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# Ridgeback Report



- The [BFUTR Global Tech Summit](#), happening **October 26 and 27** at the **Beanfield Centre in Toronto**, is an in person event that connects thousands of Black tech professionals and allies together to network and meet with industry experts and partners. Ontario Tech's Assistant Vice President of Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (DIB), Ruth Nyaamine, will be a main stage speaker to share the university's commitment to advancing DIB. If you're interested in attending, [fill out the DIB ticket raffle form](#) for the chance to win VIP tickets and to see Ludacris perform live at the event! Winners will be contacted on **Sunday, October 15**.

## Academic Support



- Join us for [Ted Talk Tuesdays](#)! Come together with your fellow peers to watch and discuss a variety of Ted Talks on **Tuesdays from 2 to 3 p.m.** in **Shawenjigewining Hall, Room 223**. By attending, you'll be able to:
  - Develop academic speaking and listening skills.
  - Encourage critical thinking and speaking with confidence.
  - Share ideas and opinions in a friendly and relaxed environment.

- On **Thursday, October 12 from 11:10 a.m. to noon**, the Library is hosting a [101: Introduction to the Library workshop](#). In this workshop, you'll learn how to easily access journal articles and books online, the benefits of an online research consultation with your subject librarian, and how to access specialized digital resources like datasets, cases, patents, and standards. Additionally, learn how the Library can help with your next movie night and keep you up to date on the news. [Learn more and register](#).
- Looking to improve your professional writing skills? Our Career Centre and Student Learning Centre are hosting professional cover letter and email writing workshops. You can register below, or through the [Student Life Portal](#).
  - [Wednesday, October 19](#) (virtual)
  - [Wednesday, October 26](#) (in person, Shawenjigewining Hall, Room 223)
- [The Teaching and Learning Centre \(TLC\)](#) is hosting virtual drop-in sessions for students looking for support with educational technologies (e.g. Canvas, Kaltura, Respondus, Turnitin and Google Workspace). All sessions will be held over Google Meet. View the schedule on the [TLC website](#).
- Looking for writing support? The [Student Learning Centre](#) has one-on-one consultations, peer tutoring, same-day appointments and workshops. We can help with essays, final projects, literature reviews, referencing, thesis statements and more! Book an appointment by visiting the [Student Life Portal](#).
- Swing by the bookstore in the Energy Systems and Nuclear Science Research Centre, Room 1058 to secure new textbooks and school supplies. We're open **Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** and available [online](#).

# Career Readiness



- 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 **October**.
- [Ontario Tech's Student Enrichment Program](#) connects students with our program partners to help you find a rewarding career within the growing energy sector. By joining, you'll:
  - Engage in career-readiness programming such as student clubs, career counsellors, employer job fairs and information sessions, résumé and cover letter writing, interview support, job search strategies, and academic advising.
  - Discover career pathways and opportunities related to engineering.
  - Network with energy experts including CEO's, Vice-Presidents, Human Resource executives, hiring managers and Ontario Tech alumni.
  - Participate in speed networking events, job shadowing experiences and engaging field trips.

If you're interested, [learn more and register](#).

- **The Ontario Tech Student Union (OTSU) First Impressions is coming up!** The OTSU is holding its pop-up professional attire upcycling event on **Wednesday, November 8**, and is seeking good-quality interview clothes (particularly men's attire) to be donated. If you wish to donate, you're encouraged to drop off clothing in **Shawenjigewining Hall, Room 115 or Charles Hall, Room 106/109**. [Learn more](#).

- The [Employment Readiness Program](#), running **Tuesdays until November 28**, 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.](#)
- Explore your employment identity with our Dungeons and Dragons Employment workshops! This five-week workshop, from **October 25 to November 22**, gives you the opportunity to build your own Dungeons and Dragons character and journey through quests that explore skills related to employment and employment identity. [Learn more and register on the Student Life Portal.](#)
- Sign up for [Wavemakers](#) to develop your skills and expand your network! It is a free, part-time, eight-session, virtual reality work-integrated learning program designed for post-secondary students that fits into your schedule. Wavemakers offers **\$200 in financial support** and awards a **\$2000** scholarship per cohort. [Sign up for an upcoming cohort.](#)

## Community



- **Attention Indigenous Ontario Tech students:** Indigenous Education and Cultural Services (IECS) is looking for any First Nation, Inuit and Métis students to participate in a photo shoot and/or mentoring opportunity on campus **Wednesday, November 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** The photos will be used to support IECS' future outreach and community engagement materials. **Please note: Each volunteer will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card for participating! You must identify as Indigenous to be eligible to volunteer.** [Register to secure your spot.](#)

- **The OTSU's Fall Fair** is taking place in **Polonsky Commons on Wednesday, October 18 and Wednesday, October 25 in Charles Hall** with pumpkin carving, food, fun and games. We hope to see you there!

#### Open Education (OE) events:

- **Textbook Broke:** How can we make learning more accessible for all students? Join the OE Lab and the OTSU from **October 23 to 27** for a week-long campaign to raise awareness of open education as a tool to make education more affordable and accessible to everyone. All students are invited to attend events throughout the week to learn about open education and how they can contribute to the movement!
- **OE and Action Conference:** On **Tuesday, October 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Science Building**, attendees will participate in faculty and student hosted panel discussions, meet the OE Lab student staff, and engage with the open educational resources the Lab has created. A catered lunch will be provided. Registration is limited, so be sure to [RSVP](#) by **Wednesday October 17**.
- **OE information booths:** Stop by to meet the fabulous OE Lab team and get a crash course in open education on the following days:
  - **Wednesday, October 25 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Business and Information Technology Building, Atrium.**
  - **Thursday, October 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Charles Hall.**
- Our student blog got a revamp! [Visit the Ridgeback Student Voices website](#) and learn more about our online space where students share their stories, advice and passions with one another. Check out the brand new podcast, [Spilling the Tea on Your Degree](#).
- Are you interested in meeting students from different cultures? Or looking to improve your English speaking and listening skills? You should attend

Conversation Café! You can drop in on **Thursdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in Shawenjigewining Hall, Room 223** for the opportunity to meet students and learn about other cultures. [Learn more on the Conversation Café web page.](#)

- Take a virtual tour or see our Indigenous art installations in person! [Download the Oshawa Tourism SmartGuide app](#) today, and search for **Ontario Tech University – Charles Hall Indigenous Art Tour** to get started.

## Equity and Inclusion



- **RISE** (Respecting Individuals, Supporting Equity) sessions are back for the fall 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 on the RISE web page.](#)
- **Student Centred Spaces** are running throughout the fall semester. [Pride Space](#) offers a safe place where 2SLGBTQ+ students and allies can unite, support each other and participate in fun activities. This safe gathering allows you to build connections, explore vital topics and engage in fun activities. Our [Trans and Non-Binary Student-Centered Space](#) offers a unique opportunity for trans and non-binary students to connect and strengthen community bonds. Join us in fostering understanding, unity and support this semester bi-weekly on **Wednesdays until November 29.**
- **#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.](#)

## Athletics and Wellness



- [The Living Room Community Art Studio](#) has partnered with our university to give you a creative break and enjoy some self-care. The Creative Wellness Hive is a chance for you to make and share art for free! If you see the blue bus on campus, stop by for some well-deserved fun and to learn more about our campus supports and services. [Learn more.](#)

- Are you interested in being a play-by-play for our Ridgebacks? Athletics and Recreation is looking for a new play-by-play talent to cover hockey, basketball and lacrosse broadcasts on [OUA.tv](#), with weekly games appearing on Rogers TV Durham. You can apply by sending your resume to [shaun.mcleod@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:shaun.mcleod@ontariotechu.ca) by **Friday, October 20**.
- With food prices rising, eating healthy on a budget can be tough. However, maintaining a balanced nutritious diet that includes fruits and vegetables doesn't need to be expensive! Join Holistic Nutritionist Sylvia Emmorey for nutrition sessions, where she'll provide practical tips for optimizing your nutritional consumption while on a tight budget. Sylvia will be demonstrating how to make a variety of smoothies that participants can enjoy! [Register on the Student Life Portal](#).
- Student Mental Health Services offers a range of groups, workshops and events to support your mental health. If you're interested in attending, you can [register](#) now.
- **Campus Connected** is a workshop for students, staff and faculty to learn how to engage with others with an attitude of caring and kindness, as well as listen with empathy and without judgement. [Learn more and register for a workshop](#).

## Money Matters



### Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP)

2023-2024 Fall semester OSAP is now available - [Apply now](#)

- Confirmation of enrolment began the week of **August 21**. Check your status on the [OSAP website](#) to see if your funding has been released.



- Check [MyOntarioTech](#) for your tuition account balance and for your net cost view by term. This will show if you owe any tuition fees after your OSAP funds are applied.
- Your course load, program and year of study reported on your OSAP application must match your Ontario Tech course registration for OSAP to be released per semester. If these details **do not** match, there will be a delay in your funding. Contact us if you need to make updates.
- Once your enrolment is confirmed, it takes **up to 10 working days** for the funds to reach the university and/or your bank account.
- Continually monitor the status of your 2023-2024 OSAP application and remember to make all necessary updates with the [Student Awards and Financial Aid office](#).

## Student Awards

### 2023-2024 fall General Bursary application is now open

- The General Bursary application for the fall is now available for students on [MyOntarioTech](#). To apply, navigate to **current students** and the **student awards and financial aid tab**, and scroll down to the **student awards and financial aid box**. Select **apply for bursaries and donor awards** to proceed. Be sure to check your fall term payment deadlines on [MyOntarioTech](#) as well.

## Other News



### 3D Printing workshops

- The Library is hosting a series of hands-on introduction to 3D printing workshops! You'll learn how to find free 3D design files, customize them using free software and get your file ready printing. Register for the following dates:
  - [Thursday, November 2 from noon to 1 p.m.](#)
  - [Tuesday, November 21 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.](#)
- Don't know how long you should hold onto your research data for? Not sure if putting your research data on an external hard drive is data management? Attend the [RDM: What's the Deal with Data Management](#) workshop on **Friday, October 20 from 10:10 to 11 a.m.** You'll learn about best practices for research data management, how effective research data management relates to grants and funding, and how to get started on creating a research data management plan. [Register.](#)

#### Food and drink on campus:

- Feeling hungry in between classes? Hunter's Kitchen has it all! We're located on the main floor of the Business and Information Technology Building and is open **9 a.m. to 6 p.m. from Monday to Thursday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays.**
- As the weather cools down, cozy up with a steaming cup of coffee or tea, and explore a delightful selection of beverages and treats as you study at our Tim Horton's location in Shawenjigewining Hall, open **Monday to Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.**



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