

Ridgeback Report



- Join us **March 6 to 8** to celebrate **International Women's Day**! Visit our on-campus booths featuring our Student Engagement and Equity team, the Ontario Tech Student Union, Women at Ontario Tech Committee groups and our community partners from across the Durham Region. There will be giveaways, informational resources and treats! [Learn more on the equity events web page](#).

Academic Support



- **Student Accessibility Services (SAS) students:** If you are already registered with SAS, you can write your exams at the Test Centre. You will need to book your exam with us to do so. Book your exam in the Stepped Care suite, **Shawenjigewining Hall, Rooms 322 and 323 on Wednesday, March 22 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**
- Google storage limits have been released. The limit will affect how much data you can store in your Gmail, Google Drive and Google Photos. For more information please visit the [Information Technology Services website](#).
- The [Student Learning Centre](#) is offering [PASS](#)—weekly review sessions available for historically challenging courses. These sessions are led by your peers, who have previously taken these courses and have achieved an **A grade** or higher. They attend the class all over again and go over the difficult concepts with you in an interactive learning environment! View the [PASS schedule](#) to see if your course is being covered this semester.
- Are you looking for assistance with time management and general study skills? The Student Learning Centre's **STRIDE** program provides workshops and appointments for you to learn strategies, and success tips! [Learn more](#).
- Have you heard of the **Student Experience Record (SER)**? [SER](#) is a comprehensive record of your involvement in co-curricular experiences throughout your Ridgeback journey. It's used to highlight your diverse university

experiences, and showcases your personal involvement and commitment to growing outside of the classroom. As you apply for jobs, future education or volunteer experiences, your **SER** will be a great tool to showcase soft skills that are important to employers in today's market! The deadline to add positions to your SER is **Monday, May 1**. [Access your SER and learn more.](#)

Career Readiness



- If you're looking for summer employment, the Career Centre is hosting the **Summer Job Fair** on **Tuesday, March 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** in **Shawenjigewining Hall, Atrium**. Get the chance to meet and connect with employers and apply for jobs on-the-spot! [Learn more.](#)
- On **Tuesday, March 7 from 1 to 5 p.m.** drop by the **Durham College** campus in room **A144** to get free professional headshots and video resumés! [Register to secure your spot.](#)
- The [Employment Readiness Program](#), running **February 6 to March 27**, is a series of workshops designed to teach students practical job readiness skills and skills for navigating the workplace with success. Students who attend the workshop series will have access to additional one-on-one peer support with an Employment Peer Coach who can help address career-related concerns. [Learn more and register.](#)
- The Career Centre and Devant have joined together to provide career supports for international students. [Check it out, and register](#) for all the great workshops that are happening in March.
- The [Career Centre](#) has updated their MyStart activities on Canvas! For new students, or anyone who is looking for resumé, interview, or job search help, make sure you check out the new modules. You can participate in a monthly activity challenge to be entered into a draw to win a **gift card**! [Sign into Canvas](#) for all the details.
- **The Career Centre** has a variety of workshops that are designed to help students who are job searching, going to work for the first time, or entering a new workplace. [Learn more and register](#) for a winter workshop today! You can also book an appointment on the [Student Life Portal](#) for any of our [one-on-one](#) supports.

Community



- Thinking about visiting, studying, doing research or working in the United States? Join the **U.S. Visa Information Session** on **Tuesday, February 28 at 2 p.m.** to learn more about the application processes. [Register on the Student Life Portal](#).
- Your modes of transportation are important to us! Fill out the [Transportation and Mobility survey](#) to help us improve your commute in Durham Region. Participants can win a **\$25 gift card** of their choice! The last day to complete the survey is **Tuesday, February 28**.
- The free, online [Including Disability Global Summit \(IDGS\)](#) is taking place this year from **April 25 to 27**. The theme for the 2023 summit is **HopePunk: preserving, building community and chasing hope**—what can we do now so that the future is far better than the present for people with disabilities? Registration for the summit will be released soon; in the interim, [join the IDGS listserv](#) and receive pertinent updates. IDGS is also enlisting the help of [summit volunteers](#).
- **Conversation Café** runs on **Thursday's from 3 to 4:30 p.m.** in **Shawenjigewining Hall, Room 223**. This is an opportunity to meet international students and learn about other cultures as well as a chance to practice English speaking and listening skills. Visit the [Student Life Portal](#) to view the schedule, register in advance if possible, or sign in before you join.
- **Student Mental Health Services** continues to offer a range of groups, workshops and events to support your mental health. If you would like to participate in one or more groups you can [register](#) now.
- **Student Mental Health Services** has partnered with [The LivingRoom Community Art Studio](#) to give students a creative break and enjoy some self-care. The Creative Wellness Hive is a chance for students to make and share art for free! If you see the blue bus on campus, stop by for some fun and learn more about campus supports and services. To view upcoming dates, [visit the Mental Health workshops and events web page](#).

Equity and Inclusion



- In collaboration with Ontario Tech EngiQueers, Student Engagement and Equity will be hosting **Study with Pride** bi-weekly on **Wednesdays from March 8 to April 5**. All 2SLGBTQ+ students and allies can come together, support each other and create a community of belonging. Snacks will be provided. For more information, [visit the equity groups and workshops web page](#).
- The AIDS Committee of Durham Region, Durham College and Ontario Tech's Student Engagement and Equity team will be collaborating for the **Black History Month Wellness Fair** happening on **Tuesday, February 28** in **The PIT** from **11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** The wellness fair will have various community partners that are focused on supporting the health and wellbeing of Black communities in the region.
- A new episode of the [Road to Equity podcast](#) is out now! The latest episode is all about celebrating culture and how as student leaders, each of the panelists takes the lead in their respective groups to create safe spaces for other students on campus. [Listen to the episode on Spotify](#).
- **#Let'sTalk Sex Workshop Series:** In response to student feedback provided to the Student Sexual Violence Prevention and Support Committee, Student Life has invited the AIDS Committee of Durham Region to deliver some [workshops](#) to provide education and destigmatization around topics of sex and sexuality. [View the schedule and register](#).
- **RISE** (Respecting Individuals, Supporting Equity) sessions are scheduled throughout the winter semester. The RISE Program is a suite of workshops that provide training and education on what participants can do on an individual level to foster a safer and more inclusive community at Ontario Tech. [Learn more and register](#).
- **Student Centred Spaces** are running throughout the winter term. Learn about equity topics in open discussion groups or discuss your experiences with those who may share them in a closed Student Centred Space. [View the available groups and register for sessions](#).
- **Afternoons with SEE** run weekly on **Tuesday's from 2 to 4 p.m. in Shawenjigewining Hall, Room 210**. All students are welcome to drop in and join the Student Engagement and Equity team to hang out, play games, meet others and enjoy refreshments.

Athletics and Wellness



- Get moving, get grounded and get lifted! **Wellness Walks** is a free and fun opportunity that promotes physical and mental health by getting mindful walking breaks during the busy school, and workday. [Learn more.](#)
- Have you ever wondered what it would be like to cycle through an arctic snowstorm, under the scorching Sahara sun, and along a breezy Caribbean coast? You can during the **Ridgebacks Extreme Challenge: Spin Through the Seasons** event on **Saturday, March 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** All proceeds go towards the Adopt-a-Ridgeback Fund. If you're up for the challenge or want to donate, [learn more and register.](#)
- As part of **Health Promotions programming**, there are a number of events and workshops that you can attend to learn skills and tips on how to improve your health and well-being. [Learn more and register on the Health Promotions events and workshops web page.](#)

Money Matters



Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP)

- Continually monitor the status of your OSAP application and remember to make all necessary updates with the [Student Awards and Financial Aid office.](#)
- Are you returning to full time studies in the Spring/Summer term? Watch for details on how to extend your **OSAP** funding on [MyOntarioTech](#) in the month of April.

Student Awards

- Bursary information can be found on [MyOntarioTech](#), on the student awards and financial aid tab within the current students section.
- Are you a returning full-time undergraduate student interested in employment on campus this upcoming summer? If so, look for the summer University Works program application coming soon to your [MyOntarioTech](#) account within the student awards and financial aid section.

Other News



- **Universal Transit Pass (U-Pass):** The U-Pass fee will be charged each semester to eligible, full-time students. The winter U-Pass is valid from **January 1 to April 30**, and accessible through the [PRESTO E-Tickets app](#). Once distributed, an email will be sent to eligible students' **ontariotechu.net** email account. For more information, visit our [U-Pass web page](#).

**Tech**

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