

A young woman with dark hair, wearing a grey jacket and a high-visibility yellow and orange safety vest, stands in a lush green forest. She is holding a pair of green binoculars. The background is filled with dense foliage.

YOU MADE THIS POSSIBLE



**MOMENTOUS
CAMPAIGN**

Momentous Campaign
Annual Report 2026



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On the Cover: Alexandria Barber (Traill College), a fourth-year Environmental Science & Studies student, is able to study, work on, and care for the natural areas on Symons campus thanks to our supporters' generosity - helping protect and restore these vital habitats, wildlife corridors, productive landscapes, and green spaces.



TOGETHER, WE ARE BRINGING TRENT'S VISION TO LIFE

Every gift to Trent University begins with a belief in possibility - that education can change lives, and that investing in people creates opportunities which extend far beyond a single student, project, or moment.

Those same ideas are reflected in Trent's renewed vision and mission. Our vision is to be *the* place to be and become, where people engage in meaningful learning, build community, and discover pathways to opportunity. Our mission reminds us that we stand out by standing closer, and I see our donor community doing exactly this through the Momentous Campaign.

As a supporter of Trent, you share a commitment to opening doors for students, advancing knowledge, and strengthening the communities we serve. That commitment was evident throughout the past year as our community reached two significant milestones: The campaign surpassed \$72 million on the path toward its \$100 million goal, and 2025–26 became the most successful fundraising year in Trent's history, with \$12.5 million raised.

Because of your generosity, more students are accessing scholarships and financial assistance. Researchers are pursuing work that addresses complex challenges and creates new understanding.

Campus spaces are being renewed to support learning, connection, and discovery. Partnerships continue to expand opportunities for students while strengthening the communities we serve.

Together, we are helping ensure that students have the support they need to succeed and that future generations continue to benefit from the distinctive learning environment that defines a Trent education. Our donors (you!) know that we believe in lifelong learning that builds to a legacy of impact.

As you explore this annual report, I hope you see your values and aspirations reflected throughout its pages. And importantly, I hope you see the lasting difference your generosity is making in the lives of students, researchers, and communities.

Thank you for believing in Trent. Thank you for helping create opportunities for others. And thank you for being an essential part of the future we are building together.

With gratitude,

Dr. Cathy Bruce
President & Vice-Chancellor
Trent University

BY THE NUMBERS

Behind every number is an investment in students, research, and campus spaces. Here's a snapshot of what you made possible this year during Trent's record-breaking year of philanthropy.

5,431

Total gifts

2,083

Students supported



\$1.58M

New student support

1,557

Total supporters



49%

Donors who are alumni

71,518

Total alumni





\$12.5M

Total raised this year
(new record)

\$72M

Momentous Campaign Total

YOU OPEN DOORS THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS

Arriving in Canada from Greece as a child who didn't speak English, Chris Theodoropoulos '74 (Otonabee College) learned early what it meant to overcome barriers.

At Trent, he found more than an education, he found belonging. With the mentorship of then Trent staff member Alan Saxby '68 (Peter Robinson College), Chris gained the confidence and support that helped shape a distinguished career as an executive, lawyer, and business leader.

Today, Chris is paying that impact forward by establishing the

Alan Saxby Undergraduate Scholarship - supporting students who demonstrate academic excellence while navigating significant life challenges.

His story reflects the transformative power of student support at Trent. This year, 1,666 students received scholarships, bursaries, awards and prizes made possible through philanthropy.

With this new prestigious scholarship, even more students will be able to overcome barriers and pursue their ambitions, just as Chris did.



“ Alan’s encouragement and guidance gave me confidence and direction at a time when I needed it the most. This scholarship is about carrying that spirit forward. ”

Chris Theodoropoulos '74
Established Alan Saxby Undergraduate
Scholarship





“Trent allowed me to dream big and without all of the support, I wouldn't be where I am today. ”

Davina Persaud '19
Senior International Tax Consultant, Onex

YOU CREATE OPPORTUNITY AT TRENT DURHAM

At just 24, Trent Durham GTA graduate Davina Persaud '19 is a Senior International Taxation Consultant with Canada's largest private equity firm as well as president of a Durham organization that supports at-risk women and children. Davina credits her remarkable early success with support from her time at Trent Durham where she received the Ed & Sylvia Vanhaverbeke Durham Scholarship.

"Trent allowed me to dream big and without all of the support, I wouldn't be where I am today," says Davina. "The scholarship made a lasting difference because it allowed me to focus fully on my studies and pursue my career with confidence."

Thanks to supporters like you, 223 Trent Durham students have been supported by scholarships, bursaries, awards, and prizes, removing barriers, opening doors, and helping students turn ambitions into action.

This year's Vanhaverbeke Scholarship recipient Liza Pavlik is one step closer to her goal of building a Human Resources (HR) career at General Motors (GM) where she hopes to foster people-centered workplaces.

In her final year of the Bachelor of Business Administration program, Liza is grateful to focus on her studies and co-op terms at places like GM where she advanced her understanding in areas such as labour relations, compliance, and workplace insurance claims.

"As a Canadian-born Ukrainian, I am acutely aware that my parents did not have the same opportunities that I am blessed with today," she says. "I'm truly thankful that your support is empowering me to take meaningful steps towards my goal of becoming an HR leader."

YOU EMPOWER FUTURE LEADERS

The Business STRIDE Challenge at Trent University Durham GTA is equipping students with skills, confidence, and real-world experience needed in a rapidly changing workforce that's defined by artificial intelligence, hybrid work, and evolving approaches to inclusive hiring.

Thanks to leadership support from incoming Trent chancellor Dr. Zabeen Hirji '25 (hon), the inaugural 2026 STRIDE Challenge engaged 30 students, including Trent and high school students, across nine teams who worked closely with faculty and industry mentors to tackle business challenges. Their award-winning proposals demonstrate not only innovation, but a deeper understanding of responsible leadership including ethical decision-making, a purpose-driven mindset, and creating space for diverse perspectives.

"Experiences like STRIDE help build the human capabilities that will define leadership in an AI-driven world - one that is more human, not less," says Hirji.



Thanks to Dr. Hirji's support, winning teams also deepen their understanding of global citizenship by choosing a not-for-profit to receive a donation. At the same time, industry partners gain fresh perspectives on real-world challenges. Beyond the competition, STRIDE builds lasting impact by expanding networks and connecting students with mentorship that opens doors to future careers.



“ Meeting the STRIDE judges was a turning point for me as I prepared to graduate. I walked away with career connections that inspire me to work hard towards my future. ”

Trent Durham Business Administration student Misba Arian



YOU SPARK CANADIAN CONVERSATIONS

Through the Canadian Narrative Project, your generosity is helping Canadians better understand themselves, each other, and the forces shaping our country's future.

The Project fosters a broad, inclusive dialogue about Canadian identity and history through public discussions and research in consultation with Trent University's Canadian Studies faculty. By bringing people together through signature events like the Macdonald Lecture, an ongoing collaboration between Trent University and the Canadian International Council, the Project creates powerful

spaces for the intersection of research, lived experience, and public dialogue.

Your support helps faculty and students to continue enhancing our understanding of this country through important topics such as nationalism, French and English relations, security, the Arctic, and what it means to be Canadian.

The impact is far reaching as students, researchers, and community members are challenged to reflect critically on complex issues and carry their insights into their classrooms, workplaces, and communities.



“ It won't be long before these students are in the workforce where they can affect change and policy, and this experience gave me hope that the planet is in good hands. ”

Community participant,
Intergenerational Classroom



YOU BRIDGE GENERATIONS

Trent's Intergenerational Classroom is creating meaningful connections between students and older community members, transforming both education and community, while disrupting ageism on a larger scale.

Led by Dr. Elizabeth Russell, executive member and former Director of the Trent Centre for Aging & Society, students and older people from the Peterborough area connect weekly in Professor Russell's Psychology of Aging class through small-group intergenerational discussions and shared projects and activities. Together, students and community members listen and contribute to lectures on the science behind aging, exchange perspectives, reflect on lived experience, and uncover common ground.

More than 100 undergraduate students have developed greater empathy, communication skills, and real-world insight to support their future careers. Meanwhile, 27 community participants have shared wisdom and knowledge, learned about the challenges and opportunities facing young people today, and strengthened social connections. (Some older participants have gone on to register as Trent students!) Also, more than 10 students have been employed in research positions.

Thanks to your support, Trent is redefining how aging is studied and experienced, while preparing students to lead with compassion in an increasingly intergenerational world.

Listen to Dr. Elizabeth Russell discuss why Trent's a natural fit for intergenerational research.




YOU RENEW ICONIC SPACES



“The Faryon Bridge is tremendously important to the Symons Campus and to the Trent community. We made this gift to help ensure the bridge is restored fully and part of a defining Trent experience for the next generations of students.”

Doug '70 and Mary Kirk
Supporters of the Faryon Bridge
revitalization project



A group of graduates in green gowns with various colored stoles (red, white, yellow) are standing on a bridge railing. They are looking in various directions, some towards the camera and others away. The background is a clear blue sky with a pattern of small, light blue dots that fades out towards the top. A green lamppost is visible on the right side of the frame.

Thanks to generous support, the Faryon Bridge will remain a cherished part of campus life for generations to come. Through the current rehabilitation project, the iconic Trent landmark will maintain its structural integrity, support safe daily use, and preserve the defining architectural features that make it a symbol of the University.

For decades, Faryon Bridge has been woven into the Trent experience, from convocation and Head of the Trent to student chalking, postering and public expression. It is also part of many Trent love stories, bearing witness to first kisses, engagements, and wedding photos.

That deep sense of connection inspired Doug Kirk '70 (Champlain College), Chair of Trent's Board of Governors, and his partner, Mary, to help launch the fundraising campaign to rehabilitate the bridge with a generous gift.

Thanks to our supporters, Faryon Bridge will continue to hold the stories of Trent: past, present, and those still to come.



THE PATTERSON FAMILY: A LEGACY THAT SHAPES TRENT

Dr. David and Anne Patterson

Leaving a legacy at Trent University over the past several decades, Dr. David G. Patterson '66, '14 (hon) and R. Anne Patterson continue to strengthen academic excellence and enrich campus life through the arts.

They initiated the establishment of Trent's first endowed chair, the Kenneth Mark Drain Chair in Ethics, by providing the lead gift and prompting more than a dozen family members to contribute to this recognition of a cherished Peterborough uncle, and the

chair's ongoing impact on interdisciplinary teaching and ethical leadership.

David and Anne have also enhanced the University's cultural landscape through the Patterson-Ainsley Art Collection. This landmark collection, the first permanent art collection of its kind and size donated to Trent, includes 40 glass sculptures, paintings, and photographic works, and continues to inspire the Trent community across both campuses. The collection can be experienced both in person and virtually.



Take a virtual tour of the Patterson-Ainsley Art Collection.



Dr. John and Dr. Thea Patterson

Through the enduring commitment of Dr. W. John Patterson '17 (hon) and Dr. Thea A. Patterson '17 (hon), the family is advancing research and experiential learning at Trent.

With more than three decades of community and leadership development across the world, John and Thea now bring global experience and community vision to Trent to continue their lifelong commitment to social justice. Through Abbey Gardens, a 300-acre sustainable community hub in Haliburton, the couple has transformed a former gravel pit into a centre for environmental innovation,

local food systems, and education.

In partnership with Trent and U-Links, Abbey Gardens has become a living laboratory where students gain hands-on experience.

Through the Patterson-Abbey Gardens Research Fellowship, John and Thea support Masters and PhD students to conduct research projects at Abbey Gardens. To date, nine students from diverse programs have contributed to seven research projects, including supporting native forests and restoring native prairie landscapes.

Trent University is deeply grateful to the Patterson family whose legacy spans generations. Since 1966, well over 15 immediate and extended-family relatives of John, Thea, David and Anne, have attended Trent, with another 'next generation' niece set to begin this September.





YOU NURTURE LEARNING ON THE LAND

For Environmental Science & Studies student Alexandria Barber (Traill College), the natural areas on the Symons Campus in Peterborough are one of her greatest teachers. Drawn to Trent by the 865 acres of the University Green Network (UGN), the fourth-year student now studies, works, and contributes to their care as a Land Stewardship Assistant. From surveying amphibian calls at night to monitoring breeding birds in the mornings, her days reflect the rhythms of the ecosystems she helps protect.

Thanks to generous donor support, vital habitats on the Trent Lands are being actively stewarded. This creates opportunities for students like Alexandria to learn, conduct research, and contribute to environmental stewardship firsthand. Ninety-five students have contributed to 77 research projects in the UGN, while others have participated in labs, community-based research projects, and co-op placements.

Through the Ggwepnandizamin Systems-Level Plan, supported by TD Bank, Trent is integrating Michi Saagiig Knowledge Systems with Western science to strengthen care of the UGN, an interconnected system of habitats, wildlife corridors, productive landscapes, and green spaces.

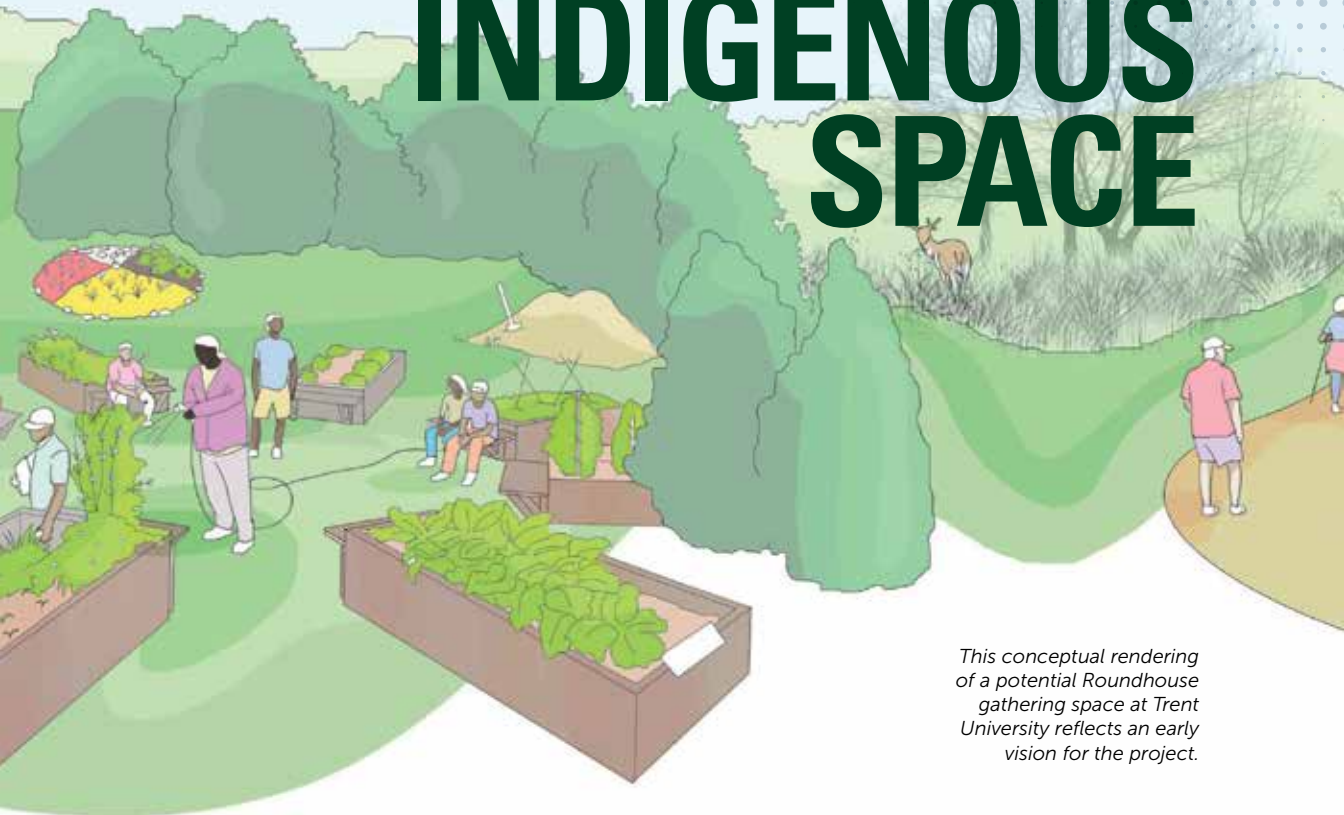
Looking ahead, the UGN, guided by Ggwepnandizamin, will continue to protect vital landscapes, deepen experiential learning and research opportunities, and empower the next generation of environmental leaders.



“ We’re inspired by Trent’s leadership in Indigenous education and proud to advance a vision for a dedicated space that supports Indigenous-led ceremony, cultural expression, and community. ”

Barry and Laurie Green

YOU ADVANCE A VISION FOR INDIGENOUS SPACE



This conceptual rendering of a potential Roundhouse gathering space at Trent University reflects an early vision for the project.

Thanks to our supporters, a long-held vision for a Roundhouse on campus - supporting Indigenous ceremony, culture, and teachings - is beginning to take shape at Trent University.

With support from the Barry and Laurie Green Family Charitable Trust, the University is taking important first steps in a culturally grounded engagement process to ensure any future space reflects Indigenous values, needs, and aspirations.

The initial phase explores site selection, concept design, costing, and location for a

building that could host gatherings, student pow-wows, feasts, and classes.

Rooted in Indigenous design and guided by community voices, this vision has been championed by the Elders and Knowledge Keepers Council and contributions throughout the creation of the Trent Lands and Nature Areas Plan.

This important work is moving forward through generous support, bringing a shared vision for new Indigenous space at Trent closer to reality.

YOU ADVANCE INDIGENOUS RESEARCH

The **Indigenous Environmental Institute (IEI)** at Trent University engages more than 50 undergraduate and graduate students annually in experiential, interdisciplinary learning grounded in Indigenous knowledge systems and focused on environmental reconciliation.

Spanning two faculties, three schools, and more than 10 programs and initiatives, the IEI brings together diverse areas of study for this work. Supported by a network of researchers and Indigenous knowledge holders, the Institute partners with communities while preparing students to lead and respond thoughtfully to complex environmental and social challenges at local, national, and global levels.



Inspiring Indigenous Youth Through Land-Based Learning

The Trent Aboriginal Cultural Knowledge and Science Youth Program (TRACKS) is making a lasting impact on young minds by creating hands-on, land-based learning opportunities that combine Indigenous knowledge and western science.

This year alone, 3,464 students (including 356 Indigenous youth) and 232 educators participated in more than 180 workshops, camps, and PA Day activities - building practical skills, confidence, and a deeper understanding of Indigenous perspectives.

Through mentorship and knowledge exchange, TRACKS also helps open pathways into post-secondary education and meaningful careers, particularly for Indigenous youth.



Indigenous-Led Stewardship of Land, Water, and Community

The Greater T'karonto Bioregion Project is advancing Indigenous-led approaches to land and water stewardship, as well as community resilience, across 3 million hectares. Through partnerships with eight First Nation communities and other Indigenous partners, as well as regenerative organizations and provincial conservation authorities, the initiative drives projects spanning ecosystem restoration, sustainable food systems, community health, and environmental education - grounded in both Indigenous and science-based knowledge systems. The project currently engages two faculty, two Trent alumni researchers, and four students - two of whom are Indigenous - providing hands-on, meaningful opportunities to contribute to this work.



**YOU INSPIRE
EXCALIBUR
EXCELLENCE**

For Paul S.B. Wilson '96 (hon) (1939-2026), sport was never just about competition. It was about belonging, opportunity, and growth for every student. As Trent's founding Athletics Director, PSB championed a vision of "sport for all," shaping a legacy that continues to define the University today.

The PSB Wilson Bursary and the PSB Wilson Fund for Athletics & Recreation honour that legacy, transforming his belief into meaningful impact for generations of student athletes. In the past 16 years alone, 55 student athletes have received bursaries, while the fund has invested in equipment, facilities, and programs that elevate Trent's high standard for athletics.

This year, the fund supported both varsity and campus recreation by providing critical equipment including soccer nets, rugby tackle bags, and upgraded camera technology to enhance livestreams and broaden access to the Excalibur experience.

Beyond performance, the impact is deeply personal. Student-athletes are developing leadership skills, forming lasting friendships, and finding a strong sense of belonging – on and off the field.



Every Early Morning, Made Possible by You

Kendall Rose (Lady Eaton College) begins her day at 4:30 a.m. at the boathouse. After rowing practice, she heads to class, then the library, and later returns to coach or repair boats.

Thanks to your support, Kendall is able to balance the demands of varsity rowing with full-time studies in Trent's Health B.Sc. program.

Your generosity provides student-athletes like Kendall with on-campus employment, scholarships, and hands-on learning opportunities, ensuring they can pursue athletic goals while achieving academic excellence.



Hear Kendall discuss how student athletes don't ask for 'easy' from supporters, they ask for opportunity.

YOU DEVELOP FUTURE LEADERS

More than 500 donors helped make this a record-breaking year for the Trent Fund, contributing \$332,000 to the University's most flexible source of funding. These gifts help Trent respond to students' most pressing needs while creating opportunities that inspire leadership, learning, wellness, and personal growth.

For Sierra Punchard, a Nursing student from a small rural community and the first in her family to attend university, support from Trent helped make all the difference. At Trent, she found a strong sense of belonging and encouragement that allowed her to focus on her studies while taking on leadership roles both on campus and in the community.

“ Trent believed in me. Every ounce of support said, 'You belong, you matter, you're capable.' ”

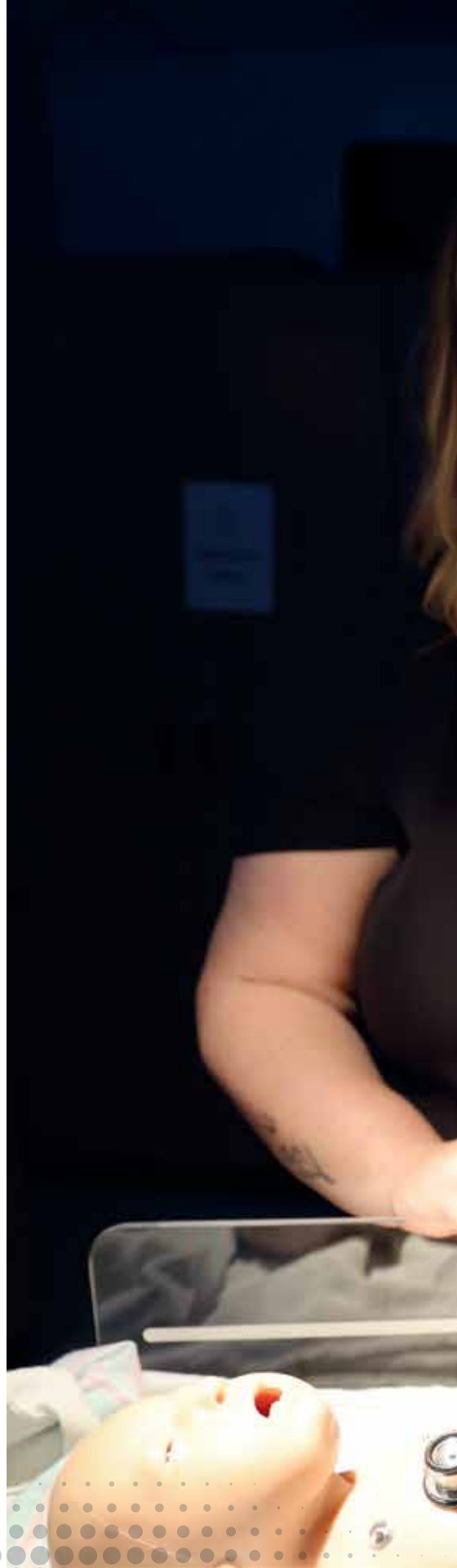
Sierra Punchard (Gzowski College),
Trent University student

Today, Sierra is helping advance Indigenous health equity and advocating for more inclusive, decolonized approaches to education and health care. Her journey demonstrates how your support helps students build confidence and reach their potential.

Because of you, future leaders like Sierra are empowered to thrive at Trent and make a lasting impact.



Hear how Sierra
carved her own path





A young woman with long brown hair, wearing a tan hat, a blue life vest, and a grey t-shirt, is smiling while paddling a silver canoe on a calm lake. The background shows a lush green shoreline with trees and a wooden dock in the distance under a clear blue sky.

YOU SHAPE FUTURE GENERATIONS

Through **legacy giving**, you create hands-on opportunities that transform student learning and strengthen Trent for years to come

From conducting shoreline surveys on Clear Lake to gaining hands-on work with the Ministry of Natural Resources, Trent student Angelina Gordon (Gzowski College) is turning her passion for biology into real-world impact. The fourth year B.Sc. Conservation Biology student says she's proud and humbled that her fish and wildlife experiential learning opportunities are supported by the legacy of a founding member of Trent's Biology department.

Angelina is this year's recipient of the Powles Prize, established by Professor Emeritus Percival M. Powles (1930–2025), a respected researcher in fisheries and larval fish biology. "I'm honoured to be connected to Professor

Powles' legacy at Trent," says Angelina. "This support has allowed me to focus on experiential learning opportunities that have truly deepened my passion for aquatic science."

The Powles Prize has supported nine Biology students, allowing them to focus on their studies and critical hands-on learning opportunities as they prepare for careers in fisheries and aquatic sciences.

Whether through prizes, scholarships, research, or campus spaces, a community of visionary legacy supporters - led by proud Trent alumni - is helping secure a strong, vibrant future for Trent.



Legacy of Proud Alumni Advances Freshwater Fish Biology



Dr. Gordon Copp '76 (1956–2023), a dedicated scholar, mentor, and advocate for ecological stewardship, has expanded student research opportunities in freshwater fish biology through the Gordon H. Copp Research Grant.

Through a generous estate gift, Trent graduate students in the Environmental & Life Sciences Program will carry on Dr. Copp's life work through innovative, hands-on research that advances fish-related research and knowledge. The first students will benefit from this fund beginning in September 2026.

TOGETHER, WE THE MOMENTU



Since stepping into the role of Associate Vice-President, Philanthropy & Alumni Engagement in October 2025, I've had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the extraordinary commitment that defines the Trent community.

I've met alumni, students, faculty, staff, donors, and community members who inspire me through their deep belief in this University, and what it makes possible. I am profoundly grateful for your generosity that is reflected throughout this report. Every gift, no matter the size, plays a meaningful role in opening doors for students, advancing research, strengthening our campuses, and deepening our connections with community.

As we move confidently toward our \$100 million goal for the Momentous Campaign, we know reaching this milestone will require the collective commitment of our entire community. Together, we are creating lasting impact.

I'm proud to have joined you on this remarkable journey and excited for all we will accomplish together in the years ahead.

Sandy

Sandy Marett
Associate Vice-President
Philanthropy & Alumni Engagement
Trent University

KEEP M GOING

Thank you to our
Campaign Co-Chairs and
Philanthropic Advisory
Council for your vision and
leadership; and to all who
make this work possible
through your generosity

CAMPAIGN LEADERS



Gavin Marshall '76
CEO & Founder,
Magenta Capital Corporation



**Dr. Linda Schuyler '18 (hon),
CM, OOnt**
Executive Producer &
Co-Creator, Degrassi franchise

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External Relations & Development

Sandy Maret
Associate Vice-President,
Philanthropy & Alumni
Engagement

Donna Doherty '16
Campaign Director

THE IMPACT OF YOU

is Still Unfolding

Julie Davis

Vice-President, External
Relations & Development

juliedavis@trentu.ca
705-748-1482

Sandy Marett

Associate Vice-President,
Philanthropy & Alumni Engagement

sandymarett@trentu.ca
705-748-1011 x7593

Donna Doherty '16

Campaign Director

donnadoherty@trentu.ca
705-748-1011 x7208



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