

Volume 43 — April 2023

TUARP TIMES

Trent University Association of Retired Persons

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Faculty Co-Chair: To be named

Staff Co-Chair: Gina Collins 2022 - 2024

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Editorial – Sixty Years Ago, An Act to Incorporate Trent University

By Tony Storey

Assented to April 3rd, 1963

Preamble

WHEREAS Trent College Limited by its petition has represented that it was incorporated under The Corporations Act, 1953, by letters patent bearing date the 9th day of August, 1960; and whereas the petitioner has prayed for special legislation changing its name to "Trent University" and providing for modification of its organization, government and administration and enlarging and increasing its powers, rights and privileges; and whereas it is expedient to grant the prayer of the petition...

3. Objects and Purposes of University

The objects and purposes of the University are,

- a) the advancement of learning and the dissemination of knowledge; and
- b) the intellectual, social, moral and physical development of its members and the betterment of society.

6. The Board of Governors, until reconstituted in accordance with Section 7, shall consist of the following persons:

Charles Kenneth Fraser
W. Donaldson Whyte
Rev. John Francis Coughlan
Norman Joseph Crook
Thomas Henry Bull Symons
Walter George Ward

The Act goes on to outline the roles of the Senate and Board as well as the Chancellor and President and Vice-Chancellor.

The passage of the Act was the culmination of community discussions that dated back into the 1950s. On December 5, 1957 a Letter to the Editor appeared in the Peterborough Examiner with the heading "Make Good Use of the Gas Money." The letter was written by Reg Faryon, president of the Quaker Oats Company (the pedestrian bridge on the Symons Campus is named for him).

Municipal voters had recently approved the sale of the Public Utilities Gas Franchise and Faryon proposed that these funds be used to help establish a Junior College.

"I think this is the greatest opportunity Peterborough has probably had in its history; and I also believe that to a great extent, the future progress of the City depends on it."

After a series of setbacks in persuading the province of the case for a university in Peterborough, plans began to advance. At the time these delays were discouraging, but with

the benefit of hindsight, it allowed a generous planning phase spanning three years. By contrast, Brock University was launched in just six months. A key step was the hiring of Tom Symons in 1961 as Academic Consultant and Chair of the Academic Planning Committee. Symons indicated that he did not yet publicly want to be known as President. "A President without a University is about the silliest animal in the College zoo."

Canadian General Electric donated a 100 acre site near Nassau Mills and the university's Charter allowed it to both purchase and expropriate land. Although the expropriations were on occasion fractious and tested in court, the 1,460 acre campus has been and continues to be of immense value to Trent's growth and development.

If you find yourself enjoying the view of the Otonabee River from the Faryon Bridge, take a moment to honour Reg Faryon and the letter he wrote 66 years ago.

As always I am indebted to Alf Cole's book, *Trent: The Making of a University 1957-1987*.



Faryon Bridge

TUARP Co-Chair's Message

By Gina Collins

Greetings fellow retirees. Welcome to the Spring of 2023. After three long years of COVID, we are looking forward to our second in person meeting. As some of you live out of the area, we are working on setting up participation via Zoom as well.

I am looking forward to reading the submissions to this newsletter. I have only lived

in two provinces, Quebec and Ontario, but I have lived in 12 different houses. Lots of unique memories and many, many friends made along the way.

Just a reminder that we still are looking for a faculty co-chair. Please let us know if you are interested.

Magic Moments in Athletics

By Paul Wilson

Gillian and I arrived in Peterborough and Trent University on August 20th, 1966. Our first visits were to the Trent campus for me to look at the athletic facilities. As there weren't any, that visit was quite short. In fact the only building under construction was Champlain College due to open a year later. I did learn that a squash court was to be an integral part of the college. Gillian's early visit was to the Peterborough Theatre Guild's new home in the former St. Luke's Church on Armour Road which had opened in 1964 the same year as Trent opened. For Gill this was the beginning of a 57 year relationship. Over the years she has acted and directed in numerous

productions and three years ago was made a life member. We were married a month earlier incidentally on the same day that England last won the World Cup of Soccer.

During those early years the City of Peterborough's recreation department were so helpful and accommodating in allowing us to make use of City fields, arenas and gymnasiums.

It was during those very early years that Trent won its initial Ontario Intercollegiate Athletic Association (OIAA) gold medals – Ben Joyce in épée fencing and Richard Fleming in squash, memorable accomplishments.

In 1970 the idea of the Head of the Trent Regatta came to fruition. The inspiration for this rowing event came from Chris Leach, a mature Trent student and former Olympic rower. That first year there were six crews entered in the various events. Some 25 years later, Head of the Trent became the largest one day rowing regatta in North America. Now the regatta cannot claim that title as it has become a two day event.

Over the years there have been humorous magic moments in the stories of Trent athletics. I will only mention a few of the more distinct ones. The installation of an air structure affectionately known as the Bubble which served as a gymnasium for the best part of a decade in the seventies. At that time annual delegations were made to the ministry of colleges and universities and I felt they were becoming sympathetic to our plight of a lack of athletic facilities so they included some \$60,000 for this air structure. It was put up every fall over four tennis courts in



Paul Wilson, painted by David French

what is now the athletic building parking lot, and taken down in the spring. The office is still there. I should point out the original cost was around \$65,000 and it was sold after the current athletic complex was opened for \$60,000, a formidable investment to say the least. Mike O'Brien, a member of the university engineering department became the mastermind behind the bubble's inflation and deflation.

One October morning some 30 years ago I got a call from the Royal Military College Director of athletics basically telling me I should go down to the college as quickly as possible as the commandant was very upset indeed with the antics of a Trent team the previous Saturday. I took his advice and entered the office of the commandant with some trepidation. I received

a civilian type court martial and was severely reprimanded. The problem was that the Trent rugby team, after a game against the College, had stopped their bus on the parade ground and mooned the official parade of cadets as they were seriously practising for a formal event the next day. I apologised profusely and assured him it would never happen again, with any luck, and it hasn't.

Obviously the other outstanding event in the Trent athletic world was the opening of the permanent and first class athletic complex. It took a decade of persuasion but it has proved a first class facility for both student and community use since its opening in 1977 with a renovation and addition in the early 2000s. Over the years Trent athletics has been blessed with outstanding staff and they have been honoured with three eminent service awards.

I just want to finish by saying how privileged I feel to have been Director of Athletics at Trent for 36 years.

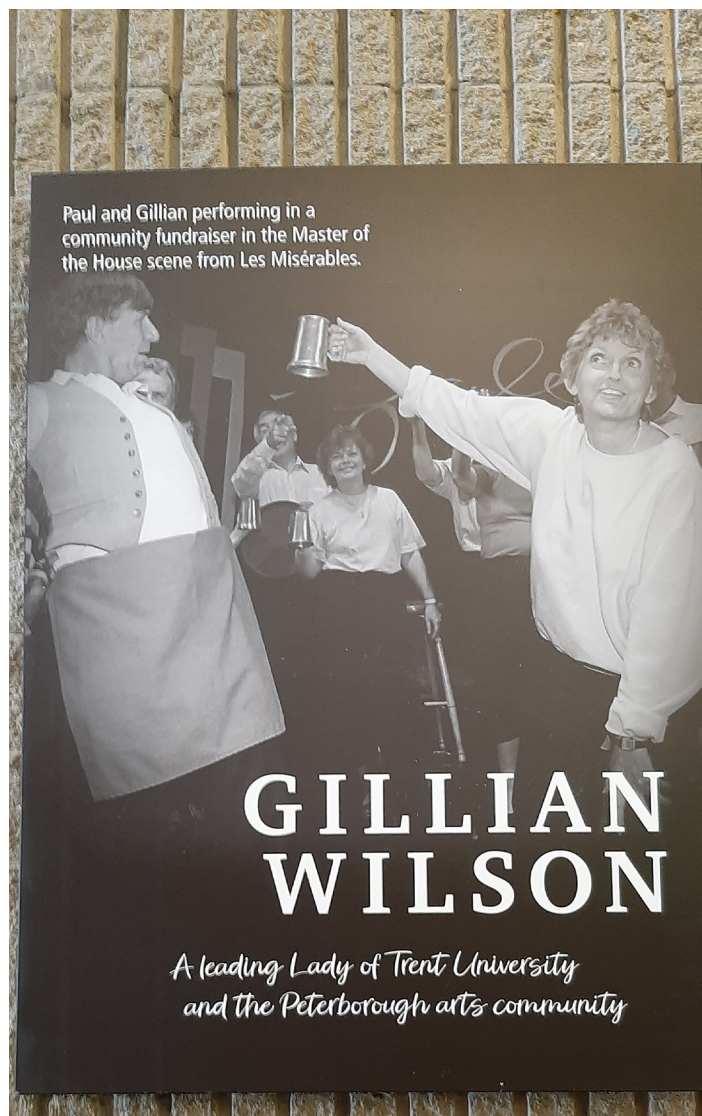
Editor's Note: In 1964 Michael Treadwell, an intramural sport trophy winning Trinity College graduate, was brought on to assist the Dean of Men and run the athletic program for two years. He formed a sub-committee on Athletics at Trent. Their report set the stage for the distinctive and enduring qualities of Trent's approach to sport.

"The emphasis placed upon inter-university competition and spectator sports in many universities today distorts the role and purpose of athletics."

The guiding principles at Trent were to be an emphasis on participation, physical fitness and enjoyment. Trent has never had an inter-collegiate football team, and when the cost of its hockey and basketball programs threatened other parts of the athletic program, they folded.

Michael Treadwell had met Paul Wilson at Trinity and recommended him to Tom Symons as a gentleman athlete who would promote sport for all.

The Editor gratefully acknowledges Paul's willingness to contribute to the newsletter. I have the privilege of a weekly squash game with him, followed by a refreshing and restorative visit to the pub.



The Gillian Wilson panel on the Wilson Tribute Wall at Trent's athletics building.

At Home by the River's Edge

By Tony Storey

As I compose this piece for our newsletter, I can hear the sound of geese as the spring migration unfolds.

In 1979 I bought a semi-detached home on the bank of the Otonabee River, close to downtown Peterborough. I was only a year into my Trent career with my first position being Assistant to the Master at Otonabee College. I had the encouragement of my parents in purchasing the house and for several years the mortgage was held by my godfather.

The neighborhood I live in is known as the Dickson Mills heritage area. Dickson Mills would have been a timber-related part of Peterborough in the mid-1800s and it is likely that former residents in my home worked at the mill. It is a small cluster of streets bordering the Otonabee River on one side and Water Street on the other, wedged to the north of McDonnell Street. A small block of Dublin Street has houses that back onto the river. Many of the homes, including mine, date back into the 1880s and there are some built in the 1840s. I have always enjoyed the feeling of living in a neighborhood where people have been dwelling for close to 150 years.

I am a two block walk from the London Street Footbridge which connects on the east side

of the river to the Rail Trail. It is a welcome destination for walking and bicycling.

So much of what I enjoy about living here is the character of the house...wooden floors, high ceilings, large baseboards, generous windows. In 2014 I sold a cottage I owned near Haliburton which allowed me to fund a significant extension to the house. The River Room, as it has been dubbed, added 400 square feet to my main floor in the form of a living area with large windows and shower room/laundry. I was also able to add a large deck and staircase which draw one towards the river. One indulgence of the River Room is a floor to ceiling library (the Barbara Storey Library in honour of my librarian mother) with sliding ladder. I have loved and collected books since childhood. We dedicated the Barbara Storey Library in 2017 with my mother in attendance at age 102 and delivering four minutes of remarks without notes. Priceless!

The river of course is a source of great pleasure and enjoyment. My view to the north is the Inverlea Bridge. There are four bridges in Peterborough that cross the river, all busy. I enjoy the contrast of the kinetic activity of bridge traffic with the energetic flow of the water.

In the high season I swim almost every



The Barbara Storey Library

morning. There are beaver, heron, muskrat, mink, turtles, ducks, osprey, geese, migrating waterfowl, rabbits, raccoons, hawks and all kinds of birdlife.

Although I have logged almost 44 years here, I still witness things I have never seen before. Frozen strands of vapour crossing the river like tumbleweeds, migrating swans, a heron in shallow water struggling to devour a fish, a family of raccoons descending from a huge maple tree at twilight...

I have a seasonal dock reached by a steep staircase. There is abundant vegetation which provides cover for wildlife. I have learned over the years, and especially since I retired, that if you sit quietly on the dock and listen for rustling along the shore, you may be in for a treat. Often it will be a squirrel or a bird but one day it was a mink with a dead squirrel in its mouth, giving the mink the appearance of a

Zapata style moustache. On another occasion it was two playful juvenile mink. It was clear they had a regular route along the shoreline which incorporated the second step of the staircase. One day I placed my ball cap on that step while I was swimming, only to see one very startled mink flounder as he leapt onto the step.

When the deck and stairs to the backyard were constructed, I asked my builder to ensure that both had generous dimension. I like to host Garden Parties and the deck makes for an effective stage for music and comedy. I was honoured to host Gillian Wilson's pandemic-postponed 80th birthday. I have very understanding and collaborative neighbours who allow the parties to expand into their backyards, so that up to 80 people may attend.

I have offered to host a TUARP Garden Party and we will try to make that happen this summer or next.

Call for convocation volunteers

Alumni Engagement & Services are inviting TUARP members to get involved with 2023 Convocation celebrations. Peterborough ceremonies will be held on June 6, 7, 8, 9, 12 & 13, and Durham ceremonies on June 16 at the Tribute Communities Centre in Oshawa. Personal interactions with the graduates and guests make this such a special and memorable event for graduates. For volunteer opportunities and updates, visit [the Convocation website](#).

Alumni Reunion

Classes of '67, '68, '69 and '70 will mark the 50th anniversary of their convocation this spring. To celebrate, graduates, staff and faculty of the 60s and 70s are invited to share in a weekend of nostalgia and camaraderie.

Saturday, May 13, 2023, join friends for a walk down memory lane, relive iconic moments from your time at Trent, and see what's new on the Symons and downtown campuses. Whether you sign-up for the day or can stay for the weekend, you are sure to enjoy thoughtful programming, scrumptious food, and lots of opportunities to reconnect with friends. You won't want to miss out on this milestone event!

More info: <https://mycommunity.trentu.ca/2023alumnireunion>

Invitation: Heart of Trent Luncheon

Trent's annual Heart of Trent employee appreciation event is coming to the Durham GTA campus. Please join us in person on Wednesday, May 10, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event will also be live-streamed for anyone who cannot attend in person.



Pension Update

The TUFA Pension Plan was converted to the University Pension Plan Ontario (“UPP”) effective January 1, 2022. Now, TUFA Pension Plan retiree benefits are payable from the UPP.

The University is now proposing to transfer the assets and liabilities of the Trent Staff Plan into the UPP with an anticipated effective date of January 1, 2025. This conversion was agreed to by OPSEU and the University in the last round of negotiations. If the conversion proceeds, pensions payable to Trent Staff Plan retirees will be transferred to, and paid from, the UPP effective on and after January 1, 2025. Current retirees’ benefits earned under the Trent Staff Plan will not change as a result of conversion to the UPP.

The conversion of the Trent Staff Plan to the UPP is governed by the Ontario Pension Benefits Act (the “PBA”), including, among other things, the requirement to obtain the consent of the CEO of the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (“FSRA”). The PBA requires that all individuals with an entitlement under the Trent Staff Plan be provided with detailed information about the Trent Staff Plan and the UPP prior to the conversion. Trent Staff Plan retirees will receive this notice related to the conversion in the fall of 2023. The University will hold retiree information sessions in the fall to provide more details about the conversion and address retiree questions.

Notice of General Meeting

Tuesday May 9, 2023

10 am to 12 pm

Bagnani Hall, Trill College

Guest Speaker: Brian Love, President of the Peterborough Rowing Club

“Rowing Returns to Peterborough”

This in-person meeting will be supplemented by Zoom. The Zoom connection information is included in the General Meeting Notice that is attached to the retirees ebroadcast.

Annual Dues Notice

Voluntary TUARP dues payment of \$10 is invited. Members may pay at the meeting or by Interac banking transfer.

Add TUARP to your banking app list of payees and send to tuarp@trentu.ca.

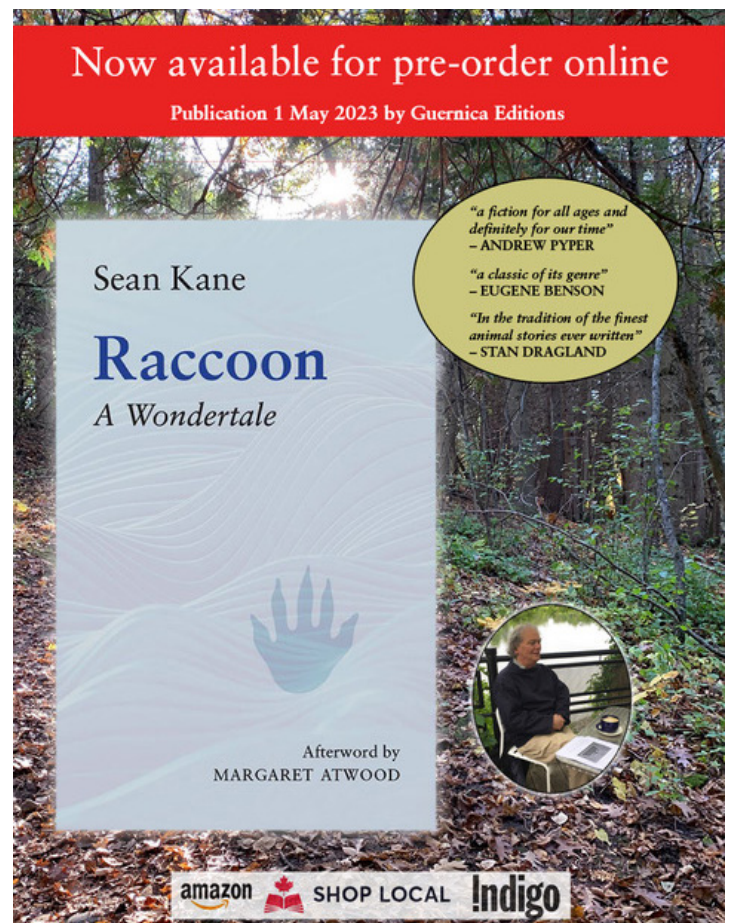
Reminder to Update Contact Information

Don't miss TUARP newsletters or meeting notices – remember to keep your contact information up to date! If you have moved, changed phone numbers or email addresses, be sure to update your profile by visiting <http://www.mycommunity.trentu.ca/myprofile> or emailing advancementservices@trentu.ca

Call for Submissions

Submissions for the next issue are invited before September 1, 2023. They may be sent to tonystorey71@gmail.com.

Past issues of TUARP Times are posted on the TUARP website: <http://mycommunity.trentu.ca/alumni>.



**mo-men-tous:
of great importance or significance,
especially on its bearing to the future**

By Tony Storey

As we entered Stohn Hall on the Symons Campus on March 24th, we were met by the sound of Drum Cafe, a team-building company hired to infuse Trent's newest and boldest fundraising campaign launch with a sense of unified and dramatic community purpose.

Each seat in the auditorium had a drum, and maracas were distributed to the willing.

We were tutored by a dynamic lead drummer who soon had us working together. I have never been accused of being able to keep time to music, but like many others, we gave it our best shot.

It was a rollicking start to a session in which President Leo Groarke, to a drumroll of course, announced that Trent's newest campaign target is \$100,000,000.

The campaign identity is "This Is A Time For Momentous Change" as the university readies itself to face new perspectives, technological innovation and broader connections. The Trent community is twined together because of a

commonly held deep desire to participate in- and lead- momentous change.

The Campaign will be led by two co-chairs: Alumnus Gavin Marshall, President of Magenta Corporation and Linda Schuyler, Order of Canada and the founder of the Degrossi television series.

To date, \$42,000,000 has been raised.

You can learn more about Trent's newest fundraising initiative at trentu.ca/momentous.

While I was greatly enjoying my visit to Stohn Hall, I couldn't help but think of another momentous public meeting to focus on community support for Trent. This one took place sixty years ago in March 1963 at Peterborough Collegiate school. It was led by local businessman Ernest Braund. In this case, it was the announcement of the Trent University Founding Fund and its goal of \$1.52 million. At the kickoff meeting there was almost 1 volunteer for every 150 residents of the city.

"When the canvassers of the employee



division went into the plants, they received an overwhelming response...Symons had spoken to every local of every union for miles around and he had preached the university gospel well."

The employee division target of \$320,00 was more than doubled.

Here is a list of the university's campaigns:

- Founding Fund
- Continuing Advancement Fund
- Second Decade Fund
- Fund for Excellence
- Campaign For Tomorrow
- Beyond Our Walls
- Building Capacity
- Unleash the Potential
- The Campaign for Momentous Change

When I became Coordinator of Alumni Affairs in 1984 I was immediately drawn into the Fund for Excellence. During the Campaign for Tomorrow I had the immense pleasure of meeting Trent Board Member and Campaign Chair David Moore. David was a Toronto businessman who had fallen in love with the university and its people and activities. I recall

being at a campaign volunteer reception at the Toronto home of alumnus Robert Stephenson and his wife Nancy. I was shuttling drinks out to a patio where several alumni were seated. I had a tray and was retrieving beverages from a cooler. I placed two drinks on the tray and turned back to the cooler for two more. The first two drinks had vanished. Puzzled, I set the second set of drinks down, then back to the cooler. It happened again. Beyond puzzled now, I looked up to the grinning face, eyes a-twinkle, of David Moore who said, "Think you're losing your mind?" David had been quietly hiding the drinks. It was at that instant that I knew how greatly I was going to enjoy my association with him.

David and Joan Moore became thoughtful, generous and important benefactors. Although their university backgrounds lay elsewhere, David was emphatic that Trent was "our" university.

The morning after the launch event on March 24th, I learned that David Moore had died on the 24th. He would have utterly enjoyed the drumming and the maracas, the energy and purpose, and the challenge ahead.

