

Brock
University

Annual Report 2025-26



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge the land on which Brock University was built is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe people, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today, this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Métis and Inuit, and acknowledging reminds us that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.

Brock University's Senate 2025-26

Senate Officers

- Michelle Webber (Interim Chair) (BA '93)
- Don Cyr (Chair to April 30, 2026)
- Alison Braley-Rattai (Acting Vice-Chair)

Ex Officio Members (23 members (2 non-voting))

- James Allard (Interim Dean, Faculty of Humanities)
- Peter Berg (Dean, Faculty of Mathematics and Science)
- Sheila Cote-Meek (Interim Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement)
- Natalia Rodrigues (Designate for BUSU President, Vice-President, University Affairs, BUSU) (BA '26)
- Brad Clarke (Associate Vice-President, Students) (BA '00, MEd '18)
- Suzanne Curtin (Vice-Provost, Graduate Students and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs)
- Scott Johnstone* (Vice-President, Administration)
- Rajiv Jhangiani (Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning)
- Geraldine Jones* (Registrar and Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Services) (MA '12)
- Anne McCourt (Chair, Board of Trustees)
- Ingrid Makus (Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences)
- Tim Kenyon (Vice-President, Research)
- Nicole Nolan (University Librarian)
- Hilary Pearson (Chancellor)
- Brian Power (Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President, Academic)
- Lesley Rigg (President and Vice-Chancellor)
- Mario Berro (President, GSA) (BSc '23)
- Nota Klentrou (Dean, Faculty of Applied Health Sciences)
- Arja Vainio-Mattila (Provost and Vice-President, Academic)
- Mary-Louise Vanderlee (Dean, Faculty of Education) (BA '94, MEd '96, BEd '97)
- Thomas Winger (President, Concordia Seminary)
- Barry Wright (Dean, Goodman School of Business)
- Christopher Yendt (Alumni Association representative) (BA '15, BEd '15, BEd '20, MEd '21)
- TBD (Co-Chair, Indigenous Education Council)

Board of Trustees Members (2 members)

- Kevin Magee* (BA '14)
- Christine Sawchuk* (BAcc '04)

Undergraduate Student Representatives (6 members)

- Asmara Kaleem
- John Ross
- Daniel Oguejiofor (BSc '26)
- Arwen Arzadon
- Noor Naveed
- TBD

Graduate Student Representatives (2 members)

- Daniel Krowchuk (BSc '23)
- Yaa Nsiah

Faculty of Applied Health Sciences (FAHS)
Faculty of Education (FOE)
Faculty of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs (FGSPA)

Elected Full-Time Teaching Staff/Professional Librarians

(39 members required)

- Jeffrey Atkinson (FMS)
- Anteneh Ayanso (GSB)
- Christene Carpenter-Cleland (FMS) (BSc '93, MSc '96)
- Gale Coskan-Johnson (HUM)
- Paul LeBlanc (FAHS)
- Yifeng Li (FMS)
- Kelly Lockwood (FAHS)
- Amir Mofidi (FMS)
- Miriam Richards (FMS) (BSc '83)
- Larry Savage (FOSS) (BA '00, MA '01)
- Craig Tokuno (FAHS)
- Francine Vachon (GSB)
- Michelle Webber (FOSS) (BA '93)
- Catherine Hands (FOE)
- Alicia Zorretto (LIB)
- Poling Bork (FMS) (BSc '02, MEd '08, PhD '16)
- Alison Braley-Rattai (FOSS)
- Dan Malleck (FAHS)
- Tamara El-Hoss (HUM)
- Bareket Falk (FAHS)
- Amanda Burk (HUM)
- Matthew Royal (HUM)
- Kelli-an Lawrance (FAHS)
- Colin Rose (HUM)
- Michelle Vine (FAHS)
- Tek Thongpapanl (GSB)
- Michael Berman (HUM)
- Liz Clarke (FOSS)
- Rosemary Condillac (FOSS)
- Don Cyr (GSB)
- Drew Dane (FOSS)
- Dustin Duncan (FMS)
- Kimberley Gammage (FAHS)
- Waqar Nadeem (GSB)
- Unyong (Howard) Pyo (GSB)
- Marcel Oestreich (FOSS)
- Michael Savage (FOE) (BA '03, BEd '04, MEd '08)
- Samir Trabelsi (GSB)
- Michael O'Sullivan (FOE)

Brock University's Board of Trustees 2025-26

Board Officers

- Anne McCourt, Board Chair
- Robert Welch, Board Vice-Chair
- Mark Arthur, Immediate Past-Chair (BAdmin '77)

Ex-officio Members

- Hilary Pearson, Chancellor
- Lesley Rigg, President and Vice-Chancellor

Faculty Trustees

- Anteneh Ayanso
- Don Cyr, Senate Chair (to April 30, 2026)
- Kelly Lockwood

Staff Trustees

- Pauline Dawson
- Laura Lane (BA '09, BEd '09, MEd '11, PhD '20)

Student Trustees

- Mario Berro (GSA President) (BSc '23)
- Fiona Seabrook (BUSU President) (BAH '25)

Community Trustees

- Rejeanne Aimey
- Greg Berti
- Tim Empringham (MBA '08)
- Mario Falvo (BAcc '97)
- Arti Freeman
- Lucy He
- Kristian Knibutat (BAdmin '86)
- Brian Lang
- Kevin Magee (BA '14)
- Marleen McMaster
- JoAnna Roberto
- Christine Sawchuk (BAcc '04)
- Christopher Yendt (BUAA President) (BA '15, BEd '15, BEd '20, MEd '21)
- Debbie Zimmerman (LLD '20)

Faculty of Humanities (HUM)
Faculty of Mathematics and Science (FMS)
Faculty of Social Sciences (FOSS)
Goodman School of Business (GSB)

Brock University Students' Union (BUSU)
Brock University Alumni Association (BUAA)
Graduate Students' Association (GSA)
Library (LIB)

*Non-voting



Leah Riggs
**President and Vice-Chancellor,
 Brock University**

A message from the President

Welcome to Brock University's 2025-26 Annual Report.

This past year marked important progress for Brock University as we moved decisively from vision to action, bringing the priorities of our **Strategic Plan** to life and laying the groundwork for the University's future.

Across Brock, that momentum is taking shape in tangible ways. Our faculty, staff, students and partners are driving initiatives that strengthen the University today while opening new possibilities for how we teach, learn, conduct research and contribute to the communities we serve.

Within these pages, you'll see how Brock is building on its strengths in research, sustainability, student success and community engagement. From launching SPARK, our ambitious campus sustainability initiative, to opening our new Burlington Campus and breaking ground on the Brock University Norris W. Walker Research Farm, we are investing with purpose in the people, places and partnerships that will shape the next generation of discovery and learning.

You'll also read about research that is improving lives, new international partnerships that are expanding opportunities for our students, and the many ways Brock continues to make an impact across Niagara and around the world. Together, these achievements demonstrate what it means to transform people and reimagine the future through research, education and collaboration.

This report also highlights our progress against the University Action Plan, which translates our Strategic Plan into measurable priorities and targets. By reporting on these indicators each year, we're demonstrating accountability and a shared focus on the goals that will guide Brock through 2030.

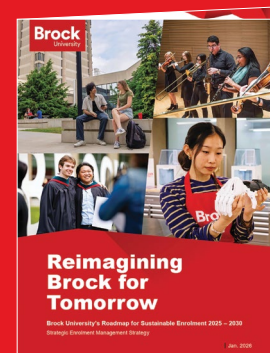
None of this progress would be possible without the dedication of our students, faculty, staff, alumni, donors and community partners. Thank you for the role you play in Brock's success.

I invite you to explore the stories in this report and see how, together, we are strengthening Brock and shaping what comes next.

BUILDING THE BROCK OF TOMORROW

This year, Brock took important steps to strengthen its academic future by rethinking how students learn and how the University grows. Senate approved a new degree framework that creates greater flexibility for students while preserving the academic excellence that defines a Brock education. The new approach opens more pathways for learners, making it easier to combine disciplines, pursue emerging interests and prepare for a rapidly changing world.

The University also launched its first **Strategic Enrolment Management Strategy**, providing a five-year roadmap to align academic programming, student success and enrolment with Brock's long-term priorities. Together, these initiatives position Brock to respond to changing learner expectations and build a sustainable future while remaining focused on student success.





Sparks fly: Brock launches sustainability initiative

Brock has embarked on a journey to reimagine campus sustainability and position the school as a climate action leader.

SPARK (sustainability, performance, adaptation, renewal and knowledge) is a clean infrastructure program supporting Brock's commitment to delivering today's environmental, social and economic needs while ensuring a resilient future.

From LED lighting and energy-efficient hot water heat pumps to optimized building automation system controls, renewal is underway. New air-handling units and fume hoods are also coming to select buildings.

A partnership between Brock, the Canadian Infrastructure Bank, Enbridge Sustain and Blackstone Energy Services brought the three-year program to life.

"We're building on our deep commitment to delivering a smarter, sustainable and financially strong future. It's exciting for the Brock community to see the transformation take shape," says Scott Johnstone, Vice-President, Administration and Services.



Greenhouse gas emissions reduced by 83 per cent by 2028, surpassing the initial 75 per cent reduction target by 2030



Cut energy usage by 60 per cent

Province invests \$5.2M in Brock teacher education as new Burlington Campus opens

Teacher education was in the spotlight as **Brock opened its new Burlington Campus** and the Ontario government announced a \$5.2-million programming investment.

Located in the City of Burlington's Robert Bateman Community Centre, the campus reflects the power of collaboration. Featuring state-of-the-art instructional science labs, active learning spaces, and bookable study and research rooms, it's a hub for Brock's Teacher Education and Applied Disability Studies programs.

The campus includes a Brock Library space in the on-site Burlington Public Library branch and a Hadiya'dagénhahs First Nations, Métis and Inuit Student Centre satellite office, while also offering Professional and Continuing Studies programming.

"This campus is a reflection of our strategic growth, our dedication to innovation and our deep belief in the power of higher education to transform lives and communities," said Lesley Rigg, Brock University President and Vice-Chancellor.

The provincial funding supports new teacher education spaces at both the St. Catharines and Burlington campuses.





Brock research farm marks new chapter for sustainable agriculture in Canada

A transformative gift of more than \$7 million from one of Brock's most steadfast supporters, Norris W. Walker, has bolstered the University's innovative work in sustainable agriculture.

Part of the Clean Agriculture for Sustainable Production (CASP) Field Infrastructure program, the **Brock University Norris W. Walker Research Farm** will foster the development of more resilient grape varieties and the exploration of innovative technologies to improve efficiency. These include energy-smart greenhouses, early warning systems for growers and artificial intelligence-driven solutions.

The expansive space on Merrittville Highway, just south of Brock's main campus, will allow researchers to expand on the existing Clean Plant Program, which is critical to supporting Canada's \$11.6-billion grape and wine industry.

Working alongside the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Canadian Grapevine Certification Network (CGCN), among other partners, Brock is one of only two facilities in the country to house a germplasm collection of certified virus-tested grapevines and the only testing provider to CGCN for their clean plant program.

Initiatives of this scale and significance are only possible through strong partnerships across government, industry, philanthropy and the post-secondary sector, says President and Vice-Chancellor Lesley Rigg.

"CASP reflects the kind of applied, community-connected research that creates real-world impact while strengthening partnerships across sectors," she adds. "It also advances our priority of building sustainable futures by helping address critical challenges facing agriculture and climate resilience."

The project was also supported by critical investments from the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the Ontario Research Fund, each committing \$3.5 million.

“

My father would be proud to see his commitment to the Niagara community **continuing to grow through this innovative living lab** and the opportunities it will provide to researchers, students and the region as a whole.”

Sheila Bonapace

Daughter of Norris W. Walker



Norris W. Walker was a dedicated champion of Brock University and Niagara region, who passed away in January 2024.



Chancellor Pearson's leadership creates lasting impact

The 2025–26 academic year was marked by significant milestones for Brock University Chancellor Hilary Pearson, whose leadership and philanthropy continued to make a meaningful impact on the University community.

In November 2025, **Pearson was re-elected** by Brock Senate to a third term as Chancellor, extending her service through June 2029. Since first taking on the role in 2020, she has been a strong advocate for students, helping to strengthen connections among alumni, donors, faculty, staff and the broader Brock community.

Supporting student success remained a focus throughout the year. At the **Chancellor's Reception in November** at Jackson-Triggs Niagara Estate, students who received awards and scholarships funded by Pearson and her husband, Michael Sabia, shared how this support has helped them pursue their academic and career goals. The event brought together donors, students and supporters to celebrate the impact of philanthropy at Brock.

In June, the University welcomed community members, donors and campus leaders to Inniskillin Niagara Estate to celebrate Pearson's re-election, and **recognize her outstanding leadership** and service to Brock. The reception also highlighted the impact of the Laura Sabia Entrepreneurial Award and the Laura Sabia Scholarship in STEM and Engineering for Women, with student recipients sharing how the awards have expanded opportunities and enriched their Brock experience.

Through her service as Chancellor and her ongoing support of students, Pearson continues to help create opportunities that will benefit Brock students for years to come.



At each Convocation ceremony, Chancellor Hilary Pearson has the privilege of conferring degrees and congratulating Brock's newest graduates as they cross the stage. The moment reflects the culmination of years of hard work and marks the beginning of the next chapter in each graduate's journey.



Built by alumni, driven by purpose, committed to what's ahead

Goodman Legacy (goodmanlegacy.com) is helping to shape the future. The initiative was founded by a council of Goodman School of Business alumni who are leaders in their industries and have never forgotten where their careers started. Together with other graduates, the group is making a difference by leading an elevation of the Goodman brand, amplifying an engaged ambassador network and investing in a transformational capital pool.

More than dollars, the initiative is about building a legacy. It's about the student who can finally afford to pursue their degree, the co-op that becomes a career, the mentor who changes everything and the events that turn classmates into lifelong network connections.

This group believes that the Goodman School of Business deserves to be celebrated, supported and elevated — not only for its prestige or rankings, but also for the people it produces and the opportunities it creates.

Three generations, one university: A family's legacy at Brock

In 1968, Bob Cretney (BA '72, DIPLED '73, MEd '79) took a leap of faith. He had been accepted to the Political Science program at the newly formed Brock University and, even though he didn't know anyone in Niagara, decided it was the right fit.

Nearly six decades later, he watched his granddaughter Abigail Shatford (BA '25, BEd '25) cross the Brock Convocation stage to receive her Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education with a minor in Choral Music.

Joining in the celebration were Abigail's parents, David and Lynn Shatford (BA '97), the latter of whom is also a Brock graduate and employee.

"Coming to Brock was the best choice I ever made," says Cretney. "I think Brock has been a good influence on our whole family."



From newcomers to changemakers



Brothers Ahmed Chilmeran (BSc '06) (right), Ridha (BA '09, MBE '11) (centre) and Hassan (BA '09, MBE '11) (left) all remember the welcoming atmosphere at Brock — as newcomers to Canada, they instantly felt connected and supported.

The school helped to pave their paths to success, and the brothers are giving back to the University and international student community.

Their father, Sohaib, was known for his optimism and ability to inspire

and uplift everyone around him. He believed that higher education and athletic discipline were the ultimate tools for creating personal optionality and expanding opportunities.

To carry forward this philosophy, his children — who arrived at Brock to build their own futures in Canada — established the Sohaib Chilmeran Scholarship to provide that same foundation of opportunity for the next generation of leaders.

BROCK BY THE NUMBERS

17,446 undergraduate students

1,629 graduate students

2,842 full-time and contract employees

131,191 alumni since 1967



118

countries

REPRESENTED
BY STUDENTS

Brock named among

Canada's Best Employers for Company Culture

BY FORBES

One of

Hamilton-Niagara's Top Employers

HONOURER FOR THE EIGHTH TIME
AND FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

7

Faculties

163

academic programs

164

**student clubs
and organizations**

15+

research facilities



2 campuses

 St. Catharines and Burlington

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES LIVING IN THE NIAGARA REGION

2,842

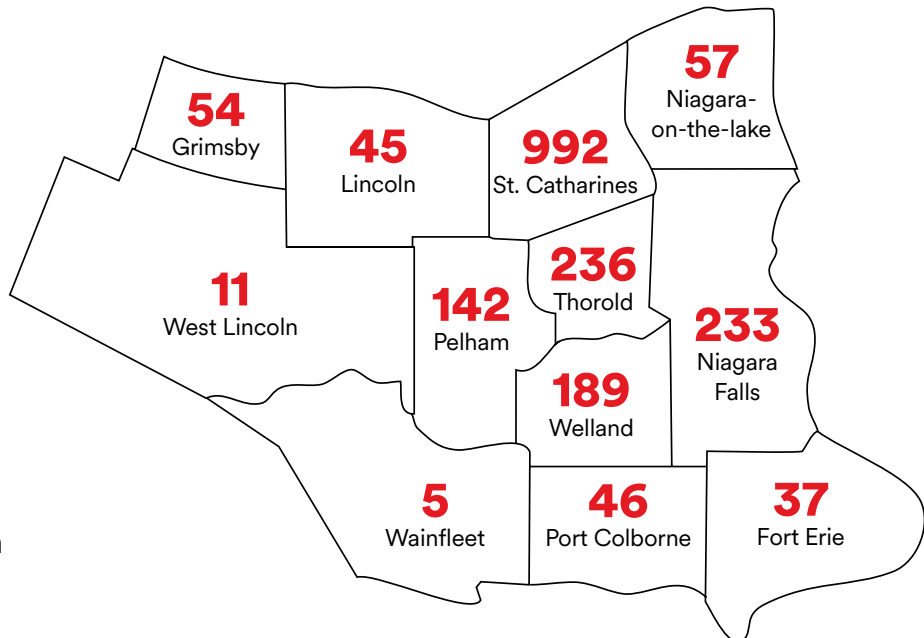
Total number of
**full-time and contract
Brock employees**

2,047

Total number of
**Brock employees who live
in the Niagara region**

795

Total number of
**Brock employees who live
outside the Niagara region**



PURPOSE STATEMENT

Why we exist

Transforming people, reimagining the future.
Through curiosity, creativity, and courage.

Brock offers individuals the opportunities and space to realize their full potential, equipping them with the tools necessary to reshape the world, both in big and small ways.

Curiosity – embracing the spirit of research and learning in everything that we do.

Creativity – thinking and acting in ways that encourage and achieve authentic breakthroughs.

Courage – pushing for better, in ourselves, with our peers, and in the world.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

+ Champion one another

We are stronger together.

The desire to support our peers is part of who we are. We value and celebrate one another, building connections that last a lifetime.

+ Break down barriers

Access unlocks potential.

We are on a journey to a more equitable and inclusive tomorrow. We welcome diverse perspectives and create the conditions for everyone to flourish and thrive.

+ Lead by example

Our actions matter.

We believe strongly in our responsibility to act with honesty, integrity, collegiality, inclusivity, and transparency. We earn the respect and admiration of others - making our university, our region, and our world a better place.

+ Learn through curiosity

We quest for knowledge.

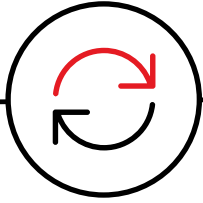
We embrace new thinking and welcome fresh ideas. Natural optimists, we have the creativity and courage to challenge conventional thinking to generate, translate, and mobilize knowledge for a better future.



STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS



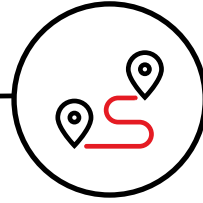
Shape tomorrow
through research,
discovery
and knowledge



Build
sustainable
futures.



Realize
you
matter



Bring the world to
Brock, and Brock
to the world



Shape tomorrow through research, discovery and knowledge

We will:

- Identify, celebrate, and become known for our key areas of research and academic distinction.
- Focus on areas of research and hands-on learning that will prepare Brock community members for the future.
- Grow global awareness of our research breakthroughs through purposeful knowledge translation, commercialization, and mobilization.
- Foster a vibrant research culture that welcomes and values diverse perspectives, identities, and lived experiences.
- Deepen connectivity and transdisciplinarity within and across our research enterprise and teaching and learning initiatives.
- Promote diverse perspectives and deepen understanding of Indigenous cultures and histories through the building of trusted and reciprocal relationships, research, scholarship, and creative activity.



University Action Plan



View the UAP
progress update.

The first year of Brock's University Action Plan (UAP) provides an early measure of progress toward the University's 2030 goals. Across 10 university-wide indicators of success, the year 1 (2025-26) results show areas of strong momentum.

Notable progress was made in strategic enrolment, where total numbers increased driven by growth in domestic undergraduate enrolment, while undergraduate graduation rates and participation in Professional and Continuing Studies exceeded baseline levels. Research revenue also performed strongly, and the impact of philanthropy is tracking well toward its 2030 target.

Significant gains were also made in sustainability, with an 11 per cent reduction in energy consumption and a 45 per cent reduction in carbon emissions. Participation in EDI** and Indigenous programming is already ahead of 2030 targets, while Brock strengthened its performance in several international rankings and expanded its global academic partnerships.

As a five-year plan, the UAP was designed to drive sustained progress rather than measure success through any single year.

Work is well underway around academic revitalization, with a focus on continuous improvement over the remaining four years of the plan. While some measures also remained relatively stable in Year 1, several Strategic Enrolment Management initiatives are underway, and the degree architecture is designed to further strengthen Brock's academic offerings. Financial sustainability also remains a key priority, with the Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security's recent investment in Ontario's post-secondary sector providing important support as Brock works to strengthen its financial position over the long term.

These Year 1 results establish an important early picture of Brock's trajectory and will help inform where the University builds on momentum, adjusts its approach and focuses its efforts as it works toward its 2030 targets.

University-wide indicators of success

These indicators are directional, actionable and measurable. They are the primary indicators that reflect the University's priorities:

- **Strategic enrolment**
- **Academic revitalization**
- **Future-ready learners**
- **Research scholarship and creative activity**
- **University advancement**
- **Financial health**
- **Sustainability**
- **Reputational strength**
- **Dynamic and inclusive culture**
- **Community impact and global reach**

Each indicator of success has an identified baseline and 2030 target.

* Denotes an SMA4 metric.

** Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

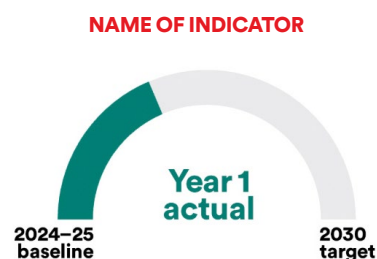
*** STARS - Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System.

Learn more: brocku.ca/strategic-plan

How to read progress charts and indicators

Year 1 progression to the 2030 target starting at the 2024-25 baseline, with colour filling in to show progress towards the 2030 target.

Current year: Year 1 of 5.



Green: progressing to target

Yellow: monitoring progression

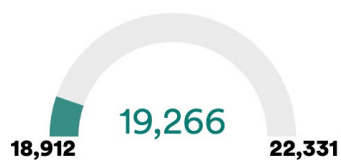
Red: progression concern

Strategic enrolment

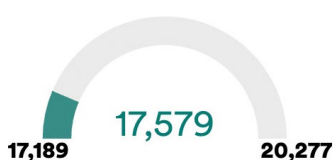
Optimal enrolment mix; undergraduate and graduate enrolments (domestic and international); student retention; student progression to graduation.



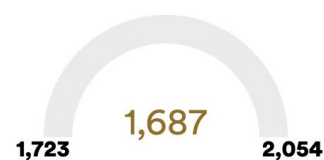
TOTAL NUMBER
OF STUDENTS



NUMBER OF
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS



NUMBER OF
GRADUATE STUDENTS

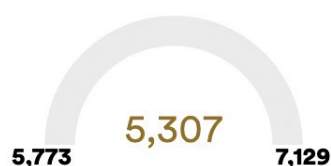


Academic revitalization

Program and curricular degree architecture that facilitates the development of accessible, flexible, customizable and market relevant program offerings. This indicator measures curricular configuration.



NUMBER OF FIRST-CHOICE
APPLICANTS

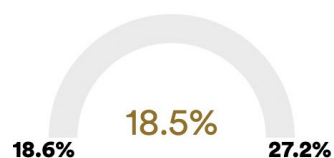


NUMBER OF UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS WITH
THE HIGHEST VOLUME OF FIRST-CHOICE APPLICANTS

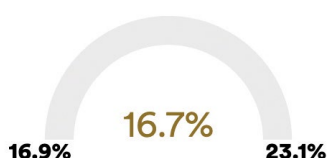


Number of first-, second-, third- choice applicants
as a proportion of all applications

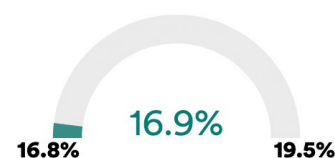
FIRST CHOICE



SECOND CHOICE

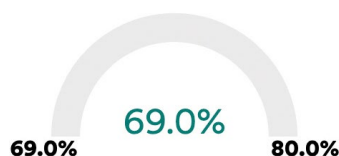


THIRD CHOICE

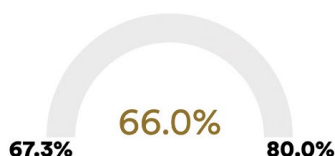


Percentage of graduates that complete their program
on time (or in less time) in relation to program length

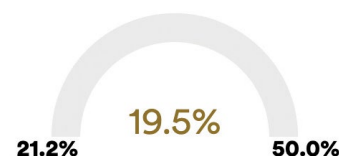
UNDERGRADUATE



MASTER'S



PHD

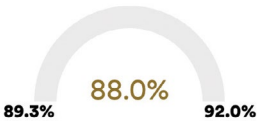


Future-ready learners

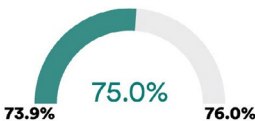
Educational experiences that provide students the learning outcomes that enable them to be academically prepared, digitally fluent and career ready. This indicator measures learner competencies.



GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT RATE
IN A RELATED FIELD*;
2 YEARS OUT



GRADUATION
RATE*



NUMBER OF NON-CREDIT
PROFESSIONAL AND CONTINUING STUDIES
LEARNERS



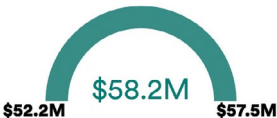
Research scholarship and creative activity

Increased research activity from inception to mobilization, fostering our pursuit of a better tomorrow.



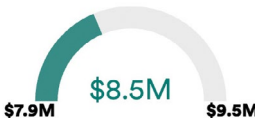
TOTAL RESEARCH
REVENUE

(3-year rolling aggregate)



RESEARCH REVENUE
FROM PRIVATE SOURCES*

(3-year rolling aggregate)

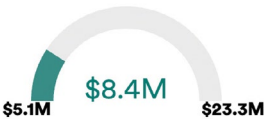


University advancement

Total revenue from philanthropic contributions to the University and activities that engage and develop relationships with prospects, donors and other partners for funding opportunities.



TOTAL IMPACT OF PHILANTHROPY
IN A FISCAL YEAR



ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT
INDEX



Financial health

Balanced budget with optimal resource allocations to meet the diverse demands of the University.



VIABILITY
RATIO



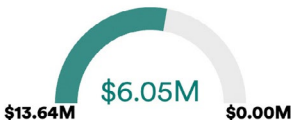
MORNINGSTAR
DBRS RATING

BASELINE: **A (high)** with stable trend

YEAR 1 ACTUAL: **A (high)** with negative trend

TARGET: **A (high)** or better

FUNDING BUDGET
(DEFICIT)



Sustainability

Advancing sustainability across all dimensions — academic, research and operational — by aligning with the social, environmental and economic pillars of sustainable development.



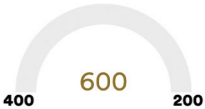
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE IN THIRD-
PARTY SUSTAINABILITY RANKINGS
OF HIGHER EDUCATION (Sustainability
Tracking, Assessment and Rating System)

BASELINE: **STARS** Silver

YEAR 1 ACTUAL: **STARS** Silver

TARGET: **STARS** Gold

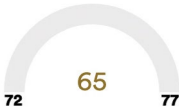
TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION
SUSTAINABILITY
IMPACT RANKINGS



SCOPE 1
CARBON
EMISSIONS



NUMBER OF
SUSTAINABILITY
RELATED COURSES



Reputational strength

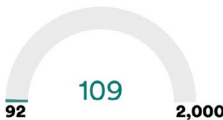
The perception and standing of Brock University in the minds of key audience groups.



QUACQUARELLI SYMONDS (QS)
WORLD UNIVERSITY
SUBJECT MATTER RANKING
(SPORTS-RELATED SUBJECTS)



QS WORLD UNIVERSITY
SUBJECT MATTER RANKING
(5-YEAR AGGREGATE ACADEMIC
NOMINATION COUNT)



FAVOURABILITY RATING
AS PART OF AWARENESS AND
PERCEPTION SURVEY

N/A
launch in 2026/27

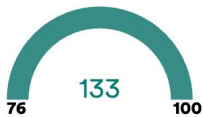
Dynamic and inclusive culture

How students, faculty and staff experience the campus environment, including their perceptions of engagement, equity, decolonization and inclusion, which is created and influenced by the efforts and resources invested, and by interactions both with the University and amongst the diverse members of the Brock community.



Number of Indigenous learning sessions, events and programming offered, and number of attendees

OCCASIONS



ATTENDEES

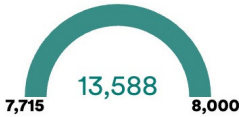


Number of EDI (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) learning sessions, events and programming offered, and number of attendees

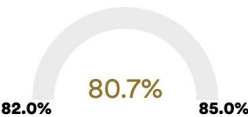
OCCASIONS



ATTENDEES



STUDENT
ENGAGEMENT
SURVEY RESULTS

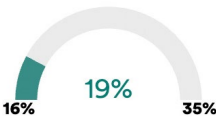


EMPLOYEE
ENGAGEMENT
SURVEY RESULTS

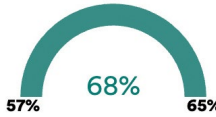
N/A
launch in 2026/27

Equity Census response rates

STUDENTS



EMPLOYEES

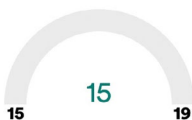


Community impact and global reach

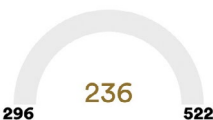
Advancing partnerships across both our local and global communities that foster the reciprocal exchange of knowledge, resources and experiences driving meaningful impact and mutually beneficial partnerships.



COMMUNITY MEMORANDUM
OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)
PARTNERSHIPS



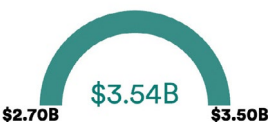
NUMBER OF
BROCK STUDENTS
STUDYING ABROAD



NUMBER OF
INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC
PATHWAY PARTNERSHIPS



ECONOMIC
IMPACT



NUMBER OF CONTACTABLE
INTERNATIONALLY LOCATED ALUMNI





Build sustainable futures

We will:

- Differentiate the Brock teaching and learning experience by providing learners with diverse opportunities and inclusive success pathways to sustain their futures beyond Brock.
- Support the sustainable development of our campus and surrounding communities through collaboration and ongoing partnerships.
- Engage actively in the global dialogue on environmental sustainability through academic pursuits, research initiatives, and partnerships.
- Ensure a sustainable and resilient financial future that allows us to safeguard the needs of the Brock community.



Realize you matter

We will:

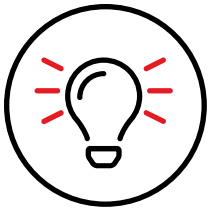
- Enrich learning, work, research, and creative activity to retain a thriving and healthy Brock community.
- Engage in trust-building efforts that dismantle systemic barriers, empowering all underserved communities.
- Continue to advance our leadership in the student experience.
- Cultivate a philosophy of personal growth, where all diverse individuals are encouraged, celebrated, and empowered to develop on their own terms.
- Foster an inclusive campus culture that attracts and retains top talent from across Canada and around the world.



Bring the world to Brock, and Brock to the world

We will:

- Globalize our campus through the recognition and inclusion of diverse perspectives, academic curricula, and international experiences.
- Enhance Brock's impact and connections provincially, nationally, and globally through research collaborations, knowledge mobilization, academic partnerships, and exchanges.
- Cultivate and deepen meaningful relationships across the Niagara region, to better serve our diverse communities.
- Strengthen bonds with our alumni at home and across the world to expand our global network of Brock ambassadors.



STRATEGIC DIRECTION:

Shape tomorrow through research, discovery and knowledge



Breakthrough lung therapy, elder care and mental health research gets \$2.3M boost

Highlighting **Brock's capacity to deliver health research with a clear line of sight to tangible benefits**, three research teams received Canadian Institutes of Health Research Project Grants.

Canada Research Chair in Mechanisms of Health and Disease, and Professor of Health Sciences Newman Sze (pictured) is advancing a breakthrough drug therapy that could help treat age-related lung disease by clearing damaged proteins that build up in the body.

Notably, Sze's proposal was reviewed and funded through the Commercialization Committee stream, reflecting its translational and commercialization focus.

Assistant Professor of Health Sciences Luke Turcotte and his team are working with Niagara Health and Ontario Health

at Home to help older adults return home safely and reduce unplanned hospital readmissions.

Plus, Canada Research Chair in Behavioural Neuroscience and Assistant Professor of Psychology Paula Duarte-Guterman and her team are studying how sex-based biological factors, including hormones, influence behaviour and mental health.

Associate Vice-President, Research Deborah O'Leary says, "These projects show Brock researchers tackling urgent health challenges — from moving new therapies closer to patients and strengthening supports for older adults to building a clearer understanding of mental health."



Brock innovation seeks to boost battery life and safety



A Brock research team is **developing advanced battery materials** that could make batteries safer, longer lasting and more efficient, while supporting clean energy technologies.

Associate Professor of Physics and Engineering Jasneet Kaur (right) and her team, including master's student Hansima Keppetiyawa and PhD students Pritish Kumar Behura (left) and Teresa Dong (MSc '25), are working on battery separators using solid polymer electrolytes (SPEs).

To increase conductivity, they synthesized advanced material called titanium carbide MXene and incorporated that into different polymer matrices to create SPE membranes.

"We found that the membranes made with the MXene material

were stronger and more effective at facilitating ion transport between the battery's positive and negative terminals," Kaur says. "These ultrathin MXene structures act like highways for faster ion conduction."

Kaur says these traits make the team's new SPEs ideal for use in next-generation solid-state batteries, especially in climate change impacted locations.

This research is one example of the innovative insights being discovered through cross-disciplinary teams, such as those from the Department of Physics and the Yousef Haj-Ahmad Department of Engineering.

Research partnership brings companies' performance data to the forefront

Knowing companies' approaches to environmental, social and governance issues is important for a well-functioning economy and society, says Assistant Professor in Information Systems at the Goodman School of Business Leila Tahmooresnejad. However, information is not always accessible or complete.

Tahmooresnejad and her team are working with Niagara data analytics company Rel8ed, a Coface Company, to **develop artificial intelligence tools that help gather this key information** on small- and medium-sized businesses and make it accessible. Collaboratively, the team created two tools.

"Together, these tools help users get a clearer picture of a company's social and environmental performance, even when the company does not provide a full report," she says. "The system also lets users compare what companies say about themselves with external sources, helping to identify missing or inconsistent information."

● A YEAR OF PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION:

● December 2025

The **Brock Research Enterprise Plan** launched, following the University Strategic Plan.

● February 2026

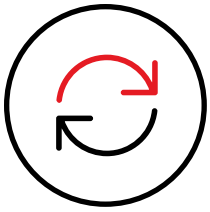
The Strategic Research Plan was submitted to the Canada Research Chairs Program.

● Launching in Fall 2026

The Research Enterprise Action Plan, operationalizing and expanding on research themes in the 2025 University Action Plan.

\$52.23M

Total research revenue
3-year rolling aggregate
(2023/24 - COFO)



STRATEGIC DIRECTION:

Build sustainable futures



Brock community reflects at World Water Day celebration

Appreciation for water, and the many ways it shapes our lives, flowed at **Brock's third annual World Water Day celebration.**

Hosted by the Environmental Sustainability Research Centre (ESRC), the event showcased water-focused research, community action, art and projects from Brock scholars and local partners.

At one of the many tables set up throughout the event, Associate Professor Jessica Blythe of the ESRC shared insights from

the Ocean Equity Index, which she published with her research team.

Assistant Professor of Sustainability Lina Taing also spoke about this year's theme, "Water and Gender."

Taing, who has spent two decades studying water, sanitation and hygiene in the Global South, says it's important for everyone to reflect on the United Nations' message that "where water flows, equality grows."

Brock has

44
water refill
stations

across campus



More than
8,104,897

bottles diverted from
landfill since the stations
were installed.

Brock hosts consultation to shape future of sustainability planning in Canada



Brock welcomed prominent Niagara voices to campus for a collaborative conversation about the important role of local action in advancing federal sustainability priorities.

The Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) consultation brought together government officials, community partners, Brock senior administration, faculty, staff and students.

Participants heard from ECCC representatives, reviewed a draft of the 2026-29 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy (FSDS) and engaged in discussions.

An essential framework for advancing sustainability in Canada, the FSDS incorporates public consultation to inform understanding of regional priorities, barriers, opportunities and emerging innovative practices.

"Brock plays a critical role in connecting research, experiential learning and community partnerships," said Brock President and Vice-Chancellor Lesley Rigg. "We are committed to supporting inclusive, evidence-based policy development to drive meaningful climate action and thank ECCC for partnering with us to include local voices in shaping a stronger and more responsive national strategy."



Award-winning Chemistry prof's classroom approach gets positive reaction

Chemistry wasn't originally part of Associate Professor Divya Kaur Matta's career formula. She could not quite connect with the subject until she met educators who helped her realize the barrier wasn't chemistry itself but how it was being taught.

Matta carried that lesson into her own teaching journey, an approach that earned her **Brock's 2025 Excellence in Teaching Award for Early Career Faculty**.

Her teaching philosophy is grounded in clarity, compassion and evidence-based design. This approach, she says, helps students build confidence, reduces anxiety and encourages genuine engagement with course material.

"I want students to carry durable curiosity, the courage to tackle unfamiliar problems and the confidence to say, 'I belong in science,'" she says.

Matta also collaborates with a social sciences colleague on initiatives that make science more accessible and inclusive, including mentoring high-school students, particularly young women and those underrepresented in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics).

"Early exposure to approachable science changes trajectories," she says. "If someone sees a woman, an immigrant, a computational chemist teaching with clarity and joy, it quietly expands what they believe is possible for themselves."

Brock faculty have received **11 recognitions in 2025-26 for exceptional contributions to teaching**.

This includes a prestigious external award from 3M Canada and the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education.

Internal recognitions celebrate outstanding contributions and innovation, including the Brock University Award for Distinguished Teaching, Faculty-specific teaching awards and the Chancellor's Chair for Teaching Excellence.

2025-26 RANKINGS



Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings by Subject

- **Psychology (#401-500)**
 - **Education Studies (#501-600)**
- THE Impact Rankings
- **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 Gender Equality (#101-200)**
 - **SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities (#101-200)**
 - **SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities (#101-200)**



Brock was ranked for the first time in the 2026 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) sustainability rankings

- **#26 in Canada**
- **Tied for #606 in the World**



QS World University Rankings

- **Top 125 for Sports-Related Subjects**
- **Top 450 for Education**
- **Top 550 for Business and Management Studies**



STRATEGIC DIRECTION:

Realize you matter



Indigenous co-curricular program renamed Ode'min Wigwam

After a traditional Naming Ceremony, the program formerly known as **Indigenous Plus** is now called **Ode'min Wigwam**. The Anishinaabemowin name translates to Strawberry Lodge and was a sacred gift given to the program by Elder Peter Beaucage.

For Program Consultant Michelle Root, the name reflects the student journey.

“The strawberry’s seeds are on the outside, which means its most vulnerable part is shown to the world,” she says.

“Because of this, the seeds spread easily so future plants can grow. In the same way, we hope students in our program will continue learning and sharing their knowledge to help future generations.”

Interim Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement Sheila Cote-Meek says it's important for Indigenous-based programs to be named in “the languages of the people of the land,” and students of the first cohort felt similarly.

Developed by the Office of the Vice-Provost, Indigenous Engagement in partnership with Co-op, Career and Experiential Education, the program blends Indigenous perspectives and cultural teachings with career-integrated learning, allowing students to develop skills that give them a competitive edge.

Ode'min Wigwam is generously funded by Scotiabank through its ScotiaRISE community investment initiative, which promotes economic resilience among underrepresented groups.



Wardrobe experience leaves Dramatic Arts grad on pins and needles — in the best way

Nav Brar (BA '26) found an unexpected new passion woven into his experience at Brock's Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts.

Working alongside Dramatic Arts Head of Wardrobe Bobbi Pidduck on mainstage productions, including *Metamorphoses* and *Métis Nutcracker*, proved to be a transformative experience as he developed his design and dressing skills. In recognition of his talent, Brar received the Marilyn I. Walker Textile Award, which supports graduating students looking to further their apprenticeship or studies.

Brock introduces newly adopted African-Canadian Ancestral Acknowledgement

Brock's newly adopted African-Canadian Ancestral Acknowledgement was officially introduced and read for the first time by Associate Director of EDI Education and Outreach Alana Lowe during Black History Month and African Heritage Month.

Intended to function in solidarity with the Indigenous Land Acknowledgement, it acts as both a tribute to the distinct histories and lived experiences of Black, African and Caribbean people and as a call to action to disrupt and dismantle anti-Black racism.

AFRICAN-CANADIAN ANCESTRAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We honour the ancestors of African-descended peoples who were forcibly displaced through the transatlantic slave trade, and whose resilience and sacrifices continue to shape our present.

We recognize that Black, African and Caribbean peoples hold a unique history on these lands — many brought here involuntarily. Several have made lasting contributions to our communities, including here in Niagara through the Underground Railroad and the legacy of Black Freedom Seekers.

We affirm the strength, brilliance and ongoing struggles for justice of all African-diasporic peoples, whose pursuit of liberation continues to inspire us all.



Wellness Day

Wellness Day

Brock University's 24th annual Employee Wellness Day gives team members the opportunity to celebrate personal health and well-being while also supporting the success of the wider University community.

More than
600 participants



85-plus activities

from painting to
pickleball and
nature walks to
swimming



More than **\$7,000** was raised
for a student award

Non-perishable food
items were collected





STRATEGIC DIRECTION:

Bring the world to Brock, and Brock to the world

**Brock delegates
build new bridges,
deepen community
connections across
the globe**



From the U.K. and Pakistan to India and China, Brock continues to strengthen global ties.

During a **strategic visit to China**, a series of multi-focused engagements fostered meaningful connections with institutional partners, alumni, educators and recruitment partners.

Two agreements were also signed: a new academic exchange agreement with Beijing Foreign Studies University and a partnership agreement between the Goodman School of Business and the Huazhong University of Science and Technology.

“

These types of engagements are reflective of **Brock's commitment to holistic internationalization** — leveraging global relationships to support student mobility, enhancing our reputation for academic and research excellence, and growing a vibrant, engaged alumni network that transcends borders.”

Lesley Rigg

President and Vice-Chancellor



Canada Cup of Robotics helps international youth build confidence, career-ready STEM skills

Brock University welcomed participants to the **Canada Cup of Robotics**, hosted in partnership with *FIRST Robotics Canada*. Thousands of students competed in *FIRST Tech* and *FIRST LEGO League* Challenges.



Largest
robotics competition
ever held in Canada



27
countries
represented



100
teams



66-year-old grad spent studies diving for ancient artifacts

Robert Tremblay (BA '26) couldn't see himself playing shuffleboard in retirement. Digging for pieces of lost history under the Sicilian sun and diving off the coast of Marzamemi in pursuit of ancient knowledge — that was more his speed.

Tremblay notes that everyone is different, but he knew his next chapter would be fuelled by learning.

Tremblay crossed the stage during Brock's 119th Convocation, earning his degree in Classics and Archaeology with a minor in Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

A decorated Canadian veteran, he's long had a passion for archaeology, art and architecture and will continue his journey at Brock in fall of 2026, pursuing a Master of Arts in Classics.

"I lived a very full life through my career and worked hard over the years, and coming back to study at Brock — the joy of learning — was the reward," Tremblay says.

From Milano Cortina to Toronto, Brock grads are making their dreams come true



While at the Olympics, some of Canada's top athletes were in the hands of Brock's Lead Athletic Therapist Kelsey Marshall (MSc '25) (pictured).

She says working and studying at Brock supported her journey — strengthening clinical reasoning, confidence in evidence-based practice and critical thinking.

"Anytime an athlete trusts you with their performance and health, it's meaningful. But when you're standing there wearing Canada across your chest, supporting athletes at the pinnacle of their careers, it hits differently," says Marshall.

Another Brock graduate helping athletes perform at their best is Tyler Dobos (MSc '23). When an injury derailed his dream of playing baseball, he didn't walk away. His curiosity about movement and injury prevention led him to Brock, where he researched biomechanics under the supervision of Associate Professor of Kinesiology and Canada Research Chair in Neuromuscular Mechanics and Ergonomics Michael Holmes and Adjunct Professor of Kinesiology Mike Sonne.

"I never imagined this is where I'd end up," Dobos says of becoming the first Toronto Blue Jays Pitching Resource Analyst. "But I've learned that if you keep learning, the right opportunities will find you."



Brock University

Niagara region
1812 Sir Isaac Brock Way
St. Catharines, Ont.
L2S 3A1
905 688 5550

 [Brock University](#)
 [@brockuniversity](#)
 [@brockuniversity](#)
 [brockuni](#)
 [@brockuniversity](#)

[brocku.ca](#)