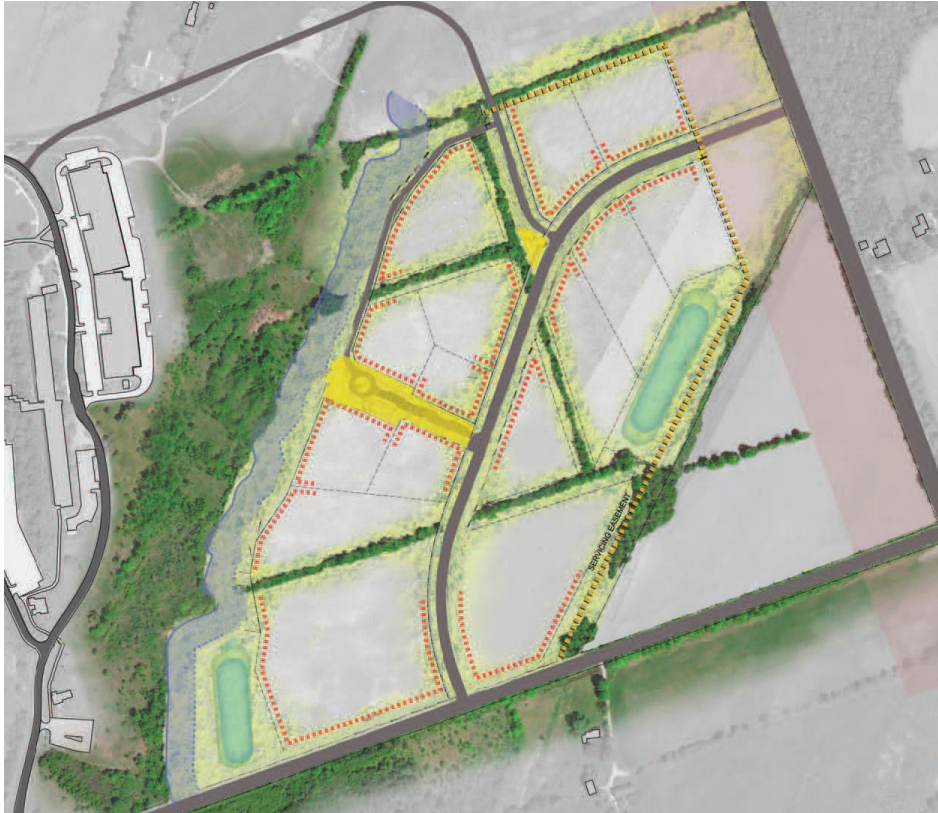


## Planned University Initiatives

# Cleantech Commons



**Figure 20:** Cleantech Commons Master Plan

The vision for Cleantech Commons at Trent University is to become Canada's premier green technology research and innovation site, hosting a cluster of companies and start-up enterprises in environmentally-focused fields including clean technology, environmental services, advanced material sciences, biotechnology, agri-food, and agri-business, to name a few. Water is a primary focus for the park, leveraging Trent's research expertise and assets, and the cluster of expertise and companies within the region.

Trent University has set aside 85 acres (34 hectares) of land for Cleantech Commons, to enable sufficient potential for this long term vision. The impact of the Provincial Highway Reserve has necessitated the reconfiguration of this area in order to maintain the 85 acre (34 hectare) parcel size. Cleantech Commons is a partnership between Trent University and the City of Peterborough. The City has a master head lease for the park, and led the creation of the park's Master Plan.



Cleantech Commons Master Plan  
[cleantechcommons.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2017-12-05-Clean-Tech-Commons-Master-Plan-Report-compressed.pdf](https://cleantechcommons.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2017-12-05-Clean-Tech-Commons-Master-Plan-Report-compressed.pdf)



A wetland monitoring project is being undertaken to ensure the health of the wetland and the effectiveness of the buffer. This project aims to protect the function of the natural heritage feature, through various techniques.

While the City leads the infrastructure and servicing portions of the park, Trent and the City collaborate on the strategic vision, tenant attraction, and promotion of the park.

## Dialogue with First Nations Moving Forward

As Cleantech Commons evolves, Trent University is committed to ongoing dialogue with the Michi Saagiig Consultation Liaisons, First Nations leadership, and the Trent Elders and Traditional Knowledge Keepers Council. Trent University will maintain Cleantech Commons as an active part of their ongoing agenda with First Nations into the foreseeable future. Future dialogue will include further design, commemoration, and education opportunities, progress on addressing First Nations ecological priorities, and partnership opportunities to realize Indigenous inclusion into the vision of Cleantech Commons.

## A Hub for Sustainable Research and Innovation

A landscape-led, environmentally friendly, walkable urban design, integrated with the Campus physically, visually and socially, will foster an innovation community culture at Cleantech Commons that encourages social interaction and collaboration across all seasons. As a hub for the clean technology industry to connect with students, faculty, researchers, and entrepreneurial start-ups, Cleantech Commons will support new collaborative research, experiential learning for students, and employment for graduates.

### Cleantech Commons Guidelines

The Cleantech Commons Master Plan, through its design principles, expresses the intent to:

1. Integrate with Trent's main campus physically, visually, and socially;
2. Foster an innovation community culture encouraging social interaction and collaboration in all seasons;
3. Be a leader in sustainable design;
4. Base its design strategy on a landscape-led approach to maintain natural features and existing topography;
5. Be flexible to accommodate a range of enterprises and uses in a unique setting; and
6. Be well-connected to the City, County, and Region.

Cleantech Commons will be Canada's 27th research park. North America has close to 200 research parks. Collectively, the existing Canadian research parks account for more than 65,000 jobs and contribute \$4.3 billion to the national knowledge economy. 33 per cent of employees at Canadian research parks have masters or Ph.D. degrees; 49 per cent of companies located at research parks are exporting; and 45 per cent are in growth phase.

Research Parks form a significant part of Canada's research and innovation infrastructure. They play an important role in facilitating linkages across the innovation ecosystem by bridging the gap between incubation and commercialization. As such, they are key economic drivers, generating measurable economic development, and attracting highly skilled, science-based professionals.

By bringing together these various elements, Cleantech Commons provides the university community and our region with the opportunity to take advantage of opportunities in an emerging sector that is projected to be worth as much as \$26 trillion by 2030 – while helping us all live more sustainably.



Discovery Park, UBC  
Source: Discovery Parks Trust