Trent Radio
Annual Report
2026



CFFF FM
TRENT RADIO
92.7
NOGO/PTBO and AREA

Our Board of Directors 2025-2026



Mikaela Lewis
President



Emily McLeod
Treasurer



Jacob Keogh
Secretary



Chukwuma Attah



Maddie Preston



Adelaide Quinn



Bill Templeman

Thank You!

Donors

Drew Antzis
Jane Archibald
Maria B
Luke Best
Laura Boden
Craig Cameron
Collin Chepeka
Theresa Chomko
Shane Climie
Dwayne Collins
Jeannine Crowe
Shannon Culkeen
James Cullingham
Geoffrey Daw
Rene De La Fuente
James Doran
Curtis Driedger
Sean Eyre
Robert Farr
Sarah Fine
Blake Frazer
Robert Gibson
Aiden Gomes
Pilar Gomez
Jaelynn Goodman
Michael Gray
Rob Hailman
Angel Hamilton
Mridul Harbhajanka
Dave Hawkins
Brenda Henderson
Cheryl Hill
Judy Hyland
Brooklyn Ingram
Lachlin Jibb
Judith Jordan
Liam Kennedy-Slaney
David King
Mshkiki Gitigaan Kwe
Yvonne Lai
Amanda Lamb
Chantal Langlois
Gary Lannin
Nikki Lawrence
Roy Layer
Mikaela Lewis
Miriam Liba
Ted Lindsay
John MacRae
Lucas Mason
Shirley Mather
Drea Maxwell
Emily McClung
Ryan McLean Purdon
Riley Meekin
Ty Mercer
Thomas Miller
Caileigh Morrison
Matthew Naylor
Alissa Paxton
Will Pearson
Tim Robins
Tudor Robins
Sue Sauve
Deborah Scott
the StavelEy-Watson crew
Eddy Sweeney
Bill Templeman
Laura Thompson
Lisa Trefzger Clarke
Sarah van den Berg
Ian Vansegbrook
Bee Vasey
Ziysah von Bieberstein
Barbara Woolner

Sponsors

Juniper Community Bookkeeping
Love You, Mean It
Needles in the Hay
Rapid's End Improv
Renegade Apparel
Sam's Place
Sweet Fern
Take Cover Books
Theatre on King

Grantors

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

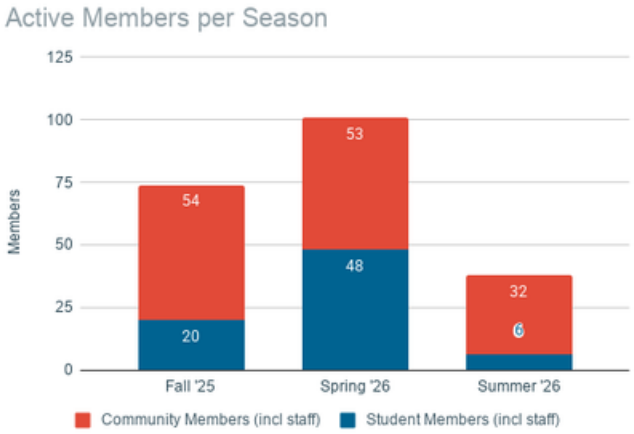
1. The operation of a cultural & education community production and radio broadcast facility in Peterborough.
2. Training & support for those interested in learning of the aural arts.
3. The production & distribution of original spoken & other audio works.
4. The institution & maintenance of instruction 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.

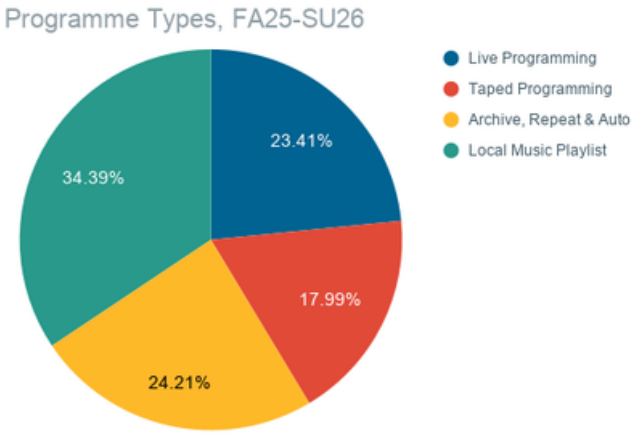
Student Participation

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 **2025-26** broadcast year:



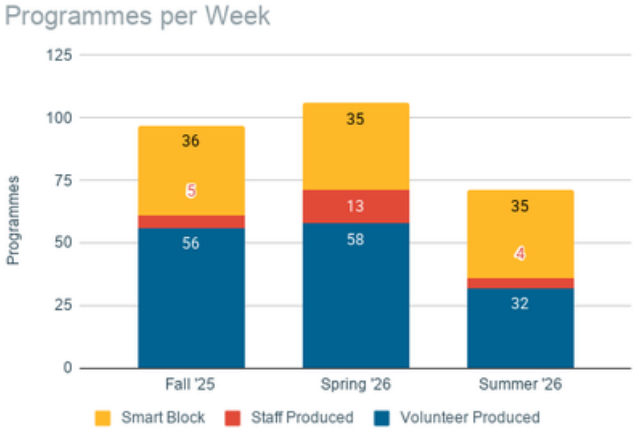
How?

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 of our broadcast week - here are the seasonal averages:



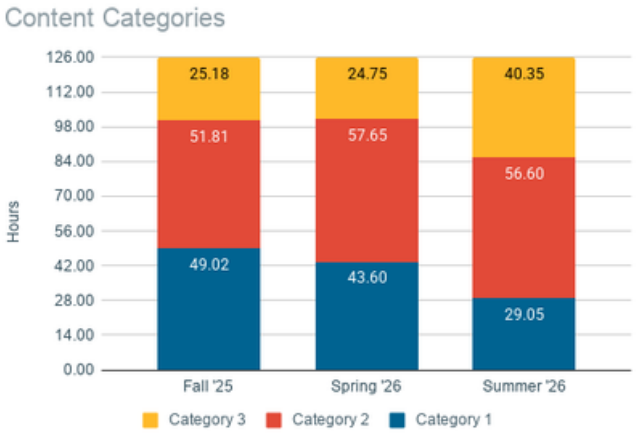
Who?

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.



What?

From ambient adventures in failure, local author weekly book readings and D&D campaigns to Blues Themes, Country Music Spotlights, Canadian Hip Hop features and Wizards on the orb - the airwaves at 92.7FM are filled with a wide variety of content topics. Trent Radio according to CRTC Content Categories looks like this:



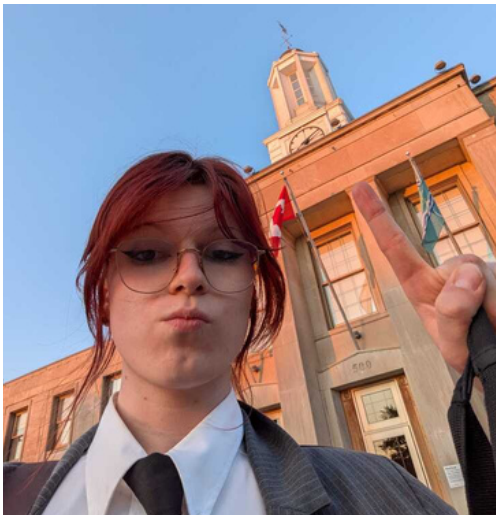
Trent Radio's Newsroom

This year, Trent Radio has continued working towards a version of a "newsroom" that works for our staff, and our plans for programming. In the absence of an LJI journalist for the majority of the year, we explored giving volunteers and part-time student staff the opportunity to create news.

These stories were published weekly on our news site and broadcast for a few weeks. Almost all of these stories covered the Trent community. Eddy acted as an editor for Trent Radio news programming, while infrequently producing his own news content.



Jill Staveley, preparing for a workshop at Queen Mary Public School



Evan Robins,
on location at City Hall

Evan Robins began as a full-time broadcast journalist funded through the Local Journalism Initiative. Since starting in April 2026, Evan has produced 3-4 news stories each week. Each story is broadcast on Trent Radio, published on our website, and published on frequency.ca.

Eddy returned to Queen Mary Public School and Crestwood Secondary School with radio and broadcast educational workshops. Each class received three in-class sessions to learn about radio, journalism, and how to write a news story. Eddy and Jill facilitated recording sessions at the end of the workshops to produce a school news broadcast. These school news broadcasts are available on news.trentradio.ca.

RC4G* Peterborough



RC4G* Peterborough (Rock Camp 4 Girls & Gender Non-Conforming Youth) strives to build courage, confidence, teamwork, and new skills in campers through rock music creation and performance as part of a band. This program would not exist without the support and generosity of many individuals and organisations.

Trent Radio has always had a close and supportive relationship to RC4G* Peterborough (Rock Camp for Girls & Gender Non-Conforming Youth), and last year we made that relationship official!

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).

RC4G* Peterborough has now successfully run two summer camp sessions (2025 & 2026) and have built a consistent year-round programming roster with monthly Rock Block sessions.

Both our Summer Rock & Roll Camp and Rock Block sessions have been very successful with engaged participation and broad community support. We had 16 campers at our summer sessions, 3 interns, 7 core camp staff, 2 behind the scenes admin volunteers, and about 10 community volunteers supporting gear maintenance, load-in & set up, facilitating the Big Gig and other responsibilities that help us meet our programming goals. During the school year we had volunteer support from 4 high school students to help Melissa & Jill run Rock Block each month.



RC4G* Peterborough salutes the following community members and organisations for their financial support: Maar's Music, Long and McQuade, Carol Jackson, Jaelynn Goodman, Tracey King, Kelly Cordick, Craig Paterson, Joey Herffernan, Linz Hunt, OPIRG, CUPE, the City of Peterborough, and Kawartha Rotary.

Student Staff Positions, ‘25-’26

Local Content Producers - Alex Friesen, Aiden Gomes, 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

Indigenous Student Producer - Eddie Gloade: 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 Fundrai$io



Our third annual Fundrai$io was a real success. Continuing to develop fundraising skills and create a reliable annual schedule has been a huge win as we formalise our operations.

During the week we have Fundrai$io sponsors being featured, and an opportunity for current and at-large programmers to make a special feature show to share why they love Trent Radio. We have the opportunity to broadcast remotely from community supporters with special features.
All programming is encouraged to promote the fundraiser on air - but it is not mandated. They can just celebrate Trent Radio. Donations are accepted in cash/cheque or online through our Canada Helps web page.

At the end of the week, we hosted our 24 hour Community Marathon from 8pm on Friday until 8pm on Saturday with non-stop special programming and lots of community engagement. We kicked off the Friday Night with a Radio Cabaret (remote broadcast) from The Theatre On King featuring guest hosts Lea & Adelaide from River Pilled along with audible performances and presentations from our volunteer radio community and special performances from local band The Silver Hearts and local poet Jon Hedderwick. The marathon wrapped up with the live-on-air draw of our very first, mildly successful raffle.



This type of fundraising feels fun, important and sustainable. Fundrai$io has been VERY successful for the past three years.

Student Outreach & Remote Broadcasts

Trent Radio initiated a Student Outreach Committee last year to focus on creating stronger relationships with students on campus and finding ways to connect community members & students in meaningful ways. Trent Radio continued to develop and host intentional programming and outreach to foster strong relationships on campus and downtown, and to encourage and empower student voices in our community. We hosted live music & spoken word broadcast events from campus, delivered workshops for students, worked with faculty to facilitate projects for credit within the classroom, and continued to produce on-campus radio programming with Radio On The Go & the Dugout.

Outside of our goal to manufacture community, 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. New Student Outreach Committee members welcome!



KonaKona
at the Gzowski Quad



Sarah Lewis and Sadye Middleton
at the Seasoned Spoon



Leighla Foster and Parker Farris
at Cathy Bruce's office



"Amplifying Student Voices"
panel discussion for Dis-O Week

Yearbook Management

Esther Vincent, admin@trentannual.ca

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

The 2025-26 book continued the trend of being larger than those made in recent years: 220 pages for 25-26 compared to 119 pages in 2020-21. However, this year's book was capped at 20 pages below the previous year (239 pages) as staff chose to focus on quality and manageability rather than quantity.

Unfortunately, there was an issue with our table placement at convocation and we received less than half the usual number of orders. This issue was discussed with convocation with plans to follow up for convocation 2027 so that our table is returned to a prominently visible location in the student centre.

Our Communications Officer and staff social media efforts continued to increase engagement by students, clubs, groups and colleges. We continued to receive requests for our photographers through our website and social media accounts. We are also receiving more photo submissions directly from clubs and groups.

The editorial team initiated the creation of a new set of guideline documents to use as reference for future teams to clarify the tasks of each yearbook role. These documents are kept on our Workspace drive, accessible to all staff, and will be reviewed and kept current each year by staff and advisor.

The Digital Yearbook development team continued work researching the online yearbook. As Digital Developer, Hashibul Hussain worked with Advisor Esther Vincent to explore and test hosting environments, database structures, storage options, and site structure. The online yearbook will consist of a "magazine style" interface paired with an archival interface.

Public site visitors will land on the "magazine" front page which will show news and events. The top menu and the "blast from the past" sidebar will contain a link to the photo archive which will seamlessly move visitors to the archival part of the site. The archive will have its own structure and database, but the same top menu so that visitors can easily find their way back to the main site.

While this work was being done, Ellie Green, our Digital Assistant, completed the scanning of past physical books and converting them to pdfs. These pdfs are being added to our existing website, accessible to the general public. The beta of this unfinished page can be found at: https://trentannual.ca/print-yearbook-archive/

Jenna Scott was appointed Editor in Chief for the 2026-27 year. Alexis Bruce moved from Director of Photography to the position of Assistant Editor. Jenna Scott, Alexis Bruce, and Esther Vincent will form the management core for the 2026-27 production year.

Directors' Report

Jill Staveley & Rob Hailman, info@trentradio.ca

Another year, another Trout Rodeo. Wrangling radio makers is a joyful experience - however, not for the faint of heart. I feel immense privilege and purpose carrying the role of Director of Programming and leading this radio community forward for another season of risk taking and community accountability. This year has seen growth and change, physical upgrades and policy development, and a fullsome expression of the radio stream that we have all been swimming in together.

As we put this Annual Report together again, with a clear process in place - I'm especially proud of the work we have been able to do as a team to continue to formalise Trent Radio's operations, and to build consistent models for archiving this radio experience and experiment.

I love the number of times "formalise our operations" appears in this annual report. I recall speaking with a board member (though I sadly cannot recall who) years ago, about whether our forebears intended that to be an aim for Trent Radio to complete in 1984, or an ongoing aspiration. I understand it to be the latter. It's truly a gift to know that, when we find ourselves not knowing what's going on or what we're supposed to be doing -- which is often -- taking the time to figure things out is a core part of Trent Radio's aims and objectives. In the past year, this has borne fruit in countless ways.

At the beginning of each season I meet every new programmer to complete a session we call Programmer Orientation. I share some Trent Radio lore, the history of how we got to where we are, and our relationship with the CRTC, ISED & CBSC. Each session I am also reminded how impacted I feel by the power & potential of radio, and how deeply committed I am to promoting a positive use of radio. When we step outside the Radio House, it is so easy to see the impact of our radio broadcasts by the way that new programmers approach us at outreach events, by hearing the strength of voice and perspective that our programmers share on the airwaves, and by the intrigue we evoke from the youth in our community when we deliver in-class curriculum and broadcasts. Radio is magic.

Much of Trent Radio's impact in our community is a reflection of how we -- both as an organization, and many of us as individuals – are passionate, strong-willed, and have perspectives a bit outside of the mainstream (to say the least!) We hear that in our broadcasts, around the kitchen table at Trent Radio House, and in our community events. We also aim to reflect these perspectives on a broader scale. While serving on the board of the Canadian Journalism Collective was exhausting work, it was a unique opportunity to be in a space where Trent Radio's understanding of the power of radio was heard in decision making with national impact.

Building new relationships with young local artists, arts organisers and musicians has also brought a lot of life and vibrancy to Trent Radio this past year. Peterborough-Nogojiwanong is a town affected by the 5-year Trent cycle. A place where people take up space - and then go away...and then leave gaps waiting for the next cohort to come in and take up space.

We're currently wading through the part of the cycle where space is being taken up in magnificent ways, and new relationships are being built and fostered. Our relationship with groups like Sadleir House, TUMS, RC4G*, Arthur and TTOK show immense promise to be the foundation of a vibrant and active era in Peterborough-Nogojiwanong's arts community. In support of student musicians, local promoters, theatre events and building our own news room - it truly feels like Trent Radio has its finger on the pulse of this enlivened era... and we're so excited to be taking part.

As we work to build and renew our relationships with people and organizations, the work of building and renewing our own organization and facility is never-ending as well. Last year, we received funding from the Enabling Accessibility Fund to replace our porch with a new accessible entrance, and we spent this year working on getting the designs and plans sorted. While not technically part of the year we are reporting on, the new porch is being built as I write this which is an exciting improvement to our little Radio House.

For me, the joy of radio lies in the fact that it is created anew from moment to moment, often engaging and thought-provoking, and sometimes bewildering. Our work, too, can change from moment to moment, and it is an honour and a privilege to carry that chaos with the best group of co-workers and volunteers a Director of Operations could ask for.

More than anything, I am always grateful for the people who make Trent Radio what it is. A community of humans who genuinely care, build courage to take up space and hold themselves accountable to something that is larger than any one of us as individuals. We're a radio family through and through, and I know that I'm lucky to work alongside Rob & Eddy as we run this radio joint with intention and joy. I have such admiration for Evan as she helps to keep us informed about the important things going on in our region, and shares the news in a thoughtful and accessible way. I am grateful to our hard working Board of Directors who continue to step up to do the work of compliance, policy development and management support in kind and thoughtful ways. To our student staff members, I feel such privilege to work with our amazing crew of student staff members who basically run Trent Radio House on weeknights, and who welcome our community with open arms. And, most of all, to the volunteer Programmers who show up each week, and who connect us all through their big ideas and shine brightly in our community constellation.

Cheers to another run around the radio sun.

Jill Staveley
Director of Programming

Rob Hailman
Director of Operations

President's Report

A lot of being president of a board of an organization like Trent Radio is getting excited for things most people consider boring. For example, this year we have reaffirmed our partnership with Habitat for Humanity Peterborough, committing to $120,000 to their High Impact Investment Program for the year.

We also underwent the process of not getting heritage designation for Trent Radio House, a city decision that involved months of discussion internally at Trent Radio and communication with many moving parts.

'Formalising our operations' has become something of a buzzword around here, but it has led to some of the biggest and most exciting work we have done this year. We struck a committee to develop a policy for AI use at Trent Radio, making Trent Radio an industry leader in forming policy around these developing technologies.

We have also formalised Trent Radio's sick leave policy, including updating how sick days are allocated and creating a long term sick leave policy for staff. This moves Trent Radio forward in being an equitable and exemplary employer, for all our staff.

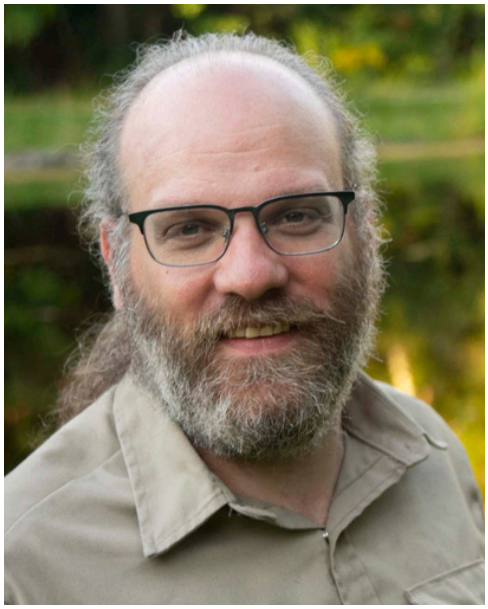
I extend a huge thank you to all the people who make Trent Radio as special as it is. Thank you to our staff who keep the house in working order and make sure everything is always running smoothly. If you have interacted with Trent Radio you have interacted with a staff member.

Thank you to our programmers, Trent Radio simply wouldn't exist without you. Thank you for sharing your ideas, music, and art; your joy, excitement, expertise, and sometimes critique. Trent Radio is made special and unique by your courage and tenacity to get on the radio every week and share a part of yourself.

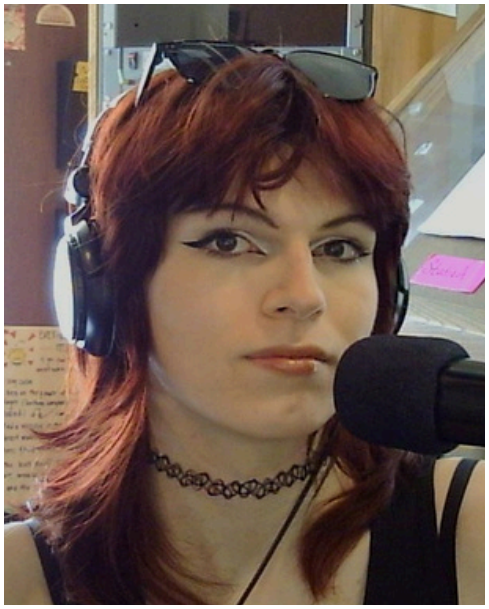
Finally, thank you to our board. You are the backbone of Trent Radio and your continued dedication to the community and cause makes my job so easy. It has been an absolute joy to spend a year sitting around a table in Studio C with you all.

Mikaela Lewis
President and Chair

Core & Project Staff 2025-2026



Rob Hailman
Director of Operations



Evan Robins
Local Broadcast Journalist



Eddy Sweeney
Programming & Volunteer Support Coordinator



Jill Staveley
Director of Programming

Student Staff 2025-2026



Aiden Gomes
Local Content Producer



Edward Gloade
Indigenous Student Producer



Paige Hodgson
Local Content Producer



Valentine Howard
Local Content Producer



Kat McIntyre
Administrative Assistant



Nitya Nair
International Student Correspondent



Henry Young
Co-op Student