

## **Trent Durham Student Association**

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With vaccine availability and a commitment to return to in-person class in the upcoming 2021-2022 school year, the TDSA is calling on Trent University to mandate at least the first shot of an approved vaccine for COVID-19, for students coming on campus, not just students living in residence, with exemptions for medical or human right reasons. While the TDSA recognizes this is a good first step, Trent University needs to take further action towards protecting students, faculty, and staff. Discussions of mandatory vaccines infringing on individual human rights ignore that not only are mandatory vaccines in Canada and Ontario not new or unique (public schools require particular vaccines in K-12), but also ignore that all individuals have a right to feel safe on campus, including feeling safe from infectious diseases. Additionally, proof of vaccination for international travellers is another example in which mandatory vaccines are required, and contribute to overall community health and safety. As such, the TDSA implores Trent University to mandate the first shot of an approved COVID-19 vaccine for students enrolled in in-person classes, with exemptions for medical and/or related human right reasons.