

Lakehead University Concrete Toboggan 2026 Sponsorship Package



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GNCTR Competition History

The **Great Northern Concrete Toboggan Race (GNCTR)** stands as the longest running national engineering competition in Canada. Since its inception in 1974, co-hosted by the University of Calgary and the University of Alberta in Red Deer, GNCTR has been a testament to Canadian youth engineering excellence and innovation. Each year GNCTR travels to a different city, typically alternating between Eastern and Western Canada. GNCTR brings together nearly **500 engineering students** from various disciplines and almost **20 institutions across Canada and the USA**. These students are challenged to design and build a toboggan with a concrete sliding surface, weighing no more than 350 lbs, and capable of safely carrying five students. With past toboggans reaching speeds of up to 80 km/h, stringent safety standards are paramount. Each toboggan must feature a fully functional steering and braking system.

G N C T R

Lakehead University (LU) GNCTR Team History

Our team was **established in 2024**, being the first competitive team that bridges the Civil and Mechanical Engineering departments at Lakehead. During our first year we were able to accumulate **24 sponsors from Thunder Bay as well as other regions of Canada**. These sponsors were instrumental in our team's success.

During our first year, Lakehead achieved a number of triumphs. We were the **only team that year to have no point deductions**, surpassing a number of institutions with higher budgets and historical success in the competition. We also won the **Best New Team Award** beating out our competitors in a variety of categories. We were able to work on a tight timeline and strict budget to create a toboggan that was fully vetted by a meticulous safety inspection, passing on the first try, another feat not achieved by many other schools. Our team's success stems from the student's drive and the support of our sponsors.

Why Support Us

Lakehead University's GNCTR team provides an amazing opportunity for students to gain hands-on-experience while remaining within strict design parameters. This competition not only teaches engineers about how to design systems, but also how to manage their time, budget their project, source materials, and engage with the public for fundraising activities. This competition regularly challenges future engineers to think outside the box and be creative while maintaining a grounded perspective with attention to sustainability and longevity. As a sponsor, you will not only support the team in constructing the toboggan and going to the 2026 Competition in London, Ontario, you will also gain access to top engineering students from one of Canada's top Undergraduate Universities*.

*Macleans - Canada's Best Primarily Undergraduate Universities for 2025



Team Members

Our team consists of **3 Captains, 4 Mechanical Leads, and 5 Civil Leads**. We also have countless general members dedicating and volunteering their time to ensuring our team's success. Many of the volunteers are planning on running for GNCTR Captain next year and are highly motivated to assist the main team with all things required. At the competition, we, along with other schools, will bring a total of 30 members. You will get the chance to meet them at the local and competition events. In addition, our team is supervised by two world class researchers; **Dr. A. Elshaer, P.Eng.** and **Dr. K. Liu, P.Eng.**

Our Captains



Jakub Cebula, Civil Captain

4th Year Civil Engineering

I have done GNCTR for two consecutive years now, both times as a Structural Lead, once at NAIT and currently at Lakehead. This third year, I am stepping up as the Civil Captain and am looking forward to applying my years of knowledge to help propel the team and be the glue that holds us together. The team is talented, and I believe we can truly make an impact this year.



Liliann Vo, Mechanical Captain

4th Year Mechanical Engineering

I'm excited to be returning to Lakehead's GNCTR team as the Mechanical Captain. Last year we had a great debut in our first ever competition and the bar was set high for this year. I am looking forward to everything we're going to achieve in the months ahead and I am proud to be working alongside a team of passionate and hardworking individuals.



Hung Lam, Spirit Captain

4th Year Mechanical Engineering

Lakehead GNCTR is an inclusive and diverse environment not only for Engineering students, but also for all Lakehead University students to experience firsthand the development of an original project that stretches beyond technical knowledge to include teamwork, communication, and innovation.

Mechanical



Iyinoluwa Esther Ajayi, Aerodynamics Lead

4th Year Mechanical Engineering

I joined GNCTR because I love hands-on innovative projects and working with people who are just as excited about engineering as I am. It's a chance to push myself, be creative, think outside of the box and represent my school in something big. I'm hoping to learn a lot, make some great memories, and grow as an engineer and with your support, can make the most of this amazing experience.



Alexey Burlakov, Mechanical Lead

5th Year Mechanical Engineering/MBA

I joined GNCTR last year to learn more about the design process as it pertains to the industry. Many of my teammates were college transfer students with years of experience in the field. They taught me how to model, find design flaws, fabricate, and many other skills. This year I am returning to further my hands on experience and hopefully help some of the future team.



Edwin Gordenko-Sadevich, Fabrication Lead

4th Year Mechanical Engineering

I joined GNCTR because I want to continue the amazing results that Lakehead's team managed to accomplish last year, while continuing to learn and grow in the field of mechanical engineering. I hope I can improve my skills, make valuable connections and make amazing memories with my fantastic teammates.



Tyson Reeves, Mechanical Design Lead

4th Year Mechanical Engineering

My friend Daniel asked if I wanted to check out GNCTR, and next thing I knew I was up to my neck in concrete, sleepless design nights and learning how to order pizza in French.

Civil



Tyson Chambers, Concrete Ski Design Lead

4th Year Civil Engineering

I joined GNCTR because it's a rare overlap in things I am passionate about, racing, 3D printing, and concrete. It also gives us a great opportunity to work with other aspiring engineers and learn from each other.



Tajman Mann, Concrete Mix Design Lead

4th Year Civil Engineering

Concrete fascinates me—GNCTR lets me build, learn, and innovate.



Lance Miron, Structural AutoCAD Lead

4th Year Civil Engineering

I joined GNCTR with hopes of creating a lasting impact by putting our engineering knowledge to the test and participating in the highly competitive showdown against the rivaling universities around Canada. By sponsoring us you are helping to put Thunder Bay and Lakehead University on the map for our excellence and resilience.



Ahmet Uraz, Structural Lead

4th Year Civil Engineering

I joined GNCTR as the structural lead because I've always found engineering fascinating, and I'm excited to finally apply everything I've learned. I'm especially looking forward to seeing how real-world application and execution differ from the theoretical side we study and adapt.



Wen Shi Zeng, Structural Frame Analysis Lead

4th Year Civil Engineering

I joined GNCTR to gain hands-on experience working in a multidisciplinary team and to challenge myself with a real-world engineering project. I hope to improve my technical skills and contribute meaningfully to our team's success.

Schedule

August Preliminary Design	September Collaborative Design	October Detailed Analysis
November Fabrication	December Theme Decoration	January Competition Prep
February Competition	March Sponsor Events	April Pass Off

Events

As a sponsor, one of the many benefits you would have is access events we host. These events not only provide you with major exposure through media presence as well as public participation, but also allow you to network and collaborate with like minded organizations. Some of the events you would be able to join as a LU GNCTR Sponsor are listed on the next page.

Tech Exhibition

This is a public event in London ON where all the toboggans from schools across North America are showcased. As a sponsor, your logo will be displayed on our toboggan for the public as a proud sponsor of Lakehead University's GNCTR team.

Location: Competition, public event, London ON.

Race Day

A public event in London ON where all the toboggans are raced down the hill. As a sponsor, your logo will be displayed on the toboggan as well as our gear as we ride into triumph. These events are nationally televised, which is a great opportunity for further exposure for your organization.

Location: Competition, public event, London ON.

Toboggan Celebration Day

This event will allow us to show off our design to the Thunder Bay community, and to sponsors like you, that helped us build the toboggan. Attendees would get the chance to go inside our toboggan and ask any questions. This would be a local event intended to generate publicity and recognition of the LU GNCTR Team and its sponsors.

Location: Post competition, public event, Thunder Bay ON.

Community Acknowledgment

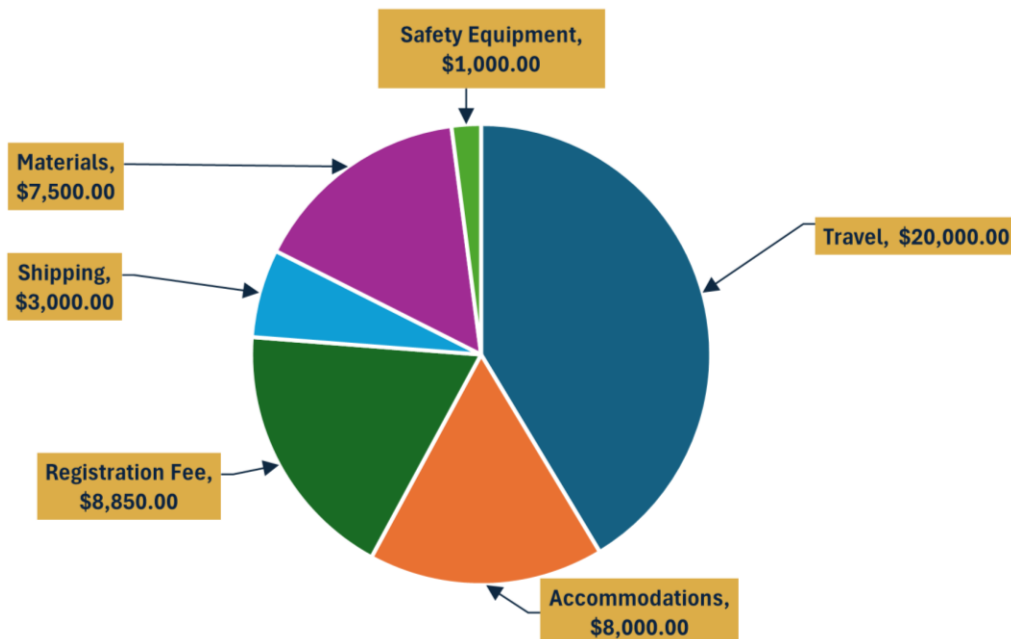
A night to network and celebrate the achievements of the team and our sponsors. In addition to the team, a number of Lakehead's departments, both student and staff would be invited to this event. This is also a great opportunity to organize interviews with some of our team members, connect with some of Lakehead's students and staff, or simply meet the people you have graciously supported in the past year.

Location: Post competition, private event, Thunder Bay ON.

Our Budget

Our team budget consists of 6 main expenses. The biggest expense is our travel. Getting a team of 30 students from Thunder Bay to London is not a cheap endeavour and would cost about \$20,000. Our next biggest expenses are accommodations at the competition and registration fees. Together, these two items cost the team around \$16,850. The rest of our expenses which include shipping, materials, and safety equipment come out to around \$11,500. In total, the team has a budget of just under \$50,000. As a sponsor, you not only relieve some of the team's financial burden, but also allow the team to come up with more creative designs, constructions, and solutions. In doing so, you are supporting the Lakehead Community and future professionals.

Item	Budget
Travel	20,000
Accommodations	8,000
Registration Fee	8,850
Shipping	3,000
Materials	7,500
Safety Equipment	1,000
Total	\$48,350 CAD



Sponsorship Levels & Benefits

Level (Number Available) \$Amount	Bronze (N/A) \$1,000	Silver (N/A) \$2,500	Gold (N/A) \$5,000	Platinum Partner (2) \$7,500	Diamond Partner (1) \$10,000	Ruby Partner (1) \$15,000
Website Feature	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo on Uniform*	XS	S	M	L	L	L
Logo on Toboggan ⁺	XS	S	M	L	2L	4L
# of Social Media Feature	1	2	3	4+	4+	4+ ¹
Resume Bank & Interviews			✓	✓	✓ ²	✓ ²
Letter of Acknowledgement				✓	✓ ³	✓ ³
Featured in Team Newsletter				✓	✓	✓
Acknowledgment at Local Events				✓	✓ ⁴	✓ ⁵
Patch Feature					✓	✓
Plaque and Team Merch						✓

*Sponsorship must be finalized by November 30th, 2025, for logo to appear on uniform

*A number before a size indicates the number of logo placements

¹The Ruby level partner's logo is featured in every post

²Diamond and Ruby partners get first choice in interviews

³The Letter of Acknowledgement is an official acknowledgement of LU GNCTR's partnership with the sponsor to be sent to the sponsor as well as posted on social media and website

⁴Diamond level partners get a booth at local events & dedicated area

⁵Ruby level partners get an address at local events & a dedicated booth/area

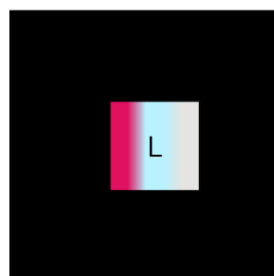
Logo Sizing*

Size (square)	Side of Toboggan	Top of Toboggan	Back of Toboggan	Helmet	Shirts
XS	6"	N/A	N/A	N/A	3"
S	0.75"	N/A	N/A	N/A	4"
M	1 ft	N/A	N/A	N/A	5"
L	1.5 ft	2 ft	1 ft	6"	6"

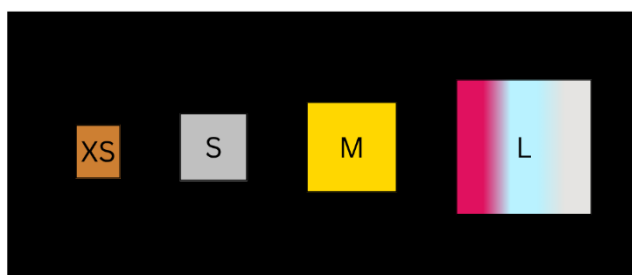
*The logo sizing is tentative, and may change depending on toboggan design and uniform costs

Toboggan Logo Size

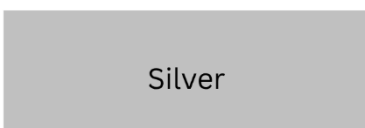
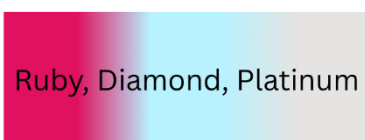
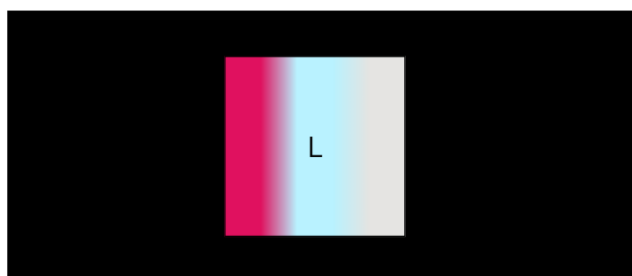
BACK



SIDES



TOP



SPONSORSHIP PLEDGE – LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY GNCTR 2026

Contact Information

Company		Primary Contact	
Address	City	Province	Postal Code

Sponsorship Information

☐ Monetary

☐ Other (Specify)

\$

Sponsorship Commitment

The 2026 Lakehead University GNCTR team is currently seeking sponsorship support for the GNCTR 2026 competition. By signing below, you're confirming that you hold authority for your organization to provide the sponsorship indicated above.

Sponsorship Primary Contact (Signature)

Date

Completed forms can be sent to the Team Captains at GNCTR@LAKEHEADU.CA.