ONTARIO TECH STUDENT UNION

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Downtown Resource Guide

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CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE VP OF DOWNTOWN 3

ABOUT THE OTSU 4

DOWNTOWN BUILDINGS 5

GETTING AROUND 6

NEARBY HOTSPOTS 7

WELLNESS NOOK 8

GET INVOLVED 9

STUDENT LIFE SERVICES 10

A MESSAGE FROM THE VP OF DOWNTOWN

Kailey Haskell

VP DOWNTOWN

Welcome to Ontario Tech's Downtown Campus! Whether you are beginning your university journey or returning for another year, I'm so glad you're here.

The downtown campus offers a unique experience, including smaller class sizes, stronger connections with professors, and a supportive, tight-knit community of students. There is something truly special about being part of a campus that's located right in the heart of Oshawa's downtown core.

As your Vice President Downtown with the Ontario Tech Student Union (OTSU), I'm here to represent you and help build a great downtown student experience. I encourage you to explore what this campus, and the city around it, has to offer. From cute cafés and delicious local restaurants to music venues and art spaces, downtown Oshawa is full of amazing places waiting to be discovered, some of which are highlighted in the "Nearby Hotspots" section of this guide. There are also so many ways to get involved, both through the OTSU and across the university. Whether it's joining a club or society, attending events, volunteering, or sharing your ideas with us, your voice matters.

To stay updated on downtown events, services, and opportunities, follow us on Instagram at **@kailey_otsuvpdowntown** and **@ot_studentunion**, and be sure to check out our student newsletter, blog, and website for the latest info.

I hope you find this guide helpful, and I'm wishing you a meaningful and exciting year ahead. If you ever have questions, ideas, or just want to connect, reach out or stop by my office, located in room 109 of Charles Hall, during my posted office hours.

You belong here. We're glad to have you.

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
- CLUBS & SOCIETIES
- ACADEMIC APPEALS
- NUTRITION ACCESS PROGRAM
- OTSU ESPORTS
- TAX FILING
- CAREER CLOSET
- HEALTH PLAN
- LEGAL SUPPORT
- GRAD PHOTOS
- STUDENT WELLNESS
- 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 • DTR 100

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.

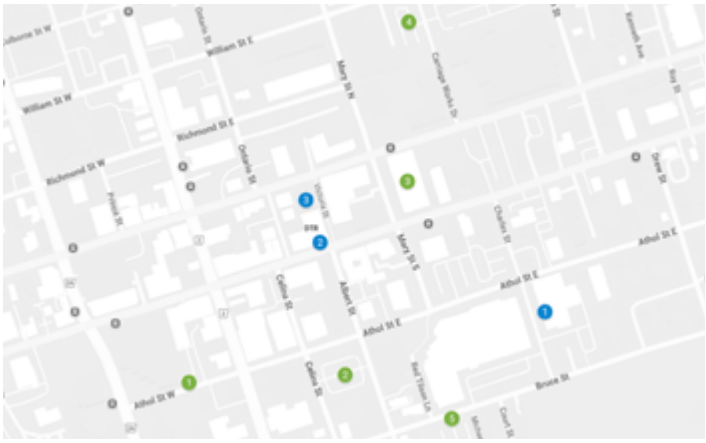
DRT routes that stop near the downtown campus buildings include 900 PULSE–Highway 2, 901 PULSE–Simcoe, and 902. Students can access their digital UPASS through the Presto E-tickets app, and can see real-time schedules and arrival times through **Moovit**.*

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 wait listed.



Ontario Tech Buildings

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

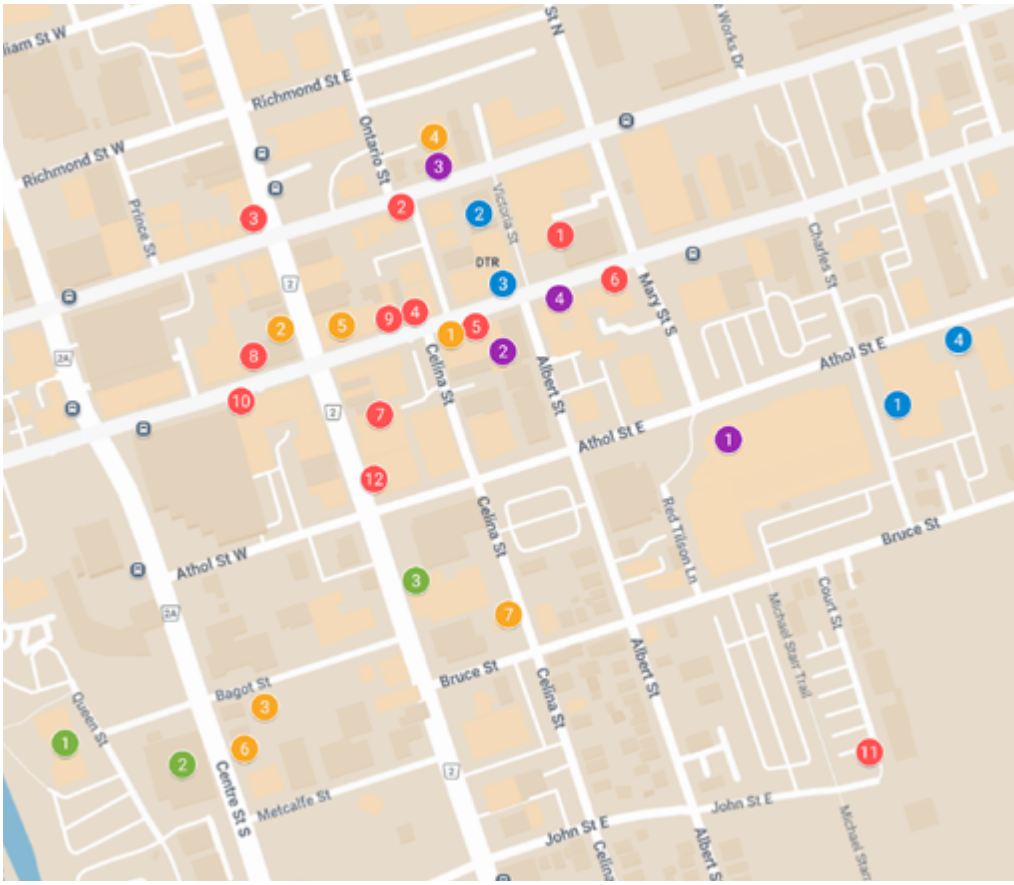
Parking

1. Municipal Lot 4
2. Municipal Lot 16
3. Parking Garage 3
4. Municipal Parkade 3
5. 71 Bruce Street Lot

NEARBY HOTSPOTS

Ontario Tech Buildings

1. Charles Hall
2. Bordessa Hall
3. Regent Theatre
4. Baagwating Indigenous Student Centre



Food

1. Market at 70 King
2. Poke and Pocket
3. Bollywood Tacos
4. Kenzo Ramen
5. Smoke's Poutinerie
6. My Roti Place
7. Street Momo's
8. Kachiguda Junction
9. Lucky Cho
10. Uncle Fluffy
11. La La D's Food Truck
12. Mathilda's

Cafés

1. TREUDAN
2. Cork & Bean
3. Kareza Cafe
4. BONDIST Cafe
5. Isabella's Chocolate Café
6. Gray & Co. Coffee Shop
7. Brew Wizards Board Game Café

Things to do

1. The Robert McLaughlin Gallery
2. Oshawa Public Library
3. Xtreme R/C & Raceways

Venues

1. Tribute Communities Centre
2. Biltmore Theatre
3. BONDIST Event Centre
4. Atria Bar & Grill

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 Campus Advisory Committee

Another great way to get involved and make an impact in your community is to take part in the **Downtown Campus 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.

STAY IN THE LOOP

Connect with us

ot_studentunion

otsu.ca

otsu@ontariotechu.ca