

# INSIDE HUMBER

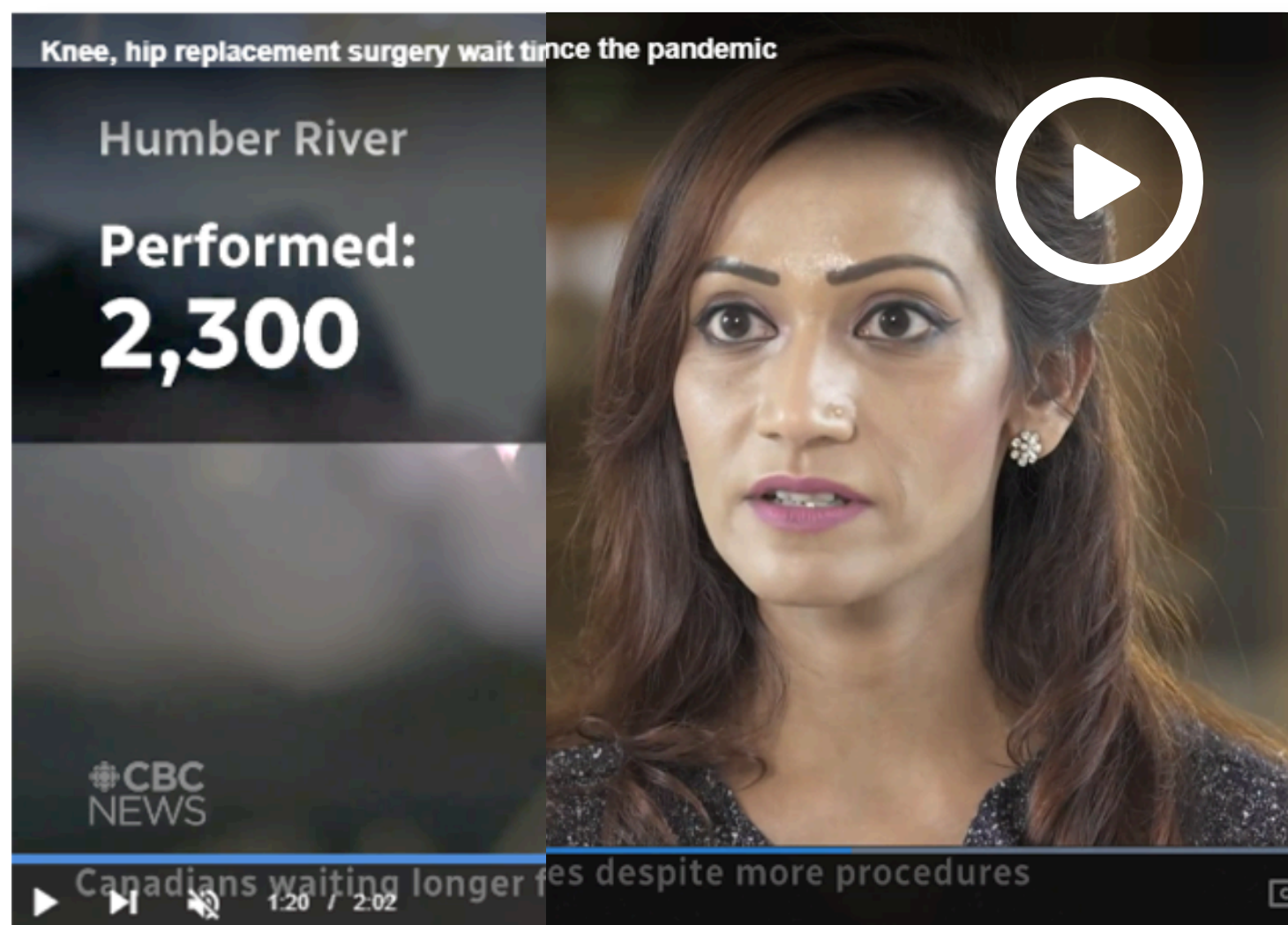
Humber is your hospital, these are your stories.

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- Monthly Highlights
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- Foundation Update
- Social Media Highlights
- May Calendar



## Monthly Highlights



### Knee, hip replacement surgery wait times longer since the pandemic

New data from CIHI shows patients in all provinces are waiting longer than before the pandemic for some priority orthopaedic and cancer surgeries, but overall, more surgeries are being performed than ever. Jhanvi Solanki, VP Clinical Programs at Humber River Health spoke to CBC's The National on how we have ramped up capacity.

[Watch Here](#)



### Virtual doctor, virtual waiting room: New tech holds promise of speeding up ER wait times

In October, Humber received a \$1.5-million grant from a federal innovation fund to develop an online platform that would tell people coming to the ED to arrive immediately or give them a time slot to arrive, after asking a set of triage questions. Peter Bak, CIO spoke to CBC Nova Scotia on the SCALE AI Initiative.

[Read More](#)



### Ozempic babies’ are the latest phenomenon attributed to viral diabetes and dieting drug

Viral diabetes drugs, like Ozempic, have been linked to unexpected surprises for some women taking the medication. Dr. Howard Berger, Head of Maternal Fetal Medicine at Humber, discusses the “Ozempic babies” phenomenon in the Toronto Star.

[Read More](#)



### Partnership reducing gynecological surgery backlog

Thanks to funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health, Humber River Health, Women’s College Hospital, Sunnybrook, and Sinai Health have united to tackle gynecological surgical wait times in the Toronto region. Watch this segment of CTV News to learn more.

[Watch Here](#)



**Dr. Ian Brasg**  
Medical Director, Infection Prevention and Control

### Measles 101 with Dr. Ian Brasg

Measles is a highly contagious respiratory virus, most common in children. Immunization is the best protection against measles. Watch this video to learn more from Dr. Ian Brasg, Director of Infection, Prevention, and Control, who has shared more insight.

[Watch Here](#)



### Remote monitoring tool improve seniors’ care

We are the only acute hospital in the GTA that has a robust LTC+ hub that integrates a clinical deterioration tool (PREVIEW-ED) with LTC+ and its pathways. We are focused on delivering care where it matters most – closer to home. Read more in this issue of Hospital News.

[Read More](#)



### **Empowerment Through Home Dialysis**

Suzana was only 41 when her kidneys failed and she learned she would need hemodialysis. At Humber, she found a supportive team to help with her treatment through its home dialysis programs. Read more in the latest issue of OHA's Health System News.

[Read More](#)



### **Home Dialysis: Lioudmila's Story**

In 2017, when Lioudmila received permission from Toronto Community Housing to dialyze at home, she was in heaven. There, she met her Nephrologist Dr. Gavril Hercz, who in 2015, told her the peritoneal dialysis treatment was not working and they decided to switch over to hemodialysis instead.

[Read More](#)

## Oncology Nursing Day - April 2

This year's Oncology Nursing Day theme was "From Coast to Coast: Uniting Our Practice." Thank you to our oncology nurses from our Cancer Clinic and 13 West Oncology Unit! We appreciate your support and dedication to our cancer patients and their families through their journeys.



Lisa Lun started at Humber in 2001 as a Nurse Clinician in Oncology and Palliative Care before transitioning to Clinical Coordinator of Special Projects in the Integrated Cancer Care Program.

**Lisa Lun**



[Read More](#)



### **Beatrice Javier**

Beatrice Javier is a Registered Critical Care Nurse who transitioned from a consolidating nursing student during the pandemic to a full-time ICU nurse. She credits the supportive environment of 6 East ICU for encouraging her to pursue critical care post-graduation.

## World Health Day - April 7

On World Health Day, we highlighted our Medical Device Reprocessing Department (MDRD), an integral part of our daily operations. They support the OR and clinical areas by cleaning, disinfecting and sterilizing reusable medical instruments following manufacturer's instructions for use to ensure patient safety. We recognize the dedication of our staff to ensuring the health and safety of our patients and each other.



[Watch Here](#)

## Green Shirt Day - April 7

As part of Humber's **Be A Donor** Month initiatives, many staff, physicians, and volunteers wore green in honour of Trillium Gift of Life Network's (TGLN) Green Shirt Day on April 7. Humber also raised the Be A Donor flag at Wilson Hospital to remind others of how essential organ and tissue donations are in transforming and enhancing lives.



[Read More](#)

## Lumenis Pulse MOSES 2.0 Holmium Laser Systems

We recently became the first hospital in the GTA to acquire the Lumenis Pulse MOSES 2.0 Holmium Laser Systems. This leading-edge laser allows faster and more effective treatments for patients undergoing urology procedures. The MOSES 2.0 Technology creates a more powerful distribution of energy and control, allowing faster and more precise management of stones and prostate treatments. This benefits patients by improving clinical outcomes through, more precise treatments, and same-day discharge. According to Urologist **Dr. Olivier Heimrath**, these improvements to technology allow us to achieve the desired treatments and outcomes in a much faster and safer way than with our previous generation lasers.



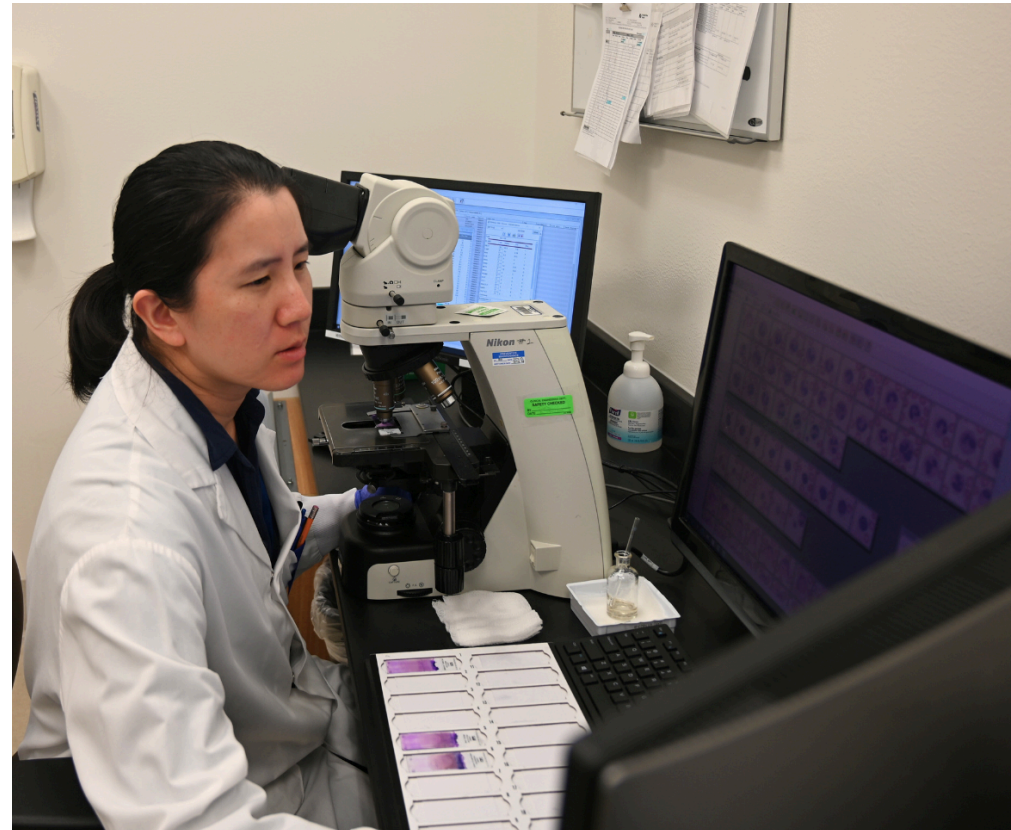
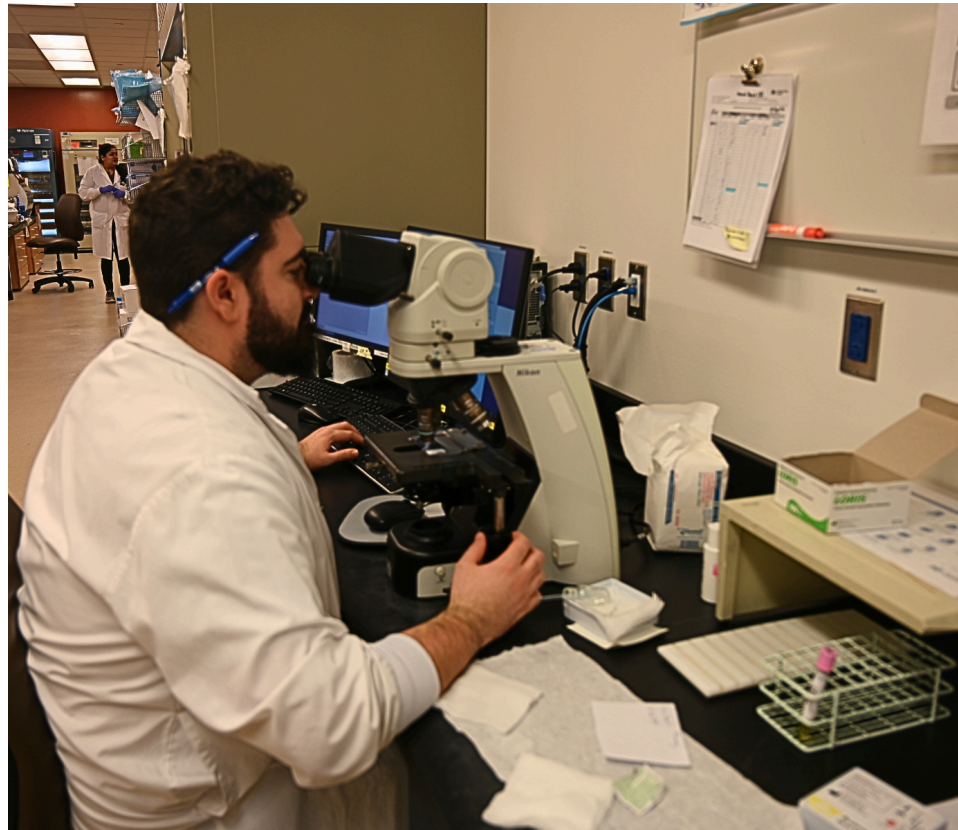
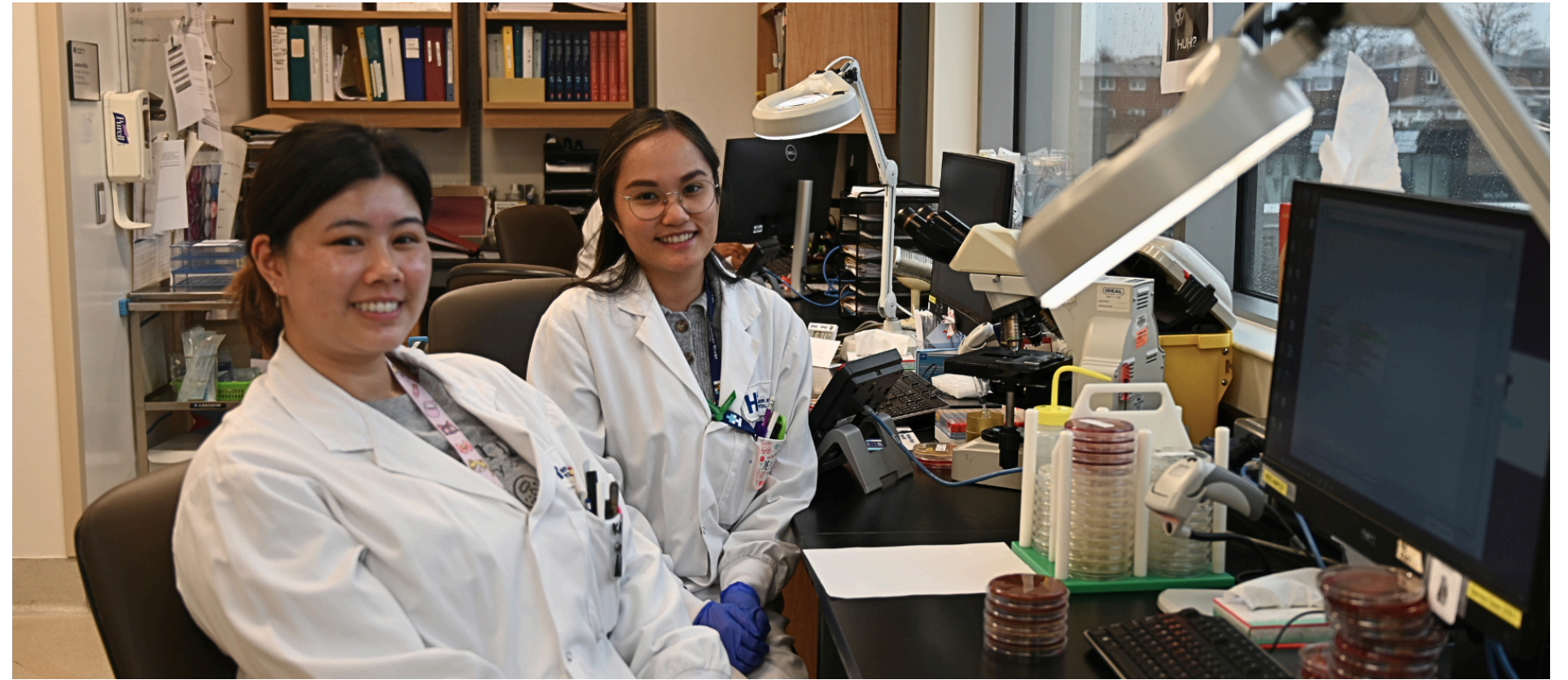
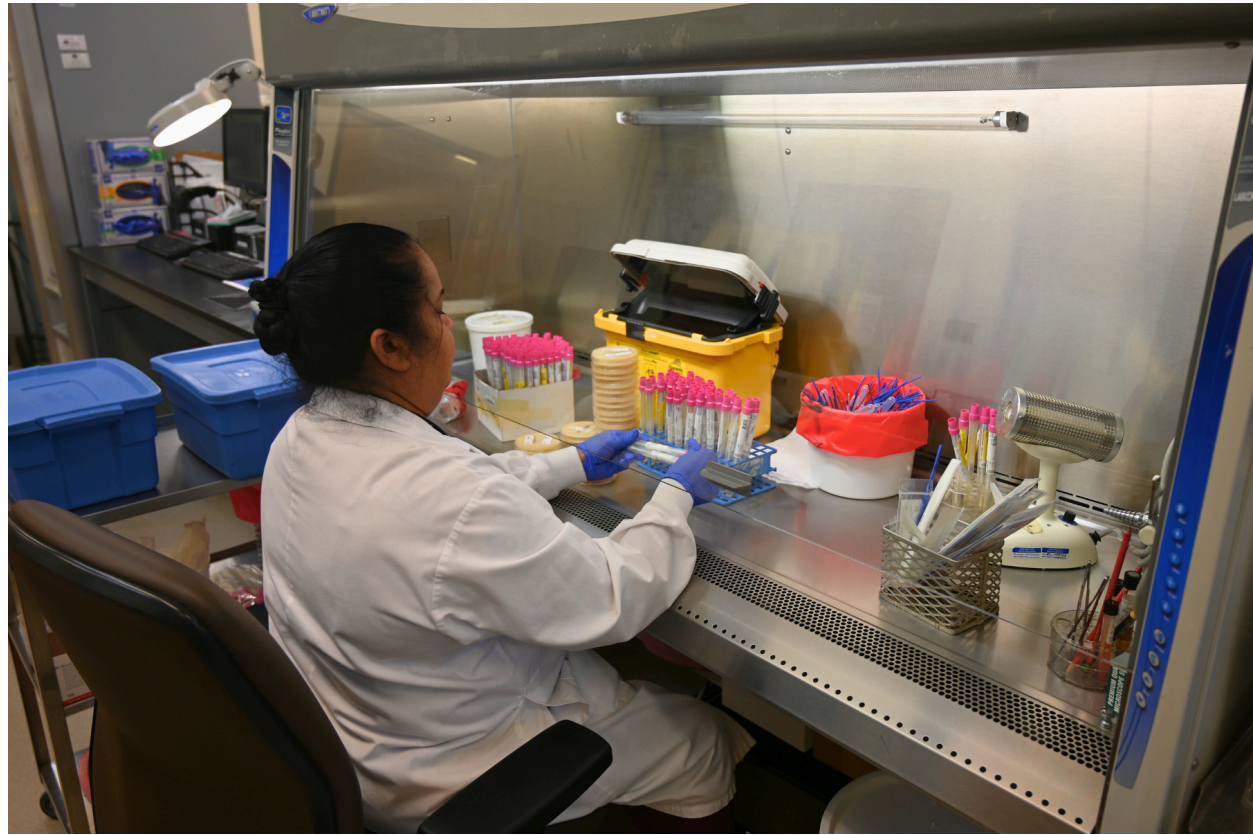
"This is just another way in which we are striving to further our commitment to providing exceptional patient care."

-Dr. Olivier Heimrath

## Medical Laboratory Professionals Week - April 14 - 20

Our Medical Laboratory Professionals are dedicated healthcare professionals that provide accurate and timely laboratory test results to our physicians to help make critical medical decisions.

At Humber, we have five departments within our Medical Lab, which include Chemistry, Haematology, Blood Bank, Microbiology and Pathology. Although our Medical Laboratory Professionals often work behind closed doors, their role is vital to our Hospital and in delivering safe, quality patient care. Thank you for everything you do!



## National Volunteer Week - April 14 - 20

Every day, volunteers make a difference in the lives of our patients, their families, visitors, and our staff. Whether it is sharing a smile, helping someone find their way, lending a friendly ear or visiting a patient - the impact our volunteers make reaches far and wide across our entire Hospital. National Volunteer Week gives us the perfect opportunity to highlight, recognize and celebrate our volunteers and their numerous contributions. Thank you to all of our amazing volunteers!

### From Grateful Patient to Volunteer: Alison's Story

For Alison, her journey as a Humber River Health Foundation volunteer is one filled with many meaningful moments and connections.

If you've visited the Foundation office, you may have had the pleasure of meeting Alison, one of our incredible volunteers who warmly welcomes visitors at the door. Alison's experience as a grateful patient at Humber was so profound, it motivated her to join the team as one of the amazing volunteers. We invite you to read more about Alison's inspiring journey.



[Read More](#)

### Kim Puddicombe

Meet Kim Puddicombe as she gives us a glimpse into her day as a Volunteer at Humber.



[Watch Here](#)

On April 16, the Volunteer Association presented the Hospital with a cheque for \$100,000 toward their 2023 to 2024 pledge for capital equipment. These funds are to be directed toward the purchase of a FiberLase CO2 Laser and 3 Apollo PH Medium Manikins.



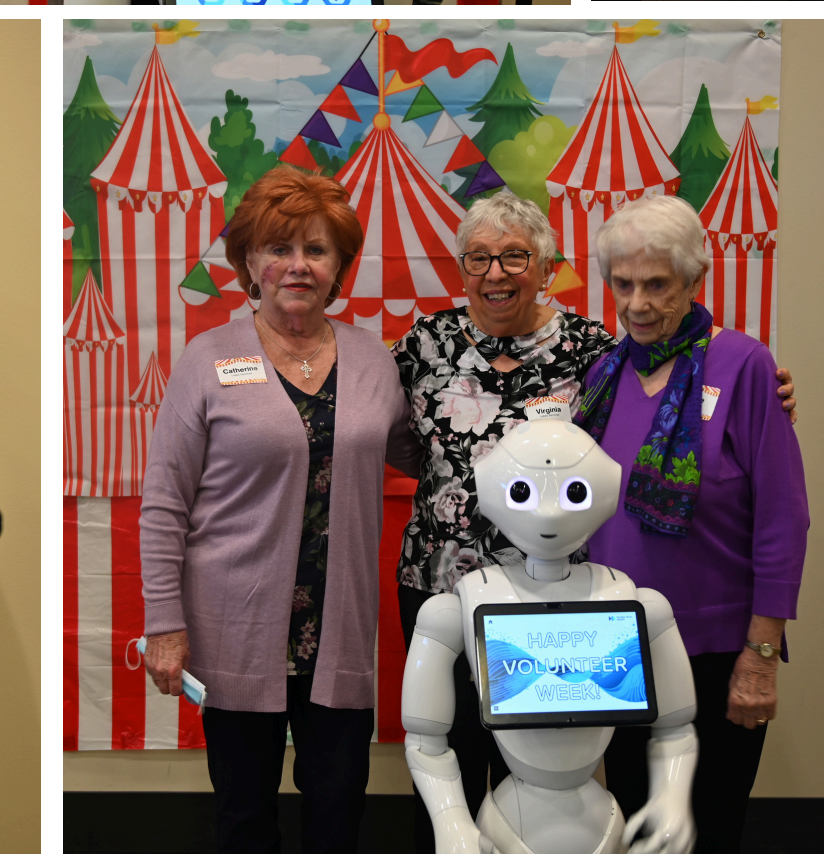
## Vintage China and Crystal Sale

On April 17, the Volunteer Association held their Vintage China and Crystal Sale! All proceeds raised are dedicated to purchasing hospital equipment to enhance patient care. To our hardworking, compassionate volunteers, thank you for all you do!



## Volunteer Appreciation Event - April 18

To conclude National Volunteer Week, we held our Volunteer Appreciation Event to celebrate the integral role our volunteers play in assisting our staff, physicians, visitors, patients, and families. We extend our gratitude to our over 500 volunteers for all they do each day!





## Administrative Professionals Day - April 24

On April 24, Humber recognized Administrative Professionals Day, a special occasion 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, which are vital to the care and service we provide. Thank you to all our administrative and clerical staff for consistently embodying our values of compassion, professionalism, and respect!



**Learn about what makes Noelia and Angela proud to do the work they do.**



**Noelia Gonzalez**  
Clerical Support Associate

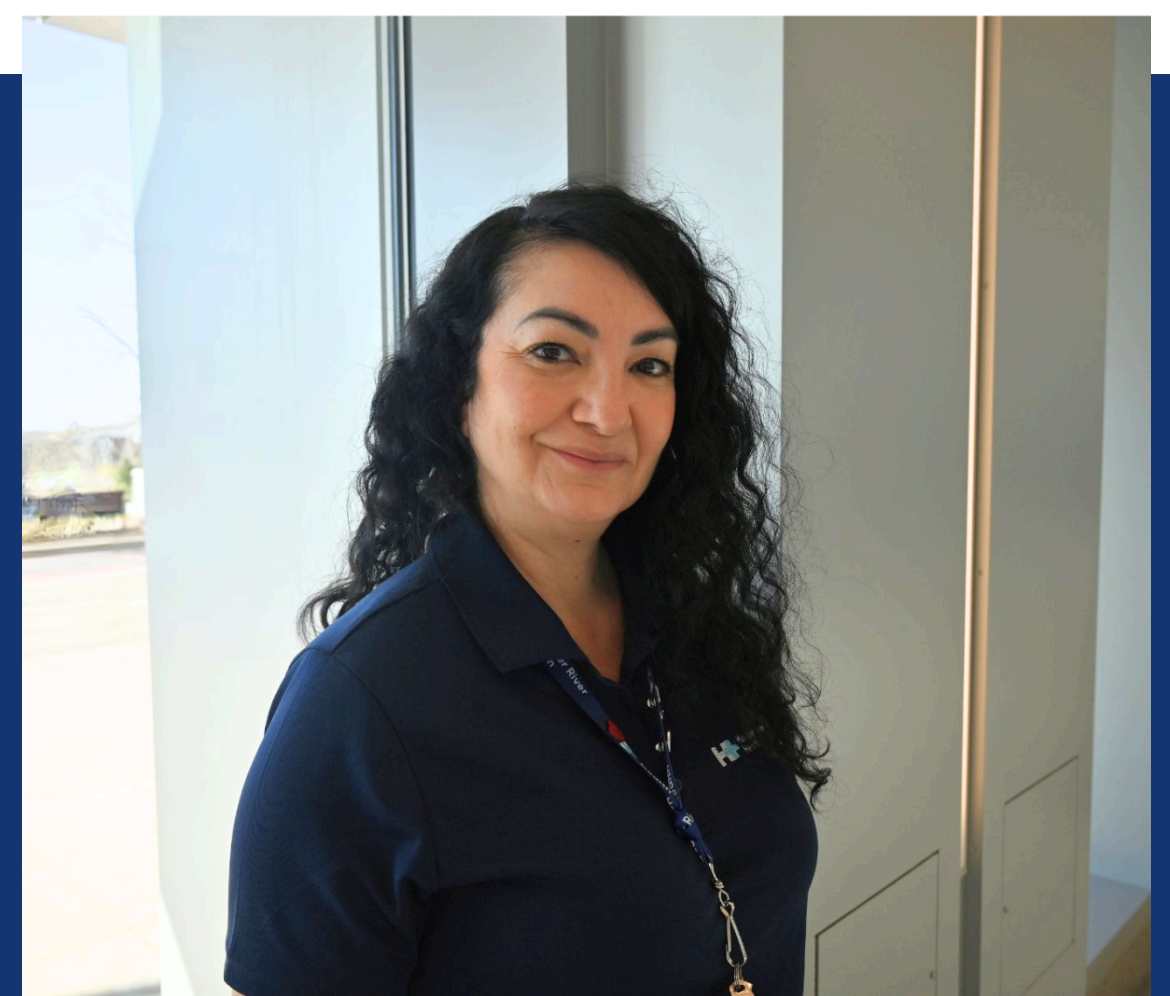
[Read More](#)



**Angela Basta**  
Surgical Clerical Associate

Meet Christine Borg, a Clerical Support Associate in our Outpatient Cardiology Clinic. Christine, along with all our Administrative Professionals, allow Humber to continue lighting new ways in healthcare.

**Christine Borg**  
Clerical Support Associate



## World Day for Safety and Health at Work - April 28

World Day for Safety and Health at Work emphasizes the importance of creating safe and healthy workplaces for employees. Click here to learn how our Occupational Health, Safety and Wellness Team prioritizes the safety and well-being of our staff, physicians, and volunteers.



We're Occ. Health,

Happy World Safety & Health At Work Day!



[Watch Here](#)

## Caesarean Awareness Month

We provide patients with an all-in-one experience to support them before, during and after birth to ensure they receive the best possible care. Watch to learn about what patients can expect for their caesarean section. Thank you to Dr. Lesley Hawkins for providing this walkthrough.



[Watch Here](#)

## Senior Services Community Provider Fair - April 5

On April 5, we hosted the Senior Services Community Provider Fair presented by the North Western Toronto Ontario Health Team (NWT OHT). The NWT OHT is thrilled to have welcomed over 25 community organizations, local service providers, and staff to this fun and interactive event. Participants were able to learn about the many programs and services available to support our seniors. By fostering collaboration, we are bridging gaps in healthcare access and improving transitions in care!



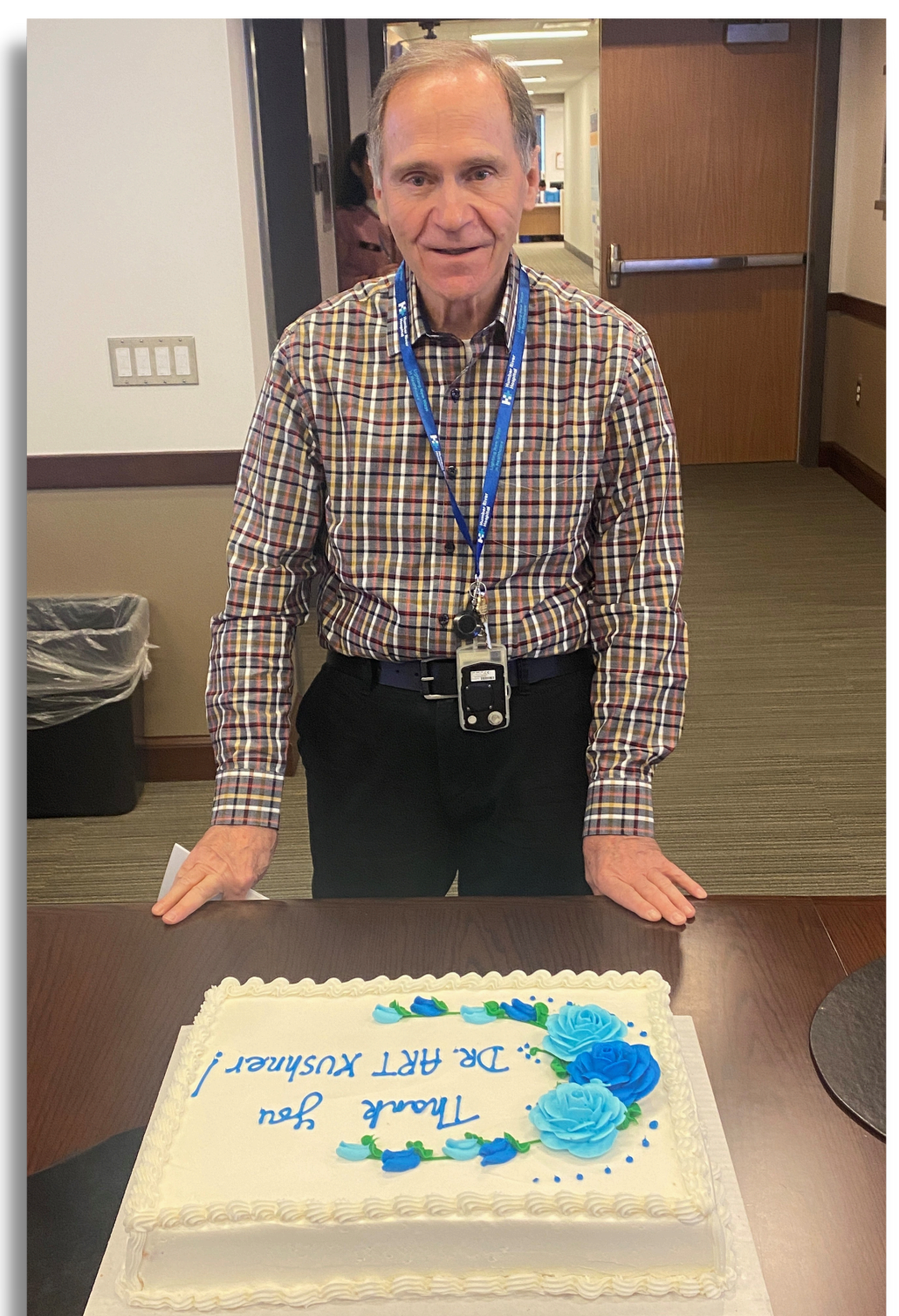
## Dr. Art Kushner - Retirement as Chief of Family & Community Practice

Dr. Arthur Kushner has just completed 20 years as Chief of Family and Community Practice at Humber River Health, where he started in 1971.

Over his five decades with Humber River Health, he has significantly contributed to both the Hospital and the wider community. His achievements include establishing a nationally accredited Family Medicine Rounds Program, leading the Pri-Med Scientific Planning Committee, and developing the Humber River Family Health Team.

He also organized the annual HRH Clinical Day, now in its 27th year, and led the North Western Ontario Health Team and its Physician Association. Dr. Kushner has been pivotal in raising over \$250,000 for the HRH Foundation and developing the Schulich Family Medicine Teaching Unit.

He will continue his work in community practice and academics as the Medical Director of the Community Continuing Medical Education programs.



## Dr. Kunuk Rhee - New Chief of Family & Community Medicine

We are pleased to announce Dr. Kunuk Rhee has joined Humber River Health as Chief of the Department of Family and Community Medicine and Physician Site Lead of the Schulich Family Medicine Teaching Unit (FMTU), effective April 18, 2024.

Dr. Rhee obtained his Medical Degree and completed his residency training at the University of Toronto. He is a recipient of the Wightman-Berris Academy Excellence in Teaching Award from the University Health Network.

Dr. Rhee marks his new role at Humber as a fond return, as he provided inpatient hospitalist care at the former Finch site nearly sixteen years ago and served as a Medical Director in the Hospitalist Division at the former Humber River Regional Hospital.

He is excited to bring all of the skills and knowledge acquired over his past ten-plus years in healthcare leadership to this new role. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Rhee on being the successful candidate for this position.



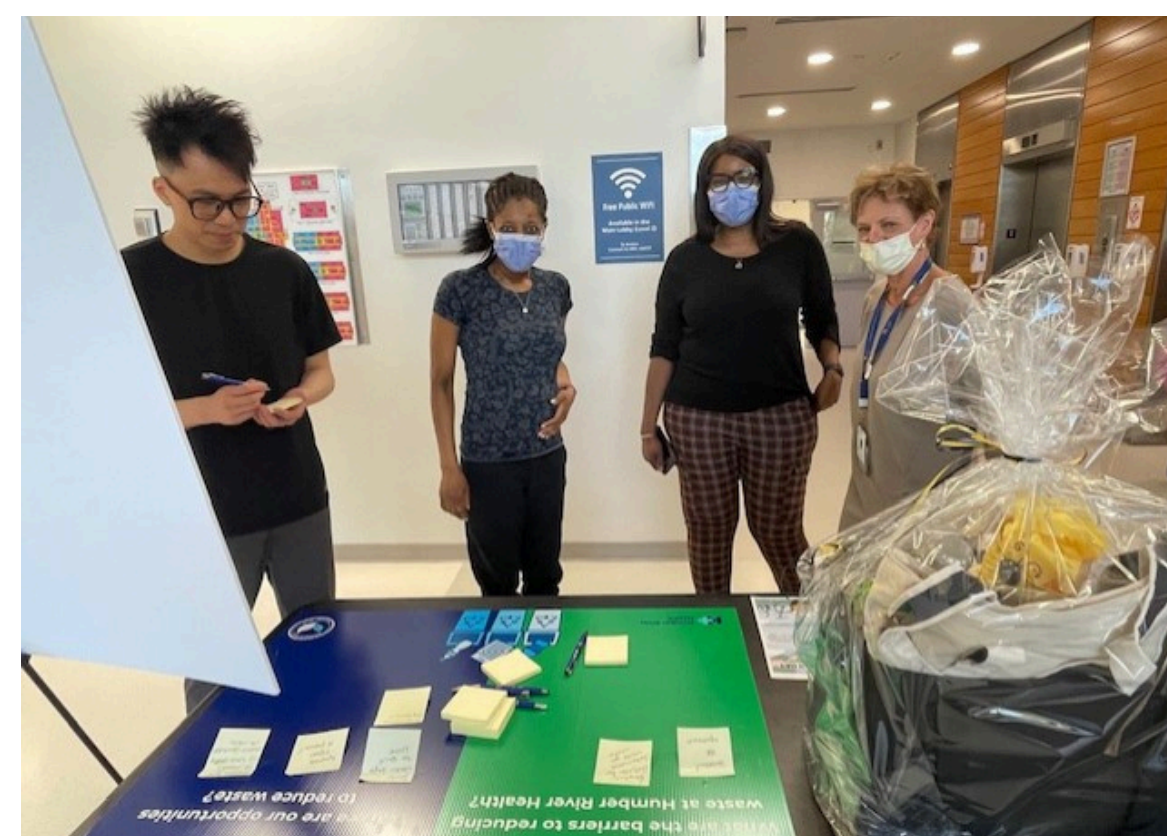
## Leadership Development Institute - April 23

On April 23, we were thrilled to welcome Dr. Kwadwo Kyeremanteng and Cate Creede as our Keynote Speakers at our Leadership Development Institute (LDI). The objective of the LDI is to inspire and equip leaders with the skills needed to grow and lead in a complex healthcare environment.



# Earth Day - April 22

On April 22, Humber's Eco Action Team (HEAT) hosted Earth Day booths at our Wilson Hospital, Church Campus, and Finch Campus to raise awareness about the importance of environmental sustainability. SPVs were invited to participate in various activities for a chance to win a prize! Winners will be announced in the coming weeks. Thank you to everyone who made the initiative a success!



# Foundation Update

## McHappy Day – May 8

Grab your morning breakfast and coffee on the go or dine-in (or grab takeout) for lunch at your local McDonalds and help support Humber River Health Foundation! Proceeds of the sales from 13 participating McDonald's will go to support the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Humber River Health.

**We're looking for volunteers who are 16 years old and over to help out on the day, too. Click below to volunteer for the event! Last day to sign up is May 3, 2024. If you have any questions please contact Brianna Malcolm at [bmalmcolm@hrh.ca](mailto:bmalmcolm@hrh.ca)**



[Click Here](#)

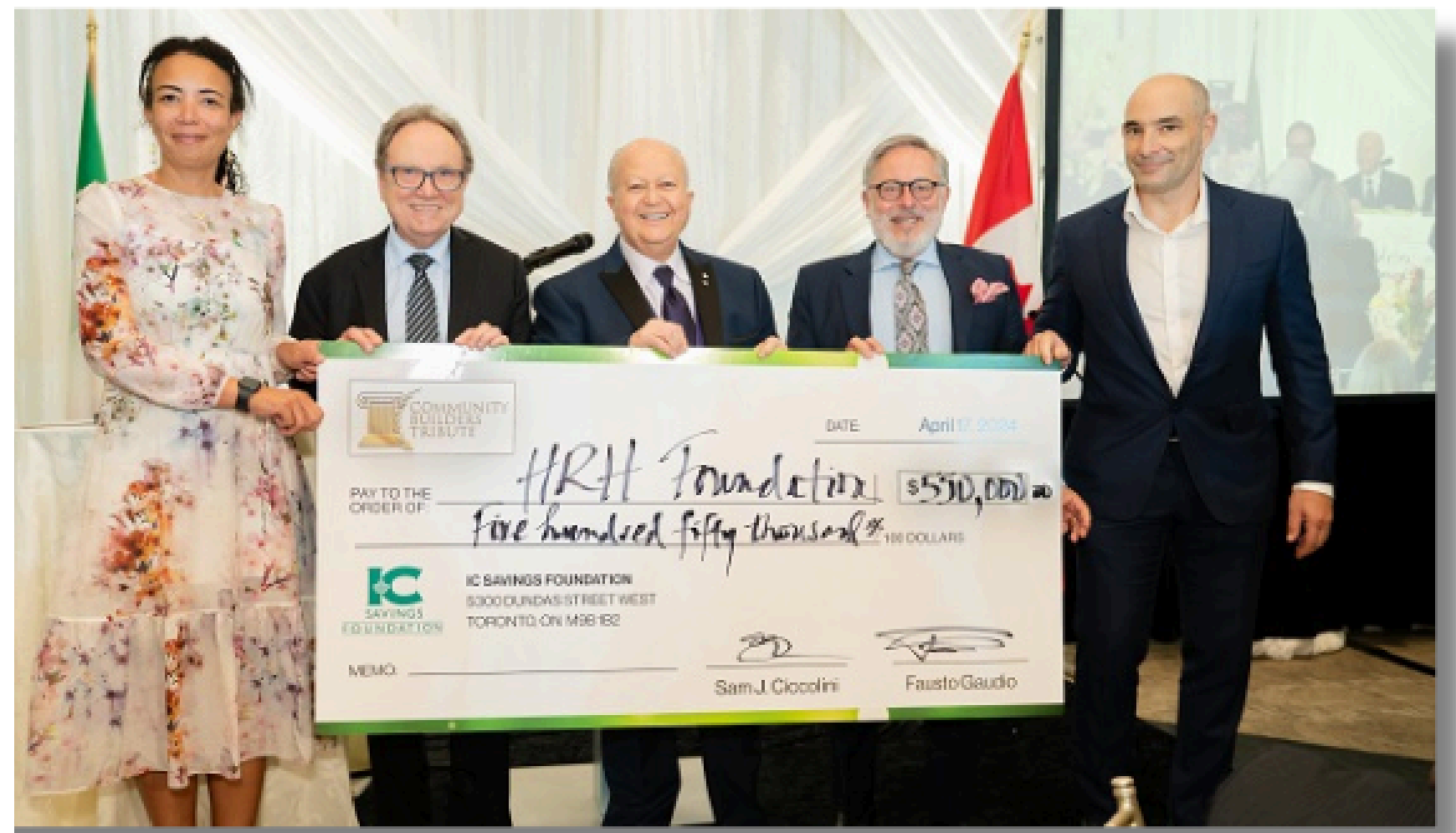
**Come on out and treat yourself at one of the following locations to help give back to your community hospital!**

- 2625F Weston Rd
- 2 Ingram Drive
- 1305 Lawrence Ave W
- 2781 Dufferin St
- 710 St Clair Ave W
- 1168 St Clair Ave W
- 1735 Kipling Ave
- 2116 Kipling Ave
- 2267 Islington Ave
- 2362 Finch Ave W
- 1831 Finch Ave W
- 3929 Keele St
- 2525 St Clair Ave W

## IC Savings' Community Builders Tribute honouring Humber's Dr. Jack Barkin

Last week, IC Savings hosted the Community Builder's Tribute Event to honor Dr. Jack Barkin, with all proceeds benefiting Humber River Health's Robotic Surgery program. Guests gathered to celebrate Dr. Barkin's contributions and to show their support for the advancement of life-saving and life-improving robotics technology. Together, they raised an outstanding \$550,000 for Humber River Health.

A heartfelt thank you to IC Savings for orchestrating this impactful fundraiser, to the event chairs Fausto Gaudio, Sam Ciccolini and the entire Community Builders Committee and to keynote speaker Dr. Klein as well as all who attended and generously donated to this incredible program!

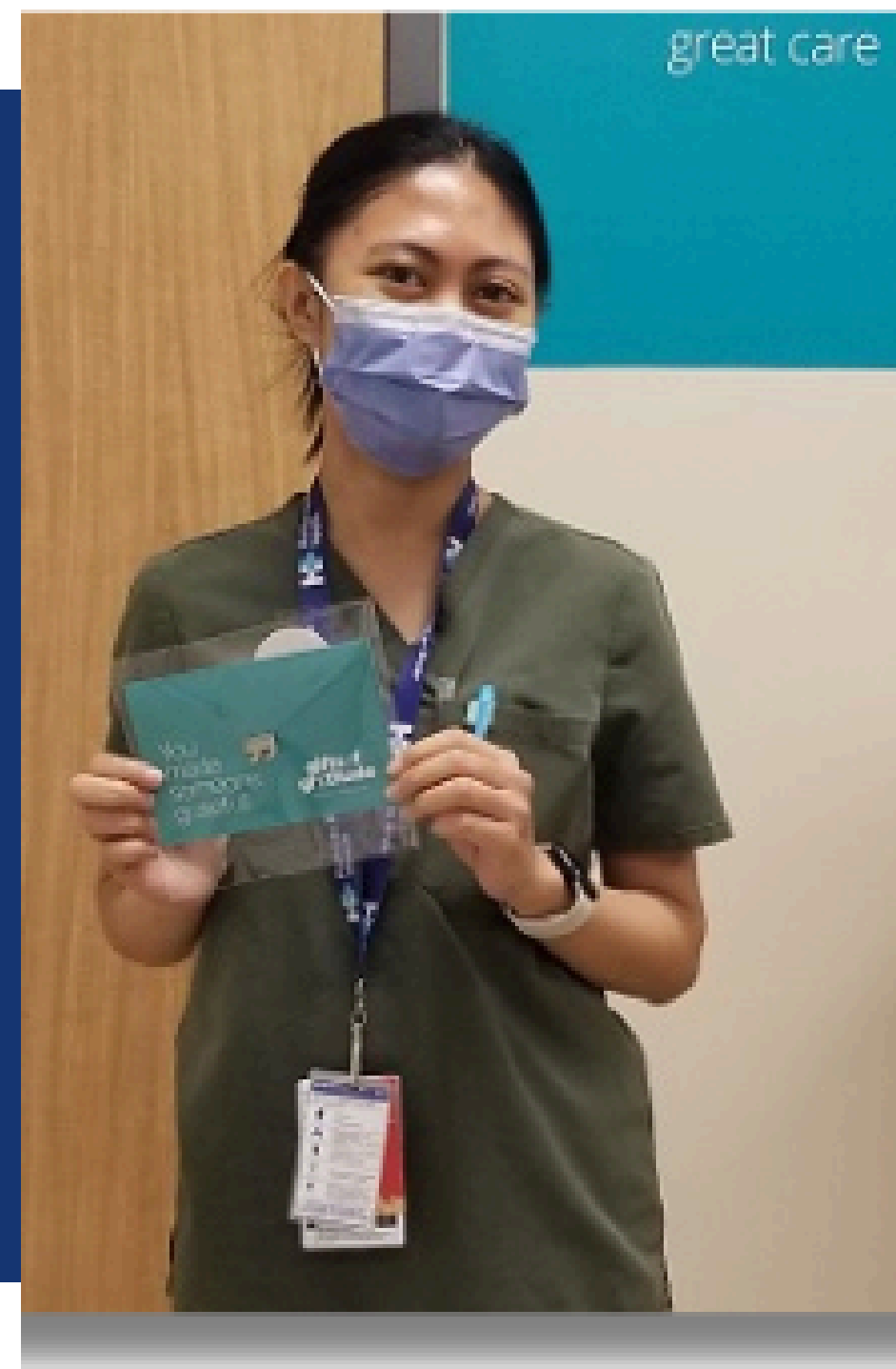


## Gifts of Gratitude

Gifts of Gratitude is our grateful patient program, created to give Humber patients and their families another way to thank a nurse, doctor, staff member, or department. When a donation is made in honour of someone at Humber River Health, they receive a special recognition pin and personalized card, and the donation helps future patients receive great care.

Congratulations to everyone at Humber River Health whose exceptional care inspired a donation in the last month:

9 East, Ajo Anthony, Angela Cacciatore, Christine Fisher, Daniel Tziatis, Dr. Laz Klein, Dr. Oliver Heimrath, Dr. Ralph Masi, Dr. Steven Selchen, Dr. Thomas Constantine, Dr. Tommy Chan, Louisa Ceci, Peter Voros and Yuri Eom.



## Come get a taste of the Best of Italy in support of Humber River Health

Don't forget to get your tickets to the Best of Italy Wine Tasting event taking place on **Monday, May 6th, 2024** at the Liberty Grand Entertainment Complex! Ticket sales will go to support the greatest areas of need at Humber River Health.

Presented by Gambero Rosso and Liberty Entertainment Group, this event showcases some of the best Italian wines available. You will be able to taste over 150 of Italy's highest-rated and best-value wines that have been presented the esteemed Tre Bicchieri ("Three Glasses") award. You'll also get a true taste of Italian cuisine to compliment the wine tasting.

Get your tickets now for an event not to miss!

[Get Tickets](#)



# Social Media Highlights

**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

This year, Ramadan is observed from March 10 to April 9. To support our staff, physicians and volunteers observing Ramadan, we have compiled a basket filled with healthy snacks available in our Spiritual Care Centre for those breaking their fast after sunset. #RamadanMubarak



**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

Eid Al-Fitr is a celebration of faith, family, and the completion of a month of reflection, personal growth, and sacrifice. We wish everyone observing Eid Al-Fitr a very happy and blessed holiday. Eid Mubarak!



**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

April 28 is recognized as the National Day of Mourning. On this day, we pause to remember those who lost their lives or suffered injuries on the job. Let's honour their memory by renewing our commitment to workplace safety.



**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

As #Passover begins later this evening, we wish everyone celebrating a peaceful week filled with love, health, and comfort.

Thank you to our staff, physicians, and volunteers working throughout the Passover holiday!

**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

It's great to welcome over 100 new staff to #HRH. Today we had our Executive Vice President @CarolHatcherHRH giving the opening address. Welcome all!



**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

Five generations of 102 years welcome their newest addition to their family at Humber River Health. Congratulations to Bridget and family on their new bundle of joy.



**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

Earlier this month, four nurse leaders from Innovation Excellence, Information Services and our Cancer Care Program presented two projects at the Nursing Leadership Network of Ontario Conference. This year's theme was Nurse Leaders...Leading by Design.



**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

Our comprehensive simulation based orientation program aims to ensure that new nurses feel welcomed, supported, and confident in their abilities. Throughout the process, they receive regular feedback and evaluations to assess their progress and identify areas for improvement.



**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

Congratulations to the nurses, doctors, and staff whose exceptional care inspired a donation this month! More pin presentation photos can be found here: [facebook.com/media/set?vanity=hrh](https://www.facebook.com/media/set?vanity=hrh)

Learn more at [giftsofgratitude.ca](https://www.giftsofgratitude.ca)



**Humber River Health**  
@HRHealth\_

#EmergencyPreparedness is one of our top priorities to keep our staff safe. Mock Code Red Fire/Evacuation events were held this week at our Wilson Site Cancer Care Clinic and RCC Church Campus.

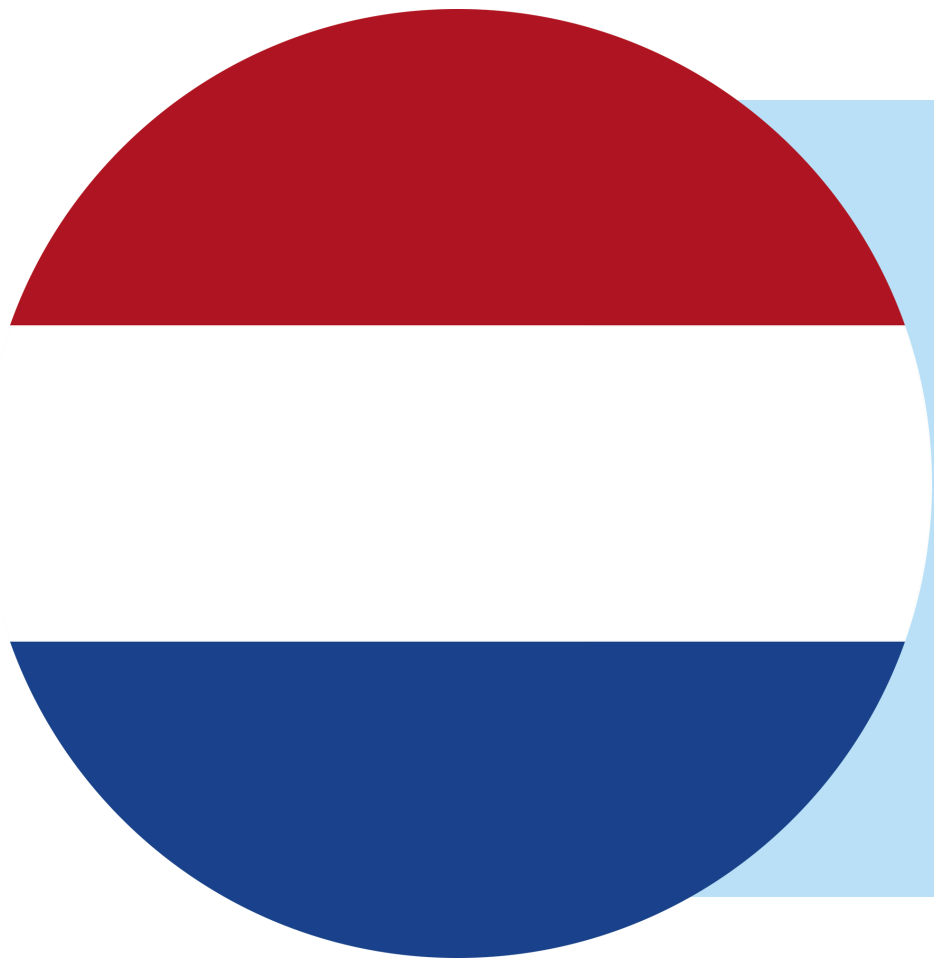
Thank you, staff, Student Volunteers, Security, Facilities and @Toronto\_Fire





## 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 250 years.



## Religious/Spiritual Days

**MAY 5**

**Easter/ Pascha /Orthodox/Eastern** celebrates the feast of the resurrection of the Lord.

**MAY 6**

**Yom HaShoah** is held in memory of the six million Jews who died as victims of Nazi atrocities. (WWII)

**MAY 9**

**Feast of the Ascension** happens forty days after Jesus' resurrection and is the anniversary of Jesus' ascension into heaven.

**MAY 19**

**Pentecost** commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples of Jesus as found in (Acts. 2:1-11).

**MAY 26**

**Lag Ba'Omer** commemorates the death of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai, who is the Jewish sage and author of the Kabbalah.

**MAY 23**

**Declaration of Bab** is a Bahai celebration to commemorate His identity as Bab or Gate, the Herald of the New Age.

**Vesak (Budda Day)** is the beginning of Lunar New Year and celebrates Siddhartha Gautama and his ancient Buddhist teachings on compassion and peace.

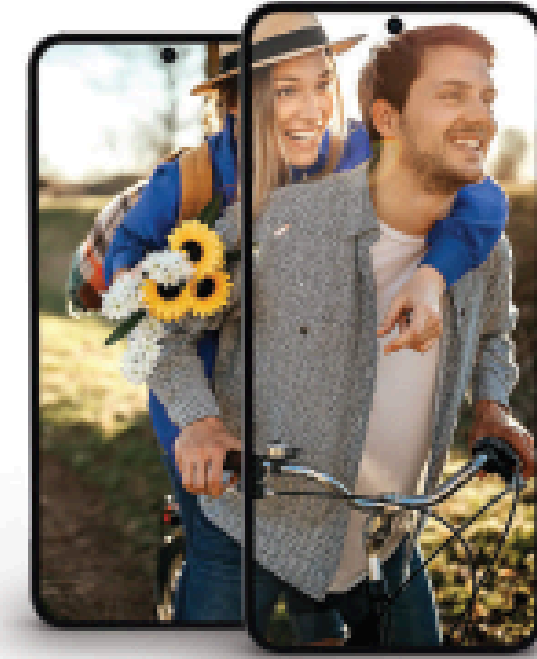
**Saga Dawa Düchen** is the day in the Tibetan tradition that celebrates Buddha's birth, enlightenment, and paranirvana on the Tibetan Lunar Calendar.

**MAY 28**

**Ascension of Baha'u'llah** commemorates the anniversary of the death of the founder of the Bahai faith.

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