



## 1.1 Introduction

Over the past decades, the University has facilitated a number of public planning processes to guide the careful growth and stewardship of the Symons Campus. The Trent Lands and Nature Areas Plan (2021) builds upon the recommendations of the Stewardship Plan for Trent University Nature Areas (2002), the Endowment Lands Plan (2006), the Trent Lands Plan (2013), and the Cleantech Commons Master Plan (2017). The 2021 Plan takes an ecosystem approach, updating and integrating these various plans into one guiding strategic campus plan.

## 1.2 How to Use this Document

The Trent Lands and Nature Areas Plan is organized into four parts:



### Part I Foundation of the Plan

Part I of the Plan sets the context for the evolution of the Plan. It recounts the story of the land and summarizes the outcomes of the first two phases of study, including extensive natural heritage, Indigenous Traditional Knowledge, and archaeological studies.



### Part II Campus Vision and Framework

Part II outlines the campus vision and high-level principles intended to guide the evolution of the campus, crafted through an extensive engagement process with the campus, community, First Nations and Indigenous peoples, and a review of global case studies and best practices.

The framework plan identifies and provides guidance for each of the structural elements of the campus:

- The Otonabee River, which is the central defining feature of the Symons Campus, of cultural and natural significance;
- The University Green Network, representing a conceptual, connected green system that implements a systems-based approach to environmental stewardship and preservation;
- Distinct University Districts that anchor the University's institutional leadership, ingenuity and social purpose, offering an opportunity for teaching, research, and learning, as well as the potential for long-term lease revenue and economic security; and
- A mobility framework and identifiable entrances, which stitch the campus together and celebrate arrival through distinct entry points located at all four directions surrounding the campus.



### Part III Nature Areas Stewardship Plan

Part III of the Plan outlines management approaches for the stewardship of the Trent Nature Areas, a vital part of the University's commitment to preserving and honouring the natural world around us. The stewardship plan provides focus and direction for activities and actions that assist in achieving the goals of environmental stewardship and includes 'living' elements that continue to evolve and be updated based on changing conditions, implementation experience, and needs.



### Part IV Towards Implementation

Part IV outlines the processes through which the ideas and concepts that are presented in the Trent Lands and Nature Areas Plan may be implemented. It also includes a monitoring and review process that allows for the Plan to evolve as the world around us changes, maintaining the University's competitive and leadership role as our understanding, partnerships, and available technologies grow.



Throughout the Plan, the Four Directions symbol indicates contributions from Indigenous voices and wisdom.

### Common abbreviations used throughout the Plan:

TLNAP	Trent Lands and Nature Areas Plan
NASP	Nature Areas Stewardship Plan
ITK	Indigenous Traditional Knowledge
UGN	University Green Network

### Key Terms and Definitions

The Trent Lands and Nature Areas Plan applies the best and emerging land use practices and concepts. The following terms are used throughout the TLNAP:

**Regenerative design:** a system, process, or service that contributes to its own renewal and replenishment, thereby requiring little to no inputs for its maintenance. Regenerative concepts go beyond sustainability (no negative impacts) and strive for a net positive benefit.

**Resilient:** the ability of a system to recover readily from a crisis or difficult circumstance. At the core of resilience are the concepts of adaptability and responsiveness.

**Systems-based approach:** a holistic approach to land management and planning that recognizes individual natural features and their linkages, striving to conserve biological diversity, maintain ecological functions (e.g. habitat and movement of wildlife) and sustain ecosystem services (e.g. pollination, clean water, mental and physical wellbeing).