2.6 Trent University Studies and Plans

The TLNAP was initiated in the fall of 2018 to update previous Trent University Plans, including the 2002 Stewardship Plan for Trent University Nature Areas, the 2006 Endowment Lands Plan, and the 2013 Trent Lands Plan.

Stewardship Plan for Trent University Nature Areas (2002)

The Stewardship Plan was prepared in 2002 as Trent University's first campus-wide study into the ongoing management and preservation of Trent's Nature Areas. The report focused on a detailed analysis of 16 Nature Areas representing over 50 per cent of the Symons Campus, identified by a study in 1989 and recognized by the Board of Governors and University Senate as areas significant for their natural heritage values and functions.

The study involved detailing past and current ecological and geological conditions, mapping and identifying plant communities, and identifying user safety issues for each Trent Nature Area. The study resulted in a number of modifications and consolidations to Trent Nature Area boundaries. In addition, recommendations were made addressing stewardship responsibilities, strategic priorities, funding needs, and policy enforcement strategies for the Nature Areas.

Endowment Lands Master Plan (2006)

The Endowment Lands Master Plan was developed in 2006 to guide decision making and enable Trent University to be proactive in the development of its lands, with a focus towards maximizing financial benefit through revenue generation projects. A focus on sustainable development, respect for the unique Trent context, and protection of the Nature Areas were among the guiding principles for the study.

The Endowment Lands Master Plan provided recommendations related to where development should occur, when it should occur, and what form and character of development is appropriate. A detailed vision for this framework was articulated through plans for 24 individual Parcel Areas, and included analysis on appropriate land uses, design principles, and development and ownership considerations. The Plan also provided guidelines addressing issues of interface and integration between the Endowment Lands with other campus lands and Nature Areas.

Trent Lands Plan (2013)

Coincident with the University's 50th anniversary, the Trent Lands Plan was developed in 2013 to ensure that the University and the community continued to prosper over the next 50 years. Building upon previous planning work including the 2006 Endowment Lands Master Plan, the 2013 Plan included a series of extensive public consultation events with students, alumni, faculty, and staff; the City, County, and townships; and community members to discuss the possibilities for Trent's Endowment Lands. The allocation of lands for academic, research, and recreational needs were identified as important priorities.

Key principles of the Plan included strengthening integration, connectivity, and relationships with the surrounding community, protecting and enhancing nature areas, and targeting sustainable initiatives and projects. The final Trent Lands Plan set out a comprehensive framework for the intended uses of the land and the location of major infrastructure.

