



ONTARIO TECH STUDENT UNION

Downtown Resource Guide



ot_studentunion



otsu.ca



otsu@ontariotechu.ca

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A MESSAGE FROM THE VP OF DOWNTOWN



Ryan Stoddart

VP DOWNTOWN



Hey Ontario Tech Students! Welcome to the Downtown Campus. We're excited to have you here, whether it's your first year or final.

As a smaller campus, downtown Ontario Tech students have the unique opportunity to form strong connections and grow both within the university and the surrounding community through smaller class sizes, frequent networking opportunities with staff and students, and many social and music events hosted throughout the year.

My goal as your representative for the Ontario Tech Student Union (OTSU) is to ensure that your voice is heard throughout the university, that your needs and concerns are being addressed, and that you are provided with enough opportunities to form a meaningful experience while on campus. I want you to be informed and up to date on the latest developments taking place around the downtown campus, and on any pertinent information that may affect your engagement and academic experience.

To ensure you know the latest on downtown events, services and can make the most of your engagement opportunities, I encourage you to follow [@ot_studentunion](#), [@ryan_otsudowntownvp](#) and other downtown specific instagram accounts including but not limited to: [@ot_fssh](#), [@ot_fed](#), [@_oths](#), and [@fesa.otu](#).

If you ever find yourself with questions or are wondering how to maneuver around campus, please feel free to reach out to me via instagram, email or connecting in person at Charles Hall room 109 (CHA 109).

I hope in your time at Ontario Tech you are able to find the perfect spot to study, form connections that exist well beyond your time as a student, and develop career skills that will make you proud to call yourself a Ridgeback!

ABOUT THE OTSU

Who we are

The OTSU is a student-led organization dedicated to enhancing the student experience at Ontario Tech University. We provide students with services and amenities that support physical and mental well-being, provide collaborative spaces to pursue passions and foster development, and improve student life through advocacy and leadership.

Our downtown office is on the first floor of Charles Hall (CHA 106), through the doors next to the security office and to the left.

What we do



**STUDENT RIGHTS
& ADVOCACY**



**OTSU
ESPORTS**



**ACADEMIC
APPEALS**



**CAREER
CLOSET**



**HEALTH
PLAN**



**TAX
FILING**



**GRAD
PHOTOS**



**STUDENT
WELLNESS**



**LEGAL
SUPPORT**



**CLUBS &
SOCIETIES**



**PERIOD
PROJECT**

DOWNTOWN BUILDINGS

Ontario Tech's downtown campus spans four buildings amid Oshawa's vibrant city centre—an eclectic array of cool shops, quaint cafes, theaters, parks, and museums. Downtown students are primarily in the faculties of education and social science and humanities, so if you're looking to meet like minded people, **get involved with your society!**



Charles Hall

61 Charles Street • CHA (previously DTA)

Includes classrooms, lecture halls, office space, study areas, Student Life, the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities and the Faculty of Education library, and the Social Research Centre.



Regent Theatre

50 King Street East • DTR100

A large lecture theatre for students, and hosts community and cultural events during evenings and weekends throughout the year.



Bordessa Hall

55 Bond Street • DTB

Houses the Center for Evaluation and Survey Research, the Centre on Hate, Bias, and Extremism, and the Digital Culture and Media Lab (Decimal Lab) in addition to academic spaces.



Baagwating Indigenous Student Center

151 Athol Street East • UBISC

The Indigenous Education and Cultural Services, and is a space for students to connect with Indigenous culture and resources.

GETTING AROUND

Transit

While you are a full-time student, you have access to the UPASS program, which grants unlimited travel on Durham Region Transit routes.

DRT routes that stop near the downtown campus buildings include 900 PULSE-Highway 2, 901 PULSE-Simcoe, and 902. Students can access their digital UPASS through the Presto E-tickets app, and can see real-time schedules and arrival times through [Moovit](#).*



[Download the Moovit app*](#) to see real-time schedules and arrival times for the routes below! *Not affiliated with the OTSU.

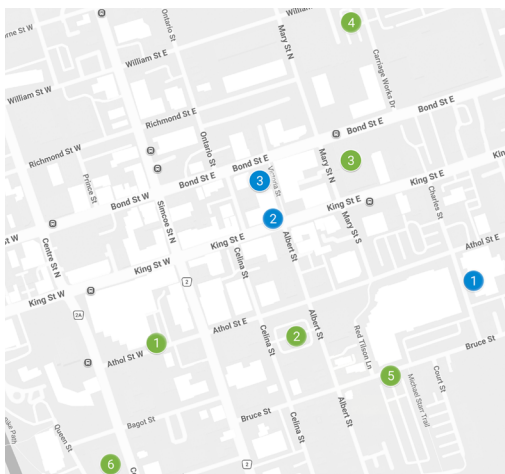
**The OTSU is not affiliated with the Moovit App*



Post-secondary students get a 40% discount on GO Transit networks. See the [GoTransitTV video](#) on how to save.

Parking

If students need parking at the downtown campus, they are encouraged to reach out to parking@dc-ot.ca for parking information at 61 Charles Street (Charles Hall). Short-term or daily parking is available at Charles Hall upon request, but may be waitlisted.



Ontario Tech Buildings

1. Charles Hall
2. Regent Theatre
3. Bordessa Hall

Parking

1. Municipal Lot 4
2. Municipal Lot 16
3. Municipal Parkade 3
4. Municipal lot 18
5. 71 Bruce Street Lot
6. Municipal Lot 50

Parking Rates

Most parking is \$1.75 per hour, with a daily maximum of \$17.50, applicable from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

NEARBY HOTSPOTS

Ontario Tech Buildings

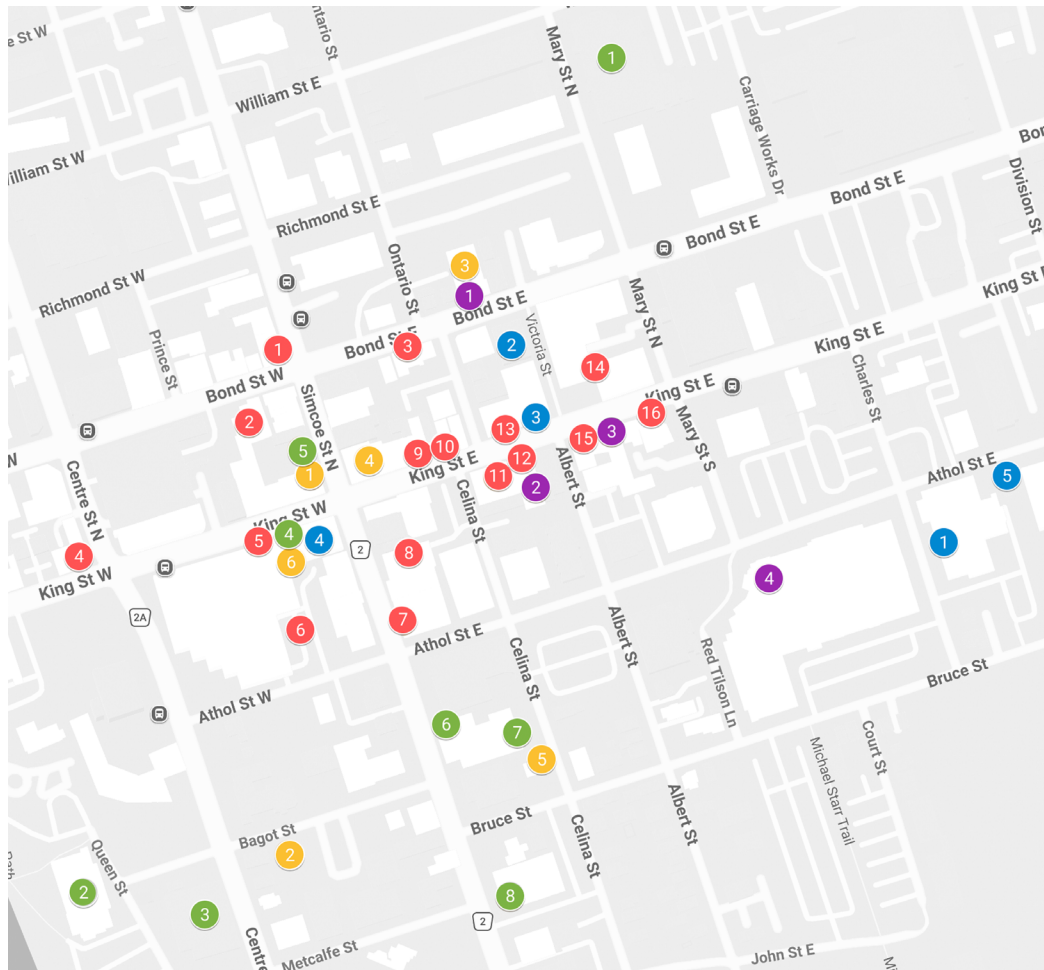
1. Charles Hall
2. Bordessa Hall
3. Regent Theatre
4. Forensic Psychology Laboratory
5. Baagwating Indigenous Student Centre

Food

1. Bollywood Tacos
2. Dosa and Biryani House
3. Poke and Pocket
4. Fusion Oshawa Kitchen
5. Uncle Fluffy
6. BanBan Korean Fried Chicken
7. Mathilda's
8. Street Momo's
9. Lucky Cho
10. Kenzo Ramen
11. Pizzamunno Oshawa
12. Smoke's Poutinerie
13. Gino's Pizza
14. Market at 70 King
15. Jentea House
16. My Roti Place

Cafés

1. Cork & Bean
2. Kareza Cafe
3. Bond St. Cafe
4. Isabella's Chocolate Café
5. Brew Wizards Board Game Café
6. The Little Bird Bakery



Things to do

1. Oshawa YMCA
2. The Robert McLaughlin Gallery
3. Oshawa Public Library
4. Addictive Hobbies & Games
5. Worlds Collide
6. Xtreme R/C & Raceways
7. Battle City Tactical Laser Tag
8. Canadian Automotive Museum

Venues

1. Bond Street Events
2. Biltmore Theatre
3. The Atria
4. Tribute Communities Centre

WELLNESS NOOK



What we do

Located in CHA 108 (directly across the hall from the VP Downtown's office) is a dedicated space for student to practice individual self-care activities, including:



MEDITATION



AROMATHERAPY



YOGA



HYDRATION
STATION



LACTATION
SPACE



QUIET STUDY
SPACE



NAP
THERAPY



ART & CREATIVE
THERAPY



MASSAGES

To learn more about the space or to book your slot, visit otsu.ca/student-wellness.

GET INVOLVED

Getting Involved Downtown

Our downtown campus is home to the student societies for the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities and the Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education. Societies, and program-specific sub-societies, are student-run groups at Ontario Tech that connect like-minded students with personal and professional opportunities. Your ancillary fees cover the cost of being a part of your society, and all students are encouraged to take part in the events and organization of their society.

Learn more at otsu.ca/societies.

Downtown Student Advisory Committee

Another great way to get involved and make an impact in your community is to take part in the **Downtown Student Advisory Committee**—a working group of the OTSU's Board of Directors to address downtown-specific concerns and opportunities.

To get involved, please reach out to your VP Downtown at VPdowntown.otsu@ontariotechu.ca.



STUDENT LIFE SERVICES

Resources

Career Centre:

careercenter@ontariotechu.ca

Get help with resume writing and interview practice, and learn about co-ops, internships and networking events.

Student Engagement & Equity:

equity@ontariotechu.ca

Provides advocacy, support, education, and resources, for inclusive, student-centred spaces.

Indigenous Education and Cultural Services:

indigenous@ontariotechu.ca

Resources, events, and workshops, and a home away from home for Indigenous students.

Student Accessibility Services:

studentaccessibility@ontariotechu.ca

Ensures students with disabilities get necessary accommodations to access education.

Student Learning Centre:

studentlearning@ontariotechu.ca

Academic support in the form of peer tutors and academic specialists, workshops, study halls and one-on-one support.

Student Mental Health Services:

studentlifeline@ontariotechu.ca

Counselling, therapy, or support groups and resources to help students overcome any challenges they face.

Creators4Change Podcast Studio:

creators4changestudio@gmail.com

A media hub that offers technical resources, mentorship, and skills-building to support podcasters, streamers, and content creators who aim to drive positive social change.

Campus Safety

Campus Walk Program

Sept. to April, Monday to Thursday from 6:30-10:30pm

The campus walk program allows students to request to be personally escorted to their car, residence, or other campus locations by trained support staff. To request a campus walk at 61 Charles Street, call 905-721-8668 ext. 5616.

STUDENT LIFE SERVICES

Experiential Learning at the Downtown Campus

At the downtown campus, experiential learning bridges the gap between theory and practice, allowing students to gain real-world experience. Through placements, internships, co-op, and community engagement projects, students in the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities gain hands-on experience that builds confidence in their capabilities outside of the classroom, as well as develops transferable skills through tangible experiences. Fourth-year students can be placed in a position related to their program through practicum (100 hours) and internships (280+ hours). Both practicum and internship placements are supported by academic work, including online discussions, seminars, assignments, and reflective journals.

Community Engagement Projects offer students the opportunity to support local nonprofit organizations, applying theoretical frameworks to meaningful, community-driven work. Many downtown campus graduates have credited their career paths to the personal and professional growth gained through applied learning opportunities provided by the experiential learning team.

Career Services Resources:

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES:

Learn more [here](#).

FACULTY OF EDUCATION:

Learn more [here](#).

STUDENT LIFE SERVICES

Academic Advising

Academic advising is here to support students through their post secondary journey. They offer the following services:

- Address questions and concerns related to all aspects of student life.
- Help you establish realistic educational goals and future planning.
- Discuss program and course selections.
- Assess and discuss your academic progress and standing.
- Help you address academic difficulties.
- Provide tips for academic success.
- Interpret and explain academic policies and procedures.
- Discuss issues affecting your academic performance.
- Connect you with appropriate campus services.
- Provide advice regarding withdrawals or adding/dropping courses.
- Provide guidance for successful progression towards graduation.

Contacts:

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES:

First-Year Social Science and Humanities

Academic Advisor: Matt Lucchese

Email: Firstyear.FSSH@ontariotechu.ca

Office: Charles Hall, third floor

First-Year Faculty of Education:

Academic Advisor: Matt Lucchese

Email: Firstyear.FSSH@ontariotechu.ca

Office: Charles Hall, third floor

Upper Year and General Academic Advising

Upper Year Academic Advisors: Alexandra Davidson, Emily Williams Bell

Email: sshadvising@ontariotechu.ca

Office: Charles Hall, third floor

Upper Year Advising

Upper-Year Academic Advisors: Susan Snelling, Rozita Bryant-Whitelaw

Email: FEdAdvising@ontariotechu.ca

Office: Charles Hall, third floor



STAY IN THE LOOP

Connect with us



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otsu@ontariotechu.ca