

Summary

The Alumni House at Champlain College Master's Lodge

In many respects, Trent's alumni are the guardians of the spirit of Trent. They nurture a passion for lifelong learning, mentor and support current students, build community and provide critical resources to the university's mission. The creation of a new Alumni House in the Master's Lodge at Champlain College will enhance the engagement of alumni in the life of the university and its students.

How long has this been in the planning?

For over a decade, Trent's Alumni Association has discussed and defined the need for its own main campus headquarters. Indeed the Alumni Association's 2003 On Line Survey indicated that over 70% of alumni would recommend the development of an Alumni House. Trent President Bonnie Patterson notes that the "Master's Lodge in Champlain is arguably one of Master Architect Ron Thom's finest works. With sensitive and minimal changes, it lends itself beautifully to expanded use for the entire community as the new home for our alumni". (Please see enclosed floor plans for details.)

What are the benefits of this proposal?

The innovative plan for the multi-purpose facility would:

- Provide new social space for the university and community
- Offer short-term residential space for guest lecturers, visiting faculty and alumni-in-residence
- Provide alumni administrative office space
- Enhance undergraduate and university awareness of the Alumni Association and its programs of support for students
- Offer a main campus destination to welcome alumni and other visitors
- Provide a permanent home for the Alumni "Hall of Fame" and collections
- Improve outreach through receptions, meetings and special events
- Showcase and honour the work and influence of Master Architect Ron Thom

Why is the Master's Lodge available?

Although an Alumni House has been discussed for quite some time, it is only now that a meaningful opportunity has arisen with the availability of the Master's Lodge at Champlain College. Recent years have seen a preference by Heads of College to live off campus. Indeed, Champlain College was the last college to maintain its head of college in residence. After a decade in the lodge, Master Stephen Brown has accepted another term but indicated it was time to move his family to their Peterborough home.

Champlain College and the Alumni Affairs office/Trent University Alumni Association have formed a partnership that meets both college and alumni needs.

Departmental Offices - Alumni Affairs

The Alumni Office will move into the ready-made office suite. This office suite will incorporate a room presently being used as a family/guest room in the Lodge, as well as adjoining offices. The three-office suite will offer a generous configuration of space, including the potential for growth in staff resources.

Bookable Social Space

The former main floor living quarters of the Lodge (including kitchen, pantry, dining and living area) would continue to be used for college and university entertaining purposes. The tradition of hospitality extended through former Champlain Masters would be maintained, although the character of the rooms would be distinguished by the Alumni Association. The association would decorate the area with its collection of art, photography, books, music & videos and other Alumni collectibles.

Accommodation

The second floor accommodation space (including a bedroom with ensuite bath, small den which could also accommodate a single bed, a second bathroom and a small pantry/kitchenette area with adjoining seating area) would provide a new opportunity for bookable guest quarters. This guest facility will have a particular importance to the Alumni Association as the Alumni-in-Residence program matures.

Preliminary estimates to repair deficiencies, renovate washrooms, upgrade furnishings and improve accessibility are being developed with the assistance of the Physical Resources department. A facility development working group led by **Ingrid Nolan '74** and **Tony Storey '71** will co-ordinate repairs, improvements and furnishings that will be consistent with the character of the building.

Campaign

A priority furnishing, office equipment, renovation/needs agenda totalling approximately \$150,000 to \$200,000 will be established. It is recommended that an additional \$100,000 to \$200,000 Alumni House endowment be established to help ensure future maintenance and improvements.

The campaign will target Alumni Leaders, past and present, allowing for multi-year pledges, so as to encourage budgeted generosity in giving.

Currently we have more than \$40,000 already pledged towards the projected goal.