



THIS IS IMPACT

[THE CAMPAIGN FOR YORK UNIVERSITY]

**school of
continuing studies**

YORK
UNIVERSITÉ
UNIVERSITY 

A NEW OPPORTUNITY



**York University is taking a
one that is bigger, bolder**

ERA OF DIVERSITY

A unique approach to **continuing studies**...
The program is growing and becoming more diverse by the day







Formerly director of McMaster University's Centre for Continuing Education, **Tracey Taylor-O'Reilly** is an international leader in continuing education.

She has nearly two decades of experience in university administration, teaching and applied research. She has also played key roles in the field on a national basis, having held numerous volunteer executive positions, including president of the Canadian Association of University Continuing Education.

Taylor-O'Reilly holds a BA and MASc from the University of Waterloo.

The School of Continuing Studies is revolutionizing what it means to be a lifelong learner—and as a cornerstone of the University's founding more than 57 years ago, our focus is squarely on making higher education accessible to as many people as possible.

We have rethought and retooled continuing education and English academic preparation from the ground up. The School is designing unique, one-of-a-kind programs and learning opportunities while dramatically enhancing and expanding access to high-quality university education, particularly for international students, students from immigrant families and working professionals. With a focus on preparing students for the next stage in their academic and professional careers, the School is making an impact.

As enrolment in continuing education and English-language programs grows, and the need for lifelong learning becomes more critical, the School of Continuing Studies is poised to increase access and accommodate more students through enhancements to our infrastructure and offerings.

We are creating a new kind of continuing studies centred on innovation, opportunity and impact. I invite you to join us in continuing this story and ushering in a new era of opportunity—one that will open countless doors for our students to explore the world of possibility that awaits them.

Tracey Taylor-O'Reilly
Assistant Vice-President, Continuing Studies
York University

our landscape

Since 1955, York has differentiated itself from other universities by enabling access to, and expanding available opportunities for, quality education. However, the scale and nature of this access has changed dramatically over the course of our nearly 60-year journey.

International students entering undergraduate programs at Canadian universities are projected to increase from 35,300 in 2014 to approximately 50,000 students by Fall 2020. University pathway programs also are expected to grow from 7,500 in 2014 to 11,400 by 2020, which represents an annual growth of 7.2% among those who have lower English scores (i.e., IELTS score of less than 5.0).

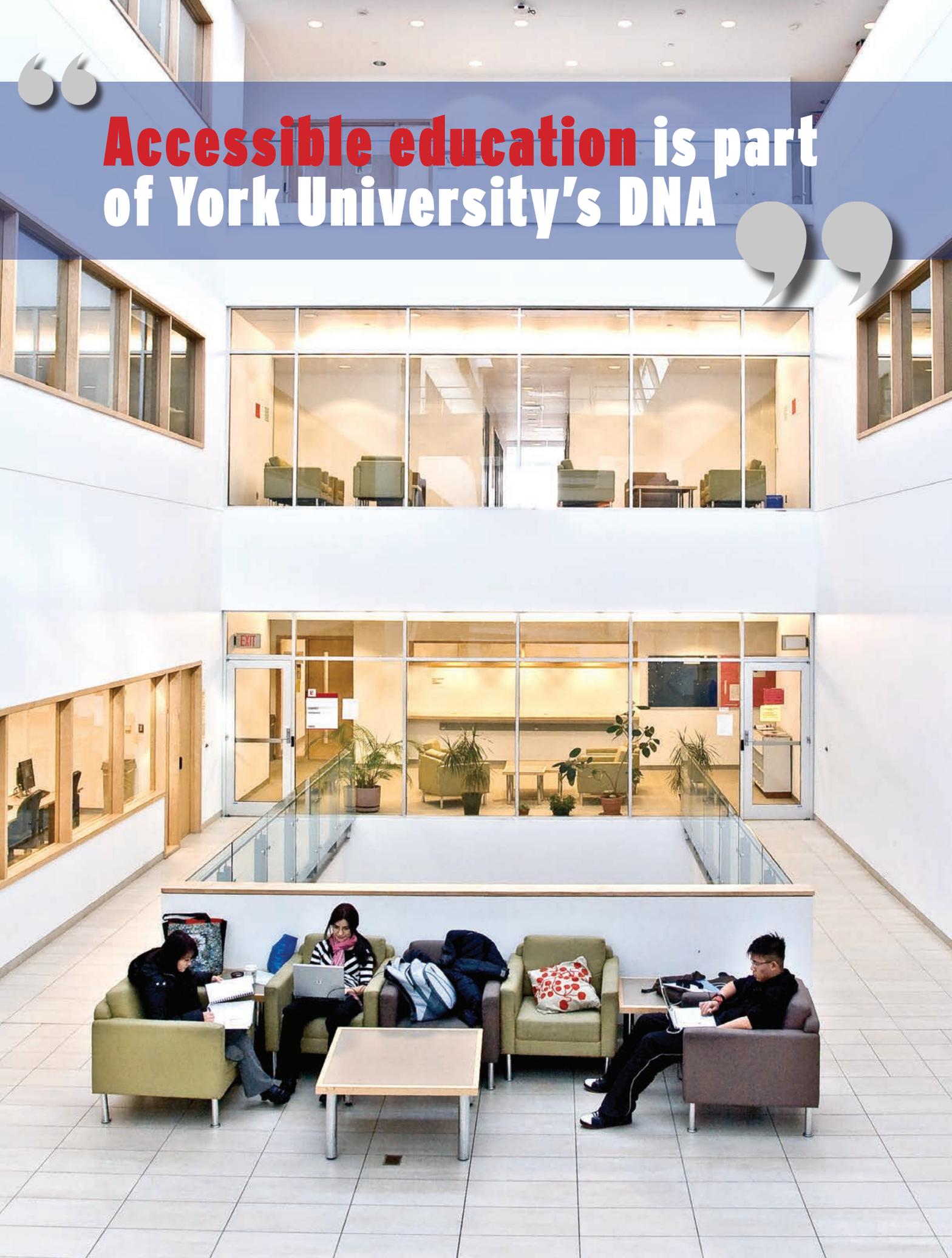
The Greater Toronto Area (GTA) and surrounding regions have transformed into a hub of multiculturalism and diversity, with a growing population of Canadian newcomers. As such, the universities across the GTA will be an attractive option for this influx of international students. These communities are ripe with aspiring professionals eager for access to higher education and career opportunities that will allow them to live and work locally.

As a centre of business and creative enterprise, Toronto also plays host to millions of professionals daily who are searching for career opportunities and advancement. This influx increases competition in the job market, amplifying the importance of ongoing higher education for those seeking long-term, sustainable opportunities and wishing to remain marketable in their careers.

In fact, the workforce itself is changing, with millennials making rapid career changes (every two years on average) and requiring programs that can be completed more quickly than those traditionally offered by university continuing education units. Many of their current jobs didn't exist when they chose their initial postsecondary programs and, as a result, existing continuing education opportunities don't match the needs of the modern workforce.

Throughout these evolutions, York has consistently developed innovative programs that allow our diverse community to access and engage with higher education. But in the face of new and substantial challenges posed by a constantly changing landscape, a more comprehensive solution is needed.

“ **Accessible education** is part of York University's DNA ”



The School of Continuing Studies



our approach

To meet the changing needs of accessible education in Toronto, **the School of Continuing Studies at York University** was created in November 2014. Today, it serves nearly 2,000 students annually.

The School embodies York's commitment to accessible education and supports our mission to be a leader in the field of continuing education and English academic preparation by:

- Creating cutting-edge, innovative and accessible adult education programs;
- Breaking through traditional disciplinary boundaries;
- Building 'T-shaped' professionals—those that have the balance of foundational skills for success as well as deep professional competence; and,
- Preparing international students with the language, reading, writing, speaking and academic preparation skills required to excel in university and in their career.

With its uniquely structured accelerated programs, the School propels students forward so they are better prepared to make an impact in their careers and on our world. Offerings are constantly growing to meet the demands of Canada's evolving workforce. Not only do students have access to leading-edge, contemporary programs, but they also have the flexibility to complete their studies in a method and pace that accommodates their individual needs and challenges.

The School's English Language Institute is at the forefront of creating pathways towards higher education for international students, allowing them to develop the skills they need to be successful at a Canadian university. These students are better positioned to join both the academic community and broader workforce, and also achieve a higher GPA on average than those students who do not attend the Institute.

York University's School of Continuing Studies is now one of the largest of its kind in Canada.

Who Do We Serve?



Local GTA Market

The School enhances access to university education (at both certificate and degree levels) for those in the vital GTA market (and surrounding area), with nearly 75 per cent of the current student population originating in Toronto and across the York, Peel, Halton and Durham regions. As the population in these regions reaches more than 9 million inhabitants, the School's target market will simultaneously expand to nearly 3 million potential students.

Working Professionals & Mature Students

The School tailors its offerings to meet the needs of today's mature and working students and usher them through a seamless, comprehensive experience.

Certificates are offered in part-time, online and in-class formats, and are uniquely structured into accelerated cohorts rather than courses to foster a deeper understanding of the material, enabling students to graduate more quickly.

The degree completion pathway for working adults offers quick admission, priority registration, a guaranteed minimum completion date and advisor supports to assist from pre-admission through to graduation.

These enhanced services reduce the unintentional barriers that have traditionally been created for mature students with full-time jobs.

International S

The School enhances access to university education for international students, supporting their studies and offering undergraduate and graduate studies at York.

The English Language Centre is one of the few programs that offers a diverse pathway from an advanced language level to a degree. Students who complete the English Language Centre often have higher retention and higher graduation rates than other international students.



Students

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ents to thrive in
continue on to
d graduate degree

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GPAs, higher
er graduation rates
tional students.

Recent Postsecondary Graduates

Through its accelerated full-time, post-graduate certificates, commitment to developing 'T-shaped' professionals, and short, stackable continuing education programs, the School is uniquely able to meet the expectations of the millennial workforce and prepare them for ongoing career success.

International students who take these programs are offered specialized supports to help them excel and fulfill their goals of building a successful career in Canada.

International Students in Canadian High Schools

The School represents a new pathway for those students who have studied in Canada for several years but do not yet meet university-level English requirements. These students receive conditional admission to their degree programs and are able to start their postsecondary journey with the help of the English Language Institute's comprehensive training.

What Do We Offer?

Continuing Education

- Certificate in Cyber Security Fundamentals
- Certificate in Advanced Cyber Security
- Certificate in Dispute Resolution
- Certificate in Advanced Dispute Resolution
- Certificate in Family Mediation
- Certificate in Human Resources Management
- Certificate in Big Data Analytics
- Certificate in Advanced Data Science and Predictive Analytics
- Certificate in Risk Management
- Chartered Business Valuator
- [Post-Degree Certificate in Human Resources Management](#) →
- N.O.W. Plus Degree Pathway (Nights, Online, Weekends)
- Post-Graduate Certificate in Accounting
- Post-Graduate Certificate in Advanced Professional Accounting

English Language Institute

- Academic Preparation
- Destination York (and Pre-Destination York)
- [Graduate Studies Preparation Program](#) →
- International Business and Intercultural Communications
- MBA/Specialized Master's Preparation
- Pre-LLM Foundations Program
- Spring Break Immersion
- Summer Immersion
- YU Bridge

Continuing Success

Juggling family life, a new country and culture, and uncertainty in her career, York social science alumna **Belinda Schuler Chin** turned to continuing education to make a lasting career change.

Immigrating to Canada in 1999, Belinda's professional career started in the non-profit sector, however she gained human resource experience after working with an engineering firm, and was immediately attracted to the profession. "The HR role served as a platform to catapult my foray into the field and my love for all things people related."

In 2015, Belinda decided to follow her new career aspirations by enrolling in the Post-Degree Certificate in HR Management at the School of Continuing Studies. "The rapid pace left a keen desire to not just practice HR, but to make a positive impact in the employment world," says Belinda. "What I really liked about the program were the professors. They were actually consultants in the real world who were practising HR."

After successfully completing the post-degree certificate, Belinda has once again made the decision to continue her education at York University in the form of a master's degree in human resources.



An International Pathway

For **Yiheng Chan**, the English Language Institute was a stepping stone. "I was trying to fill the gaps in my knowledge. I learned how to think critically and independently, and to be pro-active in working for what I wanted."

In 2013, Yiheng was new to Canada, struggling with limited English-language comprehension, and unclear of what his future may hold. However, with determination and perseverance, he enrolled in the Graduate Studies Preparation Program, which is designed to improve English language proficiency and to offer help navigating the often difficult process of applying to and being accepted to graduate studies in North America.

Following completion of his program at the English Language Institute, Yiheng received multiple offers to complete his master's degree, after which he founded his own rapidly growing company. He credits his success to embracing all of the opportunities granted to him through the program outside of his coursework, including clubs, competitions and networking events.

With all his success, Yiheng says that one of the most rewarding aspects is his ability to now offer work placements to students in his former program, coming full-circle in his professional and personal pursuits.



By The Numbers

based on 2015-16
academic year

English Language Institute



50

number of different countries of origin for students attending the School



80%

of those who completed our graduate academic preparation program were accepted into graduate programs at York and across Canada, the US, Britain, Australia and New Zealand



651

English Language Institute graduates accepted an offer of admission to York University in 2015

Comparative quality of English Language Institute graduates in the 2009 undergraduate cohort

	GPA	Retention Rate	Graduation Rate
Other Visa Students	+.6 points	+20%	+15%
Domestic Students	-.18 points	+16%	+2%

N.O.W. Plus Degree Pathway

Launched in September 2015, the N.O.W. Plus Degree Pathway is an innovative approach to support working adult students in successfully completing a degree at night, online and on weekends. It includes specialized supports such as pre-admission advising, reserved spots in classes offered online or outside of traditional working hours, and agreements to ensure courses are scheduled in a way that allows these students to finish their studies at a flexible pace.

Bachelor degrees available:

Administrative Studies, Arts in English, HR Management



92%

of N.O.W. Plus students live in the GTA

Continuing Professional Education

Method of program delivery

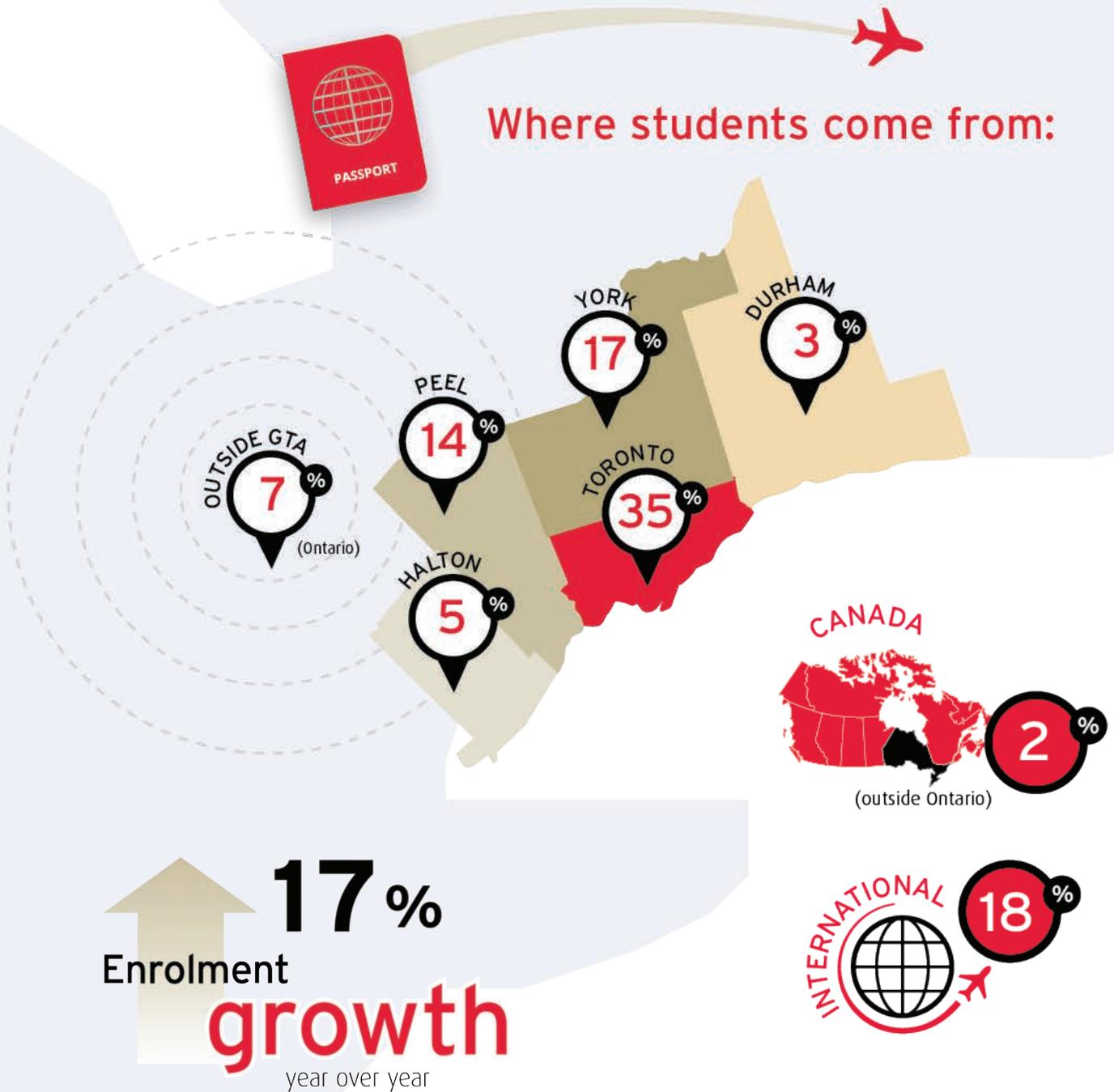
	In-Class	Online	Blended
2015-16	80%	20%	N/A
2016-17	50%	36%	14%



51%

of certificate students had previously attended York

Where students come from:



↑ **17%**
Enrolment
growth
year over year

our challenge

The School of Continuing Studies fulfills York's mission of adapting to the changing needs of our communities in many ways.

Over the next five years, York has plans to continue enhancing its alternative pathways as our overall annual enrolment is expected to make a sizable and consistent jump. However, there are still substantial obstacles standing in the way of the School's long-term success and ever-expanding potential.

Due to limited available classroom and administrative space, operations are currently compartmentalized across York's Keele campus; this prevents collaboration among units and impedes our students' overall experience. The varying quality of classroom space has also made it difficult to attract students to our on-campus programs from key professional demographics.

We are expecting a substantial increase in the number of international students at lower language scores coming to Canada in search of programs like those offered at the English Language Institute. This means that our capacity to host these students is of the utmost importance to our future growth.

The School has already run out of allotted classroom space in 2015, while newly acquired classrooms for 2016 have already been filled to capacity. We are in the process of acquiring even more additional classrooms for 2017, but remain at a critical juncture as demand for our English academic programs continues to surpass the additional classroom space we are able to find—a demand that will certainly continue to rise.

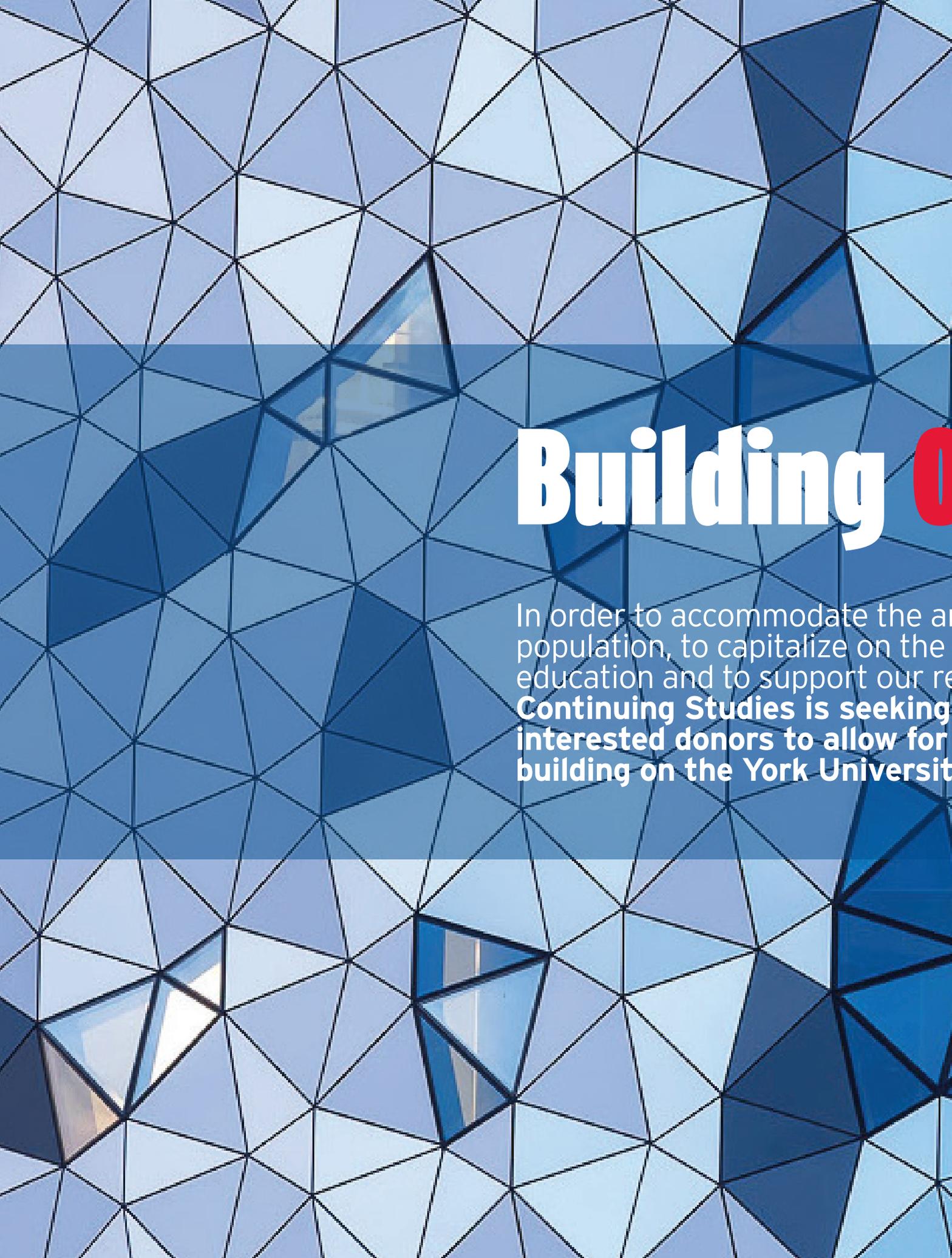
We have already demonstrated that our unique approach to continuing education and English language pathways can meet the diverse academic and professional needs of our students. However, these constraints on space present a severe roadblock to accommodating the rising local and international markets and the compounding interest in programs.

If equipped with the proper resources—including technology-enriched infrastructure and expanded physical space—we can foster unprecedented growth for the School of Continuing Studies. This will benefit more students and move us closer to our priorities of mobilizing new ways of thinking, building stronger communities and preparing engaged global citizens.

hourTronic



It's a **new era of opportunity**
for York University



Building O

In order to accommodate the an
population, to capitalize on the
education and to support our re
**Continuing Studies is seeking
interested donors to allow for
building on the York Universit**



Our Impact

Anticipated increase in our student
growing interest in continuing
recruiting efforts, **the School of**
\$10 million in support from
the construction of a new
campus.

“

Supporting our **sustained momentum and growth**

”



our impact

Over the first two years of its operation, the School has established a strong, viable foundation, poised to serve current and future generations of students.

However, in the face of severe constraints on space, we are greatly limited in our ability to provide access to the rapidly expanding population of continuing education and, in particular, English academic pathways students. The School must expand to ensure that our programs are able to accommodate and service the expected rise in demand for our unique programs.

As part of **Impact: The Campaign for York University**, the School of Continuing Studies has set a \$10-million goal towards supporting our sustained momentum through an expansion of our existing infrastructure—a new building with dedicated classrooms, student spaces and office space for continuing education and English academic preparation.

With dedicated classrooms and student spaces, this expansion would increase the number of students the School is able to support through its programs to 4,000 students per year in 2020/21 and 6,000 students per year in 2025/26. It would also increase staffing and resourcing capacity, greatly impacting our potential to develop innovative new programs and to build a wholesome, supportive academic experience for our students that is unsurpassed.

Although the additional space will help ensure that we fully meet the demands of continuing education and English academic preparation while enhancing students' ability to access both, it will also fuel the School's capacity to serve as an innovative driver for York. Our unique focus provides market feedback to York about the changing needs of our students while helping make prospective students aware of all the University has to offer them.



The School of Continuing Studies must continue to adapt and grow
only do students have easy and affordable access to continuing
York University is providing the kind of innovative, cutting-edge
generations of new students who are better prepared to succeed



**ow. Sustained growth is key to ensuring that not
education and English-language pathways, but that
e education that positions us to attract countless
d and excel.**



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