

Ridgeback Report



- Ontario Tech has an amazing story to tell and it starts with our people! As we strive to live up to our values of becoming a university where every person belongs, we need to have a better understanding of who we are as a community.

You are encouraged to participate in Ontario Tech's first [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion \(EDI\) Self-Identification \(Self-ID\) Survey](#). Responses from the survey will be used to highlight and address barriers affecting students, staff and faculty. The data collected through the survey will also help inform improvements to student programming and services.

The survey is confidential and voluntary; it will take less than 5 minutes to complete. If you have questions visit the [Inclusive Ontario Tech web page](#) to review a FAQ, or email the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at inclusive@ontariotechu.ca.

Academic Support



- Course registration is open for 2022 fall and winter semesters. Check out our [course registration guide](#) for information on:
 - How to register online and via the mobile app
 - Planning your schedule
 - Previewing available courses
 - Registration how-to videos and important resources

If you have trouble creating your **course schedule**, your Academic Advisors can help! Attend one of their daily virtual drop-in sessions.

- To locate your session:
 1. Select your faculty from our [Academic Advising web page](#).
 2. Select your year level.

3. Click **Join Virtual Drop-In** to attend during one of the available listed times.

- As our fall and winter semesters quickly approach, make sure you familiarize yourself with our [important dates and deadlines](#).

Career Readiness



- The [Part-Time Job Fair](#) is happening on **Thursday, September 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m** in the Shawenjigewining Hall Atrium. Bring your resumé and come chat with various employers, including the City of Oshawa, Compass Early Learning and Care, and Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care.
- The TD Bank Information and Recruitment Session is happening on Tuesday September 12 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. on campus in Shawenjigewining Hall room 038. Hear from the TD Early Talent team, and meet with recruiters, business leads and senior executives. Space is limited so register in advance on the [Student Life Portal](#).
- The Career Centre and Devant have joined together to provide career supports for international students. [Check out, and register](#) for all the great workshops that are happening in September.

Community



- Take your orientation week Downtown with the [Oshawa Orientation Experience 2022](#), September 10 from 3 to 10:30 p.m. an EPIC downtown celebration for incoming students with food trucks, dance party, freebies and more!
- [The Visiting Elder Program](#) provides the university with an opportunity to learn from an Indigenous Elder. Elders are important members of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit communities and are recognized for their knowledge, experience, wisdom, harmony and balance. Pat Green will be hosting virtual sessions the week of **October 3 to 7**. [Register](#) for a visit today!
- [Bannock and Books](#) is an Indigenous book club series designed to explore Indigenous culture and ways of knowing. This featured book for the September Sharing Circle is **Beyond the Orange Shirt Story by Phyllis Webstad**.

[Register](#) for your copy of the book and the Sharing Circle, hosted by [Virginia Barter](#), a Toronto based Métis/Cree writer, musician and filmmaker on **Monday, September 19 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

- **safeTALK** is a three-hour suicide alertness program that prepares community members to be suicide alert helpers. [Register](#) for this single day, three-hour training session that must be attended in-person. safeTALK participants will learn that opportunities to help a person with thoughts of suicide are sometimes missed, dismissed and avoided and will learn the TALK steps - Tell, Ask, Listen and Keep Safe.
- **Conversation Café** runs on Thursday's from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in SHA 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.
- **Recovery College** is a collaboration between Ontario Tech University and Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences. Three courses will be held over the winter semester and will provide education about mental health and wellness, and help people to discover or rediscover passion, hope and meaning. To view the course descriptions and register, [visit the mental health groups web page](#).

Equity and Inclusion



- **Tuesday, September 6 through Friday, September 9**, Student Engagement and Equity information booths will be stationed across north and downtown campus locations to welcome new and returning students to campus. Stop by to say hello, ask questions and learn more about the supports we offer.
- [Man|Made](#) is a 5 session Program facilitated by Durham Rape Crisis Centre (DRCC). This program is open to anyone who identifies as male and students who sign up must be able to attend all 5 sessions. The group focuses on facilitated conversations and peer modelling to demonstrate and discuss healthy masculinity, sexuality and contribute to a world without violence. If you are interested in [registering](#), you must commit to attending all 5 sessions.

- **#Let's Talk 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. Part of building a culture of consent and respect on campus is providing space for conversations like these.
- Join us via social media and at booths across campus throughout **#wegetconsent** awareness week as we spread awareness about consent and sexual violence prevention during Canada's first National Consent Awareness Week. Look out for our booths the week of **September 19 to 23 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
- **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.](#)

Athletics and Wellness



- Free pizza at every Ridgebacks soccer, hockey and basketball home games! Check out [schedules online.](#)
- Interested in playing varsity sports? Tryout dates are [online.](#)
- Campus Recreation offers recreational and competitive intramural programming in a variety of sports throughout the fall and winter semesters – all students and skills levels welcome. Look out for information on how to sign up.
- **The Better Together Series** in collaboration with Durham College has a variety of events taking place throughout the year that are aimed at helping students make connections. View the full list of [events](#) and register on our Mental Health events webpage.
- [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. Come out for a walk to restore your concentration, uplift your mood, decrease your stress and be a part of your campus community. All students, staff and faculty are invited to participate. Please dress for the weather, wear appropriate

shoes for walking and bring a water bottle! View the schedule of walks on the [Wellness Walks website](#).

Money Matters



Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP)

- [Fall OSAP Now Available!](#) Confirmation of enrollment began the week of August 22. 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 our office if you need to make updates.
- Once your enrolment is confirmed, it takes up to ten working days for the funds to reach the university and/or your bank account.
- Continually monitor the status of your 2022-23 OSAP application and remember to make all necessary updates with the Student Awards and Financial Aid office.

Student Awards

- The General Bursary application is now open! The application can be found on [MyOntarioTech](#), within the Student awards and financial aid box on the Student awards and financial aid tab under Current students.

Other News



Universal Transit Pass (U-Pass): A Universal Transit Pass (U-Pass) fee will be charged for the 2022-2023 academic year for all eligible, full-time students. The digital U-Pass will be issued to eligible students on August 31 through the [PRESTO E-Tickets mobile app](#). Eligible students will receive an email invitation to their ontariotechu.net email at that time. For more information, visit our [U-Pass web page](#).

Ontario Tech Ucard:

- **New students:** [Apply for your Ontario Tech Ucard online now](#) and get access to your digital Ucard through the [Ontario Tech mobile app](#).
- **Returning students:** Use your existing physical card and/or digital Ucard on-campus. If you haven't already done so, download the [Ontario Tech mobile app](#) to access your digital Ucard.



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