

## Highlights in Ryerson History

**2021** Ryerson University receives a planning grant from the government of Ontario that will support Ryerson in developing a proposal for a School of Medicine in Brampton. The proposal will detail Ryerson's approach to health education, with a focus on primary care, expanded use of technology to better meet patient needs, inter-professional practice and the provision of culturally competent care. Ryerson University welcomes new Provost and Vice President Academic, Jennifer S. Simpson and Janice Fukakusa begins her second term as Chancellor. In April, the faculty of Law is renamed the Lincoln Alexander School of Law at Ryerson University.

**2020** The University opens the Daphne Cockwell Health Sciences Complex (DCC), bringing together four schools in the Faculty of Community Services (FCS) and providing innovative labs and classroom space, research space, and a student residence. The year marked the creation of six strategic plans that will guide the university for years to come including the Ryerson 2030 Strategic Vision, the Campus Master Plan, Fundraising, Internationalization, Scholarly Research, and the Academic Plan 2020-25. The University released the *Anti-Black Racism Climate Review Report*, which examines systemic racism and barriers on campus and made recommendations on how to move forward with the entire community. In September 2020, Ryerson's Faculty of Law welcomed its inaugural class after 10 years of planning, legal consultations and approvals. The faculty's Law Juris Doctor (JD) program will train practice-ready lawyers who are equipped with the entrepreneurial skills required to increase access to legal services for all Canadians.

**2019** Spring convocation at Ryerson, now in its new home at the Mattamy Athletic Centre, sees the highest number of graduates to cross the stage (5,816) with more family and friends than ever to watch their achievement (18,500). The University opens the Centre for Urban Innovation (CUI) a research, incubation and commercialization hub focused on finding solutions to urban challenges. The state of the art collaborative space supports researchers and innovators with strong industry links to alternative energy, water management, food, human health, data analytics, and urban infrastructure.

**2018** Marks a very special double anniversary for Ryerson: seventy years ago the Ryerson Institute of Technology was founded and twenty-five years ago Ryerson was granted full university status by the Ontario government. The report *Truth and Reconciliation at Ryerson: Building a Foundation for Generations to Come* was presented to the president and provost in a community celebration. Janice Fukakusa was named Ryerson's 5th Chancellor and the women's volleyball team won Ryerson's first national championship.

**2017** Ryerson hosted the 86th annual Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, the largest congress ever with a record attendance of more than 10,000 delegates. Extensive Congress programming showcased the diversity of Ryerson and City of

Toronto. The University launched the Science Discovery Zone (SDZ), the 10th learning innovation zone at Ryerson. The University hosts the Women's Volleyball National Championship and is also a proud supporter and venue for Invictus Games Toronto 2017.

**2016** Mohamed Lachemi is appointed Ryerson's ninth President and Vice-Chancellor. The DMZ is ranked #1 in North America and third in the world by UBI Global, a research organization specializing in benchmarking startup incubators. The Rams women's and men's basketball teams triumphed at the CIS National Championship, taking home silver and bronze medals respectively.

**2015** The award winning Student Learning Centre opens on Yonge Street. Ryerson hosts its first national university sports championship – the men's Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) Final 8, where the Rams basketball team wins bronze – the team's first CIS medal. Jack Cockwell and Brookfield Partner Foundation give \$16 million to Ryerson for various initiatives, including the creation of the Brookfield Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Make Your Mark Campaign closes, surpassing \$200 million goal.

**2014** Provost Mohamed Lachemi unveils new, five-year academic plan: *Our Time to Lead*. Governor General David Johnston officially opens BIL-Ryerson DMZ India accelerator in Mumbai. Ryerson announced as host venue for Pan Am and Parapan Am Games basketball in 2015. Janice Fukakusa elected chair of the Board of Governors. Former Chancellor G. Raymond Chang passes away. HitchBOT reaches Victoria, B.C. in cross-country research initiative.

**2013** Senate approves Optional Specialization in Zone Education as Zone Learning initiative takes shape. Mohamed Lachemi appointed provost and vice-president, academic. Ryerson acquires two properties, 202 Jarvis Street and 136 Dundas Street East, for future development.

**2012** Prime Minister Stephen Harper makes ceremonial puck drop at the new Mattamy Athletics Centre at the Gardens (named for \$15 million gift from Peter Gilgan and Mattamy Homes). His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales visits Ryerson during a royal tour of Canada. The Ryerson Image Centre opens. Lawrence Bloomberg appointed chancellor. The university announces plans for a new student residence on Jarvis Street. Gould Street is officially declared a pedestrian zone. Launch of \$200-million Make Your Mark campaign. Faculty of Science is launched.

**2011** Planning starts for a new Health Sciences building with a \$56.4-million grant from the Government of Ontario.

**2010** The Digital Media Zone (DMZ) becomes a showcase for student innovation and talent. A new athletics and recreation centre is being built at Maple Leaf Gardens. The Centre for Urban Energy is established.

**2009** Ryerson remains the most applied-to university in Ontario relative to undergraduate available spaces. Ryerson is the third-fastest growing research university in Canada and the fastest-growing in Ontario with \$19.9 million in research funding, a remarkable 32.8% increase in research year over year. President Sheldon Levy announces his vision of Toronto as a digital media hub.

**2008** Ryerson launches a bold new academic plan, *Shaping our Future: Academic Plan for 2008-2013*. Ryerson purchases the Sam the Record Man property on Yonge Street, the future home of the Student Learning Centre.

**2007** Ryerson's Faculty of Business is renamed The Ted Rogers School of Management in recognition of a \$15-million transformational gift from Ted and Loretta Rogers. Ryerson's School of Graduate Studies continues its success and growth: nine new programs are added in fall, bringing total graduate programs to 27, including seven leading to a PhD. The university launches its first post-doctoral fellowship program.

**2006** President Sheldon Levy announces his Master Plan for Ryerson, which calls for campus expansion and integration with the downtown Toronto community. The university campus undergoes its biggest growth in 30 years, including the opening of the Ryerson Business Building on Bay Street and Heaslip House, home of The G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education. G. Raymond Chang is appointed Chancellor and John Craig Eaton is appointed Ryerson's first Chancellor Emeritus.

**2005** Sheldon Levy is appointed Ryerson's eighth President and Vice-Chancellor. The university acquires one of the world's great photography collections, the Black Star Historical Black & White Photography Collection. The 225,000-square-foot George Vari Engineering and Computing Centre officially opens.

**2004** The university publicly launches the \$100-million *Invest in Futures* fundraising campaign. Debut of Ryerson's first three stand-alone PhD programs.

**2003** With the double cohort, first-year student enrolment grows by more than 1,000 to total 18,000 undergraduate students. The Bachelor of Arts and Contemporary Studies, Ryerson's first general undergraduate degree program, begins.

**2002** The name Ryerson University is made official by an act of the provincial legislature. Two new buildings open: the Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health and the Heidelberg Centre – School of Graphic Communications Management.

**2001** Five graduate programs launch in Engineering. Nelson Mandela and Graça Machel are each awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Laws.

**2000** Ryerson launches its first three graduate programs. Ted and Loretta Rogers donate \$10.5 million to establish the Edward S. Rogers Sr. Graduate School for Advanced Communications. Plans are in place for the largest expansion of the campus in 30 years.

**1999** John Craig Eaton is named Ryerson's second chancellor.

**1998** Ryerson celebrates its 50th anniversary. The university launches Canada's first degree program in Retail Management.

**1996** First honorary doctorate is awarded to the Right Honourable Romeo LeBlanc, Governor General of Canada.

**1995** Dr. Claude Lajeunesse is installed as Ryerson's seventh president.

**1994** David Crombie, a teacher and administrator at Ryerson in the 1960s, is named the university's first chancellor, a post created with university status.

**1993** Ryerson Polytechnic University is established by an Act of the provincial legislature, which grants Ryerson a fully funded research role and the power to develop graduate programs.

**1992** Ryerson becomes Toronto's second engineering school to receive accreditation from the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board. A flag bearing the Ryerson crest is carried aboard the space shuttle Columbia, signifying Ryerson's collaboration in research with Canadian astronaut Roberta Bondar. Research funding tops \$9 million since 1986.

**1987** The uniquely designed Recreation and Athletics Centre opens, with the historic Normal School façade providing a gateway to its main entrance.

**1981** New Architectural Science Building on Church St. opens.

**1978** Oakham House, a historic building on Gould St., is renovated and re-opened as a community centre for students, staff, and faculty.

**1977** Approval is given to grant Bachelor of Business Management degrees.

**1972** First degrees are awarded.

**1971** Ryerson is given permission to grant Bachelor of Technology and Bachelor of Applied Arts degrees. Interior Design is the first program to be given approval to grant degrees. Jorgenson Hall is officially opened.

**1966** Ryerson purchases O'Keefe Brewery and the offices on Victoria and Bond Streets, premises that later become the Photography and Business Buildings.

**1963** Ryerson Polytechnical Institute name is designated. Kerr Hall officially opens.

**1958** Construction begins on what is now Kerr Hall. The face of the original Normal School Building remains in the quadrangle.

**1953** All trade courses at Ryerson are transferred to the Provincial Institute of Trades, later George Brown College.

**1948** Veteran retraining is phased out, and Ryerson Institute of Technology is officially opened by Premier George Drew. Howard Kerr is the first principal of the Institute, which has an enrolment of 225. Courses are one and two years in length.

**1945** The Training and Re-establishment Institute opens to train ex-service personnel for re-entry into civilian life. More than 16,500 graduated from the Institute.

**1941** Activities in the Normal School are moved and the building is used as a training facility for the Royal Canadian Air Force during the Second World War.

**1850** Under Ryerson's supervision, a parcel of semi-rural land known as St. James Square was purchased in Toronto for the site of the Normal School, the first training facility for teachers in Canada, and the property on which Ryerson University now sits.

**1803** Egerton Ryerson is born into a United Empire Loyalist family in Norfolk County, Upper Canada. As Superintendent of Education from 1844 to 1876, Ryerson initiated free elementary schools, standard textbooks, and a standard quality of secondary school education.