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Ridgeback Report



- **Further Education Week** is coming up **September 25 to 28!** Each day there will be a virtual panel featuring different industries, which will consist of alumni from various fields sharing their experience in post-graduate education. The **Further Education Expo** is being held in person on **Thursday, September 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** where you'll have the opportunity to connect with different institutions and get answers to your post-graduate questions related to programs, applications and processes. [Visit the website to learn more.](#)

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.
- 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](#).

- Visit the [Information Technology Services](#) website and learn how to [download course-specific software](#) for the fall and winter terms.
- The [Student Learning Centre](#) offers services throughout the fall semester, including peer tutoring, math, science and writing support. You can book an appointment on the [Student Life Portal](#) or visit the [website to find drop-in times](#).

Career Readiness



- Don't miss the chance to learn about life at Microsoft and network with their employees. [Microsoft Canada](#) is always looking for top talent that can bring clarity, create energy and drive impact. Microsoft Canada is currently hiring for winter and summer co-op roles, and their new grad program—the Aspire Experience. If you're interested in learning more, [register](#) to attend the Microsoft Canada #CoastToCoast virtual information session on **Monday, September 25 from 5 to 7 p.m.**
- 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 September.
- **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 workshop today! You can also book an appointment on the [Student Life Portal](#) for any of our [one-on-one supports](#).

RBC workshops:

- Do you need help navigating the world of finances? Join us for the [International Student workshop](#) on **Wednesday, September 20** from **1 to 3 p.m.** in **Shawenjigewining Hall, Room 024**. Here you'll learn information on banking in Canada, understanding and building credit, and fraud risk and prevention.
- On **Wednesday, September 27** attend the [It All Adds Up to Savings workshop](#) from **1 to 3 p.m.** in **Shawenjigewining Hall, Room 024**. Learn skills that will help you achieve your financial goals like budgeting, basic banking, how credit works, debt repayment, building a credit history and savings.

Community



- Sign up and join Assistant Vice President, Ruth Nyaamine, for a Diversity Inclusion and Belonging Listening Sessions from **Monday, September 11 to Thursday, October 5**. [Register to secure your spot](#).
- Join us for National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day as we unite to honour the strength of Indigenous communities in Canada. Visit the educational booths at our north and downtown Oshawa campus locations from **September 25 to 28** to learn more about the impact of residential schools, wear a button and make a pledge to show your support, and spark conversations about reconciliation and fostering a better future. Visit the [website](#) for more information.
- Are you interested in sharing or learning about other cultures? Then join Cultural Links! By joining, you'll have the opportunity to:
 - **Connect** with a diverse group of students to enrich the diversity that exists in Canada and at Ontario Tech.

- **Cultivate** a broader understanding of various cultures and experiences.
- **Create** an opportunity for you to share your own cultural heritage with other students.

Fill out the [sign-up form](#) to show your interest **before Monday, September 25**.

- The **Ambassador program** is looking for you to get involved, positively contribute to the campus community and become leaders on our campus! [Register](#) for Level 1 Ambassador training to become an Ambassador, Peer Leader or Ridgeback Mentor. To register for training and see what dates are available, visit the [Ambassador web page](#).
- How does a day filled with snacks, refreshing drinks and exhilarating e-scooter rides sound to you? From **September 12 to 14, between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.**, [Brilliant Catalyst](#) is hosting an extravaganza in the ACE Parking Lot. By attending, you'll enjoy an array of snacks and drinks, as well as free e-scooter rides, all courtesy of Brilliant Catalyst. Thanks to our fantastic event partner, [SCOOTY](#), you can zoom around and add some extra zing to your experience. Take advantage of this golden chance to explore, learn and network in a lively and fun-filled setting. [Register](#) today and join the excitement!
- Earn **\$325** to ignite your passion for entrepreneurship and make a real impact with the **Catalyst Challenge!** Join our [annual challenge](#) from **September 18 to 29**, where students from all disciplines come together to tackle pressing real-world issues using entrepreneurial thinking. This year's focus is on accelerating climate action and advancing the United Nations sustainable development goals. The deadline to register is **Friday, September 15**. [Learn more and secure your spot and register on the waitlist today!](#)
- Bannock and Books is back! The September book club feature is **Five Little Indians** by Michelle Good. Join us in person or virtually for the Sharing Circle on **Thursday, September 21 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.** We will be serving Bannock! [Register to secure your spot.](#)

- 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.](#)

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 from October 4 to 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.](#)

- Join us via social media and at booths across campus throughout [#WeGetConsent awareness week](#) as we spread awareness about consent and sexual violence prevention. Look out for our booths the week of **September 18 to 21 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

Athletics and Wellness



- 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.](#)
- Check out [Ontario Tech's Health and Wellness Recipes book](#). Have a recipe you want to share with the university community? [Submit it to us](#) to have it featured in upcoming promotional materials!

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



- [The Office of Campus Infrastructure and Sustainability](#) is running a [survey](#) to see how much Ontario Tech students know about sustainability. [Complete the survey](#) for a chance to win one of multiple **\$25 gift cards** to either Hunter's Kitchen

or Tim Horton's. If you have any questions or concerns about this survey, please contact sustainability@ontariotechu.ca.

- If you're looking for locally grown produce this summer, Durham College is hosting a Farmers Market at **South Village Courtyard on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** All students are welcome and encouraged to stop by!

Ontario Tech Ucard:

- If you have not submitted your photo for use for your digital Ucard, visit the [Ontario Tech Ucard web page](#) for instructions. Follow our [photo upload requirements](#) to avoid having your photo rejected.
- Without a photo, your digital Ucard is invalid and **will not** be considered an acceptable ID for exams, tests, etc.
- To access your digital Ucard, download and sign into the [Ontario Tech Mobile app](#).

Universal Transit Pass (U-Pass):

- The U-Pass fee will be charged each semester to eligible, full-time students.
- The fall U-Pass is valid from **September 1 to December 31**, and is 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](#).



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