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Ridgeback Report



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.
- [Register](#) to attend informative sessions (virtually or in person) from our guest speakers Kevin Lamoureux, Elder Dorothy Taylor and Elder Dr. Shirley Williams on **Friday, September 29**. Visit the [website](#) for more information.

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.

- The Library offers robust online and digital services to help you succeed in your studies. 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)
- 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](#).
- 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



- **Further Education Week** is here! From **September 25 to 28** 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.](#)

- The [Teaching and Learning Centre](#) is partnering with eCampusOntario to offer a micro-credential in **Digital Fluency for Online and Hybrid Learners** starting **September 25 to December 8**. Students who complete the micro-credential will build skills in digital file management, content creation, safe communication and effective online research. [Sign up today.](#)
- On **Wednesday, September 27** attend RBCs [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.
- The [Employment Readiness Program](#), running **Tuesdays from October 17 to 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



- 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](#).
- Explore tactics to combat racism, engage in panel discussions and connect with others through cultural arts and crafts activities with our Equity Advocate Workshops on Anti-racism and Classism on **Tuesday, October 3 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.** [Visit the equity events web page for more details.](#)
- 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.
- 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](#) on the [Ridgeback Student Voices website](#).
- 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.](#)

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.](#)

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



- On **Thursday, September 28**, the Library is hosting a [3D printing workshop](#) from **noon to 1 p.m. in the Library Instructional Lab, Room 132**. In this workshop, you'll have the opportunity to find free 3D design files, customize them using free software and select appropriate 3D printer settings and get your file ready to print. [Learn more and register](#).
- 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 at the event to share our 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**.

- Are you a **Faculty of Business and Information Technology** student looking for a rewarding career in business, finance or accounting, and looking to become a trusted advisor and leader? **Chartered Professional Accountants (CPA)** of Ontario has an exciting opportunity to kickstart your journey towards becoming a CPA. The **Post-Secondary Ambassador Program** gives you the opportunity to connect with experienced industry professionals, attend events to help prepare you for the dynamic world of business and more! [Learn more and sign up today](#).

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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