

TRENT

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Trent University Alumni Association
Alumni House, Champlain College
Trent University
Peterborough, Ontario, K9L 0G2
705.748.1573 or 1.800.267.5774, Fax: 705.748.1785
Email: alumni@trentu.ca

trentu.ca/alumni

MANAGING EDITOR

Donald Fraser '91

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Ruth-Ann Dafoe

COPY EDITOR

Megan Ward

DESIGN

Beeline Design & Communications

CONTRIBUTORS

Alma Barranco-Mendoza '90, Stephen Brown '86
Paul Davidson '83, Michael Epp, Donald Fraser '91
Paul Frost, Robert Gauvreau '01
Lee Hays '91, Michael Hickson
Emily Whetung '03, Marguerite Xenopoulos

EDITORIAL BOARD

Marilyn Burns '00, Donald Fraser '91, Lee Hays '91
Ian Proudfoot '73, Kathryn Verhulst-Rogers

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Maracle Press, Oshawa

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On the cover: **Robert Gauvreau '01**

Photo: Michael Hurcomb



Paul Davidson '83

Guest Editor

INNOVATION IN LEARNING, RESEARCH AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

Congratulations to all new Trent graduates. You have shown perseverance, tenacity, and resilience in completing your degree through a pandemic. Your grit will serve you well for decades to come. And to employers reading this column: consider the additional skills recent grads have developed over the course of their unconventional experience. There is a generation of new grads ready to put their shoulder to the wheel.

It is encouraging to see that at Trent, and across the country, enrolment is up, retention is up, and completion is up. Thanks go to faculty and students alike for demonstrating remarkable flexibility and commitment throughout the pandemic.

At Trent and on campuses across Canada there are active and intense conversations underway about the future of work, future skills needed, and how universities are equipping learners of all ages with the lifelong opportunities that higher education provides.

With regard to future skills, I am encouraged to see that in addition to the specific skills that different courses and programs at Trent provide, there is greater appreciation for the “soft skills.” The Conference Board of Canada recently released a report indicating the six most highly valued skills vacancies are “active listening, critical thinking, reading comprehension, speaking, monitoring and coordination.” Places like Trent have a long and deep commitment to fostering these kinds of skills across all disciplines.

For those whose careers are being disrupted by COVID-19, geo-political events, climate change, technological change or other major forces, universities across the country are also adapting with the introduction of short courses, stackable credits, and micro-credentials. It is important to remember that Trent traces its origins to the needs of both the Peterborough and Durham communities—and as those needs change, so too does the university, while being guided by enduring principles and values.

What is so energizing about visiting Trent’s campuses today is to see how the commitment to outstanding educational experience is being married with research and

innovation. Trent is pursuing this integrated approach around three broad themes: humanities, culture and Indigenous studies; aging, health and sustainable communities; and the environment. It is a great example of how Canada’s universities are helping accelerate social, cultural and economic renewal coming out of the pandemic. There are whole new fields of exploration and new ways of linking to community that could not have been imagined by Trent’s founders and first faculty and students. The benefits of these innovative approaches flow to students, faculty, and the community alike.

As a Trent alumnus, I know that Trent remains a place that instills pride and commitment coupled with a willingness to try new things. The pandemic, the climate emergency, and changing geopolitical realities all underscore the importance of Trent’s contribution to a healthy, sustainable, and peaceful world.

Paul Davidson '83

President, Universities Canada



Paul Davidson in Zimbabwe, 1985

A Message from the President

IN-PERSON LEARNING: THE FOUNDATION OF THE TRENT EXPERIENCE

It was Socrates who said that the unexamined life is not worth living. He wanted us to examine our own lives by asking questions, examining our experiences, always striving to see things more clearly. At Trent, the Socratic dictum comes alive in labs, lecture halls and libraries, as well as more unexpected places on campus—on the trails, on the water, over a cup of coffee...

A silver lining during two years of the COVID pandemic has been our success in increasing (and dare I say, Trent-ifying) our online offerings. At the same time, the pandemic has forced us to think about our identity and the in-person experiences and learning at its heart.

Especially when we are deprived of it, the mental health benefits of in-person engagement are obvious. Online education is an important tool, especially for students who cannot be at Trent in person, though the foundation of the Trent experience continues to be in-person learning that aims to provide our students with the skills needed to be future leaders, innovators, and global citizens.



The best way to learn about working with others, problem solving, diversity and critical thinking is by actively engaging a diverse community. With international students now constituting 12% of our enrolment—bringing students from cultures and communities across Canada and beyond—this is more possible than ever before.

As alumni, you already know the value of a Trent education. We continually seek to add to it in innovative ways. One exciting development is the launch of more than 20 career-ready co-ops (many in the humanities and social sciences). They will provide students in Philosophy, Sociology, Indigenous Studies, Ancient Greek and Roman Studies, and many other programs a chance to gain work experiences that will utilize and expand their analytical and communication skills.

I hope this issue of *TRENT Magazine* sparks some new discoveries through the topics we explore. We delve into important issues facing our country and the world, including scientific skepticism, clean drinking water on First Nations reserves, climate change—and, refreshingly, poetry. I encourage you to stay connected, ask questions and have many conversations—great and small.

Leo Groarke

Dr. Leo Groarke, Ph.D.,
President & Vice-Chancellor

WHAT'S NEW *at Trent University*



Trent Launches New Logistics & Supply Chain Management Degree

A new Bachelor of Arts degree in Logistics & Supply Chain Management launching at Trent University Durham Greater Toronto Area (GTA) this fall will give students the technical, analytical, and hands-on skills needed to meet the growing demand for leaders in the global supply chain.

As one of the only undergraduate Logistics & Supply Chain Management degree programs of its kind in Canada, Trent's new degree will prepare students with in-demand skills, such as managing supply chains, and the ability to analyze data and develop innovative solutions to supply chain and logistics problems. The degree will also prepare students to achieve the Certified Supply Chain Management Professional (CSCMP) designation.



Black Experience in Canada Course Speaks to Resilience and Achievement

A Black Experience in Canada course at Trent University Durham GTA is equipping students with the tools to lead and create an equitable society. From Drake to historic political figures, the integral contributions of Black Canadians take centre stage in the course's conversations of truth, vitality and inspiration.

"In this course, students hear hidden stories of Canadian history as well as uplifting contemporary experiences that speak to the resilience of the Black spirit in Canada," said Dr. Eytayo Aloh, who teaches the course. "They will hear of names that they never knew existed as part of Canadian nationhood and hopefully hear long-silenced and erased 'voices' reimposed onto Canadian narratives."

In contrast to teaching about the Black experience from a position of victimhood such as slavery, poverty, and gang violence, Professor Aloh said exploring the whole story is much more empowering.

Trent University Joins University Pension Plan (UPP)

Trent University has officially joined the new multi-employer, jointly sponsored University Pension Plan (UPP) as its fourth member institution, a move that signals strong financial sustainability of the University and creates long-term defined benefit pensions for the faculty association, its members and faculty retirees.

"Joining the UPP is a major move that will ensure the long-term sustainability of our University," says

Dr. Leo Groarke, president and vice-chancellor of Trent University. "We have been happy to work with the faculty association, its members, and our faculty retirees in pursuit of this goal. We are pleased to have established a strong, positive relationship with the founding members of UPP and look forward to the growth of a plan that can create sustainable defined benefit pensions for faculty in Ontario."



New Co-op Streams Give Humanities & Social Sciences Students Career Advantage

Students from across disciplines at Trent University now have even more opportunities to graduate career-ready with more than 20 unique new co-op streams—a move that honours the institution's career-boosting experiences guarantee.

"We know that a Trent degree—and particularly one in the humanities or social sciences—prepares students to go far in any career of their choosing. Our new competitive co-op streams will give students the opportunity to put their skills to work in a variety of different sectors," says Dr. Mark Skinner, dean of Humanities and Social Sciences at Trent University. "This means that students will not only build valuable career connections, but also have the opportunity to bring value to organizations and employers within our local communities and beyond."

Learn more at trentu.ca/co-op.



Professor David Newhouse named 2022 3M Teaching Fellow

Director of the Chanie Wenjack School for Indigenous Studies at Trent University, Professor David Newhouse, has been named among Canada's most outstanding university educators and winner of one of ten prestigious 3M Teaching Fellowships.

As a talented and inspiring educator in Indigenous Studies, Prof. Newhouse has supported many landmark achievements at Trent University including the launch of Canada's first Indigenous Studies Ph.D. program, founding the First Peoples House of Learning, and helping to craft the University mandate that ensures every undergraduate student completes at least one course with an Indigenous focus.

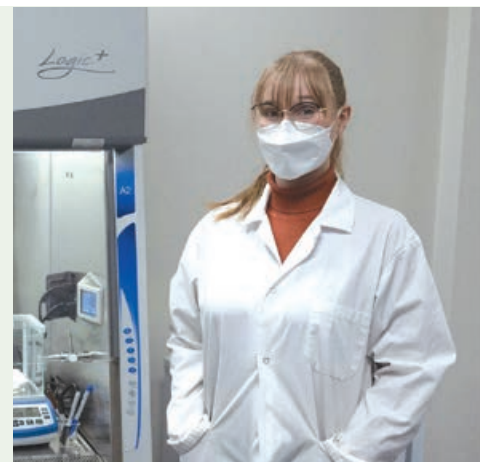
"Prof. Newhouse's creativity, compassion and dedication have underpinned his excellence as a teacher of Indigenous and non-Indigenous students. His decades long leadership of the Indigenous Studies program at Trent has led to transformative change within individuals, and within educational institutions throughout Canada, bringing more prominence to and acceptance of Indigenous Knowledge (IK) within the academy," shares Dr. Michael Khan, provost and vice-president Academic at Trent University.

Informing Peterborough's Post-COVID Recovery

There's more than one way to test for COVID-19 in the community, and Trent University and Peterborough Public Health are leading the way with an increasingly important method as part of Ontario's Wastewater Surveillance Initiative.

Audrey Wilson '14, a graduate of Trent's Forensic Science program, joined the Centre in March of last year and is part of the group that collects and analyzes the wastewater around the community. She is also working alongside one of her former professors, Dr. Christopher Kyle, who is the director of the research centre.

Funded by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), the initiative is aimed at detecting and measuring COVID-19 levels in wastewater systems in and around Peterborough.





SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

As home to many of the world's leading researchers, Trent University has countless stories to tell when it comes to research success. Through our outstanding researchers, world-class facilities and prestigious schools of study, Trent is a place where ideas and creativity connect and intersect with industry, non-profits, communities and real-world solutions. Read more about some of the top faculty, student and alumni researchers who are making headlines.



FACULTY RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

Deepening our Understanding of Homelessness

Addressing homelessness in Canada requires broad collaboration and understanding. This is exactly what a team of Trent researchers, with funding support from eCampusOntario, set out to do. Dr. Kristy Buccieri, professor in Sociology and founding coordinator of Trent's new Criminology program, together with Dr. Cyndi Gilmer, director of the Department of Social Work and associate professor in the Trent/Fleming School of Nursing, Trent Online, and persons with lived experiences, have published *Understanding Homelessness in Canada: From the Street*

to the Classroom, a free, accessible online resource that includes video interviews with 26 expert researchers from across Canada and original artwork by people who have experienced homelessness.

This "talking textbook," as Professor Buccieri describes it, will be incorporated into coursework and professional development programs to inspire individuals to contemplate homelessness within different contexts and from a range of perspectives.

STUDENT RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

Addressing Land and Aquatic Sustainability in Guyana

Water quality and sustainability have been a central theme in Chetwynd Osborne's research. Now this Environmental & Life Sciences Ph.D. candidate is building on past work and focusing on the impact of gold mining on the water quality of riverine systems across watersheds of Central America to inform policymaking around the gold mining industry, and contribute to Guyana's achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Chetwynd is one of the first graduate students in the Sustainable Guyana program, a partnership between Trent, the University of Guyana, CGX Energy Inc., and Frontera Energy Corporation, aimed at training Guyana's future leaders in sustainable development.



MORE #TRENTURESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Bold research making a difference in the world. That's the Trent University way. Read on for a sampling of the latest Trent research news featured at trentu.ca/news.

ALUMNI RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

Bringing Ojibway-Anishinabe Perspective to Living and Thriving in the World



Indigenous Studies professor emeritus, Dr. Don McCaskill, and Trent alumnus, **Dr. Jerry Fontaine '08**, penned one of this spring's must-read books, *Di-bayn-di-zi-win (To Own Ourselves)*. Both authors have strong ties to Trent's Indigenous Studies Department. Professor McCaskill was instrumental to building the department into the sector leader that it is today, while Professor Fontaine, with a Ph.D. in Indigenous Studies from Trent, now teaches in the Department of Indigenous Studies at the University of Winnipeg.

Through their own lived experiences, the authors explore the importance of Ojibway-Anishinabe i-zhi-chi-gay-win zhigo kayn-dah-so-win (ways of doing and knowing), and how Ojibway-Anishinabe ceremony, language, values, and wisdom can provide an alternative to Western political and academic institutions.

TRENT RANKED #3 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY IN ONTARIO; #6 IN CANADA

Trent's reputation as one of Canada's top undergraduate research universities was once again confirmed with the University ranking #3 in Ontario and #6 in all of Canada in the 2021 rankings of Canada's top 50 research universities. This year's rankings also place the University in the undergraduate Winner's Circle in two categories—#1 in Ontario (#2 in Canada) for not-for-profit research income growth percentage, and #2 in Canada for corporate research income growth percentage.

Minimizing Human Exposure to Mercury

Results from a new study offer promising insights into how to minimize the exposure to and impact of mercury pollution on human health. The 20-year, multimillion-dollar ecosystem study, led by Trent's dean of Science, Dr. Holger Hintelmann, was a one-time chance to do this level of investigation. The project is developing one of the most comprehensive pictures of how mercury contamination builds up and then fades from a natural environment, and how mercury is transformed into methylmercury, the organic form that can be consumed through seafood and is toxic to humans.



Waste Not, Want Not: A Look at Food Waste

With about 58% of all food produced in Canada either wasted or lost, Trent M.A. in Sustainability Studies student Samuel Ofori Duah is highlighting the need for community-specific food waste management initiatives. Through Trent's Centre for Community-Based Research and U-Links, Samuel worked with Abbey Gardens to investigate the potential of a composting program in Haliburton County, with the goal of applying his learnings back home in Ghana one day.



Addressing Pandemic-Related Anxiety

Anxiety has become synonymous with the COVID-19 pandemic, with more than 76 million people globally reporting anxiety brought on by the pandemic.

Trent Durham psychology professor, Dr. Nancie Im-Bolter, advises that there's no one-size-fits-all approach to managing anxiety as we emerge from the pandemic. Her advice? Push yourself gently and slowly expand the social bubbles that you've created, as well as establishing and overcoming manageable challenges and opportunities to gain confidence.

The Impact of Virtual Healthcare on Heart Failure Hospital Readmissions

Heart failure is one of the most common reasons for Canadian adults to be readmitted to hospital and is associated with significant patient morbidity and mortality and costs to the healthcare system. In collaboration with the Peterborough Regional Health Centre, third-year biology student Holden Lowes is comparing pre-pandemic and current medical-chart data to assess variations in demographics and comorbidities among heart failure patients. His goal is to identify common reasons for hospital readmission and to suggest possible interventions.



Want to know more about the sector-leading research and innovation taking place at Trent? Visit: trentu.ca/researchinnovation



ALUMNI *Perspective*

What an honour it is for us to be your Trent University Alumni Association (TUAA) co-presidents. One of our first tasks is to write to all of you in the *TRENT Magazine*. Back in the early '90s (late '80s in Stephen's case), neither of us ever saw this role on our respective horizons when we were at Trent and dreaming of our future lives. It feels great to be giving back to the University that offered us such an amazing head start in our life successes.

Being co-presidents isn't the usual approach for TUAA. But when has "the usual" ever been the chosen path for a Trent alum? There's a lot on deck in the coming two years, so it feels right to have a duo leading the team. After two intense years of event isolation and reduced connectivity as an alumni association, our core mandate is to bring our diverse and dynamic alumni community back together safely ... as much as possible. And while we have only recently met each other, our shared love and passion for Trent is what is guiding us in our co-journey ahead.

There have been lots of changes with how TUAA is being organized—changes we know will deliver the impact we're striving for. Our new structure, which includes six committees, has been designed to allow volunteer boards the leeway to navigate the significant number of events and recognition opportunities we want to make available for you, our valued alumni. Fortunately, we have

an excellent mix of seasoned experts and new blood on these councils. They are as follows: *Awards and Recognition*, led by **Athena Flak '93**; *Convocation*, led by **Karen McQuade Smith '02**; *Durham GTA*, led by **Nick Ryan '15**; *Homecoming*, led by **Maile Loweth Reeves '79**; *Trent Day*, led by **Bern Kelly '82**; and *Strategic Advisory Council*, led by **Stephen Brown '86**.

In the immediate future, we are going to have in-person convocation (yay!), as well as make-up ceremonies for the graduates from 2020 and 2021. Homecoming/Head of the Trent Regatta will be a big in-person celebration again this year and we are looking forward to resuming in-person chapter events, while still providing many opportunities for alumni near and far to join events virtually.

There's seriously too much to outline in this note (we haven't even delved into the great feedback you all provided in the alumni survey—you'll see more on this later on in this edition), so you'll have to stay tuned to your emails and our website for all the exciting news and opportunities to connect.

Finally, if you'd like to dial up your involvement on any of our councils or committees, just reach out. We need as many passionate and energized alumni as possible to make our community shine.

Many thanks,

Alma Barranco-Mendoza '90,
Lady Eaton College

Stephen Brown '86,
Champlain College

alumni@trentu.ca





SURPASSING THE SUMMIT

Sharing financial expertise far and wide so everyone can win

Robert Gauvreau '01 does not fit the stereotype of a traditional numbers guy. As founder and partner of Gauvreau Accounting Tax Law Advisory, a professional accounting firm in Peterborough Ontario, his enthusiasm bubbles over. He can't help it.

At the helm of one of the fastest-growing companies in the country, the Business Administration (B.B.A.) graduate, Lady Eaton College alumnus, professional accountant, business owner, and thought leader transforms ledgers and figures into illustrious impact. Robert aspires for his team to become the go-to financial experts for North American entrepreneurs through their proactive educational contributions and innovative solutions unrivaled in

the market. He is also a committed role model for the next generation of leaders and, of course, his kids. People, passion, integrity, and innovation guide the way. Focused on growth and giving back, he contemplates future solutions to problems that don't exist—yet.

Buoyed by education, connections, and global perspective, Trent University provided a solid base for Robert's ascent into leadership. He credits his time at Trent with academic leadership opportunities and acknowledges the University's encouragement for students to form meaningful relationships with like-minded peers, even in other regions. In his work, he uses these skills every day.

"We're ultimately on a mission with our clients to help change the world," Robert explains. "That separates us from everybody else who is reactionary. How do we all do better together and impact as many people as possible?"

Robert launched his company in 2008 after working on higher-level audit projects for governments and non-profit organizations at a national firm. Having expanded to 50 employees and thousands of clients throughout North America, his world-class accounting, tax, law, and advisory firm guides business owners through issues such as strategy and wealth accumulation. His passion and expertise is focused on helping small business owners advance their goals.



Robert Gauvreau's work has not gone unnoticed. Declared Peterborough's favourite accountant for two years running, he is also a fellow of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario. He received the Greater Peterborough Chamber of Excellence Award for Leadership as a Top 4 under 40 Business Leader, and the Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Award for Entrepreneurship. He was also recognized for his accomplishments with the 2017 Trent University Alumni Association Young Alumni Leader Award.

"The more money that they make, the more they can reinvest into aiding more people or finding new causes to support. These people are on great missions, accomplishing great things. Ultimately, I feel like I am helping the people that they are helping."

"We're out looking for a solution for that next problem," said Robert, always keen on innovating through technology, people, and processes. On the desire to make an impact in North America through financial expertise, he explains, "When we can share knowledge, teachings, trainings and experience from the top of the mountain so everybody can hear us, we influence and positively change the outcomes of so many lives."

Robert shares his expertise through writing articles for key publications and digital platforms, including *Forbes*, *Entrepreneur*, and *Canadian Business SME*. As the author of *The WEALTHY Entrepreneur* he has collaborated with some of the world's biggest personalities, such as Tony Robbins, Grant Cardone, and Gary Vaynerchuk. Wide audiences are reached through media outlets and podcasts, where he discusses a

variety of topics ranging from financial literacy to refinancing mortgages to entrepreneurship. He also participates in a variety of conferences, including his own Ascent Summit, where Robert and his team cover topics like leadership, structural planning, entrepreneurship, and hiring. They also examine strategies and challenges faced by business owners.

As to where it all began, he reflects, "It goes back to Trent, to be honest." Although he keeps advancing the bar forward, attending Trent was foundational in helping Robert to position himself for the future. While he had initially planned to become a teacher, he gained new insight during **Dr. Raymond Dart's '82** first-year Entrepreneurship class. "I had this connection where I felt that this is what I am meant to do. It probably changed how I solve problems forever."

In addition to serving on the Lady Eaton College Cabinet, he was the president of the Trent Business Students' Association (TBSA) for three years. "I saw this as a leadership opportunity for the school and the B.B.A program. I wanted to help put

it on the map. It's such an incredible program with incredible education and educators."

Through the TBSA, he met other leaders, gained a wider perspective, and made integral connections with Trent faculty including Dr. Asaf Zohar, professor at the Trent School of Business; **Professor Kathryn Campbell '65**, the longest serving member of the B.B.A program; and Dr. Jackie Muldoon, who held many leadership positions at Trent and was the long-time head of the B.B.A program.

Maintaining his strong Trent connections, Robert currently serves on the board of Peterborough Economic Development with Professor Zohar, who is also chair of Trent's Masters in Sustainability Studies program. "Being at the same table with great minds like Asaf, and for them to value my expertise—it's pretty cool."

Home to his family, his flourishing international business and tremendous ambition to create something extraordinary, Peterborough is a city Robert values living and working in. "Peterborough has given us the opportunity to do incredible things and we're certainly grateful for that." He is a founding member of Venture North Group, Startup Peterborough, and the H.O.P.E Foundation. He was vice-chair of a successful fundraiser for the annual United Way campaign in 2018. He feels that, when individuals reach success, they have an opportunity to help others who need support. In turn, everyone benefits.

Looking towards the next generation of leaders, his advice is to stay out of the box, seize leadership opportunities, and find an organization that aligns with your values and passions. "Figure out what it is that really gets you excited. If I don't come home from work with my hair on fire a little bit, it wasn't a great day."

Gauvreau Accounting Tax Law Advisory often turns to Trent Accounting students as well as those involved in the Trent Accounting Society or TBSA to expand its professional team. "We're going to continue hiring and recruiting the best

talent that the world has to offer. We're so excited about continuing to work with Trent University, and an incredible business program in our community. We feel very fortunate that so many A+ performers come out of that program and join our team every year."

As for being a full-energy leader for his rapidly growing team, Robert and his company will keep supporting the entrepreneurial and impactful journey of small businesses. "We're going to continue to invest heavily in that. A big, hairy, audacious goal is to impact a million business owners in a positive

way and help them achieve financial mastery."

Contemplating his legacy, Robert continues his streak of ambition. "I want to be that guy who really pushed hard to be the best he can be, and brought everybody along with him."

Four Strategies for Success in Entrepreneurship

ROBERT GAUVREAU '01, FCPA, FCA, LPA

In 2007 I made an incredible leap of faith that has proven to be one of the greatest instinctual decisions of my life. I had a secure job at a large global organization, my wife and I had just bought our first house, and were expecting our first of two children, I had just bought my first new car, we had no savings ... and ... I decided to quit my job and start my own business. That is just what entrepreneurs do! Here are four strategies that I have learned that will allow you to generate accelerated levels of success on your entrepreneurial journey.

1. Think big (progress for the win)

One of the greatest secrets to success is to stop thinking small and to dream bigger. And I mean much bigger! Many thought leaders suggest that setting your goals too high will only lead to disappointment, specifically if you don't cross the finish line and achieve your targets. Others believe that they would rather fall short of a significant or stretched goal than to set targets that are achievable and within reach, only to cross the line with ease. The idea here is that if you stretch your goals and push your limits, even if you fall short, you will be way ahead of where you would have been otherwise. My thought—go big. Stretch your goals and see what you are capable of. The trick (to avoid disappointment and the feeling of failure) is to always reflect back on where you came from. Progress is the victory, and constant progress wins the game.

2. Take calculated risks (numbers never lie)

Entrepreneurship is not for the faint of heart. So often during the entrepreneurial journey you are faced with opportunities, for which you have two choices. To take action and build a new path, or to maintain the status quo. At no point in history has greatness ever been achieved by maintaining the status quo. You need to find a way to say yes. Hint: the answer to yes is in the numbers. It is imperative for entrepreneurs to understand how their business is performing and to understand how new opportunities will impact their businesses financial results. The confidence to go "all in" and have the trust to take on the new opportunity lies in clarity. Make sure you know your numbers. Clarity breeds confidence, and confidence is unstoppable.

3. Build the map to the treasure

In every treasure hunt I can remember as a child, we always had a map where X marked the spot. The treasure map is essential for our businesses, to ensure that we understand what we are trying to accomplish. If you are building a team and they are unaware of the direction of the company, how can you expect them to be aligned? Lack of alignment will be detrimental to the long-term success of your business. In addition, by knowing the destination, you can better understand what will help you accomplish your goals. I refer to these as critical drivers. When we

understand the road that will lead us to where we are headed, we can track our progress along the way and be confident that we are going in the right direction.

4. People are power

People will be your greatest asset to building the life of your dreams. Doing it alone will take time, but doing it together will get you there much faster. There are two elements of people that need to be understood. First, you need to surround yourself with the best people. Once you start building a team, one that is aligned on common interests, values, and a desire to support each other, the momentum and progress that you will achieve will be incredible. This is one of the greatest assets that has supported my success during my entrepreneurial journey—my A-team. Secondly (and this may be the biggest secret to building a remarkable business), invest in learning from those who have already done it. Why should we continue to struggle to solve problems on our own when there have been so many people before us that have already achieved the same goals? Invest in their knowledge and you will achieve your goals at an exponential rate.

If I can help in any way, you can find me here:

@GauvreauCPA
MillionDollarYear.ca
GauvreauCPA.ca



A Moment of Gratitude: Trent Celebrates Success of Campaign for Trent University Durham GTA

Campaign for Trent Durham GTA concludes, surpassing fundraising goal to raise a total of \$6.6 million

With \$1 million raised to support Trent Durham students through financial aid and experiential learning, the Campaign for Trent Durham Greater Toronto Area (GTA) has officially concluded, surpassing the goal of \$5 million and raising \$6.6 million to support Trent's growing GTA campus.

Doug Kirk '70, president of Durham Radio and campaign co-chair, launched the campaign in March 2019 with a \$500,000 gift and helped close the campaign, inspiring others to double their impact by matching all donations received by November 30, 2020, up to \$100,000, which resulted in more than \$220,000 of support to complete the campus expansion. In recognition of his contributions, the University has named the largest lecture hall in the new residence and academic building Kirk Hall. A new outdoor seating area on campus has also been named in honour of Doug & Mary Kirk.

The University exceeded its \$5 million goal in Phase One of the campaign by raising \$5.6 million to create the campus's first residence, which is part of a new state-of-the-art academic building at the Thornton Road campus.

Phase Two, which launched in February 2021 and raised a further \$1 million, supported students with increased financial support such as scholarships, bursaries, prizes and

awards dedicated exclusively to students at the Durham campus. The funds also enhanced experiential learning opportunities such as field placements, internships, case studies, capstone projects, volunteer opportunities, and labs.

At the Moment of Gratitude celebration in April, the University gave thanks and celebrated all of those who made the vision for the Trent Durham expansion possible. Dr. Leo Groarke, president and vice-chancellor of the University, Oshawa Mayor Dan Carter, Whitby Mayor **Don Mitchell '69**, and Durham Regional Chair John Henry attended the event, which also drew members of Trent University's Board of Governors, as well as donors and community partners.

The University is also acknowledging the generosity of Phase Two lead supporters Dr. Katie Taylor (honorary chair); Edmond and Sylvia Vanhaverbeke; Anne and **David Patterson '66**; Herman Kassinger Foundation; Denise and **Armand La Barge '95**; **Garry '67** and **Victoria Cubitt '69**; the Durham Regional Police Services Board; J.J. McGuire General Contractors; and an anonymous donor.

Strong partnerships and collaboration between local government and community partners were key to the campaign's success. The City of Oshawa supported the expansion through a donation of 1.8 acres of land, the Region of

Durham gifted \$1.42 million, and BMO Financial Group provided a transformational gift.

An estate gift from former board chair Jalynn Bennett also supported the new building, creating the stunning trellis that visually (and physically) joins the new and original campus buildings. Meanwhile, the first-ever Trent Durham faculty and staff campaign raised nearly \$60,000.

The campaign was pivotal to the creation of the new 200-bed residence and academic building that opened in September 2020. The building features a 100-seat tiered lecture hall, two 64-seat classrooms, research space, student common spaces, outdoor green space and faculty offices.

The University hosted a celebration at the Trent Durham campus in April to celebrate the success of the campaign and offer tours of the new residence and academic building. The University unveiled a donor wall, recognizing lead supporters as well as all those who made the vision for Trent Durham possible. Ribbon-cutting ceremonies were held and guests were toured through the new residence and academic building in celebration of the Campaign for Trent Durham GTA.

For more details of the Durham GTA campus, please visit trentu.ca/durham-gta

TRENT EXTENDS SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AFFECTED BY CRISIS IN UKRAINE

Trent community rallies to raise \$50,000 to support students facing financial difficulty

Trent University stands in support of an independent Ukraine and urges a return to peace and democracy. Our campuses include students, faculty and staff from Ukraine and Russia, as well as those who have ties to family, friends, and colleagues in both countries.

To help students impacted by the conflict, Trent University quickly launched a fundraising campaign focused on raising funds to support students in financial difficulty as a result of funds frozen in their home country. Understanding the high impact of the Trent Fund in supporting students' most urgent needs, the President's Office created a \$10,000 matching challenge to inspire the Trent community to support.



Trent University Ukrainian student, Mykhailo Rangaiev stands on the Faryon Bridge at Trent's Symons Campus.

The Trent Community responded quickly and generously raised more than \$50,000 to support tuition fees, books and food for those students facing financial difficulty due to the ongoing conflict.

"There are not enough words to explain how grateful I am ... it's mind-blowing how supportive the Trent community is," says fourth-year Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems Ukrainian student Mykhailo Rangaiev, president of the Trent University Russian Speaking Association. "We rely on money coming from home for tuition and living expenses. When the war started, the banking system went down. Also, parents lost their jobs. We were basically left without any sponsorship."

According to **Paul Longhurst '08**, global engagement manager for Trent International, Ukrainian students attend Trent's Symons and Durham GTA campuses. Several Russian students are also being supported to assist in managing the impact of the conflict. "The financial need is acute and necessary, but we've been able to offer support in other ways," says Longhurst. "As temporary residents in Canada, they're nervous about their status. We've offered them priority assistance in applying for some of the new temporary measures that the federal government has introduced to support Ukrainians, including different work permits that allow them more working flexibility."

"In addition, our academic advisors and professors have been extremely accommodating of students who had their terms' progress interrupted. Extensions, alternative

grading, or accommodations have been made. And our counseling team and wellness supports have opened up priority appointments, making sure students have the tools to be resilient."

According to Mykhailo, his first thought following the Russian invasion of his homeland was to return there and join his family in their frontline support of the Ukrainian military. After discussing his intentions with his father, he decided that finishing his degree is the best way he can help. "My mission is to get a professional education and go back to Ukraine to utilize that; study as hard as I can to gain as much knowledge as I can, and then return to help rebuild my country. That is truly a big motivation for me."

According to Longhurst, the support organized and offered is a microcosm of the Trent community's quick response to the needs of any student requiring support. "When something happens that will negatively impact our students, we try to offer support right away," he says.

"What we want is for our students to be, first of all, safe and secure, and second, successful academically. A major crisis like this can really derail someone. If we can do something to make sure they maintain their trajectory towards their graduation and minimize the impact on their families back home, it's one way that we can tangibly help."

Donations are still being actively sought and can be made online at mycommunity.trentu.ca/ukrainegive



Poet Laureate Discovered a Voice for Her Activism at Trent

Sarah Lewis '16 says her spoken word art is rooted in an obligation to talk about "uncomfortable things"

When poet and activist Amanda Gorman delivered her poem *The Hill We Climb* at the January 2021 inauguration of U.S. President Biden, her words resonated with millions of Americans searching for calm in the wake of the turbulent Trump years.

"That opened the door to spoken word for me," says Trent alum **Sarah Lewis '16**, who, as Nogojiwanong-Peterborough's first poet laureate, is using her spoken word platform to further her conviction that "everyone has a story ... that every story matters and has value."

"Spoken word and how it connects with an audience is what makes it so emotional," says Lewis, who attained her Bachelor of Social Work at Trent. "At a rally or any gathering, people remember the poem because it is so emotional. It's a theatrical performance rather than printed words being read off a page."

Lewis, an Anishnaabe Kwe from Curve Lake First Nation and a semi-finalist at the 2019 Canadian Festival of Spoken Word, was named poet laureate in September 2021 as part of the Poet Laureate Pilot Program administered

by the Electric City Culture Council (EC3) under the guidance of the Peterborough Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee. As part of that honour, she was tasked with creating and presenting four new works for various civic occasions, as well as undertaking a program of special events and activities that promote literacy, poetry, local arts, culture and civic identity.

"I was grateful to have my work acknowledged and recognized but, more than anything, I'm excited to use my platform to further raise awareness of the things that matter to me—Indigenous issues and resilience, and the need for reconciliation action," say Lewis, who has since conducted a number of workshops for students at area schools. "It has been really interesting to hear about youth experiences during COVID and what that looks like. It has been stressful, it has been hard ... that really came out in the poetry they shared. That's the point of spoken word—to connect us. Poetry comes from your heart, from the deepest place, allowing us to talk about things we bury and don't want to talk about."

Lewis credits Vancouver-based Indigenous spoken word artist Zaccheus Jackson for her discovery of the art form. "When I heard this man [Jackson] speak, it really resonated because he, like myself, is Indigenous, and he and his family experienced repercussions of colonization ... residential schools and the Sixties Scoop. He was an addict. He said art saved his life. It has the power to do that. He so eloquently shared his story and his trauma as well as the resilience and reclamation piece of it." Lewis adds that her upbringing saw cultural teachings passed down orally to her through stories. "That's probably why I connect with it as much as I do."

Lewis' work, with its prevalent themes of love, rage, grief, addiction, and environmental activism, aims to decolonize structural systems while reminding her listeners of the capabilities and revolutionary voices. "I feel I have an obligation to talk about these things. I try to be that uncomfortable voice talking about things that people might not always want to hear but need to be said."

Pointing to "a strong Indigenous community at Trent that I was very

fortunate to be a part of," Lewis said it was at Trent where she learned to use her art as a form of activism. "Trent encourages you to use your voice and stand up for what you believe in. The way I found my voice happened to be by spoken word."

With her poet laureate term set to end in April, Lewis wants to leave "a lasting legacy" for her successor, as well as be "an encouraging voice for youth. That was never part of the plan, but it happened, and it feels right."

"Beyond that, I want to use the platform I have to amplify other artists just as the arts community did for me when I was starting out. It gave me a stage and a mic. That's what I want to do for aspiring spoken word artists in the community."

Warrior Cry

Sarah Lewis

I am the warrior cry
that penetrates, slings, swings through your House of
Commons window
not uncommon in my bloodline though
I'm the high priestess, and the empress
Grabbing glass ceilings on my way down

Turned into a floor
Turned to powwow grounds

I dance and stomp on top of shreds of the 1763 Royal
Proclamation buried beneath my feet

Jingle dresses and fancy shawls sweep the red crusted floor
I crow hop, stop and point to every door evicted of
opportunity, every timeline
every generation eradicated
Here is where I stop and pray,
I see my own fractured lineage, covered up with a band-aid
branded: reconciliation

My moccasins reveal the mess you made crammed onto
reservations

Crucifixes and crying eyes disguised and covered up as a
friendly thanksgiving dinner get together

A dinner reservation we did not make, had no choice in the
matter of
Painted as a special seat by the door
And told to leave before the main course

Leftovers presented on a gold plated platter
and advertised as the special

Starved of culture, freedom, love, life our children, our world
A diet built for a prisoner
How special

But my ancestors unshackle us daily, have prayed for us for
millennia

I am your Notre-Dame turned to flames
The firestarter that won't get out of the house that shamed her
A ceremonial smoke medicine flavour
Healing yet spicy

A lyrical physicist, transcending truths through time and spaces
that I now take up

A felony if you dare touch me
Burnt hands will remind you that my blood still boils

And land acknowledgements aren't going to fix that

Because acknowledgements without change
Is like sorry without action

Assaulting the land and bodies of water is an attack on
Indigenous women's bodies and communities
This is forced entry to our life givers

Indigenous women nurture our future
Feed our babies with ceremony

Babies that grow because of places like Pigeon lake

The same place where Cottagers protest our wild rice/
monoo-min for being too thick along the shores for their
water skis to get through, of course

The irony of their anger, having something taken away
As though their water sports trump our livelihood and survival

You scream bloody murder and I scream privilege

Tired of being labelled radical because I want clean drinking
water for our communities, for Indigenous women and men
to be alive, to thrive, yet we're devalued by the blue lives that
promise us safety
Tired of being punished because of pigment
But I digress

Indigenous women, the backbone of the body we've abused,
holding us together in this rusted gated concrete fused
skeleton

They always call me back to my purpose
My power
my body that's been displaced, my home

I forever owe debt to to my grandmothers, mothers, aunties,
sisters and friends
So this one's for you
Miigwetch



CLEAN WATER *Commitments*

Curve Lake First Nation Chief Emily Whetung '03 discusses the class-action settlement that will ensure access to clean drinking water for her community.

Curve Lake First Nation, as well as countless other Indigenous communities, have been fighting for clean drinking water for decades. Curve Lake in particular has been under boil water advisories on and off, including a long-term water advisory that lasted nearly two years before it was lifted in 2018. Recently, progress has been made thanks to the historic settlement of a class-action lawsuit approved by the Federal Court of Canada.

The \$8 billion settlement requires the government to provide both individual and community compensation, as well as a legal

commitment to ensure communities get access to clean drinking water with proper infrastructure.

Chief Emily Whetung of Curve Lake First Nation was a representative plaintiff in the class-action lawsuit and has been instrumental in bringing this issue to federal court. *TRENT Magazine* spoke with Chief Whetung, a lawyer and Trent University alumna, to learn more about the settlement, and what the next steps are for Curve Lake First Nation.

Trent Magazine (TM): Tell us about the scope and the impact of the clean water issues at Curve Lake.

Emily Whetung (EM): Curve Lake's a peninsula, which means we have beautiful waterfront views from three sides of our community. We're between two spectacular lakes—Chemong and Buckhorn. My grandfather would tell me stories about when he could go down to the water and drink from it. It wasn't contaminated; it was crystal clear and delicious, according to my grandfather. He lived to age 99, dying last year, so that's some pretty amazing history to have had direct access to.

Over the years, the Kawartha Lakes have become more and more popular. Our groundwater

There are over
140,000
individuals
who qualify for
the class action
and **259 First**
Nations that can
participate.

is replenished from these lakes. Whatever is in the lakes is probably in our drinking water to some degree.

We knew that we needed access to clean water. Our team started working in the early 1980s to get a water system that would treat our entire community. We built a small-scale water treatment plant, knowing we would have to eventually expand that. After about 20 years, the equipment started to degrade, and it became harder and more expensive to fix. It's still in operation and our staff does an incredible job, but the manganese and sodium levels are consistently higher than they should be. So, we have a treatment system you can use for bathing, but not for drinking or cooking, which is problematic in our community.

TM: What inspired you to be part of this class action for access to clean water?

EW: I had two kids, in 2014 and 2016, and it occurred to me that they might not be able to live in our community if we didn't change the water situation. I decided to run for chief for a couple of reasons—that being a really big one. We needed to find a way to have a conversation about access to clean drinking water after 40 years of trying to make changes. A community member suggested meeting with a lawyer who was doing some non-profit work. We decided to pursue a national class-action lawsuit, and in under two years we had a very different conversation happening. I hope that I was instrumental in helping [the community] understand that we could bring forward this class action without fear of repercussions from the federal government.

TM: What does this settlement mean for Curve Lake, as well as other Indigenous communities?

EW: I was the class representative, and my community, Curve Lake First Nation, was the other class representative. We've had a couple of firsts with the water class action. We had both individual and community representative plaintiffs. We brought a claim for the past harms of not having access to clean drinking water, and for the actual costs of infrastructure and operation and maintenance going forward. We settled in under two years. It's a phenomenal timeline when you think about how long national class actions take.

There are over 140,000 individuals who qualify for the class action and 259 First Nations that can participate. Another unique thing about this class action is that those First Nations can choose to sign up now, even though the settlement has been signed, which is not normally how you participate in a class action.

There is \$1.8 billion on the table for past harms. Individuals can claim a certain amount—we have a year to sort that all out. First Nations who participate will get another amount, which will help cover the economic and social losses of the community during those long-term drinking water advisories.

Another \$6 billion is to cover the actual costs of infrastructure to access clean drinking water. And it

changes some of the parameters that Indigenous Services Canada has for clean drinking water. Now, every community member who can reasonably be connected to the water treatment system will get connected. Before, if it was inconvenient, they didn't get connected. It's a big deal that every member of a First Nation who lives in that First Nation will get connected to the system.

TM: Who is eligible to join the class action?

EW: In order to be a member of the class action, you had to have had a long-term clean drinking water advisory that lasted at least a year since 1995. Any individual who lived on an Indian reserve for more than a year, regardless of where their membership is, is entitled to be a class member provided that the community was subject to a long-term drinking-water advisory that lasted at least a year. After that first year it can be prorated. There are some limitation periods that the courts and our settlement had to take into account.

This [class action] is not solving all of the water issues. It's the first step down the road to that access. We need to acknowledge that there are other water issues First Nations are facing that we still have to overcome.

TM: What was the feeling when the courts approved the settlement agreement?

EW: The emotions were phased over time. We reached an agreement in principle in July [2021], and then our legal team spent countless hours hashing out the details. We had the settlement agreement signed by the middle of September, before the federal election, and then it was in front of the courts in December. I



"The support at Trent University to pursue who you want to be is so significant."

think the most emotional moment was presenting the importance of having this agreement approved quickly to the Court, and really having an opportunity to say we've made progress with the federal government to come together for a commitment that's enforceable. It's no longer political promises that will change with elections. It's no longer policy opportunities. It's no longer budgetary questions. This is a legally-binding, enforceable commitment.

Then we had the waiting period for appeals, and you're biting your nails to see if anybody had issues or objections to this thing that we'd invested our heart and soul into, that we have confidence will bring clean drinking water to the communities. That period expired, so it is now a firm and binding settlement agreement with court-enforceable mechanisms. I'm going to get choked up; it's overwhelming. It means that my children will have access to clean drinking water in our community. If they want to build a home here and live here, they will be able to do that.

TM: What is the mood like for people in First Nations across Canada as a result of this settlement?

EW: There's still a huge amount of skepticism.

"Are we sure that it's going to work?"

"Is this the solution?"

"What does it mean in my home?"

Until we start seeing the improvement in access to water,

I think everybody's going to stand in disbelief. I think those with a background or familiarity with the enforceability of a settlement like this are pretty excited about it. There's also this feeling that we're not done. It doesn't give access to clean drinking water to every status Indian on an Indian reserve, but it's definitely a first step, and a demonstration of the commitment in Canada to provide the necessities of life to everybody who lives here.

TM: What do you think this means when it comes to the relationship between Indigenous communities and the federal government?

EW: I really struggled with this throughout the process, because the fact that we had to bring a class-action lawsuit felt like a demonstration that there wasn't a commitment to access clean drinking water. But after the settlement was done, and the court day was done, I sort of stepped back and had this "Aha" moment. I can't think of another national class action that was settled in under two years. There must have been political will to get this done. Legal teams on all sides worked tirelessly to make this happen.

I think Canadians are feeling overwhelmed by the amount of history that they've come to know, which wasn't common knowledge before, and we're appalled. We have this idea of Canada which has been a little bit tarnished. But, Canadians have said, "First Nations people need clean

drinking water—get it done," and the federal government listened.

TM: How did your time at Trent University prepare you for your current career?

EW: I went into philosophy because I wanted to be a lawyer. By attending Trent University, I was able to maintain so many connections to my community and family. But, in addition to that, the support at Trent University to pursue who you want to be is so significant. Attending the university that had the first Indigenous Studies program in North America allows you to have that pride—a pride that can be really hard to achieve given the history of First Nations in Canada.

Taking control of my education, being close to home, and being encouraged to be proud of who I was and pursue those different education pieces in different ways, was huge in giving me the confidence to step forward and demand the necessities of life that our community needs. To have the fight and hold my head high is foundationally a part of the support that Trent University gives to students.

TM: What's the next step for Curve Lake?

EW: We've been working on accessing clean water for 40 years. There's an obligation under the settlement agreement to have those water infrastructure pieces in place before 2030. So, it might take eight years for some communities. It's our hope that we'll be moving forward with

building a water-treatment plant this spring, which is going to change so many things in Curve Lake. We have a subdivision with just over 40 lots that we could sell, but given the way that wells and septs have to be placed, we can't develop more than half of those until we have the water treatment plant. It's going to allow so many of our community members to come home.

EXPLORING THE GREAT LAKES AND IMPACTS TO INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Trent University Indigenous Environment Institute (IEI) faculty members, Professors Chris Furgal and Barb Moktthewenkwe Wall, are exploring past, current and potential future research and monitoring interests among Indigenous communities and Nations surrounding the Great Lakes. Their work, funded by a grant from the Great Lakes Observing System, is developing an inventory of past and current Great Lakes research and monitoring initiatives involving Indigenous communities, organizations, and Nations. Complemented by interviews with community representatives and an online survey, their project is aimed at supporting Indigenous communities' potential future interests in developing an Indigenous-specific counterpart to the Smart Great Lakes Initiative (SGLi). The SGLi is an international effort making real-time environmental data about the Great Lakes more accessible to decision-makers and others. The Indigenous Environmental Institute at Trent University leads research and education initiatives that support Indigenous interests and needs pertaining to environmental issues.

TRENT RANKED #1 IN CANADA FOR SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION & RESEARCH

Trent was once again ranked as one of Canada's top three environmental universities through the annual UI GreenMetric World University Rankings, the first university ranking in the world that measures participating universities' commitment to developing environmentally friendly infrastructure.

This year, the University elevated its achievements by also ranking number one in Canada for sustainability education and research, which can be attributed to a variety of academic developments, including the introduction of new degree programs and specializations, such as the Specialization in Climate Change and Policy (read more on page 27).

Trent also remains in the top 15% of sustainable universities worldwide across all six ranking categories and maintained its #2 position in Canada in both the waste and the setting and infrastructure categories.

Trent's GreenMetric standings were bolstered by several initiatives aimed at environmental sustainability, such as its new socially responsible governance (ESG) investment strategy for endowment funds, and a new partnership with leading cleantech company, Ameresco, to install various energy efficiency upgrades across campus (see page 28). Trent's rankings were also supported by the appointment of its first Tier I Canada Research Chair in Global Change of Freshwater Ecosystems, the new zero-carbon certified Forensics Crime Scene Facility, and the launch of several key initiatives under the Trent Lands and Nature Areas Plan.





A Bold Vision for the Symons Campus Lands



New treaty rock installation on Trent's Peterborough campus was unveiled on September 30th in honour of National Truth & Reconciliation Day. Photo includes (L-R) Julie Davis, VP of External Relations and Development; Trent President Leo Groarke; Elder **Doug Williams '69**; and **Chief Emily Whetung '03** of Curve Lake First Nation

February 2022 marked one year since the Trent Board of Governors approved the Trent Lands and Nature Areas Plan, the University's bold vision for a thriving Symons Campus that advances its mission as a learning institution, steward of the natural environment, and community anchor. *TRENT Magazine* chatted with Julie Davis, vice president of External Relations and Development, about the progress made since the Plan's approval.

"We are excited to see the many years of in-depth engagement and work on developing the Lands Plan come to fruition," says VP Davis. "This past year saw us advance environmental initiatives, build on our relationships with local Michi Saagiig communities, and develop an agreement with peopleCare Communities to build a 224-bed, not-for-profit long-term care home on the campus."

Deep engagement with local First Nations communities and incorporating Indigenous Traditional

Knowledge and placemaking into campus planning is central to the Lands Plan and its subsequent initiatives. VP Davis says, creating a protocol for engagement with Michi Saagiig communities on how Trent stewards and develops its 1,400-acre Peterborough campus has been some of the most challenging, yet most rewarding, work in relation to the Plan, resulting in a "gold standard" relationship with Curve Lake First Nation—according to its chief, **Emily Whetung '03**.

Trent University has a well-known reputation for environmental education and research, and the Lands Plan was an important opportunity to demonstrate that leadership in action. The Symons Campus represents a substantial proportion of woodlands and wetlands within the City of Peterborough, and the protection, enhancement, and restoration of these natural assets are a primary goal of the Lands Plan. The Plan includes a commitment to maintain 60% of the Symons Campus as Nature Areas

and green spaces in a new University Green Network (UGN), a connected 800+ acre natural system with areas for habitat preservation and creation, corridors to facilitate wildlife movement, and diverse green spaces that support learning on the land, research, and interaction with nature.

"In the past year we secured a \$350,000 grant from the TD Bank Group to conduct environmental studies of the UGN in collaboration with Curve Lake and Hiawatha First Nations, and \$72,000 from the Echo Foundation to advance management plans for the Nature Areas," says VP Davis. "Students will also have the opportunity to get involved through classwork and internship opportunities."

The coming year will see work continuing on several Lands Plan initiatives, including the Seniors Village, Cleantech Commons, the University Green Network, and the Trent Farm.

For more information, visit trentu.ca/trentlandsplan



Trent Lands and
Nature Areas Plan

JOHN EPPING ON THE CAMARADERIE OF SPORT

How the Trent University alumnus and curling skip has become a leader on and off the rink

For John Epping '02, the name of the game is curling—and it's a big reason he chose to attend Trent University.

With four Grand Slam of Curling title wins—a National Championship (2008), Players' Championship (2012), Canadian Open (2015), and a Masters (2018)—Epping is a household name in the world of curling. He's played with legendary skip Wayne Middaugh (a childhood idol, Epping says) and has been skip of his own squad since 2012.

Epping's love of curling began at a young age. In fact, you might say he was born into the sport. "My mom's side were big curlers," says Epping. "My grandfather was one of the founders of the Ennismore Curling Club. So, obviously curling is in the blood."

Growing up in Peterborough, Epping says he spent summers golfing with his dad at Peterborough Golf and Country Club, and winters curling at

Peterborough Curling Club with his mom.

Reflecting on his decision to attend Trent University, Epping says, "As I came out of the junior ranks in curling, I had some tough decisions to make as far as having to compete a lot. I stayed at home and that allowed me to keep that curling focus and not let anything take away from my studies. I also had a lot of help from my family. I extended my stay a bit at Trent University so that I could maintain a top level both in competition and my academics. That was a major part of why I wanted to stay local."

Epping graduated in 2007 with a Bachelor of Honours in History and English. Throughout his time at Trent University, Epping was able to balance his studies and burgeoning curling career—no small feat. "It was tough with late nights and doing work on the road, but I was super privileged to be

competing at a top level in sport. I feel super privileged to be able to do both and have all the opportunities that curling has given me," he says.

There's a camaraderie in curling, unlike any other sport. Both between the players themselves, as well as the relationship they have with their fans since curling tournaments offer a unique opportunity for fans and players to gather together after a match. "Usually there's a patch, a big hangout place, where a live band plays and you'll see a lot of the curlers venture there. You can hang out with the fans and get to meet people that are cheering you on, or maybe people that are cheering against you—you don't know, but it's a great connection," says Epping.

It was this sense of community and belonging that Epping also found as a student and athlete at Trent. Epping says being a member of the University curling team is



Anil Mungal



an experience that has stayed with him. "I was somewhat of an outsider at the time because I couldn't fully commit to that team; I had all my other competitive curling to do. They welcomed me into their circle," he says of his Trent curling teammates who were supportive of his competitive commitments, but also made it clear that they wanted him to be a part of their team—in whatever way he could. "A lot of people just want to belong, and I think that is a really important thing that we should offer more to people. That is the one thing that I'll take away from being part of that Trent University team," he says.

Indeed, Epping has become a leader and champion for inclusivity as one of few openly gay athletes in North America. While he didn't intend to announce his story—in fact, Epping was

nervous about being so open because he didn't want to distract from his teammates or the sport—he has taken on a sense of responsibility, becoming a role model for others.

"I realized that this was really important when the story came out. I started to receive a lot of private messages through social media, from other younger males and females that were either struggling, or just saying that this really gave them hope or somebody to look up to," he says. "If I could have just helped one person through this, that is good enough. I'm very fortunate that in the position that I have, I'm able to be a role model for others. I don't take that for granted. It's a huge honour for me."

These days, Epping complements his competitive curling with teaching and coaching jobs. He's associated

with the Leaside Curling Club in Toronto, where he offers clinics and private lessons. And, naturally, he's still finding ways to bring people together—often over a social drink. Recently, Epping partnered with Radical Road Brewing on The Epic Series, an ale and amber ale that are served in more than 30 curling clubs across Ontario. "Obviously, curling and beer go together," he says.

As for what's next? "I want to be at the top. It is not enough for me to be a good curler; I want to be one of the best," he says. Team Epping recently announced that this season will be the last for the current foursome. Epping and his teammate, Mat Camm, who have played together for seven years, will continue playing together. We look forward to cheering them on!



TRENT EXCALIBUR GREEN & WHITE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Trent University has a proud history of both academic and athletic excellence in varsity sport for over 50 years. An important part of our high-performance success is having a strong Green and White Scholarship fund. Athletic Financial Awards allow Trent University to continue to recruit and retain the best and brightest student-athletes and provide an outstanding academic and athletic experience for our varsity student athletes.

Offered by Trent Athletics & Recreation, the Athletics Financial Awards include the Green and White Scholarship for first year student-athletes. In addition, there are multi-year Athletic Financial Awards available. The Green and White Scholarship is our premier award and is offered to entering student-athletes who have achieved an academic average above 80 percent and have

been recruited for athletics skills and abilities. The financial support to our Athletic Financial Awards fund continues to enrich our commitment to nurturing an environment of academic and athletic success for our Excalibur varsity student-athletes.

**COMPETE AS ONE. CHEER AS ONE.
WIN AS ONE.
TOGETHER WE ARE ONE EXCALIBUR**

Join the Excalibur Family and donate to the Athletics Financial Awards (Green and White Scholarship program):

trentu.ca/athleticsdonation



HOLDING WATER AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S TOP AQUATIC RESEARCHERS

Dr. Maggie Xenopoulos is creating a lasting legacy in limnology research

Growing up as a city girl in Montreal, Dr. Marguerite (Maggie) Xenopoulos has always been attracted by the lakes and rivers around the city, feeling a need to protect these valuable resources. Now, this prolific scientist is a global leader in the protection of the freshwater resources she fell in love with as a child.

It has been just over a year since Professor Xenopoulos was appointed as Trent's first female Tier 1 Canada Research Chair (CRC). In her role as CRC in Global Change of Freshwater Ecosystems, she is continuing her research on the impact of human activities on the biogeochemistry and

function of freshwater ecosystems by exploring the pressures of climate change, floods, land use effects, nutrient pollution, and other stressors on lakes and rivers, with a particular focus on carbon.

"There are many issues around freshwater resources that we need to tackle, some of them more critical than others," says Prof. Xenopoulos. "Population growth is the biggest issue and the biggest pressure that we face on our freshwater ecosystems, with eutrophication, or the over-enrichment of freshwater with nutrients, being another."

Addressing big global challenges through large-scale collaboration

Prof. Xenopoulos has been led and been involved in, a number of large-scale national and international research programs, and believes that these initiatives are critical to protecting our freshwater resources and training the next generation of researchers.

"Networking is one of the most important things you are going to do as a scientist—collaborating in these large-scale international research programs exposes me and my students to other internationally renowned



Dr. Maggie Xenopoulos

experts," Prof. Xenopoulos explains. "Often these experts are from disparate fields, so, by participating in these types of networks, we have the possibility to collaborate with colleagues in a wide range of fields and collectively have a far bigger impact than if you just worked in a silo."

She cites the Canadian FloodNet initiative, funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, as a prime example of impactful, interdisciplinary research collaboration. FloodNet involved researchers from 20 institutions with expertise in hydrology, engineering, environmental science, electrical engineering, communication, big data, machine learning, and artificial intelligence, and saw hundreds of students trained to help address flooding, which is the most widespread natural hazard in Canada.

"Flooding, in particular, is one of those issues that's going to require a community of practice," she says. "If we're going to fully understand the environmental effects and improve the flood forecasting systems, we need collaboration, we need to work with the stakeholders, we need to work with the managers, we need to work with the government agencies."

Prof. Xenopoulos also serves on the Great Lakes Science Advisory Board, which advises the International Joint Commission on research and scientific matters relating to environmental issues affecting the Great Lakes. The International Joint Commission is a binational governmental organization aimed at addressing issues involving shared water resources between Canada and the US. In addition to biannual presentations to the commission, Prof. Xenopoulos co-chairs the Great Lakes winter science working group, a new committee investigating the research gaps in winter science in the Great Lakes, particularly in light of climate change.

"The field of winter limnology is an important area of research. The loss of winter ice is coming, and we don't know scientifically what the impact of that will be," Prof. Xenopoulos explains. "Researchers are gathering in the race to try and understand what's happening in the winter in the Great Lakes."

Testing the waters ... and ice

Prof. Xenopoulos recently participated in the Winter Grab, a first-of-its-kind coordinated winter research effort aimed at collecting and analyzing ice and water samples from more than 40 locations on all five of the Great Lakes. The Winter Grab took place

the week of February 14, a time that historically marks peak ice cover on the Great Lakes. She believes that the massive geographic footprint and scale of this project makes it another great example of the impact that large-scale international collaboration can have.

"Our research touched all of the Great Lakes from both the Canadian and the American sides of the border, and researchers from 16 institutions and in a range of fields came together to bring in their expertise. We collected close to 100 samples, which we are going to share to build an enormous database and fill an incredible knowledge gap."

The idea behind the Winter Grab came about a few years ago, when a group of Great Lakes researchers, including Prof. Xenopoulos, came together to draft a paper on the state of winter science in the Great Lakes. This paper, titled "The Changing Face of Winter: Lessons and Questions from the Laurentian Great Lakes," and funded through the University of Michigan's Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research (CIGLR), was published in the *Journal of Geophysical Research: Biogeosciences*, of which Prof. Xenopoulos is now the editor-in-chief. After publishing their paper, the team continued to meet monthly to share knowledge and ideas, and to pursue grant opportunities, which ultimately resulted in the Winter Grab.

"The Winter Grab was modelled after another Great Lakes project called the HAB Grab (HAB stands for harmful algal blooms), through which a bunch of scientists went out at the same time to take different measurements of water and harmful algal blooms," Prof. Xenopoulos explains. "We thought, 'Well, let's do the same thing, let's do a Winter Grab.' We got a little more funding to help cover the cost of shipping materials back and forth between the labs, and the next thing

you know, we're out there all sampling at the same time. The rest is history!"

Prof. Xenopoulos is leading the analyses of dissolved organic carbon (DOC), a major component of the earth's carbon cycle and an important player in the functioning of aquatic ecosystems. "Dissolved organic carbon is an important and intermediating area of the global carbon cycle, and it is very abundant in freshwater ecosystems, which serve as hotspots for its processing," she explains. "We need to better understand DOC to fully comprehend the global carbon cycle, so we'll measure the quantity of DOC as well as its composition."

Dr. Xenopoulos and her team are currently analyzing water and ice samples from all the Winter Grab locations. The work is expected to lead to peer-reviewed publications and new grant proposals.

Students are at the heart of her lab

Despite her numerous commitments and research endeavours, training the next generation of aquatic scientists remains central to Prof. Xenopoulos's work. In her 17 years at Trent, she has trained hundreds of undergraduate and graduate students as well as highly skilled personnel, many of whom are now active professionals in aquatic sciences, and she values the skills and ideas that each one brings to her lab and classroom.

"Students are the most important part of my research program—they are more important than the funding I get or the publicity my research gets. They bring energy and they bring ideas, and I love their passion. I learn so much from them, just as much as they learn from me," says Prof. Xenopoulos. "Each and every one of these students has contributed to the field of limnology. They're all very important."

Continued on the following page.

MITIGATING THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Trent Introduces New Climate Change Science & Policy Specialization

Climate change remains the biggest challenge of our time, with world leaders coming together through initiatives such as COP26 to accelerate action and find sustainable solutions. Trent students who want to play an active role in tackling the climate crisis and policy around climate change can now specialize in Climate Change Science & Policy—one of only two climate change-focused programs in Canada.

"Climate change is more than just an environmental issue, it intersects with every part of society. As a university, it is our obligation to be leaders in the climate change conversation," says Dr. Stephen Hill, associate director of the renowned Trent School of the Environment. "There are so many

activities happening around the topic of climate change, and most organizations now have someone responsible for climate change mitigation or reducing greenhouse gas emissions."

The Climate Change Science & Policy Specialization gives students in the Geography and Environmental Science/Studies programs a deeper understanding of the scientific principles underlying complex climate change issues, and draws from expertise within the School of the Environment, including two Canada Research Chairs (CRC)—Dr. Ian Power, CRC in Environmental Geoscience, and Dr. Anne Pasek, CRC in Media, Culture and the Environment.

Ensuring that students meet their individual professional goals is key to her mentoring style, and Prof. Xenopoulos ensures that each person gains experience in their particular field of interest, whether it be project management, pursuing a career in academia, or conducting field research. She also builds students' independent learning, critical thinking, communication, and problem-solving skills, and teaches them to be adaptable, curious, and able to collaborate across networks. "Importantly, I want my students to be confident in their abilities as scientists," says Prof. Xenopoulos.

Advancing the field of aquatic research

While serving as an inspiration for so many others, Prof. Xenopoulos finds inspiration in her colleagues, her kids, and her students. However, if she had to pick one person who has inspired her illustrious career, it would be her mentor, the late Dr. David Schindler, Trent honorary degree recipient and former Trent professor remembered for his groundbreaking contributions to freshwater ecology as one of the world's foremost freshwater scientists. "He was an inspiration in so many ways," she recollects. "His masterful blend of natural history and whole-ecosystem experiments, knowledge

of biogeochemistry, and his science advocacy. His work fundamentally changed our world and shaped who I became as a scientist."

Reflecting on her own legacy, Dr. Xenopoulos has a simple, yet profound vision: contributing to significant advances in her field. "It is not about the number of research papers you publish; these numbers don't matter. It is all about the quality and impact of my work and being a mentor to my students," she explains. "I want my legacy to be work that's influential and that continues to be influential, and which leads to scientific advances. I want people to use my research."

TRENT CONTRIBUTING TO PROVINCIAL ENERGY GRID WITH ENERGY PERFORMANCE UPGRADES

New energy efficiency upgrades installed on Trent's Symons Campus will not only reduce the University's carbon footprint but will support the provincial energy grid. Trent recently renewed its contract with Ameresco, Inc., a leading cleantech integrator and renewable energy asset developer, to install several energy-related advances, including an on-site Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).

"Our renewed energy performance contract with Ameresco builds on previous energy-saving projects, such as converting the campus lighting to LEDs, implementing smart ventilation systems, and using solar energy to power the new zero-carbon Forensics Crime Scene Facility, the first of its kind in Canada," says Tariq Al-Idrissi, vice president of Finance and Administration at Trent.

The 2.5 MW/5 MWh BESS will store energy overnight when the provincial grid is producing the lowest cost, lowest carbon energy and will use the stored energy to power

the campus at strategic times when the Ontario system operators typically turn to gas-fired generation to meet atypical high demand for electricity.

Taking this action on campus contributes to Ontario's Industrial Conservation Initiative and will result in an expected reduction in global adjustment fees of over \$1 million annually. These savings will fund the BESS installation as well as extensive upgrades to Trent's electrical infrastructure.

Other upgrades include the replacement of aging switchgear components and the implementation of a carport canopy photo-voltaic (PV) and electric vehicle (EV) charging station. The PV and EV charging station will complement the BESS in reducing the University's greenhouse gas emissions.



Trent Alumni Engagement Significantly Higher than Canadian Average, New Survey Reports

Majority of respondents “proud of their association with Trent University”

Close to 2,000 alumni provided feedback in the 2022 Alumni Engagement Survey. The survey, managed by Engagement Analysis Inc., took place in December and January, and was intended to measure alumni satisfaction levels and gather information to help inform the future focus of the Trent University Alumni Association (TUAA). Results showed that Trent’s overall alumni engagement, as well as the percentage of alumni that are engaged with the TUAA and the University, is significantly higher than its peer group engagement average and Canadian average.

“This positive satisfaction response from Trent alumni is an extension of their experience as students,” says Lee Hays, Trent’s director of Alumni & Donor Engagement. “The majority of responses indicate a high level of satisfaction with the academic experience, and it is positive to see that high level of satisfaction can continue well beyond graduation. The survey feedback provides Trent and TUAA volunteer leadership with key information on what is working well and what we can continue building upon in the future.”

Overall, alumni are most interested in the TUAA connecting them to classmates, providing learning opportunities and ways to reconnect with Trent or Trent staff and faculty. Younger alumni are most interested in ongoing educational opportunities and career advancement and mentoring opportunities. “There is growing interest in the Life After Trent program, which provides virtual networking events and the TrentU Connect mentoring platform,” explains TUAA co-president Alma Barranco-Mendoza. “This has been a focus

area for the TUAA for a few years, enabling graduates who are early in their career, or looking for a career change, to connect with alumni who have extensive experience and energy to share.” Over 200 alumni also volunteered to host a Trent student for a work experience—a positive response given the growing desire for students to graduate with some hands-on experience.



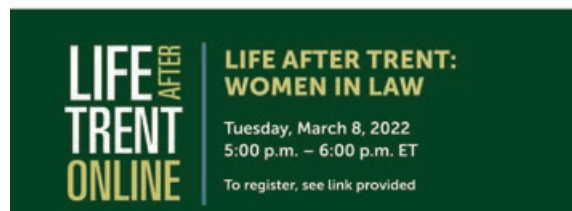
KAREN FAY '05
Associate
Affleck & Barrison LLP



KATILYN MACDONELL '05
Personal Injury Lawyer
Howie, Sacks & Henry LLP



MAYA GUNNARSSON '14
Quebec Bar Candidate



Engaging more alumni in educational and social events was amplified with the shift to virtual events over the past two years. As the most common deterrents for participation are distance and time, virtual or hybrid events will continue to be a focus for the future. “Providing more opportunities for our international alumni to reconnect with each other and with the University is easier now than ever. We have seen a big leap in event attendance from alumni around the world and we want to continue to build on this positive momentum,” states Barranco-Mendoza.

When it comes to making donations to their alma mater, alumni are most interested in donating to areas that benefit students directly, such as financial aid. Younger alumni are least likely to donate to Trent, and are less likely to view Trent as a viable charitable cause and understand how they can make an impact. In this regard, tuition is a significant deterrent to giving. “The cost of education far exceeds what tuition

covers in our province,” responds Hays. “Universities depend on generous donors to help students access education. Many Trent facilities such as the new Durham campus residence and academic building, the Student Centre and expanded Athletics Centre at the Symons Campus, library updates, many student health and safety services, and even some faculty positions, would not exist without donations,” states Hays. “We plan to do a better job at creating this awareness amongst students while they are on campus.”

The survey reports that alumni have the strongest sense of connection (affinity) for Trent overall, but also have a strong connection to their program/major of study and their college. “The reinvigoration of Trent Colleges has led to more programming that involves alumni in the life of the colleges, such as College Open Houses as part of the annual Homecoming Celebration, and involving alumni in traditional college events and volunteer roles,” Hays states. “And, we are seeing that younger alumni have a stronger connection with their program area than older alumni.”

Electronic communication was the most-cited communications method for receiving information from



the University; and the most popular news to receive is general Trent news, reputational news (teaching and research), and news about the graduate's area of study. *TRENT Magazine* remains highly popular for 37% of respondents, although younger alumni are less likely to want to receive the magazine in print or electronic version. "The interest in receiving the printed magazine holds strong for older graduates, while there is a preference for only electronic communications from our more recent graduates. With the free subscription option to receive a printed magazine still available, this is good news for the environment, and allows for a greater investment in technology that can deliver an enhanced online experience," explains Hays.

Alumni survey highlights include:

85% are satisfied with their academic experience at Trent

81% would recommend Trent to others

80% are proud of their association with Trent

84% of alumni would consider hiring a Trent graduate

84% had a positive experience attending Trent Alumni events

To receive a copy of the full Alumni Engagement Survey report, please email alumni@trentu.ca



FOUR TRENT FACULTY MEMBERS MOVED TO ACTION IN THE FACE OF GROWING SCIENCE SKEPTICISM

"Man prefers to believe what he prefers to be true." – Francis Bacon

When Greek philosopher Empedocles submerged a clepsydra into the ocean in 430 BCE on the way to proving that air is a material substance, it's a safe assumption that he received some serious pushback. Skepticism of science has a long history; a timeline that has seen scientists' methodologies and research findings questioned and critiqued and—yes—berated and ridiculed, ad nauseam. Scientists, as a result, have been put on the defensive time and time again, particularly when that scrutiny devolves into personal attacks on their character and perceived motivations.

In the late 1950s into the 1960s, the tobacco industry waged war with scientists' irrefutable evidence that smoking causes cancer. Science as it relates to climate change has

taken a severe beating too, and still is. And then there's the advent and progression of the COVID-19 virus, and the related development of vaccines during a time when an array of social media platforms provide an at-the-fingertips pulpit for science deniers.

Last summer, Dr. Paul Frost, Trent's David Schindler Professor of Aquatic Science, decided enough is enough. The tipping point was a climate science-related article on "ten things you should know about science." It drew his attention ... and his ire.

"Basically, those ten things were things you probably shouldn't know about science," says Professor Frost. "A lot of people would take offence to the climate science skepticism part of it, but actually, I took more offence to

the writer's really poor use of science. A political candidate subsequently shared the article and wrote, 'This is of interest to everybody, and you should really read this.' I wrote, 'No, you shouldn't.' As things on Facebook do, it kind of went off in a bad direction. The person who wrote the article actually contacted me, which was a little disturbing. That's how it all got started."

"It" was an online article, written in collaboration with Professor Frost's Trent colleagues and faculty members Dr. Michael Epp, Dr. Marguerite Xenopoulos and Dr. Michael Hickson, which addresses scientific certainty as it relates to efforts to undermine science.

"Paul had read something that pissed him off and he wanted to do something about it," recalls Professor



"Scientists are the real skeptics. They ask really difficult questions of themselves and of their colleagues in an effort to go deeper and deeper into the questions, but always with the goal of arriving at the truth, not with some ulterior motive."

Epp, associate professor of Cultural Studies, of the initial group discussion.

"We got talking about current events and noticed we each had a different angle on this current event [climate change] that went beyond this guy's article," adds Professor Hickson, who is chair and associate professor in the Department of Philosophy, whose research focus is the history of skepticism in philosophy. "Climate skepticism and anti-vax skepticism, denial of evolution, denial of a link between smoking and cancer. There's also liberal science skepticism, which almost no one talks about. Opposition to genetically modified organisms, which isn't really based around any science on their safety. And worries about the safety of nuclear energy. Science skepticism is a very broad thing. We started talking about what we would have to say about it."

As it turned out, they had plenty to say—and still do.

"Even though a main goal of science is to reduce uncertainty by applying peer review, by proving research methods, uncertainty is an integral part of science," explains Professor Xenopoulos, Canada Research Chair in Global Change of Freshwater Ecosystems. "We apply uncertainty when we're trying to tell someone they need to leave their home because a flood is coming or because a hurricane is going to hit their house. It's never 100% certain. This has been around a long time, but it's the way that we communicate it, and the way that the public exploits it, that's at issue. Uncertainty is going to be there, so we need to increase the trust that the public has in science again."

"The questions are very leading now, depending on what the answer is that someone wants to hear, and depending on what the political interest is. The question that is going to be asked of an expert is going to

be a leading question; kind of a trick question ... a trap question. Scientists are not very good at communicating; we're good at presenting results. When asked questions, it's almost like being in a courtroom. That adds fuel to fire."

Still, notes Prof. Frost, "It's OK to ask questions. That's part of science. We ask questions. We seek the answers. The problem in this case is when people say, 'I'm just asking questions,' and they're not open to a variety of answers. They already know they're not going to accept the expert opinion. This is their way to attack that." Conversely, "an open mind would be, 'Let's accumulate the evidence and see which position has most of the evidence that supports it.' That's the way a scientist would come to it. When people say, 'I'm just asking questions,' they're really using that as a way to attack the expert and debase him or her."



Prof. Epp concurs, noting that skepticism is essential to science. "Scientists are the real skeptics. They ask really difficult questions of themselves and of their colleagues in an effort to go deeper and deeper into the questions, but always with the goal of arriving at the truth, not with some ulterior motive."

The pandemic, and the related science that has not only led to the development of vaccines but also informed public health policy, has given science skeptics an unprecedented

audience. It has been, and remains, impossible to scroll through one's Facebook or Twitter feed at any given time and not come across someone who has science, and scientists, in the crosshairs.

Prof. Epp explains that this approach is part and parcel of "a playbook that is well documented—the science skeptics' playbook. It has five moves that have been used in every kind of science skepticism."

"The first thing that science skeptics do is they share evidence. For example, they'll say, 'I know somebody who got the vaccine and they got really sick, so the vaccines aren't safe.' One person isn't proof the vaccine is bad."

"During the pandemic you heard, 'Some people are saying there are all of these alternatives that we could have been using, like ivermectin, and that vitamin D does just as well, but big pharma has bought out the politicians and that's why everybody has to get vaccinated.'"

"Another is reliance on fake experts. You pay somebody who has a Ph.D. to say, 'I don't know that coronavirus is real.' Another is committing logical errors. And number five is really what our article was about—setting impossible expectations for science."

"Any time you find a skeptic, watch them do these five steps. There's nothing new about the strategies. There's research that shows this playbook was developed by the tobacco industry back in the day when they were fighting the link between smoking and cancer. They actually taught people how to go out and chip away at the science, and they developed this playbook that has now been adapted against climate science, against vaccine science, and so on. There's nothing new. It's just amplified."

The pandemic, says Prof. Hickson, "raises the stakes of these kinds of

discussions that we see, not just on social media but over coffee and over the dinner table. If someone believes, or doesn't believe, in evolution, it's not going to change how they go about their day, unless they're biology students or researchers. However, the pandemic put everyone in the position where they had to make a decision, or more than one decision. What most people did was try to gather evidence based on how they were going to make that decision.

"There's always going to be a variety of responses but that's where we saw science skepticism, or denialism, enter it. It can enter it from ancient, cultural ways. It can enter it from new and deliberate disinformation campaigns from bad actors. You're making a decision based on what you have available to you, either way. It was pretty clear there were a lot more concrete reasons to follow the science than to not."

The group urges readers to be mindful of certainty when reading critiques that inflate the uncertainty of science. To help with that, they put forward a series of questions one should ask to determine if the criticism expressed is being leveled in the interest of science advancement or is stated to simply advance a hidden agenda, political or otherwise.

- Who is making the argument? What are his/her credentials?
- Whose interests are served by the argument?
- Is the critique selective or focused only on science that runs against the interests represented by the writer or speaker?
- Does the argument involve any self-critique?
- Is the writer/speaker doubting the existence of the problem or asking for a delay in action until certainty

is obtained? If the latter, who stands to benefit from the delay?

- Does the writer/speaker require a high level of certainty on the one hand, but not on the other?
- Has the argument made clear how much uncertainty there is? Has the writer/speaker specified a threshold at which point they would feel certain enough to act?



As helpful as these questions are, Prof. Hickson notes interactions with science deniers can, and must, be handled in a more respectful manner. "Trying to feed a science denier information about science is not effective," he says. "It has been shown through research to have a backfire effect ... where pumping vaccine info into someone, or making an anti-vaxxer watch a vaccine video, has negative results. What has been shown to have positive results is having a respectful conversation with the person. Asking them what their views are. Listening to them. Calmly telling them your position. Taking an interest in their position but also asking them tough questions. Everybody can do this work. It just involves talking respectfully to people."

Where their collective effort to bring attention to this subject goes from here, if anywhere, remains to be seen—but Prof. Xenopoulos' mind

is made up. "We need to do more of this. Mike [Hickson] is hoping we have regular meetings. To be honest, I'm a bit worried that we're an echo chamber. We can produce the conversation, but are the people that need to hear it going to hear it?"

For his part, Prof. Hickson says a change in approach is sorely needed. "Everybody is very negative. We're focusing on what didn't work [during the pandemic], but what we could also focus on is the miracle that science achieved, producing multiple vaccines more quickly than ever before. We're talking about the divisions we're having within society, but another thing we could focus on is the fact that more than 90% of Canadians did get vaccinated, and we're one of the most vaccinated nations in the entire world. We really have to be careful not to overplay the divisions and overplay the number of skeptics. Saying, 'You can't talk to them; they're out of their minds; you'll never reach them,'—that's the wrong attitude. Engagement is essential, and it does lead to people coming over to science."

But as Prof. Frost notes, when all is said and done, there's a part of science we have to accept. "When we say we know something, we don't mean we know it with 100% certainty. We can either have very limited information, not really knowing if something is true or not, or we can start accumulating data and start moving along a gradient of having increasing levels of certainty. What science is trying to do is push us toward knowing, with a high level of certainty, that it's either true or it's not true. To reach 100% certainty isn't possible."

ORDER OF CANADA APPOINTMENTS BESTOWED ON TRENT COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Alumni Yann Martel '81 and Ian Tamblyn '67, and honorary degree recipient Max Eisen '18 (Hon) among those honoured

Five members of the Trent community, alumni **Yann Martel '81** (Philosophy) and **Ian Tamblyn '67** (Sociology), honorary degree recipient and honorary alumnus **Max Eisen '18 (hon)**, instructor Elizabeth (Betsy) McGregor, and supporter Nona Heaslip, are among 135 new Order of Canada appointments announced earlier this year by the **Right Honourable Mary Simon '05 (hon)**, governor general of Canada and former chancellor of Trent University.

"Canada is defined by the people that make up this great country," wrote Dr. Simon in the announcement. "These most recent nominees to the Order of Canada are shining examples of the commitment and outstanding contributions Canadians have made to the well-being of communities throughout this land, whether it be social, environmental, scientific, economic, cultural or related to mental and physical health. To all of the nominees, congratulations and thank you."

MR. YANN MARTEL is a Trent University Distinguished Alumni Award recipient. The bestselling author is known for his Man Booker Prize-winning novel, *Life of Pi*. His other novels include *The High Mountains of Portugal*, *Beatrice and Virgil*, and *Self*. He has won a number of literary prizes, including the 2001 Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction and the 2002 Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature. Mr. Martel was named a companion of the Order of Canada, its highest rank and honour, "for his contributions to literature and for his philanthropic commitment to the betterment of his region."



DR. IAN TAMBLYN, is a singer-songwriter, record producer, adventurer, and playwright, as well as a recipient of a Trent University honorary degree and a Distinguished Alumni Award. He has received multiple awards and nominations, including the Estelle Klein and Helen Verger Awards for his contributions to Canadian folk music, and an honorary doctorate from Lakehead University. In 2012, Mr. Tamblyn was made a fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographic



Society for his guiding and creative work in the Canadian Arctic. He was named an officer of the Order of Canada "for his enduring contributions as a folk music icon, adventurer and cultural ambassador for Canada."

DR. MAX EISEN received an honorary doctorate from Trent in 2018. He is an author, public speaker, and Holocaust educator in Canada. He lectures regularly to students, educators, universities, law enforcement personnel, and the community at large about his experiences as a concentration camp survivor. Dr. Eisen was named a member of the Order of Canada "for his contributions to Holocaust education, and for his promotion of transformational dialogue on human rights, tolerance and respect."



DR. BETSY MCGREGOR is a scientist and advocate for women in politics and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), and has been involved with the University over many years as an instructor and workshop leader. She was named a member of the Order of Canada "for her promotion of women in science and for her commitment to nurturing Canada's next generation of leaders."



MS. NONA HEASLIP is a noted philanthropist who has supported a variety of projects at Trent, including student life and heritage restoration. Most recently, she has helped to create a stage for musical and theatrical productions at Scott House, Traill College. She was named a member of the Order of Canada "for her ongoing philanthropic contributions to the Canadian arts sector and for supporting numerous academic scholarships across the country."



Created in 1967, the Order of Canada recognizes outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation. More than 7,000 people from all sectors of society have been invested into the Order.

SIX ACCOMPLISHED INDIVIDUALS BESTOWED TRENT'S HIGHEST HONOUR

Meet Trent University's 2022 Honorary Degree recipients

Continuing Trent's long-standing tradition of recognizing exemplary achievements or social contributions in Canada or internationally, six distinguished individuals are joining the ranks of esteemed Trent University honorary degree recipients.

"Convocation presents our graduates with an opportunity to reflect, not only on their time at Trent but also their future, and this year's extraordinary honorary degree recipients will no doubt contribute to the momentous occasion," says Dr. Leo Groarke, president and vice-chancellor of Trent University. "These remarkable individuals have made meaningful contributions here in Canada and abroad as philanthropists, human rights activists, artists, environmentalists, and educators."

The six recipients personify the University's strengths in the environment, Indigenous studies and the study of Canada, social justice and the liberal arts. The honorary degrees will be presented during in-person Convocation ceremonies at both the Durham GTA and Peterborough campuses.



Hitting the high notes: Legendary Canadian record producer, Bob Ezrin

In a legendary career as a music and entertainment producer, personality and entrepreneur that spans nearly 50 years, Toronto-born Mr. Bob Ezrin has worked around the world on recordings, TV, film and live event production with a wide variety of artists including Pink Floyd, U2, Deep Purple, Taylor Swift, Alice Cooper, and Jay-Z among many others. He remains one of the most sought-after producers in the world, working primarily in Toronto, Nashville, and Los Angeles.

Mr. Ezrin is a co-founder of Wow Unlimited Media Inc. and the Nimbus School of Media Arts, both in Vancouver, and co-founded 7th Level Inc in Richardson, Texas, and Enigma Digital in Los Angeles, both seminal companies in interactive education, entertainment, and social media. He served as co-chair of Clear Channel Interactive and chair of Live Nation Artists Recordings.

Having served on the boards of several foundations over the years, Mr. Ezrin is currently a director of the

Canadian Journalism Foundation in Toronto and the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation in Los Angeles, as well as a Leadership Circle member of MusiCounts in Toronto. Along with U2's the Edge, he co-founded Music Rising, an initiative to replace musical instruments that are lost in natural disasters.

Mr. Ezrin is also an avid environmental activist in Canada, the US and the UK. Together with Trent's chancellor, **Dr. Stephen Stohn '66** and Dr. Cathy Bruce, vice-president of Research and Innovation, he developed a series of videos for Trent students on the importance of environmental activism. He has also been a guest lecturer on climate emergency and media at Trent.

Mr. Ezrin is an inductee into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame, the Canadian Music Industry Hall of Fame, and Canada's Walk of Fame, and is a fellow of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto and the Royal Society of Arts in London, UK.

Mr. Ezrin will receive an honorary doctorate of laws for his significant contributions to the Canadian entertainment industry and dedication to environmental and educational causes.



Honouring the Grandmother of Indigenous theatre: Dr. Muriel Miguel

Choreographer, director, actor, and "Grandmother of Indigenous theatre," Dr. Muriel Miguel is a member of the Kuna and Rappahannock Nations and founding member and artistic director of Spiderwoman Theater in New York City, the longest-running ongoing feminist Indigenous theatre company in North America. She has directed almost all their shows since its founding in 1976, debuting with *Women in Violence*.

Dr. Miguel works independently as a director, choreographer, playwright, actor, and educator, and is recognized for making space for the performing of stories of Indigenous Peoples. She is currently a member of the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission and holds an honorary doctor of Fine Arts from Miami University in Ohio.

A trailblazer in the development of storyweaving, a culture-based training practice for Indigenous students,

Trent University's 2022 Honorary Degree recipients

Dr. Miguel is active in training Indigenous actors and dancers in this practice. She was assistant professor of Drama at Bard College (New York) and taught and directed a yearly production at the Centre for Indigenous Theatre, where she also served as program director for their three-week summer intensive program. Dr. Miguel was also the program director and instructor at the Indigenous Dance Program at The Banff Centre for the Arts, has lectured with *Muriel Miguel: A Retrospective*, and facilitated production residences using the storyweaving practice in conservatories and universities in the US, Canada, and Europe. She regularly visits Trent University to deliver workshops on Indigenous performance and performed in the Spiderwoman Theatre production that opened Nozhem First Peoples Performance Space in 2004.

As a leading force in the Indigenous performance space, Dr. Miguel has been recognized for her outstanding contributions to Indigenous performance by a wide variety of artistic and civic organizations. Additionally, her work and that of Spiderwoman Theater have been profiled in numerous articles and essays.

Dr. Miguel will receive an honorary doctorate of letters in recognition of her landmark contributions to contemporary Indigenous and feminist theatre movements.



Dr. Charles Krebs, FRSC: Transforming the discipline of ecology

With a prolific career spanning more than 60 years, Dr. Charles Krebs has influenced generations of biologists and ecologists worldwide with his teaching and research on the

drivers of population and ecosystem change in natural and agricultural environments.

Dr. Krebs is an emeritus professor of zoology at the University of British Columbia and Thinker in Residence at the Institute for Applied Ecology, University of Canberra. He has published more than 320 peer-reviewed publications and six books, including *Ecology: The Experimental Analysis of Distribution and Abundance* (Pearson), which is currently in its 6th edition and remains one of the most widely used ecology textbooks worldwide.

Dr. Krebs is best known for his large-scale field experiments aimed at explaining the drivers of animal population dynamics by manipulating species abundance and related interactions in natural conditions in boreal and arctic ecosystems. He continues to be involved in the longest-running ecological monitoring program in

Canada's boreal forest at Kluane Lake, Yukon, which he established 48 years ago. These experiments have advanced our understanding of the mechanisms underlying plant and animal population dynamics in these ecosystems and transformed the discipline of ecology.

Dr. Krebs' contributions have also been acknowledged through numerous awards, and he has received lifetime achievement awards from the International Conference for Rodent Biology and Management, the International Society of Zoological Sciences, and the W. Garfield Weston Foundation. He is a fellow of the Ecological Society of America and the Royal Zoological Society of New South Wales.

Dr. Krebs's lifetime achievements will be acknowledged with an honorary doctorate of science for his extensive contributions in the areas of ecology, environmental science, wildlife conservation, and northern research.



Advocating for Indigenous rights: The Honourable Dr. Lillian Eva (Quan) Dyck, O.C.

The Honourable Dr. Lillian Eva Quan Dyck, member of the Gordon First Nation in Saskatchewan and first-generation Chinese Canadian, is the

first female First Nation and Canadian-born Chinese senator. She is lauded for extensive work in the Senate relating to missing and murdered Indigenous women and for advocating for equity in the education and employment of women, Chinese Canadians, and Indigenous Peoples.

Dr. Dyck served as deputy chair and chair of the Standing Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples. In her role as senator, she was able to amend the criminal code to better protect women, especially Indigenous women and other vulnerable persons, from violence and abuse, including intimate partner violence. She also played a key role in ensuring that the federal government amended the Indian Act to remove all discrimination against the descendants of Indigenous women whose Indian status was unfairly taken away from them simply because they married non-Indigenous men.

In August 2020, on her 75th birthday, Dr. Dyck retired from the Senate, ending a 15-year term faithfully representing Saskatchewan and guarding the interests of Canadians without voices.

Dr. Dyck has been recognized for her prolific career through several awards including the National Aboriginal Achievement Award for Science & Technology; the YWCA Woman of Distinction Award for Science, Technology &

the Environment; the Atlantic Human Rights Center Award; the YWCA Saskatoon Women of Distinction Lifetime Achievement Award; and most recently was appointed as an officer of the Order of Canada. She has been presented with four eagle feathers by the Indigenous community and was awarded an honorary degree by Cape Breton University in 2007.

Dr. Dyck will receive an honorary doctorate of laws in recognition of her advocacy for equity in the education and employment of women, Chinese Canadians, and Indigenous peoples.



Rosemary Burns Ganley: Human rights activist and community advocate

Lifelong feminist and social activist and writer, Rosemary Ganley, has made an outstanding contribution to public

life in Peterborough, where she is a prominent voice on local issues, leads workshops, and actively participates in numerous organizations.

Deeply committed to youth engagement, Ms. Ganley lived for six years in Jamaica and Tanzania, and with her husband founded the development agency Jamaican Self Help (JSH), in 1980, which supported educational, health, youth, and other community-based activities in Kingston, Jamaica. JSH became a remarkable non-governmental organization that expanded its donor base and secured Canadian International Development Agency funding. Ms. Ganley visited Jamaica several times with volunteer and student groups from Peterborough, offering a real-world glimpse into life in Jamaica. She published a book on this experience: *Jamaica Journal: The Story of a Grassroots Canadian Aid Organization*.

Ms. Ganley represented Canada at the fourth UN Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995 and in 2018 served on the prime minister's Gender Equality Advisory Council for the G7 meetings in Quebec, where she met with G7 leaders. She also delivered the prestigious Margaret Laurence Lecture at Trent University on feminist theologies in 2011.

A prolific writer, Ms. Ganley was assistant editor of the independent newspaper *Catholic New Times* in Toronto, and her writing has appeared in the *Globe and Mail*, *Toronto Star*, *Peterborough Examiner*, *The Green Teacher* and *Conscience* magazine. Ms. Ganley continues to write a weekly column for the *Peterborough Examiner* and has published two collections of her columns in the past five years.

Ms. Ganley will be recognized with an honorary doctorate of laws for her passionate advocacy for human rights and community engagement.



Ana P. Lopes, C.M.: Social innovator, entrepreneur, changemaker and philanthropist

Social innovator, entrepreneur, changemaker and philanthropist, Ana Lopes has led numerous not-for-profit transformations with a focus on corporate governance and philanthropic

strategy. Ms. Lopes currently serves as a director of The Tapscott Group Inc., a privately held think tank focusing on the digital revolution in business and society. She is also a director of the Toronto International Film Festival, Toronto Symphony Foundation, and Community Food Centres Canada, and a member of the International Portuguese Diaspora Council in Lisbon.

Many organizations have benefited from Ms. Lopes' leadership and passion for a better world. She is a former chair of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health Foundation and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra's board of directors and has served on the boards of The Writers' Trust of Canada, the World Wide Web Foundation, Sunnybrook Hospital Foundation, Women's College Hospital Foundation, Business/Arts, and Trent University.

Ms. Lopes and her husband, Trent's first alumni chancellor **Dr. Don Tapscott '66**, are passionate mental health advocates, raising awareness for mental health and addiction research and services for the last thirty years. They also established the Tapscott Chair in Schizophrenia Studies at the University of Toronto.

In recognition of her work, Ms. Lopes received the Association of Fundraising Professionals of Greater Toronto Fundraising Volunteer of the Year award in 2009, and in 2013 WXN listed her as one of the 100 Most Powerful Women in Canada.

In 2014, the president of Portugal awarded Ms. Lopes the Order of Merit. She was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and was made a member of the Order of Canada in 2011.

Ms. Lopes will be presented with an honorary doctorate of laws for her extraordinary contributions to non-profit organizations with a focus on women's health and mental health advocacy, research and clinical care.

A CONSEQUENTIAL LEGACY

Global citizen, philanthropist and non-profit professional has long-term plans to return the favour

Dane Bland '11 is unequivocal—he wants his contributions to be meaningful. With a strong desire to give back guiding his path, the Business Administration (B.B.A.) graduate understands the powerful impact of hard work driven by generosity and compassion.

Dane is thankful for those who supported his multi-faceted education and unleashed his potential. He is determined to do the same for future generations of Trent University students. As a committed global citizen who hasn't yet reached his thirties, this recipient of the 2021 Paul Delaney Award for outstanding young philanthropists is building the legacy of a lifetime. "My passion for justice, human rights, and making the world a better place were cultivated during my time at Trent," states Dane.

A certified fundraising executive, he is currently the director of development and communications at Rainbow Railroad. The international organization helps LGBTQI+ individuals facing persecution and violence in many countries where it is unsafe to live freely and openly. "I'm in love with my job," exclaims Dane a cisgender, openly queer man, who is honoured to use his skillset, and to pay forward the privilege and loving support that he has received, in an effort to aid others. Dane is an experienced professional in the charitable and not-for-profit sector ranging in fields from healthcare to arts and culture, having served as a board member and volunteer for many organizations including the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP).

It all comes back to his Trent foundations. While honing his critical thinking skills, learning about the world, and making life-long friends at Trent and in Peterborough, he shares, "I learned a lot about who I was as a human being and who I wanted to be." He recalls memorable academic experiences such as developing a reading list for class or lively discussions with classmates and faculty at local cafés. A devoted Otonabee College alumnus, he also participated in many extra-curriculars on campus. The Anne Shirley Theatre Company, associated with the Trent Central Student Association (TCSA), provided opportunities to immerse himself in performances as both an actor and director. "I was drawn to doing parts that were of consequence, that inspired social conversation."

At Trent, he learned valuable lessons not only through academics and clubs, but through customized internships and work opportunities on campus in the Financial Aid and Advancement offices.

Like his job today, Dane loved working at Trent, where he gained first-hand experience in the power of giving back—and became inspired to do more. “I became a legacy donor. I made my legacy pledge to Trent University after I was an employee in the Office of Advancement, where I saw what those donations were doing for real.”

As a member of the Legacy Society, Dane includes Trent University in his estate plans through a gift of life insurance. At the age of 28, he made Trent University a partial beneficiary through his life insurance policy, which is often a benefit of full-time employment. “As a young person, it’s cheaper for me to buy life insurance now,” said Dane who also donates regularly to Trent. “The last two years have been a stark reminder that life



is fragile and short. Considering how you want to be remembered doesn’t feel so silly anymore.” He adds that no amount is too small, if enough individuals choose to give. “I hope that other people consider doing it, whether they are 21 or 80.”

A recipient of several scholarships and bursaries, his education, living expenses, work experiences and extra-curricular activities were substantially supported by donor

support to the Trent Fund and the Trent Work Study Program. “It is a pledge of mine over my life to pay that back, and more, so that someone can have the experience that I did,” explains Dane.

Like many students, his time at Trent was fuelled by generous donors and individuals on campus who saw his potential. “I want to be that anonymous guardian angel. I know first-hand as a student recipient, an employee, and as a donor, the impact that donations have on students. Giving to Trent is a way that I can be of consequence.”

His devotion to Trent is a fitting reflection of his life’s work. “You can really make a difference in someone’s life. Someone did in mine, so that’s why I do it.”

Visit trentu.ca/legacy to become a donor and learn more.

IN MEMORIAM

Mary Amyotte, *Trent Retiree*
Gerhard Baumgaertel, *Trent Professor Emeriti*
Maurice Belanger, *Trent Retiree*
Marion Boulby, *Professor*
Alex Campbell '68
Kenneth Clarke '65
Janet Cox '75

Sheila Cuthbertson '78
Joy Edwards, *Trent Retiree*
Susan Elliott-Boc '70
Dugald Gilmurray, *Trent Retiree*
Cathy Graham, *Trent Retiree*
Jessie Griffin, *Trent Retiree*
Christina Gunthardt '79
Gloria Guppy, *Trent Retiree*

Margaret Jordan, *Trent Retiree*
Konrad Kinzl, *Trent Professor Emeriti*
Leona Moher, *Trent Retiree*
Elizabeth Murphy, *Trent Retiree*
Lynda Smith '70, *Alum Non Degree*
Marion Tracey, *Trent Retiree*
Marlene Wilke '74, *Trent Retiree*

LOOKING BACK <<<

Thank you for participating in Trent Day 2022.
Learn more about what took place and plans for next year
by visiting trentu.ca/trentday

