

## 2.3 The Symons Campus Today

The lands at Trent University's Symons Campus are a precious asset, rich in natural and cultural heritage, and vital to the resilience of Trent and our communities.

Today, the Trent lands are located on the Treaty 20 Michi Saagiig territory and in the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations, collectively known as the Williams Treaties First Nations, which include: Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Alderville, Scugog Island, Rama, Beausoleil, and Georgina Island First Nations. Of these First Nations, Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Alderville, and Mississaugas of Scugog Island are closest in geography to Trent University and have graciously informed the Trent Lands and Nature Areas Plan, and will continue to take part in the engagement process.

The Symons Campus is a rural campus, located at the urban fringe of the City of Peterborough, with approximately 1,440 acres (582 hectares) of land situated on the banks of the Otonabee River, and over 30 kilometres of nature trails. The combination of lush forest, drumlins, wetlands, streams, and open fields provides a unique learning and recreational environment that is used by Trent students, faculty, and staff as well as by members of the Peterborough and surrounding communities.

## 2.4 Academic Mission<sup>3</sup>

Trent University's academic mission is to:

- *“Prepare students to make significant contributions to an increasingly complex world by providing them with a distinctive liberal arts, science or professionally focused education, which is enhanced by global perspectives, experiential learning and interdisciplinary approaches to personal and professional development;*

- *Encourage and celebrate excellence and innovation in teaching, learning, research and student development;*
- *Remain at the forefront of Indigenous education and scholarship;*
- *Develop strong partnerships and collaborations with external communities, professions, and other institutions, as well as within our Colleges, departments, and programs;*
- *Foster sustainability, in its environmental, social and economic dimensions, on our campuses and in all aspects of our work; and*
- *Promote a culture which engages all members of the Trent community, favours dialogue and collegiality, and nurtures a sense of belonging”<sup>3</sup>*

The Trent Lands and Nature Areas Plan is directly connected to all aspects the University's academic mission, which was a guiding frame of reference for the Plan.

## 2.5 Board Strategic Objectives (2016–2022)

The TLNAP is a key plan to achieve multiple of the Board's strategic objectives including:

- Advance appropriate and thoughtful development on the Trent lands guided by an updated Trent Lands Plan.
- Foster and facilitate experiential learning and co-op programs at Trent.
- Work collaboratively with our host communities, indigenous peoples, and with municipal, provincial, and federal governments.
- Become the preferred 'primarily undergraduate' university in Canada, from a teaching, research and reputational point of view.
- Secure new revenue streams for the University.

<sup>3</sup> Trent University. "Vision and Mission". <https://www.trentu.ca/about/vision-mission>. Accessed 04 October 2020.