

# focus trent

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**SPECIAL  
EDITION**

## Peter Gzowski College

*"From its human scale through its lack of pretension about its own remarkable achievements, and right up to its achingly lovely physical setting, Trent University is as special in the academic community as Canada itself in the wider world. Perhaps more than ever in our history, we need such institutions now, not only to enrich our understanding of our past, but to act as beacons for our future."*  
Peter Gzowski, Chancellor (1999-2002), Trent University



Members of the Peter Gzowski College Cabinet Executive (back row, l to r) Scott Taylor, Ashley Oszytko-Diebold, Drew Price, John Wickson, (front row) Victoria Morrison, Kelly Ray, Christina Fry.

## Understanding our past. Shaping our future.

*"Trent University's eighth Chancellor, Peter Gzowski was also the beloved host of CBC Radio's Morningside. He had a knack for making us feel at home. For Canadians, he became that warm, familiar voice that we came to trust. And he knit together a vast nation of people, giving all of us a sense that we shared an abundance of wonderful qualities, simply by virtue of the fact that we were Canadian. Peter would have been thrilled with the college that now bears his name, an exceptionally unique living and learning environment that incorporates several important Aboriginal components."*  
President Bonnie M. Patterson

This fall, Peter Gzowski College and the First Peoples House of Learning came to life. Despite years of planning and preparation, the building didn't begin to breathe until September 2004, when it was infused with the excitement of hundreds of students, living and learning.

It is this excitement - the excitement of exploration - that will be enduringly entrenched in its existence. The thoughtfulness and deliberate design of the building, along with the opportunities its array

of spaces offer, do indeed help us understand our past and shape our future.

Peter Gzowski College and the First Peoples House of Learning celebrates its ceremonial opening on October 16, as part of Trent University's 40th birthday party, a day that is not only the culmination of a weeklong series of special events, but of four decades of accomplishment.

Under construction since summer 2002, the building has been given an Anishnaabe name, *Enweying*, meaning "*The Way We Speak Together*." Along with his affinity for Trent's Native Studies program, Mr. Gzowski had the exceptional ability to create vivid imagery with his voice, linking a vast nation through storytelling. In the Anishnaabe language, this notion is embodied in the word *Enweying*.

Canada's First Peoples and their traditions were close to Mr. Gzowski's heart, so it is fitting that the First Peoples House of Learning and the new college are intertwined in this building. The First Peoples House of Learning encompasses ceremonial and gathering spaces, and a specially-designed performance space, among other distinctive Aboriginal elements. The hues of the building, including the

orchre-coloured cladding, are derived from the four colours of the medicine wheel: yellow, red, black and white.

To the Symons Campus, Enweying provides an additional 140,000 square feet of academic and residential space and is part of the first major expansion at Trent in decades. True to the founding philosophy of Trent, the building provides a place for students to engage with their academic seniors in small teaching spaces. It encompasses 12 classrooms and lecture halls, 70 faculty offices, 250 single residence rooms and a dining hall, along with the elements of the First Peoples House of Learning that are also accessible to the community at large.

The building is also home to the departments of Business Administration, Economics, Mathematics, and Native Studies, and provides a prominent location for the Office of Research and Graduate Studies.

The overall design of the building, developed by Dunlop Two Row in association with Erik Wilke Architect, was based on an extensive vision statement developed by the First Peoples House design committee. This statement sees the building as honouring the land, creating a

respectful community and acting as a beacon.

Among numerous representative design elements, the ground floor of the building is open to create a sense of sitting lightly on the land. The First Peoples House of Learning is also a "distributed space," consisting of six distinct elements spread throughout the

building. The idea behind the distributed space is to reflect the distribution of Aboriginal Peoples throughout the country and that all Aboriginal Peoples are not in one place. The distributed space is also intended to ensure that the encounter with Aboriginality is everywhere and unexpected, as it is in Canada. 🍁



Born in Toronto, Peter Gzowski (1934-2002) was one of Canada's best-loved journalists and broadcasters. The popular CBC radio host of *Morningside* was a Companion of the Order of Canada, and a recipient of numerous ACTRA and other awards.

Mr. Gzowski was passionate about Canada, both the land and its people, and this fed his interest in Canadian culture, the north, Aboriginal people and the environment. These pursuits drew him to Trent University.

Mr. Gzowski was named Trent's Chancellor in 1999, fittingly on July 1 – Canada Day. As Chancellor, he met frequently with students, faculty and staff and visited classes to engage with students. Mr. Gzowski was much loved and respected for his efforts in defence of the liberal arts and sciences in Canada. In 1987 he received an Honorary Doctorate from the University. In 1992 he donated his papers to Trent's Archives.

Peter Gzowski College opened to students in September 2004. The building itself bears the name *Enweying*, which in Anishnaabe means "*The Way We Speak Together*." Given Mr. Gzowski's work as a public broadcaster, it is a fitting tribute.



# a living research laboratory

*"We have told our stories over our kitchen tables, on our front steps, in our communities, on the stages of New York, Berlin, Auckland and Beijing. Now it is important for us, it is our responsibility, to come home again and share our stories with our young people. They are the generations who will take their stories out into the world of the new millennium and who will create a new legacy for future generations. This is the Persistence of Memory."*  
... Spiderwoman Theater

The production that officially opened the First Peoples House of Learning performance space embodies its purpose - to connect our past to our future through the telling of our stories.

Spiderwoman Theater from New York City, in residence at Trent University October 4 through 17, also officially opened the performance space with its presentation of *Persistence of Memory*, October 13 through 16. Spiderwoman Theater has performed worldwide and is the oldest continually running women's Native theatre company in North America and perhaps the world. This year, Spiderwoman Theater celebrates its 28th year.

While *Persistence of Memory* honours the people who have been part of Spiderwoman Theater's work and its founding members' lives in the last quarter century, it is also about the generational memory of

Indigenous women and how to keep that memory alive for all the future generations, states Muriel Miguel, founding member and artistic director, in the Artists' Statement.

"The major theme of the production is that of healing," states Ms. Miguel. "The live performance will tell of the healing that must take place now, within ourselves, our extended families, our communities and our world in order to have the strength to put forth our considerable energies into the future generations."

Spiderwoman Theater was founded by sisters Lisa Mayo, Gloria Miguel and Muriel Miguel. They are the elders of Native theatre, and were instrumental in the founding of Native Earth Performing Arts Inc. in Toronto, Canada's longest running professional Native theatre. During Spiderwoman's time in residence they will engage with students and faculty at Trent through workshops, lectures, informal gatherings and meetings, says Professor Marrie Mumford, of Trent University's Native Studies department and Canada Research Chair in Aboriginal Arts and Literature.

A contributor to award-winning film, theatre, and music organizations herself, Prof. Mumford's vision for the performance space is that of a living research laboratory to investigate Indigenous



Spiderwoman Theater officially opened the First Peoples House of Learning performance space.

performance traditions that enhance and perpetuate Indigenous languages and cultures. Performance activities are grounded in Indigenous cultural values and traditions to ensure an enhanced future for Indigenous peoples.

In the summer of 2004, the First Peoples House of Learning performance space hosted the Centre for Indigenous Theatre (CIT), a unique training program that reflects the cultural and artistic origins of Indigenous peoples. The faculty for CIT included Spiderwoman Theater's Muriel Miguel as program director and Prof. Mumford. The three-week intensive included the inaugural performance of *Kokomisnaani Gipawaanaawat*

*Manito ... When Grandmothers Dream of Spirits* in the new theatre.

The tradition of learning from

renowned Indigenous performers will continue, with the following events among those scheduled into the New Year:

- *Nishinaabe-Kweg Ngamowinan ... Indigenous Women's Songs*, featuring Otonaabe Women's Hand Drum, Asani, Spirit Wind & others  
*Asani Residency* November 16 – 22, 2004  
*Concert* November 19, 2004 at 8 pm  
*Symposium* November 20 – 21, 2004
- *Ashley Fellow: Tama Huata*, founder & CEO KAHURANGI Maori Dance Theatre of New Zealand  
*Residency* October 26 – November 26, 2004
- *Guest Artist: Rosalie Jones*, founder & artistic director DAYSTAR Contemporary Dance – Drama of Indian America  
*Residency* January 4 – April 10, 2005
- *Indigenous Dance & Theatre Student Performances* March 20 – 31, 2005
- *Centre for Indigenous Theatre Summer Program Residency & Performances* July 4- 25, 2005

# designed for today's students ...

The 250 residence rooms in Peter Gzowski College were designed specifically for students, in consultation with students, and they reflect the type of lifestyle they've lived long before they set foot on campus.

"These are different students," says Meri Kim Oliver, director of Students Affairs, who has worked with students at U of T and the University of Calgary, "and they have different expectations from the generation before them."

Those expectations, Ms. Oliver says, often relate to accessibility, communication, technology and privacy. So the residence rooms at Gzowski College were designed to meet many of these expectations. All of the rooms are single, with double beds. Two students share each bathroom.

Many students have lived in homes where they have their own bedrooms and bathrooms, and they are accustomed to the

privacy that goes with them, says Ms. Oliver, adding that students today are much less likely to want to share a bathroom with a number of other students.

Students also had input into the room furnishings, and essential to them, were desks that would accommodate a computer. More than 90 per cent of students arrive at university with their own computer. There are also technological requirements, so the rooms are fully equipped with capabilities for dial-up Internet and telephone.

Special needs and accessibility are also top of mind. While selected rooms are fully accessible to wheelchairs and scooters, all rooms can accommodate students with hearing and visual impairments. The rooms have braille numbering and five alarms with lights and speakers.

"Since opening, the students



Ryan North, Paula Greenwood (Don), Angelo Ingriselli and T.J. Parkes in residence at Peter Gzowski College.

have been very active and involved in the activities planned by Introductory Seminar Week leaders, cabinet members and residence staff," says Michael Porritt, director, Housing Services. "The opening theme was 'Community Under Construction' and the students have really come together to make the

college seem like a home."

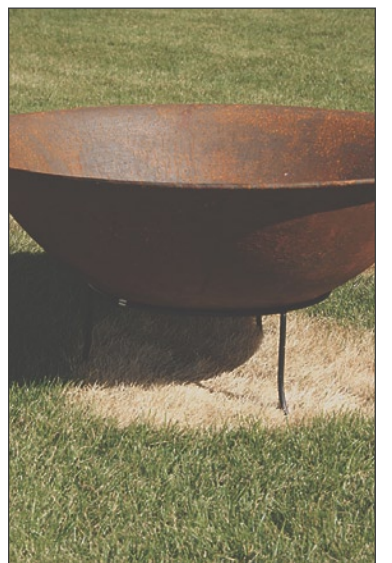
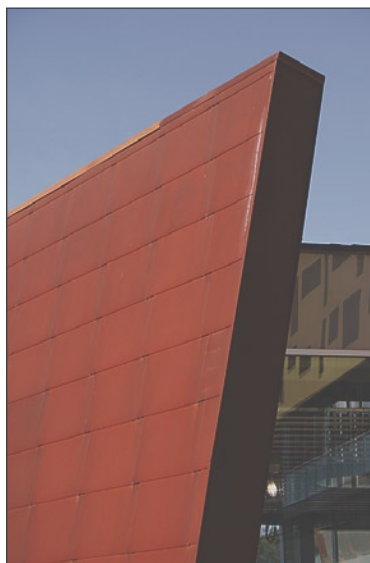
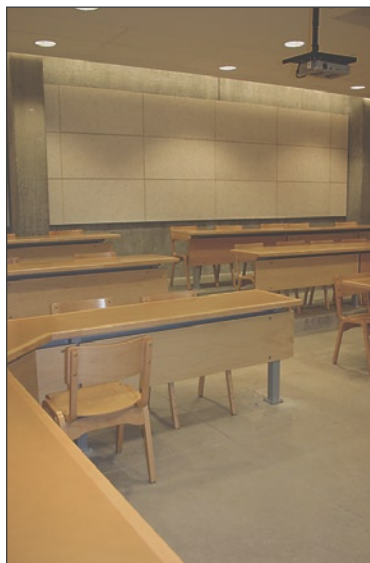
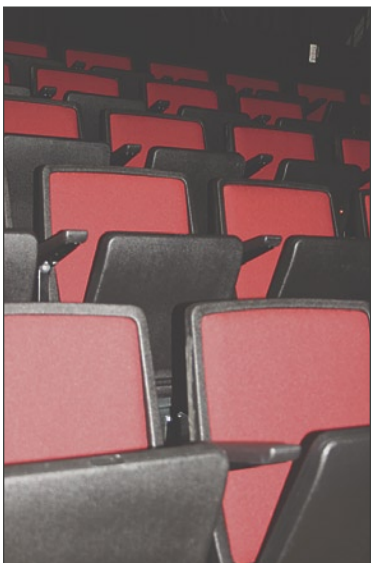
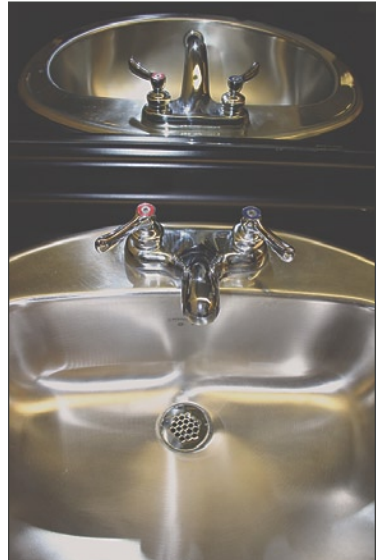
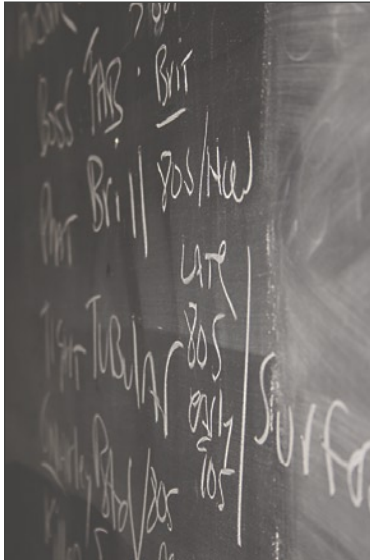
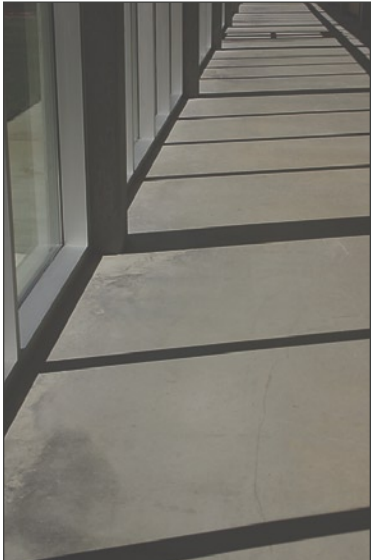
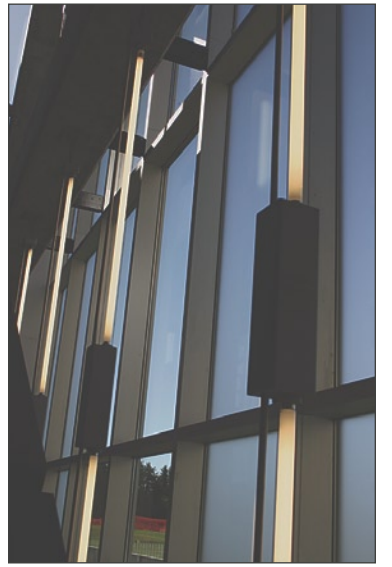
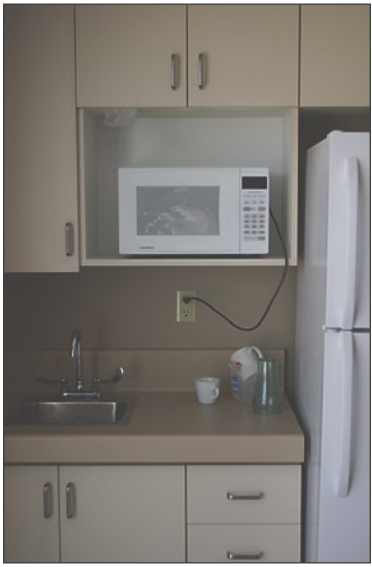
Meanwhile the dining hall at Peter Gzowski College - the Robinson Dining Hall - is marché style. Students can stay for several hours and go back to the various fresh food stations as often as they wish under a one-price, all-you-care-to-eat package with different rates for breakfast,

lunch and dinner.

Food is cooked in a central serverly when the students place their orders, instead of being cooked in a kitchen. The cost-effectiveness of the program and the freshness of the food are its greatest attributes, says Ms. Oliver.



# images of Enweying, glimpses of 'Gzowski'



Column one above, top to bottom:

- reflection of the north wing of the building in the east wing wall
- one of a series of red lights on the first floor - these can be seen from the outside of the building
- just outside the performance space in the north wing of the building
- an array of new dishes in the Robinson Dining Hall

column two:

- a common space kitchen area in the residence
- a north wing hallway lined by glass
- collapsible bleacher seating in the performance space
- the new home of the Gzowski College Cabinet

column three:

- ingredients displayed in the new marché-style Robinson Dining Hall
- blackboard - in service
- washroom signage with braille
- glassed-in stairwell at the intersection of the north and east wings

column four:

- new technology in the Mathematics Resource Room
- fresh ingredients, used to prepare meals in front of students in the new Robinson Dining Hall
- Phillips, Hagar and North Case Study Room
- exterior wall of the gathering space, clad in weathered steel to honour the legacy of the Mohawk/Iroquoian steelworkers in this territory

column five:

- vertical tube lighting in the stairwell
- washroom sink
- technology, as found in a lecture hall
- fire bowl

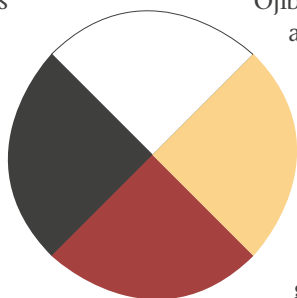


# the colours of Enweying

The colors of Enweying are derived from the medicine wheel:

Yellow, which is the colour of the east, represents the rising sun, the dawn of a new day and new beginnings, hope. The yellow cladding on the outside of the building corresponds with floors that house the college residence rooms.

Red, the colour of the south, represents youth, energy and celebration. The gathering space is clad in weathered steel,



which will turn red as it rusts. The shape of the gathering space honours the Anishnaabe/Ojibway peoples of this area. The steel cladding was chosen to honour the legacy of the Mohawk/Iroquoian steelworkers in this territory.

Black, the colour of the west, represents growth and maturity.

The entire trim of the building is black.

White, the colour of the north, represents spirit and wisdom. The grayish metal of the building represents the white of the medicine wheel. 🌿

## a legacy of learning



Dudley Landon, president of the Trent University Native Association, David Morton, Prof. Patricia Owens Morton, and President Bonnie Patterson.

With an affinity for Trent University, its former chancellor – the late Peter Gzowski – and an attentiveness to Native Studies, David Morton and Patricia Owens Morton of Peterborough, in April 2004, made a generous donation that is without question, a legacy of learning.

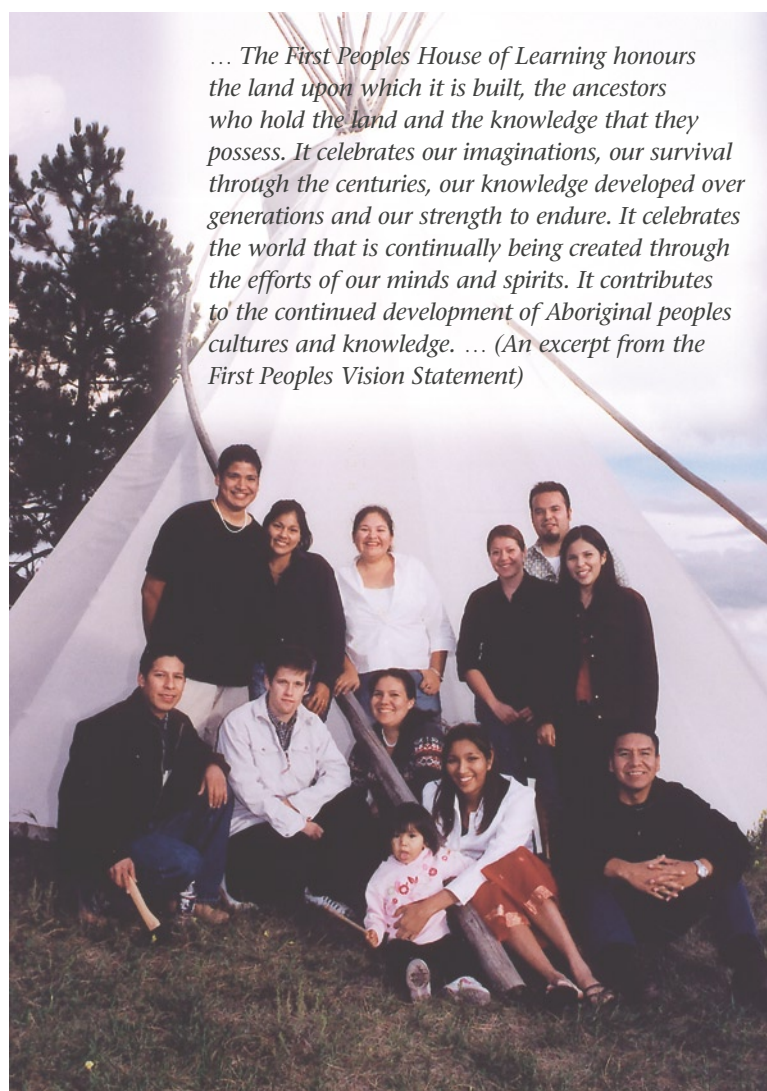
The Mortons' \$250,00 donation will fund two initiatives at Trent University: the construction of the Morton Owens Lecture Hall in the First Peoples House of Learning at the new Peter Gzowski College, and an endowed scholarship to support a Native Studies graduate student.

The donation was announced April 29 at a ceremony at the new college. This was a homecoming for Patricia Owens Morton, professor emerita, who retired from Trent after 26 years of service in 2002. Prof. Morton is the author of numerous published historical essays and the book *Disfigured Images: The Historical Assault on African American Women*.

David Morton is a retired president and CEO of Quaker Oats Canada Limited and is recognized as a leader within the food industry and in many capacities, within the Peterborough community. In 2002, Mr. Morton received an honorary doctorate degree from Trent University; he has also taught courses for Trent's Business Administration program.

Located in the First Peoples House of Learning, the new Morton Owens Lecture Hall will include the Anishnaabe name 'Bgwasendamowin' (bgwa/sen/da/mo/win), meaning literally "the art of hoping". The 135-seat hall is over 2,300 square feet in size and is pre-wired for the adaptation of new projection and computer technology to be used in the delivery of lectures.

Included in the gift is \$100,000 to establish the Morton Scholarship to be awarded to a deserving student in the Native Studies graduate program. The annual interest from this endowed gift will be doubly matched by the Ontario Graduate Scholarship program, creating an annual \$15,000 scholarship in perpetuity. 🌿



... The First Peoples House of Learning honours the land upon which it is built, the ancestors who hold the land and the knowledge that they possess. It celebrates our imaginations, our survival through the centuries, our knowledge developed over generations and our strength to endure. It celebrates the world that is continually being created through the efforts of our minds and spirits. It contributes to the continued development of Aboriginal peoples cultures and knowledge. ... (An excerpt from the First Peoples Vision Statement)

## a superb space for scholarship

"Working in Gzowski College is a wonderful opportunity to share space, in a beautiful environment, with a diverse group of students, faculty and staff."

Dr. Jim Parker, Associate Vice-President (Research)

"We in the Economics Department are very pleased with our new facilities at Gzowski College. For the first time in the Department's history, our faculty can interact on a daily basis, our students have a sense of place, and our visitors are impressed by the quality of the surroundings in which we work."

Dr. Torben Drewes, Chair, Department of Economics

"The Business Administration Program is delighted with its move to the new Gzowski College on Symons Campus. Our office facilities are impressive and we like the feel of now being in a building with an academic focus. Needless to say, the view is tremendous! All faculty and staff are now located in one place and we feel very much part of the new college. It is nice to teach in the same building where your office is located and the common space outside the lecture rooms has provided an atmosphere of community where students and faculty mill about between classes."

Dr. Jacqueline Muldoon, Director, Business Administration Program

"It is important to all Aboriginal Peoples, not only here in Canada but around the world, to have places like Trent University where the identity and cultures of Aboriginal Peoples are not only recognized but celebrated. This long standing commitment of Trent University is reflected by the fact that the department of Native Studies is now housed in a new building that has an Aboriginal name – Enweying, which means 'the way we speak together'. Enweying is home to the First Peoples House of Learning, the First Peoples Performance Space and has Native artwork displayed throughout the new building. When combined, all of these elements make the new home of the Native Studies Department truly a 'home' – a comfortable, safe and inviting place for all to meet, learn and 'speak together'."

Dr. Mark Dockstator, Chair, Department of Native Studies

"The Mathematics department is very much enjoying the new building. It is the first time our faculty and staff members have had their offices together. The Mathematics Resources Room, also new, has quickly become a place where students and professors get together to work on problems."

Dr. Bing Zhou, Chair, Department of Mathematics

## Special Thanks

Trent University is grateful to the many donors who helped make possible the construction of the First Peoples House of Learning and Peter Gzowski College. The University looks forward to acknowledging all donors in a special display planned for the new building.

In particular, the University wishes to acknowledge the leadership of:

RBC Financial Group  
David Morton and Patricia Owens Morton  
The Sisters of St. Joseph of Peterborough  
The Ross Family  
Bank of Nova Scotia  
CIBC  
Carolyn Sifton Foundation  
Phillips, Hager and North Investment Management Ltd.  
Placer Dome (CLA) Ltd.  
The Bennett Family Foundation

The University has also benefited from the support and vision of a number of First Nations communities, including:

Alderville First Nation  
Baagwating Community Association  
Curve Lake First Nation  
Hiawatha First Nation  
Mnjikaning First Nation  
Mohawk Territory of Kahnawake  
Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte

Special thanks also go to RBC Capital Markets as well as alumni and current parents Robin Quantick '78 and Laurie Davey-Quantick '78, who generously supported the presentation of *An Evening with Peter's Friends* on October 16, 2004 at Showplace Peterborough.

Trent University acknowledges the financial contribution of the Government of Canada, made possible through the Cultural Spaces Canada Program, to assist with costs associated with the construction and equipment for performance space in the First Peoples House of Learning.

Trent University would also like to thank the Government of Ontario for its financial support of this project as part of its most recent campus expansion. The Province's co-operation and collaboration with Trent on this infrastructure project has resulted in a product that all Ontarians can be proud of. 🌿

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