

# Trent Research Park will bring clean, green jobs to Peterborough

By Peterborough Examiner

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## Research Park Will Invigorate Peterborough with Green, Clean Jobs

City Council's approval of the master plan for Trent's Research Park this week takes us one step closer to new, green jobs that will make our university, and our communities, better places to live, work and study.

### Clean, green technology for a better future

In a world of environmental challenges, there is a pressing need for developments that emit less greenhouse gases, eliminate harmful toxins, and provide sufficient supplies of food for growing populations. Trent has impressive research strengths in all three areas.

This is one of the reasons the Trent Research Park will focus on environmentally-beneficial technologies

– in industry terms, clean technology. Trent faculty, labs, and students will provide talent, attracting likeminded businesses to the Park, and support start-up companies like Noblegen, to be the park's first tenant.

Trent has already made a commitment to maintain more than 60 per cent of the Trent Lands as dedicated nature areas, including buffers and corridors. The park is a unique development project that reflects the same values. It does not favour jobs over the environment and instead seeks to establish the jobs Peterborough needs in a way that promotes the environment and fights climate change everywhere.

### Trent's contribution to the Research Park

The path we are on began with Trent's gift of 23 acres of land to the City for a new arena serving Peterborough's north end. Trent will provide an additional 85 acres of former farmland and \$2 million in infrastructure money for a Research Park managed by the City.

The University has agreed that early revenue from the park will primarily be directed to cover the City's investment in services that support it.

### A commitment to consultation, transparency and the environment

The idea that we should develop a Research Park originated in the 2006 Master Plan for the

Trent Lands. It was based on extensive consultations with hundreds of internal and external stakeholders, agencies, and community members. In 2013, the plan was updated after further consultations with the community.

Over the past year alone, Trent has hosted multiple public sessions and stakeholder meetings on these planned developments. Promoted online, on campus, in local newspapers, by email and hand-delivered invitations to neighbours, our public sessions have been well attended and well received.

The City of Peterborough has completed many environmental studies including species at risk, tree inventories, storm water management, and soil testing. The results of all these studies, as well as background information on the plan, are available at [Trent Lands Plan](#). Trent is actively working with the Ontario Region Conservation Authority and the MNR in development of the park.

## Engaging Indigenous communities

In keeping with its commitment to local Indigenous knowledge, guided by the protocols of the Williams Treaty First Nations, Trent University is consulting with local, Anishnawbeg First Nation Communities of Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Alderville and Scugog as well as the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte in Tyendinaga, and representatives of urban Indigenous communities such as the local Metis Council, and Friendship Centre. Trent's delegation is being led by Trent's Dawn Lavell-Harvard, a member of the Wikwemikong First Nation and Anishwbek Nation and advised by Elder Doug Williams of the Mississauga Nation. Community representatives receive details on the project in advance.

These communities have reinforced the need to protect waterways and species at risk, complete phase two of the Archeological study, recognize the traditional territory of the local Mississauga First Nation, and consider Indigenous partnerships in employment, research and future developments as well as naming of greenspaces and roadways. We are committed to working productively with Indigenous groups and co-developing recommendations that will inform consultations for future projects.

Guest Column by:

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