

# INSIDE HUMBER

Humber is your hospital, these are your stories.

## IN THIS ISSUE:

Monthly Highlights  
SPV Spotlight  
News and Event  
Social Media Highlights  
May Calendar

## Monthly Highlights

### Honourable Michael Kerzner and MPP Mohamed Firin Visit Humber

On March 27, we welcomed Hon. Michael Kerzner and MPP Mohamed Firin to Humber River Health. We had the opportunity to provide an overview of our three sites and showcase our innovation. We had a great discussion regarding our pending proposals with the provincial government including:

- Cardiac Catheterization Lab
- Acute Behavioural Assessment and Management Unit
- Schulich Family Medicine Teaching Unit
- Surgical Access Centre
- Skills Development Fund – Capital Stream





## **Recognizing Dr. David Jacobs**

### **King Charles III Coronation Medal**

Ontario's Health Minister has awarded Dr. David Jacobs the King Charles III Coronation Medal, which recognizes outstanding Canadians for their talent, service and achievement that have brought great benefit to Canada and to Ontario. Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health announced:

"This medal is a testament to your exceptional contributions and dedication to Ontario's healthcare system, specifically through your leadership as President of the Association of Radiologists and advocacy for modernizing breast cancer screening guidelines. I am proud of the work we accomplished together to lower the age of publicly funded breast cancer screening to include women over 40. This change will save the lives of thousands of mothers, sisters, friends and loved ones across our province."



## **Recognizing Joe Gorman**

### **King Charles III Coronation Medal**

The Governor General of Canada and the Government of Ontario has awarded Joe Gorman the King Charles III Coronation Medal, which recognizes outstanding Canadians who have made a profound and lasting contribution to Ontario and to Canada.

Joe was selected for this honour in recognition of his exceptional contributions and dedication to the betterment of our province and country.



## **Recognizing Barb Collins**

### **King Charles III Coronation Medal**

President & CEO Barb Collins has been awarded the King Charles III Coronation Medal by the Governor General of Canada and the Government of Ontario. This prestigious honour recognizes outstanding Canadians who have made a profound and lasting contribution to Ontario and to Canada.

Barb was selected for this honour in recognition of her exceptional contributions and dedication to the betterment of our province and country.





# Recognizing Paul Pellegrini

## King Charles III Coronation Medal

Board Member Paul Pellegrini has been awarded the King Charles III Coronation Medal. This prestigious honour recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to their communities, regions, and beyond, bringing credit to Canada.

Paul’s exceptional leadership and dedication to advancing healthcare have left a lasting impact, including his instrumental contributions in helping to build Humber River Health’s Wilson Site, and his key role on the Humber River Health Board. His influence extends well beyond these achievements, reflecting his deep commitment to community service and philanthropy.



# Catherine Wang Visits Humber

We were thrilled to welcome Catherine Wang, Interim Associate Deputy Minister, Clinical Care and Delivery, with oversight of the Health Programs and Delivery, Physician and Provider Services, and Hospitals and Capital Divisions for the Ministry of Health. We showcased our operational efficiencies and innovation that enable us to be a high-reliability organization, delivering positive patient outcomes and experiences.



# Jennifer Stewart Appointed President & CEO of Humber River Health Foundation

The Board of Directors of Humber River Health Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of Jennifer Stewart as its new President and CEO, effective June 2, 2025. With nearly 30 years of leadership in healthcare philanthropy, Jennifer is known for her strategic vision, ability to inspire teams, and passion for innovation in patient-centered care.

[Read More](#)



# Barb Collins - Top CEO for 2024/2025

Congratulations to our President & CEO, Barb Collins, who is a Top CEO for 2024/25 and received an invitation to join Newsweek’s Top CEO Network, an exclusive program recognizing the world’s foremost hospital leaders.

[Read More](#)





**Advancing Gynaecological Care: Robotic Innovation with Dr. André LaRoche**

At Humber, we are working to make a change through robotic surgery, offering hope to patients with fibroids, endometriosis, and other high-risk cases. Dr. André LaRoche, Humber’s Chief of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, understands this need. As a child, he watched his mother endure a long and difficult recovery following her hysterectomy.

[Read More](#)



**Powered by Precision: First Paediatric Robotic Surgery**

For months, Farima and Mike watched helplessly as their teenage son suffered through excruciating pain, nausea, and relentless vomiting. An ultrasound revealed a blockage in their son's kidney, a condition known as Ureteropelvic Junction Obstruction. They understood their son's case was unique. He underwent Humber's first paediatric robotic-assisted surgery—and one of the first in the city.

[Read More](#)



**Dr. Sterling’s Video Profile with Hologic**

Cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer in women globally, according to the WHO. But not enough women are getting the preventive care they need to stay healthy. Dr. Lynn Sterling, an OB/GYN at Humber, is working to change this by helping more women get their Pap screenings and HPV vaccinations. Watch her story, as part of Hologic’s Women Behind the Data series.

[Watch Here](#)



**Relaunching the Heart Failure Clinic: The PFAC Perspective**

In January, the Cardiology Program at Humber proudly announced the relaunch of their Heart Failure Clinic. It was a team effort to ensure the program would meet each patient’s unique treatment, education, and therapeutic needs. Included on this team was Marjan Dehghani, who plays a significant role as a Patient and Family Advisory Committee member in the Cardiology Program.

[Read More](#)



Oncology Nursing Day - April 1

Our oncology nurses go above and beyond in providing exceptional care, advancing research, and making a lasting difference in the lives of patients living with cancer and their families. Thank you for all that you do!



Katherine Kamel

Katherine Kamel is a Coordinator in our Patient, Family and Staff Resource Centre and Interpreter Services. Katherine ensures patients and families have access to evidence-based consumer health information, and supports clinicians by maintaining up-to-date medical resources. Katherine also oversees interpreter and translation services, helping to ensure that non-English speaking patients can receive care in their preferred language, breaking down barriers to healthcare access.



Green Shirt Day - April 7

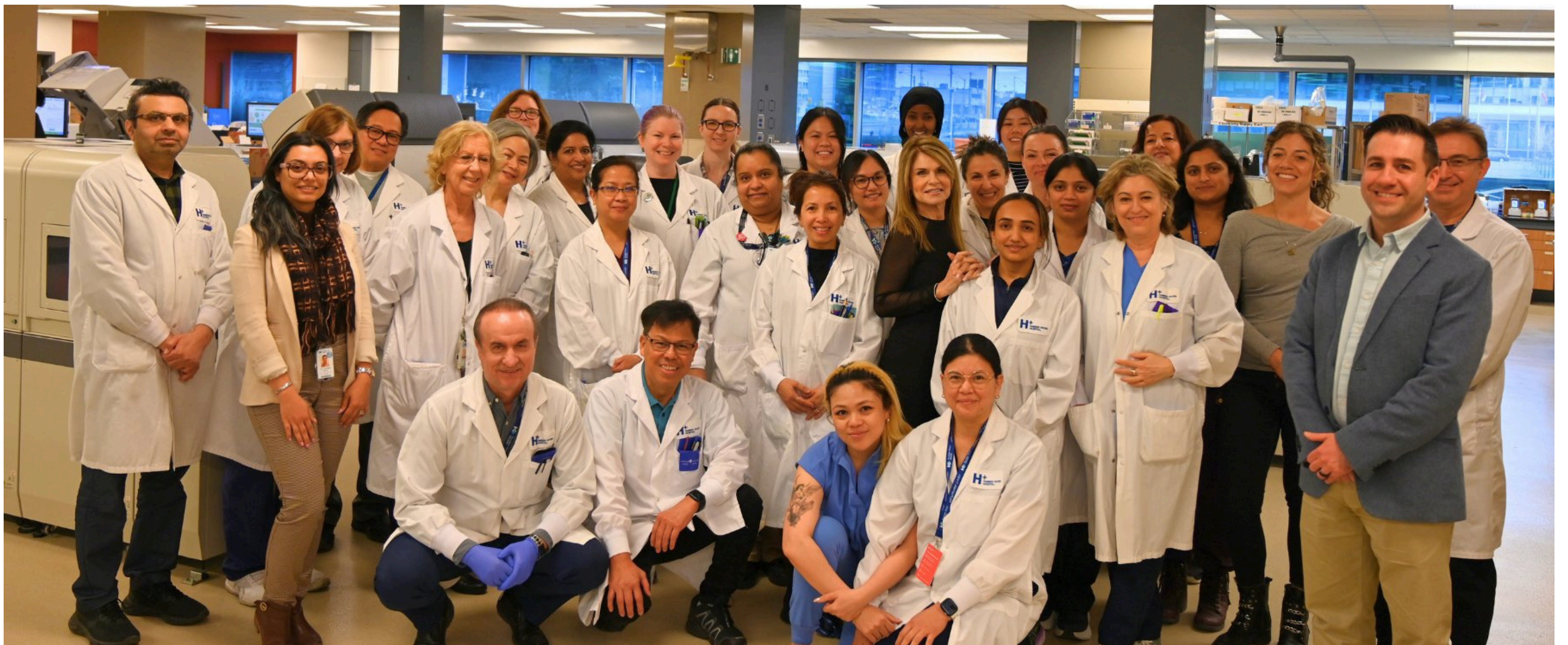
As part of our Be a Donor Month initiatives, many of our teams wore green on April 7 in honour of Green Shirt Day. We also raised the BeADonor flag to remind others of how essential organ and tissue donations are in transforming and enhancing lives.





## Medical Laboratory Professionals Week - April 20 - 26

During Medical Laboratory Professionals Week, we recognized the dedication, expertise, and hard work of our laboratory professionals. Their contributions play a vital role in research, diagnostics, innovation, and ensuring the highest standards of quality and safety in our field. Behind every diagnosis and treatment plan, there's a dedicated team - our "behind-the-scenes" heroes - of laboratory professionals working tirelessly to ensure accurate and timely results. We celebrate you!



## Preoperative and Postoperative Surgical Daycare Teams

At the heart of exceptional nursing lies mentorship and our Preoperative and Postoperative Surgical Daycare Teams are leading the way. Through outstanding preceptorship, they are creating an environment where nursing students are not only welcomed, but truly flourish. Thank you for all that you do!



## Release of Information Specialists

As Release of Information Specialists, Amy Chhoukdean, Varsine Suthaharan, and Morsal Haidary have a primary focus on maintaining the security and confidentiality of personal health information, part of which includes assisting patients with accessing their My Humber Health portal accounts.





## Administrative Professionals Day - April 23

On April 23, Humber celebrated Administrative Professionals Day, a special day to acknowledge and thank the more than 300 clerical and administrative staff at our Hospital. Their dedication ensures the seamless operation of both clinical and non-clinical functions, vital to the care and service we provide.

Their dedication is crucial for our staff, physicians, and volunteers to perform their duties effectively, as their services facilitate the smooth execution of every meeting, procedure and patient appointment. From registration and scheduling to managing data and providing essential support across departments, their meticulous attention to detail and efforts are fundamental to the positive experiences of all who visit Humber River Health.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our administrative and clerical staff for consistently embodying our values of compassion, professionalism, and respect. You are instrumental in our pursuit of excellence as an organization.



## Child Life Month

Last month, we recognized Child Life Month to honour the contributions of Child Life Specialists. This month focuses on raising awareness about the vital role these professionals play in supporting children and families in healthcare settings through education, play, and emotional support. Thank you for everything you do!





## Trainings, Orientation and Mentorship

Welcoming our newly hired nurses with a strong start! During onboarding orientation, we equip our team with the knowledge and tools to apply RNAO Best Practice Guidelines, empowering them to deliver evidence-based care that drives positive patient outcomes.



## Trillium Gift of Life Network Award

Congratulations to Kimberly Macias, one of our CPLs, who received the Trillium Gift of Life Network Provincial Donation Champion Award, given to healthcare professionals who are exceptional advocates for organ and tissue donation.





# National Volunteer Week – April 27 to May 3

April 27 to May 3 was National Volunteer Week, a time set aside each year to recognize and celebrate the vital role that volunteers play in communities across Canada. Their contributions enrich the lives of countless individuals, and their generosity and dedication make a lasting impact.

Our theme for National Volunteer Week 2025 was **Volunteers Make a World of Difference**. It highlighted the power, impact and importance of individual and collective volunteer efforts across Canada. During this week, we held our Volunteer Appreciation Event to celebrate the pivotal role our volunteers play.

We extend our deepest appreciation to every member of our volunteer team. Your commitment is truly inspiring, and Humber River Health is a better place because of you. Thank you for all that you do!







## Yosouf

Meet Yosouf. From helping patients transition into perioperative care before surgery to guiding family members into postoperative areas to reunite with loved ones, Yosouf has witnessed how every role contributes to a compassionate and efficient environment.



## Larry

Meet Larry, who has been a dedicated volunteer for a year and a half. Larry has built a strong connection with his fellow volunteers and finds great joy in working closely with patients, always striving to make their day a little brighter.



## Rosetta

Rosetta has been volunteering at Humber for over a year. Working in the Gift Shop, Rosetta meets many people and communicates with very pleasant patients, staff, and visitors. "Humber is a happy place to be a volunteer, and I will always encourage others to do the same!"

## Coming Soon: Employee, Physician & Volunteer Engagement Survey

On May 26, 2025, Humber will launch our **You Say, We Listen, We Act: Employee, Physician and Volunteer Engagement Survey**. We have partnered with a third party, Metrics@Work, who specializes in engagement surveys and is the vendor used by many GTA hospitals, for the survey launch. In alignment with our strategic direction to Embrace Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, we are including a demographic and inclusion section to the survey.

**Please remember that the survey is 100% confidential with no individual employee, physician or volunteer responses returned to Humber River Health.**

For more information about the upcoming engagement survey, please click below to visit the Engagement Survey SharePoint site. On this site, you can also find a video to learn more about different corporate initiatives implemented as a result of the last engagement survey.

[Click Here](#)



NWT OHT All Partner Forum

Last month, the North Western Toronto Ontario Health Team (NWT OHT) hosted their first-ever All Partner Forum! The event brought together members from across 39 Partner Organizations to share some of their upcoming projects and past achievements. We look forward to continue working together as an NWT OHT Partner.



Innovation Showcase

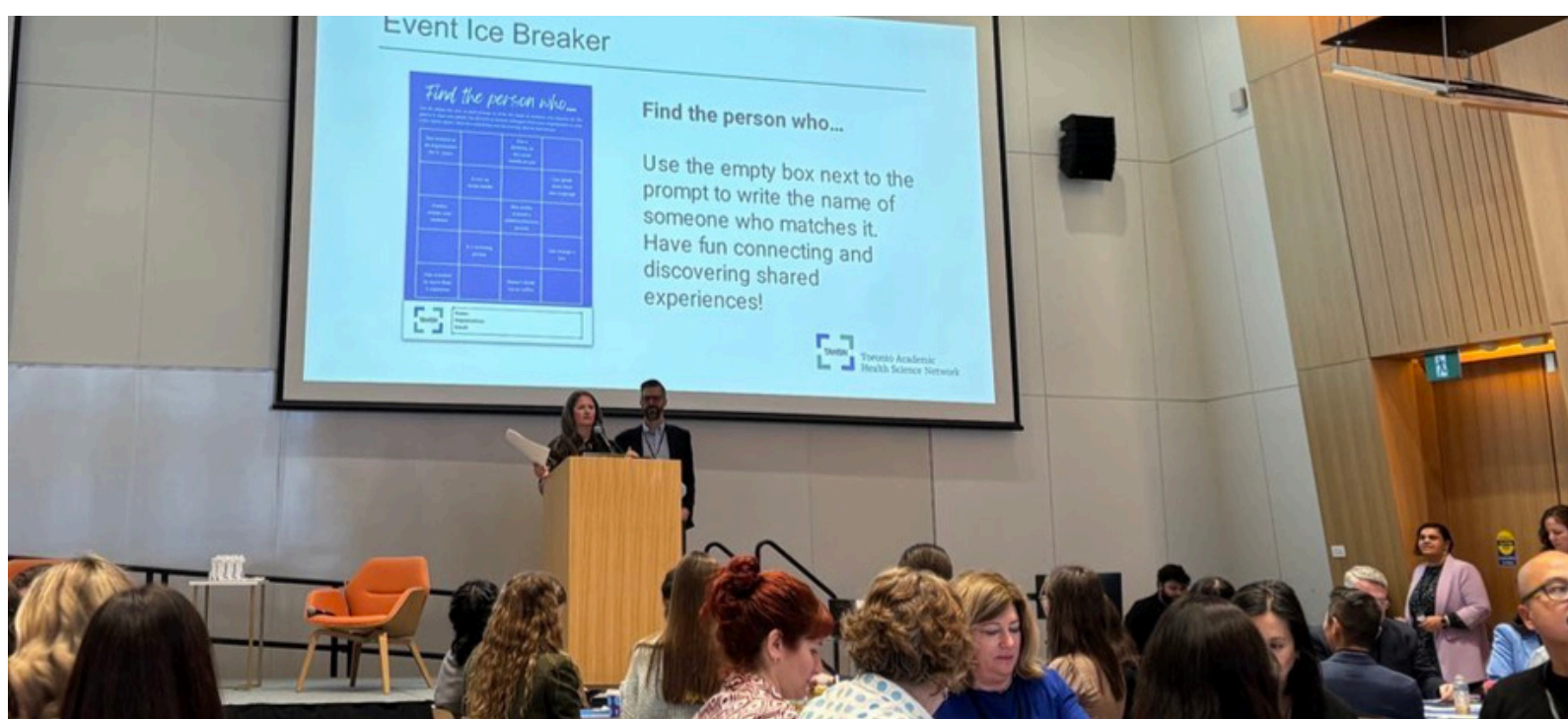
During the first week of April, we hosted an Innovation Showcase, bringing together teams across Humber River Health to explore the latest advancements in MEDITECH Expanse. A huge thank you to MEDITECH, the Innovation Excellence team, and everyone who made this engaging event possible!





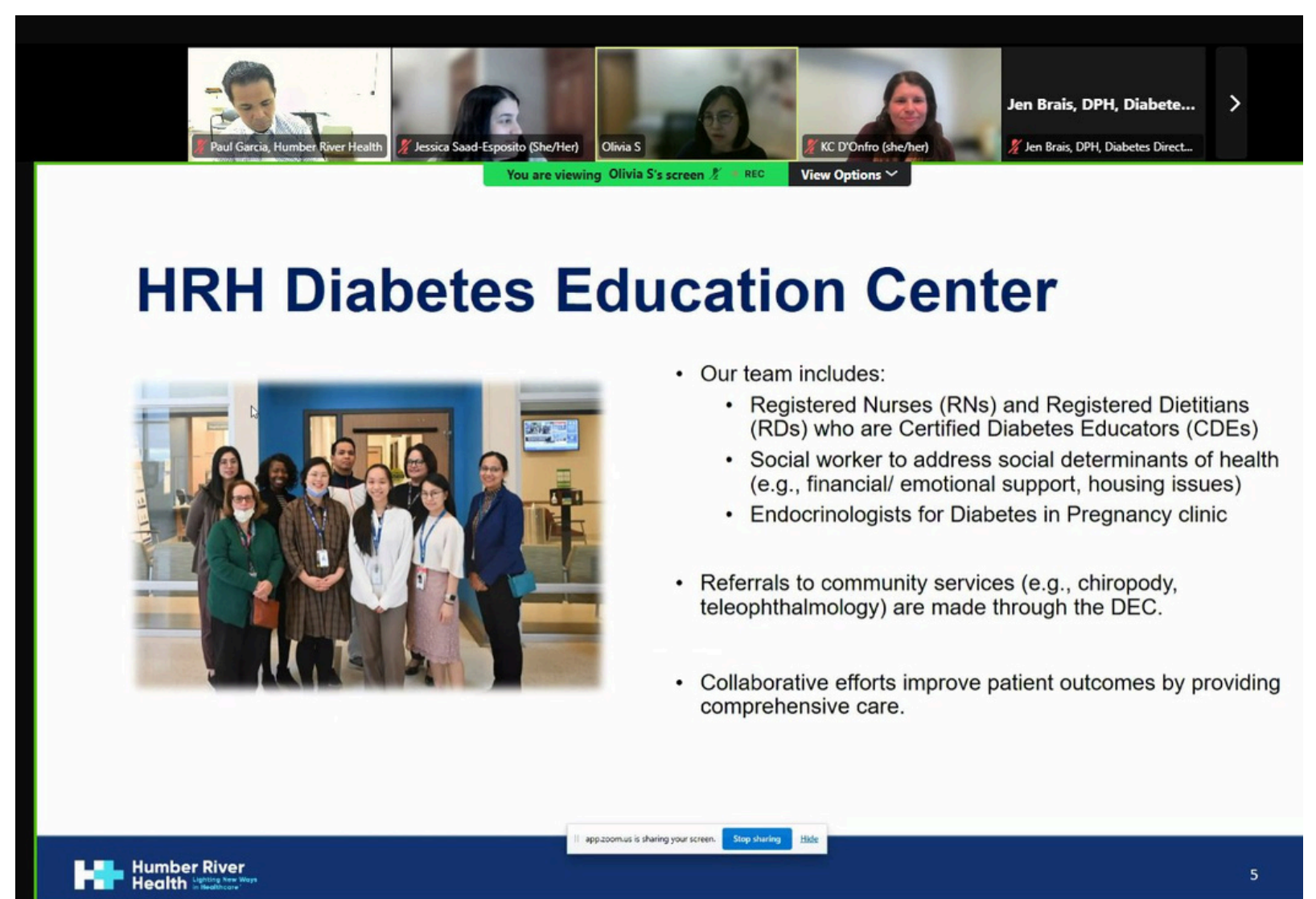
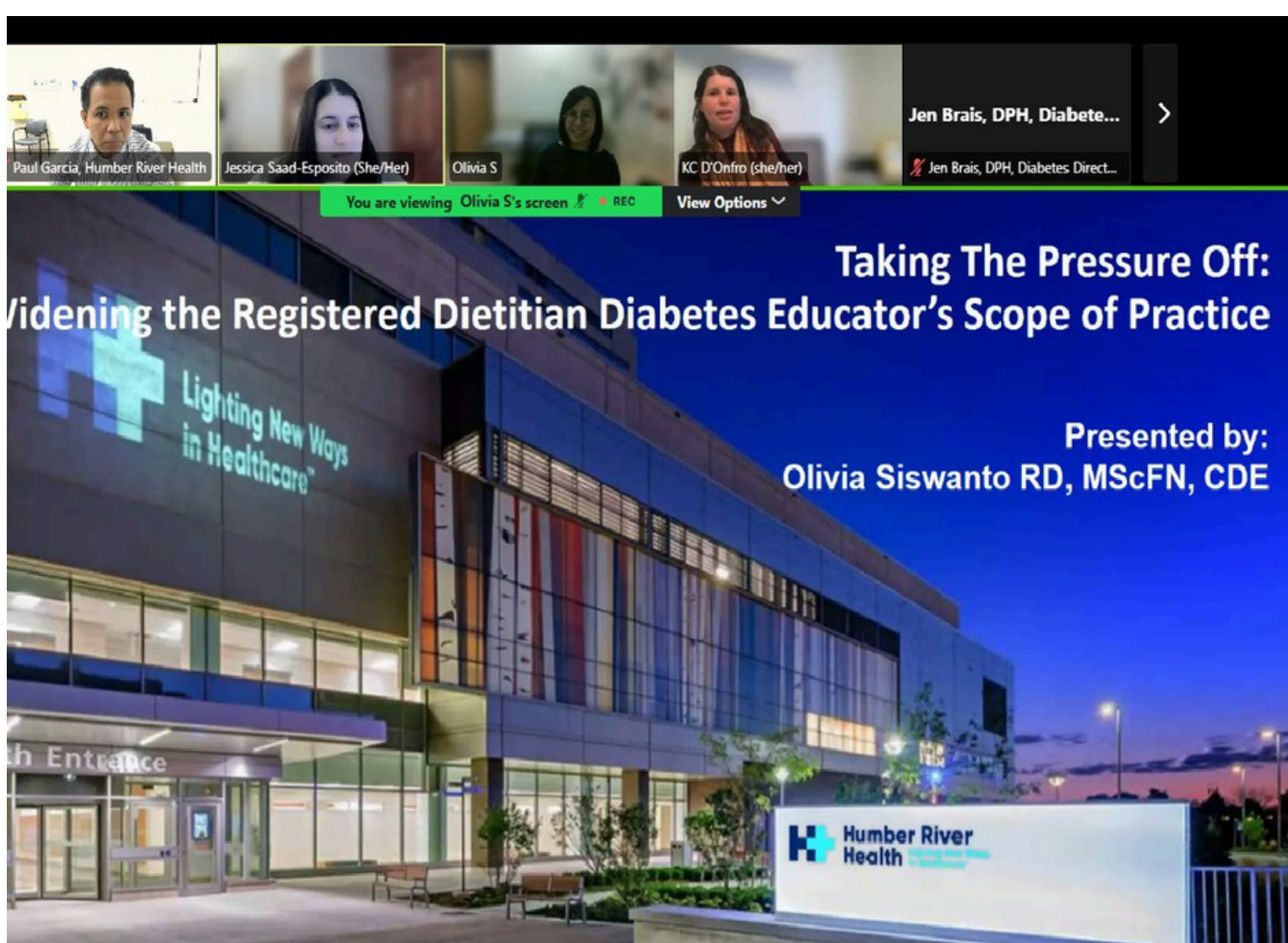
## TAHSN Communicators Education Day - April 4

On April 4, our Corporate Communications and Public Affairs Team participated in the TAHSN Communicators Education Day. The theme for this year's interactive and energizing conference was "Impact", emphasizing the need for communicators to adapt to change, harness new technologies, engage audiences meaningfully and deliver results that drive action in a changing landscape. We were honoured to be part of the planning committee and participate in such an educational and meaningful day with our TAHSN partners!



## Diabetes/Hypertension Champion Learning Session

Our Diabetes Education Team presented their IHI poster 'Taking the Pressure Off: Widening the RD Diabetes Educators Scope of Practice' at the Diabetes/Hypertension Champion Learning Session in Massachusetts. We congratulate our Diabetes Education Team on this recognition!





# Earth Day 2025 – April 22

On April 22, our Sustainability Team hosted our very first Vendor Expo at our Wilson Hospital along with interactive booths at our Church and Finch Campuses. Events such as these are part of Humber's commitment to raising awareness around environmental sustainability, highlighting our ongoing initiatives. We are grateful to everyone who is committed to working towards a more sustainable Humber! We are grateful for our vendor partners: Clintar, EcoTex, DCM, Furcon, GFL and Stryker.

We were also thrilled to welcome Sandra Alexander from The Canadian Coalition for Green Health Care to discuss the three-year national 'Circular Clinical Care: Single-Use Plastics Reduction' project and its relation to the prevalence of plastic use in healthcare and the opportunity areas to reduce plastic use.



## Stryker Sustainability

Styker Sustainability recognized Humber with the Platinum Award highlighting the Hospital's 2024 impact:

- 1,210lbs of waste diverted from the landfill
- 4,870 sustainable devices utilized
- \$424,430 in customers savings
- 55 trees/kelp to be planted



## DCM PrintReleaf

DCM – PrintReleaf awarded Humber with the Lifetime Certificate which signified the 1,523 standard trees reforested on behalf of Humber.

Scan the QR code to see trees planted to date and where in live-time.

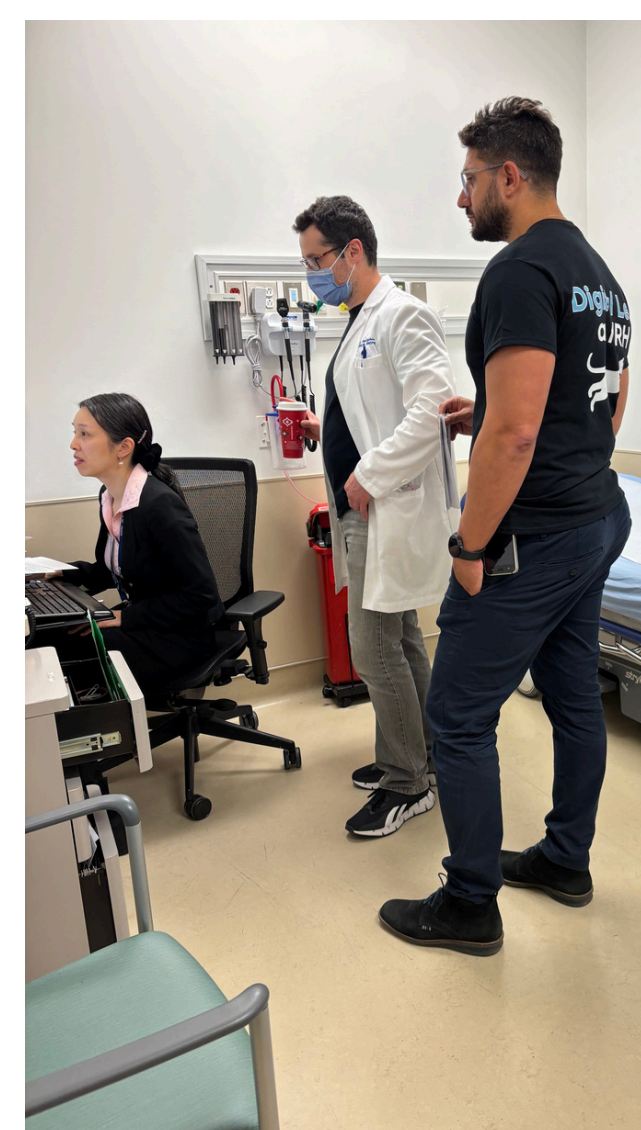




## WebAcute is LIVE!

Over the past year, we have embarked on a new initiative to implement WebAcute across Humber - a user-friendly, web-based electronic medical record system. Our current version of Meditech has transitioned to a modernized Expanse WebAcute platform, designed with the clinician in mind. With this new system, our staff and physicians will experience a simplified interface and enhanced efficiency, allowing for more time to be dedicated to delivering patient care. At Humber, we are actively taking the digital leap forward to transforming the future of healthcare.

We extend our gratitude to everyone - including our Digital Learning, Applications and Innovation Excellence Teams, as well as our Physician Champions - who have worked tirelessly throughout this project and go-live period!



## Ontario Health Visits Humber

On April 29, our Senior Leadership Team welcomed Matt Anderson, and representatives from Ontario Health to Humber. During their visit, we had the opportunity to showcase our operational efficiencies and innovative processes, that enable us to be a high-reliability organization.

We are excited to further our partnership and collaborative efforts with Ontario Health to enhance patient care, outcomes, and experiences within the province.





# Social Media Highlights

**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

We're excited to be at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre for the Healthcare Job Fair happening now until 4 PM!

Come meet our amazing team, explore your career opportunities, and learn how you can be part of a hospital that's lighting the way in healthcare. [#JobFair2025](#)



**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

To those who are celebrating, may your Passover be meaningful and filled with the joy of gathering with loved ones. We wish everyone observing Passover a holiday filled with peace, happiness, and renewal.



**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

We were thrilled to welcome Catherine Wang, Assistant Deputy Minister of Hospitals & Capital for the Ministry of Health. We showcased our operational efficiencies & innovation that enable us be a high-reliability organization, delivering positive patient outcomes & experiences.



**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

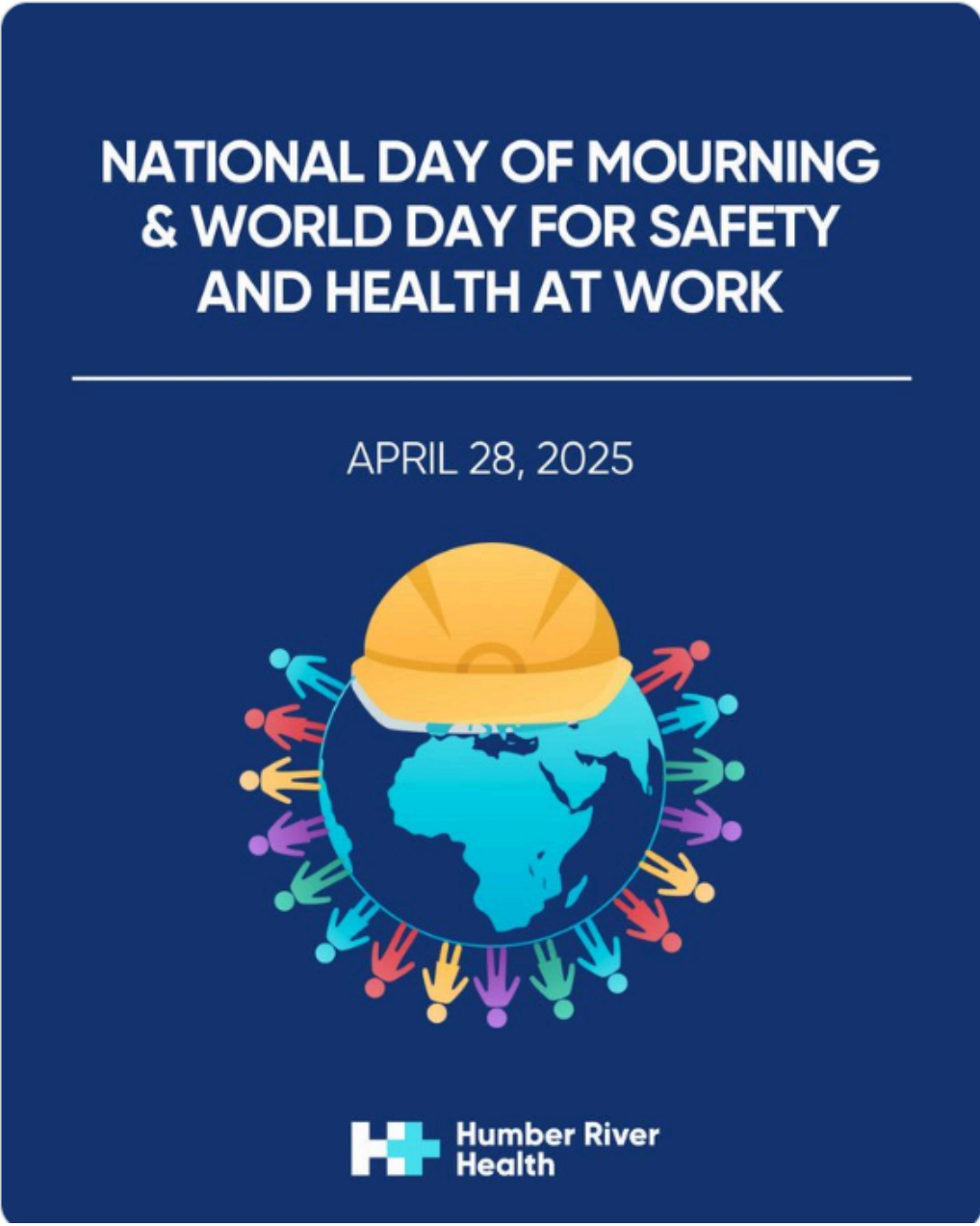
Wishing everyone celebrating a [#HappyEaster!](#) May these days be filled with peace, reflection, and happiness.

Thank you to all staff, physicians and volunteers working during this holiday long-weekend. We appreciate your ongoing commitment to our patients and each other.



**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

April 28 is the National Day of Mourning and the World Day for Safety and Health at Work - a day dedicated to remembering those who have lost their lives, been injured, or fallen ill due to workplace-related incidents and recognizing the importance of safe and healthy practices.



**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

This week, our Senior Leadership Team welcomed Matt Anderson, and representatives from [@OntarioHealthOH](#) to Humber.

We are excited to further our partnership and collaborative efforts with Ontario Health to enhance patient care, outcomes, and experiences within the province.





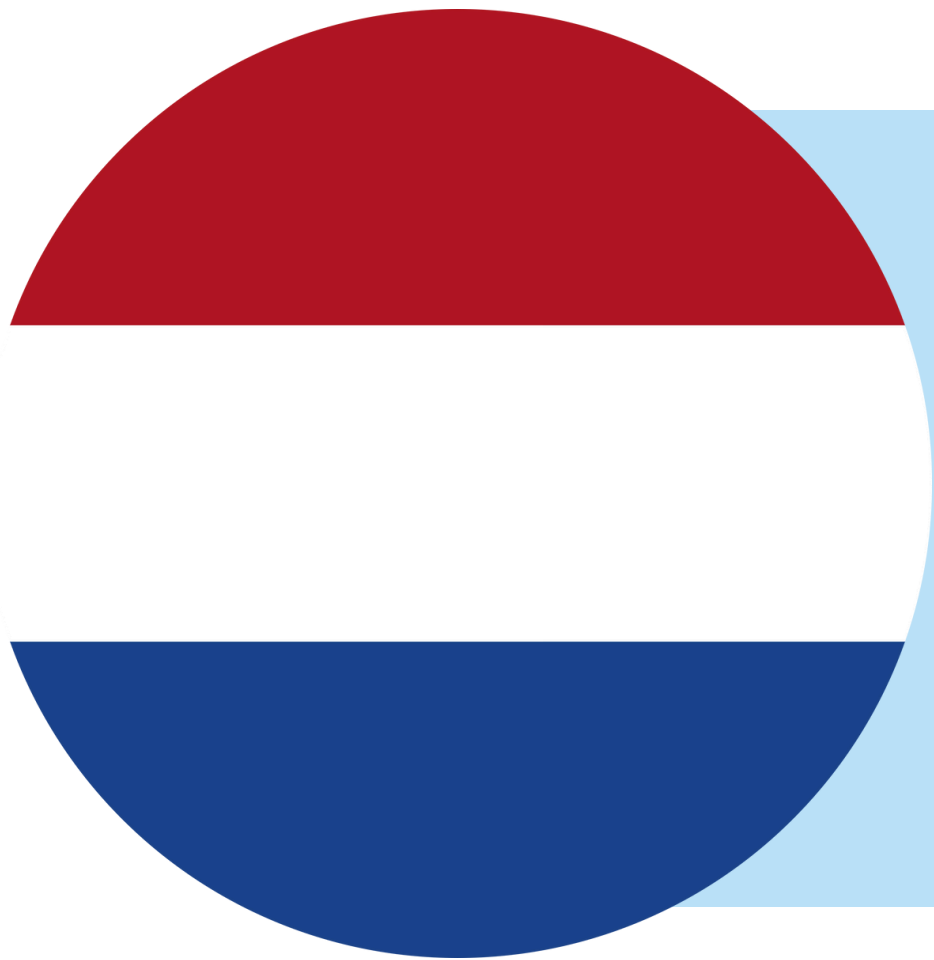
Asian Heritage Month

Asian Heritage Month is an opportunity to learn more about the diverse culture and history of Asian communities in Canada, as well as to acknowledge the many achievements and contributions of people of Asian origin who, throughout our history, have done so much to make Canada the country we know and love.



Dutch Heritage Month

May is a historically significant month for the Dutch Canadian community. On May 5, 1945, the Canadian forces were instrumental in the liberation of the Netherlands from occupation during World War II. The Netherlands celebrates its independence and liberty, along with the heroic efforts of the Canadian forces, with a national holiday known as Liberation Day, which takes place annually on May 5.



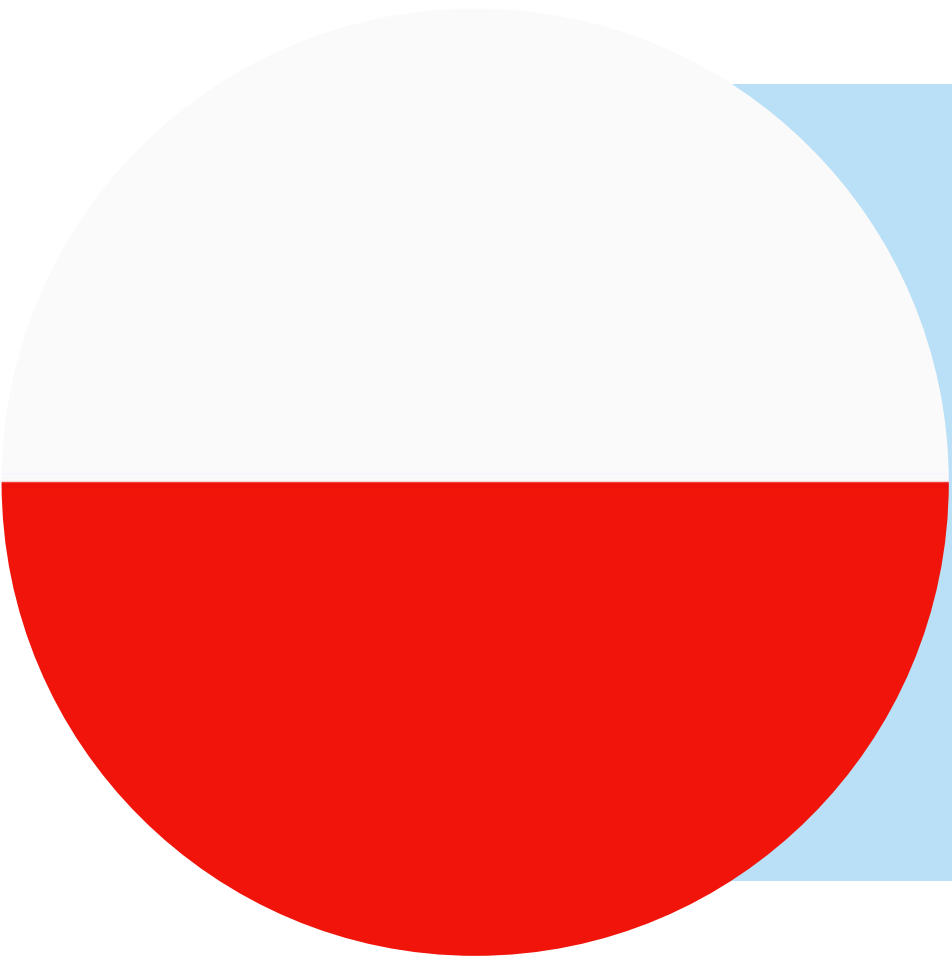
Jewish Heritage Month

Jewish Heritage Month celebrates the inspirational role that Jewish Canadians have played and continue to play in communities across the country. From law, to politics, to culture, to sports, this important initiative celebrates the contributions Jewish Canadians have been making for over 250 years.



Polish Heritage Month

Polish Heritage Month is an occasion to highlight the enduring bonds Polish communities across Canada have maintained with their homeland. Every year, Polish communities in Canada and around the world come together to celebrate Polish Constitution Day, commemorating the historic Polish Constitution of May 3, 1791. We recognize the many contributions Canadians of Polish descent make to our communities.





# Religious/Spiritual Days

MAY 12	<b>Vesak/Vaisakhi Puja/Buddha Day</b> commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Gautama Buddha, the founder of Buddhism. Vesak is celebrated by Buddhists in South Asia, Southeast Asia, and around the world on the full moon of the second lunar month, known as Vesākha or Vaiśākha. The exact date may vary depending on the calendars and calculations used in different traditions and countries.
MAY 16	<b>Lag Ba’Omer</b> commemorates the death of Rabbi Bar Yochai, who is the Jewish sage and author of Kabbalah. It is a day for welcoming the coming of spring.
MAY 23	<b>Declaration of Bab</b> is a Bahai celebration that honours the Báb, who was perceived as the messenger of the God and forerunner of Bahá’u’lláh, founder of the Bahá’í Faith.
MAY 28	<b>Ascension of Baha’u’llah</b> commemorates the day that Baha’u’llah, the Prophet-Founder of the Bahá’í Faith, passed away in 1892.
MAY 29	<b>Feast of the Ascension</b> happens forty days after Jesus’ resurrection and is the anniversary of Jesus’ ascension into heaven.



# TOWN HALL: JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

Hear from Chair of the Board, Michael Iacovelli

President and CEO, Barb Collins

Chief of Staff, Dr. S. Zaki Ahmed

**Moderated by: Tyrone Edwards of eTalk**



**Thursday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m. EST**

**Join us live: [www.hrh.ca/live](http://www.hrh.ca/live)**



# HUMBER RIVER HEALTH'S BARIATRIC SYMPOSIUM 2025

Join us for a conference dedicated to comprehensive obesity management where we will explore medical, surgical, nutritional and psychological approaches. This event aims to address the multifaceted nature of obesity across diverse populations and its associated conditions.

## Meet Our Panel



**Dr. Lazar Klein**  
Surgical Approaches  
to Obesity



**Dr. Jill Hamilton**  
Paediatric Obesity



**Dr. Trudy McFarlane**  
Obesity Management in  
Specific Populations



**Dr. Keyur Patel**  
Obesity Related  
Liver Disease



**Dr. Stephen Glazer**  
Pharmacology of Obesity



**Multidisciplinary Panel**  
Post Operative Care



**Roshni John**  
Nutritional Deficiencies

Scan or  
click here  
to register



**21** JUNE  
2025



7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Humber River Health  
1235 Wilson Avenue  
Paul B. Helliwell Foundation  
Auditorium - Level 3

## Ticket Pricing

Physicians & Nurse Practitioners: **\$100**

Allied Health Professionals: **\$75**

Students: **\$25**