

# 2024

## DISCOVERY DAYS PROGRAM REPORT

In partnership with Canadian universities, hospitals and research centres, we inform and excite Canada's youth about the wide variety of career options in medicine and health care. By connecting high school students to world-class researchers and clinicians in real-life settings, we are helping to build our future health workforce.



Discovery Day  
Hamilton  
Health Sciences



Canadian Medical Hall of Fame  
**Discovery Days**  
in HEALTH SCIENCES

Presented by



### 2024 EVENTS



**305**  
Interactive  
Workshops



**672**  
Healthcare  
Professionals

(keynote speakers, workshop presenters, career panelists)



**128**  
Volunteers



**623**  
Schools



**227**  
Teachers



**17**  
Events



**2,842**  
Students  
8% Indigenous  
33% French  
39% Rural  
6.5% Black  
39% Person of Colour

### We value student feedback!

**95%** would recommend Discovery Days to another student or teacher

**90%** felt the event exceeded or fully met their expectations

**98%** rated their interactive workshops valuable

**96%** felt the career panel was valuable

**97%** reported feeling equally or more certain about pursuing a career in health sciences than when they arrived

**99%** reported being equally or more knowledgeable about a career in the health sciences

"The hip placement workshop was extremely fun, and it actually made me consider med school and possibly otheapedics. The staff and event leaders were extremely nice and informative. The pharmacy workshop really allowed me to see and experience what pharmacists do. I learned way more than I knew before coming!"

Student, University of Alberta  
Discovery Day



Discovery Day  
Université Laval

## Discovery Days began with a large dose of inspiration from world-class keynote speakers:



Discovery Day Online  
Central Canada – March 6

### Ginette Poulin, MD

Medical Director, Concurrent Disorders  
Waypoint Centre for Mental  
Health Care

Assistant Professor, Director of  
Mentorship and Clinical Enhancement  
for International Medical Graduates

University of Manitoba, Max Rady  
Faculty of Health Sciences

"Uncharted Territory:  
Discovering Healing Hearts"



Memorial University  
of Newfoundland – April 23

### Lauren Law

2023 CMHF Award Recipient  
Memorial University of Newfoundland  
Faculty of Medicine

"Navigating Uncharted Waters:  
The Discoveries of Science and Life"



THE DR. CECIL & LINDA RORABECK  
KEYNOTE LECTURE

Western University – May 3

### Jibrán Y. Khokhar, PhD

Associate Professor  
Western University

Schulich School of Medicine &  
Dentistry, Anatomy and Cell Biology

Canada Research Chair, Translational  
Neuropharmacology

"Cannabis Vaping, Edibles  
and the Developing Brain"



Université d'Ottawa – May 9

### Melissa Fernandez, PhD

Professeure adjointe de l'École  
des sciences pharmaceutiques,  
Université d'Ottawa

Faculté des sciences de la santé

« Du téléphone intelligent  
à la fourchette:  
l'avenir de la nutrition »



University of Ottawa – May 10

### Baptiste Lacoste, PhD

Associate Professor and Scientist  
Neuroscience Program

Ottawa Hospital Research Institute

"Thinking Out of the (Neuronal) Box:  
Challenges and Rewards"



NOSM University – May 15

### Louise Logan, MD

Associate Professor  
Emergency Department Physician

NOSM University

"Make Your Path"



Queen's University – May 18

### Prameet Sheth, PhD

Clinical Microbiologist  
Division of Microbiology

Director, Molecular Microbiology and  
Infectious Disease Surveillance

Kingston Health Sciences Centre

"Delving Into the Microbiome to  
Find the Next Class of Therapeutics"



THE POPULATION HEALTH  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
KEYNOTE LECTURE

Hamilton Health Sciences – May 30

### Margaret McKinnon, MD

Professor, Psychiatry &  
Behavioural Neurosciences

McMaster University  
Faculty of Health Sciences

"Moral Injury: The Signature  
Wound of Service"



University of Calgary – October 23

### Jeff Biernaskie, PhD

Chair, Calgary Firefighters Burn  
Treatment Society, Skin Regeneration  
and Wound Healing

Chair, Reproduction and Regenerative  
Medicine Research Group

Director, Centre for  
Cell Therapy Translation

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine  
University of Calgary

"How Curiosity Led Me to a Career in  
Regenerative Medicine"



THE DR. D. LORNE TYRRELL  
KEYNOTE LECTURE

University of Alberta – October 24

### Martin Ferguson-Pell, PhD

Professor, Faculty of  
Rehabilitation Medicine  
University of Alberta

"How in the World Are Gaming  
Technologies Changing Health Care?"



BC Children's Hospital  
Research Institute – November 7

### Kathryn Armstrong, MD

Investigator and Pediatric Cardiologist  
BC Children's Hospital

"The Long and Winding Journey  
to Career Fulfillment"



University of Manitoba – November 7

### Lisa Monkman, MD

Indigenous Health Curriculum Co-lead  
for Postgraduate Medical Education

Max Rady Faculty of Health Sciences

University of Manitoba

"Ayaangwaamizin: Be Well  
on Your Journey"



Dalhousie University – November 20

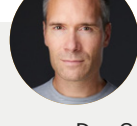
### Kathleen MacMillan, MD

Resident, Diagnostic Radiology

Dalhousie University

Chair, Canadian Association  
of Radiologists Resident  
and Fellow Section

"Prescription for the Past:  
Advice for Tomorrow's Doctors  
From Yesterday's Lessons"



Discovery Day Online  
Western Canada – November 21

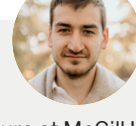
### Mark Prins, MD

Assistant Clinical Professor

Director, Office of Rural  
& Regional Health

Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry  
University of Alberta

"Working on Purpose"



The Neuro at McGill University  
November 28

### Mark Sorin

2024 CMHF Award Recipient

McGill University, Faculty of  
Medicine and Health Sciences

"What Is the MD-PhD Pathway  
and Is It Right for You?"



Discovery Day Online  
Eastern Canada – December 4

### Andrew Hunt, MD

Assistant Dean, Distributed  
Medical Education

Assistant Professor, Discipline  
of Family Medicine

Faculty of Medicine, Memorial  
University of Newfoundland

Physician Community Lead  
Notre Dame Bay Memorial  
Health Centre

"Finding Fulfillment: Life Lessons  
in Constructing a  
Health Sciences Career Path"



Université Laval – December 6

### Jean-Sébastien Roy, PhD

Professeure titulaire,  
Faculté de médecine,  
École des sciences de la  
réadaptation, Programme de  
physiothérapie, Université Laval

"De sportif blessé  
à thérapeute: le parcours  
vers la physiothérapie"



Discovery Day  
McGill University

"The speakers gave a lot of helpful pieces of advice and helped me overcome some biases and worries about becoming a health professional."

Student, Western University Discovery Day

## Thank you to our partners for investing in this important and growing initiative. Together, we are preparing today's youth to be our health leaders and researchers of tomorrow.

Presented by



BC Children's Hospital Research Institute  
Calm Air International LP  
Linda Rorabeck and Cecil Rorabeck, MD  
Dalhousie University, Faculty of Medicine  
D. Lorne Tyrrell, MD PhD (2011 CMHF Laureate)  
Doctors Manitoba  
Government of Newfoundland & Labrador,  
Department of Health & Community Services  
Hamilton Health Sciences Corporation  
Jeff Van Hoeve  
Joanne Douglas, MD  
Kiwanis Club of Ottawa Medical Foundation  
Lerners LLP  
McGill University, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences  
Memorial University of Newfoundland, Faculty of Medicine

Mercedes Kuroski de Bold, PhD  
NOSM University  
Ongomiizwin - Indigenous Institute  
of Health and Healing  
Population Health Research Institute  
Roche Diagnostics Canada  
Santé en français  
Society of Rural Physicians of Canada  
Trottier Family Foundation  
Université Laval, Faculté de médecine  
University of Alberta, College of Health Sciences  
University of Calgary, Cumming School of Medicine  
University of Manitoba, Rady Faculty of Health Sciences  
Western University, Schulich School  
of Medicine & Dentistry

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA  
LOCAL EVENT CHAMPION



"The workshop presenters were very friendly and they were very informative about the brain and able to communicate that to young adults. I learned a lot about different disorders and problems that may affect the brain and how it is perceived"

Student, Hamilton Health Sciences, Discovery Day

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Temple de la renommée  
médicale canadienne

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