



## 3.0

# Vision and Guiding Principles

**The Trent Symons Campus lands are a precious asset, rich in natural and cultural heritage, vital to the resilience of Trent and our communities. Our vision is to create an inspiring, sustainable, and complete community to learn, live, innovate, and be active.**

**In our care for and use of the land, Trent will demonstrate leadership in environmental education and stewardship, respect for Indigenous Traditional Knowledge, and thoughtful integration of the natural and built environment.**

### 3.1 Guiding Principles

Four principles have been developed to guide the evolution of the Symons Campus in a manner that is consistent with the University vision and aspirations.



#### LEARNING AND DISCOVERY

The Trent lands are a place where learning and discovery will thrive by:

- Supporting and inspiring land-based learning on campus, across academic programs, and in partnership with the local community;
- Ensuring uses of the campus lands prioritize teaching and research partnerships, and provide experiential learning for students;
- Forming academic and research projects and initiatives to implement the Nature Areas Stewardship Plan; and



Showcasing Indigenous Traditional Knowledge and the story of the land.



#### ENVIRONMENTAL RESILIENCE AND INTEGRITY


Trent's conservation and land use approaches will enhance the local environment and demonstrate leadership in environmental and Indigenous education by:

- Maintaining 60 per cent of the Trent lands as a diverse network of Nature Areas and green spaces;
- Restoring degraded environmental features, improving habitat, and establishing green linkages and safe wildlife crossings considering western science and ITK;
- Implementing a net benefit, landscape-led, and systems-based approach to land planning to maintain ecological functions, sustain ecosystem services, support biodiversity, and mitigate climate change;
- Pursuing higher density targets, setting goals for sustainable design, and striving for innovative low impact development approaches to minimize and to the extent possible, avoid environmental impact of development; and
- Targeting land uses that meet more of the campus and surrounding community needs to reduce the carbon footprint and facilitate modal shifts in transportation.



## ECONOMIC RESILIENCE, LEADERSHIP, AND INNOVATION


The Trent lands will enhance the University's reputation and introduce sustainable funding sources by:

- Targeting land use initiatives that respond to critical issues facing local communities and society at large including housing, employment, climate change, and food security;
  - Utilizing the University's assets efficiently (e.g. land use efficiency) to reduce overall cost and burden on existing infrastructure;
  - Demonstrating best and emerging practices in land use, site planning, and development projects;
  - Pursuing long term land lease revenue that reduces reliance on enrollment growth and government funding, contributing to enhanced research and learning opportunities; and
-  Engaging and partnering with the campus, local, and Michi Saagiig communities on stewardship and land use planning initiatives.



## SOCIAL RESILIENCE, COMMUNITY, AND INCLUSIVITY

The Trent lands will enhance belonging and wellbeing, and will provide inclusive social infrastructure by:

- Enriching and making the campus experience more accessible for recreation, socializing, and collaboration, during all seasons;
  - Greening the campus core and introducing diverse and functional green spaces to connect people with nature, contributing to physical and mental wellbeing;
  - Providing services, spaces, and amenities to bring the campus and community together;
  - Improving walkability and fostering active transportation; and
-  Integrating cultural heritage elements including Indigenous place names, public art, and signage to reflect Indigenous heritage and worldviews.