

Queen's contributions to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

Advancing social impact | 2020-2021

Table of contents

Universities are powerful engines of societal change	3
UN SDGs: How we are meeting them	4
 SDG 1: No Poverty	5
 SDG 2: Zero Hunger	10
 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	15
 SDG 4: Quality Education	19
 SDG 5: Gender Equality	24
 SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	28
 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	33
 SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	38
 SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	42
 SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	46
 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	50
 SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	54
 SDG 13: Climate Action	58
 SDG 14: Life Below Water	62
 SDG 15: Life on Land	66
 SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	70
 SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	74
Our progress	78
Our future	79

Advancing social impact

Universities are powerful engines of societal change.



“At Queen’s, we believe our community – our people – will help solve the world’s most significant and urgent challenges, through our intellectual curiosity, passion to achieve, and commitment to collaboration.”

Patrick Deane
Principal and Vice-Chancellor

As one of Canada’s leading research-intensive academic institutions, Queen’s understands its role in helping to advance the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). Through our research, learning, outreach, and stewardship activities, the Queen’s community is contributing to the fight against climate change, helping to build inclusive societies, and ensuring equal access to health care and quality education to advance social impact. We also recognize that innovation, ingenuity, and collaboration are needed if we want to achieve these goals, which have **united us all in a common global purpose**.

In 2021, Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings revealed that Queen’s had placed first in Canada and fifth in the world in its global ranking of universities that are advancing the UN SDGs within and beyond their local communities. The rankings measured more than 1,200 post-secondary institutions from 98 countries and Queen’s placed in the top 100 of 14/17 SDGs, including first in the world for SDG 1: No Poverty and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

UN SDGs: How we are meeting them

Across the Queen's community, much of our research, teaching, outreach, and stewardship activities are directly tied to the 17 SDGs and their targets. This report provides a snapshot of activity across our community, highlighting our efforts to advance social impact.



The Times Higher Education Impact Rankings are the only global performance tables that assess universities against the United Nations' SDGs through their research, teaching, outreach, and stewardship efforts.

Our goals in action

SDG 1: No Poverty

End poverty in all forms, everywhere

1 NO
POVERTY



Research and innovation

Advancing research through partnership

One of our core research goals is to be a catalyst for advancing research and knowledge. Our Partnerships and Innovation team helps strengthen Queen's local, national, and global impact by providing the university and regional community a variety of business start-up and accelerator programs. These services offer researchers, students, and professionals the tools and mentorship they need to move big ideas forward as well as strategic guidance, legal and marketing services, physical space, workshops, and events.



Teaching and student life



Queen's Art of Research submission: *This is EPIC: Simulation Education with Patient Actors to Improve Care* by Dr. Monakshi Sawhney (School of Nursing)

Supporting women of all ages

The Ban Righ Centre assists women of all ages, especially those who are returning to university to continue formal or informal education. The Centre offers supports including student advising, workspaces, napping rooms, free meals, and financial assistance, as well as community-building events and programs.



Queen's University Ban Righ Centre



QuARMS program

“Queen’s recognizes that Indigenous peoples and Black Canadians have been historically underrepresented in the medical profession, and that standard medical admissions practices have imposed barriers to these groups. With this new approach to the QuARMS pathway, we are hoping to reach individuals who may not have considered Queen’s or the medical profession otherwise. Our faculty aims to become a leader in Canada in cultural safety, anti-racism, anti-colonialism, and anti-oppression in health professions education.”

Dr. Jane Philpott

Dean, Queen’s Faculty of Health Sciences

Supports for local and Indigenous applicants

Our Indigenous Students Admission Pathway offers Indigenous candidates an additional and alternative pathway for admission to the first year of a full-time, first-entry undergraduate degree program, known as the Indigenous Admission Policy. Students are also eligible for a need-based Indigenous Admission Award through the Admission Bursary Application.

The Promise Scholars

The Promise Scholars program also aims to reduce financial barriers and increase access to Queen's for local, first-generation students with financial supports between \$60,000 – \$100,000 over four years.

Community impact

Giving back to those in our community who are in need

Our annual United Way campaign supports over 53,000 local citizens through the programs funded by United Way of Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington. Donations from Queen's staff, faculty, and retirees raise hundreds of thousands of dollars a year.

Supporting community housing

Through the PhD-Community Initiative collaboration with Kingston Community Housing, an interdisciplinary team worked with the City of Kingston to investigate the needs of individuals on the city's community housing waitlist and make appropriate recommendations on how to meet these needs.

Empowering regional innovation

The Dunin-Deshpande Queen's Innovation Centre Summer Initiative Program offers local post-secondary students and community members the opportunity to participate in a 16-week incubator program where they receive no-cost training, mentorship, and office space to launch their ventures.

Through our partnership with Ottawa's startup accelerator L-Spark, Compass North offers a five-month accelerator program for women-led tech-based start-ups in the greater Kingston region as part of the Women Entrepreneurship-CAN (WE-CAN) program at Queen's.



PhD-Community Initiative

[Click to Watch](#)



WE-CAN Client Highlights

[Click to Watch](#)

Global reach

Opportunities for international students

Queen's is committed to supporting students from across the globe in accessing quality education. We are proud of our long-term agreement with the Karta Initiative, which enables talented, low-income youth from rural India to study at Queen's. Our Queen's University chapter of World University Service of Canada (WUSC) also sponsors eligible students through the WUSC Student Refugee Program, which combines resettlement of young refugees with opportunities for higher education through a peer-to-peer model.



The Principal Wallace Freedom of Opportunity Award, established by Alfred and Isabel Bader in recognition of Queen's 11th Principal, Robert Charles Wallace, offers financial support for students from developing countries who demonstrate financial need. Preference is given to refugee students.

Global impact

The Smith School of Business' Centre for Social Impact empowers current and future leaders to create a better world by providing them with services and programs that support research, foster education, and promote collaboration across sectors.

Administration and operations

Ensuring bottom financial quintile student success

Through a range of anti-poverty programs, we seek to support and admit students who fall into the bottom 20% of household income group (or a more tightly defined target) in the country.

Programs include our Admission Bursary, the Queen's Work Study Program, and Student Academic Success Services.

Our goals in action

SDG 2: Zero Hunger

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture

2 ZERO HUNGER



Teaching and student life

Eliminating hunger on campus

The goal of eliminating hunger begins on our campuses, where we have implemented several programs that support students who may be experiencing food insecurity:

Swipe It Forward Queen's gives students participating in the university meal plan the option to donate one meal per day (up to five per semester) to a peer in need. Eligible students can anonymously redeem up to 25 meals per term at Queen's dining halls.

The AMS Food Bank provides members of the Queen's community a confidential and non-judgmental food service, ensuring that students can stay healthy as they pursue academic achievements.

Sustainable Development Goals By The Numbers:



During the 2019 academic year, we reduced the total food waste in the Ban Righ and Leonard Dining Halls to 5 metric tons.

39%

of Canadian post-secondary students experience some degree of food insecurity.

(Meal Exchange Canada)



Learn-to-grow

Located on West Campus, the Queen's Community Gardens includes 19 raised garden plots that can be rented by the Queen's community, so they can 'grow' their gardening skills.



Learn-to-cook

Knowing that nothing beats a home-cooked meal, the "Grammas" from the Queen's Women's Association offer virtual "Cooking with Grammas" classes for our community. Students simply log on and learn to make healthy, easy, and affordable meals that everyone then enjoys together.

Community impact

Eliminating hunger in our community

Queen's and its students are committed to reducing hunger in the Kingston community. Soul Food is a student-run organization that delivers extra food from campus cafeterias to four local shelters every night, as well as to the Kingston Street Truck Mission in the winter.



From March-August 2020, when operations shut down due to COVID-19, Hospitality Services donated over \$37,000 worth of products to the Kingston community, including food banks and local shelters.

Supporting local farmers and food producers

Queen's provides events and access to university facilities such as labs, technology, and plant stocks to local farmers and food producers. The programming aims to transfer food knowledge and improve sustainable farming practices. As part of the We Love Local initiative, Hospitality Services runs an annual "Field to Fork" event to raise awareness about local food used in residence dining halls.

The Queen's Vertical Farming Team, which is the first post-secondary design team of its kind in Canada, is developing a functional, small-scale vertical farm in Kingston.

The Tea Room, North America's first zero-consumer-waste carbon-neutral café, was established in 2006 as an environmentally friendly and socially conscious café. Located on campus in Beamish-Munro Hall, it sources environmentally responsible food and drinks from local vendors to serve to the Queen's and Kingston community.



Global reach

The Global Food Security, Agriculture and Environment course, offered through the School of Environmental Studies, provides a national and global review of current and projected adequacy of food supplies, as affected by soil and water resources, climate and climate change, and human population growth. Students also learn about different scenarios for meeting food needs over the next 50 years, including technological, social, economic, and political factors.

Administration and operations

Reducing Food Waste

Reducing food waste is an important aspect of food security. The LeanPath Spark program at Queen's aims to drive behavioural change and actively reduce food waste in two of our three main dining halls, using public food scales and digital signage. In the kitchens, this technology allows the management team and staff to immediately see the impact of waste and act accordingly. In the dining halls, the program tracks post-consumer waste and educates diners through digital signage about the impact they can have by helping reduce food waste.



Queen's is a Fair Trade Campus with sustainable and ethical food choices

Our community has access to sustainable and ethical food choices on campus. All our hospitality-run locations prioritize ethical sourcing and are mandated to include Fair Trade options. The Donald Gordon Centre received Fair Trade Workplace Designation in 2020 and, in 2021, Queen's was designated a Fair Trade Campus as it works to support sustainable practices for agricultural workers and the environment.

Our goals in action

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

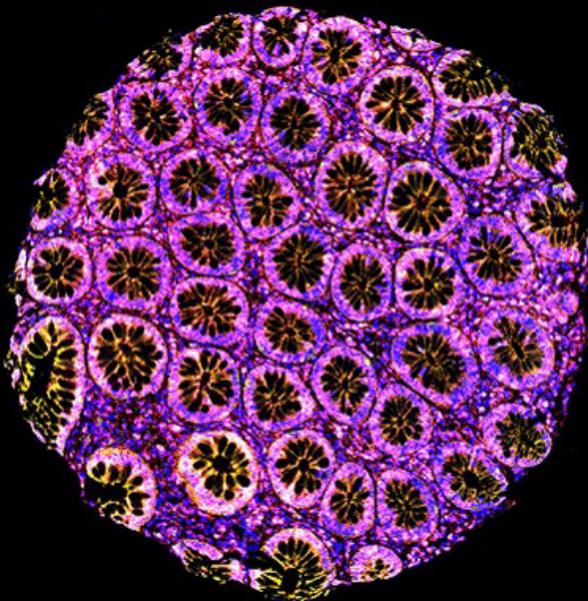
3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Research and innovation

Life-changing research

Based at Queen's, the Canadian Cancer Trials Group (CCTG) is a cooperative oncology network that designs and runs clinical trials in cancer therapy, supportive care, and prevention. Its more than 6,000+ researchers and clinical staff have conducted 500+ trials in 40 countries resulting in major, life-saving breakthroughs in breast, colorectal, blood, lung, ovarian, brain, and prostate cancer.



Queen's Art of Research submission: *Immunofluorescence Stain*
by Shakeel Virk and Lee Boudreau, CCTG Tissue Bank

As many as 1 in 1,000 women may not realize they have a bleeding disorder and, consequently, don't seek help. Through her internationally recognized research program at Queen's, Dr. Paula James, hematologist at Kingston Health Sciences Centre, and her team have developed Let's Talk Period, a self-administered assessment tool that aims to increase awareness of the symptoms of bleeding disorders. Available at letstalkperiod.ca, the test educates women about their periods and helps them find appropriate supports.



Dr. Paula James
Let's Talk Period
 ▶ [Click to Watch](#)

Teaching and student life

Mental health supports

Our Student Wellness Services provides confidential Mental Health Services, including one-on-one appointments with mental health professionals, groups, events, and training. Students can also use the online self-directed tool Therapy Assistance Online (TAO) to design a personal intervention plan or access free 24/7 mental health support through Empower Me.

Thrive is a week-long series of events at Queen's that focuses on building positive mental health and helping reduce mental health-related stigma among our students, staff, and faculty.



Sexual health

The Queen's Sexual Health Resource Centre is a confidential, non-judgmental, sex positive, pro-choice, queer positive, non-heterosexist, and feminist information and referral service that provides students with sexual and reproductive education and health-care services.

Community impact

Collaborating on research

Queen's collaborates closely with the Kingston General Hospital Research Institute, the research arm of the Kingston Health Sciences Centre, and Providence Care, a local health organization. More than 350 investigators at this not-for-profit academic institute are leading innovative research projects that are making a global impact on health and well-being.

Developed with a group of seniors living in a Kingston-area apartment building, Oasis Senior Supporting Living Program is a unique model of active aging-in-place. Professors Catherine Donnelly and Vince DePaul from the School of Rehabilitation Therapy at Queen's are leading a research project to evaluate and expand the Oasis Model into seven new communities in four cities across Ontario.



Queen's Art of Research Submission: *The Wiring of the Brain* by Donald Brien, Centre for Neuroscience Studies

Providing health services to the broader community

The Neuroscience Outreach Program, located at the Centre for Neuroscience Studies at Queen's University, strives to improve the Kingston community's awareness and understanding of neuroscience. Programmers lead lecture series, educate athletes about concussions and brain safety, perform hands-on experiments with local children and provide companionship to elderly patients.

Inspiring young athletes

The Junior Gaels program aims to inspire young Kingston athletes to attend Queen's and, one day, play for the Queen's University Gaels. The program connects current student-athletes to young athletes in the community and offers opportunities for mentorship and community building.

Global reach

Advancing health beyond our borders

Queen's is committed to improving the health and wellness of individuals and communities across the globe. The university's International Centre for the Advancement of Community Based Rehabilitation works to mainstream disability and advance the concept of community-based rehabilitation (CBR) practice in collaboration with persons with disabilities. Initiatives aim to improve health care and social services for people with disabilities, their families, and their communities in Canada and 15 other countries around the world.

Queen's Health Outreach (QHO) is a student-run non-profit that promotes health through peer-to-peer discussions in classrooms in Canada and around the world. Each year QHO implements programs for students in Belize, Guyana, Kenya, and across Canada that aim to improve individual and community health.

Administration and operations

Health and wellness policies

Queen's prioritizes health and wellness in its operations. To protect our community's health and well-being, Queen's maintains a tobacco and smoke-free environment on all our campuses and properties.



Queen's University Richardson Stadium



ARCH Network

[▶ Click to Watch](#)

Our goals in action

SDG 4: Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Research and innovation

Evidence-based teaching and leadership

The Centre for Teaching and Learning promotes quality teaching and builds teaching and educational leadership capacity in direct support of Queen's students' learning experiences. They support evidence-based, innovative and sustainable strategic program enhancement initiatives, and encourage and support emerging, grassroots investigations of novel approaches to teaching and learning.



Commitment to research integrity and excellence

Our Research Integrity policy is a foundational commitment to strive for research and scholarly practices that exemplify honesty, truthfulness, fairness, respect, responsibility and the courage to adhere to these values, according to standards set by the International Centre for Academic Integrity.

Teaching and student life



Queen's University is committed to providing an educational experience that will build upon the principles of fairness and inclusiveness – the hallmarks of our educational equity policy.

Accessible learning outside the classroom

Queen's offers learning opportunities outside our classrooms. Students and faculty also have access to Open Educational Resources, free digital teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license. These resources provide equal access to quality education by making lectures, books, and curricula widely accessible online for free.

The Faculty of Arts and Science is a trailblazer in distance education, offering online courses and programs that are distinguished by their exceptional quality. These courses offer students the best possible learning experience no matter where they are.

Professional, executive and continuing education at Queen's

Queen's offers numerous [Professional, Executive and Continuing Education](#) programs through the faculties of Arts and Science, Education, Law, Medicine, and Nursing, as well as the [Smith School of Business](#). The School of Graduate Studies also runs numerous master's and PhD programs. Furthermore, the Smith School of Business, the [Industrial Relations Centre](#), and the [School of Policy Studies](#) offer executive education, digital learning, and open enrollment courses for professionals at all stages of their career.

Inspiring learning among Indigenous communities

The [Aboriginal Access to Engineering at Queen's University](#) program aims to encourage more Indigenous youth to become engineers by promoting math and science in elementary and high schools, offering culturally relevant educational materials for Indigenous youth and their teachers, and enabling access to post-secondary study.

Community impact

Public resources for lifelong learning

Queen's is proud to provide access to educational resources for the community beyond our campus, including access to computers, online courses, and lectures. The [University Library](#) welcomes visitors from the community to visit our facilities, [access our collections, and borrow books](#).



Aboriginal Access to Engineering: Teacher Testimonials

[Click to Watch](#)



Public events for lifelong learning

Queen's hosts regular on-campus events including lectures and community educational sessions that are open to the public. The [Queen's University Events Calendar](#) highlights events taking place online or in-person at the university.

Additionally, Queen's faculty, staff and students participate in educational outreach activities in local schools and in the community. The Smith School of Business also offers regular free [Business Insight webinars](#) for the public on themes relating to business, finance, and leadership.



Science outreach in the community

Queen's faculty and students offer a variety of educational programs in the Kingston community. [Science Rendezvous Kingston](#) is a family-friendly event that allows community members to meet and talk to Queen's researchers, conduct experiments, and learn about the possibilities of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

Sistema Kingston, run by the Queen's Faculty of Education, is a free after-school music program that focuses on positive social change through the pursuit of musical excellence. Sistema Kingston's group-centred music instruction emphasizes inclusivity and teamwork, builds personal persistence, and fosters creativity and personal responsibility.

The **Tech 'n' Tinker (TNT) Trailer** is a mobile classroom that travels to schools, community organizations and public events in the greater Kingston area, providing hands-on learning that complements the Ontario Kindergarten to Grade 8 curriculum. The Trailer is part of Queen's Faculty of Engineering's outreach programming.

The Queen's Department of Physics, Engineering Physics, and Astronomy runs a free annual **IDEAS (Innovation, Diversity, Exploration & Advancement in STEM) Camp** for youth in Grades 7 to 9. Campers explore the cosmos and carry out science experiments with the guidance of leading female scientists. **The Black Youth in STEM** program, delivered by current Queen's engineering students, is open to students in grades 1 through 8 in the Kingston area and offers free lessons in coding and robotics.

Global reach

Free learning beyond our borders

Queen's offers free online courses in a variety of subjects through the global non-profit **edX** organization. Students can enroll for select courses from anywhere in the world and can even choose to receive a verified certificate for a small fee.



**Sistema Kingston
Paper Wood Ceremony**

[Click to Watch](#)

Our goals in action

SDG 5: Gender Equality

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

5 GENDER EQUALITY



Research and innovation

Promoting women in STEM

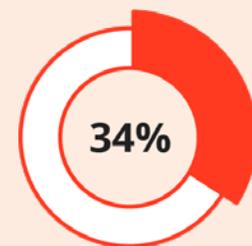
Queen's University's Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE) is a student-run organization that promotes female involvement in STEM disciplines through networking and mentorship opportunities for women in the Queen's and Kingston communities.



Sustainable Development Goals By The Numbers:



In the 2019 academic year, 57% of students starting a degree at Queen's were women.



Additionally, 34% of our senior academic staff were female.

The annual Canadian Celebration of Women in Computing conference, organized by Queen's Assistant Professor Wendy Powley, brings together female-identifying leaders in research, education, and industry from across the country to network, mentor and inspire the next generation of women industry leaders.

Teaching and student life

Educational equity at Queen's

The Senate Educational Equity Committee (SEEC) supports our institutional goal of achieving educational equity at Queen's. Additionally, the Senate's Educational Equity Policy outlines our commitment to and understanding of educational equity, as well as our implementation and accountability processes.

Queen's University recognizes that the values of equity and diversity are vital to and in harmony with its educational mission and standards of excellence.

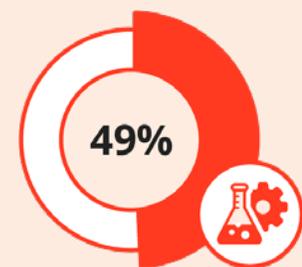


Policies of non-discrimination against women and transgender peoples

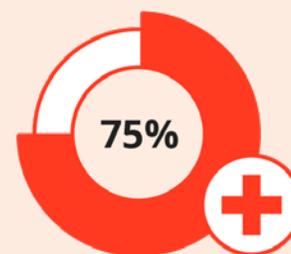
Queen's has several policies that prohibit discrimination, including our Harassment and Discrimination Prevention and Response Policy and our Policy on Sexual Violence Involving Queen's University Students. Both programs outline our anti-discrimination measures as well as the processes for addressing harassment and/or discrimination on our campus.

Women's mentorship opportunities and educational supports

More than 10% of female students participate in at least one of our mentorship programs. The Queen's Women's Network (QWN) Mentorship Program offers 10-month mentorship programs for women-identifying employees looking for mentorship from senior academic staff. The Smith School of Business provides MBA mentorship and coaching opportunities for female-identifying groups, which aim to enable more women to ascend to the senior ranks of management.



49% of STEM graduates are female



75% of Medicine graduates are female

Queen's is a family-friendly university

As a child-friendly campus, we have implemented initiatives through our [Queen's University Child Friendly Campus Initiative](#) that help parents and caregivers on campus to nurture their families while pursuing their scholarly and work responsibilities.

The School of Graduate Studies [SGS habitat space](#) offers supports for students with families, including childcare and drop-in programs, subsidies, access to family counselling and other on-campus programs.

The [Queen's Day Care Centre](#) provides affordable on-campus childcare. The [Queen's daycare financial assistance program](#) provides subsidized childcare and other financial assistance for students with dependents and/or families, while the [Childcare Support Plan](#) provides reimbursement for eligible expenses to faculty and staff.

Global reach

Empowering women in politics

The [Queen's Female Leadership in Politics Conference](#) is Canada's premier undergraduate conference which seeks to empower women in politics. The two-day event brings together more than 150 students from across the country and provides participants the necessary skills and connections they need to succeed.



CKWS News at 11 on Global Kingston
[Click to Watch](#)

Administration and operations

Tracking enrollment and representation

To better understand our progress in ensuring equitable enrollment at Queen's, we compile an annual Division of Student Affairs Enrollment Report, which provides information about incoming first-year undergraduate and graduate students, including enrolment information for international, self-identified Indigenous, and first-generation students, as well as retention and graduation rates.



59% of Arts & Humanities/
Social Sciences graduates
are female

Queen's also regularly tracks our efforts to increase the representation and engagement of students, faculty, and staff from equity-seeking groups through Inclusive Queen's. Through outreach programs and targeted recruitment, we also encourage applications by women in subjects in which they are underrepresented. Additionally, we track women's likelihood of graduating compared to men's, and develop plans to close any gap. Through these measurements, we are proactively building a campus that welcomes and reflects diverse identities, cultures, and perspectives.

Our goals in action

SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Research and innovation

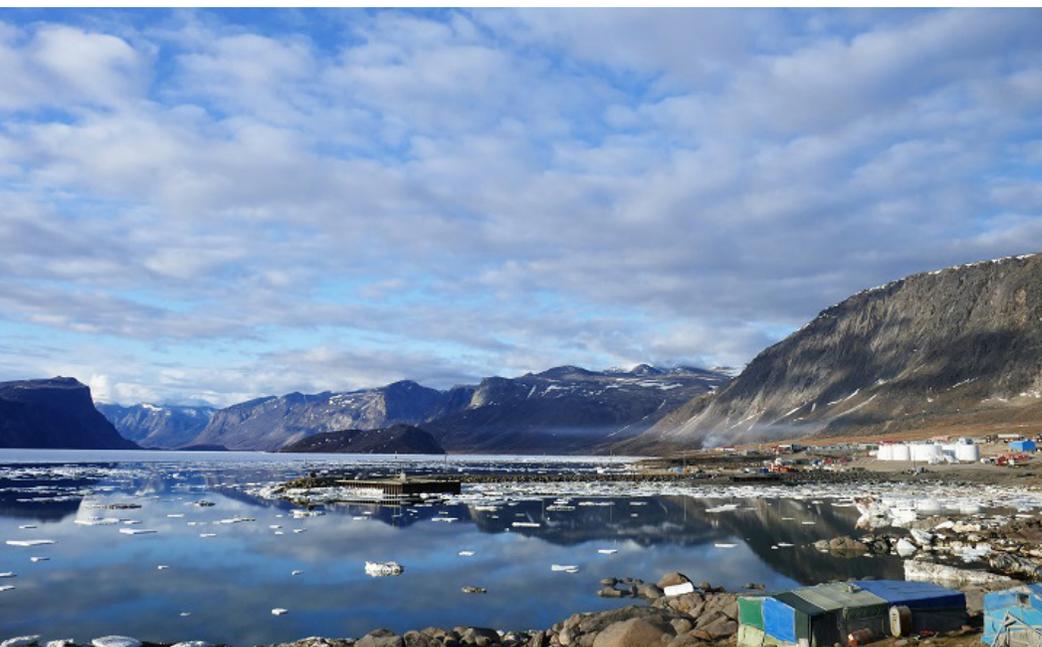
World-class research improving water quality and availability

Queen's Professor Dr. John Smol, Canada Research Chair in Environmental Change, specializes in water conservation.

Dr. Smol's award-winning work uses lake sediment samples to better understand the impact of natural and human activities on environmental change. Dr. Smol is one of 18 researchers in the Canadian Lake Pulse Network working together to examine the condition of Canada's Great Lakes.



Queen's actively promotes conscious water usage on campus, and in the wider community.



Queen's Art of Research submission: *Art and Waste Project Pangnirtung, Nunavut* by micky renders (School of Environmental Studies)

Dr. Sarah Jane Payne, Professor of civil engineering, is developing a drinking water research program. Fascinated by the intersection of environment, public health and engineering, Dr. Payne is adapting molecular biological tools and employing analytical methods to explore unintended consequences and trade-offs of water quality management strategies.

Queen's Professor Dr. Philip Jessop has developed an innovative water purification technology which was licensed by GreenCentre Canada, a Kingston-based technology and green business accelerator led by Dr. Jessop. The technology has proven to be highly effective at removing pollutants and impurities from waste streams.

Teaching and student life



Queen's is a bottled water free campus

Queen's University has had a campus-wide ban on bottled water sales and distribution for almost a decade. Instead, we have more than 200 drinking fountains and free bottle-fill stations across our campus, which students can locate using an online map. Our initiatives have been lauded by the Council of Ontario Universities.

Growing research at Queen's

Students and researchers have access to the Queen's University Phytotron to conduct plant research and other biological applications. The Phytotron is comprised of six climate-controlled greenhouse compartments and environmental growth chambers.



Queen's University Phytotron

Community impact

Water management educational opportunities

Understanding the need to engage communities in environmental strategies, Queen's runs ongoing outreach programs for local communities to learn about effective water management. The Beaty Water Research Centre (BWRC) is an interdisciplinary research and education center that focuses on water governance, use, resources, and quality. The Centre hosts regular outreach events throughout Kingston, including the Great Lake Water Festival, the EngAGE Engineering Summer Academy, and the BWRC Research Symposium. These programs aim to motivate the community to become water stewards in their homes, classrooms, and communities.



Queen's Summer Engineering Academy - QSEA Junior

[Click to Watch](#)

The Queen's University Biological Station is home to a number of wetlands and conservation areas. The station runs regular events related to natural history, environmental management, and water conservation that are open to the community and international student researchers.

As a satellite facility of the Queen's University Biological Station, the Elbow Lake Environmental Education Centre offers curriculum-based programs year-round that encourage local high school students to explore and measure local biodiversity through field-based scientific investigation.



Queen's University Biological Station

Global reach

Inspiring future leaders in water sustainability

Queen's was the proud host of the 2021 Leaders in Water and Watershed Sustainability Symposium. This free annual public event, organized in conjunction with the Network on Persistent, Emerging, and Organic Pollution in the Environment (PEOPLE Network) and The LEaders in wATER and watERshed Sustainability research group, brings together students, researchers, and experts at the forefront of water research. Through workshops, roundtable discussions and career sessions, the symposium aims to inspire and develop future leaders in water-related science and policy.

Understanding sanitation inequalities

Safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are critical for human development, yet women and girls are disproportionately affected by inadequate WASH services. The **Empowerment in WASH Index (EWI)** developed at Queen's by Dr. Elijah Bisung, measures water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) -related interventions and aims to solve gender disparities in access to these basic needs. This pragmatic survey-based tool is currently being developed and piloted in different cultural settings around the globe.

Administration and operations

Water-conscious building standards and policies

The Queen's **Conservation and Demand Management Plan** applies building standards and policies to minimize water use, energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. Our **facilities building design standards** also include LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) water targets. Even our Custodial Services are going green, and now exclusively use **certified green cleaning products** and reusable microfiber cloths.



Spearheading water conservation throughout campus

From 2014-2018, Queen's, through its **CAPIt** program, completed significant energy conservation renewal projects throughout its campus, resulting in 185,000 m³ water reduction.



The CAPIt completed 1147 toilet retrofits, 61 urinal retrofits, 353 shower head replacements, and installed 1,523 faucet moderators.

Our goals in action

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



Research and innovation

Leadership in clean energy innovation

The Centre for Energy and Power Electronics Research (ePower), led by the Canada Research Chair in Power Electronics, Dr. Praveen Jain, brings together academic and industrial partners to develop new energy-efficient, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly power electronic technologies.

With the current push to reduce our collective carbon footprint, nuclear power is a viable low-carbon energy choice. Queen's Reactor Materials Testing Laboratory is a state-of-the-art research facility that uses a proton accelerator to introduce damage into materials at a microscopic scale. By studying the effects of this damage on how materials behave we can gain insight into, and draw parallels with, the way that materials are damaged within a nuclear reactor.

Revolutionizing batteries at Queen's

Queen's professor Gregory Jerkiewicz and his team at Ni Electro Can (Engineered Nickel Catalysts for Electrochemical Clean Energy) received \$4 million in funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. The group of Canadian and international researchers are advancing research to replace inefficient batteries with clean fuel cell technology.



Reactor Materials Testing Laboratory

[Click to Watch](#)



PhD candidate Nausheen Sadiq and Dr. Gregory Jerkiewicz (Chemistry)

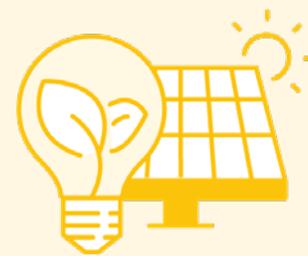
Teaching and student life

Sustainable solutions at your fingertips

The Queen's student-founded and operated tech start-up NetZero has developed an app that allows consumers to accurately track and reduce their GHG emissions. NetZero has partnered with Queen's Hospitality Services for a pilot project that allows the university community to track food choices at on-campus food outlets and empowers them to choose lower-carbon diets.

Incubating future sustainability innovations

The Dunin-Deshpande Queen's Innovation Centre provides incubation programs for start-ups working on technology that supports a low-carbon economy. The Queen's Innovation Centre Summer Initiative (QICSI) provides training, funding, and office space to early-stage start-ups.



Queen's draws upon the remarkable strengths and talents within our university to meet the modern challenge of achieving environmental sustainability.



Queen's University Mitchell Hall

Community impact

Queen's climate commitment challenge

As part of Queen's Climate Commitment Challenge, Sustainability Week is a series of events on and off campus that highlight environmental issues facing our local and global communities and ways we can help make our world more sustainable.

Global reach

Providing research that informs sustainable public policies

Queen's sustainability research is often used by the private and public sectors to inform sustainability initiatives. The Institute for Energy and Environmental Policy (QIEEP), at the School of Policy Studies, provides research that informs and supports governments in developing energy-efficient technology policies. The Queen's Renewable Energy Development and Implementation (REDI) Lab collaborates with the private sector and government to advance sustainable programs to meet national and global energy and environmental challenges.



Queen's is working with the Kingston community to make our city and our planet more sustainable.



Queen's Art of Research submission: *Platinum Surface Electrochemistry*
by Derek Esau (Chemistry)

Promoting excellence in research-led education

We are a member of the Matariki Network of Universities (MNU), an international group of leading universities recognised as being premier institutions for advanced learning. Queen's is the lead partner in the organization's Sustainability, Environment and Resources pillar, which focuses on fostering healthy ecosystems.

Administration and operations

A green campus

As part of its commitment to sustainability, Queen's has a Policy on Environmental Management that aims to exceed its environmental legislation obligations. The Queen's Building Standards mandates that all building renovations or new builds are following energy efficiency standards. Meanwhile the Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Plan (2019 – 2024) outlines specific measures for upgrading buildings to higher energy efficiency and plans for renewable energy generation.

Our West Campus District Conversion Project has replaced existing underground steam lines with a new heating system that reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 1,500 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide per year.



Queen's University Biosciences Complex



Our pledge for carbon neutrality

Queen's has signed the University and College Presidents' Climate Change Statement of Action for Canada, pledging to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance research and curriculum in the areas of climate change and sustainability. As part of this commitment, we developed our Queen's Climate Action Plan (CAP) which aims to reduce GHG emissions by 70 percent from 2008 levels by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2040.

In signing on to the Climate Charter for Canadian Universities, Queen's also made a Responsible Investing Commitment that aligns with international standards including the UN-supported Principles of Responsible Investment. The university has also adopted recommendations by the Board of Trustees' Climate Change Action Task Force which mandate responsible investing for Queen's portfolios.

Our goals in action

SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Community impact

Queen's is Kingston's top employer, accounting for 9.5% of all employment in the city (Queen's University Economic and Community Impact Study).



Kingston City Hall

Administration and operations

Tracking and promoting employee diversity and inclusion

The Queen's Equity Office measures and tracks our employment representation rates to better ensure gender parity, as well as pay scale equity, among our staff.



Queen's University was selected by Employment and Social Development Canada as a recipient of an Employment Equity Achievement Award in the category of Innovation for the Queen's Equity Appointments Process (QEAP) Application.



Queen's University Principal's Holiday Reception

Going beyond fair pay

Total Compensation for Queen's staff and faculty includes pay, benefits, pension, as well as a wide array of work/life wellness programs. The university strives to provide career enrichment as well as staff learning and development opportunities. Queen's also publishes the **salary grids and ranges** that are used for salary administration and pay related decisions as part of its efforts to promote pay equity and transparency.

Supporting job satisfaction and personal growth

Understanding that employees need coaching and regular feedback to succeed, Queen's has implemented the **Performance Dialogue Process (PDP)** to allow staff at all levels to have regular opportunities for meaningful conversations with supervisors about their work and contributions.

Respecting labour rights

Queen's recognizes unions and labour rights, including freedom of association and collective bargaining for all. Our Human Resources website features a list of the **University Unions and Associations** and their corresponding collective agreements. The agreements set the terms of employment at Queen's as well as conditions for salary negotiation and conflict resolution.



Queen's Special Recognition for Staff Awards 2020

[Click to Watch](#)

An equal and diverse workforce

Queen's recognizes and appreciates the value that diversity adds to its activities and initiatives. Through its [Employment Equity Policy](#), the university acknowledges its responsibility to maintain an employment equity program that includes processes, plans, and procedures that address historic under-representation in the employment of marginalized groups. This includes women, members of visible minorities and racialized groups, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation or gender identity, and other such groups designated by legislation or otherwise.

Preventing harassment and discrimination in the workplace

Our [Harassment and Discrimination Prevention and Response Policy](#) mandates education and other proactive measures to prevent harassment and discrimination in the workplace. It also establishes procedures that ensure that the university effectively addresses and responds to reports and complaints of harassment and/or discrimination in the workplace.

Queen's protects its community members through the University Secretariat and Legal Counsel's [Harassment/Discrimination Complaint Policy and Procedure](#). The university has established a [Human Rights and Equity Office](#) that aims to increase awareness among the university community of the effects of harassment and discrimination through educational programs and other initiatives. It also provides [support and protection from reprisal](#) for individuals and groups who are the targets of harassment and discrimination.



Queen's is committed to ending discrimination in the workplace, including discrimination based on religion, sexuality, gender, and age.



Queen's University Human Rights and Equity Office

[▶ Click to Watch](#)



Aimee Burtch, Communications & Outreach Manager, Lavonne Hood, University Ombudsperson, and Kathryn Morrissey, Intake Coordinator of the Office of the University Ombudsperson

An impartial resource for promoting fairness

The Office of the University Ombudsperson is an independent, confidential and impartial support for the Queen's community. It provides general advice to employees and students about their rights and responsibilities and helps ensure procedural fairness in decision-making.

Our commitment to ethical sourcing of goods

Queen's has strict policies against forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking, and child labour. The University Trademark and Licensing Code of Conduct 2020 outlines our commitment to ensuring that Queen's licensed products are produced in an ethical manner, consistent with international labour standards. We also require that these standards are applied to vendors and their working conditions. The Queen's University Procurement Policy also directs our staff to use accountable, efficient, transparent, and ethical practices to acquire products for the university whether by purchase, rental, or lease.

Outlining our commitment to employment equity

The Human Rights and Equity Office at Queen's University developed the Employment Equity Action Plan, outlining the University's goals to increase equity in the areas of recruitment, retention, and professional development for the academic year.

Our goals in action

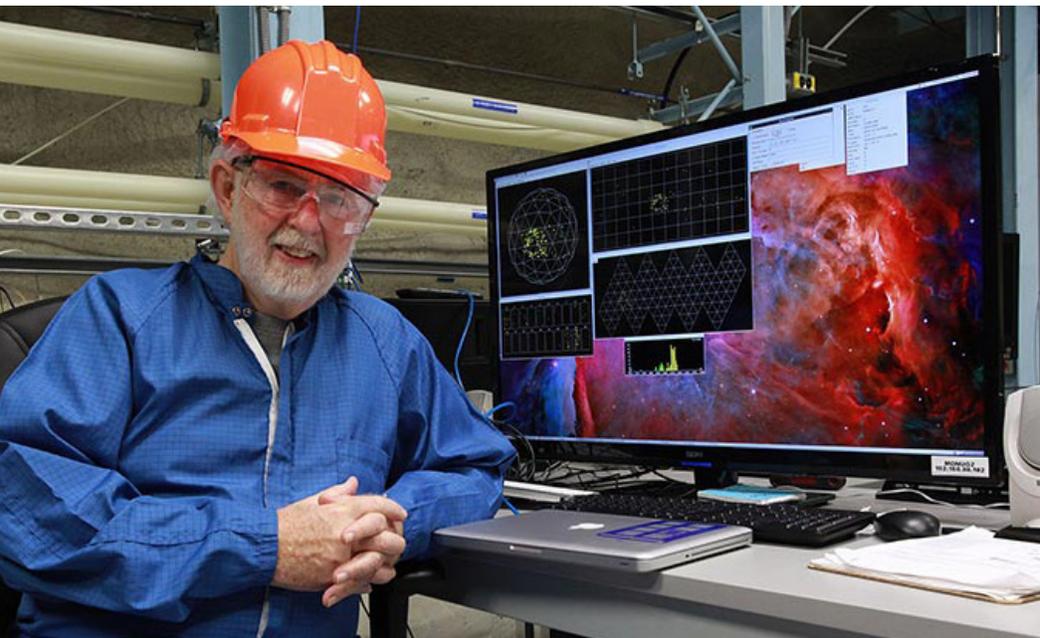
SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Research and innovation

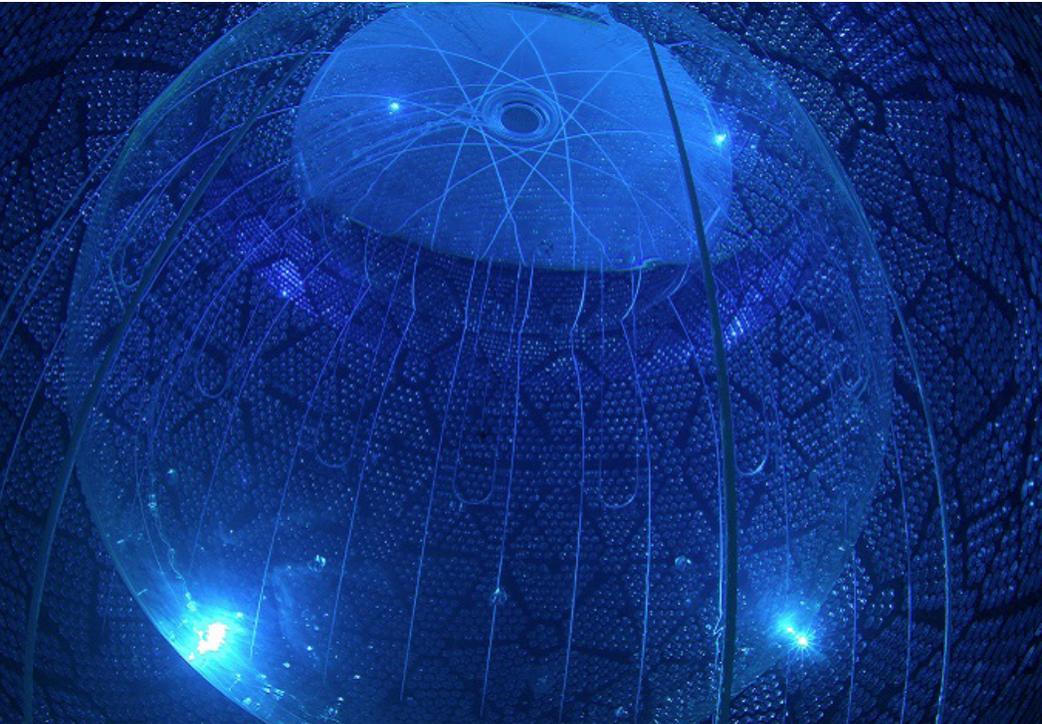


Dr. Arthur B. McDonald at SNOLAB

The 2015 Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded jointly to Queen's Professor Dr. Arthur B. McDonald and Dr. Takaaki Kajita.

Leading the way in research

We are proud to be one of Canada's leading universities for research. Queen's is a member of the U15 group of Canadian Research Universities, a collective of the country's most research-intensive post-secondary institutions, and we are ranked #2 in research awards among Canadian Institutions. We are also honoured to have 51 Canada Research Chairs on our faculty.



Queen's Art of Research submission: *Window on a Window to the Universe* by Mark Chen, Gordon and Patricia Gray Chair (Physics, Engineering Physics & Astronomy), SNOLAB

Teaching and student life

Dunin-Deshpande Queen's Innovation Centre

The Dunin-Deshpande Queen's Innovation Centre is a pan-university initiative that encourages and supports the innovation and entrepreneurship activities of students, professors, entrepreneurs, and community members. Programs are vast and include the QIC Summer Initiative Program, QyourVenture Accelerator Program, The Foundry, Regional Pitch Competition Series, Konnect, The Hive, Rose Innovation Hub, and SparQ Studios Makerspace.

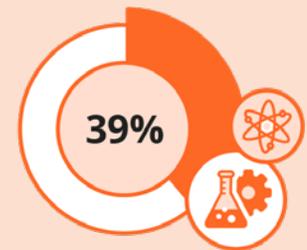
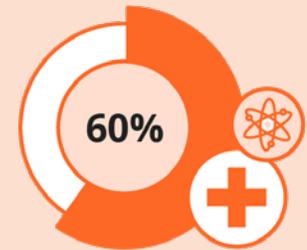


"Queen's supports innovation and entrepreneurship by facilitating students' access to the resources, networks, programs and mentors they need to collaborate and transform ideas into products, services, and organizations that make a difference in the world."

Greg Bavington

Executive Director of the Queen's Innovation Centre (DDQIC),
Special Advisor to the Provost, Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Sustainable Development Goals By The Numbers:



60% of research income funded health research and 39% supported STEM research in 2019. In that same year, over \$3.4M in funding supported innovative research in the humanities and social sciences. More than half of our academic staff are also assigned to faculties that prioritize innovation, with 37% of academic staff focused on STEM and 15% on medicine in 2019.

Fifty-five university spin-offs established at least 3 years ago are still active.

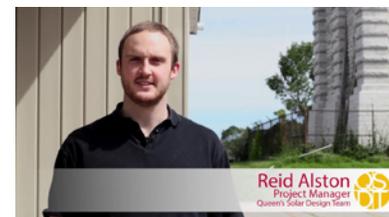


Start a Business While You Study at Queen's University

[Click to Watch](#)

Our on-campus off-grid house

The Queen's Solar Design Team provides hands-on experience and education to students interested in sustainable technology development. The team is designing and engineering a fully off-grid, autonomous house, the Queen's Solar Education Centre (QSEC), on our West Campus. The house is Kingston's cutting-edge hub for resource efficiency research, hosting tours, community events, children's camps, and school workshops.



Tour of the Queen's Solar Education Centre (QSEC)

[▶ Click to Watch](#)

Community impact

Partners in innovation

Through Queen's Partnerships and Innovation (QPI), we offer services, resources, and programs to support entrepreneurs, including those from Queen's, to accelerate the growth of startups and small to medium-sized enterprises within Kingston and Eastern Ontario.

Empowering women entrepreneurs in our community

The WE-CAN project at Queen's works with local community partners in the Kingston area to inspire and empower existing and aspiring women-identifying entrepreneurs. The program, which has supported over 800 women in the community since it began in 2019, equips participants with resources, expert mentors, and networks to help them expand existing businesses and to launch new ventures in Kingston and the surrounding area.



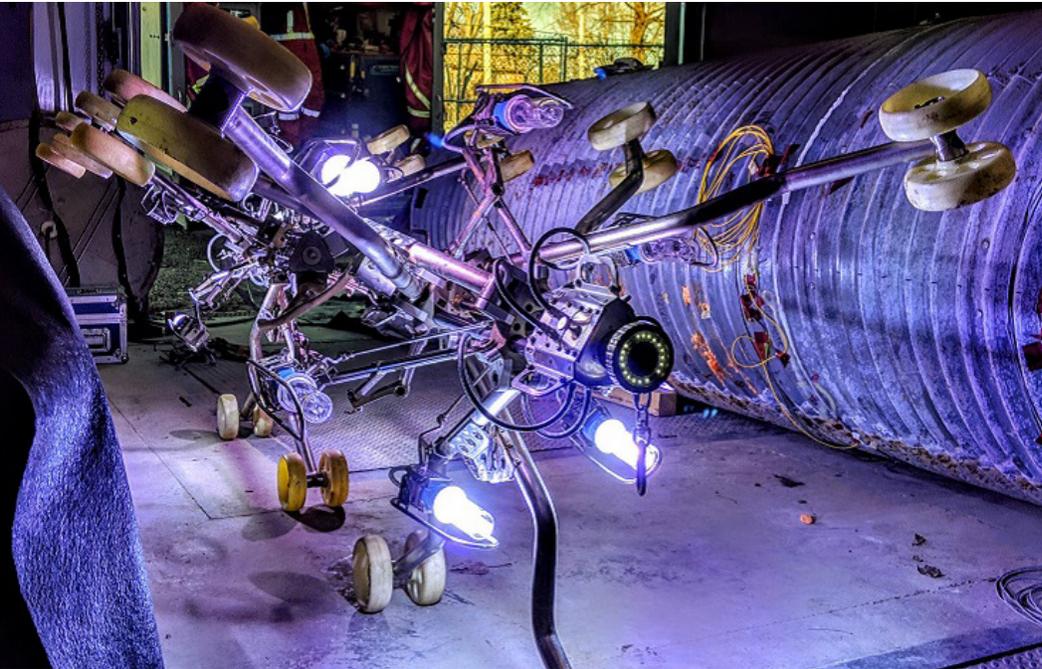
WE-CAN Client Highlights

[▶ Click to Watch](#)

Global reach

Research addressing the world's most pressing issues

Queen's is home to 24 institutional and faculty-based research centres and institutes that support interdisciplinary networks. Through international collaboration, research, and comparative approaches, they develop international best practice around contributing to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and ask critical questions related to issues ranging from dark matter, to divisive societies, and energy transition.



Queen's Art of Research submission: *A New Light* by Robert Cichocki (Civil Engineering), GeoEngineering Lab

Administration and operations

Applying the gold standard of green buildings

The LEED building certification commitment (LEED) certification program, administered by the Canadian Green Building Council, is the leading benchmark for the design and operation of high-performance green buildings. The School of Kinesiology and the Goodes Hall West Wing are LEED certified. Additionally, the John Deutsch University Centre (JDUC) renovation project is registered and awaiting certification.

The master plan

Our Campus Master Plan requires new buildings be designed to minimize their environmental impacts, contribute to the campus's overall sustainability, and apply LEED standards, with a focus on designing for flexibility, adaptability, and longevity.

Sprouting in the sky

Green roofs reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve energy consumption. Queen's has installed Green Roofs on several buildings, including Goodes Hall, Jeffery Hall, the New Medical Building, Biosciences, and Botterell Hall.



Queen's University Goodes Hall
West Wing

Our goals in action

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

Reduce inequality within and among countries

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Teaching and student life

Understanding and improving diversity among our applicants

The Student Applicant Equity Census, which is administered to all Queen's applicants, asks prospective students to voluntarily indicate their gender and whether they identify as an Indigenous person, a person with a disability, and/or a racialized person. It also seeks to determine the overall economic makeup of applicants. Responses are not used in the admission selection process, but rather, they support our efforts in the pursuit of educational equity.

Encouraging first-generation students

Queen's supports First-Generation students attending university through its First-Generation Admission Policy to First-Entry Undergraduate Programs, which offers additional and alternative admission pathways to full-time undergraduate degree programs.



Queen's is committed to counteracting discrimination in this institution and developing a climate of educational equity that recognizes and respects the equal dignity and worth of all who seek to participate in the life, work, and mission of the university.



Supporting aspirations of Indigenous students

Indigenous students face unique challenges while pursuing post-secondary goals. Our [Admission Policy For Indigenous Candidates To First-Entry Undergraduate Programs](#) offers Indigenous candidates alternative pathways for admission to the first year of full-time undergraduate degree programs.

A home away from home for Indigenous students

The [Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre](#) is a safe and welcoming gathering place for Indigenous students at Queens. The Centre provides holistic support services including peer mentorship, academic assistance, financial aid, and cultural programming.



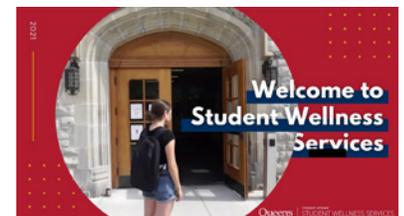
Queen's University Four Directions Indigenous Centre

Supporting students with disabilities

The [Queen's Student Accessibility Services](#) support students with disabilities and access needs. Staff work directly with students to develop individualized accommodation plans and offer a variety of services, including the [START-UP](#) first-year transition program, referrals to on- and off-campus services, and awareness training.

Understanding that students with disabilities face increased financial burdens, Queen's also offers [Financial Assistance and Services For Students With Disabilities](#).

The Queen's Student Accessibility Services (QSAS) supports more than 2,000 Queen's students each year.



Welcome to Queen's University Student Wellness Services!

[Click to Watch](#)

Community impact

Protecting and advancing human rights

The Human Rights and Equity Office (HREO) at Queen's aims to advance human rights, equity, and inclusion by developing and implementing employment and educational equity strategies. The office has four main service offerings: Human rights advisory services; equity services; sexual violence prevention and response; and accessibility. Our Human Rights Advisory Services provide advice concerning human rights issues and advocate for practices and policies that address human rights in our community.

Members of the Queen's community who make good-faith disclosures of alleged Improper Acts, including discrimination and harassment, are protected from educational or employment repercussions through our University Policy on Safe Disclosure Reporting and Investigation.

Empowering all our members to thrive at Queen's

Inclusive Queen's offers tailored services, programs, and resources to support individuals from a range of cultures, ethnicities, spiritual affiliations, socioeconomic backgrounds, gender identities, and sexual orientations. The program's website is a resource for students, faculty, and staff to learn about initiatives that are transforming Queen's into a school that empowers all members of its community.

Administration and operations

Removing barriers to education

The Queen's University Accessibility Policy guides us in identifying, removing, and preventing barriers to persons with disabilities so we can ensure equal access to all that our university has to offer.

Creating an accessible and inclusive campus

Queen's has a vision to build an inclusive campus community with accessible spaces and services. The Queen's University Accessibility Hub is our central online resource for accessibility, providing supports as well as information on initiatives pertaining to disability and accessibility issues on campus. The Hub also includes resources and services for prospective and current faculty and staff.



Inclusive Queen's

[▶ Click to Watch](#)



**Queen's Accessibility:
Universal Design for Me**

[▶ Click to Watch](#)

Navigating accessibility on campus

Our online Accessibility Hub includes a searchable [Building Accessibility and Campus Map](#) that highlights accessible facilities on campus, including accessible entrances, parking lots, places to eat and emergency phones. Students can also download the [Queen's Equity Locator App](#) for maps of all three Queen's University campuses, with crowd sourced, equity-related amenities such as accessible buildings, gender-neutral washrooms, elevators and more.



Stamping out racism

Queen's University senior leadership and deans have signed the [Declaration of Commitment to Address Systemic Racism](#) and pledged immediate action to address systemic racism on campus. They also committed to identifying and eliminating barriers within university policies and practices related to the recruitment and admission of racialized students and enhancing initiatives to diversify the student population.

Our goals in action

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



Research and innovation

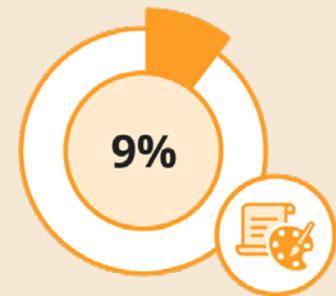
Gazing at the stars

The first Queen's Observatory was established in the mid-19th century, the beginning of a long and distinguished history of astronomical observing at Queen's University. The current observatory houses a 14-inch reflecting telescope in a dome on the roof of Ellis Hall, used primarily for research, student training and public demonstrations.



Connor Stone (Physics, Engineering Physics and Astronomy),
Queen's Observatory Coordinator

Sustainable Development Goals By The Numbers:



Approximately 9% of the university's expenditure was spent on arts and heritage in 2019.

Record and preserve cultural heritage

Queen's is committed to recording and preserving aspects of cultural heritage such as local folklore, traditions, language, and knowledge. Our **Office of Indigenous Initiatives - Art on Campus** has installed plinths in outdoor locations around campus that identify the land the university sits on. There are also various artworks that have been installed around campus that have been produced by Indigenous artists and represent the languages, traditions, and knowledge systems of Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and other Indigenous nations from Turtle Island (Canada).



Queen's Law - Hannah Claus on "words that are lasting"

[Click to Watch](#)

Teaching and student life

Student safety

Two programs provide around the clock safety for the members of our community - **AMS Walkhome** is a service provided by the Alma Mater Society offering safe walks to students, both on the Queen's campus and within the Kingston community, and **Safe Walk** is run by Campus Security when Walkhome is off duty.



A Vogue Style Interview with Walkhome

[Click to Watch](#)

Community impact

All are welcome to Queen's campus

We have and will always welcome the public to use and enjoy many of the university's arts spaces, libraries, museums, and natural heritage lands, such as the **Queen's University Library, Miller Museum of Geology, Arthur B. McDonald Canadian Astroparticle Physics Research Institute's Visitors Centre, and sports fields.**

World renowned public art gallery on campus

More than a professional art centre and academic and research resource, the **Agnes Etherington Art Centre** is also a leading, internationally recognized public art gallery. One of its feature exhibits is its **Indigenous Art Collection** which is comprised of significant works by First Nations, Métis, and Inuit artists from Turtle Island as well as Indigenous artists and communities internationally.



Queen's University Agnes Etherington Art Centre

A campus built among the trees

Many rare trees exist on the Queen's campus, including those native to Canada and others, that have been introduced from other parts of the world. The Queen's University Snodgrass Arboretum was established in 1999 to recognize these unique species. A campus map also allows visitors to take self-guided tours and identify the more interesting specimens.



"At Queen's we have a responsibility to understand our impact and to ensure that the road we choose for our future is one that benefits us all."

Patrick Deane
Queen's University Principal
and Vice-Chancellor

Performances by internationally acclaimed talent

The Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts, or "The Isabel" as it is fondly known, hosts public performances, bringing local, national, and internationally renowned artists and performers of all genres to the local community, including musicians and performing artists.



Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts

[Click to Watch](#)

Administration and operations

Driving sustainable commuting

Queen's is committed to reducing our environmental footprint by encouraging positive behaviour change and alternatives. The Transpass Program is an example of how we set targets for more sustainable commuting. The program includes discounted monthly passes, unlimited monthly bus rides, and other incentives for using public transit. We also participate in the National Commuter Challenge – a week-long competition designed to encourage active and sustainable commuting.

The campus at the city scale

Decisions made by the university have an impact on the surrounding city and community. As such, it is important that there is coordinated planning to ensure mutual benefit between Kingston and the university. The Queen's University Campus Master Plan outline's Queen's commitment to ensuring our planning decisions complement the vision and policies of the City of Kingston.



Since 2014, over \$20M has been spent on conservation efforts.

Our goals in action

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Research and innovation

Leading the charge against microplastics

Researcher Dr. Myra Hird, Professor in the School of Environmental Studies, is leading Canada's fight against microplastics, which harm both the environment and living creatures. Hird, along with the federal government's top science advisors, represented Canada at a recent G7 meeting on Microplastic Pollution, which is looking at best practices for reducing the amount of microplastics in our water and soil.

Sustainable Development Goals By The Numbers:



In 2019, 33% of Queen's University waste was recycled.



Dr. Myra Hird, Queen's National Scholar

Teaching and student life

It pays to dine sustainably

Sustainability is incorporated everywhere at Queen's, including in our Dining Halls. The Hospitality Services **Sustainability Framework** includes several initiatives that are effective in reducing waste. Community members are rewarded for purchasing coffee and tea in their own reusable cups or bringing their own cutlery to the dining halls through our BYO-ECO Card program. They can also save money on take-out orders when they purchase a reusable ECO-container.



Queen's has the country's first university-based Sustainability Chef, responsible for our environmentally friendly and always tasty food options.



Students as partners in environmental stewardship

Student volunteers, in conjunction with Waste Management, have conducted a **Waste to Resource Assessment**, which audited the amount of waste at five locations across our campus. The audit report identified opportunities to improve our overall waste diversion rate and expand our recycling program. It also recommended that Queen's continue to raise awareness and education about waste and recycling procedures on campus.

Take less, waste less

The university makes special efforts to promote the 3Rs. Queen's Hospitality Services supports initiatives to help students, staff and employees **Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle**.



Community impact

Community recognition for our sustainability initiatives

The City of Kingston, through its Sustainable Kingston program, awarded the Queen's Hospitality Services the 2019 Organizational Sustainability Champion Award. Queen's was recognized for its extensive efforts to champion food security, environmental stewardship, sense of community and climate action.

Moving toward zero plastic waste

Our efforts to reduce plastic use continue to pay off. As a Bottled Water Free Campus we have minimized plastic bottle waste. Because we regularly track the amount of waste generated and recycled across our campus, we also know that our awareness and recycling programs have reduced the amount of waste produced at Queen's and diverted large amounts of plastic waste from our city's landfills.



Our Bottled Water Free Campus initiatives remove almost 100,000 water bottles from circulation every year.



Administration and operations

Respecting the environment in all we do

We believe we have a responsibility for the safety of the environment as a shared resource. As such, our Policy Statement on Environmental Management commits to exceeding all legislation and formal obligations for protecting the environment. The policy also aims to educate the university community about actions they can take to have the smallest possible impact on the environment.



Queen's Art of Research submission: *Nature's van Gogh* by Hayden Wainwright (Biology)

Sustainability at your fingertips

Sustainable Queen's is a dynamic community, bringing together campus and Kingston partners pursuing climate action and sustainability efforts in all their forms. The [Sustainable Queen's website](#) outlines our sustainability initiatives and includes various student resources, research and reports in one handy location.

Sustainable sourcing

Queen's University strives to create a culture of sustainability on campus that influences the way we operate. Our [Sustainable Procurement Guidelines](#) highlight criteria for items that are routinely purchased on campus, within the context of existing purchasing agreements. It also recommends products that are currently available through existing Queen's suppliers.

Collaborating for a more sustainable Queen's

The [Sustainability Working Group](#), made up of students, faculty, staff and alumni, seeks to determine ways the university can meet sustainability goals and carbon reduction targets. Some of the recommendations identified through the [Sustainability Working Group Annual Report](#) included the collaboration with Sustainable Kingston on the 2020 Kingston Climate Change Symposium and the creation of a Sustainability Reserve to support environmental initiatives.



2021 Kingston Climate Change Symposium

[Click to Watch](#)

Our goals in action

SDG 13: Climate Action

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

13 CLIMATE ACTION



Research and innovation

Working with Inuit communities to develop sustainability and economic development

Queen's researchers, working with local communities in Nunavut, developed and led "[Towards a Sustainable Fishery for Nunavummiut](#)," an ambitious project that helped sustain healthy fish stocks in Nunavut. The project integrated traditional and local knowledge with leading edge genomic science to strengthen local fisheries, increase employment and economic development and improve food security for Nunavummiut, the people of Nunavut.



Towards a Sustainable Fishery for Nunavummiut: A Genomics Solution

[Click to Watch](#)

Teaching and student life

Teaching sustainability for the real world

Queen's recognizes that learning has the power to impact the world around us. The [Project in Environmental Sustainability \(ENSC 430\)](#), offered through the School of Environmental Studies in partnership with the City of Kingston, challenges students to come up with innovative solutions to climate change in the local community. The course, led by faculty as well as community experts, encourages students to produce a "creative output" as part of their project, which also includes a public education/engagement element.



"I've been inspired to make a difference" Queen's University Principal's Dream Course

[Click to Watch](#)

Community impact

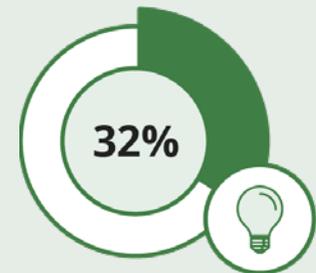
Promoting preservation in our campus and community

The Queen's Water Environment Conference connects students and the Kingston community to passionate speakers and exciting networking opportunities within the water industry. It also provides delegates with a different perspective on solutions to environmental issues. The conference is only one of many regular events organized by the university to promote conservation and sustainability.

Declaring a state of climate emergency

When the City of Kingston Council met to consider declaring a climate emergency, Queen's students and Environmental Studies Professor Dr. Diane Orihel made an impassioned presentation during the meeting in support of the motion. Shortly after, councillors voted and Kingston became the first city in Ontario to declare a climate emergency.

Sustainable Development Goals By The Numbers:



32% of the university's electricity was from low carbon sources for the 2019 academic year.

35%

Queen's has reduced Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions by 35% between 2008 to 2020.



Dr. Diane Orihel (centre), Queen's National Scholar, and members of the Queen's Experimental Ecology & Ecotoxicology Research Group Samuel Patterson, Johanna Mason, and Jeffrey Cederwall

Global reach

Pan-North American cooperation on climate change

Queen's is a member of the University Climate Change Coalition (UC3) along with other institutions from across Canada, the US and Mexico. Together members mobilize our resources and expertise to accelerate local and regional climate action in partnership with businesses, cities and provinces/states, foundations, and other organizations.

In 2018-19, Queen's hosted its first UC3 Forum in partnership with Sustainable Kingston. The forum focused on developing a shared understanding of the current state of climate action in our community and creating opportunities for mutual support.



Queen's Art of Research submission: *Shattered Planet* by Allen Tian (Biology)

Administration and operations

Fighting climate change through responsible investing

As part of its commitment to become more sustainable, Queen's became one of the founding signatories of "[Investing to Address Climate Change: A Charter for Canadian Universities](#)." The charter calls on the signatories to adopt responsible investing guidelines, monitor the carbon intensity of their investments and apply other measures that foster low-carbon investment practices.

Our pledge for carbon neutrality

Queen's has signed the University and College Presidents' Climate Change Statement of Action for Canada, pledging to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance research and curriculum in the areas of climate change and sustainability. As part of this commitment, we developed our [Queen's Climate Action Plan \(CAP\)](#), which aims to reduce GHG emissions by 70% from 2008 levels by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2040.



Queen's aims to become carbon neutral by 2040.



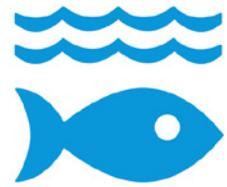
In signing on to the Climate Charter for Canadian Universities, Queen's also made a [Responsible Investing Commitment](#) that aligns with international standards including the UN-supported Principles of Responsible Investment. The University has also adopted recommendations by the Board of Trustees' [Climate Change Action Task Force](#) which mandate responsible investing for Queen's portfolios.

Our goals in action

SDG 14: Life Below Water

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development

14 LIFE BELOW WATER



Research and innovation

Understanding our rivers and lakes

Our state-of-the-art Coastal Engineering Lab is the largest hydraulics laboratory in Canada. It is also one of the premier facilities for fundamental and applied research and education on a broad range of water issues, and especially in the fields of river engineering, lake dynamics, coastal engineering, water supply systems, and landslides.

Maintain local ecosystems and their biodiversity

Located on the shore of scenic Lake Ontario and adjacent to the wetland-rich UNESCO world biosphere reserve of the Frontenac Arch, Queen's University is ideally situated for research into freshwater ecology. The members of our Freshwater Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences Research Group conduct exciting research on a wide array of topics including zooplankton ecology, population biology, ecotoxicology, paleolimnology, invasive species, fish physiology, and reproductive biology.

Our Paleoecological Environmental Assessment and Research Laboratory (PEARL) monitors inland aquatic systems using paleolimnology – a multidisciplinary science that uses physical, chemical, and biological information preserved in sediment profiles – to reconstruct past environmental conditions. The lab, which is co-led by Dr. John Smol, Canada Research Chair in Environmental Change, also holds the weekly Limnology Seminar Series to explore topics related to limnology, paleoecology, and aquatic science.



Coastal Wave Pool at Queen's

[▶ Click to Watch](#)

Transforming a lake into a science experiment

Acclaimed researcher and Queen's Professor Diane Orihel and her students transformed parts of a research lake into a test tube in 2019. They then deliberately released oil into the secured area, so that they could better understand the consequences of an oil spill in a freshwater lake.

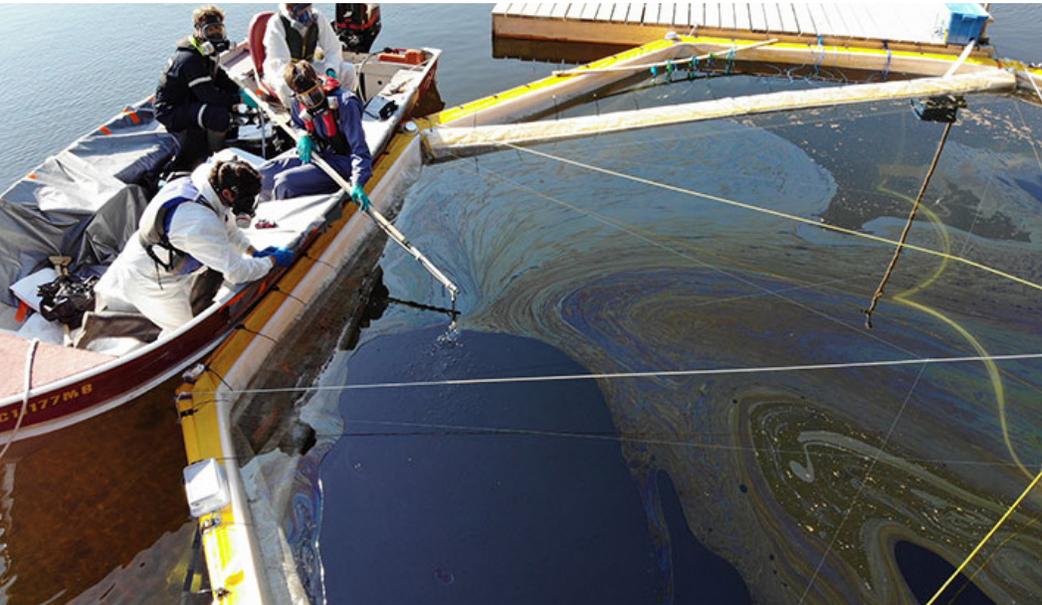


Photo Credit: Jose Luis Rodriguez Gil

Cross-border collaborative research

A number of Queen's faculty members are part of the Great Lakes Research Consortium. The group, which includes 18 colleges in New York and Ontario, are conducting research to improve the understanding of the Great Lakes ecosystem.

Teaching and student life

Field studies

The Kennedy Field Station (KFS) is a multi-use, watershed facility located in Eastern Ontario on the Salmon River, an important tributary to the Great Lakes. Managed by the Department of Civil Engineering, it serves as an important research centre for our students and as an outreach tool for the university and its partner organizations.



RBC Queen's University

Water Initiative

[Click to Watch](#)

Understanding how clean water affects human health

Water has a direct impact on the sustainability of communities. Our [Graduate Diploma in Water and Human Health](#), offered through the Beauty Water Research Centre, teaches students to critically evaluate water issues, and identify key aspects of concern to human health. It also explores water regulations and policies around the globe.



Graduate Diploma in Water and Human Health

[Click to Watch](#)

Community impact

Spreading the word about the importance of clean water

The [Beauty Water Research Centre \(BWRC\) Great Lakes Water Festival](#) is an annual awareness event that engages hundreds of grade four students from the community in activities that demonstrate the critical importance of water in their daily lives.



Great Lake Water Festival, 7 June, 2018

[Click to Watch](#)

Public sustainable fishing programs

Queen's organizes various public events to promote the sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism. Our annual [Elbow Lake Centre Public Outreach Events](#) include Family Fishing Day in July and Family Ice Fishing in the winter, where participants can learn from fish biologists about fishing techniques and the importance of catch and release.

Our [Freshwater Fisheries Conservation Lab](#) also offers multimedia resources for the public and for anglers on everything from how to tell the age of a fish to keeping fish in good health.

Exploring local lakes

We encourage visitors to explore and discover the diverse ecology at our Elbow Lake facilities. The [Elbow Lake Trail Guide App](#) helps visitors learn about the wetlands' environmental features and identifies points of interest along the several kilometres of walking trails.

Global reach



Queen's Art of Research submission: *Under the Glacier* by Dr. Alexander Braun
(Geological Science and Geological Engineering)

Accelerating water innovations

Queen's is proud member of the Ontario Water Consortium, which is dedicated to researching and advancing the commercialization of innovative water technologies across our province.

Partners in protecting Canada's oceans

As a member of Canada's Ocean Supercluster, Queen's is working with other leading industry and academic institutions across the country to solve our ocean challenges and to sustainably grow Canada's ocean economy.

Administration and operations

Sustainable seafood

Fish stocks around the world are plummeting. To help reduce global overfishing, all seafood sold or served on campus is sustainably harvested.

Our goals in action

SDG 15: Life on Land

Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



Research and innovation

Canada's largest inland field station

For almost 70 years, students have collaborated with international researchers at the Queen's University Biological Station (QUBS), one of the premier scientific field stations in Canada. Teams conduct leading-edge research and participate in courses spanning ecology, evolution, conservation, geography, and environmental science. The station also recently installed the QUBS Live stream, an underwater camera that monitors aquatic ecosystems.

The QUBS Mandate focuses on providing opportunities for teaching and research in biology and related sciences. It also promotes using active stewardship and best management practices to conserve local terrestrial and aquatic environments, and biodiversity.



Queen's University Biological Station

Tracking polar bears

Polar bears have seen their ecology markedly impacted by climate change. Queen's researchers Stephen C. Lougheed, Peter Van Coeverden de Groot (Biology) and Graham Whitelaw (Environmental Studies) have received government funding to monitor the impacts of environmental change on these majestic creatures. Their project, **BearWatch**, combined cutting-edge genomics with Inuit traditional knowledge to develop a non-invasive biomarker toolkit and community-based monitoring program.

Community impact

Consulting with Indigenous communities

Given Queen's historical connection to Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee territories, the university is committed to strengthening connections with local Indigenous communities. Our **Partnerships with Indigenous communities and organizations** are an essential asset in developing our Indigenous-focused academic programs, research, and policies at Queen's.



Friendship Wampum: Peace, Friendship, and Good Minds – The friendship wampum belt was presented to Queen's University Senate by the Clan Mothers at Tyendinaga, and the Grandmothers' Council in Kingston, on March 7, 2017. This cherished symbol is now present at all Senate meetings, to represent the lasting covenant of peace and friendship.

Partnering with the City of Kingston to promote sustainability

We are honoured to partner with Sustainable Kingston, one of seven Green Economy Hubs in Ontario. The collaboration allows Queen's to join a supportive network of local organizations that set and achieve sustainability goals on measuring, reducing, and setting targets on carbon footprints.

Celebrating sustainability in our community

Queen's hosts a series of events in the Kingston community as part of its annual Sustainable Days. The events include workshops, tips, and inspiration for going green including sessions on sustainable cooking, at-home composting and more.

Global reach

Urban planning beyond our borders

The School of Urban and Regional Planning collaborates with public and private organisations across Canada and the world to exchange ideas and develop ongoing research and training programs that aim to meet the challenges of a rapidly evolving urban environment.

Across the ocean, into the forest

At our UK-based Bader International Study Centre (BISC), the Herstmonceux Castle Forest School offers programs for local community members where they can achieve and develop confidence through hands-on experiences in a woodland environment.



Master of Urban and Regional Planning

[▶ Click to Watch](#)



Queen's University Bader International Study Centre at Herstmonceux Castle in East Sussex, England

Administration and operations

Protecting birds on campus

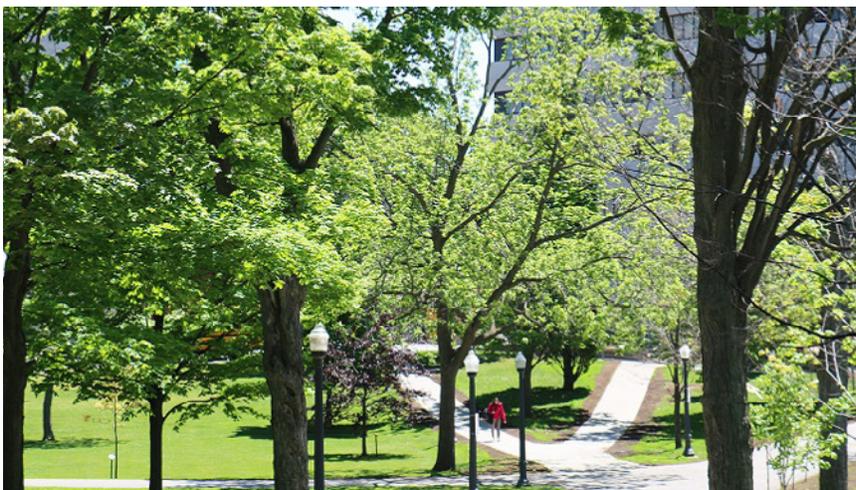
When a Queen's student presented research on bird collisions on campus, the Office of Sustainability installed Collision Reduction Film on campus windows. Combining research with sustainability, the installation has brought people from across the university together to protect the local environment.



Queen's Art of Research submission: *First Emergence* by Ivana Schoepf (Biology) at Queen's University Biological Station

Sustainable use of campus land

Development is a major threat to wildlife habitats. Our Main Campus Master Plan calls for the conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems associated with the university and identifies stringent conditions for new developments on campus.



Queen's loves local food!
We buy fresh produce from over 27 farms in Ontario and Quebec – more if you factor in eggs, dairy, and meat.

Our goals in action

SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Research and innovation

Research expertise

The Institute of Intergovernmental Relations is Canada's premier university-based centre for research on federalism and intergovernmental relations, both in Canada and in countries around the world.

Research that shapes public policy

The John Deutsch Institute for the Study of Economic Policy in the Department of Economics informs policy-making in Canada and abroad by focusing on policy-relevant research in economics and related fields.

Serving those who serve us

The Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health Research hub in Kingston is a collaboration between Queen's and the Royal Military College of Canada. The Institute aims to enhance the lives of Canadian military personnel, Veterans, and their families through specialized health research.

Teaching and student life

Educating current and future leaders

The one-year, multi-disciplinary Master of Public Administration (MPA) program has been preparing full-time students to enter leadership roles in public service and policy-making for more than 35 years.



Queen's Master of Public Administration (MPA) Program

[!\[\]\(679c29d92d8a5e000397313719026823_img.jpg\) Click to Watch](#)

Listening to our community

Queen's Principal and Vice-Chancellor Patrick Deane has expressed his eagerness to listen to members of the Queen's and Kingston community as part of developing any strategic plans. In 2019, he launched a consultation process with the university community. He has also hosted a Kingston community breakfast, during which he pledged to work with local businesses, politicians, and other stakeholders from across the region to build a strong future for Kingston and the surrounding area.



Global reach

Fostering healthy relationships among children

PREVNet (Promoting Relationships and Eliminating Violence Network) is a national research hub comprised of researchers from 30 universities as well as organizations across the country that is developing solutions to prevent violence and bullying among children and youth. The organization was co-founded and is led by Dr. Wendy Craig, an award-winning professor of psychology.



Dr. Wendy Craig (Psychology), co-founder and Scientific co-Director of PREVNet

Administration and operations

University governance measures

The Queen's Board of Trustees is the university's highest governing body and is responsible for the overall operations of the university. It includes elected representation from undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and staff.

Diversity at the University's highest levels

The Board of Trustees' Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Indigenization Action Plan instructs the Board to consider diversity and inclusion in its own composition and that of its working groups. It also requires the consideration of diversity in all its mandates and policies.

Commitment to free speech

Queen's Free Expression Policy protects free speech on campus. It includes the right of any person, group, or community to communicate opinions and ideas without interference, censorship, or sanction, including the right to engage in peaceful protest about the content of the free expression of others.



Queen's University Richardson Hall



Queen's University Richardson Hall

Our goals in action

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Research and innovation

Queen's is home to internationally recognized researchers exploring a range of environmental topics including climate change, renewable energy, and water. The Queen's University research centres and institutes work collaboratively with each other and with international organizations to develop best practice around contributing to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Sustainable Development Goals by the numbers



Queen's has 24 institutional and faculty-based research centres pursuing research that addresses grand challenges and societal issues of national and international scope.



Queen's Art of Research submission: *Researchers at Offroad Robotics* by Heshan Fernando, Ingenuity Labs Research Institute

Teaching and student life

Educating responsible leaders of tomorrow

The world needs leaders who are passionate about making a change and are ready to tackle challenging issues. The **Smith Business School Certificate in Social Impact** integrates social impact approaches into core business strategies and business models to inform the next generation of change leaders. Students have the opportunity to engage with industry leaders who are advancing social impact and grow their network through events offered through the **Centre for Social Impact**.



Canadian students compete to develop local solutions for global goals

Recognizing that students across our country have their own perspectives on how to advance sustainability, students at the Smith School of Business hosted a national competition to highlight student innovation. The **Global Goals JAM at Smith** is a competition that challenges student teams from across Canada to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals by creating local solutions with long-term impact.

Community impact

Strengthening the community around us

We are passionate about volunteering in the community to advance a more sustainable world. Principal Patrick Deane is a Cabinet Member of the United Way and also the Sector Chair for Education, working to strengthen our community and facilitate change.



Global reach

Collaborating to advance UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Queen's participates in cross-sectoral events with both government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to tackle the UN SDGs. We have direct involvement in national government SDG policy development, including identifying challenges, developing strategies, and enabling adaptive management.

Queen's students also participate in efforts to advance SDGs through educational initiatives, volunteering, research programs, and student-led clubs and associations.

“”

“[The SDGs] provide a shared language which helps universities in diverse geographical, political, and socio-economic locations understand and build upon the commonality of their work in both teaching and research.”

Patrick Deane

Queen's University Principal
and Vice-Chancellor



**Magna Charta Universitatum
2020 and Queen's University**

[Click to Watch](#)

Shaping the future of sustainable finance

The Institute for Sustainable Finance is a multi-disciplinary network of researchers, private sector leaders and government policy makers working together to shape Canada's innovations in sustainable finance.

The Institute has launched the Capital Mobilization Plan for a Canadian Low Carbon Economy. The landmark research highlights that cooperation between the public sector, private sector, and financial system is critical to securing investments needed to meet Canada's 2030 climate targets.

Shaping public policies that impact Canadians

Queen's faculty and students provide specific expert advice to local, regional, or national governments, through committee participation and provision of evidence. Our support helps to ensure better-informed and more effective public policies.

The Canadian Science Policy Conference brings together over 900 research, industry, and government leaders to discuss how to bridge the gaps between their sectors. At the 2019 event, Queen's hosted a panel discussion on artificial intelligence and natural resources management. The discussion explored the impact of AI on the natural resources sector, including employment and changing practice.

Administration and operations

Advancing our contributions to the SDGs

We are extremely proud to be the #1 ranked school in Canada and the fifth in the world when it comes to UN SDGs, according to the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings. However, we are not intent on resting on our laurels. We are committed to continuing to advance our work around each of the SDGs, to promote meaningful education on these goals across the university as well as in our city and beyond our borders. Over 15 annual reports produced by various units and departments across the university were provided as evidence for SDG 17, as proof of some of the tangible evidence the university is contributing to sustainability and social impact through efforts in research, teaching, and outreach.



My Insight. Your Takeaway.

Ryan Riordan

[Click to Watch](#)



Our progress

The Times Higher Education Impact Rankings are the only global performance tables that assess a university's societal impact against the United Nations' SDGs. In April 2021, THE revealed that Queen's had placed first in Canada and fifth in the world in the 2021 Impact Rankings. Learn more about the rankings and Queen's performance by clicking on the stories below.



Illustrating Queen's social impact

THE Impact Rankings submission measure Queen's overall contribution to global sustainability.

[Read about Queen's social impact](#)



What are the United Nations' SDGs?

Universities draw upon global framework to boost social impact of learning, research, and outreach.

[Learn about the United Nations' SDGs](#)



Transforming the global academy

Universities draw upon global framework to boost social impact of learning, research, and outreach.

[Read Patrick Deane's statement](#)

Our future

Our promise

We're committed to advancing outreach, research, teaching, and stewardship activities that align with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and tackle some of the world's most urgent challenges – from climate change to hunger and poverty.

To track our continued progress, we'll continue to participate in the annual Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, a global ranking that captures the role of universities in delivering on social impact and sustainability.

We encourage you to visit and explore some of the resources showcasing Queen's actions and initiatives advancing these global goals:

Queen's actions and initiatives

Queen's Gazette

News and updates on our latest initiatives advancing sustainability and social impact.

Sustainable Queen's

Sustainable Queen's is a dynamic community, bringing together campus and Kingston partners pursuing climate action and sustainability efforts in all their forms.

17 Rooms at Queen's

The 17 Rooms event at Queen's is a fast-paced, brainstorming approach to generating awareness of and action on the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Sustainable U

Queen's University Hospitality Services is committed to helping protect our community and environment.