
TRENT
UNIVERSITY
Environment &
Sustainability

The University of Choice for Future Environmental Leaders

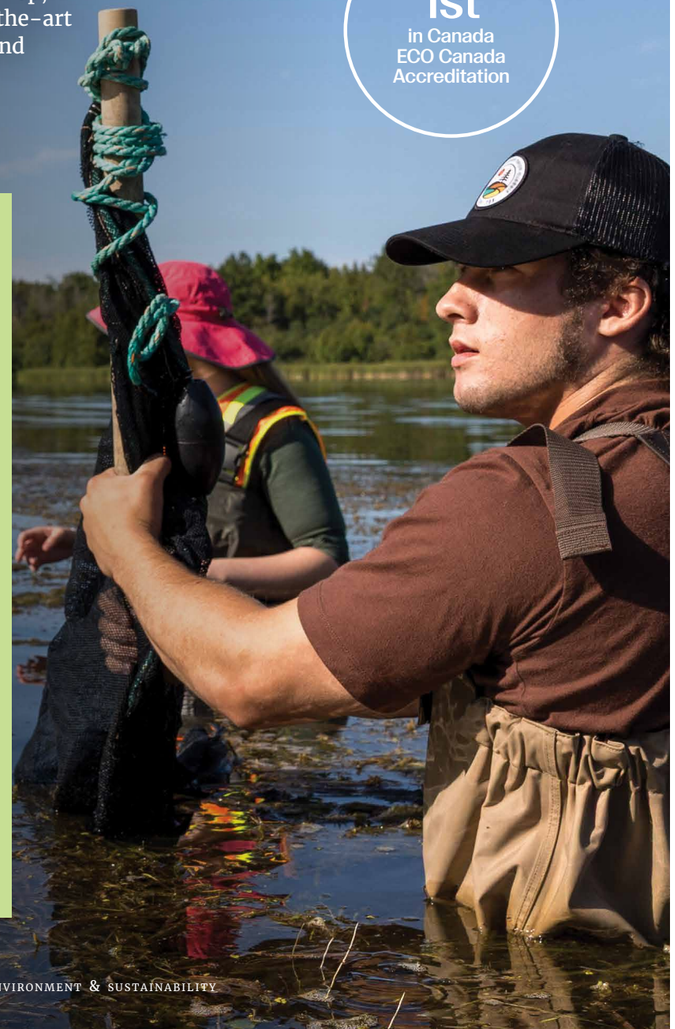
Top 5
Environmental Studies program in Canada*

91%
Trent grads employed within 6 months

1st
in Canada ECO Canada Accreditation

* Maclean's University Rankings 2025

Trent has shaped environmental education in Canada for more than six decades. Future environmental leaders choose Trent for our renowned academic programs, immersive learning experiences, and second-to-none campus that offers unparalleled opportunities to study the environment firsthand. Across more than 15 environmental and sustainability focused degrees, Trent offers one of the broadest ranges of environmental learning opportunities in the country. Through fieldwork, research, paid co-op, placements, and access to specialized and state-of-the-art labs and facilities, you will develop the knowledge and experience to understand today's environmental challenges and help shape tomorrow's solutions.



Featured Programs

- Environmental & Resource Science / Studies (B.A. or B.Sc.)*
  - Specialization available: Climate Change
- Environmental Science & Studies (B.E.S.S.)*
- Environmental Chemistry (B.Sc.)
- Environmental Geoscience (B.Sc.)
- Conservation Biology (B.Sc.)
- Ecological Restoration (B.Sc.)*
- Geography (B.Sc.)
- Indigenous Environmental Studies / Sciences (B.A. or B.Sc.)
- Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems (B.A. or B.Sc.)*
  - Specialization available: Small-Scale Farming
- Water Sciences (B.Sc.)
- Trent / Swansea Dual Degree (B.A. & LL.B.) – Environmental & Resource Studies & Law or Geography & Law**

* *ECO Canada accredited*

** *Trent/ Swansea Dual Degree (B.A. & LL.B.) – Environmental & Resource Studies & Law or Geography & Law not eligible for Accelerated Masters.*

Accelerated Masters Pathways

Get a head start on graduate studies with an accelerated master's pathway. Available with our Environment programs, these pathways let you take graduate-level courses during your undergraduate degree, helping you complete both a bachelor's and masters degree in less time.

Take Your Environmental Education Further

Build on your undergraduate degree through advanced research and specialized study in environmental science, sustainability, and bioenvironmental assessment. Trent's prestigious graduate programs allow you to explore complex environmental questions while developing expertise in the areas that interest you most.

- Environmental & Life Sciences M.Sc. & Ph.D.
- Sustainability Studies M.A.
- Bioenvironmental Monitoring & Assessment M.Sc., M.BEMA and Graduate Diploma

trentu.ca/gradstudies/programs

Explore Environmental Challenges From Multiple Perspectives

Trent's flexible program options allow you to combine Environmental and Sustainability programs with another field of study, so you build a degree that stands out and graduate with a unique combination of skills employers will notice.

Whether you're interested in the leading sustainable initiatives in the tech world, presenting conservation policies in government settings, or exploring the social and cultural impact of environmental initiatives, at Trent you have the freedom to pursue and combine your passions.

Popular Joint Majors include:

- Environmental Science & Business Administration
- Conservation Biology & Political Studies
- Environmental Resource Science & Sociology



Where Will Your Trent Degree Take You?

Whether you're interested in protecting ecosystems, influencing policy, advancing research, or helping organizations become more sustainable, an Environment & Sustainability degree from Trent will lead to a wide range of career opportunities:

- Climatologist
- Drinking Water Policy Specialist
- Eco-tourism Planner
- Environmental Consultant
- Environmental Geoscientist
- Environmental Risk Assessor
- Environmental Toxicologist
- Geomatics Specialist
- Organic Farmer
- Policy Advisor
- Restoration Ecologist
- Shoreline Naturalization Specialist
- Soil Scientist
- Teacher
- United Nations Official
- Urban Agricultural Coordinator
- Watershed Planner
- Wetland Habitat Ecologist
- Water Resources Manager

Trent School of the Environment



The environment doesn't exist within a single discipline. Neither does the Trent School of the Environment.

The Trent School of the Environment (TSE) brings together students, faculty, and researchers who are exploring today's most important environmental issues.

Home to many of Trent's undergraduate and graduate environment and sustainability programs, the TSE creates opportunities to learn across and beyond traditional academic boundaries. This distinctive approach brings together diverse perspectives and expertise to create a richer and more connected learning experience for students.

Degrees That Set You Apart

Bachelor of Environmental Science / Studies (B.E.S.S.) Paid Co-op Available

As one of the first ECO Canada accredited environmental programs in the country, our B.E.S.S. degree offers you a holistic understanding of the environment, bridging topics across the sciences and society to solve key environmental issues.

Environmental Geoscience (B.Sc.) Paid Co-op Available

Receive specialized training in environmental techniques used in geotechnical investigations, as you gain the academic requirements to work toward your Professional Geoscientist (P.Geo) accreditation.

Environmental Chemistry (B.Sc.) Paid Co-op Available

Study the chemistry behind environmental challenges by exploring contaminants, chemical cycles, and their impacts on ecosystems and human health.

Environmental & Resource Science (B.Sc.) / Studies (B.A.) Paid Co-op Available

Specialization available: Climate Change

Choose the B.A. to explore environmental policy, law, sustainability, or business and the environment, or our B.Sc. and build advanced scientific expertise in ecology, toxicology, biomonitoring, and environmental restoration.

Ecological Restoration (B.Sc.) Paid Co-op Available

Move beyond studying environmental problems to restoring ecosystems through this ECO Canada–accredited degree built around professional restoration practice, field experience, and applied ecological science.

Geography (B.A. / B.Sc.) Paid Co-op Available

Specialization available: Climate Change

Explore how people and the planet shape one another through a B.A. in human geography or a B.Sc. focused on Earth's physical systems, including climate, water, and landscapes.

Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems (B.A. / B.Sc.) Paid Co-op Available

Specialization available: Small-Scale Farming

Discover how to build sustainable, resilient food systems by exploring the connections between farming, food, communities, and the environment.

Indigenous Environmental Science (B.Sc.) / Studies (B.A.) Paid Co-op Available

Specializations available: Applied Indigenous Knowledge, Indigenous Performance, Nishnaabemowin

Study a unique blend of Indigenous knowledge and Western science in North America's first program of its kind, with the option to gain 12 months of paid experience through the B.A. co-op stream.

Water Sciences (B.Sc.) Paid Co-op Available

Study one of the world's most vital resources while gaining hands-on experience in nearby lakes and rivers to tackle today's water quality and aquatic ecosystem challenges.

Unique Law Pathways

Trent / Swansea Dual Degree (B.A. & LL.B.) – Environmental & Resource Studies & Law or Geography & Law

Earn both a Trent Bachelor of Arts degree in either Environmental & Resource Studies or Geography and a law degree from Swansea University in the U.K. in just six years through this unique international dual degree program.

Programs Beyond the School of the Environment

Conservation Biology (B.Sc.) Paid Co-op Available

Help protect wildlife and biodiversity while building hands-on conservation skills through fieldwork, research, and your choice of paid co-op or an eight-month placement.

Partners in Environmental Education

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL RESOURCES (MNR): Peterborough is home to Ontario's MNRF provincial headquarters, and MNR researchers also work right on Trent's campus. Through shared facilities like the Natural Resources DNA Profiling & Forensic Centre, students can connect with leading-edge research in wildlife conservation and natural resource management.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND RELATED TECHNOLOGIES HUB (EaRTH) DISTRICT: As a partner in the Environmental and Related Technologies Hub (EaRTH District), Trent is connected to a powerful network of universities, colleges, industry, government and Indigenous communities working together on sustainable solutions. The partnership creates opportunities for collaborative research and innovation in clean energy technology and resilient communities.

NORTHERN AND RURAL INNOVATION CLUSTER: Through the Northern and Rural Innovation Cluster, Trent works alongside other Ontario universities to advance research and innovation for northern and rural communities. Together, the partners connect expertise, strengthen industry and government relationships, and create new opportunities for collaboration.

A Campus Built for Environmental Study & Discovery

Environmental learning at Trent extends far beyond the classroom. Our 1,400-acre campus, featuring 11 nature areas, provides nearly endless opportunities to study forests, wetlands, rivers, farms, and ecosystems firsthand. Combined with advanced research facilities, specialized learning spaces, and opportunities to learn and work alongside faculty and expert researchers, Trent offers an environmental learning experience that is difficult to match anywhere in Canada.



Trent Farm Research Centre

A hub for climate-smart agriculture, sustainable food systems, and environmental research, the Trent Farm Research Centre connects students with opportunities for research, employment, volunteering, and community engagement. The farm supports innovation in sustainable agriculture while supplying fresh seasonal food to the Trent community.

Water Quality Centre

Located within Trent's Chemical Sciences Building, the Water Quality Centre houses one of the largest collections of mass spectrometers dedicated to environmental analysis in North America. Students and researchers use advanced analytical instruments to investigate water quality, aquatic ecosystems, environmental contaminants, and emerging environmental challenges while supporting projects with government, industry, and research partners.

Environmental Wind Tunnel

Located in Trent's Environmental Sciences Building, this world-class research facility is a low-speed, open-loop wind tunnel designed for simulation of the atmospheric boundary layer both in clean air and with sediment transport. Located in a climate controlled lab, distinguished by its ability to perform low temperature and full humidity control simulations, the TEWT propels tonnes of sediment samples sent from across the globe, through the tunnel each year to study factors such as wind erosion, micro-plastic transportation, and particle tracking as examples.

Additional Labs & Research Facilities

- Canadian Environmental Modelling Centre
- Dorset Environmental Science Centre
- James McLean Oliver Ecological Centre
- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
- Natural Resources DNA Profiling & Forensic Centre
- Institute for Watershed Science
- Microenvironment Laboratory
- Frost Centre for Canadian Studies & Indigenous Studies
- Environmental Geochemistry Laboratory
- Laboratory of Aquatic Sciences & Biogeochemistry
- Ecosystems Research Group
- Plant Ecology & Evolution Laboratory
- Blue Lab Trent Climatology
- Applied Geomatics, Remote Sensing & Land Resources Laboratory (GEORESLAR)

Get Hands-On

Environmental work and impact happen where people, communities, and ecosystems connect. At Trent, students begin engaging with the field early in your studies (as early as first year!), contributing to research, projects, and initiatives that help bring environmental learning to life.

trentu.ca/environment/experience/experiential-learning

- **PAID CO-OP**: Build career-ready skills and professional connections through paid work experience with environmental organizations and employers.
- **INTERNSHIPS & PLACEMENTS**: Put your learning into practice through hands-on experiences with a wide range of our environmental partner organizations.
- **RESEARCH WITH FACULTY EXPERTS**: Work alongside leading researchers and contribute to real-world discoveries in areas like climate, conservation, water, and sustainability.
- **STUDY ABROAD**: Field Schools & Courses: Travel to remarkable destinations like Guyana or South Africa as part of field schools and labs, where you'll gain hands-on experience working alongside local community members and expert researchers to tackle real-world environmental and sustainability challenges.
- **COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH**: Work with a community organization to answer real-world environmental questions and develop practical, locally relevant solutions.
- **ON-CAMPUS WORK OPPORTUNITIES**: Gain experience right on campus through paid student jobs that complement your studies while building hands-on skills and professional connections.

Putting Research in Action

Conservation Biology student Samantha Herbert took her learning into the field with a placement at Riverview Park & Zoo in Peterborough, conducting research with squirrel monkeys. The experience helped her build skills in the field that she can now put directly on her resume as she applies to jobs.



"I'm able to become the researcher that I set out to be when I first enrolled at Trent. I feel like I am applying all my skills and everything that I've learned, but also starting my career while I'm still at school."

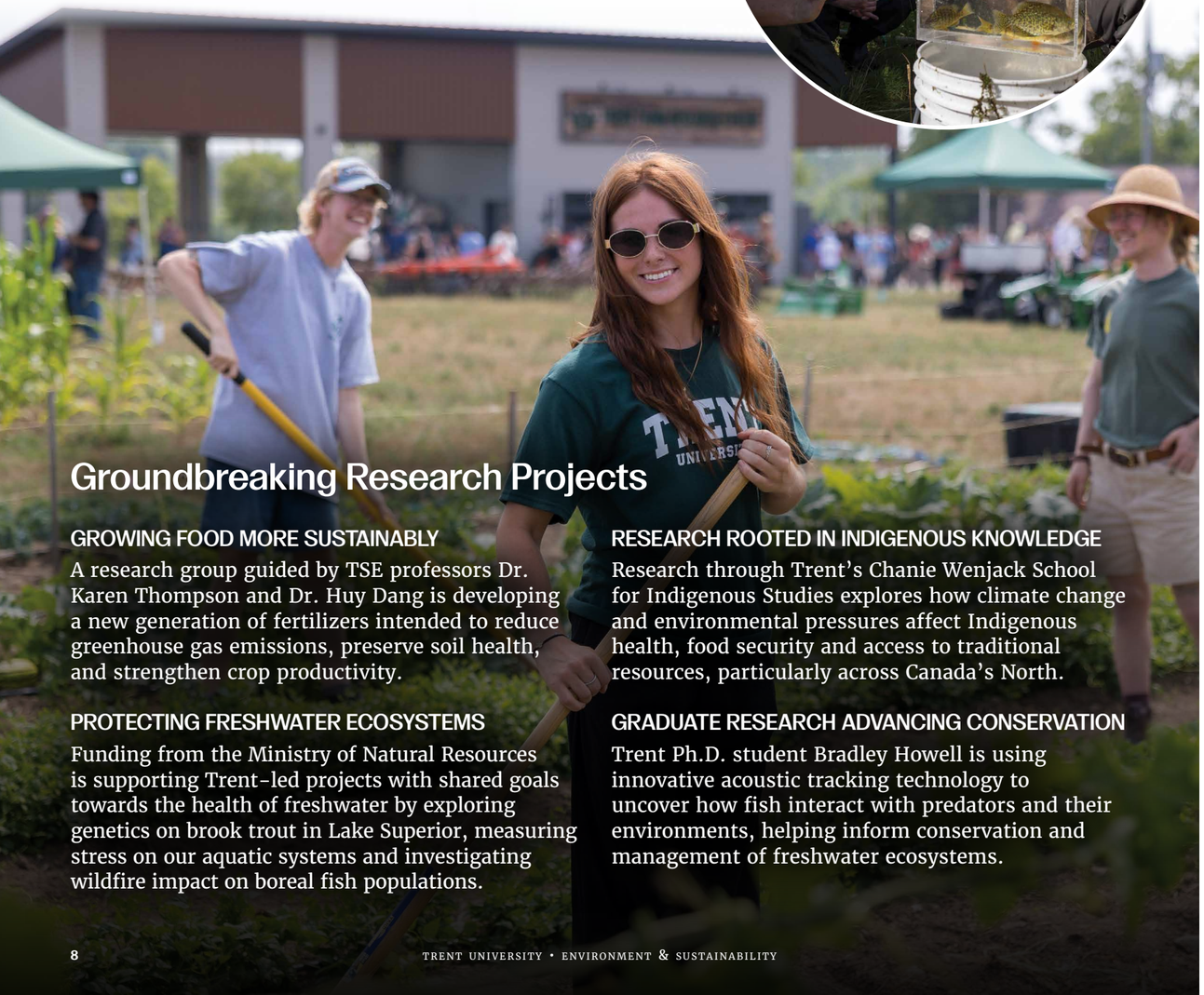
Samantha Herbert

Research that Changes the World

Big Questions. Real Solutions.

The world's biggest environmental challenges demand bold ideas. Across our campus, Trent students and researchers are advancing new knowledge and tackling some of the most pressing sustainability issues of our time. We're developing innovative solutions in climate resilience, sustainable agriculture, freshwater health, and biodiversity, with a shared goal to improve lives and protect our planet.





Groundbreaking Research Projects

GROWING FOOD MORE SUSTAINABLY

A research group guided by TSE professors Dr. Karen Thompson and Dr. Huy Dang is developing a new generation of fertilizers intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, preserve soil health, and strengthen crop productivity.

PROTECTING FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS

Funding from the Ministry of Natural Resources is supporting Trent-led projects with shared goals towards the health of freshwater by exploring genetics on brook trout in Lake Superior, measuring stress on our aquatic systems and investigating wildfire impact on boreal fish populations.

RESEARCH ROOTED IN INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

Research through Trent's Chanie Wenjack School for Indigenous Studies explores how climate change and environmental pressures affect Indigenous health, food security and access to traditional resources, particularly across Canada's North.

GRADUATE RESEARCH ADVANCING CONSERVATION

Trent Ph.D. student Bradley Howell is using innovative acoustic tracking technology to uncover how fish interact with predators and their environments, helping inform conservation and management of freshwater ecosystems.

Faculty, Student & Alumni Stories



Research for a Changing Planet

"My research is about understanding how our environment is changing and what we can do about it. From water quality to ecosystem health, we're using science to tackle real environmental challenges and help protect the places and species that depend on them."

Dr. Andrew Tanentzap, Canada Research Chair in Climate Change and Northern Ecosystems

A Degree with Room to Grow

"Trent has helped me get a couple jobs in my field during my degree. I'm part of a DLF research team where we're trialing different species and varieties for entrance into the Canadian agricultural market. This is just a super broad and diverse program that can set you up for a lot of things."

Victoria Vanslyke, Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems





Build a Career Without Boundaries

"Trent can give you the tools you need to work across so many different and exciting areas of research."

Matthew Brady '07, Environmental Resource Studies & International Development Studies Joint Major

"At Trent, you're learning about the environment while being in the environment. Every week we were out in the field, whether that was visiting a mine site or going to Haliburton Forest to collect field samples."

Larissa Wallisch '22, Environmental Geoscience



Admission Requirements

General admission requirements for all programs: Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) with six 4U/M courses, including ENG4U. Explore program specific requirements below:

Academic Programs	Requirements	Recommendations	Estimated Admission Average	Co-Op Admission Average
Conservation Biology (B.Sc.)*	ENG4U, SBI4U, SCH4U, and MHF4U or MCV4U	SPH4U	78 - 83%	85 - 90%
Ecological Restoration (B.Sc.)	ENG4U, SBI4U, and 4U Math	–	70 - 75%	80 - 85%
Environmental Chemistry (B.Sc.)	ENG4U, SCH4U, and MHF4U or MCV4U	–	70 - 75%	80 - 85%
Environmental Geoscience (B.Sc.)*	ENG4U, SCH4U, and MHF4U or MCV4U	SPH4U and SES4U	75 - 80%	80 - 85%
Environmental & Resource Science/Studies (B.Sc. or B.A.)	(B.A.): ENG4U (B.Sc.): ENG4U, SBI4U, a 4U Math	–	70 - 75%	80 - 85%
Environmental Science/Studies (B.E.S.S.)	ENG4U, a 4U Science, a 4U Math	–	75 - 80%	80 - 85%
Geography (B.A. or B.Sc.)	(B.A.): ENG4U (B.Sc.): ENG4U, a 4U Science, a 4U Math	–	70 - 75%	80 - 85%
Indigenous Environmental Science/Studies (B.A. or B.Sc.)	(B.A.): ENG4U (B.Sc.): ENG4U	– 4U Math	70 - 75%	80 - 85%
Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems (B.A. or B.Sc.)	(B.A.): ENG4U (B.Sc.): ENG4U, SBI4U, a 4U Math	–	70 - 75%	80 - 85%
Water Sciences (B.Sc.)	ENG4U, a 4U Science, a 4U Math	–	70 - 75%	80 - 85%

* Pre-requisite courses used in calculating average



Investing in You

Renewable Entrance Scholarships

Attention top scholars! Undergraduate students with an entering average of 95%+ are awarded full first-year tuition. Achieve an average of 80% or higher and you automatically receive an entrance scholarship – no application required. And it's not just a one-time thing. Trent's national entrance scholarships are RENEWABLE each year. When you maintain an 80% average each year, this can really pay off – with a total scholarship potential of $18,000.

Entrance Average	Maximum Scholarship Potential
95%+	$18,241 $6,241 first year tuition + $4,000 x 3 years
90% - 94.9%	$12,000 $3,000 x 4 years
85% - 89.9%	$8,000 $2,000 x 4 years
80% - 84.9%	$6,000 $1,500 x 4 years

More Scholarships for Environment & Sustainability Students

CYRIL AND JENNY CARTER SCHOLARSHIPS IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES: Recognizing high academic achievement and promise among students entering second, third or fourth year of Environmental & Resource Studies.

ROBERT J. D. PAGE SCHOLARSHIP: Recognizing a fourth-year Environmental & Resource Studies student who combines academic achievement with outstanding public environmental service.

J. PERCY MACNAUGHTON PRIZE: Awarded to the student entering fourth year with the highest academic standing in the Trent School of the Environment.

TD GREEN UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS: Supporting full-time students with financial need pursuing degrees across environment-related programs.

20+
Environment & Sustainability Focused Bursaries, Prizes and Scholarships





"The Trent School of the Environment is one of the largest and most established undergraduate environmental institutions in the country. We offer 13 different degree programs that are interdisciplinary, action-oriented, and fun—we study outside in forests, wetlands, and rivers on campus every chance we get. As a student here, you have access to world-class facilities, resources, and expertise to support your learning because the work you do and the experience you gain at Trent is important to the world."

Dr. Stephen Hill, Professor, Trent School of the Environment

Connect With Us

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Find Us

Directions and campus map for the Peterborough campus:
trentu.ca/howtofindus

Questions? Get In Touch

Connect with the Trent School of the Environment:
tse@trentu.ca

Discover Trent

Find your place at Trent. Join our virtual livestreams to discover the Trent Advantage and visit our campuses for Open House or a campus tour to meet our community and explore our spaces. Tours run six days a week, Monday to Saturday.
trentu.ca/discover

Trent Advantage Livestream Series

Join us for one hour livestream events where you can connect with faculty, staff and current students as they cover topics including programs, admission requirements, how to apply, residence, and experiential learning opportunities, to name a few.
trentu.ca/livestreams

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* conditions apply

TRENT UNIVERSITY

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