

The Pulse

December 1, 2022

Today's Take-Aways

Regional Updates

• While the transmission of COVID-19 continues to decline, and the spread of RSV appears to have plateaued and peaked, influenza modelling is showing continued spread throughout December with hopefully some reprieve in the early new year.

• Transmission of the three respiratory illnesses along with other viruses and illnesses continues to impact staff attendance at PRH and throughout the health care sector.

PRH Recognized By Ontario Health For Cancer Care Commitment

• Recently, our hospital was recognized for our ongoing commitment to the provision of high-quality cancer care by Reece Bearnes, Regional Vice-President of Cancer Services for the Champlain Regional Cancer Program.

In addition to speaking about the challenges faced in health care this past year, he wrote, "We would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the staff in your facility for your collective efforts to provide high-quality cancer care. Despite immense capacity and system pressures, there has been tremendous work and innovation done to support recovery and stabilization, all while adapting key services to enable patient care."

"We would like to recognize each staff member's contributions and perseverance in the provision of high-quality, time-sensitive care for Ontarians and their dedication to this important work."

Congratulations to all of you who contribute to this important aspect of care.

Flu Shot Campaign

• We would like to thank all those involved in this year's Flu Shot Campaign who have been working hard to increase our vaccination rate and find many innovative ways to advertise and ensure access to the influenza vaccine. Currently **37%** or approximately 300 of our staff have received their flu shot and are entered in the December 14th draw to win \$500 cash! Anyone who has received their vaccination in the community can submit proof of vaccination to **occhealth@prh.email** in order to get in on the draw!

As this year's vaccine is one of the best matches seen for the strains in transmission, now is the time to get your flu shot and it is readily available at PRH. If you like hot chocolate and festive treats, stop by Frosty's Flu Shot Clinic in the cafeteria next Wednesday morning to get your shot.

Human Resources

• A reminder to all our nurses that annual membership renewals for the CNO (College of Nurses of Ontario) must be completed by December 31st at midnight. After the 31st, there will be an added late fee and those who have not renewed by February 16th, 2023 will face suspension.



Today's Take-Aways Continued

Emergency Preparedness

• December's Code of the Month is Code Green. There will be a Code Green Exercise on Wednesday, December 7th at 2 p.m. in the Intensive Care Unit that will simulate one taking place at 2 a.m. when we would typically have fewer resources available to respond. This exercise will begin with a Code Red that develops into a Code Green. Please take time to review Code Green at your Emergency Preparedness Workstations, and be aware of any role you may play in a Code Green.

Departmental Updates

Clinics

•We are excited to bring a new service to our community as we welcome a neurologist to our clinic roster in early 2023 who will be on site once a month.

Diagnostic Imaging

• Approximately half of the installation of the new fluoroscopy equipment is now complete.

Maintenance

• While there are still a couple things outstanding that need to be completed, we have now received the occupancy permit for the new chapel.

• Please note that there will be some annual fire bell testing Friday morning (December 2nd) at 10:30 a.m.

• Our maintenance staff and staff from the clinics received special training from paramedics November 30th on use of the Easy Glide evacuation chair for use in Tower D.

Medical

• The team is looking forward to resuming bedside rounding with patients next week.

Mental Health Services

• Our team is in the process of implementing the use of an App compatible with Form Stack to facilitate the processing of petty cash and reconciliation efforts. This is cutting down on time and errors. We would like to celebrate Tanya Hamber and Jessica Gabrieau on this initiative.

Pharmacy

• The Pharmacy team had their annual Ontario College of Pharmacists (OCP) Accreditation site visit on November 30th. A representative from the OCP was on-site to evaluate compliance with the set standards. She



toured the Pharmacy department and the inpatient Surgical unit where she interacted with many staff. She noted considerable practice improvements and is pleased with the momentum moving forward.

The team will continue to work collaboratively and make further improvements to Medication Safety throughout the organization. Today, our team celebrated and enjoyed some cupcakes from 7th Heaven Sweets.



Today's Take-Aways Continued

Surgery/OR

• Following the recent addition of three health care aides to our team, we have launched a new patient care team model.

PRH Foundation

• At Sunday's Lumber Kings game, approximately \$2,000 was raised through the auction of the players' purple jerseys for our Cancer Care Campaign.

• After just two days, we have already sold over \$6,000 worth of tickets for our Christmas 50/50 draw.

SP+ (Parking)

• Please note that some changes are coming to the signage and parking spaces for both On Call and Accessible parking spots in the Bell Street staff lot. Please ensure you abide by the new signage.



Frosty's Flu Shot Clinic Wednesday, December 7th 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. In The Lunch Box

GET YOUR FLU SHOT BEFORE THE FLU GETS YOU!



KICK OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON BY GETTING YOUR FLU SHOT FROM ONE OF OUR FESTIVE FRIENDS!

ALL RECIPIENTS WILL ENJOY A CUP OF TIM HORTONS HOT CHOCOLATE, A FESTIVE TREAT AND A CHANCE TO WIN \$500 CASH IN OUR DECEMBER 14TH DRAW!





Upcoming Recognition and Celebration Dates

Dec. 18 Hanukkah Dec. 25 Christmas Dec. 26 Kwanzaa Dec. 26 Boxing Day





In appreciation for all that you do, you are invited to enjoy a FREE holiday breakfast being served:

8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, December 14th and <u>Thursday, December 15th.</u> In The LunchBox

A very special THANK YOU to our Food Services team for organizing and managing this hospital-sponsored event for us!!!

In order to support our Food Services team in the distribution of meals, we will not be accommodating group orders and scheduled pre-orders for this event.

Instead, all those wishing to have a meal are asked to pick up meals individually or, at most, pick up for one or two additional co-workers.

Prior to our event, all staff, physicians and volunteers will receive a breakfast voucher which can be redeemed for the special meal on either date.

The meal will be available for purchase for anyone wishing to have another.



- Evening and night staff scheduled to work those dates will receive a cafeteria voucher to use another time.
- Managers of staff working offsite (outside of Pembroke) will be provided with a budget to arrange a local meal.

Stay tuned for more details about some special guests who may attend our breakfast for photos and fun!



Scrambled eggs, Bacon, Croissant, Hashbrowns, Fruit And Orange Juice

Gluten Free Meal Offering: Scrambled Eggs and Fruit



In appreciation for all that you do, and in recognition of the challenges you have all faced, the Pembroke Regional Hospital will be providing ALL staff and physicians with a small gift this holiday season...

Delivery before Christmas...

A Message From The PRH Staff Association

Following the recent cancellation of our 2022 Christmas parties, the Staff Association Executive arranged the purchase of a gift for each Staff Association members - 525 total!

These gifts will be delivered before Christmas.

In addition, we will soon be hosting some holiday cash draws and a special draw for those who were scheduled to attend the Dec. 3 Christmas Dinner and Dance using the prizes that were purchased for the party.

CELEBRATIONS

To include a special message in this section, email celebration&recognition@prh.email.

• The Senior Leadership Team would like to celebrate the **Maintenance staff** for their incredible work following last week's accident involving the Tower D entrance.

• Sheldon Higginson and Kirsten Johnson would like to celebrate **Erin Lomore** for her help with our staff and family vaccination clinics. She has gone above and beyond to help with our campaign and we are so thankful.

• A message of thanks from Liam Corrigan: "I would like to celebrate the **entire Emergency team** for how kindly and quickly they responded and provided care to my three-year-old during a busy night. I would especially like to thank **ED nurse Sarah Williams and Dr. Quirt** for their above-and-beyond care. I cannot express enough how grateful we are as new parents for having health professionals like this in our area."

• Thank you to Lori-Ann Borne and Riley Poirier for accommodating a last-minute request for the flu shot, for coming up to HR for speedy drive-by service, and for leaving me un-bruised! *Ralph Hatem*

• Emily Garrett (Home and Community Care) was celebrated by Amanda Godin and Lisa Bradley for taking on a new opportunity and supporting our medical team! She has done a great job at helping with some complex discharges and helping with bed offers.

• The IT team would love to recognize and celebrate the efforts of **Karen Boire**. Karen is always available and flexible with helping us get new physicians up to speed. She always seems to jump on every problem and stick with it until it's resolved. Thank you for always helping us with our last minute requests; and jumping into every situation with a smile. You Rock! (This was an older celebration that got missed).

• We would like to give a huge shout out to our wonderful **IT Team**! The Helpdesk team has been so helpful in solving some email issues we have been facing lately. Their prompt responses, troubleshooting and patience is greatly appreciated! Computers and networks like to give us challenges sometimes, but IT is always right there to help us resolve the issue in the best way they can, keep up the great work! *Shelby Roy and Sarah Dube, Human Resources*

• A big shout out to **Elaine and her Finance team** for creating some step by step videos to help all of us learn more about the budget Process! *Lisa & Cheryl*

• A big shout out to **Michele Giles and Colin Clouthier and the rest of the maintenance team** for moving the Finance Department from Tower 5th floor to Tower C 2nd floor. Once we got started it was a fast and painless process. *The Finance Team*

• A sincere thank you to the **RPN and RN OR** group for continually going above and beyond to ensure OR call coverage during staffing shortages and for providing education during mass training of perioperative students. Your dedication and love for your specialty is evident. *Anita Hertzog*

• Amanda Godin and Lisa Bradley celebrated **Kelly Malley, Michael Peters and Dr. Davies** for the support & education they provided to one of our palliative patients and their family members this past week. Our patient passed away over the weekend and the family commented on the wonderful care and compassion they felt throughout this difficult time.

• Scott Coombes celebrated Allan Lupish, Manon Chennette, Peter Payton and Corey Graveline-Dumouchel for the tremendous effort in the LAB LIS implementation. He noted particularly your teams' attendance during Sunday night and all day Monday being on site. Thank you for everything you do!

• Celebrating **Boston Lavoie** for her continued support with staffing the ED. Her positivity and flexibility are much appreciated! *Kaley Lapierre*

PRH Participates In Annual Stroke Summit



Some of our attendees included, from left, Tina Childs, Lisa Bradley, Sonya Silver, Hope Weisenberg, Dr. Debbie Timpson, AnnaMarie Ashick, Maryse Nobert and Lisa Keon.

The Stroke Summit which was held November 18th, is a yearly education opportunity organized by the Champlain Regional Stroke Network. With it's recent conversion to a virtual platform, it is now easily accessible for care providers throughout the country and worldwide.

As the Regional Stroke Centre, PRH has always contributed to this unique learning opportunity and this year was no different. The regional planning committee included our Physiatrist Dr. Debbie Timpson and our Clinical Stroke Educator Hope Weisenberg. Dr. Timpson also contributed by participating in the opening and closing remarks, moderating sessions and participating in an entertaining debate.

PRH President and CEO Sabine Mersmann was also a presenter for a session on System Integration of Care: Optimization of Resources and Access to Sub Acute.

Anyone interest in viewing some of the sessions can contact Hope Weisenberg.







During their monthly Gemba walk, members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) visited the Emergency Department to learn about the integration of Advanced Care Paramedics (ACPs) as part of the Emergency Department Team. ED Manager Kaley Lapierre and Director Laurie Menard explained that the idea of incorporating Advanced Care Paramedics into the ED was an innovative solution to help provide care to patients during the significant nursing shortage.

SLT heard directly from ACP Brittny McBride and Emergency Charge Nurse Tracey Baxter about their experience with this new initiative. Tracey shared that the integration of the ACP's has been a work in progress that is continuously evolving. She acknowledged that it took some time to build trust but celebrated that the ACPs are now integrated and are a valuable part of the ED Team.

ACP Brittny shared that after 11 years as a paramedic, she was ready to try something new. Since joining the ED team, she has had an opportunity to use skills within her scope of practice that she didn't get to use in the community. Brittny celebrated that the ED has been a very welcoming environment and also an eye-opening experience given the pace and balancing multiple patients at a time.

Currently, ACPs work as part of the ED team 12 hours per day, seven days per week. At this time, there are three ACPs filling this schedule.







Due to cancellation of this event, ticket refunds will now be available.

To receive your refund, visit A128 (next to the Foundation - 1st Floor, Tower A).

Refunds will be issued to individuals or group leaders and must be signed for.

It is recommended that you call extension 6165 or email carolyn.levesque@prh.email first to ensure she is in the office.







For those no longer wishing to attend this modified event, please call extension 6165 or email pr@prh.email to cancel your registration and obtain a refund of your deposit.

FREE for Staff Association Members and their children/grandchildren (if applicable).

Advance sign up is required, along with a \$10 deposit per child (if applicable) which will be refunded upon arrival.

Please indicate the number of Adult and Children (14 and under) skating passes required.

Non-Members are welcome at a cost of \$10/child or \$10/person if there are no children.

To register, call, email or visit Carolyn Levesque: Ext. 6165 / pr@prh.email / A128 (1st Floor, Tower A) Please note that our December 11th, event has been CANCELLED.

The Pizza lunch, "Rudolph Rocks" stage show and the visit with Santa have now been CANCELLED.

This event has now been modified to a Family Skating Event where our staff can participate in the public skating session at the Petawawa Civic Centre from 1-2 p.m.

Sign in will begin at the Civic Centre entrance at 12:45 p.m.

Those attending the skate will receive a beverage/snack voucher to use at a local vendor.

This event is open to all PRH staff, but registration is still required and registration closes Friday, December 2nd at 4 p.m.