

Strengthening Canada's Nonprofit Sector

Through Education, Expertise and Collaboration

TRENT UNIVERSITY • TRAICON • KAWARTHA LAKES COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

A shared commitment to strengthen the capacity, effectiveness, and long-term sustainability of nonprofit organizations across Canada.

From Sector Need to Collaborative Action

The initiative began with the Kawartha Lakes Community Foundation's 2024 exploration, undertaken alongside community partners, into the challenges, skills gaps, and capacity-building needs facing nonprofit organizations. The findings reinforced the need for accessible, practical, and sector-specific professional development for nonprofit leaders, board members, staff, and volunteers.

As the initiative took shape, TRAICON was recommended to the Kawartha Lakes Community Foundation as a leading provider of nonprofit capacity-building, organizational development, and professional training. TRAICON brought extensive sector experience and a practical understanding of the day-to-day realities facing nonprofit organizations.

In 2024, Trent University entered into a formal contract with TRAICON to develop and manage the Nonprofit Management Essentials Micro-credential Program. TRAICON was entrusted with translating identified sector needs into relevant learning experiences, developing program and course content, and supporting the program's ongoing management and evolution.

Three Partners. Complementary Strengths.

KLCF	TRAICON	TRENT UNIVERSITY
COMMUNITY INSIGHT	NONPROFIT EXPERTISE	ACADEMIC PLATFORM
Helped identify sector needs and brought community-based insight to the initiative.	Brought program development, organizational capacity-building, and practical sector experience.	Provided the academic environment and micro-credential framework for recognized professional learning.

Nonprofit Management Essentials Micro-credential Program

The result is a comprehensive professional development initiative intentionally designed for the realities of today's nonprofit sector.

The program supports current and emerging nonprofit leaders, executive directors, board members, staff, and volunteers with practical, immediately applicable knowledge across the core areas of nonprofit management.

Participants gain tools they can take directly back to their organizations to strengthen governance, improve operations, build organizational capacity, support effective leadership, and increase community impact.

STRENGTHEN	IMPROVE	BUILD	SUPPORT	INCREASE
Governance	Operations	Capacity	Leadership	Impact

Growing Reach. Measurable Impact.

205+	950+
PARTICIPANTS	INDIVIDUAL COURSE COMPLETIONS

From executive directors and board members to staff and frontline volunteers, participants are strengthening their skills and applying what they learn within nonprofit organizations and communities.

FROM COMMUNITY INSIGHT TO NATIONAL REACH

What began as an exploration of nonprofit-sector needs has grown into a collaborative capacity-building initiative with expanding reach across Canada.

Investing in the People Who Make the Sector Possible

Through the combined strengths of Trent University, TRAICON, and the Kawartha Lakes Community Foundation, the Nonprofit Management Essentials Program is investing in the people who make the nonprofit sector possible.

“Stronger leaders create stronger organizations, and stronger organizations build stronger communities.”