Trent Radio Annual Report 2024



Our Board of Directors 2023-2024



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Thank You!

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Grantors

City of Peterborough Community Radio Fund of Canada Government of Canada Trent University

Trent Radio's Aims and Objects

Trent Radio aims to:

- Maximise diversity of programming.
- Inspire creative contributions to radio programming.
- Increase awareness of the power and potential of radio.
- Encourage and inspire a positive use of radio.
- Encourage empowerment and the politics of liberation and discourage protectionism and the politics of resentment.
- Formalise its operations so as to promote fairness, clarity and efficiency in its decisions.
- Encourage access to the facilities by both the Peterborough area and Trent communities.
- Encourage the production of programming which reflects both of these communities.
- Encourage co-operation, interaction, communication and understanding within and between these communities and fully reflect this radio community to the world beyond.

| Gary Schelling | Glenn Bell | Joanna Rogers | Mary Pace |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Paul Merriam | John K Muir | Robert Campbell | Graham Longford |

April 1984

Trent Radio's Charitable Purpose

- 1. The operation of a cultural & education community production and radio broadcast facility in Peterborough.
- 2. Training & support for those interested in learning of the aural arts.
- 3. The production & distribution of original spoken & other audio works.
- 4. The institution & maintenance of instruction pertaining to aural/oral theory & practice.
- 5. The provision of equipment & facilities in the furtherance of the above
- 6. Organizing & pursuing common production/performance interest & linkages with other local charitable organizations.

Programming

Established and operated by the students of Trent University, Trent Radio is designed with the production of exceptional radio in mind. Its aims and objectives include producer oriented programming and broad community participation for the production of creative local radio. Trent Radio's programmers are by definition amateurs - that is, we do radio for the love of it. This space reflects an organisation where people are learning and creating together.

Student Participation

Each Season we feel the ebb and flow of Student participation. With new academic opportunities through Cultural Studies Radio-Podcast Workshop Class, relationships being built within the School of Education, placement and internship options - here's the tide of student participation for the 2023-24 broadcast year:

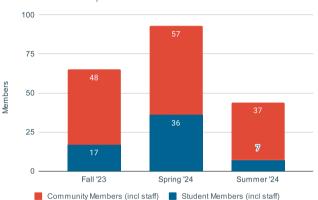
How?

Since March 2020, Trent Radio has expanded programming contribution options and internal resources to create dynamic programming blocks. Programming is a mix of Live, Taped, Archive/Repeat/Block & Local Music Playlists. When we count up the 126 hours of our broadcast week - here are the seasonal averages:

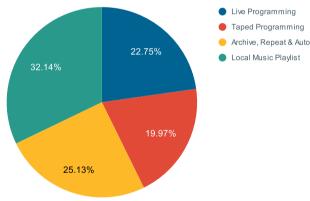
Who?

While most programming is produced by volunteer contributors, some programming priorities are met by hiring staff members to produce radio shows, others are met by using technology to create dynamic playlists.

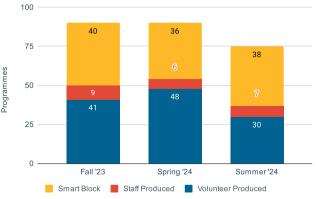
Active Members per Season





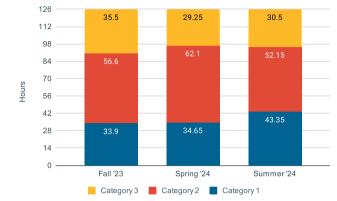






What?

From original books read on air to Canadian hip hop features - the airwaves at 92.7FM are filled with a wide variety of content topics. Trent Radio according to CRTC Content Categories looks like this:



Student Staff Positions, '23-'24

Content Categories

Local Content Producers - Reese Andison, Angela Olutunfese, Clara VanSydenborgh, Lauren Yandt: provides support and guidance to volunteer producers, and produces weekly radio programmes highlighting communities, groups or activities within the broader Trent University landscape

Indigenous Student Producer - Kendall Boissoneau-Johnson: produces regular programming to highlight, feature and promote the people and activities within Chanie Wenjack School of Indigenous Studies and the Indigenous communities within Trent University's student body.

International Radio Correspondent - Annabel Obot: promotes the experiences and achievements of Trent's International Student Community through the production of radio shows, spotlights and segments featuring students both at Trent and abroad, and the staff who support them

Radio on the Go

Produced Live from the Trent University Student Centre, this weekly live remote broadcast show interviews people from all walks of life at Trent University. Tune in to listen to the perspectives and talented voices of Trent's community.

Since February 2023, Radio on the Go has been hosted by different staff members each season: in this year, Mridul Harbhajanka in Fall 2023 and Spring 2024, and Kendall Boissoneau-Johnson in Summer 2024.

Radio on the Go is back every week this season come and watch at the Student Centre or drop us a line if you want to get involved!





Local Journalism Initiative

As an organisation that had never produced Cat11 programming in the past, this was a great opportunity for us to determine what "news production" looks like within our aims and objects as an educational facility and community radio broadcaster. Media presence at local events and engagements was received well and encouraged by community members.

Trent Radio LJI was able to secure exclusive interviews with two new small independent businesses opening in town, both with radical approaches to social issues and employment practices. These stories were very popular and shared widely as we were the only media outlet carrying the story, and they aligned with Trent Radio's priorities to focus on local, independent community building intentions.

The opportunity to learn about how to envision an editorial voice within Trent Radio's Producer Oriented Programming priorities has been a great gift to our growth and evolution within the local media landscape. Thank you to the CRFC for the support, guidance and time/work to create this opportunity for us.

Radiometres: Radio from the Stage

Our Radio From The Stage project was a complete success. After more than a decade of applying for (and receiving) CRFC grants for arts project in our town - the success of RFTS was built on the experience and growth through our organisational development and structural capacity to deliver programming of this type. We were able to leverage relationships, build new connections, and hire a coordinator to drive this project in meaningful ways with a fresh perspective. The community engagement and feedback has been overwhelming and delightful, and we are very proud of the overall success of this project.



Charlie Glasspool, a local musician, educator and arts collaborator, was selected as the Curator for our Radio From the Stage project. The following segment from his final project report sum up the experience quite succinctly:

The value of such a large-scale and ambitious community radio project cannot be measured. Radio From The Stage came to being when Peterborough, a community suffering in many real and visible ways—poverty, homelessness, addictions--, needed it the most. To have so many myriad and various audible artists involved was a triumph. Every episode brought with it a renewed sense of hope for our struggling city. That maybe the arts could really pull an entire community up and out and rally around the sounds of Radio From The Stage. What I learned is that there are sooooooo many brilliant artists, of all ages and backgrounds, in our precious city of Peterborough. There is something inexplicably magical about this format. Furthermore, the series really helped to re-establish Trent Radio as a major presenter and player in the greater Peterborough arts scene.

New Projects in Fall 2024



The Dugout

Starting in September 2024, you'll find the Dugout every Tuesday from 2-4pm in the Odette Critical Making Studio, room 401 in Bata Library. The Dugout is a dynamic space designed for students and staff to explore radio broadcasting.

Programs featured include:

Smooth Operator: Talking about news and doing live PSA's on the radio about Trent and Peterborough.

Star Tracks: New student every week coming in to play their favourite songs.

The Ramble Room: A space to 'yap' for an hour by yourself or with a friend, about almost anything you want!

Live Music from Campus

Building on the capacity & skills learned from Radio on the Stage, we've embarked on a project of hosting free concerts on campus, featuring musicians from the Trent University student community, which are broadcast live to air through the facilities of Trent Radio. These concerts both serve to provide a platform for emerging local musicians, and also as outreach opportunities for Trent Radio - and they're just a good time!

Broadcasts to date:

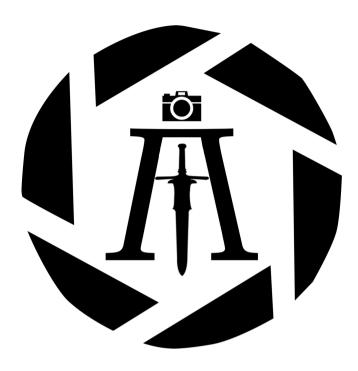
September 6, 2024 (Trent U O-Week) from Crawpaddies, featuring Madison Hill, Maggie Sabyan & the Russin' Bears, and Yackbard

November 22, 2024 from the Ceilie, featuring William Ward, Corpus Colossal, and Zoftig



Yearbook Management

Esther Vincent, admin@trentannual.ca



This year's operations were managed by returning senior staff member Beatriz Bento as EiC and Anna Lasenko as Assistant Editor, with Esther Vincent providing support as Advisor.

We had a full compliment of staff and continued the "Communications Officer" position that was initiated during COVID to communicate with clubs and groups to garner content. This position has developed and for the 2023-24 year included composing short blurbs to accompany each event represented in the book. This has turned out to be very popular with readers so the position and this function of it will be kept.

We added another new position in the spring of 2024: Digitization Assistant. The Digitization Assistant is working in the Library Critical Maker Space using their scanners to digitize all previous yearbooks to display on the Trent Annual web site. This position will also continue into 2024-25 and future years with the possibility of scanning other department's historical documents (Alumni, Trent Archives) to possibly added to a "blast from the past" section of the book and/or website.

Discussions with Trent Archives also included plans for collaborating on archiving staff photographers' original photographs for future reference. Additional discussions and plans were developed to begin the process of creating an online yearbook that will be updated with staff contributions and enhanced content beyond what appears in the printed book.

Anna Lasenko was appointed Editor in Chief for the 2024-25 year. Beatriz Bento moved to the position of Assistant Editor as there were no staff interested in taking the position. It is expected that returning junior staff from 2023-24 or new staff hired in 2024-25 will move into these positions for the following year.

Anna Lasenko, Beatriz Bento, and Esther Vincent will form the management core 2024-25 production year.

Directors' Report

Jill Staveley & Rob Hailman, info@trentradio.ca

Trent Radio changes in a wide variety of ways and somehow stays exactly the same. This is a phenomenon that I have witnessed and learned to accept without question every year since I started taking part in this radio adventure in the Summer of 2000. The change is the constant, the radio community is not static, but the current is cyclical, and the overall experience is repetitive and mundane while simultaneously being unique and terribly exciting. It's a part of the human condition, which is the core element that fuels Trent Radio: human participation.

It's my perspective that growth has never been the priority or the goal. Exploration and engagement are the key elements to the core values of this radio experiment.

Trent Radio is like a soda-pop fridge at a corner store. Every shift (season) we will stock it up with whatever we have on hand, and folks will consume what they want along the way. Some things will run out and go on back order. Other things will never seem to deplete. But the fridge never gets bigger, it just keeps getting filled back up with new varieties and options. That's Trent Radio. It will never get bigger - and we'll just keep filling it up with more radio, producers, music, information and community.

When Trent Radio is at its best, working here feels a bit like surfing. I walk through the door of Trent Radio House and immediately I'm trying to keep my balance riding waves pushing me in every direction: the passion and creativity of our community of staff and volunteers; the questions (or cries for help) from programmers unsteady at the mic but excited to take risks; programming that makes me stop what I'm doing and pay attention to be curious, or confused, or inspired; and the sort of weird ideas you only hear coming from around Trent Radio's kitchen table.

Sometimes bits of the surfboard fall off, which if anything just goes to show this isn't a great metaphor. If I'm really lucky, I finish the day having managed to get somewhere close to where I had hoped.

It's often beautiful, sometimes stressful, always exciting, and I'm never fully in control. I'm not sure I'd know what to do if I was. While we have our systems and policies and practices, our work is to sustain Trent Radio so it can be 100 different things to 100 different people, from moment to moment. Building sustainable infrastructure to manage and organise each new season without (as much) panic has been an important accomplishment. The chaos of COVID-19 lockdowns sent Trent Radio on a journey of creating sustainable systems for all aspects of programming - administrative compliance, pre-recorded content submissions, remote recording and broadcasting using zoom.

We're currently in a position where we can look back on the incredible developments that have happened within Trent Radio's internal systems, processes and structures and be proud of our work. It is also time to look forward to the next steps in building a sustainable future for Trent Radio that incorporates core values, accessible spaces and participation opportunities, and enhanced community connections and relationships. We seek to create more arts participation opportunities while actively building relationships with local businesses and organisations to engage and amplify their contributions to the health and well-being of our community.

> Within all of our accomplishments in recent years, we can also see the work ahead of us. More and more live programming has joined a schedule that continues to hold many excellent pre-recorded & remotely-produced programmes - while barriers to accessible participation remain, be they physical, technical, or financial. Our effort to create meaningful student jobs has rewarded us with dedicated and passionate staff, and our commitment as a Living Wage Employer has inspired others in the Trent and Peterborough community to work towards better wages - while we strive to create more meaningful opportunities to participate in Trent Radio, especially for the broader student community. We've started to build a long-term financial reserve to ensure our sustainability, and invested a portion of it ethically here within our community - while much remains to be done to invest in our own building and studios.

I'm honoured to work as part of the Trent Radio Community, to strive to maintain core values of inclusion and opportunity, to promote the power & potential of radio, and to be inspired by the wealth of contributions that soar through the airwaves each day, week and season. I look forward to continuing the work to sustain and enhance our radio community, and to include as many voices as possible.

> As ever, the past year has been full of many challenges. I've learned a great deal, accomplished much I'm proud of, and been sustained by the purpose and passion of this community of weird and wonderful broadcasters. It remains a privilege to be trusted with this work, and to have the opportunity to do it in such a great organization.

Jill Staveley Director of Programming Rob Hailman Director of Operations

President's Report

Howdy Radio Fam,

It has been an exciting and productive year for Trent Radio, filled with creative energy and meaningful growth. We've stayed true to our commitment to generating diverse, producer-oriented programming.

This year, we hosted Trent Radio socials and Open Mic Radio events, providing a welcoming space to gather and share our voices. During Record Production Month (RPM), Trent Radio served as a local hub, inspiring community members to create original music. Our Radio from the Stage series, curated and hosted by Charlie Glasspool, brought incredible live performances to the airwaves, while radio workshops and program proposal sessions encouraged new ideas and voices. Live music events featuring student bands also energized Trent campus.

We partnered with Habitat for Humanity through their High Impact Investment Program helping to secure Trent Radio's financial future and strengthen our local ties. Our annual fundraising event, Fundrasio, was a huge success, raising over \$14,000 thanks to the generosity of our, members, listeners and supporters.

We welcomed an enthusiastic team of new and returning student staff this year, including Reese Andison, Kendall Boissoneau-Johnson, Alex Friesen, Valentine Howard, Marina Kydd, and Nitya Nair, all of whom have brought fresh energy to our station. Eddy Sweeney continued as a local journalist, adding valuable coverage of community issues to our programming. A special thank you goes to our full-time staff, Jill Staveley, Rob Hailman, and Mridul Harbhajanka, for their hard work and dedication. Their efforts are the backbone of Trent Radio. Mridul will soon be leaving Trent Radio, we'll miss her warmth and kindness. Wishing you the best in this next chapter of your life Mimi!

The board is also seeing some changes as we enter a new year. I want to thank our current board members, Alissa Paxton, Bill Templeman, Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay, Maddie Preston, and Mikaela Lewis, for their commitment this year. And we are excited to welcome our new board members to the team.

Looking ahead, we're excited to build on this year's accomplishments. Our goals include enhancing community outreach and securing additional funding to support our new and ongoing initiatives. We're ready to embrace whatever 2025 has in store.

Overall, it's been a vibrant year! Thank you for being a part of this amazing community. Here's to another year of discovery, growth, and making waves together!

Andréanna Sullivan President and Chair

Staff 2024-2025



Rob Hailman Director of Operations



Jill Staveley Director of Programming



Mridul Harbhajanka Production & Volunteer Support Coordinator



Eddy Sweeney Local Journalist

Student Staff 2024-2025



Reese Andison Local Content Producer





Alex Friesen Local Content Producer



Valentine Howard Local Content Producer

Kendall Boissoneau-Johnson Indigenous Student Producer



Marina Kydd Administrative Assitant

Nitya Nair International Student Correspondent