



2014-2015
A YEAR OF CELEBRATION

ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

**The Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education
2015 PRIX D'EXCELLENCE Gold Medal winner for "Best
Alumni Event."**

It had all the hallmarks of a great weekend at Trent: old friends, new friends, a pub crawl, and plenty of music. And like the Trent experience you probably remember, people accidentally learned a few things along the way.

The Alumni Reunion Weekend was the kickoff event for the 50th Anniversary year — and it was a doozy! The population of Peterborough swelled as alumni attended Traill and Peter Robinson College Reunions, and stopped to wander their favourite downtown haunts along the way. Symons Campus was hopping with the Ideas That Change The World Symposium, a 50 Years of Sport event, and a Trent International Program reunion dinner.

And when Alumni Weekend musical guests, Blue Rodeo, struck the first chord of their set, the entire floor of the Memorial Centre got up to dance.

As music wafted through the night, Trent Alumni were once again reminded: You're never too old (or too young) to party.

Photo: Blue Rodeo.

A UNIQUELY TRENT EXPERIENCE

Asked to describe Trent University, most students, alumni, staff, and faculty will use the same words: Intimate. Close knit. Collaborative. Community.

Students and alumni will talk of the shared student experience — whether they are a "local," an "import" from another part of Canada, or an international student coming to Canada for the first time, they all will have found a new home at Trent. We are as inclusive as we are diverse.

Those leaning towards the humanities will talk about the importance of discourse — how their tutorials gave them a stronger voice. Those who gravitated towards the sciences will speak of the opportunity for hands-on research and diverse field studies. No matter the discipline, Trent's commitment to teaching excellence will be consistently raised.

The extra-curricular strengths of the community will surface: the depth of the music scene — and the performances that would spiral off into the night — the multi-disciplinary arts scene, the ingrained commitment and passion for social justice.

And so it was with our 50th Anniversary celebrations. While we may have filled lecture halls, theatres, and even the arena floor and stands of the Peterborough Memorial Centre, many of the most lasting memories will have come from small gatherings, intimate conversations, and collaborative communication.

Many attendees of the Ideas That Change The World Symposium likened the event to a series of lectures and tutorials rolled into one — the panel talks all spilling over into informal debate when the formal presentations ended.

The sense of community — the sense of home — was palpable throughout the year as celebrants gathered for college reunions, international reunions, and gatherings of so many types, for so many groups. It was evident as we honoured our relationships with the City and County of Peterborough, with Durham Region, with Curve Lake First Nation, and with the many cultures from around the world that have come together here at Trent.

And, of course, we recognized the reason that we were all brought together in the first place — for a unique educational experience that rivals the best of anywhere on the planet.

Our 50th year was one where we honoured our past and looked forward to a future of endless possibilities. It was also one heck of a good party.

Enjoy this look back at the celebrations. May it offer up the fondest of Trent memories. And may it inspire you to create yet even more.



IDEAS THAT CHANGE THE WORLD SYMPOSIUM

"I have to tell you that I feel like I've had a Trent injection, and am inspired, energized, and curious about how I can turn that energy into something useful for the university that actually exists, now and going forward, rather than the one that I treasure in my memory."

Over 75 of Trent's most outstanding alumni and faculty converged to challenge thinking in the areas of: Education, Indigenous Peoples in Canada, Sustainability & the Environment, Life & Health, and Critical Cultural Inquiry. 15 panel discussions took place — and each and every one of them was followed by audience discourse that was just as engaging as the panel presentations themselves.

"It was like the best seminar tutorial I ever had!"

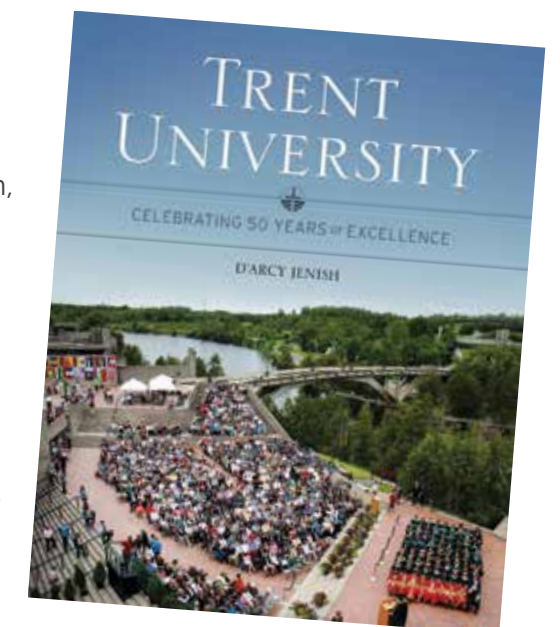
And when it was over, there was a small army of alumni just itching to plug back in to the Trent University experience.

OUR WRITTEN HISTORY

To celebrate our 50th anniversary, Trent commissioned alumnus, popular historian, and journalist, D'Arcy Jenish, to research and write a comprehensive history of the university — one that both honours the past and contemplates Trent's vision for the future.

The 50th Anniversary Commemorative Book, "**Trent University: Celebrating 50 Years of Excellence**," encompasses events and stories from archival sources, as well as accounts provided by faculty, staff, alumni, community, and students throughout the past 50 years.

We were proud to host the official launch with a book signing by D'Arcy.



OUR SENSE OF PLACE

A Heritage Along the Otonabee

Located along an Ojibway site — Nogojiwanong, or “the place at the end of the rapids” — Trent has been an integral part of Peterborough history since before its doors even opened.

From its humble make-do origins in Rubidge Hall — and in church basements when space became too tight — to its gorgeous downtown college houses... From Ron Thom’s first rubble aggregate castle designs to the medicine wheel of the First People’s House of Learning... From the “TURTLE” floating houseboat laboratory to the cutting edge Trent Centre for Biomaterials Research... Our legacy is one of innovation and creativity.

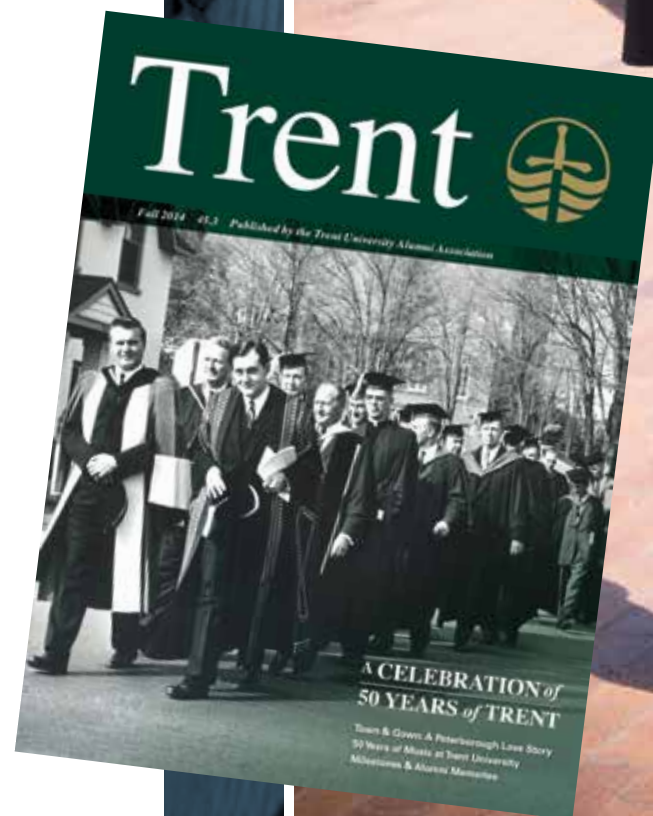
Throughout our 50th Anniversary, we celebrated this heritage.

Alumni House was the Trent home to the expansive and inspiring “West Coast Points East: Ron Thom and the Allied Arts” exhibit. This museum-quality display piqued essential conversations about Trent’s architectural legacy — conversations that are now underpinning heritage fundraising initiatives. Alumni across Canada have flocked to the exhibit, which has toured the country, making stops in Vancouver, Toronto, Fredericton and Calgary.

Trent partnered with the City of Peterborough to host Doors Open Peterborough — an Ontario Heritage Trust event that saw more than 1300 community members exploring both Trill College and Symons Campus. During the event — as a tribute to our place in local architectural history — Trent unveiled heritage plaques to commemorate key university buildings and structures.

Trent students created tomorrow’s history by partnering with GE volunteers to create a stunning engraved, brushed metal “Time Capsule.” Alumni, meanwhile, came together to publish a special nostalgic edition of TRENT Magazine.

And we were recognized for our efforts to keep our heritage fresh. The Peterborough Historical Society presented Trent with a special Heritage Award, honouring “individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to promoting heritage preservation in Peterborough and the surrounding area.”



CHANCELLOR'S ANNIVERSARY GALA

"The river flows both ways."

Echoing a major theme of (former Chancellor) Margaret Laurence's masterpiece, *The Diviners*, The Chancellor's Anniversary Gala honoured both the past and the present. Hosted by current Chancellor, Don Tapsott '66, and emceed by Author Linwood Barclay '73, the gala brought together 350 attendees for a special evening.

The Athletics Centre was transformed into a magical and somehow intimate hall as guests noshed on fine cuisine while being treated to an evening of celebration and reminiscence — including a greeting by newly installed Ontario Lieutenant Governor, Elizabeth Dowdeswell.

"As a current employee, a member of Trent's alumni, and a mother of a first-year student, I am grateful from the bottom of my heart for a wonderful night of reflection and celebration. It made us all very proud to be part of such an incredible community of learners."

TRENT@50: IN STORY & SONG

In a night of surprises, Trent's history was presented in prose, poetry, and song. Chancellor Don Tapscott '66 got his 1960's musical group "Boys in the Band" back together for a raucous reunion, while President Leo Groarke brought the children in the audience together for a fairytale rendition of Dr. Seuss' "Oh, The Places You'll Go!"

With over 350 audience members cheering them on for a one-night-only event, Trent alumni, faculty, students, staff, and friends debuted an original musical revue written by Beth McMaster '78 and Professor Emeritus Gordon Johnston — and directed by Gillian Wilson.

It was a night that celebrated memories and created countless more for the ages.



COMMUNITY PARADE & CELEBRATION

As we retraced the steps of Trent's official opening parade, we also honoured the special bond between the university and the communities that support it. This was not just about 50 years of Trent University. It was about 50 years of partnership with the people, businesses, and institutions that have made our university so unique — and so successful.

During the recreation of our opening parade, we offered special presentations to the Peterborough and District Labour Council, to the Peterborough Chamber of Commerce, and to GE Canada. And we honoured our very first home — Rubidge Hall — with a commemorative plaque. We also shared the event with all three levels of government.

We celebrated with special emphasis on the City of Peterborough. And we celebrated by making sure that the Peterborough community was welcome at each and every one of our events throughout the year.

Just as importantly, we looked ahead to the future — to how town and gown can continue to thrive in a successful and sustainable partnership.



THE WORLD OF TRENT UNIVERSITY

The Trent Family is made up of countless communities — from the close-knit colleges to the alumni chapters to the lifelong bond of sports teams and social groups. And these communities span the world.

The Trent 50th was truly a global affair, with chapter celebrations in far flung places such as Vancouver, Hong Kong, London UK, New York, and Halifax.

Closer to home, our over 50-year relationship with Curve Lake First Nation was emphasized. During the Alumni Reunion Weekend opening night reception, the two communities traded flags. Trent was then presented with an eagle feather at the Curve Lake Annual Powwow — a very high honour and sign of great respect.

It mattered not where you were — or how many miles away — the Trent celebration hit close to home.



LIFE LONG LEARNING

David Morrison Lecture

Alison Van Rooy '86 inspired in her David Morrison Lecture in International Development. Her talk, "Dilemmas in Changemaking: Thoughts on Planning a Life Change," challenged community members to address our time of global change and the dilemmas we face as individuals in charting our way in this brave new world.

Contesting Canada's Future

With a stellar line-up guaranteed to fire up a crowd, Contesting Canada's Future (CCF) sparked a weekend of learned debate and shared knowledge. Featuring novelist Miriam Toews; environmental activist and honorary alumna, Maude Barlow; Idle No More activist, Erica Lee; and former Chancellor, circumpolar ambassador, and honorary alumna, Mary Simon; CCF examined a variety of important issues. From the environment and science to

Canadian art and music, from multiculturalism and diversity to social inequality, all of the discussions were centred on Canada's changing place in the global order.

Elder's Gathering

Renowned musician, broadcaster, university administrator, host of CBC's Canada Reads, and the 2015 Jack Matthews Fellow, Wab Kinew, delivered the keynote address of the 45th Annual Elders and Traditional Peoples Gathering — a tradition almost as old as the university itself.

Born from students' desire to learn more about how to use Indigenous Knowledge to become positive leaders in the community and in their future careers, the theme of this year's annual Elders and Traditional Peoples Gathering was Traditional Leadership in Action.

50 Talks in 50 Schools

Throughout the 2014/15 Academic Year, faculty banded together to offer 50 talks in local schools — both in Peterborough and in Durham Region. They brought their personal and academic research interests into classrooms in order to both educate and inspire. It was a huge endeavor — and showed true commitment from faculty.

"The professor brought to life her passion and experience for the students and myself. Her talk was educational, applicable to real life and really engaged the students. I would love her to speak every year!"

Symposia

"The study of philosophy is at the core of a thinking citizen and I'm grateful to Trent for having taught me some essential lessons in life."

With these words, via video, Yann Martel '85 opened the Trent Philosophy Symposium — one of the longest-standing traditions of the Trent Philosophy Society, the University's oldest undergraduate society. This community symposium offered students the chance to shine, as their philosophical works were presented to a public audience.

Similarly, with one foot in the past and one in the future, the Trent University Archaeological Research Centre held a symposium featuring the work of numerous alumni — including the discovery of the Franklin shipwreck by Dr. Douglas Stenton '80, director of heritage for the Government of Nunavut. It was a captivating way for the public to recognize how Trent archaeologists and anthropologists are helping to preserve our history.



DURHAM, GZOWSKI & ENWEYING

It was a year of anniversaries as Trent University Durham, Gzowski College, and Enweying, the First Peoples House of Learning all celebrated milestones.

Over 160 Trent Durham alumni, faculty, staff, and retirees came together for a special 40th anniversary reunion — featuring the unveiling of a wall of plaques honouring alumni success and stories.

The Gzowski/Enweying 10th Anniversary, meanwhile, saw Trent examining the nature of Canadian dialogue in many forms. It played host to a fascinating discussion panel made up of major Canadian media personalities.

“Peter Gzowski, the namesake of Trent’s newest college, was always committed to creating dialogues across regions of Canada in the hope that we would understand ourselves better. This legacy is being continued in Enweying, which houses a close-knit collegiate community, is host to interdisciplinary events and programming, and provides an ideal environment for encouraging dialogue and discussion,” proclaimed Dr. Melanie Buddle, academic advisor and former head of Gzowski College and coordinator of the 10th anniversary celebrations. “We have been ‘speaking together’ in our classrooms and through our programming and our research for ten years, and we look forward to many more.”



50 YEARS OF PHILANTHROPY & THE ANNUAL ALUMNI AWARDS

Trent recognized and honoured its volunteers and donors, as well as seven remarkable Alumni who were presented with alumni awards. “A Celebration of Time, Treasure and Talent,” was part of National Volunteer Week and featured social activist, best-selling author, and honorary alumnus, Craig Kielburger, as the guest speaker.

“The seven alumni we are recognizing are a product of Trent’s highly personal and interactive learning environment,” announced President Groarke. “Their success, their impact in the world, and the ways in which they have made a difference, represent the very best of who we are as a University and epitomize the spirit of the Trent community.”



GIVING BACK

Our 50th Celebration sparked emotion, enthusiasm, and energy. Students, alumni, staff, and faculty alike were inspired to offer ideas, time, and resources to benefit both Trent University and the many communities that support it. There were countless examples of individuals, businesses, and organizations coming together for countless causes. Here are but a few:

In celebration of Giving Tuesday and in honour of the University’s milestone 50th anniversary, Trent University offered a challenge to raise \$50,000 in 50 hours in order to support student programs. The goal was not only met, but almost doubled — with just over \$92,000 raised during the social-media-led campaign.

In April, we celebrated The Heart of Trent. More than 300 people attended the Anniversary Appreciation Event in the Great Hall of Champlain College to honour the dedication and service of all staff and faculty, with special attention given to recent retirees. The reception included musical performances, special remarks, and a book signing by D’Arcy Jenish, author of Trent University: Celebrating 50 years of Excellence.

OPSEU Local 365 recognized both the people who built the University, as well as those who work here today, by offering a one-time prize to the graduate and undergraduate students who produced the best work in support of the organized labour movement. Six students split the \$10,000 in awards.

Our students themselves were eager to give back in their own ways — among them, the “Your Trent Student Symposium,” which saw undergraduate students presenting on what Trent means to them and on ideas for how the University can move forward in the future.

Speaking of the event, symposium co-chair, Duc Hien Nguyen, a fourth-year Economics student from Vietnam, said: “Trent students are passionate about the University and are keen to help shape its future. The response the organizing team has received has been overwhelming. This event is an opportunity to share our ideas with the community.”



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Thank you to the many staff and volunteers who helped make the 50th Anniversary celebrations so unique and special. You are the heart of Trent University!

PREMIUM	PLATINUM
Symons Trust Fund for Canadian Studies 	 City of Peterborough
DIAMOND	
 Stephen Stohn '66 	
GOLD	SILVER
	 McCOLL TURNER... CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  Stu Butts '65
BRONZE	OTHER
 Best Western Otonabee Inn 	 Peterborough Agricultural Society 

MEDIA SPONSORS

   Fresh RADIO 100.5 LOVE THE MUSIC  Magic 96.7 Peterborough's favourite radio 	  THIS WEEK Peterborough's Community Magazine    PTBO canada.com 
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It ends with a new beginning...

The final event of our 50th Anniversary was the 2015 Convocation ceremony — a time for students and faculty to take stock of their own Trent experience and to find new ways to bring that dedication and passion for change forward.

"The world needs you to build a better world."

Don Tapscott '66
Chancellor, Trent University