

Trent Radio

Annual Report

2025

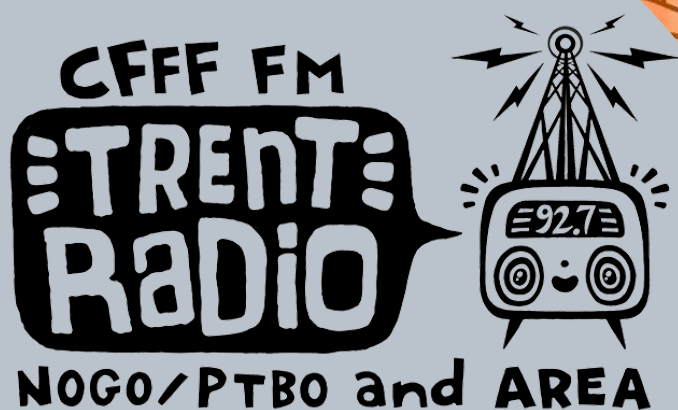


Illustration by S. Mueller

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Thank You!

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Sadleir House

Grantors

City of Peterborough
Community Radio Fund of Canada
Electric City Culture Council

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.

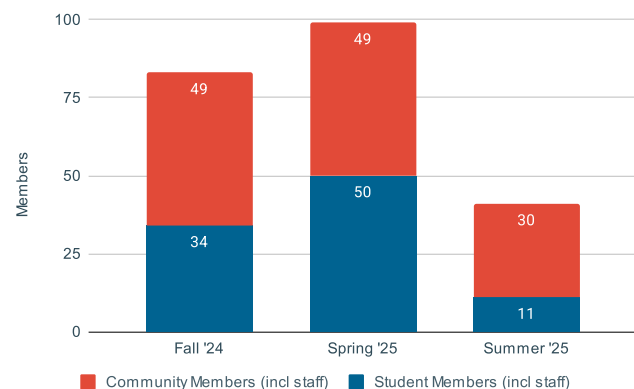
Programming

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 2024-25 broadcast year:

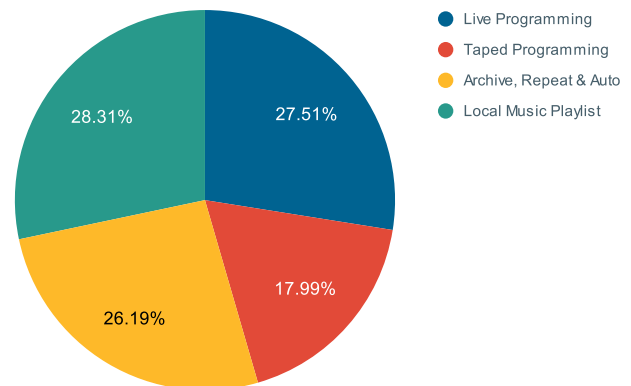
Active Members per Season



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:

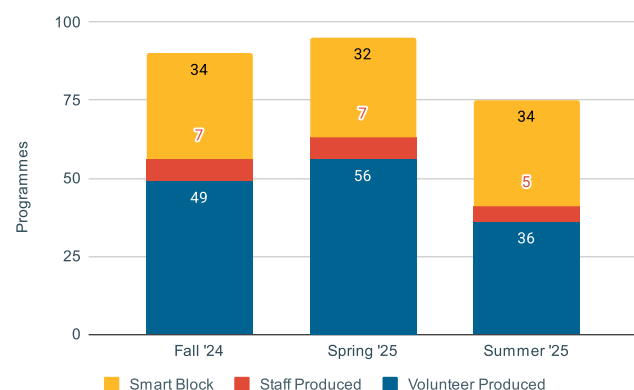
Programme Types, FA24-SU25



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.

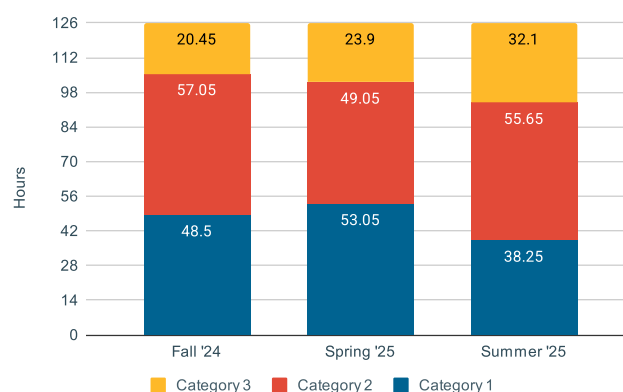
Programmes per Week



What?

From interactive Choose Your Own Adventure live book readings, interviews with local Roller Derby aficionados and fibre arts programming to Blues Themes, Canadian Hip Hop features and Old Men Talking - the airwaves at 92.7FM are filled with a wide variety of content topics. Trent Radio according to CRTC Content Categories looks like this:

Content Categories



RC4G* Peterborough



Trent Radio has always had a close and supportive relationship to RC4G* Peterborough (Rock Camp for Girls & Gender Non-Conforming Youth), and this year took the step to formalise that relationship. RC4G* Peterborough's flagship programming - Summer Rock Camp - has not run since August 2019. This was primarily due to administrative hurdles.

In February of 2025, Sadleir House agreed to become the umbrella organisation for RC4G* Peterborough to host the monthly Rock Block open jam sessions. In May of 2025 both Sadleir House & Trent Radio agreed to join forces with RC4G* Peterborough to support the return of Summer Rock Camp.

Trent Radio's Rock & Roll Fairy Godmother, Jill Staveley, officially added Summer Rock Camp to her list of Trent Radio responsibilities, which is a massive support in being able to afford the costs associated with organising, promoting and running Summer Rock Camp.

As a working group under Sadleir House, the RC4G* Peterborough Steering Committee consists of Jill Staveley (Programming Coordinator, through Trent Radio), Sam MacAndrew (Administrative Coordinator, through Sadleir House), Melissa Hennig (Volunteer) and Melinda Richter (Volunteer).

photo credit: Jordan Lyall



Student Staff Positions, '24-'25

Local Content Producers - Reese Andison, Alex Friesen, Valentine Howard: provides support and guidance to volunteer producers, and produces weekly radio programmes highlighting communities, groups or activities within the broader Trent University landscape

Administrative Assistant - Marina Kydd: provides support and guidance to volunteer producers, and directly supports the Director of Programming through the completion of administrative tasks and production tasks.

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 - Nitya Nair: 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

Trent Radio's News Room

This year, Trent Radio continued to create news programming. When Eddy's contract with the Local Journalism Initiative ended we learned to develop our own news content. Throughout the Summer season, we had three staff members regularly contributing news stories for broadcast and to be published on our news website. Our goal, especially without an LJI-funded journalist, is to, eventually, open up our newsroom for volunteers to produce news for Trent Radio. Volunteers, especially current undergraduate students, would provide a great voice for crafting news stories relevant to students and campus life.



Trent Radio also brought some news-focused education to local schools. Two classrooms of grade 7-8 students at Queen Mary Public School and a Communications class at Crestwood Secondary School each received a 4-session workshop. The workshop was designed to teach students about both radio and journalism. Each school recorded a news broadcast that played on Trent Radio. This program was a success and we look forward to future school visits.

Expanded Campus Outreach & Remote Broadcasts

Trent Radio initiated a Student Outreach Committee to focus on creating stronger relationships with students on campus, and to increase the number of student voices be featured on the airwaves at 92.7 FM. Through these initiatives we have regularly hosted live music broadcast events from campus, hosted workshops for students, worked with students to facilitate projects for credit within the classroom, broadcast weekly from campus with Radio On The Go, and hosted a very successful first year of The Dugout.

The focus of all of these initiatives is to highlight student voice & perspective, and to provide student staff and volunteers with cool opportunities to make radio from campus. We look forward to continuing to build on these successes in meaningful and sustainable ways.



Yackbard, at Crawpaddies



Marina with Zoftig, at the Ceilie



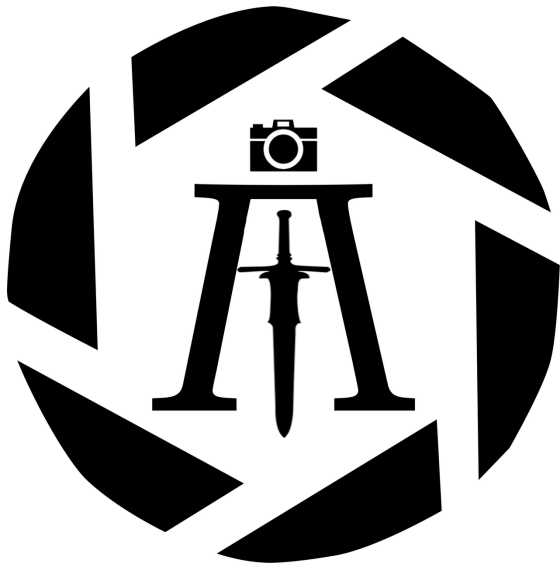
The Space Heaters at CUST Week



Mikaela and Kendall at the Dugout

Yearbook Management

Esther Vincent, admin@trentannual.ca



This year's operations were managed by returning senior staff members: Anna Lasenko as EiC, Beatriz Bento as Assistant Editor. Esther Vincent continued to provide support as Advisor.

The 2024-25 book was considerably larger than in recent years: 239 pages for 24-25 compared to 119 pages in 2020-21. This increase is a testament to the value of the new-ish "Communications Officer" position and staff social media efforts, which led to greater engagement by clubs, groups and colleges. We are receiving more requests for our photographers to attend events.

A new position for 2024-25, Digitization Assistant, was filled during the first term by Riley Swanton. Riley scanned approximately half of our existing print yearbooks. In the second term, Ellie Dyck was hired as Digitization Assistant and continued this work in the Library Critical Maker Space, digitizing previous yearbooks for display on the Trent Annual website.

In September of 2024, another new position, Digital Developer, was added. Hashibul Hussain was hired for this position and worked directly with advisor Esther Vincent to research and develop a new website framework that will not only present past yearbooks and activities, but also post updates on current yearbook activity.

This research sparked discussion about what an online yearbook could be. As a result of this discussion, the project has temporarily shifted to archiving all of the Annual's past digital files —primarily photographs—to create a comprehensive archive of everything we have and will accumulate in the future. Once this archiving process and protocol is complete, it will be integrated into the new online yearbook, providing users with the option to search the archive for images and information about past events at Trent.

Both the Digital Developer and the Digital Assistant continued their work during the 2025 summer term, a first for the Trent Annual Yearbook. Because their projects are short-term, we decided to retain these positions to take advantage of the skills these two staff members have brought to the digitization project.

Jenna Scott was appointed Editor in Chief for the 2025-26 year. Tehya Foster shifted to the position of Assistant Editor. Jenna Scott, Tehya Foster, and Esther Vincent will form the management core for the 2024-25 production year.

Directors' Report

Jill Staveley & Rob Hailman, info@trentradio.ca

Trent Radio 2025...how would I describe it to my former Trent Radio self just starting up as the Digital Ingest Clerk back in April 2003? Well, I'd say that it's mostly exactly the same, but that it smells a bit nicer with the old carpet gone, you could host a dance party in the bathroom now because it is so big, and that the porch is still about to fall off. And the people are still very kind and intentional.

When I had my first show back in the summer of 2000 - never did I imagine that I'd raise my kids at Trent Radio House and continue to learn and grow as a member of this vibrant and constantly changing community. But here I am - connected to personal growth and the opportunity to convince other community members to share their amazing ideas. I am grateful that I get to learn with and be accountable to this incredible radio community.

It truly is an immense privilege to be trusted with holding some of the chaos that is Trent Radio. It might not always feel like such a privilege when I find myself deep in the minutia of policy and financials, or when I'm trudging in on my day off to tend to an uncooperative file server... but for every moment like that there are a dozen when I'm blown away by the creativity, passion and purpose that is so apparent in each moment of our broadcasts and each member of our community.

As a kid I moved around a lot - I mean A LOT! So the constantly changing roster of radio makers and contributors is a very familiar and comforting reality for me. Knowing that I have but one sole perspective on what Trent Radio is and how it runs. Knowing that we all have a different experience here, and take away many different lessons and opportunities as individuals - but somehow, we all experience it as a cohesive and connected collective.

I think that's part of the magic of radio - that we're all very alone doing something very visible and important together.

While much of what we do is individual and ephemeral, Trent Radio's also a place to hold and express strong opinions and big ideas about media and community. This year, Trent Radio has participated in two CRTC proceedings around radio regulations and policy, and I'm honoured to have been elected as the community radio representative on the board of the Canadian Journalism Collective.

While that work at times can feel overwhelming on top of all the day-to-day business, it's a welcome reminder that our values and perspectives - as individual radio-makers, and as a collective - are unique and valuable on both the local and national stages.

This year has been a time of sustainable growth and investing in our community relationships. Focusing on what a core staff model of 3-fulltime looks like, and how we can sustainably provide meaningful opportunities for Trent Students, local musicians, youth in our community and the organisations who provide services and opportunities that support the health and wellness of our community as a whole.

We strive to be just big enough to do super cool things - but just small enough that the focus is still on the producers who manufacture community by showing up to make radio each week.

Looking back, I'm very proud of what we've accomplished this year from our little Radio House - between increasing our presence on campus, organising more live music broadcasts, and continuing to build our knowledge and capacity for local news, we continue to make steps to better serve & reflect the Trent and Nogojiwanong communities while remaining conscious of our aims and objects and the core work of sustaining our broadcasts from day to day.

None of this would be possible or have any purpose without all of you: the staff and volunteers who share the work of keeping Trent Radio stable and sustainable as an organisation, the programmers who share their voices and ideas on-air, and the students and community members who, between memberships and donations, provide the means to support everything we do.

More than anything, I am always grateful for the people I get to work with. Rob & Eddy bring such a bright light to our community as reliable, creative and patient leaders and supporters. Our incredible Board of Directors who listen & provide meaningful feedback regarding the core operations at Trent Radio House. Our Student Staff who basically run Trent Radio House on weeknights, and who welcome our community with open arms. The Programmers who show up each week, and who connect us all through their big ideas and desire to connect.

Thank you for another incredible year.

Jill Staveley
Director of Programming

Rob Hailman
Director of Operations

President's Report

It has been an exciting year here at Trent Radio! Though perhaps that can be said for every year at a place as busy as we are.

We have continued a number of exciting projects and partnerships that began in previous years, including continuing our investment in Habitat for Humanity's High Impact Investment Program.

We have also expanded our exciting ventures in live radio from Trent University's campus and downtown Peterborough. Be that our weekly shows from campus, Radio on the Go and the Dugout providing a space for Trent students and faculty to explore what it's like to be on the radio; or our live music broadcasts throughout the school year and one off events like Arts Week. It is always exciting to explore what radio looks like outside of the studio.

Trent Radio also put forward a presentation to the CRTC this year. Presenting our unique perspective as a community radio station alongside some of the powerhouses in Canadian broadcasting.

There are exciting things on the horizon for Trent Radio that have been set up this year. Chief among them the Enabling Accessibility Grant to provide a new accessible entrance at the Parkhill entrance to the House, allowing us to continue to and further welcome and empower the community to make radio.

Thank you to staff, the people that make Trent Radio the lovely, welcoming, and exciting facility it is. This year we said goodbye to a couple graduating student staff, Kendall Boissoneau-Johnson and Reese Andison; we have also welcomed back our returning staff, Alex Friesen, Nitya Nair, and Valentine Howard; and finally a warm welcome to our new staff, Edward Gloade and Aiden Gomes. Eddy Sweeney stepped into his new role as the Programming and Volunteer Support Coordinator this summer, to great success. Of course I must also mention our incredible Directors, Jill Staveley and Rob Hailman, without whom Trent Radio would not exist as it does.

The biggest thank you goes out to this year's board: Alissa Paxton, Bill Templeman, Chukwuma Attah, Edward Gloade, Kiera Fisher, Maddie Preston, Mary McGillis, and Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay. It is because of your effort, energy, and attention to Trent Radio and the board that my job was so easy. We have accomplished so many things this year, you should be proud of yourselves and the work you have put in.

A final thank you to the membership, whether you are at every social and event, have a weekly show, or simply listen in at 92.7FM, you make Trent Radio. None of the exciting and cool things we get to do each year would be possible without you.

Mikaela Lewis
President and Chair

Core Staff 2025-2026



Rob Hailman
Director of Operations



Eddy Sweeney
Programming & Volunteer
Support Coordinator



Jill Staveley
Director of Programming



It would be impossible to talk about the staff at Trent Radio this year without mentioning the amazing work of Mridul Harbhajanka, who worked at Trent Radio from October 2021 to January 2025, first as International Student Correspondent, then as Programming & Volunteer Support Coordinator.

She played a key role in welcoming our community to Trent Radio, building relationships on campus, and developing our ideas and approaches for what a Trent Radio with three core staff looks like. While she is off on her next adventure, she will always be a part of the Trent Radio community.

We miss you, Mimi!

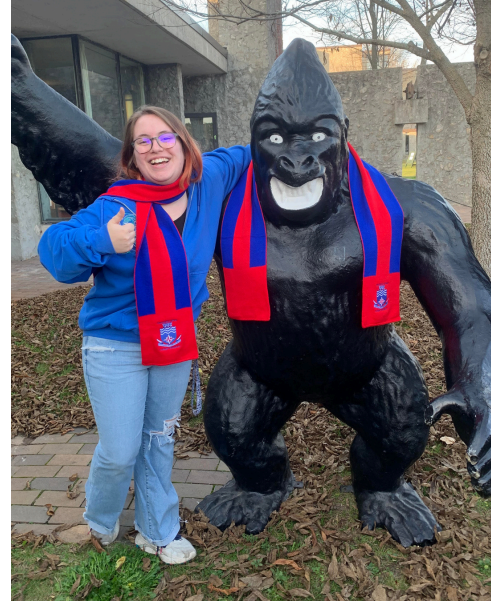
Student Staff 2025-2026



Alex Friesen
Local Content Producer



Valentine Howard
Local Content Producer



Edward Gloade
Indigenous Student
Producer



Aiden Gomes
Local Content Producer



Jadyn Maynard
Cultural Studies Intern



Nitya Nair
International Student
Correspondent