirmed and added detail to the rumours. But until now, the details had been tantalizing but sporadic. In *A Very Double Life* C.P. Stacey promised to answer all of these questions. Here was a respected historian who had taken the theme of King's private life and explored it in full, replete with direct citations and thoroughness, not to mention stylistic wit. Finally, Canadians were to learn the true story of Mackenzie King.

The version of Mackenzie King that Stacey offered up in *A Very Double Life* could not have fit more perfectly with the ethos of the age. Stacey gave to Canadians "Weird Willie," the prime minister who "inhabited two worlds." One was "the world of public affairs," the part of King's life typically found in the history books. Yet King also



King and Gordon Robertson, courtesy of *Unbuttoned*.

**The mighty had fallen.  
What was secret had come into the open.  
The personal was political.**

lived another life in "his private world" and this had been hidden from the public. In his private world, King was utterly unlike his public image. King's private world "was often emotional and sometimes irrational." It was a world "of the women and the spirits." King was not the man he claimed to be. Just like the politicians of the 1970s, the Richard Nixons of the world, King had secrets. While Nixon's secrets were exposed on the infamous White House tapes, Stacey uncovered Mackenzie King's secrets on the pages of his diary, so recently released to the public.

Stacey's King was a man who had practised odd forms of spirit communication, believing that the knocks he heard on seance tables were the voices of ghosts. King appeared pathetic as a middle-aged bachelor who couldn't commit to other women but who devoted himself to his mother, smothering her with 74 kisses on her 74th birthday—a level of physical attention that seemed altogether less innocent in the Freud-soaked 1970s than it had in 1917 when King had delivered the kisses. Stacey showed King as a bachelor who had always seemed staid and almost asexual but who in fact had visited prostitutes again and again as a young man. He had even gone on a stroll of Ottawa's streets looking for a woman after speaking to a church group one Sunday. As for King's claim that he visited the prostitutes to save their souls and bring them to



King and his secretary Edouard Handy, courtesy of *Unbuttoned*.

King inspects the troops, courtesy of *Unbuttoned*.



Christ, Stacey would have none of it. Those protestations were for a more innocent, and more hypocritical, age. *A Very Double Life* retold how King succumbed to his carnal urgings with these women, only to rush back to his bedroom at night and scratch out guilty admissions in his diary about nights and money “wasted” and “worse than wasted.”

Stacey didn’t deny King’s political genius. Instead he offered a double image of the great man. Like a Picasso painting in which perspective

is ripped asunder so that viewers can simultaneously see the visible and what would normally be hidden, *A Very Double Life* painted into King’s public image the lurid view of King’s private side, insisting that we view all of Mackenzie King simultaneously.

The other books on the best-seller lists in the summer of 1976 included Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein’s exposé of the Watergate scandal, Joel Kovel’s *The Complete Guide to Therapy*, and the American satirist Tom Wolfe’s send-up of the

narcissistic “Me Decade” republished in *Mauve Gloves & Madmen*. Secrecy, politics, therapeutic analysis, and narcissism: you could read about them separately, or you could just buy *A Very Double Life* and get them all in one slim little volume.

It hadn’t always been so. A generation earlier, a book like *A Very Double Life* would never have been published in Canada. The Canadians of this earlier era might have been just as curious about King’s private life. They might even have gossiped about it privately, the journalists among them snickering about the “medium” of King’s communications in side-long remarks in newspaper columns. But for a respectable press to have published an entire book on the peculiarities of a statesman would have been unthinkable. Stacey admitted as much as he talked to reporters when launching *A Very Double Life*. “Twenty years ago,” he reflected, “I can’t imagine myself having written a book like this.” Yet he had done so. The world of 1976 made it possible. As Stacey put it, “tastes had changed.”

Alumnus **Christopher Dummitt ’92** is an associate professor of history at Trent. *Unbuttoned: A History of Mackenzie King’s Secret Life* is published by McGill-Queen’s University Press.



King with Louis St. Laurent, courtesy of *Unbuttoned*.



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# KINDNESS AS A SIGNPOST

## Recollections of Stuart McLean at Trent

PROFESSOR STEPHEN BROWN

**S**tuart McLean Hon. '07 joined our community during the autumn term in 1994. That November, he spent a couple of weeks in residence at Champlain College as Rooke Fellow, an award he valued because it acknowledged him for his reputation as a teacher. If you look Stuart up on Wikipedia, the Rooke's mentioned; his many honorary doctorates—including one from Trent—aren't.

He finished work on the first collection of Vinyl Café stories in the guest suite in KL Staircase. There was an agreement not to announce his stay for a week, so that he could work without distractions. Incognito McLean didn't outlast his first day. No one recognized the lanky middle-aged guy loping across the campus. After all, the Vinyl Café wasn't a road show yet. But Stuart couldn't resist chatting with a few students sitting down by the river, and one of them exclaimed, "Hey, are you the guy from the radio, the guy who tells the stories? I listen to you every week with my mom." The gig was up. The world's full of awkward, lanky guys, but that voice ... America had Jimmy Stewart, and Canada, Stuart McLean.

Trent first attracted Stuart's attention as a secondary student considering universities. Unfortunately, he couldn't afford the residential fees, so he stayed at home in Montreal and enrolled at Sir George Williams. Still, Trent continued to beckon, and Stuart applied and was accepted two

years later as a transfer student. But his job at a summer camp just didn't pay enough to support the move to Peterborough.

It would take another three decades for Stuart to finally get here, when he was nominated for the Rooke by one of our distinguished alumni, **Jennifer Dettman '88**, who studied with Stuart at Ryerson before going on to her own remarkable career with the CBC. Peter Gzowski supported the nomination and encouraged Stuart (always shy of even the least celebrity) to accept the award. During that first stay in 1994, Stuart conducted a masterclass on teaching, led a seminar on creative writing, and visited Trent Radio. He read "The Pig" from its proof sheets to a group of students gathered around the fireplace in the Senior Common Room and kept a Wenjack Theatre overflow crowd enthralled. Every night he'd slip out alone to soak up the scene in various Peterborough bars. And the next morning, over breakfast, Stuart's enthusiasm for whatever band or acoustic soloist he'd heard was uncontainable.

Stuart loved music, especially in unpretentious local settings. The Red

Dog pleased him, and he never failed to visit it for a beer, some tunes, and the sort of intimate conversation that only an authentic bar can provide. Once The Night Kitchen opened, a slice from "that pizza joint down the street" always rounded out his evenings.

Trent invited Stuart back often after that first visit. And Stuart often came back quietly of his own accord. The campus appealed to him with its ready access to nature and easeful solitude. And the University's unrelenting pursuit of social justice, honour for Indigenous culture, respect for the environment, and progressive Canadian values reflected Stuart's own civil passions. For Stuart, those issues were best explored quietly in each new encounter with each new friend he made, and he made many friends at Trent.

When we gathered to celebrate the life and memory of perhaps Trent's greatest friend, Peter Gzowski, Stuart hosted an evening in the Wenjack with Molly Johnson, Stephen Lewis, Tom Jackson, Bruce Kidd, and Andrew Pyper. Stuart also had the distinction of receiving an honorary doctorate at

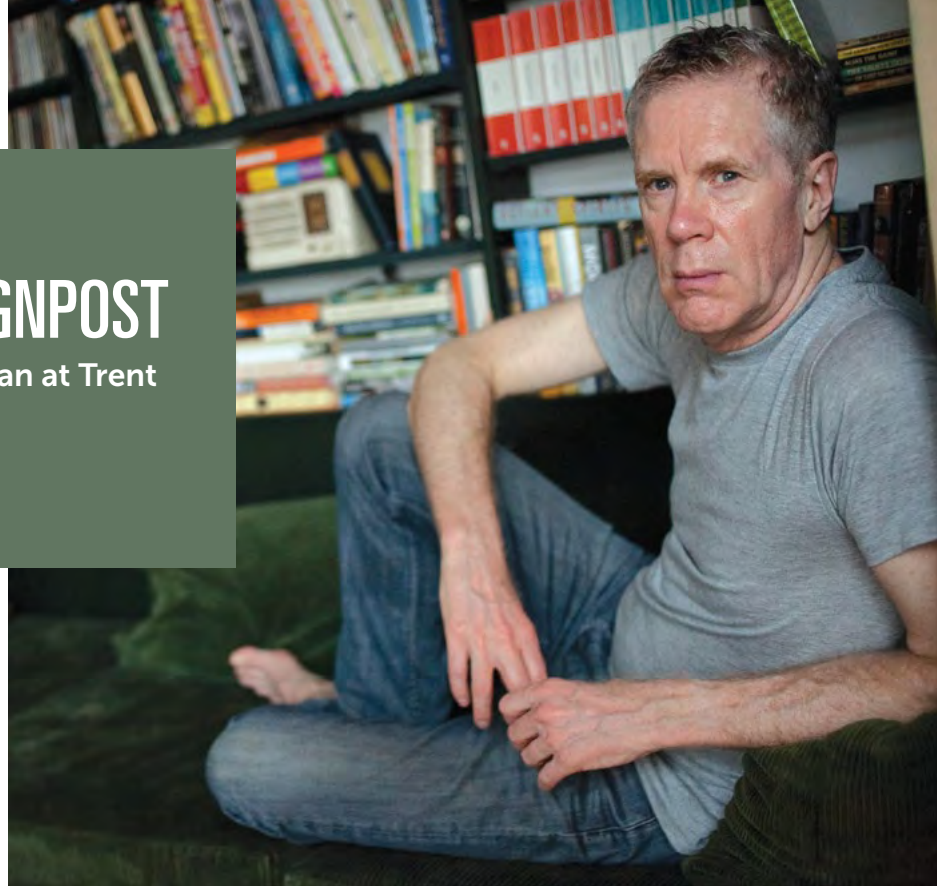


Photo: Natelie Herault



the first convocation in Trent's history to be rained out. We discovered that day that the University didn't really have much of a backup plan in case of rain; we'd never needed one. We were fortunate that Stuart was there. The graduating students filled the Wenjack, with Stuart onstage, but their guests were seated in the Otonabee cafeteria listening to a remote broadcast of the ceremony. Stuart McLean live and on-air, intimate and reassuring, and somehow making it all seem planned. The guy from the radio was telling a story and it would be all right.

Stuart wanted his sons to study at Trent. He brought one for a campus tour and introduced him to the much-loved and now much-missed English professor, David Glassco, hoping that David's pedagogic charm might convince him to enroll. That didn't happen. Still, Stuart had many reasons to return, including the Vinyl Café's regular stops in Peterborough. Stuart always set aside complimentary tickets for students to attend the show, and he'd take a break from the tech rehearsals to slip up to the campus, incognito.

Being on the road mattered to Stuart. I recall a phone call one autumn: "Guess what? Where do you think I am?" I had no idea, and Stuart quickly filled my silence: "I'm on the road with my band in our own bus!"

Stuart had grown up listening to every radio broadcast he could tune into, particularly late at night when obscure American stations reached deep into Canada. Being part of that scene, first on radio and then on the road, fulfilled boyhood dreams and dismissed the ghosts of adolescent angst, without dissipating the eternally youthful curiosity and sense of humour that defined Stuart's comic spirit: laughter that proposed wisdom, and wisdom that never deserted its consort, humour. Perhaps that is Stuart's legacy at Trent, the fundamental insight that sharing laughter (and laughing at ourselves) builds the strongest communities. Values expressed without self-deprecation become unfortunate ideologies.

As he told the 40th graduating class, "education can sneak up on you, often unbidden ... let kindness and understanding be your signposts." He was not a man to judge or to pontificate. He smiled and laughed.

The next time that you visit the Vinyl Café pay attention to the "framed motto hanging by the cash register:"

*We may not be big,  
But we're small.*

To turn Canada's vastness into intimacy, make a lecture a conversation, recognize that the small stories are the authentic ones. That was Stuart's mission. He could walk into The Red Dog, look around the bar, spot the one person in the room no one else had noticed, take a seat beside them and say, "hello, I'm Stuart McLean, tell me something about yourself." And they would. That's what great teaching is all about. Stuart was a great teacher. He belonged at Trent. And he knew it.



## The Trent University Media Studies Program

Media Studies is a new, dynamic field, and one that's vital for understanding the mediated environment that we inhabit every day. In Trent's Media Studies program, students learn to navigate this environment by marrying theory and practice. They study the influence of advertising and ideology, the economics of media corporations, and the principles of consumer design. They also gain real, hands-on experience: fabricating 3D printed objects; circuit bending; shooting on Super 8mm and 16mm film; and taking social media to whole new levels.

The Media Studies program at Trent takes an interdisciplinary approach to the understanding of media practices and effects. Students take courses in a range of disciplines including Cultural Studies, Anthropology, Philosophy, Computing & Information Systems, Canadian Studies, and Sociology, engaging with a range of ethical, theoretical, and technical concerns related to the implications of the human-technology interface for knowledge, individuality, and community. The program provides academic background for work in the media, communications, and any other field where media literacy is vital.

[trentu.ca/mediastudies](http://trentu.ca/mediastudies)



# TRENT PEOPLE

## The Pasture

The Trent University Association of Retired Persons (TUARP) had their semi-annual members' meeting on Wednesday, May 3. Their first guest speaker, Robert Clarke, University librarian, reviewed the Bata Library revitalization and transformation process. The second speaker, Dr. Ian Sandeman, professor emeritus, described his work on coral and its responses to climate change.

Retirees from Trent University are automatically members of TUARP. It's an excellent way to keep in touch with the colleagues and friends you made while at Trent, and to make new friends among people who will "know what you're talking about." You are also considered a friend of the Trent University Alumni Association and be able to access TUAA benefits.

TUARP meets twice a year, in early May and during reading week in October. The meetings include updates, new business, refreshments and mingling, and noteworthy guest speakers. For more news, announcements and interesting Trent tidbits, members can read the *TUARP Times* ([trentu.ca/tuarp](http://trentu.ca/tuarp)).



TUARP members Dr. Orm Mitchell and Dr. John Wadland reminisce at Catharine Parr Traill College.

All TUARP members are invited to the annual Christmas tea in December to celebrate the holidays.

In addition, TUARP members are welcome to attend all alumni events, general Trent events, and are invited to the "You are the Heart of Trent"

recognition and retirement reception held each spring.

If you have news of general interest to the University retirees, and that might be appropriate for this column, you are invited to send a note to Janice Millard at: [jmillard@trentu.ca](mailto:jmillard@trentu.ca).



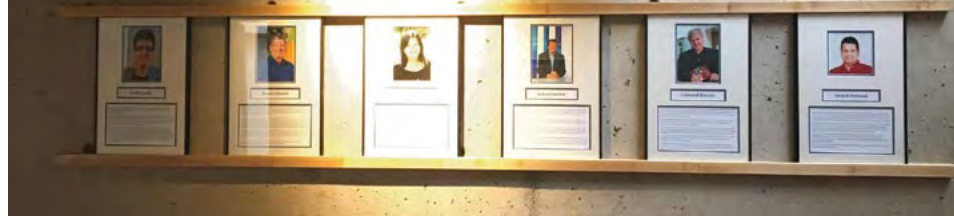
Kenzie McKeegan, Trent President Leo Groarke, **Owen Kane '08**, ADM International Relations and Chief of Protocol of Ontario **Stewart Wheeler '88**, and **Johann Cubillos '09**.

On May 15, members of the Trent University community, including faculty, students, administration, board members, and alumni, gathered for a Trent Day at Queen's Park reception in a committee room in the main legislative building at Queen's Park.

The event, hosted by Peterborough MPP **Jeff Leal '78**, brought together leaders of the provincial government, the Ontario financial community, and the university for a networking session—and acted as a means of showcasing Trent to Mr. Leal's colleagues at the legislature.



# Lady Eaton College Alumni



## LEC Alumni Hall

Lady Eaton College (LEC) head Lindsay Morris has created an exciting new way to honour and showcase past LEC alumni. Located in the hallway leading straight from the main doors of the college, Alumni Hall was installed in February 2017 and includes portraits and short bios of six LEC alumni who have seen personal or career success after graduation.

Different LEC alumni will be chosen and featured each year—with fresh displays put up during the February Alumni College Weekend. Chosen alumni will be invited to the College Weekend dinner where their accomplishments will be highlighted.

Ms. Morris stated that she hopes this project will help connect current LEC students with alumni, and inspire them with life and career possibilities after Trent. "The College wanted to

highlight some of the alumni who have carried their Trent and Lady Eaton experiences with them to help shape the person they have become. It was our hope that, through this, students can feel a sense of inspiration and motivation in their daily life, as well as a connection to the beautiful history of the College."

Alumni Hall, originally conceived by former LEC college head Dr. Michael Eamon, initially only included class composites from each graduating class beginning with the first class in 1967. With only the first decade of composites on the wall, space was already becoming limited. Cognizant of this challenge, Ms. Morris introduced the rotating group of six portraits as a way to continue honouring LEC alumni, but in a more intimate way.

"The main goal of this initiative is to create a space where students can be reminded of the Community and of the tradition that was there before they arrived, making them feel a part of something special and unique." It is also an exceptional way to promote the College, and college-based philanthropy, such as endowments.

Alumni featured this year include:

**Cathy Fooks '79 • Darren Huston '85 Robert Sinclair '79 • Alma Barranco-Mendoza '90** (international student) • **Deryck Persaud '89** (international student) • **Linwood Barclay '73.**

Know an LEC alumni who is making a difference in their community? Suggest they be featured by contacting Lindsay Morris at [lindsaymorris@trentu.ca](mailto:lindsaymorris@trentu.ca)

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**ALUMNI**  
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# 2017 ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

With a new format being introduced in 2017, the Trent University Alumni Awards will be taken on the road and presented at regional alumni events around the world, involving more alumni in recognizing Trent's outstanding graduates.

Whether through their volunteer activities or their career choices, each of this year's Alumni Award recipients have generously devoted their time, energy, and skills to serving both Trent University and the broader communities in which they live. Alumni are being honoured in three award

categories: the Distinguished Alumni Award, the Spirit of Trent Award, and the Young Leader Award.

"The 2017 Alumni Award recipients are shining examples of how an education from Trent can help to shape future leaders and have a ripple effect in surrounding communities," said Lee Hays, director of Alumni Affairs at Trent University. "We are very proud to recognize the accomplishments of these alumni and are fortunate that they remain involved members of the Trent family."



## **Distinguished Alumni Award: Garry Cubitt '67**

Garry Cubitt has worked with the Region of Durham since its formation, becoming chief administrative officer in 1993. For more than 42 years he has served the public sector, beginning his career as a social worker.

With nearly 2,000 employees under his leadership, Mr. Cubitt's guidance has been instrumental in meeting the increasing demands of a region that is growing exponentially. During his time as CAO, Durham Region has grown from 203,925 households with a population of 606,750 in 2008 to 224,810 households and a total population of 658,175 in 2017.

Among his volunteer efforts, Mr. Cubitt was the founding chair of the Board of University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT), is former chair of the Durham College Board of Governors, and currently sits on Trent University's Board of Governors. Most recently, he was instrumental in helping develop the Trent University Alumni Association's strategic directions plan.

## **Spirit of Trent Award Caleb Smith '93**

The driving force behind the Trent University Rugby booster club, Caleb Smith has helped raise a significant amount of financial support for the operation of the current rugby program. Mr. Smith was the chair of the hugely



successful Trent Rugby 50th Anniversary event. He has also maintained a leadership role in Ontario rugby as a player, coach, convener, and member of the Ontario Rugby Union Board of Directors.

Mr. Smith was a lead organizer for the Trent 50th Anniversary Athletics Reunion. He has been president of the Niagara Chapter of the Alumni Association for the past decade.

## **Spirit of Trent Award Robin Quantick '78**

A member of Trent's Board of Governors, Robin Quantick has served on several prominent board committees during his tenure, notably Nominating and Governance; Finance and Property; Investment and Pension; and Audit. He was

also an integral member of both the Presidential Advisory Committee in 2013 and the Presidential Search Committee in 2014. Mr. Quantick is a long-time active member of the Trent Alumni Association, including service on its executive.

Away from Trent, Mr. Quantick has been recognized by the Frontenac Heritage Society for his work in heritage preservation in the Kingston area, notably in heritage building restoration. He has offered his consultancy services pro bono to Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Mr. Quantick helped found Project Beyshick, a youth mentoring program focused on business career development for Aboriginal Canadians aged 21 to 35 years. He continues to take an active role in the project.







**Spirit of Trent Award  
Dr. Spencer J. Harrison '97**

As an advocate for inclusion, support, and basic human rights for LGBTQ and marginalized communities, Dr. Spencer Harrison marries public activism with personal mentorship and guidance. Recently named the

Ontario director for Camp fYrefly, he will be instrumental in launching this first-of-its kind program in Ontario—to be held at Trent this upcoming summer.

With an extensive list of teaching positions, exhibitions, and residencies, Dr. Harrison's passion for art and activism has touched thousands of lives. His impressive list of awards include: The Kenner Collegiate Wall of Honour; the OCAD University BLG Equity Teaching Award; the OCAD Non-Tenured Teaching Award; and the OISE/U of Toronto Artist-in-Residence, Education and Innovation Award.

**Young Leader Award  
Brianna Salmon '10**

Best known in Peterborough as the executive director for GreenUP, Brianna Salmon has been instrumental in either creating or helping grow programs such as BIKE: The Peterborough Cycling Hub, the Peterborough Pulse festival, and the Active Neighbourhoods Canada Peterborough Project.



Most recently, Ms. Salmon has been a key driver behind a multi-sector coordinating committee's application to have the Peterborough-Kawartha-Haliburton region recognized as a UNESCO Regional Centre of Excellence in Sustainability Education.

**Young Leader Award  
Bob Gauvreau '01**

As a chartered accountant, entrepreneur, and business leader, Bob Gauvreau has been recognized with numerous awards, including: the 2010 Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Award for Entrepreneurship; the Reader's Choice Peterborough's Favourite Accountant in both 2011 and 2012; the Greater Peterborough Chamber of Commerce Top 4-Under-40 business leader; the 2017 *Peterborough This Week* Reader's Choice Diamond Award Winner for Accountant and Platinum Award Winner in the category of Accounting Firm; and in 2016 was named Canada's only affiliate of Tony Robbins's business advisory team.

Mr. Gauvreau's volunteer efforts include work with the Accounting program at Fleming College and a role as founding member of the H.O.P.E. Foundation. He is also a founding member of the VentureNorth business incubation program.



# PHILANTHROPY MATTERS

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ALUMNI  
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Photos: Mary Elizabeth Luka

## "GIVING FROM DAY ONE" *Because Loyalty Matters*

As a Bachelor of Arts Honours Sociology and Politics student at Trent University in the '80s, Mary Elizabeth ("M.E.") Luka received a financial boost from a scholarship recognizing her academic excellence. Over 30 years later she reflects on how Trent University inspired her to become a loyal donor right from the day she graduated.

During Ms. Luka's second year, she became unexpectedly ill, unable to attend class for an entire month. Her Trent experience during this time forever set the tone for her giving back.

"My professors had a vested interest in my well-being and education. They were empathetic and generous, at a time where I could have easily missed the entire school term. They cared enough to make it work by allowing extra time for assignments and speaking with me individually for clarification when I couldn't attend lectures and only had readings to rely on. Other students in my cohort made sure I had notes and kept me up-to-date on seminar discussions. That's what is truly unique about the Trent experience. I knew when I graduated I wanted to find ways to continue to support Trent," said Ms. Luka.

Ms. Luka started giving back financially because of the personal attention she received, and how welcome she felt in student-led activities. During her first year, she was involved in student council activities at Otonabee College as part of the Cultural Committee and by her fourth year, she became assistant manager in the College pub, "The Cat's Ass," as well as managing the Sunday afternoon "Fourth Degree" mini-pub.

Upon graduating, Ms. Luka volunteered with the Alumni Association, and began donating. "Just \$25 or \$50 a year at first, and later on, on a monthly basis," she recalls.

Over the next 25+ years, she was a consistent and loyal Annual and Capital Campaign donor supporting student scholarships and bursaries, helping ensure the success of events such as, Ideas That Change the World and contributing to the Alumni Excellence and Engagement fund. Ms. Luka also gave her time. She served as president of the Toronto Chapter, president of the Halifax chapter, and president of the Alumni Association itself. Not to mention volunteering at a variety of events, strategy sessions, and the presenting of alumni awards and honours. She also consulted on the For Tomorrow campaign in Toronto.



**Ms. Mary Elizabeth Luka '80**  
Banting Postdoctoral Fellow

Ms. Luka's education continued long after Trent University. She is now a Banting postdoctoral fellow at York University, based at Sensorium Centre for Digital Arts and Technology in the School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design, with mentors at the Schulich School of Business, and is a Visiting Scholar at Ryerson University, Ted Rogers School of Management (Information Management).

Her creative work and research investigates how artistic, civic and business sectors are networked in the digital age, including her current comparison of sites of cultural collaboration in Canada, the U.K. and Australia, and ongoing research about recent Canadian media and broadcast policy.

Ms. Luka credits her time at Trent University for giving her balance and a critical sensibility. "Every time I visit the campus, I am grounded and feel a truly singular connection. I attribute that feeling to my Trent experience, and it just feels right to give back."

Trent University is fortunate to have many generous and loyal alumni and friends. Gifts from our donors profoundly impact the University, our students, and our faculty. We are grateful for the support we receive and take pleasure in recognizing donors like Mary Elizabeth Luka.

### ONLINE EXTRA

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# THOMAS MILLER '82

*Legacy Society*

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COMMUNITY CATALYST  
MONT VENTOUX CYCLIST

*Remembering Trent in his Will, Tom's legacy will ensure the vibrant, residential, academic, college-based education he is grateful for remains central to Trent.*

**What will your legacy be?**



[trentu.ca/legacy](http://trentu.ca/legacy)

TRENT  
UNIVERSITY

## Vancouver Chapter News

### LORRAINE BENNETT '72

The Vancouver Chapter will sponsor a Day of Service on **Thursday, June 15**, returning for the second year to Ronald McDonald House of BC to prepare and serve a BBQ dinner for the residents and families of children in treatment for critical illness. Special thanks to **Peter Snell '87** for introducing us to this worthy charity.

### Vancouver Trent Talks 2017

#### Sustainable Food Systems

A panel discussion with:

**Jaspal Marwah '95** (regional planner, Metro Vancouver), **Josh Baker '07** (P.Chem., Nautilus Environmental and an organic farmer) and **Karen Wickerson '87** (community gardens advocate).

**Thursday, September 28, 2017**

City Farmer, Vancouver Compost Demonstration Garden office, 2150 Maple St. (6th & Maple), Vancouver



Jaspal Marwah '95

With thanks to **Michael Levenston '71** for making his space available.

#### Alumni in Politics

A panel discussion with:

**Craig Keating '81** (city councillor, City of North Vancouver; president, BC NDP), **Sheila Malcolmson '85** (MP, Nanaimo-Ladysmith; NDP critic, Status of Women); another panelist to be announced.



Sheila Malcolmson '85

**Thursday, November 16, 2017**

Christ Church Cathedral  
690 Burrard St., Vancouver

With thanks to **Peter Elliott '73** for making this venue available.

### Looking for events in your region?

Check our events calendar at [trentu.ca/alumni](http://trentu.ca/alumni). Planning an event or reunion? We'd love to hear about it and help spread the word. Email us at [alumni@trentu.ca](mailto:alumni@trentu.ca).





## TOUR CAMPUS 6 DAYS A WEEK

**APPLICATIONS STILL BEING  
ACCEPTED FOR 2017**

Few things are more inspiring than unleashing the potential of a young mind. As a Trent alum, you know just how transformative the Trent experience really is. If you know a student considering university, let them know about our uniquely interactive, inclusive learning model, and encourage them to visit Trent. In person or online, students can tour Trent, learn about exciting new programs, check out residence and learn how Trent University in Peterborough or Durham – GTA opens the door to opportunity and success.

**INVITE A STUDENT YOU KNOW TO DISCOVER TRENT**

**TRENTU.CA/DISCOVER**



## LOOKING BACK

The University's first convocation took place in 1967, meaning that this year we are now celebrating 50 years of Trent alumni. While that first graduation took place as Bata Library was being built—and was held on ground that would eventually become the first floor of the library building—this year will see the iconic structure undergoing a massive upgrade and overhaul to become a library of the future and the academic home to countless students to come.

Congratulations to the Class of 2017. Welcome to your alumni years!