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Ridgeback Report



- Join the Indigenous Education and Cultural Services team for [Treaties Recognition Week](#). These events aim to provide insights into the significance of treaty rights across Turtle Island. This annual week serves as a platform for acknowledging the spirit and intent of treaties, fostering understanding among students, and educating the Ontario Tech campus community about treaty rights and relationships. [Register for the events](#) taking place the week of **November 5 to 11**.

Academic Support



- November is Academic Writing Month! The [Student Learning Centre](#) is offering a number of events to help improve your academic writing and assignments. [Learn more and register for the events](#).
- 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.

- Looking to improve your professional writing skills? Our Career Centre and Student Learning Centre are hosting a professional cover letter and email writing workshop on **Wednesday, October 26 in Shawenjigewining Hall, Room 223**. [Learn more and register](#).
- [The Teaching and Learning Centre \(TLC\)](#) is hosting bi-weekly virtual drop-in sessions until **Friday, December 1** 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**.
- Join us for the [Transferable Skills workshop](#). You will learn why transferable skills are important, how to identify the transferable skills you have developed and how to communicate these skills on your resumé.

- **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](#).
- Embrace digital wellness with [Wavemakers](#)! Wavemakers is a free virtual career building program that gives you a head start to your career. Sharpen your skills, build your network and meet with top Canadian employers. Each student that participates has the chance to win a \$2000 scholarship. Don't miss out on this great opportunity and [apply today](#)!

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 **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 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.**
- Bannock and Books is back with a new book: You Are the Medicine: 13 Moons of Indigenous Wisdom, Ancestral Connection, and Animal Spirit Guidance by Asha Frost. [Register to join us for the Sharing Circle](#) on **Monday, December 4 from 3 to 4:30 p.m.** Asha Frost will be joining virtually to answer questions and engage in our discussion!

- 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



- Equity Awareness Week is coming up **November 13 to 16!** Stop by the information booths in the **Shawenjigewining Hall and Charles Hall, Atriums** all week long from **11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Join us as we spread awareness about equity-related topics such as 2SLGBTQ+ Inclusion, Anti-Ableism, Anti-Islamophobia, Anti Racism, Classism, Health Equity, Feminism and First Generation Student Support. [Learn more](#).
- Afternoons with SEE runs weekly on **Tuesdays 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.

- **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 LivingRoom 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. [Visit the mental health events web page for more information.](#)

- 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](#).
- For the tenth semester, Student Mental Health Services has collaborated with Ontario Shores to offer the [Recovery College program](#). Discover mental health, wellness and your passions with us. We blend lived experiences and professional expertise to empower you in managing challenges and pursuing your dreams. [Learn more and register](#) for a journey of hope, empowerment and meaningful connections.
- **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.](#)
- Are you an artist located in Durham Region (or with a strong connection to the Region) interested in gaining public art experience? [Durham Region and STEPS Public Art](#) are seeking 16 artists to submit digital artwork (including high resolution photographs of your paintings, etc.) to animate traffic control boxes at street corners throughout the Region. This is a paid opportunity to expand your public art experience. [Learn more.](#)

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.**



Tech

Ontario Tech University
2000 Simcoe Street North
Oshawa, Ontario L1G 0C5
Canada