

Trent Community
Research Centre

YEAR END REPORT

2023/24



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p. 9 Toryn Ruzicki

A LETTER FROM THE TCRC TEAM

To the TCRC Community,

As another academic year nears its close, our team is honoured to reflect on the year's collaborations and the immense impact that community-based research partnerships have had in our community.

Over the past year, the TCRC team has increased its presence and impact both on and off campus. Through the invaluable support of a generous private donation, and a partnership with the Business + Higher Education Roundtable (BHER), we've been able to support 57 community-based research projects undertaken by over 100 students in collaboration with more than 38 community organizations.

In addition, we are pleased to have expanded our offering of community-service learning, which provides undergraduate students with the opportunity to volunteer throughout the community as part of their studies. This year, 600 Trent students volunteered to support the efforts of 32 organizations.

We are grateful for the opportunity to foster connections between the organizations doing amazing work in our communities and the dedicated students and faculty who harness their expertise to support capacity and innovation. This work would not be possible without the contributions of our many supporters.

To our community partners, thank you for your trust, patience, and flexibility. In collaborating through community-based research, you place faith in a partnership that allows you to expand your impact while offering students a unique professional opportunity. We hope that these partnerships have yielded valuable insights and meaningful solutions that will support your work. We look forward to many more future collaborations.

To our students, thank you for your commitment, your passion, and your willingness to try something new. Having worked closely with you throughout the year, we are always inspired by your creativity, determination, and willingness to learn. As you look to the future, we all wish you success and happiness in whatever you pursue.

To our faculty supervisors, thank you for your time, expertise, and commitment to student success and community development. This program would not be possible without you. We are grateful for your guidance and look forward to continued success in the future.

Finally, thank you to our sponsors and to the champions of community-based research who entrust TCRC to deliver high-quality, impactful, community driven research. Without your guidance, the growth of our centre to enhance staffing, project development, and meaningful partner engagement, would not have been possible.

Your belief in our mission fuels our determination to make a positive impact within our communities. We are profoundly grateful for your partnership and look forward to the journey ahead, knowing that together, we can achieve great things!

TCRC Team

TCRC TEAM

This year has been a thrilling period of growth for the TCRC team, marked by the addition of two new staff members, allowing us to continue to expand our reach and deepen our impact within the community.



Ryan Sisson, Manager Community + Workplace Partnerships

Ryan has been at the helm of TCRC since 2018 and oversees all aspects of the planning and coordination of TCRC program operations. In his role, Ryan is focused on supporting and enhancing community partnerships that support employment outcomes and ongoing educational opportunities for students and new graduates; overseeing the cultivation of existing and potential experiential learning opportunities and partnerships, and ensuring the successful preparation and placement of students across TCRC’s programs. Ryan is a certified Environmental Professional (EP) through ECO Canada and holds an M.Sc. from the University of Michigan’s School for Environment and Sustainability.



Jessica Marlow, Acting Manager Community + Workplace Partnerships

Jessica joined the Experiential Learning team of Careerspace in 2022 and has provided leadership to our TCRC team over the past year. Jessica brings a background in advocating for individuals facing barriers in the community, as well as a strong history of building connections and collaborations to solve challenges. Jessica believes community-based research is an impactful opportunity for Trent students to make a difference and add valuable research that can really move initiatives forward. Her previous work includes working with individuals facing barriers to employment, advocating for adults with developmental disabilities, and supporting refugees through the refugee determination process.



Brittany Finigan, Team Lead/Project Coordinator

Brittany joined TCRC in 2022, bringing diverse experience as a Trent Alumni, former Course Instructor in the School of Education and Professional Learning, and a strong background in research methods. Throughout her time in Peterborough, Brittany has been actively involved with many local non-profit organizations, particularly in the environmental and educational sectors. She is driven by a passion for learning and the belief that learning should be accessible and empowering for all.



Sarah Khaki, Operations Coordinator

Sarah joined the TCRC team in 2022, offering her experience and deep commitment to ensuring student success. Prior to her role at TCRC, Sarah worked with several departments at Trent University, including Careerspace where she focused on projects that aimed to enhance the experience of students and recent graduates through experiential learning opportunities. As the Operations Coordinator, Sarah manages the administrative and financial operations of the TCRC. Additionally, Sarah coordinates and reports on special projects that support the TCRC’s mission to foster collaboration.



Carolyn Mount, Project Coordinator

Carolyn is passionate about community and making and developing intentional connections. Whether in her work as an artist, as a board member in the community, or as a Project Coordinator with the TCRC, Carolyn believes we are stronger and healthier when we are connected and working together. Carolyn loves partnering with students, faculty and community members. She strongly believes community-based research is an incredible opportunity for all involved and looks forward to learning and growing with those she works with.



Kerith Paul, Project Coordinator

Kerith joined the TCRC team in 2023, and leads the Community-Service Learning program, connecting hundreds of Trent students to the broader Peterborough community through volunteer opportunities, and supports the Community-Based Research program. She completed her undergraduate degree in Anthropology/Indigenous Studies at Trent University, holds a Master’s in Immigration & Settlement Studies from the Toronto Metropolitan University, and is a Board Director at the Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre.



Matthew Walmsley, Project Coordinator

Matthew joined the TCRC team in 2022, he brings a diverse skill set and a deep commitment to community well-being to TCRC. With a background in education and environmental science, Matthew is dedicated to making a positive impact to the people and places in our community. His previous roles involved education and community outreach at Peterborough GreenUP and Camp Kawartha. Matthew is a part-time faculty at Fleming College, teaching in the School of Environmental & Natural Resource Sciences. Matthew serves on the steering committee of the Ashburnham Memorial Park Stewardship Group.



Mohammad Alazraq, Student Experience Coordinator

Mohammad joined the TCRC team for the fall of 2023 to facilitate the CBR Bootcamp for students and community members. He is a sustainability professional with over 10 years of experience in environmental science, community engagement, and project management. He holds a master’s degree in Sustainability Studies from Trent University and has worked in various roles, including as a Seminar Instructor at Trent, a Research Analyst for the City of Peterborough, and a Sustainability Consultant for Fleming College.

EXTERNAL FUNDING BOOSTS TCRC PROGRAMMING

Business + Higher Education (BHER)

The Business + Higher Education Roundtable (BHER) is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization bringing together some of Canada’s largest companies and leading post-secondary institutions. Since 2015, BHER has worked to harness the strengths of Canada’s business and post-secondary education sectors to build opportunities for young Canadians, boost innovation, and drive collaboration. Learn more at www.bher.ca and visit WIL Hub for ways to explore, invest in and create quality WIL opportunities.

The Trent Community Research Centre secured \$483,822 in funding in partnership with the Business + Higher Education Roundtable (BHER), and with support from the Government of Canada to create over 1,000 new community-based research and community-service learning opportunities over a 2-year period, with a focus on sustainability, climate change, and a net-zero economy.

Through community-based research and community-service learning, students at Trent University are empowered to make a meaningful impact by addressing real-world challenges related to sustainability, climate change, and a net-zero economy. The partnership between TCRC and BHER fosters interdisciplinary collaboration, knowledge exchange, and innovation, paving the way for practical solutions and a more sustainable future.



Private Donation

In 2023, the TCRC was fortunate to receive a \$3.5-million gift enabling more Trent students to gain valuable hands-on experience and create meaningful change in the Peterborough region.

This generous donation, graciously provided by an anonymous TCRC supporter, signifies far more than a financial contribution—it embodies a deep-seated belief in the power of academia and communities to come together to address community needs.

At the heart of this partnership lies a steadfast dedication to empowering students with real-world experience and creating meaningful change in the Peterborough region. The increase in financial resources has enabled us to provide support and funding to students as they pursue their research projects, while also doubling the number of community-based research projects completed.

CEWIL Canada

Co-operative Education and Work-Integrated Learning Canada (CEWIL Canada), formerly Canadian Association for Co-operative Education (CAFCE), is the lead organization for work-integrated learning in Canada. CEWIL partners with post-secondary institutions, community members, employers, government, and students to champion work-integrated learning (WIL).

TCRC was pleased to offer a CBR Bootcamp for Trent students enrolled in Community-Based Research during Fall 2023. The Bootcamp is a specialized program designed to enhance the research capabilities of students and community organizations, introducing participants to theory and practices of community-based research. Workshop themes include understanding community needs, project management, research methodologies, ethics, data analysis, and sharing results. The funding, supported in part through the Government of Canada’s Innovative Work-Integrated Learning Initiative (IWIL) and CEWIL’s Innovation Hub (iHub), allowed the TCRC to provide a \$1,500 stipend to the 43 students that completed the six modules.

IMPACTFUL INTERNAL & EXTERNAL COLLABORATIONS

Student Support Through Trent Academic Skills

Academic Skills provides invaluable support to CBR students throughout their community-based research projects. This year, Academic Skills also presented to CBR students on Project Management Skills as part of the year’s CBR Bootcamp and provided dedicated support and mentorship to student presenters at this year’s Annual Celebration of Community-Based Research.

Encouraging Experiential Learning Through the Trent Centre for Teaching & Learning

Brittany Finigan, TCRC Project Coordinator, offered a workshop through the Centre for Teaching and Learning to Trent faculty entitled “The Power of Doing: Incorporating Experiential Learning in Your Teaching.” The workshop reviewed some foundational principles and benefits of experiential learning pedagogy in post-secondary education and the diverse experiential learning programs at Trent. It featured a panel discussion with faculty members who have first-hand experience incorporating community-based research into their classrooms, offering practical perspectives on the power of doing in education.

Partner Organization in U-Links Centre for Community-Based Learning

Recognizing the need for local knowledge and delivery organizations that are responsive to the varying needs of different communities in the region, U-Links has worked as the bridge between Trent University and the rural communities of Haliburton County, since 1999, connecting local organizations that have research questions with students who are interested in community-based research. The TCRC and U-Links work closely to support community-based research at Trent University through a collective, collaborative approach, ensuring a consistent and high-quality experience for all involved.

Continued Learning with CBR Canada

The TCRC is a member organization of Community-Based Research Canada (CBRCanada), a national champion and facilitator of community-based research excellence, a research approach addressing challenging societal problems. TCRC staff regularly attend learning sessions offered by CBR Canada.

Bringing Organizations Together Through Community Conversations

During October and November 2023, the TCRC facilitated three community conversations about sustainable agriculture, vulnerable populations, and transition to net zero, funded by CEWIL Canada. The three events, held at the downtown Peterborough Public Library, were well attended and served to connect organizations and foster positive and meaningful discussion related to each topic area.

Alignment with Trent Office of Research & Innovation

The TCRC’s priorities align with the Office of Research and Innovation’s Strategic Research Plan 2023-28, specifically in that we aim to 1) engage students in research, 2) enhance the communication of research results, 3) encourage faculty support and mentorship, and 4) engage in research collaboration. The TCRC contributes to the growth and integrity of research at Trent.

Information Access with Trent Bata Library

While working on their research projects, CBR students often benefit from access to many Library resources, such as the MaDGIC Lab and Librarian Supports which help students achieve success in their research. The Trent Library Archive also houses final reports from CBR projects, ensuring that the collection can be accessed for years to come.

In addition, we extend our gratitude to Trent’s Research Ethics Board, Health and Safety Department, Communications Department, Dean’s Offices, and the many faculty and administrators across campus who ensure students and community partners continue to have the opportunity to engage in these collaborations.

DEVELOPING RELATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH THE COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH PROGRAM

The TCRC facilitates meaningful and purposeful community-based research projects in Peterborough City and County, City of Kawartha Lakes, Durham Region, and Northumberland County.

Community-based research brings together the knowledge and research needs of the community with the research expertise of Trent University faculty and students.

Research questions come from a wide range of community groups and organizations including local municipalities, social service agencies, conservation authorities, and community interest groups.

TCRC staff work alongside faculty to support students in their work and help guide projects toward successful outcomes for both the local community and students. This year, with added staff capacity, the TCRC worked with 37 unique organizations and facilitated 57 unique research projects.

Departments & Faculty

We continue to increase the number of Trent departments and faculty we work with. Thank you to department staff, and all the faculty supervisors for your time, expertise, and commitment to student success and community development. We look forward to continuing our relationships in the future and are excited to welcome new faculty interested in CBR.

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Joel Cahn

For the past 5 years, Dr. Joel Cahn has been one of the primary figures involved in the community-based research program at Trent. In teaching Trent’s Community-Based Research Capstone in Forensics, Dr. Cahn has supervised 10 projects per year, with topics relating to the legal and criminal justice systems, and social justice issues that may intersect with criminalization. Our team at TCRC would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Dr. Cahn for his years of commitment to community-based research and student success and would like to extend our warm welcome to Dr. Mira Kapetanovic who will be taking over the Forensics Capstone course in the upcoming year.

Trent Departments & Faculty Engaged in CBR 2023/24

Biology

- Dr. Holly Bates
- Dr. David Beresford
- Dr. Kirk Hillsley
- Dr. Thomas Hossie
- Dr. Margeurite Xenopolous
- Forensic Science
- Dr. Joel Cahn

Gender & Social Justice

- Dr. Lisa Boucher

International Development Studies

- Dr. Baris Karaagac
- Dr. Paul Shaffer

Master of Management

- Dr. Rob Elkington

Media Studies

- Dr. Anne Pasek
- Dr. Joshua Synenco

Political Studies

- Dr. Bharati Sethi

Psychology

- Dr. Taryn Grieder

School of Business

- Dr. Ray Dart
- Dr. Raymond Yip-Choy

School of Environment

- Dr. Autumn Watkinson
- Dr. Kaitlyn Fleming
- Dr. Roger Picton
- Dr. Jim Shaefer
- Dr. Shaun Watmough

Sociology

- Dr. Kristy Buccieri
- Dr. Eugena Kwon
- Dr. Naomi Nicholls

CBR Project Spotlight

One City Peterborough – Assessing the Effectiveness of the Unity Project’s Outreach Program in Downtown Peterborough

By Trent student Toryn Ruzicki

One City Peterborough’s Unity Project delivers rapid outreach assistance in downtown Peterborough, aimed at aiding individuals facing crises, as well as supporting downtown business owners and their staff through de-escalation support, mediation, connecting unhoused individuals with resources, sharps cleanup & disposal, harm reduction, and naloxone training.

Through a literature review, survey, and thematic analysis, the project aimed to assess the current outreach needs of Peterborough’s downtown businesses, assess the presence of outreach workers and the response provided by the Unity Project, and determine if there is a need for future funding to expand the program.



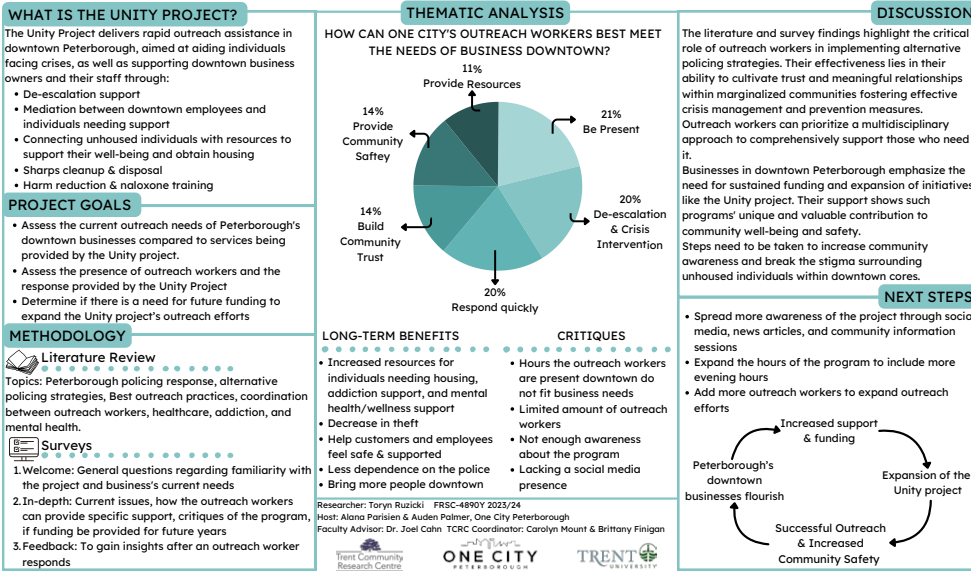
Project results highlighted the critical role of outreach workers in implementing alternative policing strategies. Their effectiveness lies in their ability to cultivate trust and meaningful relationships within marginalized communities. Businesses in downtown Peterborough emphasize the need for sustained funding and expansion of initiatives like the Unity project. Their support shows such programs’ unique and valuable contribution to community well-being and safety, while steps need to be taken to increase community awareness and break the stigma surrounding unhoused individuals within downtown cores.

REACHING OUT TO DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES

Assessing the Effectiveness of the Unity Project’s Outreach Program in Downtown Peterborough

From Jan 17- Feb 17, 2024

2 Outreach Workers 608 Business Visits 14 Calls for Support 19 Referrals for Supports 35 Naloxone Kits 3 Sharps Clean Up



Community Testimonials

“Participating in community-based research benefited our organization because we were able to complete research with students that we didn’t necessarily have the capacity to do ourselves. Working with Trent University students is such a privilege. They bring so much knowledge and curiosity to the work. I’m excited to see what this information will do to bring our organization to the next level.”

Ann-Majella McKelvie, Innovation Cluster Peterborough and the Kawarthas



“It [community-based research] is such a tremendous opportunity to work with students who are going to be entering the world of work. It’s an opportunity to mentor them, to work through problems with them in terms of community issues, and in addition to that it allows for some extra capacity for the organization through the work of these wonderful students.

I’d just like to say a huge thank you to the Trent Community Research Center and to the fabulous students we’ve worked with here at Trent. We are so grateful for your hard work, and we love working with you.”

Jenn McCallum, Ashburnham Memorial Stewardship Group



Student Testimonials

“Community-based research is a great experience to get your hands on the job. You’re making an impact not only in the academic aspect, but also in the community.”

Chanel Bowen, fourth-year International Development Studies & Sociology student

“I did my community-based research project with the Peterborough + Kawarthas Chamber of Commerce and we focused on rising commercial insurance here in Peterborough. I was interested in community-based research because I appreciate our local business community and I was hoping to make a difference and make recommendations to mitigate some of those insurance costs for our local businesses here in Peterborough.”

Jaidyn Pond, fourth-year Business Administration student

“The most rewarding part of the community-based research project is the relationships that I was able to foster with my host organization, with the Trent Community Research Centre, with my academic supervisor, and with my research participants.”

Brianna Kitchener, fourth-year Psychology student



List of Community-Based Research Partners 2023/24

- Ashburnham Memorial Park

Autism Home Base

AWARE Simcoe

Baxter Creek Watershed Alliance

Brock Township

Canadian Family Health Counselling

Canadian Mental Health Association

Cavan Monaghan Community for Common Ground

Charlotte Products

City of Kawartha Lakes

FriendLily

Gather on Trent

GreenUP

Habitat for Humanity Peterborough & Kawartha Region

Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee

Innovation Cluster

Journal of Undergraduate Studies at Trent

Junior Achievement Northern and Eastern Ontario

Karbon Brewing

Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre

Lindsay Advocate
- Municipality of Clarington

New Canadians Centre

Nijikiwendidaa Anishnaabekwewag Services Circle

Nova Scotia Professional Paramedic Association

One City Peterborough

Peterborough & Kawartha Chamber of Commerce

Peterborough 360 Degree Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic

Peterborough Child and Family Centres

Peterborough Folk Festival

Peterborough Police Service

Peterborough Regional Health Centre

Sadleir House

Township of Brock

Trent University Facilities Management

Wesleyville Joint Working Group

Workforce Development Board

KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION THROUGH THE ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH

The Trent Community Research Centre’s Annual Celebration of Community-Based Research in 2024 was a testament to the impactful work undertaken by Trent students throughout the academic year. Held on Thursday, March 28th, 2024 at Market Hall Performing Arts Centre, this event served as a platform to recognize and celebrate the achievements of community-based research initiatives at the University.

Key features of the 2023-2024 Celebration of Research included:

- Presentations from current student researchers, offering insights into their research findings and methodologies,
- Opportunities for attendees to engage directly with students, fostering dialogue and deeper understanding of the projects,
- Recognition of outstanding research contributions through the presentation of the annual student award, and
- Panel discussion on “Building Capacity Through Collaboration,” exploring the importance of collaborative efforts in capacity-building initiatives.

This event celebrates our students’ accomplishments, serves as a testament to the collaborative spirit between academia and the community, and serves to share results of the research to the broader Peterborough community. Through partnerships and shared commitments to knowledge exchange, we continue to drive meaningful change and foster a culture of innovation.

As we reflect on the successes of the past academic year, we invite you to explore impactful research outcomes and join us in celebrating the dedication and ingenuity of our students, faculty, and community partners. Visit the TCRC website trentu.ca/tcrc to view completed projects from the 2023/2024. Annual Celebration of Community-based Research Recognizes Excellence



Student Awards

Award for Innovative Poster Presentation

Presented to the student(s) who have demonstrated highly effective communication and presentation skills in their research poster’s design. Judges looked for high standards of design and information presentation, effective and imaginative use of space, and communication of research process and results.

Sponsored by Peterborough County

Winner: Madeleine Hardacre-Pearce

#6056: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Services Provided by Peterborough Child and Family Centres

Peterborough Child and Family Centres

As part of PCFC’s strategic plan, this project reviewed diversity, equity, and inclusion policies for staff and participants. It assessed current programs, policies, and practices to improve service for underrepresented groups, identifying barriers for new Canadians, minorities, and English-language learners. It will propose solutions to alleviate these barriers.

Faculty Supervisor: Eugena Kwon, Sociology

Award for Innovative Oral Presentation

Presented to the student(s) who have demonstrated highly effective communication and presentation skills in the design of their oral presentation. Judges looked for high standards of design and information presentation, effective and imaginative use of space, and communication of research process and results.

Sponsored by Human Services & Justice Coordinating Committee

Winner(s): Olivia Gaetz & Riley Bowman

#6070: The State of Amphibian Biodiversity on the Trent University Symons Campus

Trent University – Facilities Management

This project evaluated Trent University Symons Campus’ native amphibian biodiversity, proposing mitigation strategies to preserve its uniqueness. Research questions included identifying reptile and amphibian species and at-risk populations, along with delineating biologically significant areas.

Faculty Supervisor: Kaitlyn Fleming, School of Environment



Above: Keyana Kamps

Provost Award for Academic Achievement

Awarded to the project that best demonstrates rigorous community-based research practices to produce results of particularly high academic merit.

Sponsored by Trent University, Office of the Provost & Vice President Academic

Winner: Keyana Kamps

#6036: Groundwater Review of Former Millbrook Jail Lands and Watershed

Baxter Creek Watershed Alliance (BCWA)

The project compiled technical studies on the former Millbrook Correctional Centre lands, focusing on chemical contamination assessments within the village’s Wellhead Protection Area. Through a dedicated webpage on the BCWA website, it offered accessible summaries of each report, advocating for land conservation and protection against intense residential development.

Faculty Supervisor: Joel Cahn, Forensic Science

Community Impact Award

Presented to the project that shows clear engagement with community needs and interests and illustrates the principles of a community-first approach to research work, creating the potential for significant impact within the community.

Sponsored by OPSEU 365

Winner: Toryn Ruzicki

#6124: Impact of the Supportive Downtown Project

One City Peterborough

The program aimed to address rising tensions and violence in Peterborough’s downtown core with non-criminalizing methods. Outreach Workers engaged with marginalized individuals, offering support, connecting them to services, and assisting businesses in de-escalating conflicts. This research project aims to evaluate the impact of the Supportive Downtown Project.

Faculty Supervisor: Joel Cahn, Forensic Science

Award for Commitment to Professional Learning and Partnership

Presented to a student (or group of students) who exemplified dedication, creative thinking and problem-solving, and professionalism throughout the completion of their Community-Based Research project, helping to strengthen partnerships within and outside of the University.

Winner: Regan Mania

#6109: Exploring Use of GIS Technology in Policing
Peterborough Police Service

This research project delved into the use of GIS technology in policing, examining its effectiveness based on existing research. It investigated the uptake of GIS technology among Ontario-based police services and analyzed how crime statistics differed between communities with and without GIS technology integration.

Faculty Supervisor: Kristy Buccieri, Sociology

Community Award

Award for Community Commitment to Student Learning

Presented to a community partner for their commitment to meaningful student learning and their support in bringing academic studies to life.

Winner: Ashburnham Memorial Stewardship Group



Faculty Awards

Growth Impact Award

Presented to a Faculty Supervisor who supervised their first Community-Based Research project in the current academic year, exemplifying commitments to community interests, student achievement, and expansion of personal and professional horizons.

Winner: Dr. Kirk Hillsley

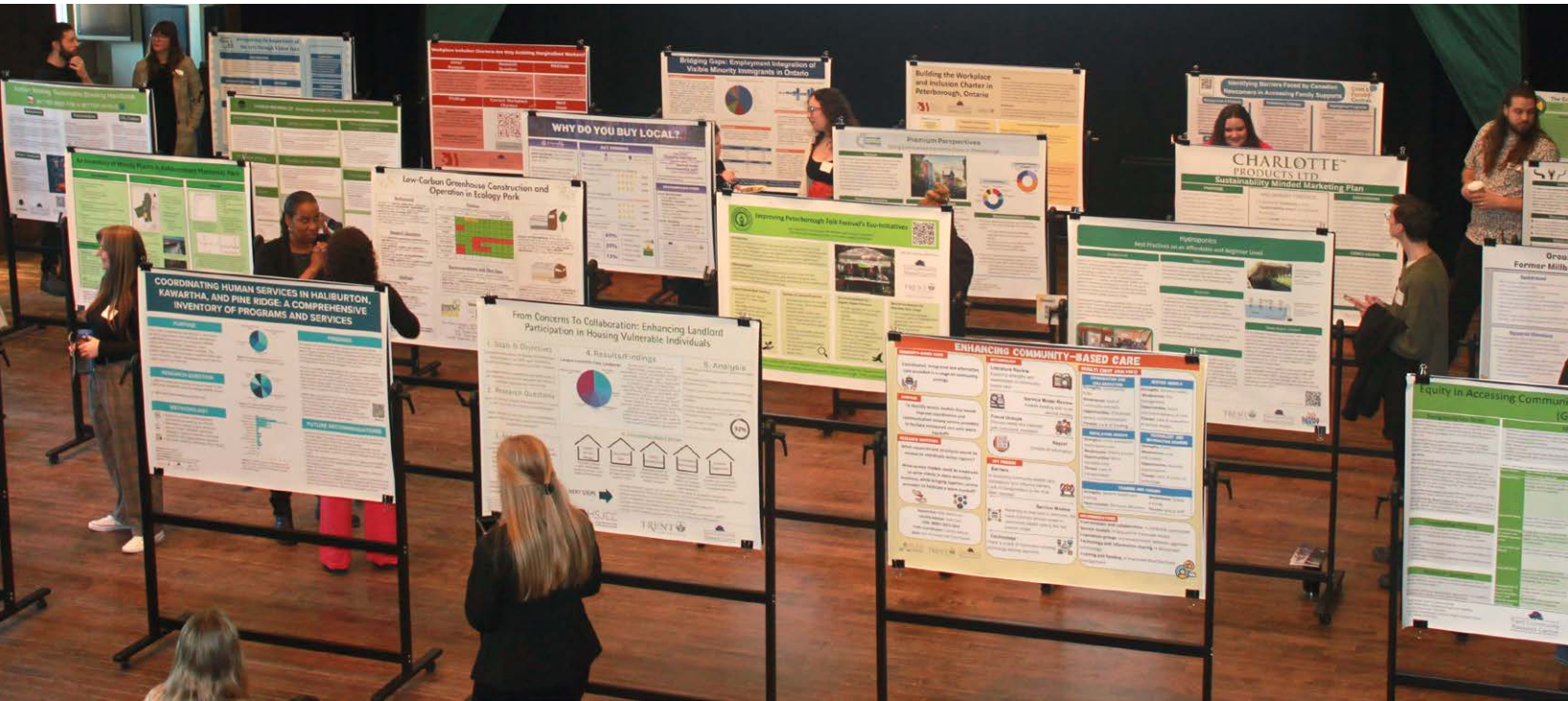


Award for Faculty Leadership in Community-Based Research

Presented to a Faculty Supervisor who has demonstrated a commitment to Community-Based Research and the support of student achievement.

Sponsored by Trent University, Office of Research and Innovation

Winner: Dr. Kaitlyn Fleming



STUDENTS VOLUNTEER THROUGH THE COMMUNITY-SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM

Community-service learning (CSL) is an integral part of the academic curriculum at Trent University, facilitated through assignments primarily in first- and second-year courses. CSL opportunities involve 10 to 15 hours of volunteering that supports a local organization’s work. CSL experiences supplement and align with the goals of the courses in which they are situated. For Trent’s community partners, CSL partnerships are a way to access large numbers of volunteers to support short or intensive initiatives, while offering students an opportunity to engage in meaningful and impactful volunteering in the broader Peterborough community that aligns with their field of study.

Over 500 students have participated in a CSL opportunity in 2023/24—more than halfway to our goal of 1000 student participants by March 2025.

“Having your students as a part of our 20th anniversary festival was an immeasurable gift—such friendly, engaged and community-minded youth! Inspiring to say the least.”

Kait Dueck, Director, Reframe Film Festival

“We partnered with TCRC to host CSL students because we believe in the TCRC’s mission, and in the importance of community-service learning. We are proud of our sustainable farming practices, and we are always thrilled to have students out on the farm, to learn and to help us learn. From this experience, we gained some very valuable insight, ideas, and support on our projects. The value of an external perspective can’t be overstated, and we appreciated the students’ thoughts on our agritourism programming, education programming, product selection, and animal care. They also helped to move several projects forward through a test-run phase, like calculating carbon storage in the forest.”

Veronica Price-Jones, Harley Farms, Member of the Netzero Farms Pilot Project



512
students

34
organizations



List of Community-Service Learning Partners 2023/24

- Baxter Creek Watershed Alliance

Canopy Cares

City of Peterborough Infrastructure and Planning Services

Community Race Relations Committee of Peterborough

Durham Outlook

Farms at Work

Fleetwood Hills Farm

Habitat for Humanity Peterborough & Kawartha Region

Harley Farms Ltd.

Innovation Cluster Peterborough and the Kawarthas

Kawartha Land Trust

Kawartha Manufacturer’s Association

Kawartha Nordic Ski Club

Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre

Kawartha World Issues Centre

New Canadians Centre

One City Peterborough

Peterborough & Kawartha Chamber of Commerce
- Reframe Film Festival

Rotary Club of Peterborough

Seasoned Spoon

The Regional Municipality of Durham, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Division

The Regional Municipality of Durham, Invest Durham

The Seasoned Spoon

Trent Alumni

Trent Careerspace

Trent Elders Gathering (Peterborough & Durham)

Trent Lands Committee

Trent Market Garden

Trent Sustainability Office

Trent Vegetable Gardens

Unity Studios (formerly Lett Architects)

Whitby Chamber of Commerce

Woodleigh Farms Ltd.

COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH BY THE NUMBERS

11
university
departments
engaged

86
project
proposals

118
student
applications

78.8%
increase over
last year

103
students who
completed a project

98%
increase over
last year

57
projects

67.7%
increase over
last year

38
organizations

65.2%
increase over
last year

Projects completed by sector



26 Social & Community Services



22 Environmental Conservation & Sustainability



4 Healthcare & Wellness



3 Business & Economic Development



2 Criminal Justice & Forensic Science

LOOKING AHEAD TO AN EXCITING FUTURE

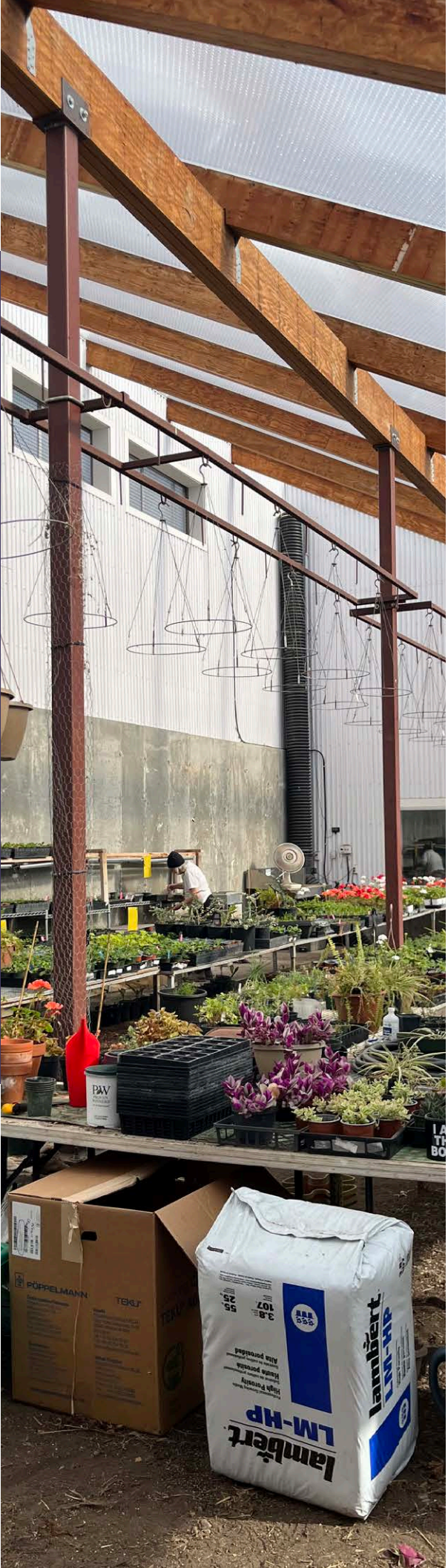
The impact of TCRC community-based research projects extends far beyond academia, leaving an indelible mark on communities across Peterborough County and the surrounding region. Through collaborative research endeavors, it has contributed valuable insights into pressing issues facing the region, informing policy decisions and driving positive change. Moreover, the CBR program has provided invaluable learning opportunities for students, empowering them to apply theoretical knowledge in real-world contexts while fostering a sense of civic responsibility.

As the TCRC nears its 30th year, in 2025-2026 we stand at an important moment to reaffirm our commitment to community engagement and research conducted by students. This upcoming milestone offers an opportunity to reflect on past achievements, acknowledge opportunities, and chart an exciting course for the future.

In the coming year, we will continue expanding our reach and impact, guided by the following actions:

- Deepening Community Partnerships: We recognize the invaluable role of our community partners in supporting Trent students with invaluable research experience.
- Enhancing Equity and Inclusion: Building on our commitment to equity and inclusion, we will strive to amplify marginalized voices and ensure that our research processes are accessible and equitable for all community members.
- Empowering Next-Generation Researchers: Investing in the development of future generations of community-based researchers is crucial for ensuring the continuity and impact of our work.

We invite all members of our community to join us in this collective endeavour. We look forward to working with community organizations, and Trent faculty and students next year!





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