

Appendix 1

[University Policy No. 171: Scholarly, Research and Creative \(SRC\) Intellectual Property Policy](#)

The IP Policy was approved by the Senate on December 7, 2021. The next review of this policy is scheduled for December 2026.

Prior to undertaking an SRC activity that may result in the generation of IP, Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University) encourages all its community members to clarify, plan and formalize provisions related to ownership, protection, disclosure, utilization and disposition of IP. Clearly defining a strategy at the outset will help to identify the most effective means to achieve desired outcomes for the parties involved in the SRC activity.

An important step in the commercialization strategy is to clearly delineate with whom IP rights vest and who has the authority to make decisions regarding the disposition of IP arising from SRC activity. It is also important to provide for the equitable sharing of any material benefits that result from the commercialization or sharing of IP arising from SRC activity.

Disclosure of Invention and Commercialization Processes

By filing a disclosure, the university can work with the discloser (creator) and provide services and resources to assess the market opportunity, protect the IP, and develop and initiate the implementation of a commercialization plan.

[Invention Disclosure Form](#)

[Software Disclosure Form](#)

[Process: Invention Disclosure Reporting](#)

[Process: Invention Disclosure Assessment for Commercialization](#)

[Process: Initiation of Commercialization Project](#)

[Process: Establishing a Commercialization Plan](#)

[Data Management Planning](#)

Appendix 2

Zone Learning

By the end of 2021, ventures supported by Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University) zones have raised more than \$1.5B and created over 4,400 jobs. Each year, the zone network on campus supports over 400 ventures.

The university's zones help people grow industry and business networks, gain experience, build résumés and access funding. Through the zones, people come together to brainstorm, kick-start projects and build startups. Each zone offers programming on developing and growing new ventures and one-on-one mentorship from experts, as well as access to state-of-the-art workspaces and technologies. All of the zones are open to entrepreneurs from outside of the university, providing unique connections with industry and the community and strengthening the peer-to-peer networks among the founders.

Ventures in the zones can connect with researchers to strengthen their product development through collaborative research projects. Researchers and graduate students can leverage the zones, their industry networks and support programming to evaluate the market potential for their research and develop new research-based ventures.

The university's unique model spans several sectors, providing students, entrepreneurs and industry professionals with access to world-leading entrepreneurial programming and one of the largest communities of innovators in the country. This widely appealing approach has seen the zones provide support to more than 6,000 innovators and 4,700 alumni startups since 2010.

Each incubator focuses on advancing a sector. Partners have access to top talent, as well as the opportunity to bring industry challenges forward to the community where students, researchers and entrepreneurs can respond with ideas and solutions. Entrepreneurs are enabled and encouraged to pass through multiple zones to pull on relevant resources at different stages of their development process.

Zone Learning's efforts to expand entrepreneurial culture beyond the campus's borders come in the form of collaborative partnerships. The group has launched or supported incubators regionally in Ontario as well as internationally.

Its open-source model also extends to partnerships with other post-secondary institutions. Working with Dalhousie and Memorial universities, the university launched the Lab2Market program to empower Canadian-based deep technology researchers with the skills and experience to accelerate their innovations from academic labs into new ventures that impact society and the economy.

Realizing the potential of Canadian innovation, as well as the systemic gaps of entrepreneurship, Zone Learning is also working to make the ecosystem more inclusive by developing incubation streams and grant programs that specifically support entrepreneurs who identify as Black, Indigenous, racialized people or women.

Each of the 10 university zones focus on a different industry:

Biomedical Zone

Located in St. Michael's Hospital and closely linked to the Institute for Biomedical Engineering, Science and Technology (iBEST, see Appendix 3), this zone helps early-stage health technology companies validate their solutions directly in a hospital setting with clinicians, business experts and innovative thinkers.

Clean Energy Zone

An incubator focused on clean, sustainable energy innovations, including electric vehicles, renewable energy, energy storage and distribution, microgrids, and net-zero city building.

Design Fabrication Zone

From concept development to three-dimensional prototyping and beyond, this zone is a place where commercial startups and experimental projects apply best practices in design.

DMZ

The DMZ is a leading startup incubator equipping the next generation of leading tech entrepreneurs with the tools needed to build, launch, and scale highly impactful startups.

Fashion Zone

One of Canada's first incubators for fashion-inspired startups, this zone helps entrepreneurs with an interest in fashion, design and technology to develop innovative new products and services through interdisciplinary collaboration.

Innovation Boost Zone

A user-centric technology incubator that helps early-stage startups to solve real customer problems using technology. The IBZ is the home base to students from the Master of Engineering Innovation and Entrepreneurship program and Norman Esch Award winners. It is the hub for entrepreneurial collaboration, partnership, learning and capacity building, accelerating the development of Canada's future entrepreneurs.

Legal Innovation Zone

The first legal tech incubator, this zone supports, fosters and develops solutions and techniques to improve legal services and the justice system.

Science Discovery Zone

This zone uses an evidence-based approach to test big ideas and discover new ventures.

Social Ventures Zone

A space directed at the next generation of changemakers, transforming ideas into action to create positive and viable social change.

Transmedia Zone

An ideation and prototyping space focused on the future of digital content and storytelling.

Appendix 3

Campus Infrastructure, Resources and Tools

[Brookfield Institute for Innovation + Entrepreneurship](#)

The Brookfield Institute for Innovation + Entrepreneurship tests assumptions by using credible research to ensure Canadian governments and businesses are focusing on the most relevant issues and opportunities for Canada.

[Rogers Cybersecure Catalyst](#)

The Rogers Cybersecure Catalyst is a not-for-profit corporation owned and operated by Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University). Based in Brampton, Ontario, it leverages the university's resources and entrepreneurial spirit to solve critical cybersecurity challenges and seize new opportunities. Its Catalyst Cyber Accelerator is Canada's only cybersecurity-focused commercial accelerator, and provides growth strategies, mentorship and resources to support the most promising cybersecurity scale-ups to succeed nationally and internationally.

[Future of Sport Lab](#)

The Future of Sport Lab (FSL) is a collaborative lab and incubator for sport innovation and research. The FSL is a vision supported and co-managed by Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University) and Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment (MLSE), one of the world's premier sport and entertainment companies.

[Institute for Biomedical Engineering, Science and Technology](#)

The Institute for Biomedical Engineering, Science and Technology (iBEST) is a partnership between Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University) and St. Michael's Hospital that brings together the university's engineering and science strengths with St. Michael's biomedical research and clinical expertise.

[The Innovation Studio at The Creative School](#)

The Studio connects emerging and established makers, artists, technologists, entrepreneurs, researchers and academics in a collaborative community devoted to creative exploration, cross-disciplinary innovation and creative excellence. It is also home to three Zone Learning incubators.

[Design + Technology LAB](#)

The LAB is a technology-based workshop that supports creative research, scholarships, curriculum and entrepreneurship activities across The Creative School and Zone Learning. Spanning over 8,300 square feet, the LAB looks to disrupt and revolutionize the use of technology within creative fields by leveraging digital fabrication tools such as 3D printing, textile computing, AR/VR and robotics.

[Toronto Metropolitan University Library Collaboratory](#)

The Collaboratory offers a wide range of research consultation, fabrication and technology resources, drop-in workspace and access to a growing community of researchers to turn research initiatives into real and tangible market solutions. The Collaboratory's facilities include 3D printers, a CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machine, vinyl cutter, VR/AR equipment, high-end computing power and a digital embroidery machine.

Immersion Studio

The Immersion Studio is a true 360° circular space that is 6 meters in diameter and 2.3 meters tall and serves as a resource for faculty and students to create research projects related to collaborative virtual reality (VR) experiences and immersive media.

Toronto Metropolitan University Library Digital Media Experience Lab

The Digital Media Experience Lab (DME) is a digital and experiential learning lab and offers one-on-one tutorials that teach students how to use emerging tech and digital media, including virtual reality, 3D printing and Adobe Creative Suite. The DME offers access to media creation workstations and equipment including cameras, sound gear, electronics and fabrication tools.

TechTalent Accelerator

The TechTalent Accelerator prepares undergraduate and graduate students to foster industry-specific skills, knowledge and experience with exposure to evolving challenges and opportunities faced by the tech industry. Students participate in seminars, complete training courses, and gain hands-on experience through hack-a-thons, job shadows and internships.

Appendix 4

Innovation and Venture Funding

[Ryerson Angel Network](#) (*renaming in progress)

The Angel Network is the first and largest university-based angel group in Canada and is designed to bring the entrepreneurial ideas of faculty, students and alumni within Toronto Metropolitan University's (formerly Ryerson University) ecosystem together with angel investors. Its mandate is to stimulate and support the Canadian angel ecosystem, as well as increase the level of seed funding received by companies supported by one of the university's ten on-campus zone incubators.

[Norman Esch Awards](#)

The Norman Esch Awards provide financial assistance at three stages (from \$5,000 to \$25,000) to multiple engineering and architectural students.

[Slaight New Venture Competition](#)

The Slaight New Venture Competition awards innovative businesses with two prizes of \$25,000 startup seed money to one female and one male.

Expert Networks and Programs

[Magnet](#)

Magnet is a digital social innovation platform founded at the Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University). Through the Magnet Network, Magnet's mission is to accelerate inclusive economic growth for all in Canada by advancing careers, businesses and communities.

[AIMday](#)

AIMday is a unique, highly effective program for university-based researchers and organizations to connect and bring world-class research to life by matching an organization's need for new knowledge with academic expertise. As the Canadian AIMday hub, Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University) works with other Canadian universities to help them develop their own AIMday programs.

[I-INC – Innovate + Impact Network of Canada](#)

The Innovation + Impact Network of Canada (I-INC) brings together leading innovative and entrepreneurial universities from across Canada in a national network dedicated to accelerating the transfer of research- and innovation-based science and technology from Canadian universities and research institutions.

[Lab2Market](#)

The I-INC Lab2Market program helps Canadian researchers to validate their ideas with the purpose of finding business/commercial value. Co-developed by Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University) and Dalhousie University, the program is based on similar programs that have found success in other parts of the world.

Scientist2Entrepreneur

The I-INC Scientist2Entrepreneur (S2E) program helps graduate students and researchers explore entrepreneurship to transform their academic research into a world-changing tech company, from exploring the opportunities and challenges in entrepreneurship as an alternative career path, to the various potential applications of their technology, to creating a network in the ecosystem.

Ryerson Venture Zone in Brampton (*renaming in progress)

A joint partnership between the City of Brampton and the university, Ryerson Venture Zone in Brampton is a new pre-seed, non-equity incubator that is dedicated to building and growing early stage, high-potential technology startups in Brampton.

Appendix 5

Education in Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Commercialization

Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University) is dedicated to foster entrepreneurship through education and experiential learning. It has the largest number of faculty teaching entrepreneurship in Canada, with outputs rivalling even the most revered U.S. institutions. Examples of the university's ecosystem outputs include:

- More than 75 courses offering entrepreneurship across various disciplines, from business and biomedical sciences to energy and fashion.
- Over 10 per cent of the university's students have an entrepreneurship studies course in their programs.

Diversity Institute

Ted Rogers School of Management's Diversity Institute (DI) promotes diversity and inclusion as the key to Canada's competitiveness. Founded in 1999, it has developed impactful programs like the Newcomer Entrepreneurship Hub, championed legislative change on Bill C-25, and has helped companies understand the opportunities of inclusion and develop tools to harness inclusion as a driver for success. The DI is leading the Government of Canada's Women Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub and is a partner in the Future Skills Centre.

ENT500 - New Venture Startup

This introductory course offered at the Ted Rogers School of Management is designed primarily for non-entrepreneurship students who are interested in starting a business of their own, with topics including assessing entrepreneurial potential; opportunity identification; market assessment; organizing, promoting, and financing the business; intellectual property; and buying an existing business or considering a franchise.

Master of Engineering Innovation and Entrepreneurship (MEIE)

This program is designed for engineering students, science students and industry professionals interested in advancing their own technology-based startups or leading innovation within an existing organization. Following the lean startup development process, students refine their projects from untested ideas into viable businesses, gaining the knowledge, skills and hands-on experience necessary to drive and manage innovation in existing companies or their own ventures.

ZON 100

This open elective course jointly offered by the Faculty of Science and The Creative School allows undergraduate students to start and grow their projects and ventures under the guidance of an instructor. Using both group sessions and one-on-one mentorship, students get hands-on experience to gain deeper insights into the skills and competencies needed to grow a project or venture.

Ryerson Entrepreneur Institute (*renaming in progress)

The Ryerson Entrepreneur Institute (REI) leverages Canada's largest business school and entrepreneurship program to spread a culture of entrepreneurship and empower those in need. The REI's goal is to unleash and support a values-driven culture of innovation, prosperity and achievement by igniting and supporting a passion for entrepreneurship.

Entrepreneurship Research Institute

The Entrepreneurship Research Institute at the Ted Rogers School of Management was founded in 2008 with a mandate to encourage and support research that improves understanding of the fundamental questions of entrepreneurship, from why so few people are able to spot new business opportunities to why so few exploitation efforts are successful.